

Alden Chamber of Commerce
13500 Broadway
Alden, NY 14004

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Alden *Chamber of Commerce* *Newsletter*



MAY 2017 VOLUME 26, NUMBER 1

The Alden Chamber of Commerce cordially invites you to attend the

Annual *Spring Membership* *and* *Election Dinner*

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

at the

Whistle Stop Inn

1338 Exchange Street, Alden NY

Cash Bar at 5 p.m. Dinner at 6 p.m.

The annual *Distinguished Citizen Award* will be presented to:

Fred Blowers

Nominees for election to serve a three-year term on the Board of Directors are:

Shawn Gillen, Alden State Bank

Rick Kohl, Alden Village Market

Brooks Bowman, Elwood Jordans Insurance Agency

Maria Foss, Foss Livestock

Michael Protos, Chestnut Hill Country Club

Our entertainment for the evening will be:

Ted Burzynski

"It's Magic of Course!"

Cost of the dinner is \$25.00 per person and reservations are required. Call the Chamber office at (716) 937-6177 or email secretary@aldenny.org with your reservation. Checks may be sent or dropped off to Alden Chamber of Commerce, 13500 Broadway, Alden, NY 14004, **by May 9th. Broken reservations will be billed.**

CHAMBER OFFICE

13500 Broadway Alden, NY 14004

Phone (716) 937-6177 Fax: (716) 937-4106

Board of Directors meetings are held every third Thursday of the month at 4pm at the Whistle Stop Inn. All members are invited.

Member of WNY Chamber Alliance

President — Brooks Bowman

Vice President — Christopher Dowd

Treasurer — Christopher Gust

Secretary - Alyssa Cooper

Directors 2016-2017

Brooks Bowman Christopher Gust

Nancy Hughes Jennifer Strong

Sue Galbraith

Directors 2016-2018

Christopher Dowd

Deborah Bressette Earl Gillen

Aurora Mali Perry

Directors 2016-2019

Angelo Daluisio John Drogi

Laura Ross Scott Sitzman

Kara Smith

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Alden Economic Development

Christopher Gust, Gary Wagner

Promotion/Publicity - Christopher Gust, Paul Henry,

Nancy Hughes, Laura Ross, Lee Weisbeck

Town, Village & School Liaison

Town - Jennifer Strong

Village - Susanne Galbraith, Angelo Daluisio

School - Adam Stoltman

Member Benefits- Brooks Bowman,

Christopher Dowd, Christopher Gust, Paul Henry,

Laura Ross, Kara Smith

Visit our website www.aldenny.org

Find us at www.facebook.com/aldenchamber

Chamber office hours:

9am. to 4:30pm.

Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

Closed Monday and Wednesday.

Distinguished Citizen 2017

Fred Blowers -- Distinguished Citizen 2017

This year's Distinguished Citizen, Fred Blowers, is a life-long Alden resident. Fred has been married to his wife Sandra for 49 years and has two children, a son and a daughter.

Fred dutifully served his country during the Korean Conflict as a staff sergeant. He also served his state through faithful employment as a plow and salt truck driver for the New York State Highway Department for more than 36 years, finishing his career as an equipment operator training instructor. When asked, Fred readily shared his experience with the Alden Village DPW by programming their salt trucks to spread a specific amount of salt on the Village streets.

Fred has served his community as an Alden Volunteer Fireman for over 52 years, answering countless calls, serving as Fire Police, running the fire company's family Easter egg hunt, and assisting with the New Year's Eve Ball Drop. He also drives Old Buffalo whenever there is a parade.

He has been the custodian caretaker of Ewell Library since 2012. Fred may be paid for 10 hours per week, but also puts in many additional hours arriving early to make sure the Library is ready to open and snow blowing and shoveling the walkways during the winter. He also sanded and varnished the stairway railing and does regular maintenance on the lawn mower and snow blower all on his own time.

