

**NOTABLE QUOTABLE**

"I made a commitment to get more involved in the Chamber this year after being a member for several years. Just by increasing my attendance at some events I have already made more business contacts. I have found business mixers and ribbon cuttings to be welcoming and easy venues to meet people and connect. I believe the Montgomery County Chamber has a lot to offer its members."

Polly Slezak, Homestead Funding

**Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce**

*Your Partner In Business!*

**New Board Member Jeanne R. So  
Administrator of Sarah Jane Sanford Adult Home**

"I believe it is a challenging time for our local businesses especially with our current economic climate. Our city and county have so far prevailed and we see growth in spite of the times. I am excited to be a part of this challenge and look forward to working with other business leaders on the Board to ensure that our County stays bright and prospers. Great things are happening and will continue to happen if we all work together."



Jeanne is a lifelong resident of Montgomery County, graduate of Amsterdam High School, and the FMCC Nursing Program. Jeanne is a Registered Nurse and Geriatric Administrator and mother of 4 grown children and Grandmother of 6. Jeanne has an extensive list of volunteerism and involvement in Montgomery County including: Board Treasurer Amsterdam Youth and Community Center;

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*The Chamber*

**Newsletter**

*The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce Actively Supports The Business Community!*

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**Chamber Seeks Scholarship Applicants**

The Chamber is once again seeking applicants for our scholarship program for the 2011/2012 academic year. Scholarship applicants and supporting materials are due to The Chamber prior to May 6, 2011. We are asking our members to assist us in spreading the word by sharing this information with their employees, friends, and relatives that live and work in the area.

We will award \$500 scholarships to two students who reside in Montgomery County, are a graduating senior from a Montgomery County High School and will be enrolled and matriculated at Fulton-Montgomery Community College in any field of study.

One of the criteria for selection is financial need. The Chamber encourages students from across Montgomery County to apply and hope they will take advantage of this opportunity.

*continued on pg. 7*

**Job Fair to be Held at College April 20**

Fulton-Montgomery Community College in partnership with FMS Workforce Solutions, the Chamber and the Fulton County Chamber will be holding a collaborative Job Fair on Wednesday, April 20, 2 - 5 pm at the FM Campus, College Union Building.

If you are currently hiring or may have openings in the future, the Job Fair can assist you! This is an excellent opportunity to boost your applicant pool at no charge. The college will do the advertising, provide the space, and staff to help you set up your display.

The event will be open to all businesses and job seekers of Montgomery and Fulton counties. Registration forms are available at the chamber or can be downloaded from our website at [www.montgomerycountyny.com](http://www.montgomerycountyny.com) under "forms and applications".

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## Newsletter

**Editor**  
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# MEMBER News & Events



The Amsterdam Mohawks have announced the first of their signings for the 2011 season. Three catchers and three outfielders have been signed. Mike Lubanski, Bryan Bleakley and Josh Nethaway will share time as catcher. Justin Glass, Taylor Stark, and Jude Vedrine will be the primary outfielders this coming season.

The Amsterdam Rotary will be holding its Annual Fish Fry, Friday April 22nd at Raindancer Restaurant, 4582 St Hwy 30, Amsterdam, 11-30am-2pm, to benefit local suicide prevention programs. \$12 donation includes, fried fish, coleslaw, and french fries. Take out is available. Tickets may be purchased at St. Mary's Hospital Gift Shop or from any Rotarian.

The Arkell Museum exhibit Drawn to the Same Place: The Drawings of Rufus Grider & Fritz Vogt will run from April 1st-August 14th. Rufus Grider (1817-1900) and Fritz Bogt (1842-1900) sketched the farms, homes, stores, and churches found in the Mohawk Valley. The exhibit includes over 100 works from private and public collections. Programs planned in conjunction with this exhibit include exciting guest speakers and family events. For more information look under exhibitions and programs at [www.arkellmuseum.org](http://www.arkellmuseum.org).

Cappies, located at 264 State Hwy 67, Amsterdam is now open for the season. Cappies serves a variety of homemade ice-creams, burgers, hotdogs and other great summer foods. For more information and hours of operation call 843-3544.

