

Meetings

Software seminar scheduled

The Small Business Development Center at Niagara County Community College will offer Introduction to Quickbooks and Mastering Quickbooks classes to small business owners this month. The introductory class is from 8:30 a.m. to noon Tuesday, April 24 and the mastering class at that time on Thursday, April 26 at NC-CC's Corporate Training Center, 50 Main St., Lockport. Both classes are hands-on and designed for those who have little time to read software instruction manuals. Students will learn how to create a company, track and manage sales and expenditures, and analyze financial data in the first class. The mastering class will cover pass-through expenses, payroll, inventory, sales tax, estimates, adjustments and year-end procedures. The cost is \$79 per course or \$140 for both. To register, call the Small Business Development Center at 434-3815.

Charity Golf Classic set

The 10th Annual Golden Benefit Charity Golf Classic and Dinner for Hunter's Hope Foundation and Neuromuscular Disease Center will be held on Saturday, July 21 at LeRoy Country Club. The event will feature 18 holes of golf, lunch and dinner. The cost of the event is \$75. Checks should be made payable to Mark Farruggia Golden Benefit Charity Golf Classic and sent to: Mark Farruggia Golden Benefit Charity Golf Classic, P.O. Box 55, Retsof, NY 14539. To join or for more information on the classic, call 519-1917.

Small business event planned

The U.S. Small Business Administration, SCORE and Business First have teamed up to present the second Western New York Small Business Expo and Matchmaker event. The expo will allow small businesses to meet with prime contractors and government agencies. The event will take place from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, May 9 at the Buffalo Convention Center.

Travers Collins & Company receives 47 ADDY Awards

Travers Collins & Company prevailed at the 2007 ADDY Awards, as the Buffalo-based integrated marketing communications firm took home the most ADDY Awards during Western New York's annual advertising industry competition, as presented by Advertising Club of Buffalo on March 23 at the Statler Towers in Buffalo.

Travers Collins & Company earned a total of 47 ADDY Awards — eight gold and 39 silver awards. The pieces were created for Dawn Food Products, CCN International, It Happened to Alexa Foundation, Riverview Commerce Park, American Red Cross, Hallwalls Contemporary Art Center, CEPA Gallery, Compeer and DiCamillo Bakery, among others.

"Capturing the most ADDY Awards is something that gives us all a great deal of pride," said Williamsville resident Robert N. Travers, principal, Travers Collins & Company. "It is a testament to our very talented team as well as to our great clients for giving us the opportunity to do work with them."

The ADDY Awards competition is a three-tiered national compe-



Robert N. Travers

tion conducted annually by the American Advertising Federation. It is the advertising industry's largest and most representative competition for creative excellence. The ADDY Awards are sponsored by Advertising Club of Buffalo, a member association comprised of advertising and media professionals.

To view all of this year's winning entries, please visit www.adhub.com.

Buffalo Niagara Association of REALTORS president named for 2007

Patricia Taylor, a real estate professional for 38 years, was installed as president of the 2007 Buffalo Niagara Association of REALTORS recently at the historic Pierce Arrow Museum in downtown Buffalo.

Taylor, the branch leader at Hunt Real Estate ERA in Snyder, was elected to the one-year term by the BNAR, a trade organization with more than 3,100 local members whose mission is to promote professionalism, real property rights and values.

Taylor succeeds Miriam Treger, a Realty USA broker-manager, who served as the 2006 BNAR president.

In addition, the 2007 officers and directors were installed: President-Elect Jim Knight, MJ Peterson Real Estate; Secretary/Treasurer Bobbie Kagle, MJ Peterson Real Estate; and Vice President Nan Malysza, Hunt Real Estate ERA.

Serving three-year terms as directors are Larry Lentini, Hunt Real Estate ERA; Mary Lou Mattioli, MJ Peterson Real Estate; E. Alice Miranda, RealtyUSA; and Amy Winkhofer, Century 21 Winkhofer.

Peter Hunt, Hunt Real Estate ERA, and Merle Whitehead, RealtyUSA, will serve as directors at large for a one-year term.

Taylor's theme, "City Views, Regional Visions" has a heavy emphasis on city living and quality of life for urban dwellers.

