

4th Edition / April 2018



Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Promotion Agency

www.wycochamber.org / www.gowyomingcountyny.com

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This Issue:**
Get ready for
Agripalooza
2018!

Photo by JoAnne Pionessa

PLATINUM SPONSORS

Glen Iris Inn
Letchworth State Park



SILVER SPONSORS



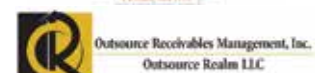
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The story of Hidden Valley Animal Adventure

Hidden Valley Animal Adventure is the creation of Hans Boxler, a successful dairy farmer here in Wyoming County. Hans' father, who was from Switzerland, traveled across the rough Atlantic on the Queen Mary's maiden voyage to New York with the intention of settling in sunny California. On his way west, he came across the rolling hills of Varysburg, which reminded him of home, and he decided to start his dairy farm and family right here, raising three children: Hans, Gretchen and Mary.

Hans grew up with a love for animals. In 2002, he bought some bison and elk and then, eventually, a camel. People were curious and stopped to ask about the unusual animals. This is how the vision of Hidden Valley was born — a place where he could share

his passion for animals and this picturesque valley with the public (not to mention to help cover the cost of feed).

Ground was broken in 2005 and five years later in 2010, Hidden Valley Animal Adventure opened.

Along with the park, the original vision included a hot dog stand to serve our guests. But the plans quickly grew into a restaurant, banquet hall and two hotel rooms housed in a beautiful timber frame lodge. Why two hotel rooms? The hotel rooms are a result of a local law dating back to the end of prohibition in 1933 that requires establishments that sell liquor have overnight lodging.

Today, the park guests enjoy a Wild Game Safari guided trolley tour over 2 miles of trails on 63 acres of land. Each guest receives a cup of grain to feed the animals, getting up close and personal with some



MARK GUTMAN/DAILY NEWS/FILE

A baby kangaroo hangs out with its mother at Hidden Valley Animal Adventure in Varysburg.

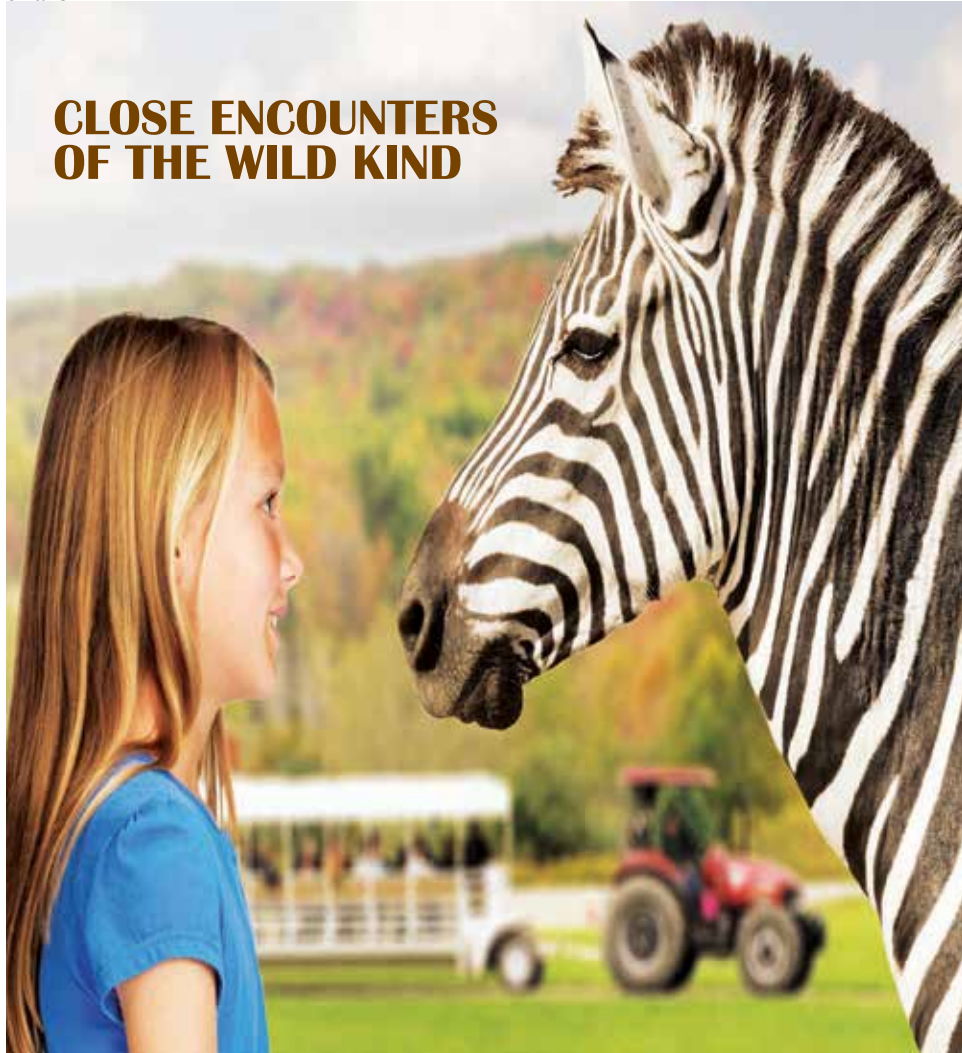
300 animals. Guests may also visit our Small Animal Adventure where they walk among the smaller, friendly animals. All together, Hidden Valley is home to over 400 animals

representing 40 species from around the world.

Hans unexpectedly passed in July 2016, but his dream and legacy carry on. What started out as a hobby, is now

being shared with thousands, including not just park guests, but school and group tours, wedding parties, corporate banquets, snowmobilers, diners and many more.

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE WILD KIND



The adventure is closer than you think!

Escape the ordinary and take a ride on the wild side at Hidden Valley Animal Adventure. Get up close and personal with some of the world's most exotic animals in a breathtaking setting. It's an experience you won't soon forget.

Features a full service restaurant and bar, banquet facilities, weddings and accommodations



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Much to see, taste and do at Glen Iris Inn

The Glen Iris Inn is located in scenic Letchworth State Park, which was voted the No. 1 state park in the United States. The Middle Falls, which is the tallest of the three major waterfalls within the park, is located steps from the Glen Iris Inn, formerly the home of William Pryor Letchworth who donated the house along with the founding thousand acres that started Letchworth State Park.

Today, the Inn offers overnight accommodations ranging from Victorian style guestrooms and suites at the Inn, modern lodges and luxury townhouses at Pinewood, as well as fully appointed rental homes. Caroline's Dining Room opens each year on Good Friday of Easter weekend, and serves breakfast, lunch and dinner daily through the fall season. During the peak season of fall, dining reser-

vations are strongly recommended. Caroline's also offers catering services for weddings, corporate meetings and picnics and family celebrations at the Inn and throughout Letchworth State Park.

"William P. Letchworth was looking for the perfect site for a country retreat where he could entertain his family and friends. One morning in the spring of 1858, he stepped off a train as it slowly approached a bridge high above the Genesee River. Standing on the bridge, he was touched by the natural beauty of the powerful river rushing below. Gazing at the falls, he noticed that the sun shining on the spray below formed a perfect rainbow.

"While walking along the left bank of the river, Letchworth found a large two-story frame house near the remains of the burned-out lumber mill. Owned by Michael Smith, the house



ROCCO LAURIENZO/DAILY NEWS/FILE

Smoked trout is the signature dish at Glen Iris Inn.

had been built by Alva Palmer in 1828. The view was spectacular, and as he gazed toward the South overlooking the falls, he knew he had found his country retreat.

"Letchworth acquired the house in February 1859 and immediately began

renovations. The local Indians had named the area 'An-de-ka-ga-kwa,' meaning 'the place where the sun lingers,' and it has been said through Indian lore that when the sun passes over the glen, it pauses a moment longer there than at any other part of the valley. Inspired by this, Letchworth chose the word 'Iris,' a synonym for 'rainbow,' and named his estate the Glen Iris.

"William Pryor Letchworth was born in 1832 to a Quaker family of high standing. As a humanitarian and historian, his desire was to have the Glen Iris, with its scenic grandeur, preserved in its natural state so future generations could enjoy the beauty so dear to his heart. Before his death on Dec. 12, 1910, he made provisions for the Glen Iris and surrounding property to be a gift to the people of New York State to be used as a permanent park."



