

# Campaign '19 Is Suddenly Here

## Mayoral Candidates Debate at Breakfast

Kingston's mayoral race has been quiet so far, but things are likely to heat up as two of the three candidates appear at the Chamber's Sept. 12 Breakfast at the Best Western Plus in Kingston.

The candidates who have confirmed are incumbent Democrat Steve Noble, who is seeking a second four-year term, and Vincent Rua, who is running on the Serve America Movement (SAM) line. Ellen DiFalco, who is running on the Republican and Independence Party lines, declined an invitation to take part in the Meet the Candidates event.

Chamber President Ward Todd said the Breakfast, sponsored by Nuvance Health, is scheduled for 7:30-9 a.m. and will be conducted with the assistance of the League of Women Voters. Todd said both candidates will be answering questions posed by members of the audience.

Noble, 37, a former environmental educator with the city, is touting his reduction of property taxes, while maintaining a healthy fund balance and preserving an excellent credit rating.

I am incredibly proud of the state of our city today, Noble said. Kingston is in its strongest financial position in decades. And thanks to smart fiscal management, tax rates for both residential and commercial properties have decreased every year since 2016.

"I believe that I am the most qualified candidate to be mayor of the City of Kingston. I have a proven track record of building partnerships, finding fair and balanced solutions and getting the job done."

Mayor Noble is reminding voters he has secured more than \$30 million in grant funding for infrastructure, economic development, housing and quality of life; secured funding for new sidewalks; completed a merger of UCAT and Citibus; and invested \$2.5 million at Dietz Stadium.



Steve Noble



Vincent Rua

"Critical infrastructure upgrades, deferred for far too long, are now underway across the city," Noble said. "The Kingston City Land Bank is about to take ownership of over 30 city-owned properties to be renovated to expand affordable home ownership opportunities."

*Continued on page 4*

**September  
 Breakfast**  
**Sept. 12**  
**7:30-9:00 am**  
**BEST WESTERN PLUS**  
**503 Washington Ave.**  
**Kingston, NY**  
*Sponsor:*

## The September Breakfast Sponsor is Nuvance Health

Nuvance Health, formerly Health Quest, continues to transform healthcare in Ulster County and beyond.

This fall, Health Quest Medical Practice (HQMP) will open its new 88,000-square-foot medical facility in the former Macy's store at the Hudson Valley Mall in the Town of Ulster.

The \$20 million project will bring several outpatient services to the area under one roof, including urgent care, neurology, radiology, primary care, physical therapy, oncology and

more.

The multispecialty practice site, which separates the former department store from the mall, will also offer clinic space in partnership with Hudson River Healthcare for the three-year family medicine training program at Northern Dutchess Hospital.

In total, nearly 40 healthcare providers and more than 120 employees will call the Ulster facility home.

Plans for the medical space were announced



in early 2017. The health system received approval from the Town of Ulster in fall 2018.

Across the river in Rhinebeck, Northern Dutchess Hospital was recently recognized by the American Heart Association with a Gold Plus award for following up-to-date,

evidence-based treatment guidelines for the timely and appropriate treatment of stroke. The association's Get with the Guidelines awards recognize hospitals for fast-acting care for patients suffering strokes.

The evaluation is based on how well the hospitals provided brain scans, administered clot-busting drugs and prescribed preventive medications upon discharge, among other

*Continued on page 4*

*Mixer*  
  
**Hudson River  
 Maritime Museum**  
 50 Rondout Landing  
 Kingston, NY  
**Sept. 24 • 5-7 pm**

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# UPCOMING CHAMBER EVENTS

September 12 | 7:30 - 9:00 am

## Chamber Breakfast Meeting Meet the Candidates for Kingston Mayor BEST WESTERN PLUS

503 Washington Avenue | Kingston, NY  
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September 18 | Noon - 5:00 pm

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September 24 | 5:00 - 7:00 pm

## Networking Mixer @ Hudson River Maritime Museum

50 Rondout Landing | Kingston, NY  
There is no cost for Members and Prospective Members.  
Reservations are required.

Sponsor: Marshall & Sterling Insurance

October 2 | 5:00 - 7:30 pm

## Women Empowering Women to Grow Their Businesses The Chateau

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and networking event about women helping women overcome  
the barriers to business growth. There is no charge to attend.