"My theme encompasses several programs that focus on building communities and neighborhoods. We will work closely with City Hall's Office of Strategic Planning, Habitat for Humanity and community leaders to achieve those goals," Taylor said.

Taylor also cited the importance of the REALTORS Political Action Committee's impact and the networking among government entities through the BNAR's government affairs department.

"RPAC dollars are used to benefit taxpayers by supporting government officials who fight for homeowner and REALTOR rights. We will continue to lead that charge," Taylor said.

Natural gas supplier Vectren Source enters WNY market

Natural gas supplier Vectren Source, headquartered in Evansville, Ind., has begun offering its plans to customers in National Fuel's Western New York territory.

As an introductory offer, Vectren Source is waiving all cancellation fees on its fixed-price plans for those who sign up for service before April 20. Vectren Source's variable-rate plans do not have cancellation fees.

Vectren Source has approximately 150,000 customers and currently operates in other parts of New York as well as in Ohio, Indiana

and Georgia. The natural gas supplier is a wholly owned subsidiary of Vectren Corporation.

"Vectren Source has seen how natural gas customers in other markets have greatly benefited from having choices, and we are delighted to be able to offer our programs to consumers in Buffalo and the surrounding areas," said Greg Collins, president of Vectren Source. "We offer a variety of natural gas plans, giving consumers options to best match their needs."

Vectren Source offers consumers traditional fixed- and variable-rate plans. There are discounted rates for consumers who are age 60 and older.

According to Vectren Source, in a recent survey of New York residents, 69 percent of the respondents who had switched their natural gas supplier did so to obtain a better package of charges and services.

For information visit the Web site at www.NYnaturalgas.com or call 1-877-437-8887.

Residents named to Gilda's Club WNY Board

Three area residents have been appointed to the 2007 board of directors for Gilda's Club Western New York and will each serve a three-year term. The new directors are: Celeste E. Curley of East Amherst, vice president of products and services with Independent Health; David A. Schlein of Williamsville, certified public accountant and partner at Lumsden & McCormick; and Richard J. Vivacqua of East Amherst, a managing partner with Lawley-Vivac-

qua LLC.

Gilda's Club Western New York is a non-profit support community for men, women and children who are living with cancer, as well as their families and friends. Membership is offered free of charge to people at any stage of their experience with cancer.

For more information on Gilda's Club Western New York call 332-5900 or visit the Web site at <http://www.gildasclubwny.org>.

Williamsville based Sovran Self Storage expands

Sovran Self Storage, Inc., a self-storage real estate investment trust headquartered in Williamsville has acquired 12 self-storage facilities for a total cost of \$44 million. Nine of the acquisitions are located in Western New York, two are located in Texas and one in Mississippi.

The New York properties were

purchased from Benderson Development.

The acquisitions bring Sovran's total number of WNY stores to 15. The company now employs more than 1,000 people, with more than 150 people in the Buffalo area.

All 12 of the stores will be re-branded to the company's name of Uncle Bob's Self Stor-

age.

Robert J. Attea, CEO, said, "For some time now, we've looked to establish a stronger retail presence in our home town. This acquisition will, at once, establish that larger operational base."

Sovran Self Storage is planning a series of grand opening events beginning later this spring.

Business News

The Buffalo Niagara Human Resource Association has named the board of directors and committee chairs for 2007 and 2008, including Amherst residents Francine Schaefer, president of HR On-Site Consulting will serve as secretary; and Kelly Catanzaro, office manager at Arcara & Borczynski CPA LLP will serve as treasurer. Vice President of Marketing is Denise Ligamare, marketing manager at Western Division Federal Credit Union, in Amherst. BNHRA's Committee Chairs include Andrea Harden, of RW Miller Jr. & Associates in Amherst will serve as co-chair for the Diversity Committee. The Foundation Chair is Amherst resident Mary Kren and Cynthia Draper, Benefits Administrator of T.L. Cannon Management in Amherst will serve as Public Relations Chair. Christina Schweitzer of Amherst, senior account executive of The Synergy Group will chair the Strategic Partnerships Committee.