Glen Iris Inn

Letchworth State Park

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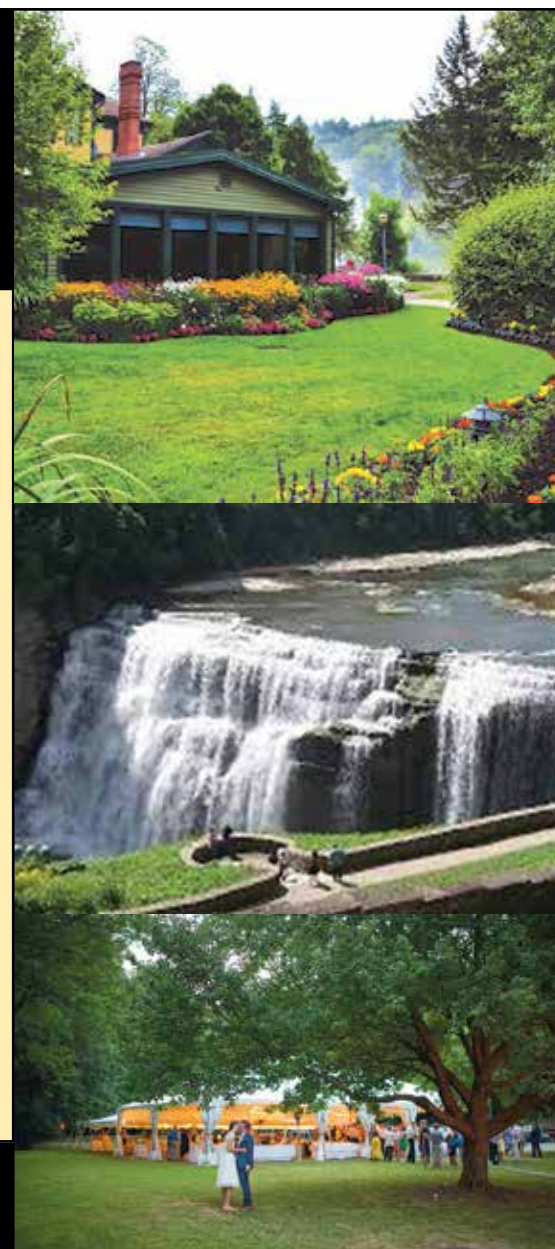
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A message from the president

By **SCOTT GARDNER**

President and CEO

Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Office

The hope of warmer weather and the optimism that comes with it is something we are all looking forward to after a long winter season. At the Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce and Tourism office, we are excited about what the new year has brought and where we will be heading into 2018.

We ended 2017 with several winter ribbon cuttings and started the New Year out the same way. The community is always very pleased to welcome new business owners and thanks them for taking that big step forward. We are also moving ahead with the recently completed arts and cultural marketing plan for the County. With partners like the Arts Council for Wyoming County, we have much to offer visitors from performing arts to traditional galleries. The spring and summer season is one not to miss.

The organization also unveiled the newly redesigned 2018 Wyoming County visitor guide in February. It's a fresh new look at all the great things to do in the county. We've updated the listings for everything from shops, restaurants and attractions — and you'll find even more information on the website at GoWyomingCountyNY.com. Wyoming County racks up some impressive numbers when it comes to visitors who are coming to our area. If you would like a copy of the guide, please contact us and we can mail one to you — be sure to invite your friends.

We recently surveyed the business community of Wyoming County, and were encouraged by the responses and the hopefulness among many

of our members. They reported healthy businesses, a sense of optimism and concerns at both the state and federal levels. Among the many areas of concern for the business community, the top four are health insurance costs, business taxes, finding qualified workers, and rising labor costs. Our business community also expressed deep concern with the difficulties facing the agriculture community. While there is "realistic optimism," concerns also remain on the big issues facing our businesses and we will remain an active voice to support, promote and strengthen our community.

The Chamber and the Wyoming County IDA recently hosted a workforce development roundtable with agency providers to learn about workforce data and labor statistics effecting Wyoming County. We also heard about issues that these organizations and the people they serve are encountering on topics such as transportation, substance abuse, skills gaps, and employee recruitment. The next step in tackling the issue is to survey our local businesses to hear what their needs are and learn what difficulties they are experiencing in finding employees. The ultimate goal is to develop a tangible solution or series of steps to help address the problem. The work is ongoing and will continue through this year.

We are continuing new initiatives started last year like the successful "welcome program" for new residents and homebuyers moving into the County. The Chamber will also be adding a new "deals and discounts" program and employee customer service and hospitality-training program as we move forward into the year. These are great ways to welcome a new neighbors and let them know all that's available to them right in their local community. For more information on any of these opportunities, please contact the Chamber. These are just a few of the positive things hap-

pening at the Chamber and Tourism office and more is yet to come as the year progresses.

Once again, thank you to all of the advertisers, chamber members, and readers of this publication. It's packed full of news and information and we hope you find it useful and handy. And as always, be sure to support the local business community and shop local!



Gardner

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Did you know?

According to a study from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, housing is the greatest expense in dollar amount and as a share of total expenditures for households in which a person 55 and older is considered the primary

owner or renter of the home. Total annual household expenditures, which were culled from the BLS' 2014 Consumer Expenditure Survey, totaled just over \$49,000. These expenditures included food, housing, clothing,

transportation, health care, and entertainment, among other expenses. The BLS study found that housing accounted for nearly one-third of annual expenditures in households headed by people age 55 and older.

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Record year for 'Shop Wyoming and Win'

Three lucky individuals were selected on Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2018, as winners of the Chamber's "Shop Wyoming and Win" annual Buy Local promotion. This year's winners are: Eugene Esainko from Perry won the Char-Broil gas/charcoal Grill donated by Ace Hardware of Attica and Warsaw; Zachary and Crystal Marsh from Castile won the Rocker Recliner donated by Harding's Attica Furniture and Flooring in Attica; and Bob and Louise Irving from Perry won the \$100 Wyoming County Visa Gift Card.

The Wyoming County Chamber & Tourism held the drawing at the Wyoming County Board of Supervisors regular February Meeting. As



Eugene Esainko of Perry stands with the grill he won through the "Shop Wyoming and Win" contest. Ace Hardware of Attica and Warsaw donated the grill.

the most senior members of the Board, Town Supervisors Jerry Davis (Covington), Doug Berwanger (Arcade), and Ellen Grant (Bennington) drew the winning tickets.

"On behalf of the Chamber

and the community, we extend congratulations to all the winners of this year's "Shop Wyoming and Win" buy-local promotion. This year was another record breaker and we again exceeded local shop-

ping revenue goals over last year," said Chamber President Scott Gardner. "Thank you to the many local businesses who participated, and all the shoppers for making this event another success. Thank you especially to everyone who shopped locally this holiday season, placed a drop box in their business, or supported the program in some way."

"The prizes are made possible with the strong support of two county businesses. We

thank Ace Hardware of Attica and Warsaw for the generous donation of the Char-Broil gas grill, and sincerely thank Harding's Attica Furniture and Flooring for donating the Rocker Recliner," concluded Gardner. "These two businesses were generous participants and we hope that shoppers will stop in to support these outstanding local family run small businesses."

This year marks the seventh

See SHOP 77

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Zachary and Crystal Marsh of Castile won the Rocker Recliner through the "Shop Wyoming and Win" contest. Harding's Attica Furniture and Flooring donated the recliner.

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Shop

From T6

time the Chamber has sponsored the holiday promotion as part of the Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce's buy local program. After weeks of planning and delivering the entry boxes to 33 small businesses all over the county, the contest kicked off on "Black Friday" 2017.

Participants were required to save their receipts from purchases made in Wyoming County between "Black Friday," Nov. 24, 2017 and

Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, 2017. They then submitted the receipts by mail, in-person, or in drop boxes by the deadline of January 12, 2018. For every \$50 worth of purchases made in Wyoming County, the participants were eligible for one entry in the drawing. Another record was set with 581 participants and total purchases at \$460,473, up over last year. Shoppers turned in sales receipts, which brought in estimated sales taxes of \$36,838 during the 31-day promotional period.

For more information, call (585) 786-0307 or visit www.wycochamber.org.



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ROCCO LAURIENZO/DAILY NEWS/FILE

Pep, a cat who is in to be neutered, is finding it hard to smile during a trip to the Perry Veterinary Clinic.

Perry Veterinary Clinic named 2018 Agri-Business of Year

WARSAW — The Wyoming County Chamber & Tourism is pleased to announce that Perry Veterinary Clinic, 3180 Route 246, Perry, has been selected as the 2018 Agri-Business of the Year. The annual award was presented at the Pride of Agriculture Dinner on March 3.

"We are very pleased to give the Agri-Business Award to Perry Vet Clinic for its continued growth and service to Wyoming County and the larger regional community," said Chamber President, Scott Gardner. "This business has continued to flourish since its earliest founding almost 100 hundred years ago. Perry

Vet Clinic is an industry leader serving both the large and small animal populations. Even though they have continued to grow, they have never lost the personal touch and compassion for the clients and customers that they serve."

The Perry Veterinary Clinic was established in 1919 as the Clark Veterinary Clinic by Dr. F.C. Clark, a graduate of the Veterinary College at Cornell University. Two other Cornell graduates, Drs. Norman Skinner and Walter Kreutter, joined the Clinic in the 1940s and 1950s, respectively. Both were instrumental in continuing Dr. Clark's work and

See CLINIC 9

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Clinic

From T8

guiding the Clinic in its formative years. Dr. Allan Chamberlain, a graduate of the New York State Veterinary College, joined the Clinic and spearheaded its modernization in the 1960s. In the Clinic's early years, the practice was located in Dr. Skinner's garage on Covington Street. However, by 1971 the Clinic outgrew this site and moved to its current location on Route 246, and was renamed the Perry Veterinary Clinic.