His service to community continues as trustee for the Alden Historical Society and co-chair of the Society's Buildings and Grounds Committee. Fred has given much time and talent to the Historical Society grounds including: refinishing the stairway; refurbishing display cases or installing shelving and peg board for additional displays; moving items upstairs and downstairs as needed; vacuuming, sweeping, and cleaning the building; watering plantings and keeping the grounds neat, free of debris and clear of snow; also performing needed carpentry for both the Historical Society building and the Henskee Road Schoolhouse.

As one nomination put it "There is never a time that he doesn't have a smile on his face and a wave of friendship." Fred Blowers is an unsung hero, never wanting recognition for his many contributions, and Fred Blowers is a role-model to everyone, just giving his all in everything—service to country, state, community, friends and family.

WELCOME TO THESE NEW MEMBERS

Alden Medical Group, 12845 Broadway, Alden — Medical Practice
Chestnut Hill Country Club, 1330 Broadway, Darien Center — Golf Course
Maybe Someday Farm, 11828 Williston Road, Marilla — Meat/Poultry/Eggs Farm
Ronald Draudt & Sons, LLC, 4779 Clark Street, Hamburg — Produce Farm
Sarah Belle's Soap, 10758 Partridge Road, Holland — Soap Artisan
Snap Fitness, 13242 Broadway, Alden — Fitness Center/Gym
Superlative Real Estate, 13390 Irving Street, Alden — Real Estate Agency

Thank You for Serving as Directors

Brooks Bowman
Christopher Gust
Nancy Webster Hughes
Jennifer Strong
Sue Galbraith



THEME PARK PASSES AVAILABLE

Are you planning a family re-union? Do you have out of town guests coming to visit this summer? Don't just plan for a rainy day, plan for a beautiful, fun-filled day! Reduced-price Good-Any-Day tickets for Darien Lake Theme Park and Resort will be available for purchase from the Alden Chamber of Commerce for member businesses and their employees. Non-Chamber members may also purchase tickets for prices as noted.

Darien Lake tickets this season will be available for \$34 for member/\$36 for non-members, parking and tax included. This is a \$16 per ticket savings, including parking and tax!! Front gate admission this season will be \$49.99 per person plus tax and \$10 parking. Compare that to our \$34 tax included, parking included rate you and your employees receive with our Good-Any-Day ticket program and enjoy the savings. Be sure to visit their website www.darienlake.com for complete hours and events planned for this season. Celebrate 35 years of The Viper with throwback thrills all season long!

Call the Chamber office for ticket availability (716) 937-6177. Purchase your tickets in advance and use them when you get the chance! The Chamber office is open Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., closed on Monday and Wednesday.

Farmer's Market

Remembering Richard "Skip" Jablonski

Since last season, the Alden Farmers Market has lost one of its staunch supporters and faithful volunteers. Richard "Skip" Jablonski went to his heavenly home this past December 22, 2016. Skip was a long-time member and past Director of the Chamber of Commerce. He was also very active with his church, Town Line Lutheran, but still managed to find time to volunteer at the Farmers Market every week. Skip delighted in handing out candy to all the youngsters at the Market and could sell a basket raffle ticket or shed raffle ticket to anyone whether they really wanted it or not! The Farmers Market truly appreciated all of Skip's time and talents; he not only will be greatly missed, he will be irreplaceable.

The Market is a civic gathering place for citizens and a social destination for the Town and Village of Alden. Volunteers are always needed and appreciated; come join our Market family! If you would like to volunteer or know of others who may like to volunteer, please contact the Alden Chamber of Commerce office (716) 937-6177 to find out more information.



Marketing Opportunity

Farmers' Market Raffle Basket Items Wanted

In addition to our fresh produce vendors, crafters, baked goods, sausage, honey and maple products and fudge, the Market will again feature two "big basket" raffles. This is a great marketing opportunity for your business! Farmers' Market regular and one-time visitors, both local and out of town, view the basket while purchasing tickets at the Market every week.

We invite Chamber member businesses to participate by providing gift certificates or donating items for both raffles. Gift certificates can be for a free item, a certain dollar amount off your service or product, or a percentage off the cost. Lottery tickets given in your name are also a good idea. Basket contributors are listed prominently below the basket. It's a simple way to advertise your business to the many people who come to the Market each week.

