

Iris Inn

Letchworth State Park

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A Word from the Chamber President

It is hard to believe that we are more than half way through 2017 and already looking to autumn festivals and holiday promotions at the Chamber. Following a very busy spring and summer season, we are looking to a fall and winter that promises continued opportunities and programs for



When was the last time your family had a photograph taken? Don't put it off any longer! 585-786-2871 Carlsons@rochester.rr.com

Wyoming County businesses and community.

This spring and summer, we hosted a record number of ribbon cuttings across Wyoming County which is a sure sign that the local economy is doing well and confidence among business start-ups and existing companies is strong. We welcomed and celebrated a diverse group of entrepreneurs from every corner of the county and wish them the best success as they work to grow their new and expanding businesses.

We also reported out very strong growth in our tourism sector, new programs, and the continued promotion of existing business initiatives. In early October, we are celebrating national manufacturing day which recognizes the many outstanding manufacturing business located

all over the county. These often-overlooked enterprises represent a strong and important sector of the business backbone of the county and we are pleased to have an opportunity to feature them this fall.

We are looking forward to two annual events coming up in November, Shop Wyoming and Win, the Chamber's annual buy local holiday program; and Shop Small Saturday geared to focusing attention on our downtowns and small businesses.

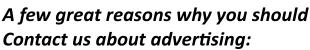
We are also engaged in a marketing study as part of the Wyoming County Rural Arts Initiative to develop a targeted plan that will attract visitors, artists, and potential new businesses to Wyoming County. We also initiated a new "Welcome to Wyoming County," which welcomes new homeowners and shares all the great businesses and opportunities that are available.

Finally, I am pleased to

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report that the Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce was recently ranked #8 this year in the top Chambers of Commerce in Western New York by Buffalo Business First magazine. This is only possible due to the many member businesses and the hard work and investment that they represent. Thank you to the business owners who should be very proud of this ranking and your continued commitment to Wyoming County and the Chamber of Commerce. We look forward to a prosperous holiday shopping season and hope that everyone takes advantage of the many opportunities to patronize local businesses in the county. On behalf of the membership, Board of Directors, and staff we hope everyone has a great fall and holiday season. May you have time to enjoy with family and celebrate all that is good about Wyoming County and our great nation.

If you are a tourism business or event, now is the time to advertise in the 2018 **Wyoming County Travel Guide!**



- 100,000 guides printed and distributed
- Sent across NY, Northeast, Canada, and beyond
- Featured in the *only* tourism guide given at Letchworth State Park's entrance gates in and about Wyoming County
- **Discounts** on the popular Wyoming Co tourism website!

Now is the time for you to be a part of this outstanding promotional opportunity!

Contact: Eric Szucs, WyCo Chamber & Tourism at eric@gowyomingcountyny.com or (585) 786-0307



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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 and is illuminated each evening. 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 reservations 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.

Looking for even more to do? Glen Iris Inn has two special events coming up this fall. A murder mystery dinner theater, "Audition for Murder," will be held on Saturday, Sept. 23. The Fall Gourmet Dinner & Inspire Moore Wine Tasting is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 28. Additional information about both events is available at www.glenirisinn.com or by calling the inn at (585) 493-2622.

What is the history of the location? Glen Iris Inn' website provides the following history of the historic location:

"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 a burned-out lumber mill. Owned by Michael Smith, the house 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 December 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

Open Daily Now through Sunday, October 29th

Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre
"Audition for Murder"
Saturday, September 23rd

Fall Gourmet Dinner & Inspire Moore Wine Tasting Saturday, October 28th

Additional information for both events available at www.glenirisinn.com or by calling 585.493.2622

Friday Haddock Fish Fry
Every Friday Lunch 11:30am-3:00pm • Dinner 5:00-8:30pm

Letchworth State Park, Castile, NY 14427 Phone: (585) 493-2622 • Fax: (585) 493-5803 • www.glenirisinn.com



4th Annual Wyoming County Women's Business Summit

The Arts Council for Wyoming County (ACWC) and the Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce and Tourism are pleased to announce the fourth annual Wyoming County Women's Business Summit to be held Thursday, September 28, 2017 at Beaver Hollow Conference Center/ Biggest Loser Resort Niagara, 1083 Pit Road, Java Center, NY. The theme of this year's summit is "Close to Home."

The daylong summit co-sponsored by the Beaver Hollow Conference Center/Biggest Loser Resort Niagara; Women's OB-GYN of Warsaw; and Silver Lake Brewing Project, will run from 9:00 AM until 4:00 PM and will feature local business owner and entrepreneur Keirsten Schaffer of Lila Pilates as Keynote Speak-



er. Participants will also attend several break-out sessions, a luncheon of locally sourced foods, and a panel discussion featuring Wyoming County business women. General admission is \$80.00 per person; \$70.00 for ACWC and Chamber members.

"We are very pleased to co-host the fourth Women's Business Summit with the ACWC at Beaver Hollow," said Wyoming County Chamber President Scott Gardner. "Our continued goal is to bring women business own-

ers, professionals, and entrepreneurs, a unique opportunity to hear from dynamic presenters on a wide range of issues relevant to the personal and professional lives of Wyoming County's professional women in business."

"Every year we incorporate the ACWC's year-long theme into the Women's Summit, and the theme for this year is "Close to Home." I am eager to hear the different interpretations regarding close to home within the context of our women owned businesses or women in the work place. I am especially eager to hear how our keynote speaker Keirsten Schaffer will weave her information about the human body into the theme," said ACWC Executive Director Jacqueline Hoyt.

As a twenty-year resi-

dent of Wyoming County, Keirsten Shaffer is the owner of Lila Pilates in downtown Perry, New York. She is dedicated to working locally and supporting her community. Her early career consisted of community and economic development in Livingston and Wyoming Counties. 2001, she cofounded the Perry Farmers' Market. She also spent four years as a healthcare marketing consultant for the Wyoming County Community Health System. In 2006, Keirsten was diagnosed with Acute Promyelocytic Leukemia, which eventually led her to a dedicated study of bodywork, movement, and wellness. At the Women's Business Summit, she will take you through her journey to wellness and how she found movement and massage therapy to be the key for her overall health and ultimately improve or enhance your work performance.

Other presenters will include breakout session speakers featuring:

- Negotiating Skills: Victoria Reynolds, Deputy District Director, US SBA
- Multi-Generational Workplaces – Finding the Strengths: JoBeth Rath, Trainer/Goodwill Industries
- Personal Branding: Kelly Tracy, Recruiter, Pioneer/Navient
- Social Media, Where do You Want to Be?:
 Jessica Seymour, Partner MOTIV Digital Media

Panel Discussion featuring the following panelists:

- Sarah Keeler, owner
 / instructor Genesee
 Dance Theatre, Perry
- Lisa Seewaldt, owner
 Ash-Lin's Elegant Rose
 Florist and Gift Shop,
 Warsaw
- Laura DeBadts, Independent Senior Sales Director for Mary Kay, Warsaw
- Sarah Billings, owner / Lead Stylist slb salon & boutique, Inc., Perry
- Sandra Pirdy, owner, Creekside Fabrics, and motivational speaker/ instructor, Arcade

To receive more information or to register for the Summit, please email Kelly Ashcraft at kelly@wycochamber.org or call the Chamber office at (585) 786-0307. Seating is limited.

