

NEWSLINE



A BUSINESS PUBLICATION OF THE **Fulton**  **Montgomery**
REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

January 2020

Chamber ‘Cheers to Business’ Event To Honor Local Companies, Organizations and Individuals

By Jessica Ford
Newsline Editor

The Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce will honor 8 businesses, individuals and organizations during its annual event “Cheers to Business! — A Celebration of Business, Collaboration and Progress,” set for Friday, January 17.

The event, called “the region’s premier celebration of business, collaboration and progress” by the Chamber, will be held at the Paul Nigra Center for Creative Arts, 2736 NY-30, Gloversville from 5:30 to 9 p.m. All members of the community and Chamber are invited, and proceeds will support the Chamber’s mission of improving the region’s business climate, economy and quality of life. Tickets are \$75.

Guests at the event will enjoy cocktails, entertainment, hors d’oeuvres, cuisine stations, dessert, and fundraising raffles.

Sponsors to date include



FULTON MONTGOMERY REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
ANNUAL CELEBRATION • JANUARY 17, 2020

Presenting Sponsor Bouchey & Clarke Benefits, Inc.; Silver Sponsor St. Mary’s Healthcare; Dessert Sponsors National Grid, Brown’s Ford and Collision Center; Music Sponsors Betz, Rossi, Bellinger & Stewart Funeral Homes,

Alpin Haus, Nathan Littauer Hospital and Benjamin Moore; Media Sponsors *The Leader-Herald*, *The Recorder*; Cuisine Sponsors Jankowski Insurance Agency, Inc. (2 sponsorships), Steet Toyota of Johnstown and GPO Federal Credit Union; and Supporting Sponsors Pineview Commons Assisted Living Community and FMS Workforce Development Board, Inc.

Businesses who are interested in sponsoring the celebration are welcome. A list of sponsor benefits is available from the Chamber.

Awardees were nominated by Chamber members, and

chosen by committee. They include:

Small Business Award – Ruggiero Realty LLC

Ruggiero Realty LLC broker/owner Lana Ruggiero is a Fulton County native, and lifelong resident of Gloversville. She is a graduate of Gloversville High School, and State University of New York at Canton with a degree in accounting. Ruggiero’s website notes she is “married to another local, Michael, and we have raised three wonderful children, who still call Gloversville home.”

She said she is “devoted to my family, community and

profession.”

Ruggiero represents clients in the purchase and sale of single-family residences, multi-units, vacant land, commercial and recreational property within Fulton, Montgomery, Saratoga and Hamilton Counties. She is a GRI® Graduate, REALTOR® Institute; an Accredited Staging Professional and has been honored as “Top Producing Agent” in Fulton County, and “REALTOR of the Year” for 2011/2012. She is active in the community and in business organizations, and served as treasurer of the Fulton County Board of REALTORS; a member of the Fulton County Regional Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors; president of the Gloversville Women’s Alumni Club; and member of the Gloversville Economic Development Corporation, National Association of REALTORS and New York State Association of REALTORS.

Centennial Business Award – Century Linen

Century Linen & Uniform is a legacy company headquartered in Fulton County since 1915. The company

See Cheers,
on page 3

PERMIT NO.30
AMSTERDAM, NY
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PRSR STD



Mangino

CHEVROLET  **BUICK**  **GMC**

MANGINO CHEVROLET
4477 NEW YORK 30, AMSTERDAM, NY 12010
SALES: (518) 770-1220 | SERVICE: (518) 770-1223
WWW.MANGINOCHEVY.COM

MANGINO BUICK GMC
1484 SARATOGO ROAD, BALLSTON SPA, NY 12020
SALES: (518) 490-1275 | SERVICE: (518) 490-1273
WWW.MANGINOBUICKGMC.COM



We are the leading voice of business in the region providing advocacy, resources and solutions for our members.

Newsline is published by the Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce in partnership with **McClary Media/The Recorder**

Officers 2019

<u>Chair of the Board</u>	James Landrio , Holiday Inn Johnstown-Gloversville
<u>Chair Elect</u>	Denis Wilson , Fulmont Community Action Agency
<u>Immediate Past Chair</u>	Amy Karas , Ruby & Quiri, Inc.
<u>First Vice Chair</u>	Dustin Swanger, Ed.D. , Fulton-Montgomery Community College
<u>Secretary</u>	Carl Marucci , Community Bank, N.A.
<u>Treasurer</u>	Laurence Kelly , Nathan Littauer Hospital & Nursing Home

Directors 2019

Juanita Handy, Crum Creek CSA
Amy McCray, CG Roxane, LLC
Joe Galea, JAG Manufacturing
James Jankowski, Jankowski Insurance Agency
Lillian Johnson, HTCP, Healing Touch Practitioner
Wes Ostrander, Randall Implements
Robin Wentworth, Wells Nursing Home
Marty Callahan, Helmont Mills-Gehring Industries
Trevor Evans, *The Leader-Herald*
Lorraine Hohenforst, HFM Boces
Rosalie Faber, Flooring Authority
William Keller, Keymark Corp.

Staff

Mark Kilmer, President/CEO

Becky Dutcher, Financial Administrator/Office Manager
Anne M. Boles, Director of Tourism Development
Tara Ryzek, Tourism Associate
Nicole Walrath, Director of Workforce Development
Jenna Patterson, Business and Education Partnership Coordinator
Nicole Tennant, Executive Assistant

Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce
 2 N. Main Street, Gloversville, NY 12078
 1166 Riverfront Center, Amsterdam, NY 12010
 (518) 725-0641 | (518) 725-0643 (fax)
www.fultonmontgomeryny.org
 Facebook: FMChamberNY | Instagram

Fulton County Tourism

www.44lakes.com | Facebook: Visit Fulton County, NY
 Twitter: @SeeFultonCounty

Montgomery County Tourism

www.visitmontgomerycountyny.com
 Facebook: Visit Montgomery County NY
 Twitter: @MCNYTourism

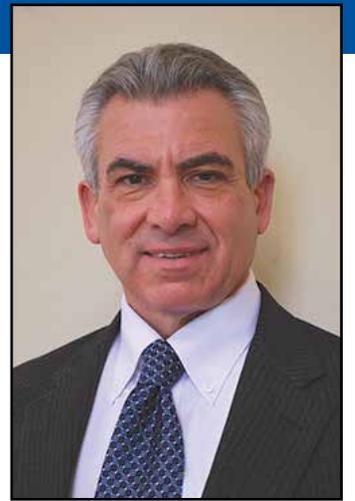
Letter from the President

This month I want to take the opportunity to express my great appreciation to all our members for their support, and their belief in the Chamber and its mission.

I additionally would like to express my gratitude to the many of you that have taken the time to sit on committees, attend our functions and events, or volunteered at one of our major events, such as the golf tournament. I also want to thank those many businesses who support the Chamber through gracious sponsorships, advertising and other forms of financial support. Without this assistance it would be difficult to accomplish our mission of supporting our region's economic development and business advocacy efforts.

I also want to acknowledge the Chamber staff for going above and beyond in doing their part in achieving the many successes of the past year with their professionalism, hard work and dedication to the Chamber mission.

But most of all, it's our membership, the life blood of the Chamber, that make it all possible. Without your annual support and faith, our program of work would not be achievable. To all of you, from all members of the team at the Chamber, many thanks and best wishes for a successful and prosperous 2020!



Mark Kilmer
President/CEO

To advertise in

Fulton  Montgomery **Newsline**
 REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

contact Mary Anne Semkiw, *McClary Media*,
(518) 843-1100 ext. 120
rec.ads@McClaryMedia.com

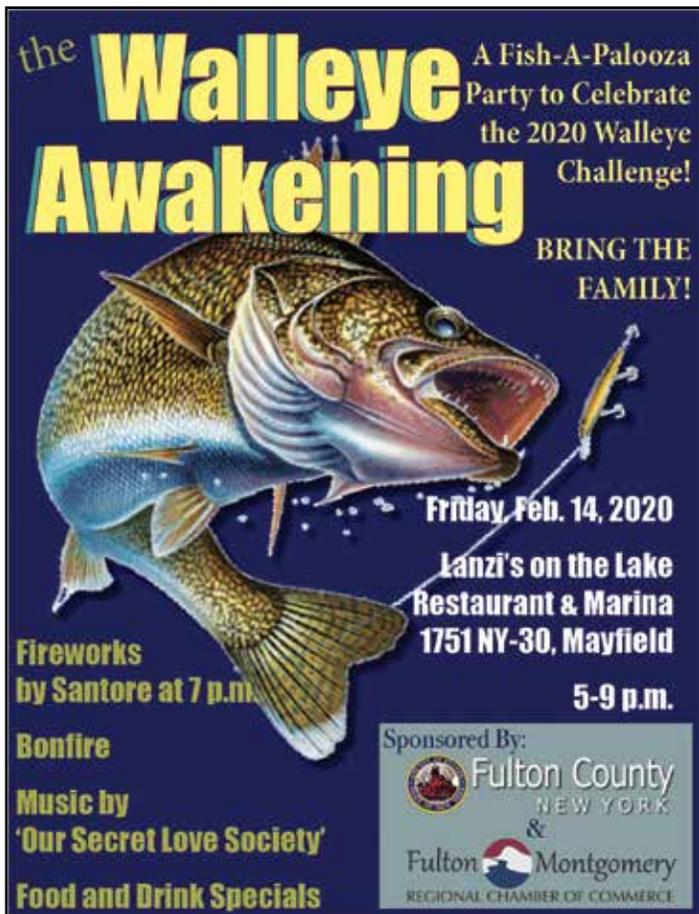
Fulton  Montgomery
 REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**2 North Main Street,
 Gloversville, New York 12078**
 (518) 725-0641 • fax (518) 725-0643
**1166 Riverfront Center,
 Amsterdam, New York 12010**
 (518) 725-0641 • fax (518) 684-0111
 E-mail: info@fultonmontgomeryny.org
 Website: www.fultonmontgomeryny.org

