

## OCTOBER NEWSLETTER - 2016

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

October promises to be a busy and exciting month here at your Genesee County Chamber of Commerce. Not only will we have our Annual Meeting luncheon and regular events such as ribbon cuttings and small business workshops, but we will be moving into our new Chamber offices and Visitors Center at 8276 Park Road – right next to the Quality Inn (Formerly the Clarion Hotel) and across the street from the Genesee County Sheriff's office.

When we move into the new building on October 31 it will mark the end of a long journey that started in April 2015 when a special task force of Chamber board members identified the property on Park Road and put the wheels in motion on purchasing and renovating the building at that location.

Actually, the journey began long before then. As early as the 1990's the Chamber Board of Directors realized that tourism promotion in Genesee County would be better served if our office and Visitors Center would be located nearer to the Thruway at Exit 48. This would allow our staff and volunteers to greet the many visitors who use exit 48 and direct them to the many outstanding businesses and attractions we have throughout the county.

By 2017 there will be over 1,000 hotel rooms within one-half mile of our new office and Visitors Center. Batavia Downs, Alex Place and shopping plazas are also nearby. It will be our job to drive these visitors deeper into county to shop, eat and enjoy the many services available in Genesee County.

While we will be moving in to our new Chamber offices on October 31, the Visitors Center will not ready to open for at least another month. We are moving in early so that our space at 210 East Main St. can be occupied by a new retailer. Since the Chamber's mission is to help create an environment for business success, we were more than willing to move early to make room for a new business on Main St. in Batavia.

As you can tell, there is a lot going on at your Chamber this month. I hope to see you all at our Annual Meeting on October 26. Until then, have a great month!

Sincerely,

*Tom Turnbull*

Chamber President