The 1970s brought many changes to the nature of veterinary medicine and the new facility allowed the Clinic to respond proactively. The dairy industry was growing and changing from small herds of 30-50 cows to larger herds of

100 or more. The role of the dairy veterinarian evolved with advances in record keeping, sophisticated nutrition, artificial insemination and embryo transfer programs.

With new facilities in place for its small animal practice, the Clinic met the increasing expectations of local pet owners. Small animal medicine was changing rapidly to a sophisticated science as research defined new diseases and clarified older ones. This, in turn, led to more effective techniques and treatments. The information explosion had started. To address both dairy industry growth and the needs of small animal clients the Clinic added three partners, Drs. Paul Schneible, Leslie "Butch" DeGroff and George "Tony" Wiseley who retired in 2016.

The changes that began in the 1970s accelerated in the

1980s. Small animal veterinary medicine was revolutionized with the development of rapid "SNAP" tests for many communicable and deadly diseases such as parvo virus and feline leukemia. Vaccines were developed to help prevent these and other diseases. Therapeutic pet foods and discoveries in pet nutrition led to the virtual disappearance of certain eye and heart diseases.

Building on the advances begun in the early 1980s, the veterinary industry responded by developing improved equipment and technology. Work begun in the 1980's led to blood examinations being performed "in house" to more completely assess patient needs. Clinic facilities were updated as significant improvements were made to cardiology and EKG equipment, as well as ultrasound technology. In response to con-

tinued expansion in both the farm and small animal markets, three additional partners joined the Clinic, Drs. Steve Stoddard, Dave Hale and Peter Hecht. The innovations in the 1980's lay the groundwork for the rapid expansion of the 1990s.

In March 1990, the partnership opened the first satellite clinic, the Animal Care Facility of Livonia. The new clinic allowed the firm to better serve both the dairy clients in Livingston County and the growing suburban population's pet needs. Later that year, Dr. Patrick Lynch merged his practice with the Perry Veterinary

Clinic, making it the largest veterinary clinic in the region. In 1991, recognizing the increasing demand for small animal service, the first full-time small animal practitioner and partner was recruited, Dr. Karl Minster.

In 1996, in response to a continuing increase in demand for small animal services, as well as the need for the latest medicine and health-related products in the dairy industry, the partnership completely renovated the Perry facility. The clinic doubled in size, adding a modern treatment room, two surgical suites and full radiol-

See CLINIC T10



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Clinic

From T9

ogy capability for small animal patients. A large warehouse and retail store were added to accommodate the needs of farm clients.

In August 1997, the second satellite clinic in Yorkshire opened. This facility, like Livonia, recognized both the demand for small animal care and the expansion of the dairy industry. Three more doctors joined the practice as partners in the late 1990s, Drs. Craig Lamb, Ted Wolf and Scott DeGroff.

During the 1990s there were a number of advances in veterinary medicine that affected both large and small animal clients. Companion animals, previously known as “pets” became known as “patients,” and were considered by many to be a member of the family. In response, there was a shift in thinking from “giving them their shots” to providing comprehensive healthcare with greater emphasis on wellness care and advanced surgical techniques.

New equipment and technology continued to develop. There was a greater role played by the veterinarian who was dedicated to small animal medicine, more akin to a human doctor. Advances in care fostered the development of regional specialty practices in eye diseases, oncology, dermatology, and behavioral issues to which we were able to refer complex and unusual cases.

As the new century began, the Perry Veterinary Clinic and its satellite clinics were well positioned to serve the ever-changing needs of both companion animal and farm clients. The dairy industry benefited from the development of new medicines, as well as improvements in wellness and nutrition protocols. As unbelievable as it may have seemed in the 1970's, some herds now exceeded 1,000 cows. Two additional partners, Drs. Michael Capel and Tom Wakefield, joined the practice as the Clinic stayed on the cut-

ting edge of dairy medicine.

In 2005, Dr. Filippo Aiello, a companion animal practitioner at the Livonia facility, became a partner. Unfortunately, he died very suddenly shortly thereafter. In 2010 Dr. Paul Schneible, the senior partner, retired after a long career at Perry Vet, and the Yorkshire Clinic underwent an expansion and renovation.

In January 2011, Dr. Leo Vranich, a large animal vet, was admitted to the partnership. The geographic reach of the Large Animal Road Service continued to expand, serving clients in Niagara County eastward to Cayuga County. The Practice had been considering a fourth companion animal clinic, and after discussions with Dr. Ray Pray, purchased the Batavia Animal Hospital in September 2011. In December, Dr. Leslie (Butch) DeGroff, Senior Partner, semi-retired. Dr. DeGroff joined the practice in 1970 and is recognized in the dairy industry as a true veterinary leader being awarded the Excellence in Preventive Medicine Dairy Award by the American Association of Bovine Practitioners in 2004.

From 2013 to 2015, the Perry facility expanded adding a 7,500 square foot warehouse to better serve the product needs of its dairy producers. There was also extensive remodeling of the former warehouse to include offices and a conference area to accommodate the increased number of employees. The treatment room was also refurbished allowing better service to our small animal clients.

In January 2014, the practice added both a partner and a new look. Dr. Jessica Litteer, a companion animal associate at the Livonia Center location, was admitted as a partner in the firm. The practice also re-branded itself with a new company logo, consolidated the four companion animal clinics under the name Perry Pet with a corresponding new logo, and developed a new logo for the large animal service and retail portions of the business under the name Perry Vet.

As the family pet takes on a new role, becoming more of

See CLINICT11



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Clinic

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a family companion, and the dairy industry continues to expand and become more sophisticated, new services are being added and the number of veterinarians continues to expand. Surgical cases benefit from improved anesthetics and monitoring equipment, pre-surgical blood testing, IV fluid support, and pain management programs, and new medications are being developed. In addition, the Clinic has added an endoscope and ultrasound machines to improve companion and farm animal services. The veterinarians regularly attend continuing education programs and do self-study to stay abreast of these rapid changes. The Perry Vet Clinic is actively engaged in the community and a strong supporter of the Leadership Wyoming program, and the Wyoming County Business Education Council. The business is also dedicated to assisting doctor of veterinary medicine and veterinary technician students thru externship and preceptorship programs. Perry Veterinary Clinic employs over 100 employees across its practice, making it one of the largest employers in Wyoming County.

The annual agri-business award is given by the Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce to a business that exemplifies the following criteria: contributions to the economic vitality and quality of life of Wyoming County, capital investments, business expansions, job growth, community involvement, or for their contributions that strengthen their industry sector.

The event also featured the presentation of the Pride of Agriculture - Good Neighbor Award and the Friend of Agriculture awards, which are joint awards given by Cornell Cooperative Extension of Wyoming County and the Wyoming County Farm Bureau.

Cole Building Solutions, LLC is the 2018 presenting

sponsor of the Pride of Wyoming County Agriculture Dinner. Additional sponsors include: Arc of Livingston-Wyoming; Attica Auto & Hardware; Bank of Castile; Batavia Daily News; Brad Velely Masonry; Byrnclyff Golf Resort & Banquets; Caledonia Diesel LLC; Carolina Eastern-Crocker LLC; Castile Agway Service; Clark Patterson Lee; Cole Building Solutions LLC; Complete Payroll; Creative Food Ingredients; Creekside Convenience; Dairy Farmers of America (DFA); Dziedzic Farms; Elit-sac Lumber & Rental Center; Everlast Roofing, Inc.; Farm Credit East, ACA; Farm Family Insurance Company; Five Star Bank; Foote & Meyer, PLLC; Freed Maxick CPAs; Gary Swede Farms, Inc; Gary Swede, Ind. DeKalb/Asgrow Dealer; George & Swede Sales & Service, Inc; Glen Iris Inn; Gramco, Inc.; Growmark FS; Hidden Valley Animal Adventure; Hubner Seed Co.; Kelly's Garage; Koike Aronson; Lamb & Webster; LandPro Equipment; Lincoln Agribusiness Services; McCormick Farms; Morton Salt; NYSEG/RG&E; NAPA Auto Parts; Ortel Supply Inc.; OXBO International; Perry Vet Clinic; Pikeside Enterprises; Pioneer Credit Recovery; R&R Lumberyard Restaurant LLC; R&R Precision Construction; Reisdorf Brothers, Inc.; Roto-Rooter Services Company; Royce Electric; Sedam Tire, Inc.; Senator Patrick Gallivan; Shur-Gain USA; SJF Construction, Inc.; Solar Liberty Energy Systems, Inc.; Steuben Trust Company; Table Rock Farms; Tompkins Insurance Agencies; Upstate Auto Group; Upstate Milk Cooperative; Upstate Door; Vasile's Catering & Anastassia Events; WCJW Radio; WNY Crop Management; Ward & Kutzuba; Warsaw's Country Courier; Warsaw Penny Saver; William Kent, Inc.; Wyoming County Ag and Farmland Protection Board; Wyoming County Community Health Systems; Wyoming County IDA; Wyoming County Soil & Water Conservation District; Zimmer Auto Parts/Zimmer Footwear.