In order to reduce the number of times businesses are asked for contributions, the items received now will be divided between the two baskets. We will not ask for a second contribution for the Fall drawing. If you send two certificates now, one will be placed in each basket. All items may be dropped off at the Alden Chamber of Commerce office, 13500 Broadway, open Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. or simply call the Chamber office at (716) 937-6177 to pick up items or for other arrangements.

Farmer's Market

SEASON BEGINS MAY 13th

Think Spring! The Alden Farmers' Market will open for the 2017 season on Saturday, May 13th. This is the 15th season of the Market! That date will feature a craft show, early plants and flowers and specialty vendors. Seasonal produce and Mother's Day plants and flowers will be available by returning vendors Kate's Country Cousins, Tom's Thumb, Comes Greenhouse, Little Woods Farm, and new vendors Ronald Draudt & Sons; maple and honey products will be available from Ken's Maple Products; Leonard Oakes Estate Winery will return alternating weeks with wine tastings; and delicious homemade sausage will be available weekly from Hanzlian's Sausage. New vendor Maybe Someday Farm will sell beef, pork, chicken, turkey, rabbit, and eggs. We expect to have our baked goods and fudge also available weekly, Donna's Jam's and Jelly's, Sarah Belle's Soap, and more produce vendors, Pfeiffer Farms and others, as the growing season gets underway.

The entertainment season will begin with Porcelain Train, Acoustic American folk music, on June 3rd and the Alden High & Middle School Jazz Ensembles on June 10th with plenty of returning artists and groups scheduled, including Craig Wilkins, The Niagara Frontier Fiddle Club, Hot Country Liners, Dark Road Duo, Jim Vozga, Matt's Music Vocal Team, Ron Schiralli, Carl and Emma Eddy, the Alden Ecumenical Choir, June Beyers organist, and Ted Burzynski magician. New groups include Friends of Harmony barbershop quartet. **A HUGE thank you to our entertainment sponsors: Safeguard Business Solutions, David Pajak Attorney at Law, Alden State Bank, Alden Pharmacy, Doritex, Alden Family Dentistry, Neill & Strong Attorneys, Carbone's Pizzeria, Alden Advertiser, Gillen's Expert Auto, The Pink Cow, Bene-Care Agency, and Zoladz Construction!**

There will be special theme days this year including "National Soft Ice Cream Day" on August 19th with a kids chalk art contest sponsored by the Pink Cow, "Hunting and Fishing Day" on August 26th with local sportsman organizations, and "National Play Doh Day" on September 16th. Other returning theme days include Health & Wellness Day, Small Business Day, Meet the Candidates Day, Community Organizations Day, and Fire Safety Day.

Non-profit groups will sell coffee, soda and snacks the entire season. Alden-area community groups are encouraged to sell food and/or have information tables at the Market. Again this year is a quilt raffle (donated by Penny Marble Quilt Designs) and two big basket raffles, one in July and one in October. And the very popular Amish Shed raffle will again return this year—the winner could be you!

The Market is sponsored by the Alden Chamber of Commerce. To find out how you or your group can participate, please contact the Chamber of Commerce office at 937-6177 or by email at secretary@aldenny.org. The Market is located between Tractor Supply and Save-a-Lot in the Alden Village Plaza at 13119 Broadway. It will be open every Saturday from 8:30am to 1:00 pm, through October 15th. The complete Calendar of Events will be available on the Chamber's web site www.aldenny.org



Chamber in Action

Alden Chamber of Commerce/SBA Host Free Seminars

The Alden Chamber of Commerce and the Small Business Administration hosted a FREE seminar “Marketing Your Small Business” on Friday, January 27th, from 8 a.m. — 10 a.m. at the Alden Village Hall. Presenter Steve Martin, SCORE mentor, presented an in depth look at developing a marketing strategy to gain the maximum impact from a limited marketing budget and time. Steve discussed knowing your target market and their preferences and getting a good return on your marketing investment. Alden Chamber member, Angelo Daluisio, also briefly presented on marketing products and services available through Angelo Daluisio Photography. Light breakfast refreshments were provided courtesy of the Alden Chamber of Commerce.