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Providing information and enrollment assistance for affordable health insurance options offered through the New York State Health Exchange or "Marketplace"

Small Businesses may qualify for up to a 50% tax credit (only available in the Marketplace), there are no broker fees, and an unbiased selection process for Qualified Health Plans including options from MVP, Universal and Independent Health

Individuals may be eligible for tax credits and subsidies. There are several Qualified Health Plans to choose from.



Arcade & Attica Railroad Keeps Chugging On

To ride on the Arcade & Attica Railroad is to take a ride through history. Not only is the station itself historic, it also offers exhibits about the history of rail travel, with artifacts and photographs.

You even get a taste of history at the ticket office, fully authentic, as a ticket master sells you a ticket for your train ride.

The Arcade & Attica Railroad's website continues the tale: "With an 'All Aboard!' the whistle blows, and the whoosh of the air brakes releasing can be heard. Very soon, the engineer has gotten the train up to speed and you are on your way, enjoying your 90-plus minute ride through history.

Along the way, you will see a few random appearances of today; for the most part though, the trip is through the countryside and farmlands that have remained virtually unchanged since the line was originally laid in the 1880s.

"The journey into the Curriers Depot is quite enjoyable, as there is no ride like that behind a steam engine. Once at the depot, the locomotive uncouples from the train, and moves onto a siding, and stops, where you are free to look at the engine, take pictures, and talk with the crew as they prepare #18 for her return journey. As the engine begins to move once more, moving tender

first, the engineer blows the whistle for the crossing. The Conductor throws the switch, and the engine moves forward once more to couple up with the end of the train.

"Watch as the crew couples up the engine, and then runs the brake test. With three sharp reports on the whistle, the engine slowly backs up, for the return trip to Arcade. Whistling once again for the crossing, the engine picks up speed, and before you know it, you are once again 'buried' in nature. This time, ride on the open gondola, which is now directly in front of the engine. As the train climbs the hill, coming out of Curriers, listen to the enchanting sounds of the exhaust steam, as the engine chugs on. Finally, arriving back in Arcade, watch as they uncouple the engine from the train.

"Through out the year, we offer special excursions, some powered by our steamer, othersby our vintage World War Twoera diesel engine. Our regular excursions run every weekend from Memorial Day Weekend until the last full weekend of September. The month of October is Fall Foliage month and we will be operating on an extended schedule which includes Fridays and 2 trains each day on the weekends.

"Our passenger excursions are powered by one

of our two World War II era diesel-electric locomotives, which are also used weekly in our freight operations. Both engines were built by General Electric at their locomotive facility in Erie, PA. The 44-ton centercab No111 was built in 1947 and delivered new to the Arcade & Attica Railroad.

"No112 was built in 1945 and delivered to the United States Navy. The A&A purchased the engine from the City of Colorado Springs Railroad in 1988 to supplement the ailing engine No111."

The railroad is located at 278 Main St., Arcade, and can be reached at arcadeandatticarr@ yahoo. com or (585) 492-3100







Arcade & Attica Railroad

278 Main Street, Arcade, NY

2017 Special Events

October - Friday 1:00 Saturday and Sunday 11:00 & 2:00

November/December -

North Pole Express - See dates and times on our website

GREAT TRAIN ROBBERY

September 23 & 24 1:00 departure Ride back in time to the Wild West and Keep a weathered eye on the horizon for greedy outlaws!

WINE TASTERS / ALE ON THE RAIL

October 7th & 14th Departs 5:00 Great sampling of wines served with delicious snacks along the way. Adults only! Reservations required.

FALL FOLIAGE - October weekends! Come see the most beautiful hills in WNY

HALLOWEEN HAUNTED EXPRESS

October 28th & 29th 11:00 & 2:00 Ride in costume the weekend before Halloween to the Haunted Curriers Depot. Fun for all ages!



Order Tickets online at www.aarailroad.com or call 585-492-3100

Seeking a better YOU?

Leadership – everything rises and falls on Leadership. A quote from John Maxwell. BUT how true is that statement. for a moment and think of the leaders in your life, the people who have influenced you and shaped you. What made them different and what drove them to the position of "Leader". Over the past three years, I have been enrolled in the John Maxwell Team approach to leadership and became certified to share his teachings. Along with John, I am working with a faculty of educators who are second to none. Sharing real experiences, with real people, with real struggles. We are



finding, many people who career path, from employare successful, feel a void of "real" fulfillment in their Personal growth and development are paryou are in or in the people you invest your time, you build your business.

ee to employer, I know the struggles to fulfillment are real, yet – curable, only if you are willing to invest amount to any line of work in both yourself and your staff. The generations that are in the work place are in your place of business vastly different and apor who you entrust to help proach work in different ways which can lead to Being on both sides of the frustration. My vision for

the workplace of tomorrow is to seek personal growth today, understand the generations and how they work, process and move forward. Availability to grow does exist but it starts from within, not from the outside. The process of obtaining an ear of corn (or fruit) is this - A seed is planted, explodes from the inside to start a seeding, with nourishment, continues to grow into a stalk, which leads to the formation of an ear of corn. If just one seed of corn can do that, then multiply it with rows of seeds – imagine what one could do with personal growth! These are my favorite offerings -The 15 Laws of Invaluable



Growth, Everyone Communicates but few Connect and the newest tool in my box - The Leadership Game! Contact me today so we can take steps to a better way of "Living Your Unlimited Potential" - YUPyou can!

Submitted by: Sandra L Pirdy Living Your Unlimited **Potential** www.sandralpirdy.com sandy@sandralpirdy.com



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**Coupon code may be redeemed for \$25 off the purchase of any Destination Farm Radial Tires; OR \$100 off eligible Radial and Bias Tires; OR \$200 off eligible Harvest AD2 Radial and Flotation Tires (excluding DF). Qualifying purchase must be made between July 1, 2017, and October 31, 2017, from any Certified Firestone Ag Tire Dealer. To locate the nearest Certified Firestone Ag Tire Dealer, go to Firestone Ag.com and click on "Find A Dealer." For a complete list of eligible tires, visit Firestone Ag.com or see your Certified Firestone Ag Tire Dealer. Valid in U.S. only. Retail customers only (excluding implement dealers; commercial fleet, fleet and group purchases; and adjustment and warranty claims). Must be 18 or older at time of purchase. Not to be combined with any other Bridgestone, Firestone or Certified Dealer, offer and not to be used to reduce outstanding debt. Coupon code has no cash value. The discount is on pre-tax price qualifying sales. Customer pays any sales (or other) tax. Discount given at the time of purchase. Minimum purchase of two (2) eligible Firestone Ag tires required; maximum purchase of 16 eligible Firestone Ag tires. Maximum savings of \$3,200 per coupon code. Coupon code not valid on returns, exchanges, rain checks or prior purchases. Limit one (1) coupon code per qualifying purchase transaction. Coupon code void if copied, altered, transferred, sold/purchased, irregular or defective. Void where prohibited or restricted by law. Bridgestone Americas Tire Operations, LLC will donate \$5 to the National FFA Organization for each eligible tire purchase at a Certified Firestone Ag Tire Dealer between July 1, 2017, and October 31, 2017. Maximum donation: \$120,000. Not to be combined with any other Bridgestone or Firestone offer. Consumer will not receive a charitable deduction or other tax benefit for purchase. The National FFA Organization (Future Farmers of America) can be contacted at P.O. Box 69860, 6060 FFA Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46268-0960.