Member of

American Chamber of Commerce Executives Association
 Business Council of New York State
 Center For Economic Growth
 Chamber Alliance of New York State
 Fulton County Center for Regional Growth
 Fulton County Farm Bureau
 Montgomery County Farm Bureau
 New York State Farm Bureau

Fireworks, Party Event Set to 'Awaken the Walleye' Before Fishing Contest



The 2020 Walleye Challenge ice fishing contest, set for Saturday, Feb. 15 on the Great Sacandaga Lake, was sold out in just one week, with 1,700 entrants expected to vie for prizes for the biggest Walleye.

In addition to the Challenge, a new and exciting event, hosted by Fulton County and the Fulton County Tourism Department, is scheduled for the night before the start of the contest, on Friday, February 14.

Contestants, their families, and members of the public are invited to the "Walleye Awakening," a fun, FISH-A-PALOOZA, and family-oriented event, starting at 5 p.m. at Lanzi's on the Lake Restaurant & Marina, 1751 NY-30, Mayfield.

The party will feature a bonfire, food specials, and fireworks at 7 p.m. by Santore Firework Company. "Our Secret Love Society," a popular local band, will play outside from 5-9 p.m. The group performs a modern mix of classic rock, folk rock, and dance.

Be on the lookout for information available on The Fulton Montgomery Chamber tourism websites, facebook pages, and flyers around town.

Participants of the Walleye Challenge will receive information about the event in their tag pick-up packet, which will be available at Fuel-n-Food, 3006 State NY 30, on Monday, January 6.

For more information, contact the Fulton Montgomery Tourism Department at the Chamber, (518) 725-0641.

Cheers, continued from page 1

was founded in Gloversville as Robison & Smith, and the name was changed in 2015 to mark a new era for the "next 100 years" of the company.

Earlier this year, CEO Richard Smith welcomed well-wishers, legislators, community leaders and Chamber members to a ribbon-cutting, grand opening and tour at its technologically advanced healthcare laundry facility site, on Balzano Drive in the Crossroads Industrial Park, in Johnstown.

Smith stood with the employees of the facility to cut the ribbon for the site, which was the culmination of almost 6 years of work searching for and building out the right location to accommodate the needs of the state-of-the-art equipment housed there.

Century provides healthcare linens and garments to acute healthcare facilities, surgery centers, nursing homes, assisted living centers, doctors offices and other businesses throughout New York State and western

Massachusetts, 7 days per week, 365 days per year. Current capacity in the new site is 500,000 pounds of laundry weekly, and that is expected to double to a million pounds per week in the future. Among hundreds of customers are the Capital District's St. Peter's Hospital – St. Peter's Health Partners; Ellis Medicine / Bellevue Women's Center; along with St. Mary's Healthcare in Amsterdam; and Nathan Littauer Hospital in Gloversville.

See Century, on page 4

Fulton Montgomery

REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Official Meeting Notice

Annual Meeting of the Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce
Friday, January 17, 2020, 6:30 pm

Paul Nigra Center for Creative Arts, 2736 State Highway 30, Gloversville, NY

If you are unable to attend the meeting, please vote and return this ballot to the Chamber by close of business on Wednesday, January 15, 2020. THANK YOU!

Officers Nominated for 2020

Chair	Denis Wilson	Fulmont Community Action Agency
Chair-Elect	Lorraine Hohenforest	HFM Boces
Immediate Past Chair	James Landrio	Holiday Inn Johnstown-Gloversville
First Vice Chair	Carl Marucci	Community Bank
Secretary	Laurence Kelly	Nathan Littauer Hospital & Nursing Home
Treasurer	Trevor Evans	Leader Herald

Existing Directors

		Term Expires
Joe Galea	JAG Manufacturing	January 2021
James Jankowski	Jankowski Insurance Agency	January 2021
Lillian Johnson, HTCP	Healing Touch Practitioner	January 2021
Wes Ostrander	Randall Implements	January 2021
Robin Wentworth	Wells Nursing Home	January 2021
Juanita Handy	Crum Creek CSA	January 2022
Amy McCray	C.G. Roxane	January 2022
Marty Callahan	Helmont Mills-Gehring Industries	January 2022
Rosalie Faber	Flooring Authority	January 2022
William Keller	Keymark Corp.	January 2022

New Directors

		Term Expires
Greg Truckenmiller	Fulton Montgomery Community College	January 2023
Scott Bruce	St. Mary's Healthcare	January 2023
Elizabeth Bridge	Liberty Industries	January 2023

Write-In Candidates: _____

____ Yes, I accept the slate of officers and board nominations as presented.

____ No, I do not accept the slate of officers and board nominations as presented.

Signature: _____ Company: _____

Print Name: _____ Date: _____

If you are unable to attend the meeting, you may submit your proxy by signing and returning this form by January 15, 2020.

One vote per Chamber member in good standing. Absence of response will be considered an approval.

Email to info@fultonmontgomeryny.org; fax to (518) 725-0643 or mail to 2 N. Main St., Gloversville, NY 12078

Visit the Chamber online:

Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce
www.fultonmontgomeryny.org • Facebook: FMChamberNY • Instagram

Fulton County Tourism
www.44lakes.com • Facebook: Visit Fulton County, NY • Twitter: @SeeFultonCounty

Montgomery County Tourism
www.visitmontgomerycountyny.com • Facebook: Visit Montgomery County NY
Twitter: @MCNYTourism

Century, continued from page 3

Smith said he was “thrilled” to be able to find a location for the new facility in Fulton County, as all of the company’s success has been realized here. He said best practices for Century’s success in this region have been “hard work, consistency with our business philosophy, focusing on our core values and having a properly trained and educated workforce.”

The company has three production facilities in Gloversville and Johnstown, with an additional location in Syracuse. A brochure created by Century states, “Century is proud to boast that this facility has pushed us over 400 total team members, ultimately contributing over an estimated \$25 million to our local communities.”

Barbara V. Spraker Tourism Partner Award – Crystal Grove Diamond Mine & Campground

How often is any inhabitant of this planet Earth able

say that they are the very first to hold an object that was created 500 million years ago? At Crystal Grove Diamond Mine and Campground in Montgomery County, it happens just about every day.

Visitors to Crystal Grove, located at 161 County Rd. 114 in St. Johnsville, are often mineral collectors, who spend time at the site sifting or mining for “Herkimer Diamonds.” Each year thousands of enthusiasts come from all over the world to find their own gems for their collections. These guests also include campers, who crave the spacious and quiet upstate setting, that is dotted with hardwood trees and traversed by the bubbling Timmerman Creek.

Billie Jo and Joel Davis are on-site managers for both the Crystal Grove campsite and mines. The couple was asked to manage the property by their dear friend, owner Marion “Bessie” Bartlett, who passed away in January, 2018. The site is now owned by Bartlett’s children, son Christopher

Evans, who is active in managing the business, and daughter Madigan Evans Rollins.

The “diamonds,” (that are not actually diamonds, but quartz crystals) are only found throughout Herkimer County and the Mohawk Valley. They are precious to collectors worldwide for their unique properties and beauty. There are just a handful of mines in the region open to the public for digging.

In addition to camping and mining, a full schedule of events and activities are held at Crystal Grove each season, and the Davis’s also organize the Herkimer Diamond Gem Show & Festival, set for its sixth year in 2020. The show’s exposes collectors and the public to the Herkimer Diamond, and allows local miners and vendors to sell their wares in this area. The show welcomes between 3,000 and 4,000 people each year.

Billie Jo, Joel and the Evans’ are working toward expanding the reach of the campground and mines, which are open mid-April to mid-October. Joel said people camp there and love it, “because we are a quiet and rustic campground, that still has an old-style camping feel to it.” “By the end of their visit, we know all the guests’ names,” he said.

Thomas B. Constantino Entrepreneurial Award – Glove Cities Veterinary Hospital

Glove Cities Veterinary Hospital is known in the region for offering the very highest standards of care in the industry, and also for its kind and professional staff.

