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Nominate Your Favorite Small Business in Wayne County *Recognition of Local Small Businesses, First Week of May*

Lyons, NY – March 23, 2022 – For more than 50 years, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has celebrated National Small Business Week to recognize the critical contributions of America's entrepreneurs and small business owners. According to national statistics, there are 32 million small businesses in the United States who employ over 60 million people. The first week of May is set aside by the SBA to honor these businesses and the people who run them.



This year, the Wayne County Office of Economic Development is also celebrating local small businesses by asking the general public to nominate their favorite small business located in the county and, more importantly, to tell us why this business deserves special recognition. Nominations can be either from a customer or an employee. Nominations are being accepted from Wayne County residents and non-residents through the month of April.

"Small businesses are a vital part of our local economy," said Brian Pincelli, Director of Wayne County Economic Development and Planning. "We've put considerable effort into supporting local entrepreneurs and their small businesses. We are excited to finally recognize some of these successes." Nominations for a Wayne County business can be related to exceptional customer service, excellent products or expertise, outstanding professionalism, being an accommodating employer, or some other factor, just be sure to state why this business deserves recognition.

Over the last two years, the COVID pandemic has had an effect on small businesses in a variety of ways. However, this crisis also presented an opportunity for some businesses to display resiliency and adaptability. "Now more than ever, it is important that we honor and celebrate America's entrepreneurs and innovative startups," stated Franklin J. Sciortino, the Buffalo District Director at the U.S. Small Business Administration. "We recognize the tenacity of America's entrepreneurs who are doing their part to power our nation's historic economic comeback."

COVID interrupted the Small Business Week celebration in Wayne County for 2020 and 2021. In 2019, there were four Wayne County businesses formally recognized during Small Business Week for their milestone anniversaries. Mason Farms of Williamson was recognized for over 200 years in operation. Micro-Tech Machine in Newark celebrated 35 years in business, while Thomas Electronics of Clyde celebrated 70 years, and LaGasse Works in Lyons celebrated 65 years. 2022 recognition announcements will be made during SBA National Small Business Week, always held the first week in May. Visit <u>www.WEDCny.com</u>, then click on the Small Business Week icon to fill out the nomination form. For more information, call the Economic Development Office at 315-946-5919. ###

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