A Chocolate-Covered Dream of a Trip

Thirty-year-old Brandi Walters of Perry recently embarked on her first-ever overnight trip – and the experience couldn't have been sweeter.

"Everywhere you went, there was chocolate," she says. "You could smell it in the streets."

Brandi is among 26 men and women with disabilities who went with The Arc of Livingston-Wyoming Recreation Department this June on a two-day trip to the sweetest place on Earth: Hershey, Pa. The trip was funded almost entirely through a \$15,000 grant from NYSARC Trust Services, a branch of The

Arc's parent organization,

NYSARC, Inc.

"For a lot of our participants, this is their first major trip, and sometimes their first time outside of the county," said Arc Recreation staff member Gary Buchanan. "It gives them perspective. It shows that not everything revolves around their hometown. They're dealing with much larger groups of people, too. We learn a lot about safety and interacting with all different kinds of people."

For Brandi, it was a delicious diversion from her daily routine as part of



Holly Hillyard and Gary Buchanan, of The Arc of Livingston-Wyoming Recreation program, prepare to create their custom candy bars at Hersheypark in Pennsylvania.

The Arc's Hilltop Cleaning Services team. While in Pennsylvania, Brandi and company visited the Hersheypark amusement park and Chocolate World megastore, experienced a trolley ride, toured the Little League Museum in South Williamsport, shopped, and dined at the Firehouse Restaurant in Harrisburg.

In one highlight, each participant was able to select the ingredients and design the wrapper for a custom Hershey candy bar that was created before their eyes.

"My candy bar was pretty much all chocolate," said Arc Recreation's Brenda Taber, with a laugh. "It was dark chocolate, with dark chocolate chips, dark cookie crumbles, and nuts." Brenda and Gary planned the event from the ground up, with travel consultants at Covered Wagon Tours and guidance from a Recreation Committee that consists mainly of individuals served by The Arc. Arc Recreation supports people with intellectual and other disabilities through a calendar of diverse outings such as bowling, dance class, horseback riding, scrapbooking, sporting events, shopping, and trips to local restaurants.

The Pennsylvania excursion was the third major trip in as many years that was funded through NYS-ARC Trust Services. Plans for 2018 are already in the works.



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2017 National Manufacturing Day

As October approaches, it is important to recognize and highlight the contributions that manufacturing is making every day to the economy of Wyoming County. This year, on October 5, 2017, we will celebrate manufacturing day which is a nationwide grassroots movement dedicated to overcoming the shared challenges facing manufacturers today.

Wyoming County is commonly known as a leader in the agricultural industry, but it is not well



known that manufacturing is one of the county's top business sectors. The county is home to approximately 50 unique manufacturers making products that range from automatic girth welders used on oil storage tanks around the world, products used in the automotive industry, to baked goods found on Jet Blue airplanes.

In fact, manufacturing has experienced unprecedented growth in Wyoming in metals-based manufacturing jobs since 2010. This increase is due to our workforce, low energy and operational costs, and easy access to 50% of North America's population. According to DataUSA manufacturing jobs represent nearly 15% of the workforce in Wyoming County. Our manufacturers employ

over 1,500 workers, 40% above the national average, and those workers on average earn \$56,516 per year.

However, one of the most pressing issues facing manufacturers today is finding skilled labor: 600,000 manufacturing jobs are currently unfilled in the United States due to a gap between the job requirements and the skills of those who are applying for them.

Manufacturers' ability to address this gap has been hindered by the public perception that careers in manufacturing are undesirable and by insufficient preparatory education. Both of these problems stem from a lack of understanding of present-day manufacturing

environments, which are highly technical. Manufacturing today includes highly trained, well-paid employees who work on state-of-the-art equipment, although the perception persists that they are commonly thought of as antiquated factories designed for low-skilled workers. This change in public perception is the first step in addressing one of the main challenges faced by manufacturers today-a gap in skilled labor.

"We are very pleased and fortunate to have a solid manufacturing base right here in the county," said Scott Gardner, President of the Wyoming County Chamber & Tourism office. "We recognize the economic contributions





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these companies are making every day, and their commitment to the workforce of Wyoming County. We also recognize that these companies also need a skilled labor force and environment that is friendly to business."

sons motivating Manufacturing Day is to introduce students to the potential of manufacturing careers. The event is a chance to spark student interest in manufacturing that could lead to further studies, a new generation of skilled workers, and an eventual closing of the skills gap. Giving students early exposure to manufacturing careers is critically important to ensuring a long-term talent pipeline. Over 64% of students in career and technical education (CTE) programs say that their own interests and personal experiences are the greatest influencing their on their future career decisions.

According to Allison Armour-Garb from the Public Policy Institute of New York State, "Across the state, New York employers responding to a recent Public Policy Institute survey reported difficulty filling STEM positions, and they project that these workforce shortages will persist over the coming decade."

New York's employers do not expect the skills gap to go away anytime soon. When asked whether they anticipated new or continuing skills shortages over the next five to ten years, survey respondents identified several areas for concern. Skilled production is the category in which they anticipate the most severe ongoing shortage. Bruce Hamm, Director of Business Engagement at the Manufacturers Association of Central New York, points out that this is consistent with national data. "The average age of a skilled worker in manufacturing nationally is 56 years old," he says. Taking into account both retirements and expansion in the manufacturing sector, a 2015 study projects a shortage of 2 million workers between 2015 and 2025.

Employers responding to

the Public Policy Institute survey also predict severe shortages in engineering and information technology occupations. They anticipate a more moderate shortage in mathematics occupations. **Perhaps** unsurprisingly, these are the same top four workforce categories in which employers reported the highest difficulty filling jobs currently. Employers are more optimistic about such occupations as social science and architecture.

The survey the hardest jobs to fill are skilled production vacancies, cording to this study. One quarter of survey respondents reported moderate or high difficulty filling positions in this category, and 12% reported high difficulty. Engineering is a close second, with 20% of respondents reporting moderate or high difficulty filling positions. Fourteen percent of respondents reported moderate or high difficulty filling information technology positions, and 10% reported moderate or high difficulty filling positions in mathematics occupations. In all of these STEM categories, respondents were almost equally split between "high" and "moderate" difficulty. At least a handful of employers noted difficulty filling positions in each of the other listed STEM categories—environmental ence, social science, architecture, and health—and several wrote in additional categories in which they were having trouble filling jobs, including telecommunications, machine operators, and technicians.

STEM positions comprise

four of the top five categories of positions that New York employers are finding most difficult to fill. Seventeen percent of employers reported moderate or high difficulty filling non-STEM positions, with the bulk of those saying that they had "moderate" difficulty filling non-STEM positions.

