

For Immediate Release

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84 Small Businesses Nominated, Recognized *Small Business Week, First Week of May*

Lyons, NY – May 1, 2022 – Small businesses in our community provide a variety of vital services to our communities. From professional services to small retail shops to home repair, fresh produce, cleaning, pet services, photography, auto shops, restaurants, furniture, and the list goes on. For every need in a community, there is a small business person developing a product or service to fill the gap.

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) designates the first week of May as small business week. This year, to celebrate the hundreds of small businesses in Wayne County, the Office of Economic Development asked the public to nominate their favorite business and to share why that business deserved recognition.

“We were so pleased to receive almost 500 individual nominations for 84 small businesses in Wayne County,” stated Katie Bronson, Deputy Director of Wayne County Economic Development and Planning. The comments that accompanied these nominations were sincere, heartfelt expressions of appreciation for the hard work and dedication each business exemplifies. “It was really amazing to read the personal accounts of how each person was affected by the business they nominated,” Bronson said.

The Office reached out to each of the nominees and shared the comments they had received. The overwhelming response was gratitude and humility, just for being noticed and appreciated. Each nominee will receive a certificate of recognition for Small Business Week.

In response to this news, Senator Pam Helming said, “Thank you to Wayne County for recognizing these local small businesses and the hardworking individuals who run them. Small businesses are the backbone of our local economy, providing jobs, driving innovation and growth, and advancing new opportunities. They are the heart and soul of our communities, owned and operated by local families, neighbors and friends. Congratulations and thank you to these small business owners for their investment and commitment to their communities!”

Assemblyman Brian Manktelow, a native of Wayne County, responded, “As we know, small businesses are the backbone of their communities. I would like to thank Wayne County Economic Development and Planning for highlighting these great businesses who day after day provide a valued service to our friends and family. On this list we have everything from dog groomers to worm farms, coffee houses to restaurants, hardware stores to specialized boutiques. These businesses encompass what life is like in Wayne County. They support our communal culture and even though we recognize them this week during National Small Business Week, we must continue to patronize these businesses, use their services and make sure that the owners, who are our friends and neighbors, can support their families.”

Franklin J. Sciortino, Director of the SBA Buffalo District, commented on this event, “We stand with Wayne County as they honor and celebrate so many small businesses. The COVID-19 Pandemic revealed that the American entrepreneurial spirit is alive and well. It underscored the resiliency of our nation and our communities in the face of our largest economic challenge to date. Small businesses are not only the engines of our economic progress, they are also the heart and soul of our communities.” 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. For a complete list of nominees, visit www.WEDCny.com, then click on the Small Business Week icon. For more information, call the Economic Development Office at 315-946-5919. ###

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