And on Thursday, March 30th, from 8 a.m. — 10 a.m. at the Alden Village Hall, the Chamber and SBA teamed up again to present “Advanced Social Media Strategies for Your Business”. Presenter Gregory Lindberg, U. S. Small Business Administration, presented a one-hour educational workshop to help small businesses improve their marketing on social media platforms. Social Media can be time consuming and difficult to understand; Greg did an excellent job answering attendee questions and giving examples specific to their business. Topics covered included improving Facebook marketing, getting more people to “like” a page, understanding what platforms customers use, and strategies to help a small business stick out in the “social crowd”. Light breakfast refreshments were provided courtesy of Bene-Care Agency. Watch for future FREE seminars from the Alden Chamber of Commerce. If you have a topic you would like to learn more about, contact the Chamber office at (716) 937-6177.



Member Benefits

JOIN THE MEMBER 2 MEMBER DISCOUNT SAVINGS PROGRAM

Chamber members have a unique opportunity to offer fellow Chamber members a discount on their services or merchandise as an incentive to attract new customers and increase business visibility. Each Chamber newsletter will advertise your business and your exclusive Chamber member's discount. You decide what you wish to offer and how your offer will be presented. You may also wish to include employees in the offer. It's easy to enroll. Simply call the Chamber office at (716) 937-6177. More information and the form for describing your offer/discount will be mailed or faxed to you to complete and return. It's a simple, positive, and effective way to draw attention to your business.

Member 2 Member Discounted Savings

A & N AUTOMOTIVE

13560 Genesee Street, Crittenden, NY 14038
Phone: (716) 937-9425
10% off any repairs totaling over \$100.00

BLACKWATER FITNESS CLUB

1370 Exchange Street, Alden, NY 14004
Phone: (716) 937-7110
Free shirt and reassessments at 3 and 6 months with one-year membership.

CREIGHTON OPTICAL

13375 Broadway, Alden, NY 14004
Phone: (716) 937-7373
25% off any frame or insurance discount, whichever is greater, also \$45 eye exam for Chamber members and employees without vision insurance coverage.

DAVID J. PAJAK, ESQ.

13179 Broadway, Suite 2, Alden, NY 14004
Phone: (716) 937-7950
\$100 Mirror Wills
1/2 price initial consult matrimonial or family court matters. Offer good for employees of members also.

JOHNNY BEAR'S RESTAURANT

1415 Broadway, Darien Center, NY 14040
Phone: (585) 547-2220
10% off ice cream purchase.
Not valid with any other offer or coupon. Must show membership card or this flyer to receive discount.

KEN'S MAPLE PRODUCTS

Ken Bieniek
1470 Sandridge Road, Alden NY 14004
(716) 937-9519
10% off any product.

NEILL & STRONG, ATTORNEYS

Jennifer Strong
13166 Main Street, Alden, NY 14004
Phone: (716) 937-3353
Free 30 minute attorney consult OR \$50 off from a residential real estate transaction

NEW YORK LIFE

Christopher Dowd
13349 Broadway Suite 1, Alden, NY 14004
Phone: (716) 276-1134
Email: cdowd@ft.newyorklife.com
Free financial plan review/Free benefits analysis

PAYCHEX INC.

Trish McMahan
33 Dodge Road, Getzville NY 14068
Phone: (716) 957-7483
One month free.

PENNY MARBLE QUILT DESIGNS

Penny or Charlie Marble
98 County Line Road, Alden NY 14004
Phone: (716) 706-8488
Shop local! 25% off any custom embroidery (t-shirts, jackets, aprons, tote bags etc.) including digitizing services. Put your logo on uniforms, promo items, etc. in embroidery!

SAFEGUARD BUSINESS SOLUTIONS, INC.