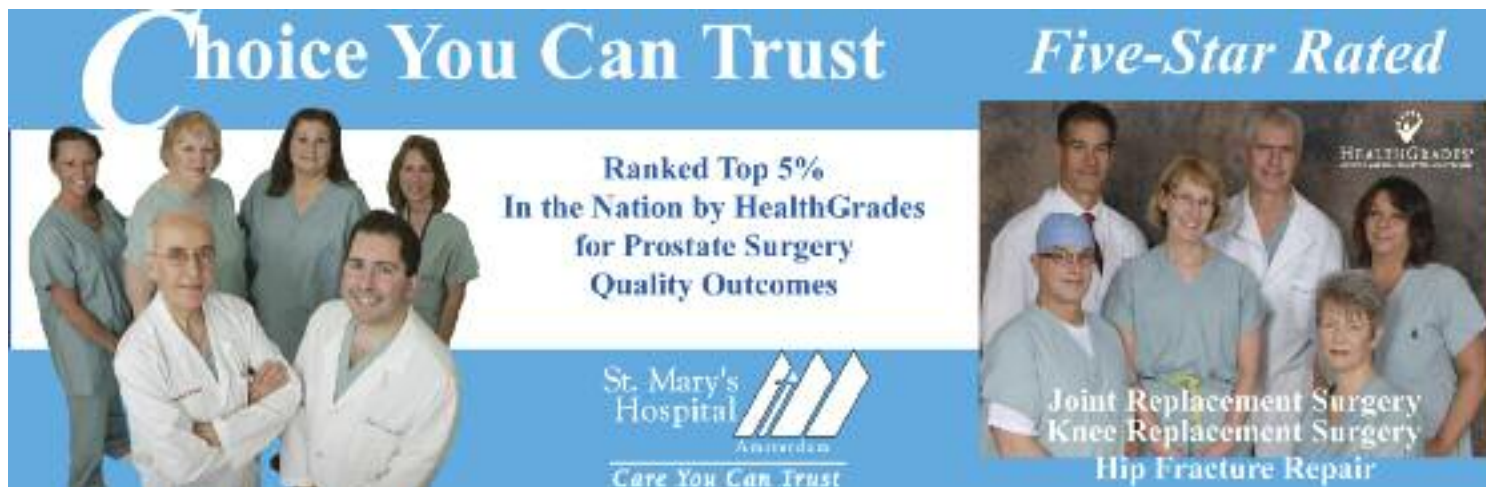
CASA of Fulton & Montgomery Counties 4th Annual Celebration of Children Showcase will be held at the St. Mary's Carondelet Family Health Center, 380 Guy Park Ave, Amsterdam, April 15th, 3:30-5:30pm. This is a free event to all families and their children in attendance. For more information call Tracy at 331-9376.

Dygon Dance Supplies, 241 Midline Road, Amsterdam, is sponsoring Phyllis Latin's American Dance Center Summer Intensive Study Program 2011, professional training for ages 8-18. Auditions are Saturday's, April 2nd, 9th, and 16th, call back date TBA. The program will run August 1-5, from 10:30am-4:30pm. Gain strength and endurance in Ballet Technique, Pointe, Jazz, Ball Workout, and Stretch and Flex. Limited space available, call 584-8733 to schedule an audition.

Friends of Sanford Stud Farm is holding its Annual Meeting on Tuesday, April 21st. There will be cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, and a meet 'n' greet your board.

The GFWC Century Club and Spinner Productions present The All Paul Show, Saturday, April 9th, 7-9 pm at the Century Club, 130 Guy Park Ave, Amsterdam. This Paul McCartney/Beatles Tribute, delivers a show that looks and sounds like the real thing. Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door, and \$30 VIP (advance only). Cash Bar and refreshments will be available. For tickets call 842-2031 or visit [www.centuryclubofamsterdam.com](http://www.centuryclubofamsterdam.com).

Teal, Becker & Chiaromonte, CPAs, P.C. has announced to celebrate the firm's 40th Anniversary, it will contribute to or support fund-raising campaigns for 40 different charities throughout the year. The charities consist of both local and national organizations, including the American Heart Association, the Center for Disability Services, Equinox, Inc. and the United Way of the Greater Capital Region.



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## Second Chance Kids Sale Spring Consignment Sale



Second Chance Kids Sale is excited to announce it's Spring Children's Consignment Sale! The sale will run from April 28-30 at The Amsterdam Riverfront Center on the upper level. A boutique look, organized and plentiful selection, great deals, and a helpful staff, were just some of the rave reviews received by shoppers and consignors!