The Perry Veterinary Clinic receives the award for Agri-Business of the Year on March 3.

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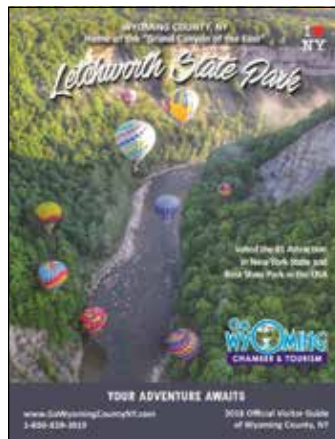
Chamber releases 2018 visitor guide

In the beginning of January, the Chamber and Tourism office announced the release of the official 2018 Wyoming County Visitor Guide. This year's guide features a cover photo by well-known Letchworth State Park enthusiast John Kucko, showing hot air balloons soaring through the Genesee River Gorge at Letchworth State Park. The cover shot once again beckons readers to visit the "Grand Canyon of the East" and all that Wyoming County has to offer.

The 2018 visitor guide has an exciting new layout that offers readers a fresh and engaging visual experience, while providing valuable information for people, especially the over 700,000 visitors to Letchworth State Park

each year. The visitor guide is also linked to the Wyoming County Tourism website www.gowyomingcountyny.com which features an interactive and fully mobile platform, travel itineraries, events calendar, maps and business listings.

"We are thrilled with the 2018 visitor guide," said Director of Tourism & Marketing Eric Szucs. "This comprehensive piece is engaging, informative, and does a phenomenal job of depicting everything that makes Wyoming County a premiere tourism destination for visitors worldwide. It showcases Wyoming County's many diverse tourism businesses, attractions and events. It tells our story – a great story – about how visitors will have adventures here that are un-



The 2018 visitor guide has an exciting new layout that offers readers a fresh and engaging visual experience.

surpassed by anything else in New York State."

"On behalf of the membership and Board of Directors, I would like to extend a special thanks to Eric Szucs

for his hard work to deliver a great looking product for 2018," said Chamber President Scott Gardner. "I would also like to thank all the businesses and advertisers in the guide, and the following who assisted their time and talent with the 2018 visitor guide: The Warsaw Penny Saver, for the design of the guide; John Kucko Photography, for the cover photo, and to community members for sending us beautiful pictures of the County as part of the 'I Love Wyoming County Photography Contest.'"

A record 110,000 copies have been printed for distribution this year, and will be handed out at nationwide trade and travel shows, and sent to information centers and rest stops across New York, the Northeastern Unit-

ed States and Southeastern Canada. Visitor guides will also be available at the gates to Letchworth State Park and at local attractions, government offices, restaurants and retail locations throughout Wyoming County.

Guides can be picked up at the Chamber office located at the Wyoming County Ag and Business Center, 36 Center Street in Warsaw. Area residents are encouraged to call, stop by the Chamber office, or arrange to have a visitor guide mailed to friends or family who may be interested in Wyoming County.

Area businesses who would like to have a supply of visitor guides at their location are also encouraged to contact the Chamber at (585) 786-0307 or info@gowyomingcountyny.com.

Pankow Farm to host 2018 Agri-Palooza

CASTILE — The Wyoming County Chamber & Tourism and event partner Wyoming County Farm Bureau announce the 2018 Agri-Palooza will be held at Pankow Farm, 5808 Glen Iris Road. This is the eighth year of the award-winning day-long event, which highlights agriculture in Wyoming County and welcomes the public to spend the day on a working farm. The free event takes place from noon to 4 p.m. June 10.

Pankow Farm is owned by David and Valerie Pankow. This first-generation farm family moved to its current location in 1988 with just 45 cows. Now, in 2018, the family has a herd of 640 cows and 1,350 acres, owned and rented, that it farms. Along with David and Valerie are their sons, Jonathan, Patrick and Nick, who work on the farm. Their daughter, Jamie, is often using various locations as backdrops in her photography business. The Pankow family will welcome the public on to the grounds to explore and

learn more about the industry.

In addition to educational displays, farm tours and children's games and activities. Visitors will have an endless variety of Wyoming County products for both display and purchase. Come and explore all that Wyoming County agriculture has to offer. For more information and updates, Follow Agri-Palooza on Facebook at facebook.com/agripalooza.

The Wyoming County Chamber & Tourism is the leading membership organization for local and regional growth, advocacy and connection for Wyoming County's business community. The Chamber & Tourism's mission is to serve the members and community promote and grow the area's economic and tourism assets and work collaboratively to create an environment that leads to the success and economic prosperity of Wyoming County. For more information or to become a member, call (585) 786-0307 or visit the website at www.wycochamber.org.

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Chamber holds 11th Leadership Wyoming graduation

NEW CLASS: 11 new leaders graduate from annual program

On Jan. 10, 2018, the Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce hosted the graduation ceremony for the 11th class of the Leadership Wyoming program at the Byrnclyff Golf Resort and Banquets in Varysburg. Following remarks and a presentation by the graduates based on all the positive experiences and leadership qualities learned during the year, graduation certificates were presented in a brief ceremony. Since its inception in 2006, 180 individuals have graduated from the Leadership Wyoming Program.

"Everyone has the potential for leadership development and this program continues to provide a great opportunity for individuals to learn through a variety of experiences," said Scott Gardner, President of the Chamber. "For eleven years, the Chamber has promoted the importance of growing citizens who are community minded and has equipped them to take on new leadership challenges in their personal and professional lives. The benefit to the county is tremendous, as these individuals set out to take on fulfilling projects and beneficial new ways to serve our community."

The participants' journey began in March with a two-day retreat where each person was put through a Meyers-Brigg profile; talked about the strengths and challenges of Wyoming County; and began to learn about themselves and their personality styles. This leadership component continues throughout the year as the class participates in discussions and group activities. The program also included exploring small businesses; touring local manufacturers; learning from the County's economic development team; an up

close and personal tour of one of Wyoming County's most famous locations, Attica Correctional Facility; checking out the unique technologies found on local farms; and taking time to be tourists by exploring all of Wyoming County's tourism destinations. The class also attended a monthly committee meeting of the Wyoming County Board of Supervisors. Classes were given the opportunity to speak to various town supervisors during county government and criminal justice day, and witnessed the county's legislative body in action.

"We are very proud of the very diverse individuals that have taken part in the Leadership program over the years and this class is no exception. It is always exciting to listen in on their conversations and participate with them throughout the process. They have gone on a yearlong journey of personal and professional discovery, and we look forward to seeing how they use their new skills," said Kelly Ashcraft, program coordinator and Chamber director of member services.

This year's class included: Lynnell Schreiber, Wyoming County Mental Health Department; Bridget Givens, Wyoming County Community Health Systems; Barbara Ferris, Tompkins Bank of Castile; Aimee Rader, RTS Wyoming; Hillary Crane, Five Star Bank; Erin Pataye, Partners for Prevention; Pilar McKay, Arts Council for Wyoming County; Jen Monteleone, Pioneer Credit Recovery; Ashley Schumaker, Pioneer Credit Recovery; Megan Burley, Burley Berries and Blooms; Daryl DeGroff, Morton Salt; Ella Boxler, Hidden Valley Animal Adventure.

The Chamber will not be holding a Leadership Wyoming Class this year. Instead, the program will be re-tooled and updated with new schedules, programming, and curriculums for students in 2019. For more information, contact the Chamber at (585) 786-0307.



MARK GUTMAN/DAILY NEWS/FILE

The 2017 Leadership Wyoming class graduated in January.



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2017 WYOMING COUNTY BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

Showing abilities through employment

MOUNT MORRIS — Through its Hilltop Business Services program, The Arc of Livingston-Wyoming operates a number of small businesses in our area, including the Hilltop Bottle & Can Return redemption center and Finders Keepers thrift store, both in Mount Morris. The Arc is a not-for-profit agency that supports individuals with disabilities, and its Hilltop businesses are no exception; proceeds benefit work programs for individuals with disabilities, and many of the shops' workers have disabilities.

Cody Burgess is 26 and lives in Dansville with his father. He is employed at Hilltop Bottle & Can Return. Cody has worked there since 2014 and states that he likes everything about his job, from his co-workers to the customers. He is proud to have a job and appreciative of the opportunity to work within the community. Cody describes



Cody Burgess, 26, works at Hilltop Bottle & Can Return.

his disability as something that he puts behind him, and what he wants to accomplish in life is what he puts ahead of him.

Justine Deluca, Nancy Heap, and Stacey Strathearn are three of the many smiling faces that greet you at Finders Keepers. They are from Warsaw, Mt. Morris, and Wyoming, respectively. All state that they enjoy their co-workers and supervisors. Stacey and Nancy have

been working at Finders Keepers since the store opened in 2009 and Justine has worked there for 4 years. All three say they are so proud to have jobs in community.