1288 Blood Road, Cowlesville, NY 14037
Phone: (716) 675-0124
10% off any order

SNAP FITNESS

13242 Broadway, Alden NY 14004
Phone: (716) 655-6600
10% off monthly membership dues

Coming Events

19th Annual Taste of Alden

The Alden Chamber of Commerce is excited to host the 19th Annual Taste of Alden on Friday, June 2nd, starting at 5 p.m. in the Alden Town Park. Due to the success of last year's event, this beloved community event will again be held in conjunction with the Alden Community Scholarship Foundation's Annual 5K run. The 5K race will again be held in memory of long-time respected community member and 5K race board member, Dr. Ralph Davis. The evening promises to be a wonderful mix of food, entertainment and fun for all ages. The event includes the 5K Race for Scholarships, the Taste of Alden, live music, family friendly kids zone, beer tent, basket raffle, and fireworks display. Many hometown restaurants will be there serving their treats and local band Yesterday Band will be performing on the band stand.

Come out and run or just come out for some fun! For information on participating, please contact the Chamber office at (716) 937-6177 or Taste of Alden Chairman, Gary Wagner at (716) 937-8960.



Member's Benefits

Bene-Care HR Hotline

Bene-Care and the Chamber have expanded its services to offer an HR option that benefits you and your organization. As part of your Chamber membership you will have access to the highest quality of professional services; services that will deliver you the tools, resources and information to help you manage your business and your employees. Your membership will allow you to contact Bene-Care with your HR questions and concerns that will deliver exceptional value, eliminate headaches, communicate clearly with employees, and simplify your life by providing easily accessible, knowledgeable resources for your HR needs. Bene-Care will ensure that your employees are happy from a benefits standpoint, while also supporting all of your HR needs. CALL Bene-Care HR Support today (716) 688-8161 to gain an even greater advantage. With precise and comprehensive programs, Bene-Care delivers more for HR.

Chamber HR Support Center - Included with Chamber Membership

- Ask the pro — fast answers within one day to your questions on legal compliance and personnel issues, from classifications to terminations.
- Business, state, and federal HR forms
- HR checklists for better task organization
- Job descriptions to help you organize and hire

Other HR services are also available at a competitive cost: Bene-Care HR On-Demand and Bene-Care HR Compliance Services. Contact Bene-Care for more information (716) 688-8161.

Bene-Care Agency, LLC
Benefits Advocate

“When consumers know that a small business is a member of the chamber of commerce, they are 49% more likely to think favorably of it and 80% more likely to purchase goods or services from the company in the future.”

(Schapiro Group Study, “The Real Value of Joining a local Chamber of Commerce”, December 2012)

Chamber in Action

Business Profile

What's New on the Web

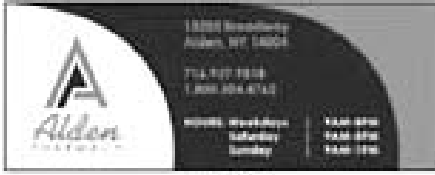
Advertise!!! Have you considered advertising on the Alden Chamber of Commerce website? We offer an economical rate of \$20/month or \$100/six-months. The advertisements are static, not annoying pop-up ads, and nicely sized at 4.5" wide by 1.5" high. Our site also receives an average of 30,000 hits per month, an average of 1,700 visits/month with 1,200 of those being unique or first time visits (statistics from January 1, 2016, - December 31, 2016).

Advertising on the Chamber website is a great way to bring awareness to your business and help your community at the same time. We would love to hear from you! If you have questions, please contact the Chamber office at (716) 937-6177.

Thank you to our current website sponsors: Alden Pharmacy, Alden State Bank, Cooke & Steffan Attorneys, Elwood Jordans Insurance Agency, and The Gutter People of WNY.

Sponsors

Alden Pharmacy



13203 Broadway
Alden, NY 14004
716.937.6177
1.800.364.8742

MON - WEDNESDAY 10AM - 8PM
THURSDAY - SATURDAY 10AM - 7PM
SUNDAY 10AM - 1PM

[See Here](#)

Alden State Bank



[See Here](#)

Cooke & Steffan



COOKE & STEFFAN
Your
**FULL SERVICE
LAW FIRM**
(716) 937-6177
www.cookeandsteffan.com


[See Here](#)

Elwood Jordans Insurance Agency



ELWOOD-JORDANS
EST. 1875
13361 Broadway, Alden, NY
www.elwoodjordans.com

The Gutter People of WNY, Inc.



