



"I WILL PREPARE AND  
SOMEDAY MY CHANCE WILL  
COME" ABRAHAM LINCOLN

- June 2007

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# Wyoming County Business Education Council

Summer 2007

## Linking Business and Education



## BEC Highlights Entrepreneurship Programs at Spring Breakfast

This year's annual spring breakfast was held on Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at the Byrnclyff Resort and Conference Center. This year's program featured students from Wyoming and Pioneer Central Schools. The title of the program was "Minding Your Own Business: What we can offer students that may want to open their own business". The students from Wyoming Central, Jennifer Yuhnke and Caleb Hoffman, told the audience about their experiences with Junior Achievement. Their class learned about the various zones that are throughout a community and built their own city using these zones. They also designed a newspaper and learned to use the 4 W's. The students from Pioneer Central, Courtney Neamon, Madison Lux, Jenna Howard and Darryl Howk, told the audience of their experiences planning, marketing and actually running their own business. The students designed and sold t-shirts with their school logo on it. They used the profits to take a field trip and will continue to sell the shirts through the end of the year with the remaining profit being put into an account so that next year's class can participate in this type of experience. Dr. Jeff Bowen, superintendent of Pioneer Central spoke about the importance of these entrepreneurship programs in the schools and what they teach the students. Louise Wadsworth of the Alliance for Small Business Growth talked about her experience as a small business owner and how much work it really is. She also told the audience about the classes that are offered to help people explore the options of opening their own businesses. She mentioned that not all the people who come into these classes wanting to open their own business leave with the same idea. This is a good starting point to explore the possibilities and to find out if this is what a person really wants to do.

### Message From The President, Jeff Fitch

*A tradition of excellence*

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the BEC staff, I want to thank all those who participated and supported the programs and events this 2006-2007 program year. Thanks to the many volunteers, the BEC was able to increase the number of career experiences for the students in Wyoming County Schools. Your continued support helped the BEC to accomplish our goal of "Linking Business and Education". As you read through this issue of the newsletter, you will see pictures from classroom presentations, Career Day and the annual breakfast meeting. Please keep in mind it is through partnerships like yours that help the BEC to make a positive difference in the future of our youth. As the school year draws to an end, the BEC is just beginning to prepare programs for the 2007-2008. Have a great summer and we look forward to working with you in the fall.

## *Our Mission*

*To Encourage the Partnership between businesses, Education, and the Wyoming County Community that will prepare our young people to be productive members of the workplace.*

### **Summer Opportunities Fair held at Perry Middle School**

Perry Middle School held a Summer Opportunities Fair on Friday, May 25<sup>th</sup>. The students were given a chance to find out what type of activities are available for them to partake in this summer. Presenters included the Perry Public Library, Valley View Lanes, the Wyoming County Youth Bureau, Wyoming County International Speedway, Cornell Cooperative Extension, the American Red Cross, Wyoming County Transit Service, Perry Fire Departments Explorer Post, and Western New York Rural AHEC. The students looked at different camps that are available for them to attend, classes that they could take, passes to ride the county's public transportation, and activities at the speedway and bowling alley. All of the students enjoyed hearing what they have available to them this summer. If there any other school districts or business that would like to participate in an event similar to this one next year, please call the Business Education Council at 237-3010 and we would be happy to assist you in setting it up.

### **Health Expo held at**

### **Letchworth Central School**

A health expo at Letchworth Middle School was held on Thursday, May 24<sup>th</sup>. The presenters were set up in the gym and the students filtered through listening carefully to speakers tell them the different ways they can keep themselves healthy and safe this summer. Presenters included Joyce Horner from Western New York Rural AHEC; the Gainesville Fire Department; the Wy Cnty Sheriff's Department; Dan McClurg from the Wyoming County YMCA and the American Red Cross. A health expo is scheduled for the elementary school for Friday, June 8th and most of presenters will also be taking part in this day.

### **Career Day at Attica Central Middle School**

Over 650 students from 5 school districts in Wyoming County participated in the 6<sup>th</sup> annual 8<sup>th</sup> grade career day on Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, which was actually rescheduled due to weather conditions from October. This day long event, held at Attica Middle School, allowed the students to choose from over 50 different careers to gather more information about. Each student picked their top 5 career choices and then sat in while a guest speaker told them about their experiences and what kind of education it took for them to get where they are today. Some of the speakers that the students had to chose from included Ferris Heimann, the sheriff of Wyoming County; Town of Attica Supervisor Doug Patti, from Attica Correctional Facility; all branches of the military; as well as Dolly Pierson from the Country Courier; Diana Deleo from Attica Veterinary Clinic; James Ackerman from Valley Computer Solutions; and Doug Tillotson from Titan Enterprises Wyoming. The keynote speaker for the day was John Witkowski, of Five Star Bank. He spoke to the students about the opportunities that are available to them and how they need to take advantage of them now. The 65 guest speakers from various businesses in and around Wyoming County were treated to a catered lunch sponsored by Five Star Bank, Bank of Castile, Tompkins Insurance and Pioneer Credit Recovery. The lunch was catered by Smitty's Amber Lantern. The day was considered a huge success and planning has already begun for the next career day in October 2007.