Justine Deluca

Hilltop Bottle & Can Return is located at 3 East State St. Hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday. Finders Keepers is located at 47 Main

St. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. For more information about The Arc of Livingston-Wyoming, visit www.lwarc.org.



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Why should you join the Chamber of Commerce?

Here are the top 10 reasons

Why should you join the Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce? Here are 10 reasons.

1. Membership brings credibility to your business. You can increase positive perception among consumers and business owners when you're identified as a member of a chamber of commerce. According to a research study by The Shapiro Group, Inc. and Market Street Services, when consumers know that a small business is a member of the chamber of commerce, they are 44 percent more likely to think favorably of it, a 51 percent increase in consumer awareness, a 57 percent increase in its local reputation and a 63 percent increase in the likelihood that consumers will patronize the business in the future.

2. Increase your visibility in the community. As a member, you will be listed in the Chamber's annual Business Directory, which is distributed to more than 20,000 homes and businesses throughout Wyoming County. And as an added bonus, if you are a tourism related business, you will also be listed in the Wyoming County Travel Guide. Your membership also includes your business being listed on the Chamber's website which receives thousands of inquiries and referrals every year. Sponsoring major Chamber events can help get you name out in the community and bring recognition to your organization. If you are a new or expanding business, the chamber may also promote your grand opening/ribbon-cutting ceremony and assist with any public relations efforts.

3. Create networking opportunities. Chambers have committees and serving on one of them provides net-

working opportunities as well as professional leadership development. We also host events where businesses can meet and make greater connections.

4. Gain a voice in government. The Chamber takes on the tough issues and opposes new regulations, taxes, fees, assessments and costs directed at small businesses and supports legislation that is pro-business. Direct links to both our local, as well as, State and National government helps us advocate for our businesses.

5. Make business contacts. The Chamber's mission is to generate more business activity for the community. While some is out in front leading the way, much of our work is behind the scenes working with economic development leaders locally and regionally. The chamber initiates more business-to-business commerce and more opportunities for networking and connecting local professionals than is available through most other local organizations.

6. Receive chamber news. Our new format for our newsletter provides new member information, interesting information about operating a local business, articles about the local community, a community calendar and details about up-and-coming chamber events, among other things. Low cost advertising is also available for member businesses. We also send e-news items that are member only and provide added value.

7. Acquire customer referrals. Every day, your local chamber receives calls from individuals and businesses looking for potential vendors, and chamber members typically recommend other chamber members. Our website also allows for direct referrals, connecting the consumer with the member



business directly by email.

8. Chamber events and programs. Chamber events and programs provide members with great opportunities to get to know new people and expand their prospect base. Chamber events are innovative and fun ways to help members meet potential customers, clients and vendors—and generate new business leads. Educational seminars also keep local businesses owners and their

employees up to date on the most pressing business items.

9. Promotion and publicity. With a chamber membership, you can reach potential clients through member exclusive advertising and opportunities for business-to-business advertising and publicity. Our new and improved Member-to-Member program allows special offers available to only member businesses.

10. Access to members-only programs. We are always watching your bottom line with our affinity programs. They include Constant Contact (an e-news subscription that makes professional looking emails quick and easy), Staples Advantage office supply program, New Wave Energy (discounts on electricity), National Fuel Resources (natural gas discount program), discounted AAA membership and others. We are always on the lookout for new programs that will help our member businesses.

Are you ready to join the Wyoming County Chamber, if you aren't already? Give us a call at (585) 786-0307 or check us out online at www.wycochamber.org. You can also stay connected with us on Facebook.

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Galumpha, the human jungle gym, returning

WARSAW — The Arts Council for Wyoming County, with the sponsorship of Tompkins Bank of Castile and the Wyoming Foundation, presents Galumpha at the Warsaw Central High School auditorium on Saturday, April 14.

Combining stunning acrobatics, striking visual effects, physical comedy and inventive choreography, Galumpha brings to life a world of imagination, beauty, muscle and merriment. The three performers create a sensory feast of images ranging from the ridiculous to the sublime, drawn together into a seamless whole, consistently bringing audiences to their feet. Galumpha is a triumphant mix of art and en-

tertainment, offering world-class, award-winning choreography (Edinburgh Festival Critics' Choice Award, Moers International Comedy Arts Prize) that is equally at home on the concert stage, at a comedy club or at an outdoor festival.

Formed in 2002 by Andy Horowitz and Greg O'Brien, Galumpha delivers a fast-paced, athletic brand of movement, distinctive for its ingenuity. Highlights include "Velcro," as seen on "The Late Show with David Letterman," "Crook and Chase" (TNN), and the 2002 MDA Jerry Lewis Telethon; and "Clackers," seen on MTV, Showtime, A & E, Just for Laughs in Montreal, and by over one billion television viewers around the globe.

Other pieces feature experiments

in human architecture set to music by Rachmaninov, Mahler, and the virtuoso Czech band Jablkon, making for an exceptionally entertaining program. "Their strength, agility, and underlying grace...is unflagging and amazing," says the San Francisco Chronicle.

Free tickets (donation accepted at the door) for this event may be picked up at the ACWC or any Bank of Castile in Wyoming County or Batavia. The performance starts at 7 p.m. Doors open at 6:30. The Warsaw High School is located at 81 W. Court St.

Galumpha, a dance and arts group, will perform April 14 at Warsaw Central High School.



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Publick Musick books return engagement

WYOMING — The Arts Council for Wyoming County is thrilled to welcome Publick Musick back to Wyoming County for a 2 p.m. concert on Sunday, April 29 at the First Presbyterian Church, 5 North Academy St. A special feature at this concert will be the presentation of the ACWC's 2018 Patron of the Arts Award to Sandy Pirdy of Creekside Fabrics in Arcade.

Period-instrument ensemble Publick Musick will perform two of Mozart's greatest masterpieces for chamber ensemble: the String Quintets in C major K. 515, and Eb major K. 614. The

ensemble consists of: Cynthia Roberts, violin; Boel Gidholm, violin; Daniel Elyar, viola; Alissa Smith, viola; and Christopher Haritatos, cello.

Founded in 1995, and under the artistic leadership of violinist Boel Gidholm and cellist Christopher Haritatos since 2011, Publick Musick is a Rochester-based period-instrument ensemble that enriches the cultural landscape of Western New York by producing and presenting vibrant, historically informed performances of music from the 17th and 18th centuries and beyond. In their informal and engaging concerts, they perform well-known masterpieces, as well as sharing with



Cynthia Roberts

audiences the excitement of discovering and bringing to life unknown gems from the past. Their performers are nationally and internationally renowned Early Music professionals both from the local area and from further afield. One of the guest artists to be featured at the concert

will be Cynthia Roberts.

Among her many accomplishments, Roberts is one of America's leading baroque violinists, and has appeared as soloist, leader, and recitalist throughout North America, Europe, and Asia. She has served as concertmaster of the New York Collegium, Apollo's Fire, Concert Royal, and Les Arts Florissants. She performs regularly with Trinity Baroque Orchestra, Tafelmusik, and the American Bach Soloists and is a principal player with the Carmel Bach Festival. She has appeared with the London Classical Players, Taverner Players, Clarion Music Society, American Bach Soloists and Smithsonian Chamber

Players. Her playing was featured on the soundtrack of the film Casanova and she has performed live on the Late Show with David Letterman.

For more information about Publick Musick, visit Publick-Musick.org. Publick Musick concerts are made possible by generous donors, the Gouvernet Arts Fund at the Rochester Area Community Foundation, the Max & Marian Farash Charitable Foundation, and by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature. This project is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.



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Organizations host seventh annual Wyoming County Job Fair

On Friday, March 16, 2018, the Wyoming County Chamber & Tourism office, Community Action for Wyoming County, Genesee Community College, the NYS Department of Labor, Senator Patrick Gallivan, and the Wyoming County YMCA, partnered to coordinate the seventh annual Wyoming County Job Fair at the Wyoming County YMCA & Genesee Community

College Warsaw Campus.

Thirty-five area businesses and organizations were present to attract job-seekers at the six-hour event. Nearly 150 job seekers visited with employers and took the opportunity to also take free classes and brush up on resume writing, interview techniques, and other soft skills. In some cases, interviews took place on right on-site, as connections were made by companies and po-

tential employees.

There were a wide variety of jobs available at all skill levels from very basic to technical.

"Matching job seekers with employers is critically important, as we look for ways to serve the business community and offer solutions. Workforce development is one of our top priorities, and

this was an important event to help make these connections. Thank you to both the businesses for setting up a table, and for the job seekers for coming out to learn about job opportunities," said Scott Gardner, Chamber president.

"We were very pleased with the job seekers this year, as they were serious

about their visit and were well prepared," said Beth Catton, Senior Coordinator of the Employment and Training Division at Community Action. "We always encourage job seekers to bring their resume, be enthusiastic, ask questions, take notes, dress appropriately and thank the business representative for their time."



The Wyoming County Job Fair, held each year at the Wyoming County YMCA and Genesee Community College Warsaw Campus, brings dozens of employers and hundreds of job seekers together in one place.



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Member News: We've had some exciting news and want to share

Members of the Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce have seen plenty of success this past fall and winter.