The Gutter People
of WNY, Inc.
13 Federal Company Since 1979
Roofing, Siding
Frim & Insulation
685-3417
www.TGPWNY.com

[See Here](#)



Alden Pharmacy

For over 100 years, the corner of Broadway and Exchange Streets has been home to a local pharmacy. In 1985, lifelong Alden resident and pharmacist, Ron Smith purchased the business and gave the store its current name, Alden Pharmacy. Ron's daughter Kara took over Pharmacy operations in 2012.

Alden Pharmacy is a full-service, independent pharmacy offering a full line of prescription and over-the-counter medications, as well as a wide variety of locally and nationally sourced gifts and home goods.

The pharmacy stands out from the competition by offering personal service that isn't available at the various national chains. These include free local delivery, free collection and disposal of unwanted noncontrolled prescription and nonprescription medications, 24-hour emergency service, and free syringe and sharps disposal via secure lockbox.

Other services include expanded clinical offerings like flu, pneumonia, shingles, and TDaP immunizations, Naloxone dispensing for patients at risk of an opiate overdose, prescription refill synchronization programs to tailor fit solutions for patients who need help managing multiple medications, and free flavoring of all liquid medications.

Alden Pharmacy accepts most major commercial insurance plans as well as Medicare, Medicaid, and worker's compensation coverage, as well as all major credit cards. Prescriptions can be refilled by phone, fax, on the Alden Pharmacy website, or on the free mobile app (available on Apple and Android based devices).

Visit the friendly Alden Pharmacy staff at 13203 Broadway, at AldenPharmacy.com, or on your mobile phone or tablet by downloading the Alden Pharmacy app. Like the store on Facebook and follow @AldenPharmacy on Twitter.

Coming Events

CHAMBER CALENDAR

- May 13** Farmers Market Opening Day — 15th Season!
- May 16** Spring Membership Election & Distinguished Citizen Dinner
- May 18** Board of Directors' Meeting Whistle Stop Inn 4 p.m. Taste of
- June 2** Alden/5K Race for Scholarships
- June 15** Board of Directors' Meeting Whistle Stop Inn 4 p.m.
-

Welcome New Chamber Executive Secretary!

A new face will be greeting you and a new voice answering your phone calls at the Chamber office. Welcome to Alyssa Cooper, our new Alden Chamber Executive Secretary! Alyssa is a life long Alden resident and graduate of Alden Central Schools. Stop by the office and introduce yourself.

Current Chamber Secretary Jenny Urbanski applied for and was offered a position at Elwood Jordans Insurance Agency and is looking forward to a new full-time career in the insurance industry. We wish her success in her future endeavors!

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Membership renewal invoices for 2017-2018 will be mailed around May 1st. To avoid a \$10 late fee please be sure to send your payment by May 31, 2017. Membership cards will not be mailed with invoices but will be included in the July newsletter. If you have not received an invoice and wish to renew your membership or require a membership card sooner than July, please contact the Chamber office at 937-6177. If you participate in the health insurance program, the gift certificate program or have a link on our website, your membership must be current. We are committed to our members and your renewal is important to us.

Business Profile

SNAP FITNESS



New to Alden! SNAP Fitness is a 24-hour, 7-day-a-week full-service fitness facility featuring brand new state-of-the-art Cybex Equipment. SNAP offers no contracts and access to over 2,000 SNAP clubs worldwide. Located at 13242 Broadway in the Village of Alden, SNAP Fitness will feature on-site personal training by Absolute Wellness. Also, coming soon will be massage services, tanning, and chiropractic care and they accept

participating health plan members. With Snap Fitness, there is no more waiting on the doors to open for an early morning workout or getting shoed out of the gym at closing time. They fit busy schedules — all it takes is a swipe of a key card! Commit to results, not a contract, with Snap Fitness! For more information, visit www.snapfitness.com or call (716) 655-6600.

CARDS, CARDS, CARDS - - - BROCHURES TOO!

Did you know the Chamber office has display racks for business cards and brochures? This is another benefit the Chamber offers to our members. Come in and drop off (or mail to us) your promotional materials and we will display and distribute them for you.