

THIS ISSUE

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

JEFF SHIPLEY, CHAMBER

PRESIDENT

- Seneca County Chamber Legislative Luncheon happening Friday May 31st, 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Event happening at Ventosa Vineyards

STEVE ZIELISNKI, SOUTH SENECA

SUPERINTENDENT

- Next week is the 3rd annual collaboration among all 4 school districts in the county called "Don't be a D Student"
- The program focuses on safe driving for students
- With prom and other things that may have parties happening coming up, they want to educate students
- Each week a different "D" word is covered
- D words for dangers during driving: "Drunk" "Drugs" "Drowsy" and "Distracted"
- All students in the entire county will be learning the same thing at the same time

THIS WEEK'S HEADLINES

NY BUDGET INCLUDES INCREASE IN FUNDING FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 15 YRS

Spectrum: "AIM" (Aids & Incentives for Municipalities) had a \$50 M increase this year. \$415,766 was sent to Seneca County in 2023; average of \$32K went to each municipality, Seneca Falls receiving the most at \$148K. Everyone should expect an increase this year.

STATE CAMPAIGNS ABOUT TO RAKE IN \$100M OF PUBLIC FUNDING WHILE ALSO SPENDING ALL THE PRIVATE MONEY THEY WANT

The City: A new statewide public financing program for election campaigns has been created. Candidates must opt in and are given a formula to deem if their race is competitive; they then receive public funding and can still use private funding.

NY CITIES PLAGUED BY BLACKOUTS DUE TO CLIMATE, STUDY FINDS

The Hill: Study released by the Columbia School of Public Health cited blackouts are a result of the climate. Study looked at blackouts from 2017-2020 and saw they lasted on average 20 hours. Smaller cities in NY lasted 18 hours and rural areas or small towns lasted an average of 12 hours.

SCHOHARIE COUNTY TOWNS SUE NY OVER SOLAR, WIND FARM PROPERTY TAXES

Times Union: Lawsuit filed in Albany County over solar and wind farm property taxes. Schoharie claims the state's method for taxation is unconstitutional and results in shortchanging. They have requested a restraining order to halt the taxation process.

GOV HOCHUL LAUNCHES NYS HEALTHCARE WORKERS SCHOLARSHIP

Gov. Hochul: A new scholarship program will give a two year scholarship to 500 students looking for their associate or bachelor's degree as a Registered Nurse, Respiratory Therapist, Clinical Laboratory Technologist, Radiologic Technologist, or Surgical Technologist. It will be given using a lottery system and students must agree to work in an underserved area for two years.

WATERLOO OR SF

FL Times: State law requires the largest municipality in a county to set up early voting; in Seneca County it's Seneca Falls, but there is a push to have it in the Seneca County building located in Waterloo.

NEW FIRE DEPARTMENT MAY BE INCORPORATED IN TYRE

FL Times: The Magee Fire Department was disbanded, and the Tyre Town Board will discuss creating the Tyre Fire Company in the old building where Magee Fire Dept. was.



UPCOMING EVENTS:

MAY:

- Ribbon Cutting Sugar Mama’s 3 p.m. Friday May 10th
- Business After Hours; Wagner Vineyards, May 15, 2024
- Legislative Luncheon May 31st at Ventosa

JUNE:

- Business After Hours; Seneca Meadows hosting at Seneca Housing, June 19th 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

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.

BOB SHIPLEY, SUPERVISOR

- Discussion about early voting set up in Seneca County happened two weeks ago
- Many want it to happen in the County Office building
- It was originally going to happen in a building on the county building campus just over the Waterloo-Seneca Falls town line
- Next board meeting will happen on May 14th

SARAH DAVIS, IDA DIRECTOR

- IDA location changed and all updated contact information can be found on the website
- E-mails are still the same
- Designs are back from the architectures for the inside of the new IDA building location
- Next board meeting will be May 14th where these plans will be covered
- Another board meeting topic is a large solar project happening in the Junius/Waterloo area

JILL HENRY, DIRECTOR PLANNING

& COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- Moving forward with the conventional hangar at the airport
- Hiring for a new planner position
- Looking to understand the new foreclosure process for landbank properties

AVE BAUDER, CORNELL

COOPERATIVE EXT.

- Red Devon Tour happened this week with visitors from as far as Montana, Australia and England
- During the visit everyone learned more about the almost-extinct breed of Red Devon
- Red Devons are used for milk, beef, and crossbreeding
- Visitors took a tour of farms and visited with the Seneca County Chamber
- Tour ended at Fleur De Lis for dinner with Red Devon meatloaf