1. Byrncliff Golf Resort & Banquets, widely known for its beautiful golf course off of 20A and a winter wonderland off season, announced in January that it was elected one of America's Greatest Snowmobile Pitstops in America by Snow Goer Magazine.

The magazine announced its 101 "Greatest Snowmobile Pitstops in America" and Byrncliff Golf Resort and Banquets made the grade. It's one of eight in New York to be pegged with the prestigious honor and ranks among others in Wisconsin, Washington, Colorado, Idaho, Minnesota, Maine, Michigan, Montana, Pennsylvania, South Dakota and New Hampshire.

Snowmobiling is very popular in Western New York and Byrncliff was elected, by snowmobiling enthusiasts who considered the entire nation, one of 101 Greatest Snowmobile Pitstop in America, a top trailside location that offer riders enjoy for food & unique ambience, full service restaurant and tons of sled parking, live music on weekends and lodging.

Byrncliff is a main gateway to Wyoming County's trail system, ideally located at the intersection of four major New York State Trails with "Park and Ride" accessibility. It offers a very large free trailer parking, allowing riders to get started, go out anywhere as far as Letchworth and come back to Byrncliff's inviting bar and restaurant, which features live Music every Saturday night.

Byrncliff becomes a winter wonderland as soon as

the snow hits the ground, transforming itself into a premier destination for winter fun and activities, including Nordic or Cross-Country Skiing (voted best Cross Country center of Western New York by Buffalo Spree in 2008), Snowshoeing, Snowmobiling and more recently popular Fat Bike.

Lindsay Eddy, Director of Sales and Marketing for Byrncliff says "Our mission is to provide

people great hospitality and a relaxing experience, an escape from the everyday any day of the year. We are happy to embrace winter and provide Western New Yorkers with a number of fun activities. We want to

encourage everyone to come out and experience winter fun. You will not be disappointed!"

If you are looking for a multi day weekend, Byrncliff offers Stay & Play Packages, with either

snowmobiling, cross country skiing or snowshoeing (rentals available), trail access fees with

hotel and access to its restaurant. The restaurant is famous for delivering delicious steaks, fish fries, chicken wings or Sunday Brunch. For the latest information, news and consumer offers, please visit: Byrncliff.com or on facebook.com/Byrncliff phone: (585) 535-7300.

2. The Wyoming County

Chamber and Tourism office was pleased to congratulate River Spring Lodge, located in Bennington, NY on being selected as one of the 2018 Top 10 Romantic Inns by iLoveInns.com.

The announcement was made in the following statement by iLoveInns.com. "It has never been easier to surprise your sweetie with a romantic winter getaway.

See NEWS T21

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News

From T20

These 2018 Top 10 Most Romantic Inns, chosen by iLoveInns.com after extensive research and nominations from inn guests and staff, provide the world-class hospitality, personalized touch and loving environment that dreams are made of."

There are more than 10,000 inns in iLoveInns.com online guides, so throughout the year their staff keeps an eye out for candidates. They look for romantic settings, exceptional décor, hospitality and amenities that all contribute to making a perfect romantic getaway. The staff reviews guest comments, takes calls from guests, and contacts many trusted sources to collect the most romantic inn candidates. It's not an easy process, and they invest in it year-round.

As iLoveInns.com president and 35-year bed and breakfast connoisseur, Deborah Sakach remarks, "These kinds of properties deeply touch the hearts of their guests. In our research for romantic inns, in addition to talking to hundreds of guests, we read thousands and thousands of reviews. We felt the joy in their statements such as, 'We left feeling rejuvenated and happier than ever to be married to each other!' and 'We plan to return every year and think of it as our happy place,' or 'Life's tensions melted away in this glorious setting.

THE 2018 TOP 10 ROMANTIC INNS:

- Horse Stamp Inn - Waverly, GA
- Brierley Hill Bed and Breakfast - Lexington, VA
- River Spring Lodge - Darien Center, NY
- Grey Havens Inn - Georgetown, ME
- Clover Cliff Ranch Bed & Breakfast - Elmdale, KS
- Hacienda Nicholas Bed & Breakfast - Santas Fe, NM
- Inn at Ellis River - Jackson, NH

- Shafer-Baille Mansion - Seattle, WA
- Antiquities' Wellington Inn - Traverse City, MI
- Birchwood Inn - Lenox, MA

"My wife Carolyn and I were delighted to be chosen as one of the "Ten Most Romantic Inns" in 2018. The merits of this reward really belong to the wonderful people we have had the honor of serving since we opened in August of 2016," said David Hamer, Innkeeper at River Spring Lodge. "Carolyn and I have been overwhelmed by the Five-Star accolades from our guests on TripAdvisor and other social media sites. When we quickly became the highest rated hotel in Western New York it caught the attention of lodging industry leaders."

"After further research and interviews "I Love Inns" determined Wyoming County's Boutique Hotel deserved this distinctive award," Hamer said. "We learned a few weeks ago that River Spring Lodge was one of sixteen finalists from more than ten thousand inns across the entire Country. Carolyn and



MARK GUTMAN/DAILY NEWS

David and Carolyn Hamer run River Spring Lodge, which was recently named one of the "Ten Most Romantic Inns."

I were thrilled when River Spring Lodge was chosen as one of the top ten inns in the Country. We cannot wait to meet the people this news will bring through our front door!"

"We sincerely congratulate David and Carolyn on this prestigious recognition. It is a huge honor to be selected among the top ten

romantic inns from across the country," said Chamber & Tourism President Scott Gardner. "River Spring Lodge is a true gem offering the highest standards of hospitality and guest service. Their amenities are first-class and we are very fortunate to have them located here in Wyoming County."

For more information on

the 2018 Top 10 Most Romantic Inns, www.iloveinns.com/2018-top-10-most-romantic-inns-a... and other delightful inns, visit <http://www.iLoveInns.com> or use your iPhone and the free "InnTouch" application. Some of this years Top 10 are also included in the Buy-One-Night-Get-the-Second Night Free program which is available online at iLoveInns.com

For more information, photos, tours, or lodging at River Spring Lodge, please contact David Hamer at 585-708-4212 or email innkeeper@riverspringlodge.com. You can also visit www.riverspringlodge.com

3. The Grateful Grill, located at 4260 Rt. 19, Silver Springs, was listed among the "62 NY restaurants that locals love," in November by readers of the website newyorkupstate.com.

They were selected for their great menu, the full bar, and their many live events. This popular spot is always trying out modern twists to old favorite menu items, and gets busy on live music nights.



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Ribbon cuttings mark start of new businesses

The Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce marked the beginning of several new businesses in the six months. They are:

VERTICAL CAFÉ IN WARSAW

On Thursday, Nov. 9, 2017, the Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony at the new Vertical Café in Warsaw. The Chamber was joined by owner Rod Proefrock, family, friends and officials to welcome the new business.



A ribbon cutting is held at Vertical Café in Warsaw.

CROSSFIT BLACK OUT AT JACKED FITNESS

We were pleased to host a ribbon cutting ceremony with business owner Jennifer Daniel at the new CrossFit Black Out at Jacked 24/7 Fitness Club on Tuesday, Oct. 10, 2017 to celebrate the business' latest major expansion and the five-year business anniversary. The new 4,000-square-foot location is the only affiliated CrossFit facility in Wyoming County. It includes a new larger classroom space, turf, and all new equipment for the serious athlete. From barbells and bumper plates, to rowers, and boxing equipment, the facility offers something for everyone at every level. Staff train members in CrossFit classes to help them to be stronger in their everyday lives. The facility also offers showers and changing rooms. VIP members may use this building 24/7.

A ribbon cutting is held at Crossfit Black Out at Jacked Fitness.



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PARSON'S PLACE

The Wyoming County Chamber and Tourism hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the opening of Parson's Place under the new ownership of Nikki McMahon, on Thursday, Feb. 8, 2018 at the business located at 11157 Alexander Road (Rte 98), Attica.



A ribbon cutting is held at Junk and Disorderly and Rusty Bones in Arcade.



A ribbon cutting is held at Parson's Place in Attica.



A ribbon cutting is held at Theatre@37 in Perry.

Ribbons

From T22

JUNK AND DISORDERLY AND RUSTY BONES

The Wyoming County Chamber and Tourism hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the grand opening of Junk & Disorderly and Rusty Bones on Saturday, Feb. 10, 2018 at the business located at 265-269 Main St., Arcade.

THEATRE@37 IN PERRY

On Friday, Dec. 15, 2017, the Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony at the new Theatre@37 in Perry. The Chamber was joined by theatre owner Josh Rice, friends and officials to welcome the new business to downtown Perry and Wyoming County.



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Wyoming County Restaurant Week returning

If you're looking for great food and warm hospitality close to home, then Wyoming County Restaurant Week is for you.

The Wyoming County Chamber and Tourism has again partnered with local media outlets to host the third annual restaurant week in Wyoming County. The event runs from April 29 thru May 5 at restaurants from every corner of Wyoming County.