To bring more awareness to the issue this year, in cooperation with the Wyoming County IDA and Business Education Council, the Wyoming County

Chamber is inviting area 9th and 10th graders to visit three local manufacturing businesses, Morton Salt, Advanced Rubber Products, and the Marquart Company. Each business is unique in the types of jobs and manufacturing processes that take place and will offer students an up-close look at potential job opportunities. "It's a constant pleasure

"It's a constant pleasure to visit and work with many of our manufacturers and it's always a treat for me to see first-hand the products that are made here and witness the pride the workforce takes in their work and the satisfaction they realize knowing their quality products are being sold throughout the world," said

Wyoming County Industrial Development Agency James Pierce. "The general public drives by these businesses everyday but does not have a notion of what amazing things are going on behind the walls. That is why manufacturing day was created, to raise the awareness and importance of manufacturing."

To learn more about

Executive Director of the

To learn more about Manufacturing Day, visit www.mfgday.com. For additional information on Manufacturing in Wyoming County, please call the Wyoming County Chamber at 585-786-0307 or the Wyoming County IDA at 585-786-3764.



Micro Enterprise Loans Available

Are you starting a new business or have an existing business with less than five employees in Wyoming County and can't seem to secure the financing that you need? Then you are in luck. The Wyoming County Business Center, a not for profit local development corporation, financing available at very attractive interest rates. For businesses locating, or already in one of our identified districts of Arcade, Attica, Perry or Warsaw the



interest rate is set at fixed rate of one half of prime at loan closing, at today's prime rate that would set the rate at 2.125% for a five-seven year term loan. Rates outside of these designated districts are set on a case by case basis but rarely are more than two percentage points above prime. maximum loan amount is \$50.000.

Jim Pierce, President of the Wyoming County Business Center says that "small businesses need to look at this program to see if they qualify because it is designed to assist small businesses that may be considered high risk or for individuals that may not have the best credit score. The Micro Enterprise Loan can also

be used for gap financing with a bank and we are always subordinate to a bank in terms of collateral. For businesses that may not be ready for financing yet they should still reach out to the Wyoming County Business Center because there is a wide variety of assistance available to encourage and support entrepreneurs."

For more information about the Micro Enterprise Loan program and to see if you qualify, please contact Jim Pierce at 585-786-3764 or email ipierce@wycoida.org or stop by and visit us at the Wyoming County Ag & Business Center, 36 Center Street, Suite D in Warsaw.



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President sgardner@wycochamber.org

Kelly Ashcraft

Director of Member Services kelly@wycochamber.org

Eric Szucs

Director of Tourism & Marketing eric@gowyomingcountyny.com

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Enjoy our WNY winter and see some beautiful scenery!





Club meetings held September through May on 1st Sunday of the month at 11am at Silver Lake Sportsmen's Club, East Lake Rd., Perry.

Join our club online at www.oatkavalley.org





The following businesses are celebrating milestones in their business this year.

Main Street Grille. Arcade - 5 yearsComplete Payroll, Perry - 40 years Bank of Castile, Arcade Branch -25 years Jacked, Warsaw 5 years Byrncliff Golf Resort & Banquets — 50 years Stonewall Craftique -5 years Rivellino Realty -15 years Genesee Community

Information as submitted by member businesses.

College — 50 years





TO JOIN US ON CONSIGNMENT.

2

Empowering Entrepreneurs

WCBC FasTrac New Venture Program

Wyoming County Business Center's FastTrac New Venture Program Is Empowering Entrepreneurs Every successful entrepreneur knows that the "big idea" is only as good as his/her ability to execute it. Access to the right resources and knowledge

at the opportune time is often the key to a successful launch and building a world class company from the start up stage takes education and motivation.

In Wyoming County, the FastTrac New Venture Program is helping entrepreneurs transform their innovative business ideas into viable career options, creating jobs and supporting economic growth.

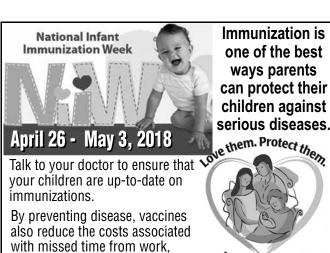
The Wyoming County Business Center, Inc. offers a renowned entrepreneurship development program called FastTrac New Venture that provides entrepreneurs the necessary tools to refine their business idea and start their journey. Since its inception,

the program has educated more than 100 entrepreneurs and assisted 59 businesses get established by enabling them to overcome barriers and challenges common in starting a new business and helping them build a strong, solid business plan.

"Providing the FastTrac Program, through our partnership with the Kauffman Foundation, has proved immensely helpful to entrepreneurs looking to either start or expand their business in Wyoming County," said Jim Pierce, President of the Wyoming County Business Center, Inc. "The Wyoming County Business Center, Inc. Board of Directors and the Wyoming

County Board of Supervisors support the FastTrac New Venture Program, recognizing that entrepreneurship and new business startups are a primary source of job growth. FastTrac New Venture is a great tool to implement this strategy plus it has the resources of the Kauffman Foundation for support. This program has proven results, and we look forward to seeing its continued success." notes Pierce.

The Wyoming County Business Center, Inc. offers the FastTrac New Venture training program twice a year in the spring and fall. The current cycle, which is at its capacity, started September 5th and will contin-



doctor visits, and hospitalizations.

Wyoming County Health Department





ue 10 weeks on Tuesday evenings from 6-9 p.m. at the Wyoming County Agriculture and Business Center located at 36 Center Street in Warsaw, NY.

The training is divided into 10 classes. The programs first three classes are devoted to determining the viability and market potential of the business concept. The last seven classes help build the framework for a solid business plan. The classes, which are intentionally kept small in size to personally engage each participant, are facilitated by two local experienced entrepreneurs. . FastTrac participants work on their own business endeavors throughout the course. The program is fast-paced and energizing, using guest speakers and interactive activities. Participants build a unique network with one another helping to build their business plan. Graduates have lifetime access to resources through the online FastTrac

Toolkit, a tremendous benefit for the entrepreneurs. Additional technical assistance is provided to fully complete any unfinished business plans, examine financing options, assist with business locations or provide further guidance. An exciting opportunity

is available to high school and college students who live in Wyoming County that are thinking about starting a business. In collaboration with the Wyoming County Business Education Council, the Wyoming County Business Center, Inc. will provide two motivated, responsible students a full scholarship to attend the professional FastTrac New Venture training program. The Wyoming County Business Center, Inc. Entrepreneur Scholarship applications are available and young

entrepreneurs are encouraged to apply.

The Wyoming County Business Center, Inc. is greatly appreciative of its generous program sponsors Tompkins Bank of Castile, Five Star Bank and

Complete Payroll and the workforce development resources available to participants through Community Action for Wyoming County.

To learn more about the Kauffman Foundation's

FastTrac New Venture Program visit online <u>www.</u> fasttrac.org . For more information contact Jennifer Tyczka at the Wyoming County Business Center at (585) 786-3764 or email įtyczka@wycoida.org. Paid tuition includes one registrant and a business partner. Find us at www. facebook.com/wycofast-<u>trac</u> and <u>wycobusiness</u>.