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Sponsor: KeyBank | Key4Women

Register for all Events (845) 338-5100  
www.UlsterChamber.org

# Here Comes The Sun At Next Mixer

## Ride Maritime Museum's Solar-Powered Boat

The Chamber's September Mixer at the Hudson River Maritime Museum will be powered by the sun. The organization's new 44-foot solar-powered tour boat, Solaris, will be featured the night of the Mixer, scheduled from 5-7 p.m. Sept. 24. The sponsor for the evening is Marshall & Sterling Insurance.

"We'll be offering tours at the Chamber Mixer," said Ellie Burhans, communications and development manager for the Hudson River Maritime Museum. "Chamber members will be able to board our tour boat and we'll take them on the Rondout Creek. It doesn't have a diesel engine, or a petrol engine, and it doesn't plug into the grid. It is 100 percent solar. We're using it to improve our education programs, increase access to the lighthouses of the Hudson River.

"Our guests will be able to get on this historic and one-of-a-kind vessel and enjoy a tour of the Rondout and Hudson River. It is the only commercial, passenger, solar-powered vessel on the Hudson River. It's the first of its kind."

Burhans said the Mixer also will provide an opportunity to check out the museum's many exhibits, which highlight the history of shipping, boating and industry when Kingston exploded as a port city between Albany and New York City in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The latest exhibit is "Rescuing the River: 50 Years of Environmental Activism." It outlines how the river became polluted but is being restored with the help of groups like Clearwater, Riverkeeper, Scenic Hudson and the state DEC.

Business leaders also can learn about the museum's education programs, "many of which are free or low-fee to the general public," Burhans said.

In 2016, the museum opened a boat school that is growing. The museum's youth woodworking programs for teens (partnering with Kingston High School, Ulster County BOCES, and the Children's Home of Kingston) have expanded to include several afternoon classes, Burhans said.

"We've grown so much over the past couple of years," she said. "We've opened a boat school and a rowing and sailing school. We're also improving our exhibits every year. We just want to get people down here. If they haven't been down

here in a while, they might want to come down to the Maritime Museum on the Rondout because things have probably changed a lot since they were here last."

Burhans said the Chamber Mixers are an ideal way to build the alliances that keep the museum going.

"It's a great chance to meet new friends and old friends," she said. "Getting invited to the Chamber Mixers to get to meet people and partner with them is a huge asset. This museum would not exist without community partnerships and volunteers so to be able to make those connections is really



important to us."

The museum, which opened in 1980, attracts 25,000 to 30,000 a year to Kingston's historic waterfront, an area with a rich maritime history. The once-desolate section of Kingston is now thriving with small businesses.

"We're seeing an increase this year because of our solar boat," Burhans said. "People are coming from up and down the Hudson River just to take a ride.

"The Rondout is a great place to be between the cute shops and the great restaurants. We're really lucky to be here."

The Hudson River Maritime Museum, located at 50 Rondout Landing at the foot of Broadway in Kingston, can be reached at (845) 338-0071 or [www.hrm.org](http://www.hrm.org). The museum is open seven days a week through Nov. 18 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

*Chamber Mixers are a great way to network and promote your business. Be sure to bring plenty of business cards.*



This free networking event is open to Chamber members and prospective members. Reservations are a must and can be made by calling the Chamber office at (845) 338-5100 or by registering online at [www.UlsterChamber.org](http://www.UlsterChamber.org).

# Mixer

Tuesday, Sept. 24, 5-7 pm

Hudson River

Maritime Museum

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Noble earned a degree in environmental science from the State University of New York College of Environmental Science in 2004.

