

THIS ISSUE

*Keep up to date with
community happenings
that impact business in
our community*

JEFF SHIPLEY, CHAMBER PRESIDENT & CEO

- Eclipse has been planned here for the last two years and it's finally upon us
- Check out the Discover Seneca website for events, viewing times, locations, itineraries, and more to plan your day in Seneca County during the Total Solar Eclipse

BOB SHIPLEY, SUPERVISOR

- Tuesday regular Board meeting on the 9th
- Scott King with the Seneca County Health Department will be hosting a free rabies clinic April, June, August and October
- Next one is April 16th at the Waterloo Fire Department at 6 p.m.
- Free event but registration to attend is required
- Register online or by phone with the Seneca County Health Department

THIS WEEK'S HEADLINES

MAJOR HOUSING DEAL APPEARS NEAR IN ALBANY

The City: Many areas have declared a state of emergency when it comes to housing in the state, including Seneca County. A deal appears near in Albany including the renewal of the 421a tax incentive program for developers. An agreement was reached between the two advocacy groups; land lords are capped at recouping \$15,000 in renovations. Buildings with 35 units or less cannot increase rent over \$90 for tenants, for more it's a higher amount of units. More incentives are expected for land lords and developers.

NY FARM BUREAU MEMBERS RANK AS SECOND IN COUNTRY FOR FOOD DONATIONS

Niagara Gazette: For the last two decades the NY Farm Bureau has worked with Harvest For All and donated 136 million pounds of food, equaling over 100 million meals. They advocate for healthy meals in schools and support a program called Nourishing New York.

SENATE MOVES TO BAN DRY TOWNS

Politico: A bill would allow for the sale of alcohol in all NYS towns; few are dry, with the largest in Alleghany County with a population of 2,500.

NY ASSEMBLY WANTS HEAT ACT INCLUDED IN THE STATE BUDGET

NY State of Politics: HEAT Act has moved forward in previous years and did this year. Senate passed, Assembly hasn't, it may not be in this year's budget. The proposal would help bills reflect income of families using the services; any residence within 100 ft. of a gas line doesn't need to pay for the hookup, the utility company does.

NY SCHOOLS HAVE TO ELECTRIFY BUSES BY 2035

NCPR: Alexandria Bay currently owns 2 electric buses and redid their bus garage; despite this many districts say they cannot do the same and are waiting to switch until necessary.

TRACKING THE FLU

WYRK: NYC and Western NY currently have the highest flu rates; Seneca County has 12 cases while 61 cases are currently in Ontario County.

PAIR OF CANNABIS OUTLETS GET LICENSES

FL Times: The first legal cannabis dispensary with a license has opened in Seneca County: Just Breath Finger Lakes Dispensary on 5&20 in Seneca Falls. The second licensed dispensary in the area is in Geneva on 5&20 and it's called High Points Dispensary.



UPCOMING EVENTS:

APRIL:

- April 8; Total Solar Eclipse
- Business After Hours at CFCU on April 17th 5-7 p.m.
- Chamber University: Social Media & Marketing, April 30th 1-2 pm

MAY:

- Business After Hours; Wagner Vineyards, May 15, 2024
- Legislative Luncheon TBD

Do you know about an event coming up? Let us know!

info@senecachamber.org



JOIN US FOR THE NEXT ONE SENECA MEETING

When: Thursday mornings at 10 a.m.

Where: Zoom

Meeting ID: 885 5612 6750

Password: 974642

Open to members of the community who want to know things that are happening or have something to add to the conversation.

STEVE ZIELISNKI, SOUTH SENECA SUPERINTENDENT

- Foundation Aid discussions seem to be going in the right direction
- The only issue is where the governor wanted to change the CPI which would suppress aid distribution
- Electric bus issue has a lot of variables
- Each municipality handles electric distribution differently, making it harder to roll out changes all at the same time

AVE BAUDER, CORNELL

- Partnering with the Farm Bureau to host a session Wed. April 10th from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- “Solar Agriculture in Seneca County and What You Need to Know”
- Speakers from Finger Lakes Trust, MRB, law offices, and Farm Bureau will share
- Discussions will focus on farmers leasing land and what to look at
- Cost is \$15; lunch provided

JENNIFER DOMBROWSKI, FINGER LAKES PREMIUM OUTLETS

- Solar Eclipse viewing party in the mall parking lot from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.
- Family friendly event with giveaways, sales, face painting, balloon twisting, food trucks and a DJ
- Free to attend