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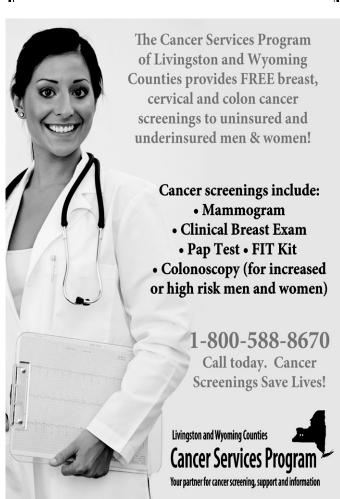
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2017 Wyoming County Business of the Year

2017 Letchworth Arts & Crafts Show & Sale



The ACWC will present the 42nd annual Letchworth Arts and Crafts Show & Sale on Columbus Day weekend. As one of the top 200 art festivals in the USA, this show continues to attract a large audience as it is considered to be a prime family friendly destination. Make plans now to visit this "State of the Arts" event on October 7, 8, and 9. Enjoy the creativity of some of the country's finest visual and performing artists, artisans,

and crafts people, as well as a vast array of traditional and unique foods.

LACS is held at the Highbanks Recreation Area of Letchworth State Park, known as the "Grand Canyon of the East," and voted the #1 state park in the US in 2015. The stunning venue is a key component that sets this festival apart from all others. The ambience created by spectacular canyon views and peak fall foliage throughout the park is unparalleled.

The festival could be considered the premiere holiday shopping opportunity of 2017 for you, your friends, and family. Choose from some of the best pottery, paintings, quilts, fiber arts, handcrafted jewelry, photography, furniture, decorative painting, dried floral arrangements, packaged specialty foods, and so much more. Over 300 artisans display their wares, along with food vendors, live entertainment, and other fun activities for the entire family. Included in our entertainment lineup this year are the blues rock band, Rhythm Collision, and Anastazja, a family band performing bluegrass, folk, and traditional American music. The 3D Line Dancers will make an appearance on Sunday and fiber artist Laurel

Hendershott will present a

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Paid Family Leave Compliance is Top Priority

Back in April of 2016, Governor Cuomo signed the Paid Family Leave Act. It's the most comprehensive piece of state labor law legislation we've seen in years, joining New York State with California and New Jersey as the states with the most progressive paid leave programs on the books. The law impacts virtually all private employers in New York State and begins officially on January 1, 2018.

Since this is so important, and there's so much businesses need to do to prepare for the implementation of Paid Family Leave between now and then, we're going to focus this article entirely on explaining the new law and what this means for employers.

A simple overview of the Family Leave Act

The Paid Family Leave

Craft Show

Continued from previous page.

spinning demonstration on Monday. Parents are invited to visit the expanded KIDS ZONE toward the rear of the festival, where kids' faces and nails will be transformed into works of art. Performances and demonstrations are scheduled for 1 pm each day.

Admission to the show is free with a \$10 per car entry fee to the park. Handicapped parking is available along with curbside pickup of heavy purchases.

For more information, contact the ACWC at (585) 237-3517 or visit our website at www. artswyco.org.

Act will allow employees in New York State to take paid leave at a percentage of their average weekly salary. The length of leave as well as the percentage of their average weekly salary will increase each year until the law is fully phased in beginning in 2021. Here's a breakdown of the benefits avail-

2018 employees will be able to take up to 8 weeks of paid leave at 50% of their average weekly salary.

2019 employees will be able to take up to 10 weeks of paid leave at 55% of their average weekly salary.

2020 employees will be able to take up to 10 weeks of paid leave at 60% of their average weekly salary.

In 2021 and beyond, employees will be able to take up to 12 weeks of paid leave at 67% of their private employers in New York State with at least 1 employee. Farm and public employees may be ex-

How does one become eligible for paid leave?

Virtually every full-time or part-time private employee in New York State will be eligible for Paid Family Leave benefits. An employee must be employed fulltime for 26 weeks or parttime for 175 days at their current employer to be eligible to receive benefits. Events that qualify an employee to take paid family leave include:

Parents expecting, fostering or adopting a child.

Anyone caring for a close relative with a serious health condition. A close relative includes a spouse, domestic partner, child, parent, parent-inlaw, grandparent and/or grandchild.

Anyone with a spouse, child, domestic partner or parent on active duty military leave or has been military service. notified of an impending call or order of active duty

Cosmetic treatments are Continued on page 18.



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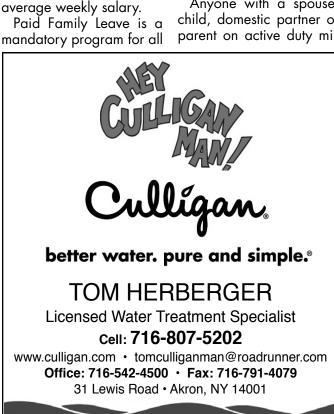
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Genesee Symphony Orchestra to Perform in Wyoming County

The ACWC, with the sponsorship of M &T Bank, is pleased to present the Genesee Symphony Orchestra in a special homecoming concert to honor retired string teacher icon Dorothy Regis. Reserve your tickets now for this historic concert to be held

on Saturday, October 28, at the Perry High School.

The Genesee Symphony Orchestra is a dynamic, regional orchestra that presents an ambitious portfolio of concerts for the enrichment of our community through high quality performance, educational



petition and String Workshop, the GSO engages the community and brings a distinct awareness of the

* * * *** ***

are \$15 and are available for purchase online at www.artswyco. org, or by calling the ACWC at

(585)237-3517. The concert begins at 7 pm, and doors open at 6:30 pm. A reception will immediately follow the concert.



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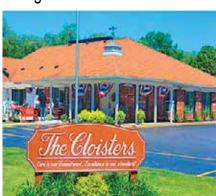
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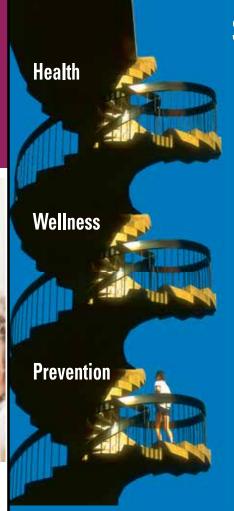
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Shop Small Business Saturday

We once again will be highlighting local businesses on Small Business Saturday – November 25th by requesting the Wyoming County Board of Supervisors to pass a county declaring proclamation the day. The Wyoming

County Chamber of Commerce is once again a Neighborhood Champion through American Express and will be distributing "Shop Small" materials to businesses throughout the county.

The Chamber will also

partner with other local organizations around the county to promote the day and encourage shoppers to visit area small businesses on the Saturday after Thanksgiving after the rush of Black Friday.

By all accounts at the local, state, and national levels this is a fun and successful event which highlights local businesses and communities. Much

of the focus is to remind local consumers that small businesses are critical to our local economy and the

overall health of our local communities.

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not eligible conditions unless inpatient hospital care is required or complications develop.

How will this program be funded?

Paid Family Leave is essentially an insurance policy offered by a company's disability carrier. To fund the premium, employers must issue mandatory payroll deductions from their employees of 0.126% of their salary per pay period, up to the state average wage cap of \$1,305.92 per week. Therefore, the maximum deduction any employee will see is \$1.65 per week (\$1,305.92 x .00126).

What do employers need to do?

