

### THIS ISSUE

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

#### BOB SHIPLEY, SUPERVISOR

- Going out to bid for T-hangar project
- Helping Ovid discussed: clean up

#### CASEY BOUCH, SENECA COUNTY CHAMBER

- Huntington Living Center is a new member
- Working out Chamber events for 2025
- Finding ways for members to support Ovid

#### STEVE ZIELINSKI, SOUTH SENECA SUP.

- Review of cell ban happening by summer
- Too early to tell what's happening with local policy surrounding the issue

#### SARAH DAVIS, IDA

- Grant program for Ovid: non-competitive and deciding which infrastructure to do
- Too soon to know who will rebuild; IDA plans to support whoever chooses to
- Planning for grants Ovid can have access to
- Finalized negotiations with Finger Lakes Rail

#### EMILY, STEPS

- Working remotely at libraries
- Dept. of Labor meeting with those who lost their jobs due to the fire
- Salvation Army has delivered gift cards
- Looking for new office space
- Catholic Charities raised \$70K+
- United Way, Ovid Fire Dept. & STEPS have updated info regarding Ovid

#### JENNIFER DOMBRWSKI, OUTLETS

- Space provided to sell goods to United Way for thrift pop-up to support Ovid in Feb.

#### MIKE D'ANGELO, CFCU

- In contact with United Way for ongoing efforts to continue support
- Raffle happening; CFCU will match funds

#### CHAMBER EVENTS:

- BAH Feb. 19th, location TBD
- Chamber University: TBD for Feb.

## THIS WEEK'S HEADLINES

#### NY FARMERS PUSH FOR CHANGES TO OVERTIME TAX CREDIT LAW

**Spectrum News:** Some farmers across New York are still looking for lawmakers to fix an issue that left them unable to receive a tax credit following the state's new farmworker overtime law. The law, which mandates farmers pay overtime rates to workers after a decreasing number of hours, doesn't allow farms that operate through a management company or payroll company to receive a tax credit to help offset costs.

#### LOCAL CONTROL OVER SCHOOL CELL PHONE BAN "EXTREMELY IMPORTANT" NYSSED SAYS

**Times Union:** School districts should be able to engage with parents, teachers, students and other stakeholders as they decide the best way forward, Education Commissioner Betty A. Rosa told the state Legislature at a hearing Wednesday.

#### NEW YORK'S ECONOMY LIGHTS UP WITH \$1 BILLION IN LEGAL POT SALES

**AMNY.com:** New York State's economy is lighting up after it reached \$1 billion in legal cannabis sales, state-department officials announced on Tuesday. The NYS Office of Cannabis Management (OCM) released its 2024 annual report, which shows the budding industry is growing throughout the state.

#### SENECA SUPERVISORS ADVANCE AIRPORT, HOUSING, AND INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

**FL1:** The Economic Development, Tourism, and Housing Committee authorized advertising for bids to construct a new T-hangar at Finger Lakes Regional Airport. Supervisors also discussed shifting airport operations to a professional management company to reduce administrative burdens on the county's planning department. In housing and infrastructure matters, the board approved submitting a letter of intent to apply for up to \$1 million through a new Empire State Development (ESD) grant. The funding is contingent on the development of at least 10 housing units and can be used to support infrastructure in local municipalities.

#### WHAT'S NEXT FOR OVID?

**Finger Lakes Times:** Questions abound around whether the owners of the businesses that were destroyed in the Jan. 21 fire are going to be able to rebuild — either financially or even if they are interested. Just a week after the event, Town Supervisor Joe Borst said he's optimistic, but it's really too soon to push for specifics from anyone. "Right now, we're doing what we can," he said regarding assisting victims with daily needs. "We're reaching out to our partners, every elected official, the (Industrial Development Agency), to determine the best course to support our businesses. But it's up to them, and we will respect their plans."

#### CAROL DOOLITTLE, FRONTENAC POINT WINERY

- Pay attention to the Bottle Bill changes

#### 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.