



Moving forward

Buckingham Properties LLC was approved Tuesday for tax exemptions totaling \$481,326 to support its \$5.2 million Edge of the Wedge development on South Clinton Avenue.

The County of Monroe Industrial Development Agency signed off on the incentives at its monthly meeting. The projected benefit to the community is more than \$1 million, with 13 jobs to be created over three years.

The entity 739 S. Clinton LLC plans to convert the 37,000-square-foot vacant former home of Ward Supply Co. Inc. into a mixed-use site of 30 studio and one-bedroom loft apartments with 14,000 square feet of commercial space, including a restaurant.

COMIDA also approved tax breaks of \$771,825 for Pike Co. entity Seneca Building of Monroe County LLC, which plans a \$13.8 million addition to the existing structure occupied by Windstream Corp.

The benefit to the community is projected to be nearly \$4.1 million, COMIDA officials said.

The Gannett Co. plans to move its Democrat and Chronicle newspaper offices to 245 E. Main St. on the northwest corner of the former site of Midtown Plaza.

The newspaper plans to lease 40,000 square feet on the first and second floors of the three-story, 63,000-square-foot addition as part of a 15-year payment-in-lieu-of-taxes agreement.

—Thomas Adams 9.16.14

Golisano gives \$3.5M to Niagara Falls hospital

Paychex Inc. founder Thomas Golisano has made a \$3.5 million gift to the Niagara Falls Medical Center, the largest donation in the hospital's history.

The gift will support the construction of the Golisano Center for Community Health, which officials say will provide comprehensive integrated health care services to adults with special needs and their families. It is believed to be one of the few centers of its kind in the country, hospital officials noted.

The center will house a number of services and programs including primary care, mental health, health insurance enrollment and social services. It will also accommodate the Child Advocacy Center of Niagara and Project Runway.

"We are so very grateful to Mr. Golisano and the Golisano Foundation for their generous contribution and their commitment to our community here in Western



New York," said Joseph Ruffolo, president and CEO of Niagara Falls Medical Center. "They can be confident that their investment will improve the quality of life for thousands of people who will walk through the doors of the Golisano Center for Community Health for many years to come."

—Nate Dougherty 9.17.14

Court tosses lawsuit filed against IEC

IEC Electronics Corp. said on Tuesday that a lawsuit against it has been dismissed.

The Newark, Wayne County-based firm said the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York has dismissed in its entirety, without right to replead, the consolidated securities class-action lawsuit originally filed June 28, 2013, against the company, its CEO and its chief financial officer.

The company said it does not know whether the plaintiffs will appeal the decision. The suit accused IEC of misconstruing inventory and overstating gross profits.

The plaintiff in the lawsuit was Raymond Jason Hensley, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated.

—Andrea Deckert 9.16.14

MVP to discontinue two Medicare Advantage plans

Pressed by continuing cuts in Medicare Advantage reimbursements, MVP Health Care is dropping two such plans, CEO Denise Gonick said Tuesday.

She could not say which of the Schenectady-based health insurer's plans will be dropped until after announcements go out to enrollees, Gonick said. The three remaining Medicare plans will have higher co-pays and monthly premiums but will

continue to offer a similar range of benefits, she added.

MVP offers only Medicare Advantage coverage to 65 and older enrollees. It does not offer traditional Medicare gap coverage. It offers Medicare plans with monthly premiums ranging from \$27 to \$238 and primary care-visit co-pays ranging from \$10 to \$60.

The company has about 700,000 enrollees statewide with 19,000 enrolled

in Medicare plans. Roughly 17,000 of its Medicare enrollees are in the Rochester area, primarily in Monroe, Ontario and Genesee counties.

In 2015, co-pays for MVP's remaining three Medicare plans would average 50 percent higher and premiums would run 44 percent higher on average, said Patrick Glavey, MVP executive vice president.

—Will Astor 9.16.14

FROM THE ONLINE ARCHIVE

Eleven years ago

The 78-year-old Hiram Sibley Building, East Avenue's gateway to downtown, was being sold.

A group of partners, including Frank Ambrogia, vice president of FSI General Contractors and Acoustical Systems Inc. and some associate owners of Bar Fly, a tavern in the building, were expected to close on the purchase in September 2003.

"It has been sold, and they should close by the end of month," said Will Taggart, who leased main floor space in the building at the time for his bar, Monty's Korner.

The four-story building was owned by development firm Phyzze LLC. Financial details on the sale were not disclosed.

Five years ago

Agriculture generated more than \$1 billion in the Rochester region in 2007 and 2008, including more than a half-billion dollars in 2008, data from the New York Agricultural Statistics Service showed.

Cash receipts for crops and livestock in Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans and Wayne counties totaled \$564.9 million in 2008, up nearly 19 percent from \$475.2 million in 2007.

"(Local) agriculture is way more important than people realize," said James Ochterski, agricultural economic development specialist for the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ontario County.

RBJ MORNING ROUNDUP

Buffalo Chophouse unveils renovation

Buffalo Chophouse raised the curtain Wednesday on a \$750,000 "top-to-bottom overhaul" aimed at freshening up the city's veteran steakhouse. Renovations include new carpet, drapes, furniture workstations and more.

—Buffalo News

Regional councils make pitches in Albany

Gov. Andrew Cuomo will dole out \$750 million for projects across the state prior to the Nov. 4 election—instead of December as has been the practice. On Monday, the councils began to make their pitch for this year's awards.

—Ithaca Journal

State to build new Thruway complex

The Cuomo administration and the New York State Thruway Authority, still pre-election mum on their financial plan for the new Tappan Zee Bridge, are barreling ahead on building a joint headquarters for the Thruway Authority and the Department of Transportation.

—Times Herald-Record

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