There are three compliance components all employees must meet so not to be in violation of the law and therefore subject to fines. They include:

- Written notice and documentation
- Payroll deduction
- Labor law poster compliance

Written notice and documentation

Employers must provide written notice to all employees in the form of a letter before they begin taking the mandatory payroll deductions. The letter must include an overview of the law in broad strokes and what it means for employ-

Also, before January 1, 2018, employers must provide written documentation on the new law to all employees in the form of a policy template. The policy template is meant to describe the law in more detail, including eligibility, how to file a claim and more. The employer must update their employee handbook with this policy template and notify all employees of the update to the handbook.

Payroll deduction

Unless employers want to foot the bill of the Paid Family Leave premium themselves, the employee payroll deduction is mandatory. So all employers must begin taking this deduction by January 1, 2018 at the latest.

Labor law poster compliance

Finally, all employers must update their labor law poster by adding a posting about the law. This should include an overview of the benefits available, eligibility requirements and how employees may go about filing a claim.

Where can employers get help?

Complete Payroll is fully-equipped to help any business comply with Paid Family Leave immediately, including:

Free notification letter and policy templates available for download and distribution to employees.

The ability to set up the payroll deduction.

An automated labor law poster compliance service that provides employers with updates regarding Paid Family Leave or any other legal poster requirements.

If you would like help preparing for the new Paid Family Leave Act, or have questions about any other critical year-end activities, you can get in touch with Complete Payroll by calling 585-237-5800 or visiting completepayroll.com

ACWC's Annual Silent & Live Auction

miss another exceptional opportunity to purchase unique, handcrafted items during ACWC's Annual Silent & Live Auction! Over 200 original pieces, including pottery, painting, fiber, jewelry, decorative arts, and more, will be placed on the auction block. Shoppers will also have the option of participating in a Chinese auction that features many original craft and consumable items.



The Silent Auction opens Saturday, October 28,

and ends at 6 pm on November 11, with the live auction starting at 6:30 pm. There will be live music and light refreshments during the final hour of the Silent Auction, from 5 - 6 pm.

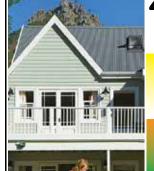
The auction takes place at the ACWC Gallery located at 31 S. Main St. in Perry. Bidding tickets are \$3 and may be purchased at the ACWC. Some of the items to be auctioned off in the Live Auction may be viewed on the ACWC website after October 28. Visit www.artswyco.org or call (585) 237-3517.



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Fall is in the Air in Wyoming County!

Director of Tourism and Marketing

That means it's time to enjoy Wyoming County's famous Fall foliage as you visit New York State's best craft festivals, explore our stunning countryside, and

embark upon some truly pleUmpkin Festival takes unique adventures.

For starters, we have plenty of events that you and your family will love. On back-to-back weekends, Wyoming County hosts two premier arts and crafts festivals. The Ap-

place in the Village of Wyoming September 23-24. Stroll along this historic downtown district and enjoy over 200 craft vendors, non-stop musical entertainment, a baking contest, street entertainers and great harvest food. Then, spend October 7-9 in gorgeous Letchworth State Park at the Letchworth Arts & Crafts Show. Experience over 300 arts and craft exhibitors, food vendors, and live entertainment while surrounded by color-

ful fall foliage in the most popular state park in the United States.

The fun doesn't end there, because your next stop should be the Enchanted Forest, October 6-8, at Beaver Meadow Audubon Center in North Java. You can spend the evening strolling along jack-o-lantern-lined paths while the nocturnal critters who call Beaver Meadow home. After you visit, your treated to delicious apple cider and donuts.

Love getting outdoors to enjoy the spectacular Fall colors? We've got you covered! Each Saturday and Sunday in October, the Arcade & Attica Railroad will have Fall Foliage Train Rides. This is the perfect opportunity to ride through the rolling hills of Wyoming County during peak leaf-peeping season!

Get into the woods by trying out the new Wyoming County Geocaching Trail, where you find hidden treasures throughout the County in some of our favorite places. If a road trip close to home is more your style, there's the Wyoming County Barn Quilt Trail. Visit over 90 barn quilts, each a unique and handcrafted work of art!

Finally, no trip to Wyoming County in the fall would be complete without taking in the beautiful countryside and all the fall foliage, and the best place to do that is in Letchworth State Park. With miles of secluded hiking trails, a myriad of stunning vistas, world-famous waterfalls and unique educational programs at the Humphrey



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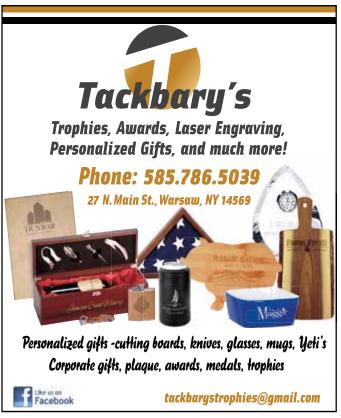
Check Our Menu Out On These Sites

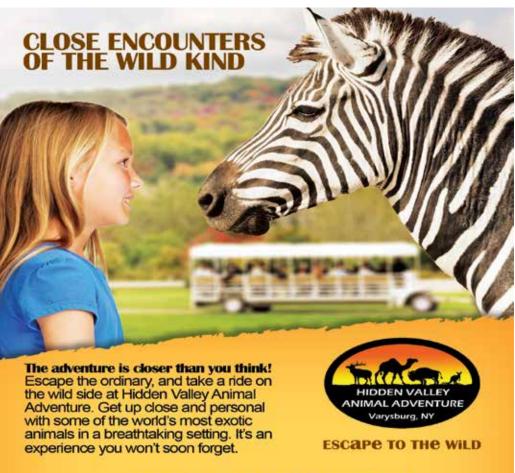


Nature Center, something everyone.

All of these events, activities, attractions, and more are on Wyoming County's #1 fun resource: GoWyomingCountyNY.com

One quick reminder, we are now working on the 2018 Wyoming County Travel Guide! The Travel Guide gives you everything you need to know about Wyoming County. When it's completed, we'd love to send you a free copy. It's easy to do, just visit our website and sign up for email updates. We'll contact you at the end of the year and let you know how to get free copy!





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New Map and Guide to be Offered at Letchworth

By Lisa Tremblay Burns Marketing and Public Relations,

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Here's the exact number – 782,603 people entered Letchworth State Park through three entry gates in 2016.

That's well over three quarters of a million visitors to the park enjoying hiking, biking, picnicking, fishing, bird-watching, geocaching, hunting, cabin and tent camping, cottage rentals, canoeing and kayaking, whitewater rafting, hot air ballooning, a state-of-the-art nature center, interpretive lectures and programs, a first-class restaurant and Inn plus much more.

There is little doubt that



Letchworth State Park offers both visitors and local residents alike a remarkable opportunity to experience outdoor recreation in one of the most magnificently beautiful areas in all of New York State.

With that said, there are still ways to enhance the visitor's stay in Letchworth and our surrounding communities. So, we are embarking on a new project that we hope will add to the overall pleasure and understanding of the park

to help visitors appreciate the virtues of the park and surrounding areas, extending their vacations in our communities...

