



AVON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Citizens & Business Working Together

The Economic Development Committee encourages industrial and commercial development 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 585-226-8080
for more information about Avon!

Visit us on the web:
avonny.org

The Avon Chamber of Commerce met on Tuesday, April 3, 2018, with Vice President Steve Harrison as our leader. Joining him for breakfast at Peppermints Restaurant were Chamber members Geri Brewer, Ted Coyne, Barbara Herman, Bob Hunn, Bill LaBine, Rebecca Budinger-Mulhern, Melissa Savino, Bonnie Taylor-Davis, Rene Tilly-Lyness, Ann Younger and Maureen Wheeler of Livingston County Development.

◆ Bill LaBine reported on New York State upgrades on energy codes, for commercial and residential buildings, 25% efficient compared to passive solar house standards.

◆ Maureen Wheeler reported on recent meetings of the several towns using "Downtown" grant monies. Subsequent to the March 13 meeting, the next gathering will be topic-focused. For the "Restore New York" grant, buildings at the corner of Genesee/Park Place and the former Milex strip are included. Also, a grant application is in the works to evaluate the King Cole buildings for re-use. She recently circulated a comprehensive recap of the Downtown 2.0 March 13 meeting to attendees, which re-ranked 11 strategies for Avon. Contact her for copies or for more information and to attend the follow-up sessions.

◆ Bonnie Taylor-Davis reminded that "Sign and Facade" grant monies on a 50/50 basis are available on an ongoing basis.

◆ Melissa Savino reported on The Cake Place: they have expanded into the former Allstate space to accommodate special orders and classes which continue to be booked. They are to be congratulated on winning both Grand Prize and Showpiece awards in the recent Epilepsy Foundation's 32nd Chocolate Ball Cake competition. Her entry for the "Alice in Wonderland" theme and Melissa shared photos. It was truly spectacular, earning \$2,400 in the live auction for Epilepsy-Pralid, Inc. The Cake Place has already contracted for 54 weddings this summer. She plans a new exterior sign for the shop. In addition, Melissa has a new part-time assignment as administrative assistant at the Livingston County Chamber.

◆ Ann Younger reported on her activities for the Park Theatre: Nick Mazza, the Clark Patterson Lee engineering firm and a GEVA representative have helped with evaluation and proposed interior layout. A Restore New York grant would assist this.

◆ Geri Brewer reported for the Avon Preservation and Historical Society on the recent presentations by seven Avon churches, plus information on the Interfaith Council provided by Rev. Tom Taylor. The program was enjoyed by 95 people. Look for the next APHS program offering.

◆ Ted Coyne reported for the Avon Rotary-Lions Ambulance: the service had already fielded 57 more calls than in 2017; paramedics are on duty 24/7. The service will probably require a new ambulance.

◆ Bob Hunn reported for the Avon Floral World and Gift Shoppe, thanking Kevin Patrick of the Penny Saver for the recent insert produced on digital presses there. The shop has switched from Teleflora to FTD website for orders. He continues to pursue cross-promotion with local businesses, encouraging brochure racks in locations. There looking to expand its walk-in cooler again; they will apply for facade grant improvement monies.

◆ Steve Harrison circulated copies of the new logo for the Penny Saver produced after much staff discussion and many design possibilities!

◆ Rene Tilly-Lyness reported on efforts to reach younger consumers for the insurance agency.

◆ Rebecca Budinger-Mulhern reported for the Avon Free Library. Renovation is coming along well, although timeline and budget have been adjusted. New shelving will be in the children's area; security + alarm + fire alarm systems will be installed; a new staff desk for circulation is planned. The conference room requires space for tutoring and for meetings. Furniture, fabric and color choices have been finalized. The original grant is administered through the Rochester Area Community Foundation. At present, the fundraising had reached \$50 K of its \$77 K goal. New naming opportunities are available. The library may need to close for two weeks in June for final arrangements.

◆ Mike Carroll had recent well-earned publicity in the Livingston Chamber's "Chamber Factor" publication, showcasing his own pottery and the Studio Sales Pottery shop. A reminder that the Western New York Pottery Festival will take place there on June 16 and 17. Check out WNY-POTTERY.COM.

◆ Finally and certainly not least, nominations for Citizen of the Year award were circulated, and votes registered. The winners - two persons, as we have awarded in recent years are Mary Lou Marks and Sue Pusloskie. Congratulations to both of them!! The letters submitted on behalf of each were complete, comprehensive and sincere testimonies of their contributions. Please honor them by joining other community members at the May 19 dinner at the Avon Inn. Bob and Donna Hunn are generously offering to sell dinner tickets at the Avon Floral World shop.

◆ Our Next Chamber Meeting: Peppermints, Tuesday, May 1, at 7:30 a.m.