The practice, led by Dr. Mark Will, is an AAHA-accredited veterinary hospital, and is evaluated on nearly 900 rigorous veterinary standards of care by the American Animal Hospital Association. Only 12-15 percent of veterinary hospitals across the U.S. and Canada have earned this designation. Over the past decade, Dr. Will has expanded the practice to include the services of four additional veterinarians; and the hospital currently employs 8 licensed veterinary technicians, and two

client service representatives.

The practice was established in 1939 by Dr. Mark “Doc” Crandall in Gloversville as a mixed animal practice. Dr. Crandall moved the practice to Steele Avenue Extension in Gloversville in 1963 and retired in 1977. Dr. Joseph Bryan ran the practice from 1977 to 1999 as a small animal practice. Dr. Will has been the owner since 1999, and in 2007 moved the practice to its current location on Harrison Street in Gloversville, that features state-of-the-art equipment in a comfortable setting.

Extensive services available to pets including an in-house laboratory; digital x-ray equipment; a progressive dental care program; advanced anesthesia & anesthetic monitoring; ultrasound services; surgical procedures include all types of soft tissue and most orthopedic surgical services; therapy laser treatments; individualized weight management programs; and an intensive care unit for patients who need to stay in the Hospital.

The practice’s mission is “to promote responsible pet ownership, to communicate compassionately as we educate our clients, and to nurture a longer, more comfortable, and better quality of life for our patients.”

Glove Cities Veterinary Hospital is conscious of the plight of animals in the region, and each year conducts a Shelter Supply Drive to support the local shelter pets who have yet to find their “forever homes.”

Young Professional of the Year Award – Kelly Montanye

Kelly Montanye is Manager of Community Outreach & Volunteer Services at Mountain Valley Hospice in Gloversville. In one of two nominations received for the award, it was said that Montanye has rebuilt a volunteer program for Mountain Valley Hospice from 7 members to more than 32 in less than one year. She orchestrates the details of public events for MV Hospice, and manages communications and marketing for the organization.

Montanye said, “I have a commitment to this community. I received a great education

here, and I want to continue to give back. I’d love to have other young people see that there are great careers here and excellent opportunities.”

Montanye received her Bachelor’s Degree in Business Administration with high honors from University at Albany, and is expects to complete a Master’s Degree program in business and marketing education from SUNY Oswego, in the spring.

She has served as a mentor for at-risk youth enrolled in HFM PTECH; developed an annual fundraising campaign for the NYS Children’s Foundation; been a Relay For Life captain; and served as a Fulton County Habitat For Humanity Board Member.

Other professional roles she has held include time as a Strategic Partnership Coordinator for the Tourism Department of the Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber; as a human resources generalist at Rivers Casino and Resort; and as a substitute teacher in the region.

Montanye is a resident of Mayfield.

Agricultural Business of the Year – Creek’s Edge Elk Farm & Crum Creek CSA

Offering the broader community a wide selection of locally-raised, high quality, healthy meats is the goal of two small family farms that have collaborated to create Creek’s Edge Elk Farm and Crum Creek CSA in St. Johnsville.

The farms, owned by husband and wife team Israel and Stacy Handy of Handy Hills Farm; and Susan Keith of Creek’s Edge, work together to offer local meats, “because not everyone is able to raise a steer or pig in their backyard.”

The collaborative’s website explains, “as farmers we don’t need to worry about what is in our meat or how our animals were raised, or what they were fed. We are blessed to be able to raise our own animals for meat, with the strong belief that healthy, well-cared for animals produce healthy, great tasting meat ... we would like

**See Agricultural,
on page 5**



**Great Rates...
and Now 3 Great
Locations**

Main Office:
355 Hales Mills Rd., Gloversville
518-725-3191

Branch Office:
Inside Gloversville WalMart Supercenter
518-725-4413

Branch Office:
3677 State Highway 30, Broadalbin
(Next to Subway)
518-883-7156


www.fcfinancialcu.org


Become a member today!

Agricultural, continued from page 4

to pass on the peace of mind and security that we enjoy, in short we would like to farm for you.”

Creek’s Edge Elk Farm, a mother/daughter operation, was founded in 2004 by Susan Keith and Stacy Handy. After spending a year researching, they fenced off a corner of the dairy farm Susan runs with her husband, and purchased eight elk from a farm in Buffalo, NY. They invested in a handling facility and proceeded to build more pasture until they had 29 acres under fence.

In 2005 they began selling retail cuts of elk meat at the on-farm store and at several farmer’s markets. They said, “As we marketed our meat and learned about our customers, we began to see that there was a real desire for healthy, locally raised meat.”

Elk, a naturally low-fat meat. Is sold in individual cuts by the pound at the on-farm store. They also raise and sell beef, pork, chicken, and eggs, and the store also offers other items including in-season produce. Customers are spread throughout Montgomery and Fulton counties, as well as the Little Falls, Cooperstown and Cherry Valley areas. A selection of meat is also available at the Mohawk Harvest Co-op store in Gloversville.

Crum Creek CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) was begun when Handy and her husband Israel began selling beef in 2007 to friends and relatives, and soon word spread that there was a place to buy quality beef besides the grocery store. CSA is a production and marketing model whereby consumers buy shares of a farm’s harvest in advance. The website states, “Slowly the idea began to form in our minds that we could expand and offer our customers more choice.” They offer a variety of economical options such as 6 month shares, 20 lb. bundles and bulk orders.

Edward L. Wilkinson Industry of the Year – Townsend Leather

For Townsend Leather Co., Inc. in Johnstown, a focus on “leather, luxury and design,” gives the 50-year old

family company the ability to count VIPs, heads-of-state and elite “who’s who’s” among their loyal customers.

Setting the corporation’s sights unflinchingly toward the best of the best, today’s third generation Townsend leaders keep a weather-eye on trends in industry and design, but rely on knowledge from the past to push the company’s growth and evolution. The company employs more than 160 “partners” in the area, and around the globe.

Townsend, the company founded in 1969 by Albert “Red” Kucel, along with his wife Dorothy and their children, can boast today that it is the center of the universe for ultra high-quality finished leather. Their products are the choice of designers for a wide range of residential, hospitality/hotel and corporate applications including jet interiors, as well as for luxury motor coaches, show cars and yachts. More than 1,000 colors, textures, and qualities are available, and more innovations are made each year.

Amongst their competition, Townsend is one of the few that manages the manufacturing process from beginning to end. Recent high-profile projects include upholstery leather throughout several hotels and restaurants around the world. Their luxury and VIP aircraft upholstery projects feature seat coverings in custom embossed patterns and colors for private jets, luxury aircraft, and private helicopters.

Townsend began in 1969 as Crescent Finishing, founded by Albert “Red” Kucel. Subsequent leaders include his son Terry Kucel, and many of today’s Townsend leaders are third-generation Kucel family members. Because Townsend maintains 50 years of institutional knowledge within its walls, the leaders are taking advantage of the opportunity to conjure their dream organization – a place where they can hire the best people, who can then feel free to create, innovate, and contribute to the success of the corporation.

The 128,000 square feet of space already utilized by the company in three build-

ings on Townsend Avenue, is complemented by the recent opening of a 62,000 square foot building on Grove Street in Johnstown. Called “The Stitch,” a refurbished 1900s knitting mill.

Chamber Family Award – The Wade Family – Dominic & Adi Wade

Dominic and Adi Wade, builders of Amsterdam’s new shopping plaza, Southside Square, have created a great selection of businesses near Route 5 corridor companies including Dollar General’s Distribution Center, Target Distribution, Alpin Haus, Hill and Markes and Beech Nut.

Located at 1451 State Highway 5S, the square includes Pleasant Cleaners, a franchised location of a Capital Region company; along with Southside Beverage, which offers over 1,000 varieties of craft, domestic, and import beer options with samples available each weekend, and an extensive line of specialty tobacco highlighted by a 50-cubic-foot cigar humidor.

The Wades established Bourbon Street Wine and Liquor, that boasts the largest inventory of bourbon, scotch, and whiskey in the area. The plaza also houses outside businesses including AAA Northway Travel Center, and Farmers Insurance Frank Casler Agency.

Perhaps the most frequent and colorful component of the square is DomAdi’s Deli.

Dominic and Adi combined their names to create the deli’s brand, and they have a passion for creating a “clean, inviting, family-friendly business.” The deli was named winner of the “Hottest Wings” category in the Amsterdam WingFest in 2019. Menu items are namesakes based on the family’s tastes.

DomAdi’s “pride themselves on serving only fresh, hand-prepped, never-frozen ingredients with homemade dressings and original flavor combinations and use only Boar’s Head meats and cheeses in their sandwiches.” Guests can choose between

See Family,
on page 6

Microenterprise Grant Training Sessions Start in January

The Fulton County Center for Regional growth will hold one of two annual training sessions for businesses that wish to apply for Microenterprise Grants for up to \$25,000.

Those invited include owners of a small business or those considering a start-up business. The Community Development Block Grant Microenterprise Grant Program is charged with assisting small businesses. The program was awarded to Fulton County, and is administered by the Fulton County Center for Regional Growth.

Small businesses can receive grants of up to \$25,000 to assist with startup or expansion costs, to help create jobs.