Letchworth State Parks has begun the process of creating our first "Official" Letchworth State Park Map and Guide to be rolled out in spring 2018. The Map and Guide is being designed to label all hiking trails, cabin and camping areas, shelters, picnic areas and more. It will also feature information about the history of the park, Mr. Letchworth's legacy, the story of Mary Jemison, the "White Woman of the Genesee," our new, Humphrey Nature Center and information on the many guided hikes, lectures and events in the park.

We will also offer the



opportunity to advertise on the map. In a collaboration with the Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Promotion Agency, advertisers will be able to choose an option to advertise in both the Wyoming County visitors guide and on the 'official' Letchworth State Park Map and Guide.

This is an amazing opportunity to reach those three quarters of a million people who, in addition to enjoying the park, are also looking for opportunities to venture into our surrounding communities and take advantage of the attractions, restaurants and activities that abound in our Genesee Valley area.

The "Official" Letchworth State Park Map and Guide will be handed out to every car that enters the park through our gates and along with the visitor's guides from our two adjacent counties, these will be the only publications offered to visitors when they enter the park.

There will be limited

space offered to advertise in the map. We encourage you to contact the Wyoming County Chamber for more details on this opportunity at (585) 786-0307.

Another new program that will begin in 2018 in Letchworth is our paid distribution program. There are four locations in the park where visitors look for information about the surrounding communities. Any tourism related business wishing to display their brochure in the park will have that opportunity on a seasonal or yearround rate structure. Call the Letchworth marketing office directly at 585 493-3626 for details on how to display your businesses information in the park.

Letchworth State Park is proud to be one of the many stellar tourism attractions in our region and we are grateful to all residents who visit the park and who are spreading the world that Letchworth State Park is the #1 State Park in the Nation.



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Shop Wyoming & Win

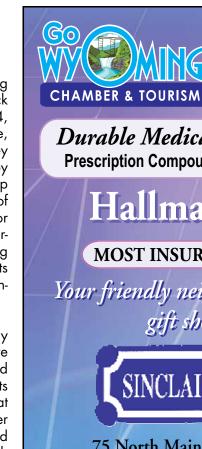
The Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce plans to once again kick off the seventh annual Shop Wyoming and Win campaign for the year on Black Friday, November 24, 2017. Stay tuned for the announcement of prizes, drop box locations, and event rules as the event gets closer. Many thanks go out to the businesses who participate every year and serve as drop box locations for customer receipts.

"It's a great way to pick up holiday gift items, while supporting small businesses by shopping locally. We always want to beat the previous year's record of sales and give a holiday season boost to the business community in Wyoming County," said Chamber President and CEO Scott Gardner.

As in past years, participants are required to save their receipts from pur-

chases made in Wyoming County between "Black Friday," November 24, 2017 and Christmas Eve, December 24, 2017. They then submit 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 will be eligible for one entry in the drawing.

The Chamber is very pleased to report that we broke last year's record 650 participants and total purchases at \$451,519, up 27% over last year. Shoppers turned in sales receipts which brought in estimated sales taxes of \$36,121 during the 31-day promotional period. The event runs from November 24th (Black Friday) thru December 24th (Christmas Eve). Look for more information as we get closer to the holidays.



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Directors and Officers Elected at Annual Meeting

The Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce & Tourism office held its annual organizational meeting on Wednesday, June 14, 2017, at River Spring Lodge in Bennington, NY to elect directors and officers. As per the bylaws,

directors and officers are elected annually at the meeting and the staff present the annual report of the organization.

Those members in attendance elected the following directors for a one-year term: Darren

Long, Prestolite, Inc.; Michael Hardie, Tompkins Insurance Companies; Nicole White, FreedMaxick CPA's; Becky Ryan, Wyo. Co. Board of Supervisors; Austin Fish, Complete Payroll; Brock Beckstrand, Upstate Door, Inc.; Jackie Hoyt, Arts Council for Wyoming County; Teresa Gibson, Pioneer Credit Recov-

ery/Navient; Chris Lester, Arcade & Attica Railroad; and Daniel Burling, Rivellino Realty.

The following members were elected to serve as directors for a two-year term: John Wheeler, Bank of Castile; Daniel Egan, Beaver Hollow Conference Center; Norb Fuest, Apple Tree HR Safety Consulting; Lisa Seewaldt, Ash-Lin's Elegant Rose; Jenifer Bannister, DeLaval Dairy Services, Inc.; and Andrew Rice, Five Star Bank. Andrew Stang from Prizm-Tech Document & Technology Solutions remains on the board.

The following members have served multiple terms and are not returning, the Chamber wishes to thank them for their years of service: Tom Carpenter from Clark Patterson Lee;

Rachael Becht from Koike Aronson Ransome; and Jason Beck from Brixwood Realty.

The Board of Directors also elected officers to lead the organization for a one-year term: Norb Fuest as Chairman; Hans Kunze as Vice-Chairman; Nicole White as Treasurer, and Colleen Kennedy as Treasurer.

"The staff and I look forward to continuing our work with this group of diverse and dedicated members and directors," said President Scott Gardner. "Our board of directors are leaders in their respective fields and bring a great wealth of knowledge to the organization. We deeply appreciate their commitment to the membership and the business that the chamber serves."



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Announcing 2017 Arcade Main & More

Wyoming County Chamber & Tourism is pleased to once again partner with the Arcade Area Chamber of Commerce to host Arcade's Main & More event on Thursday, October 5, 2017, from 4:00-7:30 PM. This year the event will start and end at the Arcade Chamber office on Main Street. The event guides visitors along the downtown Main Street corridor for a relaxing evening of visiting downtown merchants and their partnering businesses.

"This is always a fun event that brings customers to downtown businesses and offers a unique opportunity to learn more about what is available from the local business community. It's also a great time mingling with friends and neighbors," said Scott Gardner, President of the Wyoming County Chamber and Tourism office. "By combining the offmain and main street businesses, both the business owners and customers get twice the opportunity for exposure and networking. This has been a very suc-

Welcome our new members.... Sandhill Property Management, North Java Middle Falls Contracting, Castile Creekside Convenience, Bliss Warsaw Gallery, Warsaw Hans' Bird Feeder & Greenhouse, Wyoming Cross Cut Enterprise, LLC, Perry **R&R** Precision Construction, Attica George-King-Boss Agency, Attica Grandview Terrace, Warsaw Windy Brew, Strykersville Attica Pharmacy, Attica Crow's Nest Route 20A, Warsaw Willow Fall, Wyoming Cricket Wireless, Warsaw Letchworth Parkside Lodge, Portageville Suzanne's Comfort Care Home, Perry SW Designs, Arcade MHobin Design, Arcade Cathy's Crafts, Attica

Majestic Hill Coffee Roasters, Castile

cessful event in past years, and I thank everyone involved for making it another great success."

The concept is simple, Main Street businesses partner with businesses outside the business district corridor giving visitors double the opportunity to learn more about local merchants, and the offmain street businesses an

opportunity to share all that they have to offer. Visitors receive a map at the beginning and are encouraged to visit all the businesses on the map where they receive a 'check-in' stamp. When the map is completed, participants are entered to win door prizes that are donated by the participating merchants. The event is free

and includes refreshments at stops throughout the Commemorative event. event glasses will be available for \$5.00 each the night of the event.