Summer is right around the corner. The kids will be home from school, the sun will be blazing and families are starting to scramble to plan budget friendly activities for their kids! Second Chance Kids Sale wants families to not only stretch their dollar but also earn money to put towards all of the fun things they want to do this summer!

**Consign-Shop-Save with Second Chance Kids Sale!** Saving families' money, helping families cut down on clutter while earning extra money, cutting the waste in our landfills and giving the things our kids loved a Second Chance to be adored once again.

**Consign:** Earn money consigning the items your kids have outgrown and no longer use! Clear out the clutter and the bins of clothes and make money for all your summer fun activities. Consignors can shop the sale early on April 27, 2011!

**Volunteer:** Spend 3 hours volunteering at Second Chance Kids Sale and be the 1st in line to choose from the selection of clothes, toys, furniture, books, and more. Shop: Shop at Second Chance Kids Sale to save money for many of the things your kids need this spring and summer. Shorts, T-Shirts, Sun Dresses and so much more! Don't pay full price! Shop at The Amsterdam Riverfront Center Upper Level April 28- April 30!

**Advertise:** Advertise your business on our receipt, and reach your target market including parents, grandparents, caregivers and kids. Contact us for details [secondchancekidssale@yahoo.com](mailto:secondchancekidssale@yahoo.com)

Visit our website at [www.SecondChanceKidsSale.com](http://www.SecondChanceKidsSale.com) to register to consign and/or volunteer. Check out our Facebook page for information and promotions.

## CHAMBER MEMBER SPOTLITE



### Amsterdam Dog Training and Boarding

*"Problem Dogs are No Problem"*

Amsterdam Dog Training and Boarding opened in November of 2010. It is a full service kennel offering grooming, training, and dog massages.

Bonnie Williamson, owner, is a certified dog trainer, certified groomer and certified vet assistant. She became interested in dog training in 2002 when she received her first dog, Mikey, from the Ayers Memorial Shelter. She has trained many dogs over the past 8 years, working with the Schenectady Dog Training Club and is currently an assistant trainer at the Club. Bonnie and her family currently have 5 dogs of their own which she has trained as well.

Bonnie has also been working with the Great Pyrenees Rescues since 2005, taking the rescues in to train, so they become adoptable dogs. There is always at least one adoptable dog available in the kennel or living in the house.

The training services include basic obedience classes, Canine Good Citizen classes, Private Lessons for problems that cannot be addressed in a group class, and Board and Train if you would rather have Bonnie train your dog for you.

There is currently room for 8 dogs in the kennel with plans for expansion. The floors are heated in the winter and the kennels are air-conditioned in the summer.

Amsterdam Dog Training and Boarding is located at 589 Ft. Hunter Road in Amsterdam. For more information on training, boarding, or adoption, contact Bonnie at (518) 232-9221. She looks forward to working with you and your furry children.



	Amsterdam, 106 Hannaford Plaza*, 842-2121
	Catskillville, 24 Church Street*, 673-3243
	Fonda, 34 West Main Street*, 853-4621
	Fort Plain, 41 Canal Street*, 933-2393
	Pakane Bridge, 44 Dutchtown Plaza, 873-3201
	St. Johnsville, 16 West Main Street, 568-7612
* ATM Location	<a href="http://www.nbtbank.com">www.nbtbank.com</a>
	Member FDIC

## Chamber Members Connect With Elected Officials, Hear Updates on GlobalFoundries

Chamber Members have the opportunity to meet with and hear from their elected representatives and business leaders through a variety of venues throughout the year. Annual updates, 'Meet The Candidates' events, and roundtable discussions give the business community occasions to connect, ask questions and become informed. Members were recently invited to hear from Senator Kirsten Gillibrand; elected officials representing Montgomery County; and panelists for a community forum on GlobalFoundries.

*Senator Kirsten Gillibrand meets with representatives from the business community in Montgomery and Fulton Counties.*



The Chamber presented a "Leadership" Breakfast inviting Congressman Paul Tonko, Assemblyman George Amedore, Chairman of the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors, Tom Quackenbush and Mayor Ann Thane to give legislative updates and touch on topics that impact our business community and Montgomery County. Over 50 people attended this informative breakfast that was held at Crystal Ristorante. Special thanks to KeyBank for sponsoring this event.