Participation in the Fulton County Center for Regional Growth (CRG) business training program will be required of all program participants, along with completion of CRG’s Small Business Training Program.

The cost is \$100 per attendee, and will be an eligible expense of Microenterprise Grant funds. The training program syllabus includes a general overview of business; accounting, taxes, and finance; marketing and e-commerce; and development of a business plan.

The next scheduled group of classes will be every Monday night from 6 -9 p.m. starting January 6 and ending January 27.

For details please contact Economic Development Specialist Kenneth Adamczyk at kena@fccrg.org or at (518) 725-7700 ext. 1002.

All training will be held at the FCCRG office at 34 West Fulton St., Gloversville.

bouchey
& clarke
BENEFITS, INC.



Call us today for Employee
Benefits and Health Care Solutions
that benefit you & your employees
518.720.8888



Offices in historic Downtown
Troy, Saratoga Springs &
Amsterdam

www.boucheyclarke.com

Family, continued from page 5

breakfast and lunch specials. Gluten free options, patio dining, online ordering, and delivery are available, as well as corporate and private catering, and a DomAdi's Food Truck for any private catered event.

In addition to the Chamber awards, the FMS Workforce Development Board will honor its Fulton and Montgomery counties Business Partners of the Year, CG Roxane of Johnstown and Dollar General Distribution Center of Amsterdam.

FMS Workforce Development Business of the Year – Montgomery County - Dollar General Distribution Center

The newly constructed Dollar General Distribution Center is located on Rt. 5S in Amsterdam. FMS Workforce Development officials said, "Throughout this year, the Dollar General DC team utilized the Amsterdam Career Center for recruiting and in-

terviewing their new workers. Elijah Braemer, Sr. Human Resource Manager, as well as all of DG's management and staff were truly great partners." The new state-of-the-art and highly-efficient DG Center was built to support their growing store network in New York and throughout the northeast.

Dollar General DC said the organization is "committed to conducting business in a way that promotes healthy families, thriving communities and a cleaner environment. At Dollar General, corporate responsibility is built into our mission of Serving Others."

Dollar General has made donations to community organizations, including \$5000 to the Workforce Career Center for use in updating the computers in the Resource Rooms for job seekers' use. They also made a donation to the United Way in Amsterdam supporting their mission.

FMS Workforce said, "The partnership with Dollar General DC is a new one but

has been extremely successful to date. In August, Dollar General held a hiring event on the first floor of the Riverfront Center where job seekers could meet their staff, explore the job opportunities they are offering, and learn about Dollar General. 534 individuals attended the event and 128 candidates utilized the Amsterdam Career Center to complete their online applications that day. With 200 employees to date, they are still recruiting for warehouse workers.

The FMS Workforce Career Centers look forward to a continuing partnership with Dollar General DC in workforce development. Congratulations to Elijah Braemer and his staff for their success!"

FMS Workforce Development Business of the Year – Fulton County – CG Roxane LLC

CG Roxane LLC opened in the summer of 2013 and began bottling and shipping "Crystal Geyser® Alpine Spring Water®" in a 176,757

square foot bottling plant located in Johnstown, NY. CG Roxane's state-of-the-art bottling operation is a welcome addition to the economic development of the Montgomery and Fulton County region.

San Francisco-based CG Roxane was founded in 1990 and exclusively markets and sells "spring water" bottled at the source under the Crystal Geyser Natural Alpine Spring Water brand. CG Roxane is majority owned and controlled by a family that has been bottling water and other beverages in Europe for over 50 years. In addition to the Johnstown bottling plant, CG Roxane owns and operates eight other water bottling plants located in Moultonborough, NH; Salem, SC; Benton, TN; Pasadena, TX; Orlando, FL; Norman, AR; Mt. Shasta, CA; and Olancho, CA. Additionally CG Roxane in 2019 was the first U.S. beverage company to open a recycled PET (rPET) plant in San Bernardino, CA. CG Roxane's new bottles will now be a minimum of 50% rPET, and will be 100% rPET soon, as we make it and we take it back, closing the sus-

tainability loop.

CG Roxane, LLC, Northeast Regional Human Resources Manager, Amy McCray, has been working with the Workforce Career Center staff in placing job seekers. Amy posts her facility's job openings with the Centers and has actively attended both recruitments and job fairs. FMS Workforce officials said, "Amy took the time to attend an information session at one of the local businesses that closed. From there, she met with and advised workers of possible job openings both within her facility and made suggestions to other job possibilities in the community, if the candidate's skillset was not aligned with CG Roxane's current job openings. We look forward to a continued partnership working with Amy McCray and CG Roxane."

For more information, or to sponsor or attend the Chamber's annual celebration, contact the Chamber by phone, (518) 725-0641; via email: info@fultonmontgomeryny.org; or visit www.fultonmontgomeryny.org.



INTEGRITY • VALUE • SERVICE

www.shultsagency.com

Our business insurance products are second to none!

- **Tailored Coverage.** Insurance packages designed for the unique needs of your industry.
- **Quality Service.** Caring for customer's needs is our top priority.
- **Competitive Rates.** We are partnered with top commercial carriers allowing us to provide you with the best package at the best price.

Contact us today to discuss insurance options for your business!

3 Canal Street, Fort Plain, NY
518-993-2387

M, TU, TH, F : 8-5
W : 8:30-6; Sat : 9-Noon

Want to reach almost
**3,000 BUSINESSES/
BUSINESS OWNERS**
every month?

This is the place, advertise in

Newsline

Fulton  Montgomery
REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

contact

Mary Anne Semkiw,

(518) 843-1100 ext. 120

rec.ads@mccclarymedia.com



Chamber Celebrates Rao Theatre Grand Opening

Dr. Govind and Mrs. Jhothi Rao, center, cut the ribbon to celebrate the grand opening of the newly renovated Rao Theater at Fulton-Montgomery Community College. The Raos were joined (L-R) by Assistant Professor of Theater Art Jason Radalin; Johnstown City Councilman Max Spritzer; Acting College President Dr. Greg Truckenmiller; Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce Board Chairman James Landrio; Chamber President/CEO Mark Kilmer; William Winsman; Chamber Board Member Lillian Johnson. FMCC Chief Advancement Officer and Executive Director of the Foundation Lesley Lanzi was also in attendance, along with chamber ambassadors, community supporters, business professionals, and others. Guests enjoyed delicious catered food, libations, and productive networking. FMCC officials said, "Thanks to the generosity of Dr. Govind Rao, FMCC's theater was renovated and transformed into a state-of-the-art production venue."







Make your home... Your Waiting Room.

ONLINE SCHEDULING
ST. MARY'S URGENT CARE SITES

For a more comfortable urgent care experience.

- 1 Log on
- 2 Select a convenient treatment time
- 3 Wait at home until your time to be seen.*

[Visit SMHA.org/InQuicker](http://SMHA.org/InQuicker)

ALL URGENT CARE SITES OPEN EVERY DAY 9AM - 7PM (Including Holidays)

URGENT CARE - AMSTERDAM	URGENT CARE - GLOVERSVILLE	URGENT CARE - ST. JOHNSVILLE
		
4950 State Hwy. 30 Amsterdam, NY 12010 (518) 841-3600	84 East State St. Gloversville, NY 12078 (518) 773-7710	7 Timmerman Ave. St. Johnsville, NY 13452 (518) 770-7818




*For patients with non life- or limb-threatening conditions.

RUBY&QUIRI 
makes it Easier on your business needs, too



**Great Selection
of Commercial Flooring**

Plus get Ruby Rewards to be used on
your personal furniture purchases!

Free Floor Measurement • Free Needs Analysis
Locally Owned & Operated

Contact Amy Karas at 518-365-0525 or akaras@randq.com

RUBY&QUIRI 307 North Comrie Ave.,
Johnstown, NY 12095
762-RUBY • www.RandQ.com

Everything's Just Easier at Ruby & Quiri

FURNITURE | MATTRESSES | APPLIANCES | FLOORING | AREA RUGS | DESIGN STUDIO | PEG'S BOUTIQUE

Health Insurance News

2020 Minimum Wage Rates Overview

Brought to
you by:

**bouchey
& clarke**
BENEFITS, INC.

The current federal minimum wage rate is \$7.25 per hour. However, many states have adopted minimum wage rates higher than the federal rate. When the state rate and the federal rate are different, employers must pay their employees the higher rate. The following states have announced new minimum wage rates for 2020: Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Florida, Illinois, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Oregon, South Dakota, Vermont and Washington.

The minimum wage rate in New York depends on the employer's size, industry and geographic location.

Affected employers should review their employees' pay rates and update their minimum wage poster notices as necessary to ensure compliance with local wage regulations.

A high-level summary of minimum wage rates for New York state, and important pro-

visions that regulate how these rates apply, is below:

NEW YORK:

2020 Rate: \$15 / \$13 / \$11.80 and \$10 / \$8.65 / \$7.85, with effective date of Dec. 31, 2019

Tip Rate / Notes: The minimum wage rate in New York varies by location and industry:

\$15 for employees in New York City; \$13.75 for fast food workers outside of New

York City; \$13 for employees in Nassau, Suffolk, Westchester counties (unless they are fast food workers); \$11.80 for employees outside of Nassau, Suffolk, Westchester counties and who are not fast food workers.

