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SUMMARY OF ONE SENECA COMMUNITY BRIEFING & PREPARED EXCLUSIVELY FOR SENECA COUNTY CHAMBER INVESTORS



COMMUNITY BRIEFING - MAY 23, 2024



THIS ISSUE

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

JEFF SHIPLEY, CHAMBER

PRESIDENT

- On-demand health stations available at the Ovid Five-Star Bank branch
- Chamber U: Legislative Luncheon happening next Friday, May 31st at Ventosa Vineyard; RSVP required

BOB SHIPLEY, SUPERVISOR

- Committee meetings to be held next Tuesday, May 28th
- Sampson Veterans Memorial Cemetery/Friend of the Finger Lakes will hold a memorial service on Monday May 27th at 2:30 p.m.
- Secretary of Veterans Affairs from Washington will be there to give a speech

MIKE REYNOLDS, SUPERVISOR

- Memorial Day service to be held in Interlaken on Monday, May 27th at 9:30 a.m.
- County Manager Kyle Lovell to give the keynote speech

THIS WEEK'S HEADLINES

NYC TOURISM STILL LAGS PRE-COVID ERA

NY Post: According to a report released by the state comptroller's office on Thursday, the number of tourists visiting the Big Apple remains lower than pre-COVID levels due to

REPUBLICAN LED US STATES CHALLENGE WHITE HOUSE ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW REFORMS

Reuters: On Tuesday, Republican attorneys general from 20 U.S. states filed a lawsuit against the Biden administration, aiming to halt new reforms to the U.S. environmental review process for significant projects like transmission lines and wind and solar farms. LARGE BAN ON STRAWS LOOMS IN NYS

<u>WYRK:</u> New reports suggest that dangerous chemicals have been detected in straws, raising concerns that this could lead to an outright ban on them in New York State.

US ELECTRICITY DEMANDS FROM EV'S JUMPS TO NEW HIGHS IN EARLY 2024

<u>Reuters:</u> Electricity consumption from electric vehicles (EVs) in the United States surged by over 50% in the first two months of 2024 compared to the same period in 2023, as EVs continue to gain traction in the U.S. car market and influence electricity demand.

SOME CONCERNS ABOUT RELIABILITY OF NY'S ELECTRICAL GRID AS SUMMER NEARS

<u>Times Union:</u> The electrical grid operator reported that a three-day heat wave with temperatures reaching 95 degrees in New York could result in a capacity deficit exceeding 1,400 megawatts. If the heat wave extends to three or more days at 98 degrees, this deficit is expected to more than double

this deficit is expected to more than double. NY NAMES FIRST DIRECTOR OF NEW STATE AGENCY

<u>Syracuse.com</u>: Merideth Andreucci will become the first executive director for the Governor's Office of Semiconductor Expansion, Management and Integration (GO-SEMI) within Empire State Development.

STATE SUSPENDS NEW CANNABIS BIZ LEASES

<u>The City:</u> Dormitory Authority nominee Robert Rodriguez struggled to provide answers to the state Senate regarding loans that licensees claim they cannot repay, leaving the state financially responsible.

PLANNED PER PUPIL SPENDING IN NY SCHOOL DISTRICTS RANKED 1 TO 668

<u>Syracuse.com</u>: A total of five school districts in New York plan to spend more than \$100,000 per student during the 2024-2025 school year, according to state data.

PRICE TAG FOR SEWER DISTRICT UPGRADES SOAR

Finger Lakes Times: Originally projected to be \$12.7M w/ \$835 net cost to property owners, is now \$21M w/ \$1,000 annual property cost to owners.





UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Legislative Luncheon May 31st at Ventosa
- Ribbon cutting for Putt & Play at Seneca Lake Resorts May 31st
- Business After Hours; Seneca Meadows hosting at Seneca Housing, June 19th 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Perfect Pair to cater & live music provided as entertainment
- Membership BBQ at The Vista at Seneca Lake Resorts July 11th

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.

SARAH DAVIS, IDA DIRECTOR

- IDA approved to move forward with Grogery project
- Board is currently looking at renovation options and concepts for the new building
- Currently looking to partner with another tenant for around 1,000 square feet in office space and shared conference rooms

STEVE PARKER ZIELINSKY, SOUTH SENECA SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPERINTENDANT

- School budgets in Seneca County School Districts all passed during the budget vote
- 74% of votes for South Seneca were a Yes
- Ithaca failed to pass their budget by a large margin
- Newfield failed to pass their budget by just 18 votes
- Electric bus conversation will become interesting over the next 5 or so years
- Electric bus movement is seeing a lot of pushback and resistance
- Many feel the numbers for the electric buses don't add up