*Congressman Paul Tonko addresses the crowd of attendees.*



*Assemblyman Amedore speaks with representatives from Hill & Markes, Repeat Business Systems and Fulmont Community Action Agency prior to the program.*

A crowd of businesspeople, parents, students, and community members attended the Community Forum regarding the technology industry and GlobalFoundries recently presented at Broadalbin-Perth High School. Attendees had the opportunity to hear from panelists: Mike Russo, Director of U.S. Governmental Relations for GlobalFoundries; Dr. Dustin Swanger, President, Fulton-Montgomery Community College; F. Michael Tucker, President, Center for Economic Growth; Stephen Tomlinson, Superintendent, Broadalbin-Perth Central School District; and Michael J. Reese, President, Fulton County Economic Development Corp. The program, moderated by David Rooney, Senior Vice President of Business Development and Marketing of the Center for Economic Growth, was an opportunity for attendees to ask questions about the development as well.



*Mike Reese and Superintendent Tomlinson listen to the anticipated economic impact of GlobalFoundries.*



*Michael Russo of GlobalFoundries addresses the crowd.*



*Dr. Dustin Swanger answers a question about Fulton-Montgomery Community College.*

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# Chamber Members Connect at Business Mixers and Ribbon Cuttings



Chamber members had the opportunity to connect and network at a Business Mixer held at New York Oncology Hematology. This event, catered by the Raindancer, was an opportunity to get an inside look at one of our local businesses while connecting with other business colleagues and business owners.



Al and Judy Austin of Austin Financial Services chat with Kelli VanDuessen of New York Oncology Hematology.



Cataract Care Center and C-3 Medical Spa was the host of the March Business Mixer just in time for St. Patrick's Day! Attendees had the opportunity to hear about some of the services offered including laser hair and tato removal.



Ribbon cuttings offer opportunities to meet new business owners and connect with colleagues. New owner of the Rockton House, Jim 'worm' Stevens cuts the celebratory ribbon with his staff, family, and Chamber Ambassadors. The Rockton House is now a family oriented restaurant with sit down lunch and dinner service. Hours of operation are Mon - Thur, 4 - 9 pm; Friday, 4 - 11 pm; Saturdays 1 - 10 pm and Sundays 1 - 8 pm. Visit them at 34 Lyon Street in Amsterdam or call 843-8669 for more information!



Previous owner, Tony Condello, wishes new owner, Jim Stevens, luck with his new business endeavor!



The crowd enjoys the food that was put out to celebrate this event!

## Diabetes?

Find balance with our accredited diabetes team.



[www.nlh.org](http://www.nlh.org)



## Member Anniversaries

The following businesses realize the value of their Chamber investment and have renewed their membership. Please note these members and the year they joined.

*Thanks to all of our renewing members!*

### Less Than 5 years

Austin Financial	2008
Center for Economic Growth	2008
Dutchtown Ace Hardware	2007
4 Corner Tire	2010
Friends of Sanford Stud Farm	2007
Kool Dipper	2010
Loopie's Pub	2007
M & M Laundromat, Inc.	2010
Mead Plumbing & Heating LLC	2008
Montgomery County SPCA	2008
White Cottage Gardens	2007

### 5 to 9 Years

Advantage Builders	2005
Amsterdam Overhead Door	2003
Music Man Entertainment	2003
Soo G. Lee, MD	2003

### 10 to 20 Years

Beech-Nut Nutrition Corp.	1993
Capital District Physicians' Health Plan	1995
Centro Civico	1998
Downes Chimney Cleaning	2001
DWL Brand	1996
Neznek Farm	2001
Say It With Signs	1999
Visiting Nurses Home Care	1993

### Over 20 Years

Bank of America	1983
Brown Coach Inc.	1983
Fulton, Montgomery, & Schoharie County P.I.C.	1984
Harvey Triumpho Agency Corp.	1988

*Congratulations!*

### Our Members have Longevity!

*Investing in The Chamber is investing in Montgomery County!  
We invite you to get involved!! Ask us how!!*



**"Ron The Boat Man"**  
Let me show you how to Discover Boating

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**KNAPIK'S MARINE 842-8140**

## Welcome New Chamber Members

**Amsterdam Dog Training**  
518-232-9221

**Elizabeth's Huggs**  
518-848-5117

**Rick's Robo North Car Wash**  
518-843-6304

**Sowle's Autobody Inc.**  
518-922-8565

**United Healthcare**  
518-817-9385

*Watch for a complete listing of new members from the campaign and other updates in May!*



## Chamber To Distribute New County Map

The Chamber is in the beginning stages of a new county map project. The full color street map is a vital tool when marketing the area to visitors, new residents, new businesses and for general informational and direction purposes.