Participating restaurants will offer a unique dish throughout "restaurant week" at the special price of \$20.18.

Each restaurant will create its own unique menu, which could include anything from a single entrée to a multi-course meal.

"We're very excited to be partnering again on this fun event and thank the restaurants for being involved. What better way for our restaurants to showcase all of the great menu items that they have available," said Scott Gardner, Chamber president. "We have some of the best restaurants in Western New York right here in our backyard, and this is a great way to celebrate all that they

have to offer and encourage diners to try something new. Thanks to all the event partners and everyone who works to makes this event a success."

More information, weekly specials, and the full list of participating restaurants can be found by visiting the website www.wyomingcountyrestaurantweek.com or www.gowyomingcountyny.com or by calling the Wyoming County Chamber at (585) 786-0307. Restaurants specials can also be found on Facebook by searching Wyoming County Restaurant Week.



MARK GUTMAN/DAILY NEWS/FILE

The Trailside Grill at Hidden Valley Animal Adventure has participated in Wyoming County Restaurant Week and will do so again in 2018.

What is the Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce & Tourism?

The Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce & Tourism office is a not-for-profit, membership organization comprised of more than 500 businesses in and around Wyoming County. We bring together representatives from manufacturing, retail, agriculture, and tourism to promote Wyoming County as a health, economically stable place for residents to live, work and play.

MISSION: Our mission is to serve the members and community; promote and grow the area's economic tourism assets; and work collaboratively to create an environment that leads to the success and economic prosperity of Wyoming County.

VISION: The Wyoming County Chamber & Tourism is the leading membership organization for local and regional growth, advocacy and connection for Wyoming County's business community.

CORE VALUES: The core values of Wyoming Coun-

ty Chamber & Tourism are Leadership, Excellence, Integrity, and Responsiveness.

The Chamber office is located at 36 Center St. A, Warsaw. Office hours are 8:30

a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays.

To contact them, call (585) 786-0307 or email info@wycochamber.org. For more information, visit www.wycochamber.org.

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Kauffman Foundation executives visit Wyoming County entrepreneurs

Executives from the Kauffman Foundation, creators of the entrepreneurship program FastTrac New Venture, flew in from Kansas City on March 20, 2018 to learn first-hand why the Wyoming County Business Center, Inc. has such high success rate of new business startups from those who graduate from the program offered here.

Over a period of seven years that the program has been offered in the county, 67 businesses have started and have created 112 jobs. That equates to approximately 50 percent of the graduates of the FastTrac New Venture Program starting new businesses.

This the first time that Kauffman Foundation executives have visited in person any of their affiliates in the United States.

"Kim McGrew and Lauren Aleshire from the Kauffman Foundation reached out to the Wyoming County Business Center about a month ago and asked if they could come for visit and talk with some of the FastTrac graduates, learn from our experienced Program Facilitators, Jeff and Mike Fitch and observe the first night of the new class that started on the day they visited. We were extremely excited that they had selected us to be a first stop on their new outreach efforts," said Program Director Jim Pierce. He added that "on behalf of our Board of Directors and staff of Jennifer Tyczka and Robin Marschilok we are very proud of our program and our graduates. The program is very effective in the implementa-

tion of one of our economic development strategies to encourage and support entrepreneurship."

The Kauffman visitors toured and met with FastTrac graduates Gary and Betty Burley, owners of East Hill Creamery in Perry and sampled some of their artisan cheeses. They also met with Brian and Amanda Burnison, owners of MB Maple in Attica and Darren and Bernice

Fuller owners of Middle Falls Contracting, LLC in Castile to hear first-hand accounts how the FastTrac Program assisted them with starting their businesses. The experience resulted in them learning about issues and barriers that face entrepreneurs in rural communities and how they can enhance the success of the program. In addition they are making plans to share the success stories of

the graduates with other affiliates and programs across the country.

Jim Pierce said "that the folks from Kauffman Foundation were very impressed with all aspects of their visit. There was one remark made by Kim McGrew that really hit home when she said "you have something magical going on here" and you know she is right." The visitors are making plans to return for

last class and presentations of the graduate's business plan to see how far they have come.

To learn more about the FastTrac New Venture program or to register for the fall class starting in September, please contact Jennifer Tyczka, Program Manager at the Wyoming County Business Center at (585) 786-3764 or by email at jtyczka@wycoida.org.



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Chamber announces 'I love Wyoming County' photography contest winners

In December of 2017, the Wyoming County Chamber & Tourism office was pleased to announce the three "I Love Wyoming County" photography contest winners. After receiving 24 entries and over 124 individual photos from photographers of all skill levels, the top winners were announced.

First Place: Christy Hibsich of Warsaw, with a photo of a sunrise over Great Bend at Letchworth State Park, she will receive a \$100 Wyoming County Visa gift card.

Second Place: Amber Williams of Arcade was selected for her photo of the Arcade and Attica steam engine in action, she will receive a \$75 Wyoming County Visa gift card.

Third Place: Sarah Marsh of Bliss, with a unique photo of the Lower Falls at Letchworth State Park, she will receive a \$50 Wyoming County Visa gift card.

Honorable mention: Jo-Anne Pionessa of Warsaw with a picture of a grouping of dairy cows with one pop-

ping its head up.

"Congratulations to the three top award winners and the honorable mention photo, and thank you to everyone who submitted photos for the contest," said Chamber President Scott Gardner. "This contest was a fun and interesting way to see how others view the place they live and what inspires them. We were fortunate to review all the photos and see some really excellent perspectives of Wyoming County."

"We are very pleased that two of the photos, those of first and third place will be featured in the 2018 Wyoming County Visitor Guide," said Director of Tourism and Marketing Eric Szucs. "We received so many great photos, it was hard to choose. We were not surprised that we received so many photos featuring Letchworth State Park and landscapes within the county. We truly live in beautiful area which was captured so well by the photographers."

See CONTEST T27



Christy Hibsich's photo of a sunrise over Great Bend at Letchworth State Park took first place in the "I Love Wyoming County" photography contest.



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AMBER WILLIAMS



SARAH MARSH

Contest

From T26

The Chamber began receiving photos almost immediately when the contest opened back in October and received images from both amateur and professional photographers. Following the submission deadline, personnel located within the Wyoming County Ag & Business Center were invited to review the submissions, which were posted and numbered anonymously on the wall in the main hallway, and write down their selections. The winning photos received the most votes overall by the unofficial judges.

Submitted pictures may also be used in upcoming promotional and marketing materials that are distributed to hundreds-of-thousands of tourists worldwide who want to see the beauty of Wyoming County.



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Make Music Day coming to Wyoming County

The Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce & Tourism has announced that Make Music Day will be held Thursday, June 21, 2018 in Wyoming County.

Learn, play, listen, enjoy and celebrate the beauty of music.

The Arts Council for Wyoming County is looking for musicians to participate in the event, as well as business and venues.

For more information, visit www.makemusicday.org/wyoming-county or contact Pilar McKay at mckay@artswyco.org.

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Chamber announces fish fry winner

The Wyoming County Chamber and Tourism is pleased to announce that the Wyoming Inn, located at 1 South Academy St., in the Village of Wyoming, received the highest number of votes for first place in the first Wyoming County Favorite Fish Fry contest. The winner will receive a certificate of recognition to display at their business location.

The second place winner was Theo's Restaurant in Arcade, followed by Byrnclyff Golf Resorts and Banquets in Varysburg. More than 4,600 votes were cast in the poll on the Chamber's website from Feb. 15 thru April 1, 2018.

"This was a fun event to highlight all the great places that you can get a fish fry in Wyoming County," said Chamber President, Scott Gardner. "We are very pleased that so many people took an interest in the contest by voting for their favorite restaurants. Hopefully, customers tried out multiple locations and experienced

all the great choices we have right here in Wyoming County."

The Wyoming County Chamber & Tourism is the leading membership organization for local and regional growth, advocacy, and connection for Wyoming County's business community. The Chamber & Tourism's mission is to serve the members and community; promote and grow the area's economic and tourism assets; and work collaboratively to create an environment that leads to the success and economic prosperity of Wyoming County.

For more information or to become a member please call 585-786-0307 or visit the website at www.wycochamber.org.



ROCCO LAURIENZO/DAILY NEWS

Beth Meyers, who coworkers call the fish lady, batters the fish for the frier during a dinner at the Wyoming Inn.

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ROCCO LAURIENZO/DAILY NEWS

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Puppet Festival coming to Perry

PERRY — Josh Rice has been part of the Wyoming County arts community since 2012's launch of Shake on the Lake, Silver Lake's resident Shakespeare company. A professional theatre artist, Rice started SOTL the summer before he began his MFA at Sarah Lawrence College. At Sarah Lawrence, he studied puppetry, an art form that has taken him around the world. Now, puppetry is coming to Perry.

The New York State Puppet Festival will be the first of its kind in the state – a gathering of game-changing, internationally renowned puppet artists and masters to perform their works and discuss emerging topics in the art form. The festival will take place from June 14 to 24, 2018.

Puppet festivals take place all over the world – Rice has performed in many of them – and he decided that, once again, Wyoming County was the place to start his own project.