Rua, 65, an entrepreneur and 1971 Kingston High School grad, said he remembers when Kingston had a robust population.

I knew Kingston when it flourished and I believe we can return to those job and population levels if we have the right leadership and vision, he said. Kingston needs a seasoned, business professional to guide it. I am the only candidate with the accounting, business growth and consensus-building skill sets to do this.

Rua began his career as a certified public accountant at Coopers & Lybrand, one of the largest CPA firms in the world, and was later a CEO of several mid-sized companies, including Christopher's Customer Clothing.

"Today, I am the exclusive designer of custom clothing for the Final Four Coaches Club and assist business leaders throughout the Hudson Valley with their wardrobe needs," he said.

His platform includes attracting new business by reducing property taxes and maintaining the city's infrastructure and streets "every year, not just election years."

"Kingston has experienced no real business growth in four years," he said.

Rua's platform also includes expanding youth programs launching a broad housing initiative called "Affordable +" that will provide affordable housing for veterans, the physically disabled and low-income; and "slowing down the bomb train that barrels through the center of Kingston."

*Chamber breakfast programs are a great way to network with other local business leaders and stay on top of current events. Pre-registration is strongly encouraged. For more information or to register, call the Chamber at (845) 338-5100 or go online at [UlsterChamber.org](http://UlsterChamber.org).*

## September Breakfast Sponsor

Continued from page 1

measures.

On August 18, Health Quest and Western Connecticut Health Network officially joined forces to create Nuance Health, an innovative health system comprised of seven hospitals across the Hudson Valley and western Connecticut.

Together, they create a network of more than 2,600 physicians serving 1.5 million people. Patients can expect greater access to a variety of top clinical specialists that provide quality and collaborative care close to home.

*To learn more about Nuance Health's services, visit [NuanceHealth.org](http://NuanceHealth.org).*

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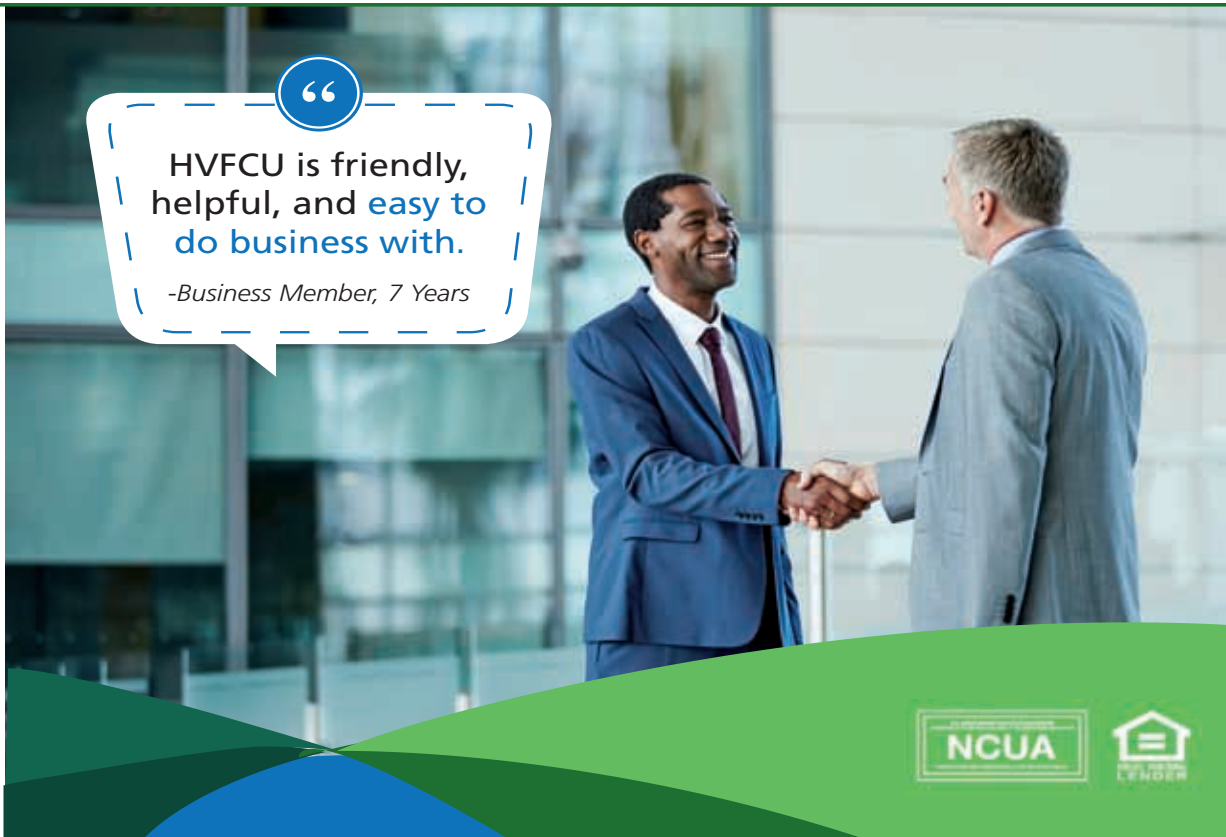
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# Community Products Keeps Growing

