

### THIS ISSUE

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

#### BOB SHIPLEY, SUPERVISOR

- Grow Seneca was discussed at the committee meeting on Tuesday; it is appearing that there will not be a second year for the Grow Seneca Grant Program, but it needs to be brought to the Board of Supervisors and voted on officially
- Ovid fire cleanup is likely to begin on or around April 21, 2025
- The schedule is determined by Sessler who will be running the cleanup efforts
- Big M owners just signed the demolition contract

#### SARAH DAVIS, IDA

- Special board meeting held to pass the final approval for the Finger Lakes Railway project
- Waiting on the other 4 counties to approve it
- Tonight at 5 p.m. there will be a public hearing at the IDA office regarding the ITT project and public comment can be shared or written
- All three locations will be undergoing expansion over the next 5 years
- Seneca Falls location is planning a \$72M project and ITT is seeking sales tax exemptions for \$6.2M of that project
- ITT expects to add 45 jobs in the next 5 years

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

Chamber U: Financial Literacy @ CFCU 5 p.m. April 24th

Montezuma Winery Grand Opening of new tasting room: Saturday April 12th

Perfect Pair Anniversary Ribbon Cutting: April 17th 3:30 p.m.

Business After Hours April 25th 5-7 p.m. at Ventosa Vineyards

#### 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.

## THIS WEEK'S HEADLINES

### STATE BUDGET AT A STANDSTILL AS ECONOMIC UNCERTAINTY CONTINUES

**Spectrum:** Gov. Kathy Hochul and state lawmakers are at a standstill over how to spend upwards of \$252 billion in a state budget that's already over a week late. The negotiations continue amid economic uncertainty over tariffs, and federal cuts aimed at city and state programs.

### NEW YORK LEADERS AGREE TO SCHOOL CELL PHONE BAN AS REST OF BUDGET REMAINS IN LIMBO

**Route-fifty:** New York leaders have approved a ban on cellphones in K-12 public schools, Bloomberg reports. School districts must implement a bell-to-bell plan by Aug. 1, restricting device use throughout the school day, including lunch. California, Florida and Virginia have imposed similar limitations.

### PRESIDENT TRUMP LOOKS TOWARD INTERVENING IN STATE, LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS

**Powers-Eng:** Trump has said he is committed to "unleashing American energy," especially as it pertains to dispatchable generation resources like natural gas, coal, hydropower, nuclear and geothermal. This includes removing impediments to the identification, development, siting, production and investment in these resources. The president's latest executive order authorizes U.S. Attorney General Pam Bondi to identify any state and local policies or regulations that unfairly limit or punish energy companies. If deemed illegal or unconstitutional, AG must act quickly to stop them from being enforced, the order reads.

### HEALTH INSURERS CHEER INCREASE OF MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PAYMENTS

**MSN.com:** Health insurers that offer Medicare Advantage plans to seniors cheered a Trump administration decision announced Monday to increase federal reimbursement rates by \$25 billion next year, double previous estimates.

### CORNELL'S GROWING FOOTPRINTS FUELS JOBS, INNOVATION, AND INVESTMENT ACROSS

#### TOMPKINS COUNTY

**FL1:** According to the 2024 Local Economic Snapshot, Cornell spent \$1.3 billion in payroll last year, supporting more than 11,000 employees in the area. In addition, its 26,000 students injected \$450 million into the local economy through spending on housing, food, shopping, and entertainment.