Hundreds of people have participated in this "shop-local" focused event in the past and both organizations are hoping for another great turnout for 2017. For more information on attending please call 585-786-0307 or visit the website at www.wycochamber.org and follow us on Facebook.

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

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26

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Attica Pharmacy, Attica



Balloons Over Letchworth, Celebrating 30 years



Burley Berries & Blooms, Warsaw



Cathy's Crafts, Attica



Cricket Wireless, Warsaw

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East Hill Creamery, Perry



Gathering Quarters, Warsaw



Hardings Plumbing, Perry



Independent Living, Perry



River Spring Lodge, Bennington



Rural Arts Center, Perry

* Ribbon Cutting Celebrations









SW Design, Arcade

Tourism is Big Business For Wyoming County

Tourism is big business for Wyoming County and the state's recent tourism report backs it up with solid and exciting numbers. Wyoming County's tourism program continues to build on the momentum

of previous successes by reaching out to more visitors with new promotions, targeted marketing, and strong partnerships.

According to the state's recently released data from

ford Economics Company, New York State's tourism economy expanded in 2016 with 2.7% growth in traveler spending, reaching a new high of nearly \$65 billion—22% above the state's pre-recession peak set in 2008. Tourism in the Greater Niagara region is a \$2.5 billion industry, and that holds true for Wyoming County, which falls within the Greater Niagara region.

"I would like to recog-

nize the tourism businesses across Wyoming County who have invested and work tirelessly to grow their businesses. I would also applaud the effort of the staff and board of directors who put together a strong tourism program for our County," said Scott Gardner, President and CEO of the Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce. "We must also recognize state leaders for continuing to wisely invest in New York's tourism as an economic driver and thank the Wyoming County Board of Supervisors for continuing to support our efforts to strengthen the tourism sector in Wyoming

County."

The new report shows that Wyoming County's tourism impact is up 6.3% representing \$43.8 million in traveler spending up over 2015 levels. Wyoming County is also the



September 23-24: Apple-Umpkin Festival, Village of Wyoming

October Weekends: Fall Foliage Trail Rides, Arcade & Attica Railroad

October 6-8: Enchanted Forest, Beaver Meadow Audubon

Center

October 7-9: Letchworth Arts & Crafts Festival

November 6-7: Perry Rotary Show

December Weekends: Santa Express Trail, Arcade & Attica Railroad

December 1: Holiday Delights & Home Tour, Village of Perry

December 2: Breakfast with Santa, Beaver Meadow Audubon

Center

December 7: Moonlight Magic, Village of Warsaw

December 9: Dashing Thru the Snow 5K, Village of Warsaw

December 31: Last Night Perry, Perry Middle School

For a complete list of upcoming events, please visit www.GoWyomingCountyNY.com



* Ribbon Cutting Celebrations







Willow Fall, Wyoming

Warsaw Gallery, Warsaw

second highest in terms of growth in the Greater Niagara region. Travelers are spending in several categories with Food and Beverage at \$12.1 million leading the way, then second homes at \$10.7 million, retails sales at \$7.2 million, recreation at \$6.9 million, lodging at \$5.2 million and transportation at \$1.6 million.

"The state's report is great news for Wyoming County and reflects all of the hard work that our tourism partners put in every day and each season. From beautiful and award winning Letchworth State Park to our outstanding attractions. restaurants. and landscapes, Wyoming County really is a great place to recreate," said Eric Szucs, Director of Tourism and Marketing at the Wyoming County Chamber and Tourism office. "It is awesome when the data reflects what we all know about Wyoming County. We love to tell the story and welcome visi-

tors from across the globe to experience all that we have to offer."

The report also details the effect of tourism on employment and shows that between direct, indirect and induced, Wyoming County's total labor income is \$21.4 million. Further, the impact of tourism on the Wyoming County tax base is very important. Between state and local taxes generated from tour-

Continued on next page.



Windy Brew, Sheldon

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Phone/Fax: (585) 591-3114

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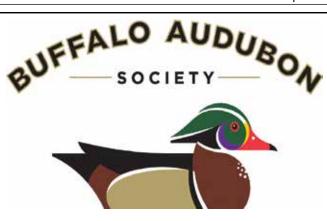
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Tourism

Continued from previous page.

ism, Wyoming County is collecting \$5.25 million, which translates to savings for county taxpayers. Were it not for tourism-generated state and local taxes, the average household in Wyoming County would have to pay an additional \$338 per year to maintain the same level of government revenue. For the Greater Niagara region, that number jumps to \$599 per household on average.

Tourism Economics, headquartered in Philadelphia, is an Oxford Economics company dedicated to providing high value, robust, and relevant analyses of the tourism sector that reflects the dynamics of local and global economies. By combining quantitative methods with industry knowledge, Tourism Economics designs custom market strategies, project feasibility analysis, tourism forecasting models, tourism policy analysis, and economic impact studies. Oxford Economics is one of the world's leading providers of economic analysis, forecasts and consulting advice. For more information visit info@tourismeconomics.

For more information, or to become a member of the Chamber of Commerce, please call 585-786-0307 or visit the website at wycochamber.org or gowyomingcountyny.com. The Greater Niagara Region report can be found at the Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce Website on the "About Wyoming County" tab under demographic reports.

New Official Geocaching Trail Announced

The Wyoming County Chamber and Tourism office announced in June that the first ever Wyoming County Geocaching trail is available and ready to navigate and it has been met with high praise and popularity among geo-caching enthusiasts. Geocaching is a family-friendly outdoor treasure hunting game using GPS-enabled devices. Participants navigate to a specific set of GPS coordinates and attempt to find a geocache (container) hidden at that location.

"The geo-trail is a family-friendly activity, providing visitors with a wholesome outdoor experience, while showcasing Wyoming County's unique attractions and beautiful landscapes," said Tourism and Marketing Director Eric Szucs. "This has been a significant project that would not have been possible without the support of local businesses, New York State Parks Officials and local geocachers Jim Nelson, Crystal Fisher and Ken Wallace. It was a collaborative process that provides visitors yet another opportunity to discover what makes Wyoming County such an exceptional place to explore."

Twelve caches have been hidden throughout Wyoming County, highlighting local attractions and businesses, including Artisan Villa, Beaver Meadow Audubon Center, Byrncliff Golf Resort & Conference Center, The Farmer's Wife, Hidden Valley Animal Adventure, Letchworth State Park, Silver Lake State Park, and more. The geotrail will remain active for two years with plans to expand upon it, adding more fun elements and new trail locations in future years.

To participate in the Wyoming County Geocaching Trail, you will need:

1. A GPS-enabled phone and or handheld GPS device. If you have a smart

phone, you should be all set.

- 2. Create a free profile on the Geocaching.com website so you can look up the geocaches and begin your adventure
- 3. Search for the Wy-CoGT geocaches, go find

them and collect the special code word in each cache

4. Visit the Wyoming County Tourism website to submit the code words and receive your commemorative Wyoming County wooden nickel. Only 300 were produced which makes it a collectable item.

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



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Creative Food Ingredients

Creative Food Ingredients is a commer-cial 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.



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