The minimum wage rate for tipped food service workers in New York also varies by location: \$10 in New York City; \$8.65 in Long Island and Westchester; \$7.85 in the rest of the state.

Visit the New York Department of Labor website for more minimum wage rate information.

Important Dates:

— December 31, 2019: New minimum wage rate in New York.

— January 1, 2020: New minimum wage rates in 18 states.

— July 1, 2020: New minimum wage rates in four states.

— September 1, 2020: New minimum wage rate in Connecticut.

Visitation Guidelines to Be Implemented at Area Hospitals to Combat Flu, Infectious Diseases

Visitation guidelines are in effect at several regional hospitals to help protect patients from influenza and other infectious diseases, following a declaration by the New York State Commissioner of Health that the flu is now prevalent in certain communities.

Hospitals implementing the restrictions include Albany Med; Columbia Memorial Health; Saratoga Hospital; St. Peter's Health Partners acute care hospitals including Albany Memorial Hospital, Samaritan Hospital, St. Mary's Hospital (Troy), St. Peter's Hospital, and Sunnyview Rehabilitation Hospital; St. Mary's Healthcare, Amsterdam; Nathan Littauer Hospital; and Glens Falls Hospital.

Restrictions Include:

— A maximum of two visitors will be permitted in a patient's room at any one time.

— Children 12 and under will be prohibited from visiting patients' rooms, as they are more likely to have and transmit respiratory infections.

— Visitors with rash, diarrhea or respiratory symptoms will be prohibited from vis-

iting patients. These symptoms include: fever, sore throat, cough, shortness of breath.

The hospitals also are urging all visitors to use hand-washing stations before entering and upon leaving a patient's room. Hand sanitizers are available at many hospital entrances and at many other locations throughout these hospitals, including the doorways of many patient rooms. Some hospitals have special care units or physical layouts which may have additional visitation restrictions or modifications.

Hospital officials advised that it is still important to get the flu vaccine, as it offers the best protection against other circulating strains and will reduce the likelihood of severe illness.

The same guidelines announced today were developed and temporarily implemented in previous years to address influenza outbreaks. These temporary restrictions are intended to help limit the transmission of the virus and protect the health and safety of patients and the professionals who provide their care during the outbreak.

**COLDWELL
BANKER** 
Arlene M. Sitterly, Inc. 

Your Real Estate PROFESSIONALS



**363 N. Comrie Ave.,
Johnstown, NY 12095
(518) 762-9885**

**4781 St. Hwy. 30,
Amsterdam, NY 12010
(518) 212-2503**

www.coldwellbankerams.com

CAPTAIN Community Human Services Expands to Fulton County



Chamber and community members gathered to celebrate CAPTAIN Community Human Services expansion into Fulton County. The Clifton Park-based organization will open a full-time office in Gloversville, located at the First Congregational United Church of Christ at 31 East Fulton St. The organization is mostly-volunteer based. The agency

provides services for homeless and at-risk-of-becoming-homeless youth. The organization's website explains, "CAPTAIN Community Human Services is a grass-roots human services agency that supports and empowers people of all ages in Saratoga County and beyond to reach their goals of personal growth and self-sufficiency. We strengthen communities."

Surgeons with heart.



Dr. Osama Essa, MD



Dr. Nicholas Filippone, MD



Dr. Robert Wasiczko, MD

Call **(518) 773.5687**

99 East State Street • Gloversville, NY 12078 • nlh.org



NATHAN LITTAUER

Hospital & Nursing Home



TWO GREAT LOCATIONS

THE Place to Go for the Area's Best Selection of Vehicles!

**GMC
BUSINESS
ELITE**

Mangino



Chamber Member



MANGINO CHEVROLET

4477 NEW YORK 30, AMSTERDAM, NY 12010
SALES: (518) 770-1220 **SERVICE:** (518) 770-1223
 WWW.MANGINOCHEVY.COM

MANGINO BUICK GMC

1484 SARATOGA ROAD, BALLSTON SPA, NY 12020
SALES: (518) 490-1275 **SERVICE:** (518) 490-1273
 WWW.MANGINOBUICKGMC.COM

YOUR **COMMERCIAL** TRUCK HEADQUARTERS



Mangino



YOUR FIRST STOP FOR LUXURY VEHICLES



CHEVROLET  **BUICK**  **GMC**
WE ARE PROFESSIONAL GRADE

Mangino

MANGINO CHEVROLET

MANGINO BUICK GMC

4477 NEW YORK 30, AMSTERDAM, NY 12010

1484 SARATOGA ROAD, BALLSTON SPA, NY 12020

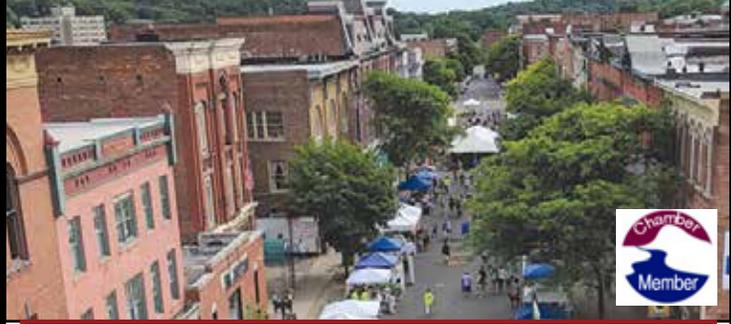
SALES: (518) 770-1220 | SERVICE: (518) 770-1223

SALES: (518) 490-1269 | SERVICE: (518) 490-1272

WWW.MANGINOCHEVY.COM

WWW.MANGINOBUICKGMC.COM

Attn: Gloversville Businesses



Are you an entrepreneur starting a business?
Do you need funding for your established business?
It's time to think about **SPRING** expansion
and renovations **NOW**.

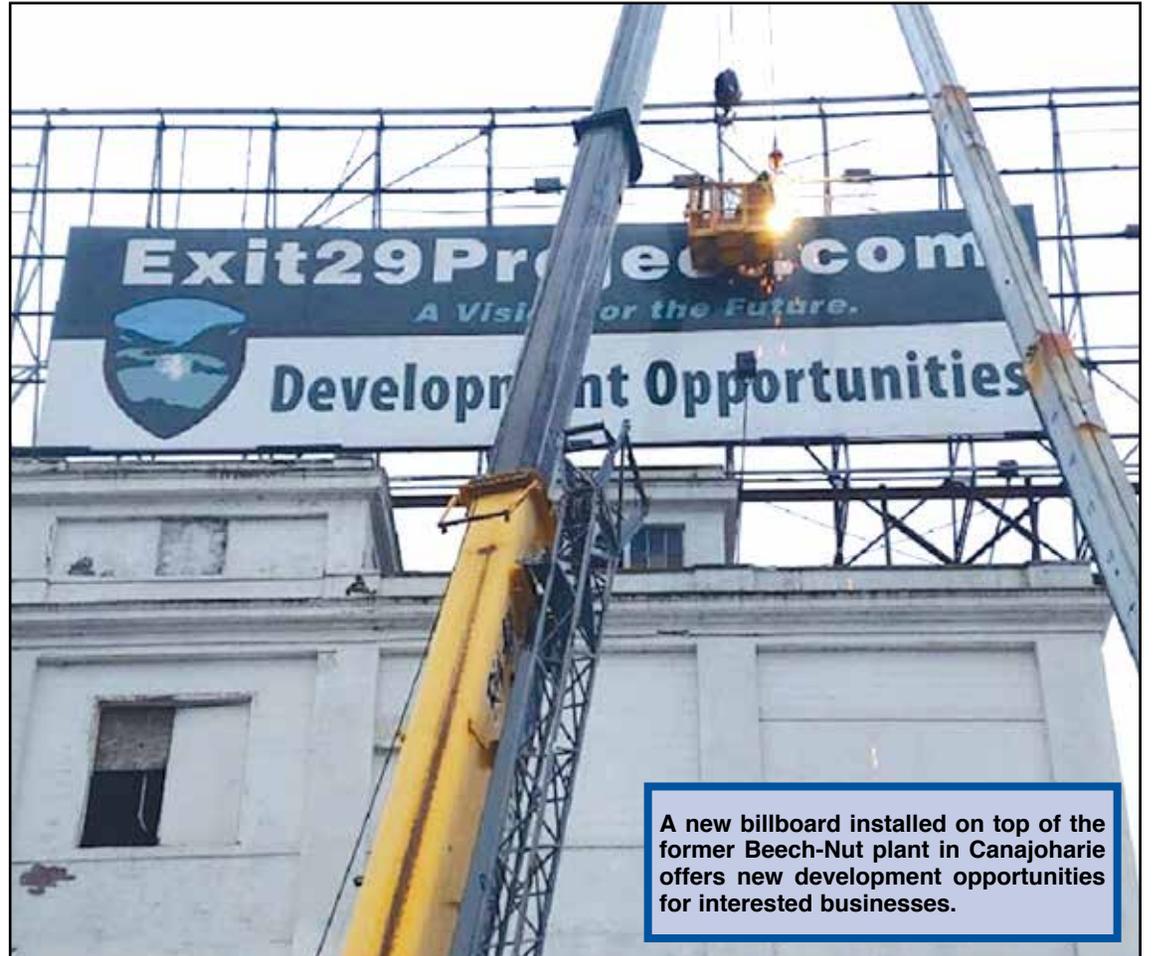
The Gloversville Economic Development Corporation offers low-interest loans to new or existing business within the city of Gloversville for equipment, expansions and renovations with an emphasis on creating and retaining jobs.