Thousands of copies of this map will be distributed through area attractions, local businesses, and at the Chamber office, as well as on-line.

This is the only map or project of this type we are currently working on. A representative from CommunityLink, the company we are working with, will be visiting with members soon to discuss the publication and marketing ideas.

If you have any questions or concerns please give us a call at 842-8200. Thank you!

*Thanks to the following businesses that have offered extra incentives and prizes to date, for our membership campaign!*

Amsterdam Mohawks; Charlies; Coffee Beanery; Dolci; e-NABLE; Engines of Creation Web Design; Fariello's; Joe D. Outdoor; Natural Bridge Farms; PetZone; Quality Express Printing; Raindancer; Roser Communications; Sherry Wieszcowski, LE; SPAC; The AHS Marching Rams; The Recorder; The Sportsman Shop; Vern's Auto Body; WCSS 1490 AM; West End Wine & Liquor.

*We Couldn't Have Done It Without YOU!*

**Jeanne So continued**

Board member Amsterdam Rotary; Ambassador for the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce; Incoming Assistant Governor of Rotary District 7190; Past Rotary President; Past Inman Sr. Center Board President; Past Executive Secretary of District Nursing Board; Past OFA Foundation Board Member; Long Term Care Council Member. Jeanne has also been recognized as a Paul Harris Fellow; 2006 Rotarian of the Year; 2007 United Way Community Award Recipient; 2009 Chamber Ambassador of the Year; and 2010 Nurse of Excellence Award.

**Scholarship continued**

The scholarship criteria are achievement, need, community service, and an essay on why the scholarship is important to the individual and how it will help achieve their career goals. A recipient will be selected by The Chamber’s Scholarship Committee based on these criteria and the successful completion of the scholarship application. The deadline for submission is May 6, 2011.

The Chamber initiated this scholarship program to continue its support of the community and provide an opportunity for local students to gain access to higher education. As a county Chamber, the desire was to promote local higher education through FMCC, often the stepping-stone of many students’ educational careers.

Memorial contributions and donations to The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce Scholarship Fund can be made directly to The Chamber or at Citizen’s Bank. Contact The Chamber if interested in the scholarship program or assisting in furthering a local student’s college experience.

For more information call us at 842-8200 or download an application from the website at [www.montgomerycountyny.com](http://www.montgomerycountyny.com) under forms and applications.




**Membership Campaign Wrap-Up Party!**

*Who is new to the Chamber? Who will win “The Chamber Cup”?*

**Wednesday, May 4  
5 - 6:30 pm**

**Winner’s Circle, Rt. 5, Fonda**

Sponsored by 

The Chamber is in the midst of the largest membership campaign we have conducted in over a decade!

Businesses from across the region are joining and nearly 100 volunteers from member businesses and the community are working to grow your chamber. Companies involved include:AAA Northway; Alpin Haus; Amsterdam High School; Amsterdam Y.M.C.A.; Assemblyman Amedore’s Office; Attorney Bethany Schumann-McGhee; Attorney Deborah Slezak; Attorney Douglas Landon; Austin Financial Services; Beech-Nut; Betz, Rossi, Bellinger & Stewart Family Funeral Homes; Brown Coach; Canajoharie Central School District; Centro Civico; Dolci; East Commerce Solutions; Engines of Creation Web Design; First Niagara Bank; FMCC; Greenfibre; Belmont Mills; Homestead Funding; Judith Ann Realty; Liberty Enterprises; LostBoyz; Mayor Jim Post, Palatine Bridge; MCT Federal Credit Union; Mohawk Signs; Montgomery County Office For Aging; Mountain Valley Hospice; NBT Bank; New York Oncology Hematology; Noteworthy; Quandt’s Foodservice Distributors; Raindancer Restaurant; Repeat Business Solutions; Rose & Kiernan; Salmon & Salmon; SEFCU; Sherry Wieszchowski, L.E.; Sikorski’s Service Station; St. Mary’s Hospital; Supervisor Barbara Johnson; Teal, Becker & Chiamonte, CPAs; The Leader Herald; The Recorder; The Sarah J. Sanford Home For Women; The Schwartz Law Firm; The Shults Agency; United Way of Montgomery County; Vern’s Autobody; WCSS; West & Company, CPAs; White Cottage Gardens; and Workforce Development.