## “We Value Everybody’s Contribution”

Imagine a business where there are no “employees” and everyone in the company is on the same level, all working together for a higher purpose than making money.

That’s what you’ll find at Community Products, a company with two lines of business run by the Woodcrest Bruderhof Community in Rifton, New York.

Community Products, with about 100 workers across the two businesses, includes:

Community Playthings, which produces a line of educational equipment sold to daycares, nurseries, and schools. The products include blocks, easels, tricycles, tables and chairs, and other things to set up a childhood center. The business opened in 1948, moving to Rifton in 1954 when the Bruderhof community arrived there.

Rifton Equipment, which opened in 1977, two years after the passage of a federal law guaranteeing a public education to all children, regardless of ability. The Bruderhof began making special equipment for children with disabilities. “We started producing standers, walkers, chairs, and specialized equipment to service that age group,” says John Rhodes, the president of Community Products.

Community Products also established Community Manufacturing Solutions, a separate company which opened in the Kingston Business Park about a year ago. Rhodes de-

scribes the company as a “cut-and-sew operation” that supports Community Product’s two businesses. Unlike Community Playthings and Rifton Equipment whose workers are all volunteers and members of the Bruderhof, this company employs about fifteen people who are not members of the Bruderhof.

“We’ve done a lot of our own cut-and-sew work for years,” Rhodes says. “A lot of our products, especially for Rifton Equipment, require padding and straps. We were pretty much running out of capacity and domestically-sewn product is fairly expensive, so we always had the dream of starting a business in the local community.

“We’re very happy with how that’s going. It’s slowly expanding and totally managed by people outside of our community. We plan to keep growing and expanding that. Our organization donates a fair amount of goods and services into the local community, but it’s so much better to be able to provide employment under good working conditions and benefits and solid pay.”

While Community Playthings and Rifton Equipment are run by the Bruderhof – a group of devout Christians who live in community – Rhodes says they’re not that much different from any other company. They still have to do market research, design products for which there is a need, and make a profit.

“The difference perhaps between

and other businesses is context,” Rhodes says. “Our business is imbedded in our religious community. We don’t have employees. All the people who work here are members of the Bruderhof. They make a lifetime commitment to the organization.”

For example, on the production floor, there is no employer-employee relationship. Everyone is equal and “working for the Lord” (Colossians 3:23).

“The relationships are not defined by money or by status or by position,” Rhodes explains. “Everyone has the same value. Because nobody’s drawing a salary, we don’t have to view a supervisor having a higher or more important position than someone who is putting in a screw. We value everybody’s contribution.”