We have very competitive rates,
and an easy application.

Gloversville Economic Development Corporation

For more information, contact the Fulton Montgomery
Regional Chamber of Commerce, at **(518) 725-0641**.

Exit 29 Project Progress, Goals Highlighted



A new billboard installed on top of the former Beech-Nut plant in Canajoharie offers new development opportunities for interested businesses.

A new billboard installed on top of the former Beech-Nut administrative and processing building caps off a year of progress toward the revitalization of what Montgomery County officials called “one of the most exciting economic development projects in the state.”

The County’s continued efforts to turn the former Beech-Nut food processing plant off the New York State Thruway’s Exit 29, into an economic engine for the region, will take even greater shape in 2020.

The site, which was home to Beech-Nut for more than 100 years before the company relocated to a new state-of-the-art facility in the Town of Florida, is currently undergoing demolition and remediation efforts funded by a combined \$6.8 million in grants received by the county and the village to date.

“Creating a new campus that grows good-paying jobs and economic opportunity while complimenting the Village and the surrounding area has been a complex but exciting process. Major progress has been made this year thanks to the efforts by our team at the BDC and the strong leadership of the County Executive Matt Ossenfort,” said Montgomery County Business Development Center CEO Ken Rose, whose team is spearheading the redevelopment process.

Montgomery County foreclosed on the site and took ownership in 2018. In 2018, the County and Village of Canajoharie secured \$6 million in a Restore NY grant in addition to the \$500,000 secured the year prior through the same program, for work including site demolition and remediation. The County has been consulting with the EPA, state agencies, engineers and planners to develop a strategy for

redeveloping the site.

“While we are overseeing the demolition and remediation efforts, we are also working daily to find prospective developers who can revitalize this site and restore a major economic driver for the village and the county,” Rose said.

2019 Exit 29 Efforts:

- January 2019 – Montgomery County Legislature contracts with Gorick, a Binghamton-based demolition contractor, to remove a majority of the remaining structures on the East side of the property.

- May 2019 – Montgomery County launches Exit29Project.com website to enhance redevelopment efforts and attract potential suitors for the property.

- August 2019 – Demolition of East Side structures completed by Gorick.

- October 2019 – Montgomery County Legislature selects Apollo Dismantling Services, LLC., to move forward with another round of demolition and asbestos abatement work at the former food processing facility.

- November 2019 – National Grid issues payment of grant for debris removal work.

2020 Redevelopment Goals:

- Hazardous and non-hazardous materials removal, asbestos abatement and interior demolition of western Side structures.

- Outreach and marketing of the eastern side with the end goal of a private sector enterprise with quality jobs for the 2egion.

- Working with the Village of Canajoharie to update the LWRP Plan for the Village with the help of an \$85,000 grant received through the Department of State.

WEST & COMPANY

CPAs PC



WEST & Company CPAs PC has been counseling businesses and their executives in all aspects of financial management for years. We place great emphasis on communication and planning. Most of our clients use us as a sounding board to discuss a wide variety of financial and organizational issues. We are always only a telephone call away.

Amy M. Pedrick, CPA
John P. Sawitzki, CPA
Michael W. Rossi, CPA
Trisha L. Rogers-Byrns, CPA
Jill M. Thaisz, CPA
Elmer J. Washburn, CPA
Larry J. Sheeler, CPA
James A. Del Savio, CPA

Gloversville

97 North Main Street, PO Box 1219
Gloversville, NY 12079
Phone 518.725.7127 Fax 518.725.7835

Saratoga Springs

60 Railroad Place, Suite 302
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866
Phone 518.587.5111 Fax 518.587.0029

NAC's Meat Market Open in Mayfield



Chamber officials and members of the community help NAC's Meat Market celebrate a grand opening at 2513 State Highway 30 location in Mayfield. The market offers quality meat products, wholesale quantities,

and tailored ordering capabilities with a full deli on-site. Shown (L-R) are Becky Dutcher, Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce; Sue Henry; D.J. Smith; Tim Bleyl; Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of

Commerce President Mark Kilmer; Owner Mo Conte; Anna O'Connell; Owner Josh Guntert; Pat Keane; Mayfield Town Clerk Terri Brubaker; Lorrie Valk; Carl Edwards; and Fulton County Tourism Director Anne Boles.



**ASK US ABOUT
OUR FLEET PRICING!**



THE ULTIMATE AUTOMOTIVE RUST PROTECTION.

**Krown Gloversville
4X Heaven**

221 W. Fulton St. Gloversville, NY 12078



Call Today! (518) 725-1203

Fitology 360 Health & Wellness Studio



Friends, family, and community supporters gathered to celebrate the grand opening of the newest Downtown Gloversville businesses, Fitology 360 Health & Wellness Studio, with owner Samantha Yates. The ribbon cutting featured on-tap beverages from Stump City Brewing LLC, and desserts from Queen Bee Bakery. Fitology 360 Health and Wellness Studio, located at 44 South Main St. will offer yoga, reiki, and meditation, in “a 360 approach to health and wellness under one roof.”

Plow Broken?

Fix it NOW, Before you Need It!
Machining • Fabricating
Welding of ALL Types • As Well As On Site

SNOWPLOWS & SNOWMOBILE TRAILERS



Broadalbin Manufacturing corp.
 8 Pine St. • Broadalbin ~ Mike Deuel, Owner
 Phone: (518) 883-5313 • Fax: (518) 883-5320
info@bmanuf.com

Chamber Member Anniversaries

The following businesses have found value in their Chamber investment and have renewed their membership in the months of November/December of this year. Please note these member businesses and the year they joined! Thank you to all our renewing Chamber members.

Less than 5 Years

- DeGiulio Brothers Flooring2018
- Go For It
 Fitness and Personal Training2018
- Caroga Historical
 Association & Museum.....2017
- Hillcrest Spring Residential Adult Care 2016
- M&J's Lawn Care & Landscaping2016
- Cerasia Holdings, Inc.....2015

5 to 9 Years

- Allwater Guide Service2012
- Kwiat Eye and Laser Surgery2011
- Yusen Logistics.....2011
- Affordable Sheet Metal.....2011

10 to 19 Years

- Recovery Sports Grill2009
- FAGE USA Dairy Industry, Inc.....2008
- North Country Ecological Services, Inc. ...2007
- Sunmark Federal Credit Union2006

10 to 19 Years continued

- Peaceful Valley Maple Farms2006
- R & D Sales2006
- Jones, Ron; Excavation2006
- Goderie's Tree Farm2005
- Miller's Grandview Marina2004
- Bridge Walk at Perthshire, The.....2003
- Neznek Farm2001
- BioMed Communications2000

20 to 29 Years

- Canajoharie Falls
 Cemetery Association1998
- Amsterdam Volunteer
 Ambulance Corps., Inc1998
- United Way of Montgomery County1998
- DiBlasi Agency, Inc.....1998

30 to 39 Years

- Lohse Florist1983

40 to 49 Years

- Fulmont Mutual Insurance Company1978
- Cherry Valley Memorials, Inc.1974
- Wood, Seward & McGuire, L.L.P.1974
- Ruby & Quiri, Inc.1974



Anne Boles
 Director of
 Tourism Development
 tourism@fultonmontgomeryny.org

Happy New Year!

The support I have received during this transition to the position of Director of Tourism Development for Fulton and Montgomery counties has been incredible and very much appreciated. I enjoy the Chamber's Business After Hours and other Chamber events – a great way to network and meet our community partners. I look forward to meeting key stakeholders to ensure continued success for tourism here in Fulton and Montgomery Counties. I am grateful to be here, and excited for a prosperous future.

This is an exciting time to be in tourism - it is a beautiful time of year in Fulton and

Tourism News

Montgomery Counties. There are many winter adventures right here in our area, including ice fishing, downhill and cross-country skiing, snowshoeing and snowmobiling. Or take a ride to visit an array of shops, museums, and art galleries. You can finish a day of outdoor fun with a nice meal from a local restaurant, which features local food and beverages from our area! Visit www.44lakes.com or visitmontgomeryny.com to plan your day. For a wide variety of brochures on many activities in our region, please email tourism@fultonmontgomeryny.com.

Cooperative Marketing Program offered again in 2020

The Fulton County Tourism Department will offer a cooperative marketing program in 2020 to tourism-related businesses in Fulton County, with funds available throughout the year.