### **Student Solutions 2007**

This years Student Solutions presentations were held on Thursday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, at Perry High School. This years change from county faced problems to those facing our local businesses brought out some interesting opportunities to explore changes in their own communities for this years' teams. The team from Perry titled their presentation "How can we market our local resources and build home town pride?" This years team consisted of 16 members from 9<sup>th</sup> grade to 12<sup>th</sup> grade. The team was assisted by Rick Hauser if In-Site Architecture. Pioneer Central Schools' presentation was titled "How can surrounding communities keep and attract young people to seek out business careers or become entrepreneurs to help revitalize the area?". This years team consisted of 6 members from 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Pioneers' team was assisted by Sandy Pirdy of Creekside Fabrics and Quilts. Letchworth Central Schools team titled their presentation "Alternative Fuels: Pipeline to our future." This team discussed using underutilized farmland in Wyoming County to grow corn and other grains that could be used in fuel alternatives. This team consisted of 5 members. They were assisted by James VanArsdale and Steve Meyer. Attica Central School team titled their presentation "Why are people and businesses leaving Attica and what could be done to prevent it?". This years' team consisted of 7 members. Attica's community resource was Doug Patti, Town of Attica Supervisor. Due to a time restraint and the complexity of the problem that Warsaw Central students chose, they were unable to make a presentation this year, but vowed to come in next year with a solution to the great sewer debate in the Town of Warsaw.

#### **A Special Thanks To...**

Wyoming County Transit Service  
Attica Bus Service  
Genesee Community College  
Wyoming County Community Action  
Warsaw Wal-Mart  
Darryl's Pizzeria  
Miller Farm and Greenhouse

Attica Hardware and Auto  
W. Glenn Sedam  
Five Star Bank, Attica Branch  
Warsaw Fire Department  
Wyoming County YMCA  
To all of those whose names are not listed,  
but helped in any way, THANK YOU!!

# Looking back.....



Volunteers from the Gainesville Fire Department explain to the middle school students at the Letchworth Health Expo some of the important things an EMT must know.



Frank Hollister, with the Buffalo Area Mercy Flight, show the students at Warsaw's Career Fair some of the equipment he uses on the helicopter.



Linda stands with the Pioneer team for Student Solutions before their presentation.



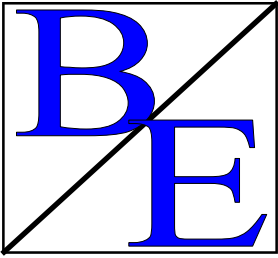
Jeff Fitch, President of the BEC, stands with John Witkowski, Regional President, Five Star Bank after John speaks to the students at the annual 8th grade career day.



Norb Fuest from Morton Salt conducts "Mock Interviews" with 8th grade students from Wyoming Central School.



Students from Perry Elementary School get a chance to play with the Rural AHEC puppets after a presentation of The "Great Hospital Adventure".



Linking Business and Education

Wyoming County  
Business Education Council  
6470 Rt. 20A Suite 3  
Perry, New York 14530

lleblond@rochester.rr.com

## 2007 Membership

### Arcade

Adecco Employment  
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\*\*Pioneer Credit Recovery  
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Attica Veterinary Associates  
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L. Breton Construction  
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ARM Partnership  
\*\*The Bank of Castile  
Freed, Maxick and Battaglia, PC, CPA's  
Genesee Community College  
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Lake Plains Community Care

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### Perry

4-S Theatre and Restaurant  
~Arts Council for Wyoming County~  
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\*\*Complete Payroll Processing  
Daryl's Pizzeria  
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Eaton-Watson Funeral Home  
Emerling Farms  
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~Town of Perry~  
W. Glenn Sedam  
Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce  
~Wyoming County IDA~

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### Rochester

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### Silver Springs

\*\*Morton Salt

Decisions Catering, LLC

### Varysburg

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~H.G. Miller Farm, Inc.~

### Warsaw

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Cornell Cooperative Extension  
County Courier  
Disalvo's Pizzeria and Sub Shop  
~Eastside Nursing Home~  
Ed Hulme Construction, Inc.  
Fairview Paper Box Corporation  
\*\*Five Star Bank  
\*\*Genesee Community College  
Gillen and Wellman Land Surveyors  
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Montgomery's Building Supply  
Mucher's Grand Rental Station  
Sinclair Pharmacy  
Smitty's Amber Lantern  
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Warsaw Chamber of Commerce  
Warsaw Pennysaver/Appealances  
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Western New York Rural AHEC  
\*\*Wyoming County Community Health Systems  
Wyoming Transit Service

### Wyoming

Carlson's Studio  
\*\*Markin Tubing

Attica School District  
Letchworth School District  
Perry School District  
Pioneer School District  
Warsaw School District  
Wyoming School District

**Thank you for your continued support!!**

**\*\* BEC Corporate Members**

~ New Members

**If you are interested in becoming a member, please call us at 585-237-3010**