Many cultures have developed their own puppet arts traditions. In the U.S.,

See FESTIVAL T30



Koryu Nishikawa V, National Intangible Folk Treasure of Japan, is headlining the New York State Puppet Festival launching in Wyoming County.

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Festival

From T29

we watched the Muppets, may have fashioned our own shadow puppets with a flash-light, or glued googly eyes on a sock. Today, puppeteering is flourishing with the collaboration of artists from around the world to share their art form to each other. The artists that Josh has brought together exemplify this global story, while also highlighting artists who are challenging the media to tell new stories.

Artists coming to the inaugural festival include:

- Concrete Temple Theatre to present the internally-acclaimed family show: Gepetto: Extraordinary Extremities

- Sam Gold to present his brand new Czech-marionette and Balinese shadow-inspired piece, War with Newts

- Dan Hurlin will screen his documentary Puppet with a panel discussion featuring Dan, the film's director David Soll, and the Jim Henson Foundation's Manager Z Briggs.

- Tom Lee and Lisa Gonzales will premiere their dance/puppetry hybrid piece Place (No Place)

- Tom Lee will also present a shadow puppet piece for children, Tomte

- Josh Rice will present his original puppet piece The Marooned

- Fifth-generation traditional Japanese master puppeteer of Hachioji Kuruma Ningyo Theater, and designated National Intangible Folk Treasure of Japan, Koryu Nishikawa V, will headline



Guggenheim Fellow Dan Hurlin will be exhibiting his works at the Arts Council for Wyoming County and screening his documentary, "Puppet," at Theatre@37.

the festival and give workshops in traditional cart puppetry (kuruma ningyo) and 3-person manipulation technique (sanninzukai), as well as performing traditional kuruma ningyo performances, including the Sanbaso.

Look out for more pieces from emerging artists to be

announced this spring.

The festival is not merely one of performances, as many artists will also be teaching workshops on puppeteering. Outreach and education are a large element of this project part of a lofty but achievable goal to make Wyoming County a new center

of puppeteering in the state. Josh's goal is to present this festival biennially.

This project is made possible with the funds from the Decentralization Program, a regrant program of the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and

the New York State Legislature and administered by the Arts Council for Wyoming County. Perry Main Street Association sponsoring the inaugural year. If you would like more information on the New York State Puppet Festival, please visit www.newyorkstatepuppetfestival.org.

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Check out the SBA GLOW Matchmaker in July

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), Buffalo District Office services the eight counties that surround Buffalo and the six counties that surround Rochester. The GLOW region is an important part of the area that is serviced. SBA has been providing training, education, connection and mentoring to businesses in the GLOW region through your local Chambers of Commerce and IDAs for years.

This year, on July 25 at the Batavia Veterans Administration, the SBA, Chambers of Commerce and IDAs in Genesee, Livingston, Orleans and Wyoming Counties will host a GLOW Matchmaker. The program is designed to match small businesses in the GLOW region with larger businesses and government agencies, which helps to keep contract dollars in our local communities.

Small Businesses will get 10-minute meetings with



the buyers from the larger organizations and government agencies, giving small business the opportunity to make multiple sales calls in a couple of hours and not leave the room.

Matchmaking is just one of the SBA Buffalo District's initiatives for supporting procurement opportunities for local small businesses. This unique event provides Small Businesses with the opportunity to have face-to-face contact with buyers from government agencies, as well as with buyers from other large organizations in the GLOW Region. Our mission is two-fold; to connect small businesses with government agencies and

prime contractors and to assist agencies and primes in fulfilling their procurement goals.

The intent is to make the program free of charge, the details are still being arranged, so please stay tuned. Program date is Wednesday, July 25 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Batavia VA.

If you would like to register as a buyer or for more information on how to participate, contact Jennifer Talarico at (716) 551-3240 or Jennifer.Talarico@sba.gov.

Save the date

The Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce and Tourism will hold its annual awards reception from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, May 16.

Join us as we celebrate our members and congratulate our Small, Large, Tourism and Most Promising Business.

For more information, call the Chamber at (585) 786-0307.

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Clark Patterson Lee

Clark Patterson Lee employees work to meet today's challenges to create stronger communities for tomorrow. In Rochester, Buffalo, and 12 other locations, Clark Patterson Lee's talented team members represent nearly every discipline in engineering, architecture, planning and construction services.



FreedMaxick, CPAs, P.C.

FreedMaxick, one of Western and Upstate New York's largest public accounting firms and a Top 100 firm in the U.S., FreedMaxick provides audit, tax and consulting services.



McCormick Farms, Inc.

McCormick Farms is a family owned business that farms over 8,000 acres of land growing haylage, grain, corn and silage and their specialty, chipping potatoes. The McCormicks also have a 2,000 milking cow dairy operation.



Attica Auto & Hardware, Inc.

Operating in five counties in Western New York, Attica Auto & Hardware is a wholesaler and retailer of auto parts and supplies with six CARQUEST stores conveniently located in Attica, Batavia, Perry, Medina, Brockport and Wellsville. Also part of the group Attica Ace Hardware and Ace Hardware Warsaw are full service retail hardware supply stores ready to serve the community on any project no matter the size.



Complete Payroll Processing, Inc.

Complete Payroll Processing provides payroll processing, tax management, HR services, time and attendance and much more.



Five Star Bank

Five Star Bank

Five Star Bank is a local community bank that assists businesses and individuals with all their banking and investment needs.



Morton Salt, Inc.

Morton Salt, Silver Springs Facility, is a manufacturer of food grade salt, agricultural salt, industrial salt applications and products for water systems.



Byrncliff Golf Resort & Banquets

Byrncliff is a year around resort nestled in the rolling hills of Wyoming County in Varysburg, NY. It features an 18 hole par 72 golf course, recognized as one of the best public golf courses south of Buffalo, a full service bar and restaurant, overnight lodging with heated pool, cross country skiing and banquet facilities for all your social occasions.



Creative Food Ingredients

Creative Food Ingredients is a commercial bakery based in Perry, NY supplying baked ingredient products throughout the North American market.



Koike Aronson, Inc.

Koike Aronson, Inc. is a manufacturer of cutting machines, welding positioning equipment, oil tank automatic girth welders, portable welding/cutting products and gas apparatus.



NYSEG

NYSEG is a Rochester-based subsidiary of Energy East Corporation providing electricity and natural gas across more than 40% of upstate New York.



Pioneer Credit Recovery, Inc.

Handling billions in portfolios, Pioneer recovers a broad spectrum of debt for all levels of government: from federal agencies, to cities, to hundreds of countries.



Tompkins Bank of Castile

Tompkins Bank of Castile is a local community bank that has been assisting individuals, families and businesses with all their financial needs for over 145 years.



Upstate Auto

Upstate Auto sells new and pre-owned Chevrolet, Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep, Ram & Toyota. They service all makes and models. Unbeatable tire prices. Quick Lube and Automatic car wash with service appointment.



WCJW Radio

WCJW has been Wyoming County's most listened to radio station for the past 40 years. Western NY's CJ Country plays today's favorites and the legends across 5 frequencies (1140 AM, and 100.9, 103.7, 104.3 and 105.5 FM) other popular programs include Tradio (Monday- Saturday 9-10 am), NASCAR racing, and Section V high school sports broadcasts.



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Tompkins Insurance Agencies, Inc.

Tompkins Insurance provides a full range of personal and commercial insurance and employee benefits products and services. With roots dating back 100+ years, their team of professionals delivers quality products and unrivaled, 24/7 customer service to help families and businesses in our community protect what they value most.



Warsaw Penny Saver & Perry Shopper

Award-winning weekly advertising publications whose sister company Appearances provides graphic design and in-house printing services.



Wyoming County Industrial Development Agency

A public benefit corporation that provides incentives such as tax savings and financing programs for qualifying economic development projects in Wyoming County.



Solar Liberty

Solar Liberty is committed to promoting energy independence through wide-spread installation of solar electric systems with a focus on engineering for system optimization. This growing company was recognized by Inc. magazine on the list of Fastest Growing Private Companies in 2008, ranking 92 in the country and 5th among energy campaigns.



Upstate Door, Inc.

Upstate Door specializes in unique, one-of-a-kind fine door solutions. We build custom hardwood exterior and interior stile and rail doors, MDF doors, and screen/storm door solutions for entry-ways and porches. With locations in Warsaw and Castile, Upstate Door services locations within a 12 hour radius.



Wyoming County Community Health Systems

Wyoming County Community Hospital's (WCCH) mission is "to provide outstanding healthcare services and to have a positive impact on the health of our rural community." WCCH has over 500 dedicated and skilled employees serving the needs of our 50 bed acute-care hospital, 12 bed behavioral health unit and an attached 138 bed skilled nursing facility. WCCH provides a broad range of services including women's health and maternity, adult day health care, therapy and rehabilitation, imaging/radiology, emergency and ER express, behavioral health, orthopedics, and cardiac services.

For more information on how to become a Community Investor, call us at (585) 786-0307.