Fulton County Tourism provides matching funds (dollar for dollar) to eligible participants for advertising tourism-related services, programs, campaigns or events.

Eligible participants may receive up to \$1,000 per year based on funds available to Fulton County Tourism.

The cooperative marketing program includes the opportunity to run digital, print, or radio ads in media outlets outside of Fulton County. Participating in the program offers a further reach to attract visitors from outside the region, and to increase overnight stays and visitor spending in Fulton County. The tourism department will work with participating organizations on ad placement and recommendations. Any Fulton County tourism attraction interested in maximizing their marketing budget can contact the Chamber for more details at (518) 725-0641 or email tourism@fultonmontgomeryny.org.

To advertise in

Fulton  Montgomery
 REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Newsline

contact

Mary Anne Semkiw,

(518) 843-1100 ext. 120

rec.ads@McClaryMedia.com

Your business can help fight cancer.

Offering employees *Paid Time Off* to get their recommended cancer screenings helps *save lives and healthcare costs.*

THE FACTS

Nearly 1 out of every 5 deaths in NYS is due to cancer. A cancer diagnosis leads to substantial work loss, number of work days lost and absenteeism costs.

Some cancers can be found early or prevented through screening tests. Screenings can find cancers early when they may be easier to treat, or for some cancers, before they start.

Early detection of breast, cervical, and colorectal cancer can dramatically improve treatment outcomes.

REDUCE THE RISK:

Employee Paid Time Off for Cancer Screenings (PTO)

Similar to sick, vacation, or personal leave time, PTO for cancer screenings can help employees be up to date with their recommended screenings for cancers such as breast, cervical, and colorectal.

Find out how your business can offer this valuable benefit in your workplace.

take action against cancer



Welcome New Members!

Thank you for making an investment in your business, and in our region, with Chamber membership:

Adirondack Health Institute

101 Ridge St
 Glens Falls, NY 12801
 (518) 703-2220

Our Enrollment Assistant Services & Education program assists individuals, families, & small business owners enroll in health insurance coverage through the NYS DOH Marketplace, in Fulton County.

Visit The Chamber online at:
www.fultonmontgomeryny.org

GET THE FACTS. REDUCE THE RISK. SPREAD THE WORD.
 visit: TakeActionAgainstCancer.com

CANCER PREVENTION IN ACTION | NEW YORK
 FULTON | MONTGOMERY | SCHENECTADY

Chamber Member Events

**Saturday,
Jan. 11, 2020**

Lapland Lake Nordic Vacation Center will offer a Moonlight Guided Evening Snowshoe Tour Saturday, January 11, 2020. This popular, guided tour starts out at with a bowl of chili and a side of cornbread at the Kuuma Feeding Station. Then guests strap on their snowshoes (also available for rent) and head out with guides on a memorable moonlit tour, stopping at a lakeside campfire for a snack and hot beverage. The tour is from 5:45 p.m. to around 8:30 p.m., and leaves the lodge building at 6:30 p.m. Please arrive at 5:30 p.m. if renting snowshoes.

Cost for the tour is \$40 (\$5 plus tax extra if renting snowshoes, and the tour is for adults ages 18 and up.

Space is limited; reservations are a must. Headlamps are strongly recommended. We have a limited number to loan on a first-come, first-served basis.

**Sunday,
Jan. 12, 2020**

The Sacandaga Valley Arts Network presents its annual Winter Concert Series, starting on Sunday, Jan. 12, 2020 with Erin Harkes at 3 p.m. at the William Coffey Studio, located at 322 N. Third St., Northville. It's hard to say exactly what Erin Harkes is. She's a singer/songwriter. She's a full time musician. She's also a part time stand-up comedian. Whatever she is doing she is doing it on stage! Admission is \$12 (\$10 for SVAN members), and reservations are recommended as seating is limited. Call (518) 863-8047 to reserve a seat.

Don't miss the rest of the Winter Concert Schedule:

— Jan. 12, 3 p.m. - Erin Harkes at the William Coffey Studio

— Feb. 16, 3 p.m. - Rick Bolton at the Inn at the Bridge

— March 29, 3 p.m. - Ony Antonucci at the Five and Dine

— April 23, 6 p.m. - Mitch Lee at the Inn at the Bridge



Erin Harkes

**Tuesday,
Jan. 14, 2020**

The Sacandaga Valley Arts Network will present "Moments of Existence," an exhibition by Vartan D. Bonjukian in January and February, 2020 at the SVAN Northville Library Gallery, located at 341 S. Third St., Northville. There will be a Meet the Artist reception on January 14, from 6-8 p.m.

Bonjukian said, "Creating art is as much a physical process as it is mental; most of the creation is done when I am not making art. The subject matter I employ is a combination of the natural world as well as the subconscious

**See Chamber
Member Events,
on page 17**

**FAMILY OWNED & SERVING THE
COMMUNITY OVER 50 YEARS!**



NYSDOT#38945

Residential & Commercial

- Mobile Storage Pod Rental
- Complete Loading & Unloading Services
- Specializing in Box Store Deliveries
- Commercial Deliveries and Moving
- Free Estimates
- Specializing in Piano Moving
- Removal and Clean Outs

518-842-3281

mingosmoving@gmail.com



Vartan D. Bonjukian at SVAN Northville Library Gallery

Chamber Member Events continued from page 16

conjuring of dreams. When creating oil-based paintings, I draw an image on the canvas, then wash the canvas with turpentine and oil paint, and then apply a glaze of oil paints combined with clear oils. My wood carvings begin when I select the wood, then I wipe of linseed or jojoba oil or a mix of oil paint with mineral spirits. I also use watercolors and colored pencils and markers to create mixed media illustrations. In college I studied intaglio etching and copper plate engraving which is a medium that lends itself well to my improvisational surrealistic line drawings."

Saturday, Jan. 25, 2020

Lapland Lake Nordic Vacation Center will host a women's-only cross country ski program Saturday, January 25, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Pre-registration is required.

The popular five-hour ski program, "Lapland Ladies

Love to Ski," is geared to first-timer through intermediate skiers ages 18+. Focus is on classic ski technique.

Cost for the program is \$60 (rental equipment, if needed, is additional). Included is a day-long facility use pass, instruction, lunch with equipment & clothing discussion, social group ski with instructors, group wrap-up, hot beverage and discount coupon for new equipment purchase. The program is led by Lapland Lake's PSIA-certified instructors Sherry Dixon, Susan Henriksson and Terry Ross. Register online through the site's website, www.lapland-lake.com, or by phone.

A complete cross country ski and snowshoe facility celebrating its 41st winter season, Lapland Lake offers fully equipped rental and retail shops, a comfortable two-story warming lodge with food service. The trail system has 50km of trails for all ability levels. 38km are marked, mapped and snowcat groomed with trackset and skating

lanes; 12km are un-groomed, marked, mapped snowshoe trails.

In addition to cross country skiing and snowshoeing, other resort activities include ice-skating and tubing on two junior hills.

First Mondays Starting Jan. 6, 2020

Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site will open the doors at their Visitor Center during the off season on the first Monday of the month for Museum Monday Programs.

The building will open at 10 a.m. on January 6, February 3, March 2, and April 6 to provide a themed discussion within the "Pathway to Empire Exhibit" beginning at noon.

The exhibit space will be open until 2 p.m. for each of these days. Each discussion is open to the public and questions are encouraged. This is not a formal presentation and

the idea is to explore the exhibit and discover more about each theme topic.

The schedule is as follows:
— January 6: We will explore the Scottish delight, shortbread! Enjoy National Shortbread Day by joining the discussion on Sir William Johnson's connection to Fort Hunter, the Scots-Irish he encouraged to settle his lands, and how this tasty "biscuit" connects to the Erie Canal.

— February 3: The topic will be Abolition and Slavery in Montgomery County with Montgomery County Historian Kelly Farquhar. Discover information on freedom seekers in the Mohawk Valley and how the Erie Canal was used to spread ideas, shape ideology, and as a way to escape bondage.

— March 2: We say HAPPY BIRTHDAY DeWitt! Celebrate the Birthday of DeWitt Clinton, Erie Canal proponent, NYS Governor, and founding son of early America. We will take a look at his portrait inside the gallery, enjoy cupcakes, and learn more about his life.

— April 6: The theme will be a discussion on how the federal government rejected funding the NYS project to build the Erie Canal. Learn more about how NY constructed the canal anyway, and some thoughts on how a conspiracy may have been involved.

For information about this program, please call the Visitor Center at (518) 829-7516, email SchoharieCrossing@parks.ny.gov, or visit our Facebook page.

Visit our tourism event calendars for more information on these and other events happening in Fulton County, www.44lakes.com/calendar and Montgomery County, www.visitmontgomerycountyny.com/events-calendar.

SEFCU Donates to Local Food Pantries and Others Statewide

SEFCU President and CEO Michael Castellana and SEFCU employees distributed more than \$350,000 to 44 food pantries across New York State this holiday season, including to Catholic Charities of Fulton / Montgomery Counties, and 28 others in the Capital Region.