This exciting campaign will conclude with a wrap-up party, Wednesday, May 4, 5- 6:30 pm at the Winner’s Circle in Fonda! The event, sponsored by St. Mary’s Hospital, will be one of the biggest networking events of the year and THE opportunity to meet and welcome new members to the Chamber while seeing which team wins the Chamber Cup!

Watch for an update in next month’s newsletter!



**Have YOU Voted?!**

Go to our website at [www.montgomerycountyny.com](http://www.montgomerycountyny.com) today.

The polls change regularly, be sure to add [www.montgomerycountyny.com](http://www.montgomerycountyny.com) to your favorites.

The Chamber is also now on



We invite you to become fans of **Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce**



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 1166 Riverfront Center  
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- Montgomery County Farm Bureau
- New York Business Development Corporation
- Tech Valley Chamber Coalition
- United States Chamber of Commerce

**Link to [www.montgomerycountyny.com](http://www.montgomerycountyny.com) today!!!**

**UPcoming EVENTS!**

**✓MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE "DON'T MISS" EVENTS!! (Tell your staff too!)  
 Call The Chamber at 842-8200 to RSVP**

4/6 ~ **Liberty Tax Service Ribbon Cutting**, 133 Market Street, Amsterdam, 5-6pm. Join the Chamber and Liberty Tax Service for a Ribbon Cutting Celebration and "Road Side Party" cook out for their Amsterdam location. During the Ribbon Cutting, they will be holding a cell phone drive to benefit Cell Phones for Soldiers and Domestic Violence Victims. Kick off spring by joining us for this cook out and bring your old cell phones and chargers to donate to these two worthy organizations.

4/21 ~ **Liberty & Liberty Foundation Business Mixer**, Liberty Day Habilitation Center, 91 West Main Street, Canajoharie, 5-7pm. Join the Chamber and hosts Liberty & Liberty Foundation for an evening of networking and socializing with other business professionals at the brand new Canajoharie facility. The facility is the first project of Liberty's "Building Bright Futures Campaign". This is a great opportunity to mingle with colleagues and prospective customers while touring the Liberty Facility and enjoying hors d'oeuvres and refreshments.

4/27 ~ **Nicolino's Vino Wine Bar Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening**, 4515 State Highway 30 North, Amsterdam, 5-6 pm. Join the Chamber and host Antonella Casella of Nicolino's Restaurant for the Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting Celebration of her brand new Wine Bar, Vino. Hors d'oeuvres and refreshments will be provided from the new Vino appetizer menu made to compliment the selection of wines offered. Dinner service will also be available in the main dinning area.

5/12 ~ **Hummingbird Hills Winery Season Grand Opening & Ribbon Cutting**, 1442 Burtonville Road, Fultonville, 5-6pm. Join the Chamber and proprietors, Ken & Kimm Shick for the season opening of Montgomery County's only winery. Free wine tastings and goodies from local area businesses, such as Fariello's Confectionary and Palatine Valley Dairy, will be offered. New wines from their 2010 crop will also be introduced and ready for sampling.

**2011 Chamber Events**

*Mark Your Calendars Early for*

*These Great Networking Opportunities – Get Connected*

- 5/19 ~ Natural Bridge Farms Business Mixer
- 7/14 ~ 11-Chamber Cruise on the Hudson River
- 7/21 ~ The Chamber & United Way Golf Tournament
- 7/28 ~ Karen's Produce Business Mixer
- 9/15 ~ Horace J. Inman Senior Center Business Mixer
- 10/20 ~ Alpin Haus Business Mixer
- 11/17 ~ Beech-Nut Nutrition Corporation Business Mixer

**To book your event call Andrea at 842-8200 ext 10.**



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