Rhodes says that the Bruderhof also finds work for the infirm, the elderly, and those with disabilities. “Being able to work keeps people going,” he reasons. “For us, we really don’t have any retirement. We could retire our people if we wanted to, but they love to work. It’s all about service. All of our money is pooled so nobody is working to get ahead of the other. There is no corporate ladder to climb. Everyone works in the area they’re assigned and it’s like one big happy family.”

When it comes to being a member of the Chamber, the Bruderhof sees it as being part of the community. The Chamber has honored the Bruderhof in the past for its commitment to Ulster County.

“We don’t like to isolate ourselves,” Rhodes says. “We



feel we are part of the local community, and being part of the Chamber also helps us connect with people and know what the needs are and to find ways to mutually support one another.

“We live in this community and we feel like we need to give back. That’s just part of who we are. We’re not out to make a lot of money. That’s why we have only our own people here. It kind of puts a governor on our growth. We’re not just here to make money, but if our business does well,

why shouldn’t the local community benefit as well? It isn’t just about us.

“We love the local community. We enjoy where we’re at, we enjoy the people we live with and it just means a lot to us to work together. We’ve been in this community for 60 years and we want to see it flourish and thrive.”

*Community Products, located at 103 Woodcrest Drive in Rifton, can be reached at (845) 658-8351 or [www.communityproducts.com](http://www.communityproducts.com).*

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**OUR YOUNG ULSTER PROFESSIONALS**

*Shine*



This month's YUP spotlight focuses on lifelong Ulster County resident and entrepreneur, Stephen Kennedy. Stephen is the owner of Turn up the Beet Smoothie & Juice Bar in Kingston. Turn Up the Beet started a couple of years ago when Stephen decided to adopt a healthier lifestyle. He wanted to incorporate more fresh fruits and vegetables into his diet and the easiest way to do this was through smoothies. Word of his delicious smoothies spread and within a few months Stephen realized he could turn this hobby into a career.

When I asked Stephen what advice he would give to other entrepreneurs in this area he said "Community is everything. If you dedicate yourself to your city we will have your back." Stephen always takes time to support those who have made his business a success and participates in multiple volunteer projects which include the youth organization BARK (Beauty and Restore Kingston) and the YMCA Farm Project. In his spare time he enjoys biking and collaborating with other local musicians.

Lastly Stephen also wanted to say "I'm just super thankful for this past year and the community that we live in. We have such a heartbeat in Ulster County and I'm proud to be a part of it."

*Written By: Nicole Fuoco*

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**Kingston, NY 12401**  
www.frontstreetkingston.com  
**Mark Guido** - CEO  
Category: Restaurants  
Description: *Kingston's newest Uptown restaurant and bar. It's a gathering space to enjoy your favorite comfort food made with the Hudson Valley's freshest ingredients. Come together. Socialize. Recharge with family, friends, and neighbors. Don't miss our incredible Outdoor Rooftop Bar, Lounge and Dining Area.*

## MORNING COFFEE CREATIVE

101 Hurley Ave., Suite 206  
**Kingston, NY 12401**  
www.morningcoffeecreative.com  
**Steve Martinek** - CEO  
Category: Marketing  
Description: *Creative Social Media Marketing Agency handling all aspects of digital from content creation to web and advertising.*

## PMC SUPPLIES

101 Katrine Lane  
**Lake Katrine, NY 12449**  
www.pmcsupplies.com  
**Ryan Lee** - President  
Categories: Artist Supplies & Materials; Industrial Supplies; Wholesale  
Description: *PMC Supplies offers a one-stop shopping experience where you can find exactly what you are looking for, all in one place. Whether you're looking for jewelry tools, casting supplies, or findings and metals, we have quality supplies at great prices. You can easily turn your jewelry making or metal casting hobby into a profitable business venture. We offer an extensive selection of jewelry tools and supplies as well as an extensive line of findings, storage and displays, stringing materials, plus metals and beads for your jewelry making projects.*