"The passion in this room for doing the right thing and making a difference is unequalled," said SEFCU President and CEO Michael Castellana, during a ceremony to celebrate the donation. "These people are just absolutely fantastic."

A SEFCU release said the organization "remains dedicated to fighting hunger year-round by providing financial support for programs and organizations, and funding creative, viable solutions to provide people with greater access to fresh, healthy food. These donations will help the food pantries stock shelves and provide the services necessary to feed families and individuals in need."

"These dollars that SEFCU invests helps us do our supportive services like delivering food. We deliver millions of pounds of food every year," said Executive Director of the Food Pantries for the Capital District Natasha Pernicka. "We believe by working together

we can do more than any one of us alone. And SEFCU's investment really shows that we can do that."

Executive Director of Catholic Charities Tri-County Services Jenn Hyde also highlighted the importance of SEFCU's support.

"I oversee five different food pantries, both urban and rural, in Albany and Rensselaer Counties. And I will tell you we could not do what we do without this support," Hyde said. "There are over 16,000 people each year that we help and the support of SEFCU makes that happen."

Along with its initial contributions totaling \$320,000, Castellana announced during the event that SEFCU was adding another 10-percent to each pantry's donation, with the additional funding to be distributed to the dedicated staff and volunteers who are deliver these life-changing services.

With that additional contribution, SEFCU's total donation is more than \$350,000.

Established in 1934, today SEFCU is among the 50 largest credit unions in the U.S. with more than \$4 billion in assets, more than 350,000 members, and more than 50 branches in the Capital Region, Binghamton, Syracuse, and Buffalo.

Fulton  Montgomery 
REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Chamber Checks make great gifts for loved ones, good bonuses for employees, and support small businesses in this region! Purchase these gift checks at either Chamber office, any Community Bank, N.A. branch or Ruby & Quiri in Johnstown.

Chamber Checks sponsored by:

Community
 Bank N.A.

Business Education Partnership News

HFM PTECH Career Closet Welcomes Clothing Donations

HFM PTECH is looking for donations for their student-run career closet. Business professional wardrobes in all sizes including suits and shoes for both men and women are preferred. If you are interested in donating, please contact Nicole Walrath at nicolew@fultonmontgomeryny.org.



Nicole Walrath
Director of
Workforce Development
NicoleW@fultonmontgomeryny.org



Jenna Patterson
Business and Education
Partnership Coordinator
jennap@fultonmontgomeryny.org



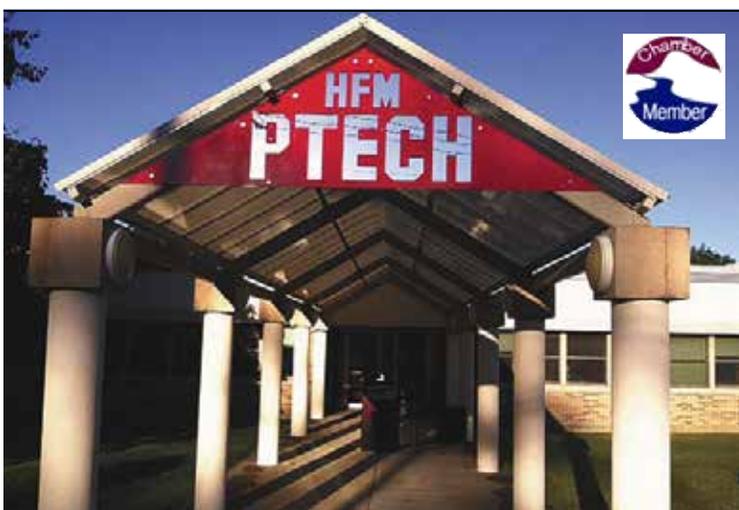
HFM PTECH freshmen hosted an annual Adaptive Living Expo last month at the Paul Nigra Center, where they presented their innovative creations for helping those with physical limitations, cognitive disabilities and mental health disorders to live life and participate in activities to the fullest. The students' ideas included virtu-

al reality therapy, an enhanced cane for blind individuals, gloves that assist with gripping objects, sensory items, help for depression, reading assistance, and affordable products to help people with cleft lips and palates. The staff and students from the Paul Nigra Center and Transitions program attended.



Special Thanks – Johnstown Moose Lodge 1185

Thank you to the Johnstown Moose Lodge 1185 for adopting two students this Christmas. This is the third year the Men of the Moose have graciously donated to families in need within the region. The Loyal Order of the Moose Lodge 1185 is a family fraternity dedicated to the children at Mooseheart and the seniors at Moosehaven. They have complete banquet facilities open to members for weddings, graduations, anniversaries, etc. For further information about membership, please call the lodge at (518) 762-4224 or visit their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/JohnstownMoose/.



Are you interested in working with students who will embrace the essential business skills and who will be trained educated employees for the future?

Well, PTECH is the new future! PTECH is a technologically based early college high school that allows students to gain real-world, project based experiences through partnering businesses in your community.

We are currently looking for mentors who will be willing to communicate online with students weekly. Interested in becoming a partnering business?

Contact Nicole Walrath at

(518) 725-0641 or nicolew@fultonmontgomeryny.org for more information.



Business Education Partnership News

Ag PTECH

AT RIGHT: Freshmen at Ag PTECH learned about animal industry careers during last month's Pathway Panel. Dr. Jessie Bolster of River Valley Veterinary Services, Erica Orlowski of Adirondack Feed Center and Richard Kennedy of Cargill Feed and Nutrition shared stories and experiences from their jobs as they answered students' questions.



AT LEFT: Sophomores at Ag PTECH engaged with business mentors on the topic of communication in the workplace. A special thank you to Tom Georgia of NextEra Energy Services, Gail Breen of FMS Workforce Solutions Centers, Mark Kilmer of Fulton Montgomery County Regional Chamber of Commerce, and Matt Sherman of Stump City Brewing LLC for taking time with our students last month.

Canajoharie High School Pathway



Freshmen participating in the Construction Technology: Renewable Energy and Sustainable Building pathway at Canajoharie High School hosted their first pathway panel. Thank you Less Hassen, Building Inspector from the Village of Canajoharie and Justin Melious, owner of JM Electric who were both in attendance.

**Amsterdam High School
College and Career Pathways**

Hear ye, Hear ye! Let it be known that on...
Wednesday, January 8th in the year 2020
 from the time of 8:00am to 9:30am
 in the Amsterdam High School Auditorium
 (snow date Thursday, January 9th)

The students of the College and Career Pathways
 at AHS invite you to...

A Shakespeare Film Festival and Expo

Come see the finest actors of AHS star in their self-produced renditions of Shakespeare's tragedy, *Hamlet*. Immediately following the screening, visit with our student reporters as they showcase the latest news from Elizabethan England.

In order to be added to the guest list, please RSVP
 by 1/6 to Nicole Walrath at
nicolew@fultonmontgomeryny.org

**Attention business community
 – Hear ye, Hear ye!**

Let it be known that on...Wednesday, Jan. 8 in the year 2020 from the time of 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. in the Amsterdam High School Auditorium (snow date Thursday, Jan. 9) The students of the College and Career Pathways at AHS invite you to a Shakespeare Film Festival and Expo. Come see the finest actors of AHS star in their self-produced renditions of Shakespeare's tragedy, *Hamlet*. Immediately following the screening, visit our student reporters as they showcase the latest news from Elizabethan England. In order to be added to the guest list, please RSVP by January 6 to Nicole Walrath at nicolew@fultonmontgomeryny.org.

Business Education Partnership News

Career & Technical Education (CTE)

AT RIGHT: There's a great need for educators outside of the traditional K-12 classroom setting. That's the message Careers in Education students heard from Maria Mancini from the Montgomery County Department of Public Health last week. State and county agencies and others are in great need of speech therapists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, and special instructors for early intervention services for children from birth to 5 years old. Mancini also spoke with the HFM students about state teacher certifications, dual certifications and the importance of getting to know your students.



Foothills PTECH



Juniors in the Culinary Arts program at the HFM Career & Technical Center built gingerbread houses this holiday season. Culinary skills and patience are required for these intricate projects. Students also completed reflection papers as part of their study.



Sophomores worked with business mentors to polish their resumes during Mentor Monday at Foothills PTECH last month. A special thank you to Darci Luci of Century

Linen, Vince McCallum of Toying Around, Anne Boles of Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce and Joe Ciccarelli of Core BTS for their feedback and insights.

Want to reach almost **3,000** BUSINESSES/ BUSINESS OWNERS



every month?

This is the place, advertise in

Newsline

Fulton  Montgomery
REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

contact

Mary Anne Semkiw,
(518) 843-1100 ext. 120

rec.ads@mcclarymedia.com



Freshmen had the opportunity to ask questions of professionals during a Pathway Panel discussion on Friday. Thank you to Kim Garso, director of nursing at Nathan Littauer Hospital and Nursing Home;

Darci Luci, controller at Century Linen; and Dwayne Eberle, director of Diagnostic Imaging & Cardiopulmonary Services at Nathan Littauer Hospital and Nursing Home, for sharing your insights with our students.