



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

74 Genesee St.
Avon, New York
14414

Ushering in "the merry month of May". and hoping for some truly springlike weather, your Avon Chamber of Commerce met at Peppermints for lunch on Tuesday, May 2, 2023. Led by Chamber President Mike Carroll and Vice-Pres Steve Harrison, a Maytime welcome to Geri Brewer, Grace Frenzel, Leann Hill, Deb McCandless, Ryan Pacatte, Chris Quinlan, Marinda Rucinski, Bonnie Taylor-Davis, Rene Tilly-Lyness, Bob Westfall, Maureen Wheeler and Ann Younger, plus your Chamber Secretary Barbara Herman.

- First off, School Superintendent Ryan Pacatte presented a concise but complete summary of the issues and choices available when the public votes on May 16. Two Board seats are up for vote, separately, those currently held by Rodney George and Bob DeBruycker. District enrollment is 930 students. Two SRO positions are allocated (School Resource Officer). He described agreements in place with Barilla and with Gray Metal; BOCES program with Byron-Bergen District; grant for cafeteria site; grant for LED lighting with National Grid; and remaining COVID funds to be expended by 9/2024. A "meet the candidates" session is planned. Considerable time and thought has been given to the mandate to rename and alter the image: "brave" and "Braves" at issue; a "Mascot Advisory Council" is in place to work on this. A full insert in the Genesee Valley Penny Saver, the Budget Newsletter, will provide full details. He hopes all eligible voters will read and consider its messages. In addition to Board openings, there are four Propositions; note that # 4 is to fund \$ 143,800 for the Library.

- We were pleased to welcome Paul Muenster, the manager of Travel Excellence, Greater Rochester. The renamed tourism arm is Scenic Excursions. FindScenicExcursions.net for complete information on adult travel programs for our area, including the name Seneca-Niagara and absorbing the Covered Wagons tour name. "There's a resurgence in adult travel," he reported. Paul is available at (585) 438-3063 x66, with 36 coaches on the roads.

- Ann Younger reported on upcoming programs at Avon Park Theater, including: May 12, "What the Hell Happened to Blood, Sweat and Tears"; May 13, The Petty Project; May 19: "Elemental, Reimagine Wildfire" ; June 3, "Lyn' Eyes", Tribute to the Eagles; and June 10, "Dead Letter Office", tribute to R.E.M. Be sure to check the website AvonParkTheater.com for frequent updates.

- Grace Frenzel, new Director of the Avon Free Library, with Maureen Wheeler, president of the Library Board, presented information on the soon-to-begin massive re-do of the library. Descriptions of the front yard, backyard and slate roof repairs and rebuilds are available and exciting to view on printed flyers. Total cost of \$1.2 million is currently \$404,000 secured by state aid, grants and donations.

- Maureen Wheeler also reported for Livingston County Development; a new tourism director has been hired.

- Dot McCandless reported for the Friends of the Library that safe lodging has been found for storing books saved for the Corn Fest sale date, at the Presbyterian Church, and an early book drive at Tops is planned for June.

- Geri Brewer reported for Avon Preservation & Historical Society. A tour of Avon Cemetery is scheduled June 11 (the previous tour encountered bad weather). The May 7 program on the history of the Hunt was well attended. Geri is collecting donations for the raffle to occur at Rotary Corn Fest time, August. One prize will include the traditional quilt.

- Leann Hill reported on information being offered by Edward Jones office on Genesee Street, especially on the SECURE 2.0 Act ("Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement"). The Act identifies plans, actions and options for employers and business owners to establish retirement savings programs for workers. Contact Leann at her office. Leann also reported on the Business Networking Initiative group, now including about 15 members; they'll meet at 8:00 a.m. at Peppermints, May 25. More information will be offered then, including RMD changes for retirees and 529 investments. The group includes no more than one member from each type of business.

- Rene Tilly-Lyness reported on a Master Food Preserver – there are now 10 in Livingston County – and a Mt. Morris community garden. Also, the Tilly Agency has full staffing, allowing her some time for these projects!

- Chris Quinlan reported for the Village of Avon, waiting for the fence to be installed at the pocket park, and hoping for a successful bid for tables and chairs for that location from a grant application.

- Mike Carroll is once again hosting the Western New York Pottery Festival, this, the 11th annual fest, June 17 - 18 at the Studio Sales Pottery building, 5557 East Avon Road. Plan to visit, view and choose from the extensive and beautiful wares offered by skilled and imaginative artists. Mike recently discovered and has had authenticated, an arrowhead on his property, 95% intact, and probably 2,500 to 8,000 years old.

- Steve Harrison reports that Memorial Day activities will take place, as traditionally planned. And the Chamber will hold a meeting to judge and choose a winner for the Student Service Award (and your contribution to that account is much appreciated – it's not too late for you to add to it).

- Bonnie Taylor-Davis is still seeking a way to restore and refurbish that elderly fire engine. Help her, please!

- Our Chamber treasurer, Marinda Rucinski, reports the Chamber's accounts are in healthy condition. Thank you!

Hope to see YOU at our Noon Lunch at Peppermint's Restaurant for our next Avon Chamber of Commerce meeting, Tuesday, June 6. A great opportunity to learn what Avon is up to