## 850 RT. 28 LLC

850 Rt. 28  
**Kingston, NY 12401**  
www.850Route28.com  
**Jamie Sanchez** - Secretary  
Category: Steel & Metal Distrib./Fabricators  
Description: *Bridge Beam Fabrication for private and municipal bridges. Your choice of steel or pre-stressed concrete.*

## STELLA BELLA SALON AND BEAUTY SUPPLY

32 Broadway  
**Kingston, NY 12401**  
www.StellaBellaHairSalon.net  
**Johnah Incardona** - Owner  
Categories: Beauty Salons/Barber Shops; Beauty Products  
Description: *Hair and Beauty salon as well as beauty supply store including selling and distributing popular hair and beauty products. Also nails, lashes and eyebrows, supplies and products, and many more for the general public.*

## TRENDSHIP

101 Hurley Ave., Suite 206  
**Kingston, NY 12401**  
www.Trendship.com  
**Steve Martinek** - CEO  
Categories: Digital Advertising; Marketing  
Description: *Our team is from the hustle and bustle of NYC's Marketing, PR and Advertising world. We genuinely know the internal struggles from both a brand and influencers perspective, since our founders are comprised of both! This allowed us to master what each side is looking for in a collaboration, and helps us to perfect Trendship every day. Our rapid growth has allowed us to expand our team, and even open a new headquarters in Upstate New York. We are full steam ahead, working with thousands of awesome brands and influencers to make our marketplace the go-to spot for collaborations.*

## VIBRANT VITALITY

200 DeWitt Mills Road  
**Hurley, NY 12443**  
www.pws.shaklee.com/vibrant-vitality  
**Laura Penfold** - Vibrant Vitality  
Category: Health & Wellness  
Description: *As a Shaklee independent distributor, I am committed to Shaklee's mission to create a healthier life for everyone and a better life for anyone. Everyone should live a more vital and vibrant life and "live younger longer," feeling healthier and more energized every day. Shaklee products go beyond organic, confirming the purity & potency of ingredients after harvest to guarantee that they are free of hundreds of chemical contaminants. We cover all the bases: offering nutritional supplements for all ages, as well as products for healthy weight (including weight loss), beauty, sports & home.*

## WOODHOUSE WEALTH MANAGEMENT

10 Westbrook Lane, Suite 2, 1st Floor  
**Kingston, NY 12401**  
www.woodhousewm.com  
**Stephen Wood** - President & Financial Consultant  
Categories: Financial Services; Consultants - Financial & Bus. Mgt.  
Description: *I work with high net individuals and businesses to develop investment portfolios to meet their needs. Our first step is to make a written financial plan outlining net worth, family needs and goals, as well as their desired results. Regular quarterly follow-ups are a service we provide to review clients goals and needs.*

# These Members Have Renewed

A & D Pumps  
 Albany Med EmUrgentCare  
 Armadillo Bar & Grill  
 Arts Society of Kingston  
 Boitson's Restaurant  
 Brand Riffs Inc.  
 C2G Environmental Consultants, LLC  
 Collision Research Ltd.  
 County Waste & Recycling  
 Crafts People  
 Cutting Edge Spray Foam Services, Inc.  
 Eugene R. Gruner, NYS Lic. R.E.  
 Appraiser  
 Frost Valley YMCA  
 GCSEN Foundation  
 Gene DeStefano, DDS  
 Goosetown Communications  
 Hannaford Supermarket #8444  
 Woodstock  
 Hill and Markes  
 Hotel Dylan  
 Hudson Valley Sunrooms  
 Hunter Mountain  
 Independent Living, Inc.  
 Information Mine, Inc.  
 J & A Roofing Co., Inc.  
 Kingston City School District  
 Kingston Housing Authority  
 LHV Precast Inc.

