



Avon Chamber of Commerce

Citizens & Business Working Together

The Economic Development Committee encourages industrial and commercial growth along with a commitment to our existing business and industry in Avon.

The Civic Committee is dedicated to community activities that enhance the quality of life in Avon.

Let us

develop the resources of our land, call forth its powers, build up its institutions, promote all its great interests, and see whether we also, in our day and generation, may not perform something worthy to be remembered.

Daniel Webster

Call (585) 226-5030

for more information about the Avon Chamber of Commerce!

Visit us on the web:
avonny.org

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With the double "whammy" in the last few weeks, of the sudden loss of Genesee Valley Penny Saver vice-president Kim Dougherty, and a short nineteen days later, of her husband and Avon community supporter Jerry, it has been a difficult – to say the very least – challenge for their friends, family members and Penny Saver employees. Extending sympathy and hope is the least we can do, and perhaps the only thing we can do. But, as with every drastic change in each life, we try to "soldier on" and support one another to the best of each one's capability.

We'll begin with a recap of the Chamber luncheon meeting on Tuesday, February 7, 2023, with president Mike Carroll chairing, and vice-president Steve Harrison interrupting when necessary (but only when necessary!). Enjoying Peppermints lunch were Geri Brewer, Bob Hunn, Chris Quinlan, Melissa Savino, Bonnie Taylor-Davis, Ryan Wagner, and your secretary Barbara Herman. Our guest presenters today were Christine White and Kathryn Boor from the Genesee Valley Penny Saver – more, later!

- Ryan Wagner, as principal of ACS High School, gave a report on the steps in the schools to develop career pathways for students. ACS is looking to develop a digital communication media course. Under discussion, too, is an agriculture course outside the curriculum; and aiming for better integration of the schools with the community.

- Chris Quinlan reported on an energetic schedule of events planned by the Genesee Valley Breeders Association, all events to take place at the Avon Driving Park:

May 13, the Western New York Combined Carriage Association, the Spring Warm Up Combined Test (cones and dressage), and carriage driving competition.

May 28, the Western New York Combined Carriage Association, ECHO (Equine Cones, Hazards and Obstacles) Timed Carriage Driving Competition.

July 9, New York County Fair Sire Stakes Racing

July 29 - 30, Western New York Combined Carriage Association 2nd Annual Pleasure Show: Traditional Antique Carriage Show with a Sunday Presentation Parade.

August 19 - 20, Genesee Valley Breeders Association's Breeders Show and Fair for 2023.

- Melissa Savino brought news from the Livingston County Chamber of Commerce: on the students-to-careers topic, Angela Crouse continues working with county schools. Kelly Sattora is working with Willow Creek Event Center. Finger Lakes West held its Food Fest, with 500 attendees and 22 vendors present; Barilla North America was the title sponsor, and Culligan Water also sponsoring. Up soon: the Legislative breakfast scheduled for March 17. The much-anticipated and-enjoyed Farmer Neighbor celebration will be March 24 at the Genesee River Hotel in Mt. Morris. The County has recently posted funding opportunities for festivals. Check this, to plan and receive monetary support for events being planned.

- Melissa also brings news of an exciting trip being offered October 23 - 29: Iceland's Magical Northern Lights. Trip planner is Dody Paul: contact her for rates and details at (585) 226-6558 or dipaul@cruiseplanners.com.

- On the goings-on at the Cake Place, Melissa reports the Chocolate Ball will take place at the end of April, and she'll be supplying cookies for the ACS Senior Night. And some goodies are planned for the Circle Nursery School.

- Bob Hunn reported for Avon Floral World, now adding "and Gift Shop" to its ID. At that time, plans were set for Valentine's Day; the shop's LED lights are finished. And coupons promoting Genesee Street shopping are in the works with the Penny Saver. They have recently hired a media company which works with florists only.

- Geri Brewer reported for Avon Preservation & Historical Society. Their new president is Dan Cochrane, succeeding Bob Westfall. Rhonda LaFever has identified the accession process for accepting donations of memorabilia to the museum. Classes continue for museum volunteers and docents. March 19 will present the History of the Avon Fire Department. The APHS program on the Avon Wadsworths will be presented by Corrin Strong at a later date, and a program on the history of the Genesee Valley Hunt, in May. For the balance of 2023: September, the underground railroad in Avon; in October, the history of Lookover Stallion station; and December, Toys!!

- Chris Quinlan reported the Avon Holiday Spectacular crew hopes to expand that event to St. Patrick's Day!! Watch for more to come on these plans.

- Steve Harrison read a proposed letter to the Town and the Village Boards requesting an increase in funding to \$750 from each board, highlighting the calendar being developed – which has been a goal for several years in the Avon community, to avoid duplication of events (two or three major events taking place on the same date). And Steve reported for Marinda Rucinski that the Chamber remains solvent!

- Dave Leven reported for Sports Medicine Concepts in East Avon. Adjunct faculty are recruited from across the U.S. The company is working on a program "stop the bleed".

- Mike Carroll reported for Studio Sales Pottery: the Western New York Pottery Festival will be June 17 and 18. The new building at their site was erected with the help of the County Economic Development Office. And much assistance from Tony Cappello. Registrations for all the 10 week pottery classes are full. A special note: the SchoolHouse itself is now 170 years old!!

- Our special guests mentioned above presented information on "Featured Media", a wholly-separate entity within the Genesee Valley Penny Saver family: as they said, "between our publications, digital opportunities and tangible products, we can focus on making your brand STAND OUT". Contact Christine or Kathryn at (585) 226-5888 or at www.featuredmedia.com, or at Sales@GVPublications.com.

- Here's to the "Jerry." Stop by for the month of March and order the "Jerry" from Chamber member Jennifer Krause at the Avon Inn. For every Jameson's & Ginger ordered, the Avon Inn will donate \$1.00 to the Avon Food Pantry in honor of our longtime Chamber member and Avonite, Jerry Dougherty. Very cool!!

Our next Peppermints lunch-and-meeting date is Tuesday, March 7. Hope to see a full house there at 12 noon.