

**** PRESS RELEASE ****

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SEEKING APPLICANTS FOR LEADERSHIP SCHUYLER 2017

WATKINS GLEN, NY - Looking to enrich your leadership skills? Learn from the most inspirational leaders in the community? Make connections that will fuel the growth of your business? Do you have an employee that you are looking to move up in the ranks, but they need leadership training that you simply don't have time to give them? Look no further! Leadership Schuyler 2017 is now accepting applications.

Since 2001, the Leadership Schuyler Program has been giving today's managers the skills they need to become tomorrow's leaders. The program has helped prepare more than 200 participants for community leadership roles. The purpose for the program is to teach highly valuable leadership skills to current and future leaders working in or around Schuyler County. The program helps residents and employees of local businesses strengthen their knowledge of community issues, facilitate positive problem solving techniques, and encourages them to take active leadership roles.

The program's facilitator, Rebekah Carroll, IOM is the President/CEO of the Watkins Glen Area Chamber of Commerce and Leadership Schuyler's Advisory board member. Rebekah is actively involved in the community and serves on the Schuyler County Partnership for Economic Development (SCOPED), Finger Lakes Wine Country, and Watkins-Montour Rotary Club's boards of directors. Rebekah is a member of the Watkins-Montour Rotary Club and the Schuyler County League of Women Voters. As a 2009-2010 Leadership Schuyler graduate, she said "Leadership Schuyler is such a necessary program to our community. It provides something that no other program in Schuyler County can – a micro community of individuals focused on investing in their professional growth, as well as the growth of every other leader in the room! Professional development is key for our growing community!"

2016 Leadership Schuyler Graduate Tiffany Millerd (Manager of Graphic Arts and Technical Writing at Fagan Engineers and Land Surveyors, PC) encourages fellow professionals to apply. She shares, "Leadership Schuyler is a dynamic program that helps participants explore and support strengths, differences, and team energy in a safe and creative environment. The program runs the gamut of leadership; from team building and understanding personal leadership styles, to the importance of financial health, marketing, and strategic planning. Leadership Schuyler presents a variety of topics germane to professional responsibilities, endeavors to help strengthen existing skills, and provides educational resources to motivate and inspire each participant to be a more successful leader. Every session serves as a reminder that continued personal and professional development is a key to continued success."

Areas of focus and guest presenters include:

- Team Player and Team Building and Understanding Your Leadership Style - Jeanne Eschbach, Director of Workforce Education and Academic Pathways at Corning Community College
- Executive Time and Stress Management – Sue Silhan, Selah Yoga and Music Studio
- Communication for Results - Sheriff Bill Yessman, Schuyler County Sheriff
- Strategic Planning: Where Do You Fit In? – Judy McKinney Cherry, Executive Director at SCOPED
- Effective Decision Making - Tim O'Hearn, Schuyler County Administrator

- Financial Health – Rebekah Carroll, President & CEO at Watkins Glen Area Chamber of Commerce
- How to Be Involved in A Community (Board, Committee, and How to Say No) – Speaker TBD

The program begins with an orientation session held on Thursday, January 5, 2017, from 9am to 1pm at the Montour Falls Fire Hall, 111 Lee Street, in Montour Falls. All other sessions will be held from 9:00am to 11:00am at Welliver, 250 N. Genesee Street, in Montour Falls. Class will be in session on January 12, February 2, February 16, March 2, March 16, April 6, and April 20. Cost for members is \$400 per person and potential members is \$450 per person.

Program sponsor, the Watkins Glen Area Chamber of Commerce, invites all interested parties to apply. Candidates must complete an application form and provide two professional references. A maximum of 20 individuals will be selected for the program. Applications are due by December 16, 2016. For additional information or to obtain an application, please contact Katie Strawser at (607) 535-4300 or by email: katie@watkinsglenchamber.com. Applications are also available online: www.watkinsglenchamber.com/leadershipschuyler.

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