Loj Architecture and Building Science  
 LTC Planning Group of NY  
 Marist College (Office of the President)  
 Marshall & Sterling Insurance  
 Mid Hudson Plastic Surgery Center  
 Mid-Hudson Photo ID  
 Modern Shacks  
 Mountain Valley Manor Adult Care Home  
 Newburgh/NYC North KOA  
 Next Boutique  
 People's Place  
 Perfect Flow Inc.  
 Rainbow Drive-In  
 Ryan, Roach & Ryan, LLP  
 Safeco Alarm Systems, Inc.  
 Sawyer Savings Bank  
 Stainless Steel Welding Service  
 StoneRidge Electrical Service, Inc.  
 The Arc Mid-Hudson  
 Tobacco Free Action Communities in  
 Ulster, Dutchess & Sullivan  
 Ulster County Italian American Foundation  
 Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency  
 Valley National Bank Home Mortgage  
 Wallkill Central School District  
 Walters-Storyk Design Group (WSDG)  
 Woodland Pond at New Paltz  
 Woodstock Chimes

## Anniversaries:

### 65 Years

Kingston Overhead Door

### 50 Years

Kingston City School District

### 30 Years

Kingston Housing Authority

### 25 Years

Mother Earth's Storehouse, Inc.  
 Skydive The Ranch

### 20 Years

Walmart

### 10 Years

Patty Conti Realty Group LLC

### 5 Years

Galileo Technology Group  
 Ulster Gastroenterology

### 1 Year

Critterex LLC  
 Earl B. Feiden Appliance  
 GCSEN Foundation  
 Hill and Markes  
 Independent Living, Inc.  
 Lockwood Architecture, PLLC

Markertek  
 Modern Shacks

Rounds & Rounds, Attorneys at Law, LLP  
 Unwind Boutique Nail Spa

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2019 AWARD RECIPIENTS



Business Person of the Year  
**MICHAEL BERNHOLZ**  
**PINE RIDGE DUDE RANCH • HUDSON VALLEY APPRAISAL CORP.**

Business of the Year  
**TRAILWAYS**  
**PINE HILL • ADIRONDACK • NEW YORK**

Small Business of the Year  
**BAILEY POTTERY EQUIPMENT**  
 Emerging Young Leader  
**CHRISTOPHER BOWERS ~ THE REIS GROUP**

Tourism Business of the Year  
**SENATE GARAGE**  
 Commitment to the Community Award  
**ULSTER LITERACY ASSOCIATION**

The Heritage Award  
**THE SAVONA FAMILY**  
 Len Cane Heart of Ulster County Award  
**TONY MARMO ~ NORMANN STAFFING**

**BUSINESS RECOGNITION AWARDS DINNER**  
**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2019**  
 5:30 pm Cocktails | 6:30 pm Dinner



Reserve Your Tickets Today! • Sponsorships Available  
 Call the Chamber Office at 845.338.5100

# Mixer



August Mixer  
Sponsor



**August 15, 2019**  
**Greig Farm**  
227 Pitcher Lane  
Red Hook, NY



Our Mixer Host, Greig Farm in Red Hook, with owner Norman Greig (center).



Our Mixer Host with our Mixer Sponsor, WineRacks.Com including Norman Greig (Greig Farm), Stephanie Walter-Serrette, Jackie De Vuyst and Michael Babcock (WineRacks.com) and Bob Poremba (Green Heat).



Nicole Fuoco (Jordan Trading, YUP) with Stacey Rein (United Way of Ulster County), David Gagnon (Chamber Board Chair) and Travis Rask (both with Gagnon & Associates CPAs).



Lisa Mielich, Lisa Ross, Rachel Pape and Karen J. McElrath (all with Emery & Webb, Inc.)



Denise and Alex Stier (Home Plate Deli & Caterers, Olive's Country Store) with Amy Wu (Hudson Valley Farm Hub) and Chris Stala (Morgan Stanley Wealth Management).



Jay Levine (Ulster Literacy) with Christine Ungaro and Sara Balogh (both with Normann Staffing).