

**NOTABLE QUOTABLE**

'Having an opportunity to collaborate with other businesses in our neighborhoods makes for stronger communities. Waste Management takes an active role in helping make those communities' better places to work and live. Being a part of the Chamber assists us in making that happen!'

Mary Allen, Waste Management

**Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce**

*Your Partner In Business!*

**Chamber Execs Meet in Washington to Discuss Regional Business**

The Chamber recently joined our colleagues from across the Capital Region in Washington, D.C., to speak to elected officials about issues that can help continue the growth and success of the region.



Capital Region Chamber Presidents recently went to Washington D.C. as a group to discuss business challenges for the region. L to r: Mark Eagan, Albany-Colonie; Wally Hart, Fulton County; Peter Aust, Adirondack Regional; Deborah Auspelmyer, Montgomery County; Todd Shimkus, Saratoga County; Dave Colby, Columbia County; Tom Nolte, Colonie; Linda Hillman, Rensselaer County; Peter Bardumias, Southern Saratoga; Chuck Steiner, Schenectady County and Kathy Burbank, Guilderland.

Agenda topics included: Albany International Airport and the need for increased service and competitive pricing, as well as the need to attract new direct flights to serve the growing demand for the business community; the Rail System and the need for reliable transit as well as the challenge of congestion on the lines; and energy, the high cost of energy in New York and the Capital region compared to many parts of the United States as well as the challenges of efficient transmission of electricity from Western New York and the need for upgrades to the system.

cont. pg. 7

*The Chamber Newsletter*

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

**INDEX**

Member News ..... 2

Amsterdam City

Amsterdam Marching Rams

Amsterdam Mohawks

CP's Family Restaurant

Hagaman Volunteer Fire Department

Friends of Sanford Stud Farm

Fulton Montgomery Farmer's Market Association

Mohawk Fabric Company

Quality Express Printing

Richardson Brands

United Way of Montgomery County

Bethany Schumann-McGhee ..... 3

Curves of Perth/Amsterdam

Member Spotlight , CP's Family Restaurant

Photo Gallery ..... 4 & 5

Imagination Garden

Chamber Cup Challenge

Welcome New Members ..... 6

Member Anniversaries, Over 20 Years

America's Best Value Inn

Arkell Hall Foundation

Bank of America

Becker's Auto Salvage

Blue Shield of NENY

First Niagara Bank

Hill & Markes

Horigan, Horigan, & Lombardo, PC

Kinowski Agency

MacKenzie & Tallent

Mental Health Association

New Paris Shop

Norbert Sherbunt Attorney at Law

Riley Mortuary

School House Pools

Stewart's Shops

Super 8 Motel

Member Benefit Corner ..... 7

Austin Financial

Upcoming Events ..... 8

12 Chamber Celebration Cruise

NBT Mohawk Valley Golf Classic

Karen's Ice Cream & Produce

Business Mixer

**Don't Miss Out on the Golf Tournament of the Year!**



Let golf work for you at the Chamber and United Way of Montgomery County NBT Mohawk Valley Classic Golf Tournament, Thursday, July 21 at the Amsterdam Municipal Golf Course, Upper Van Dyke Ave., Amsterdam.

This year's tournament will once again be packed with fun and prizes and the chance to mingle with business people from Montgomery County and beyond.

The tournament is a major fundraiser for both non-profit organizations, assisting the Chamber in fulfilling our mission of supporting the business community of Montgomery County and the surrounding area through business development, promotion, advocacy, and professional development efforts. The United Way of Montgomery County works on improving the lives of the young people and at risk individuals in our community through healthcare agencies, educational

cont. pg. 7

**Chamber Seeks Business and Community's Best ~ Nominations Accepted for VIP Award ! Recipient To Be Recognized At VIP Appreciation Celebration**

The Chamber is currently accepting nominations for the 2011 Employee of the Year and Volunteer of the Year Awards. These awards were designed to showcase the people and volunteers that work hard to ensure the continued growth and success of our community.

cont. pg. 6

## Officers

**Chairman**  
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*The Schwartz Law Firm*

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*NBT Bank*

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*Receptionist*

**Mary Cook**  
*Intern*

## Newsletter

**Editor**  
*Deborah Auspelmyer*

**Printed by**  
*Quality Express Printing*

**Underwritten by**  
  
*Bouche & Clarke Benefits, Inc.*

# MEMBER News & Events



The City of Amsterdam has recently been awarded "Best of Class" for its printed promotional materials, and "Best in Class" for the city website, by the New York State Economic Development Council during its 2011 Marketing and Promotional Materials Competition. The entries were judged on layout and design, content, and marketing budget size. **Congratulations!**

The Amsterdam Marching Rams is recycling cell phones to support band activities and purchase band supplies and equipment. Donate cell phones you are no longer using and help keep wireless waste out of local landfills. Bring the cell phones to the band room at the Amsterdam High School and drop them in the collection box. Cell phones are also being collected at the Chamber's office, located at 1166 Riverfront Center, Amsterdam.

The Amsterdam Mohawks will be hosting a game against the US Military All-Stars on their Road To Ground Zero Tour, Sunday July 24, at Shuttleworth Park in Amsterdam. The first pitch will be thrown at 7:05 pm but get their early for pregame ceremonies featuring the All-Stars. They will be carrying the flag used by President Bush during the 9/11 ceremonies. This tour culminates with the presentation of the flag this 9/11 at Ground Zero.

CP's Family Restaurant is offering weekly dinner specials: Tuesday, Pasta Night; Thursday, Chicken & Biscuits; Friday, Baked Fish; Saturday, New York Strip Stake; and Sunday dinner choices vary. Meals come with a choice of potato, soup or salad, dinner rolls, coffee or tea, and dessert.

The Hagaman Volunteer Fire Department is hosting its 3rd Annual Block Party on Saturday, July 16, from 1pm - 11pm, at the Hagaman Fire Station located at 126 South Pawling Street in Hagaman. Enjoy great music, food, kids events, games, and live entertainment. Tickets are on sale now. For more information visit [www.hagamanfire.com](http://www.hagamanfire.com).

The Friends of Sanford Stud Farm will be holding the Sanford Stakes Luncheon, Sunday July 24. Join them for the 97th running of the Grade II Sanford over Lunch at the Saratoga Race Track. The bus will depart the Broodmare Barn at 10 am, and arrive at the track at approximately at 11:30 am. Cost is \$90 per person and includes: transportation, admission to the track, program, carousel, and buffet. Preregister with \$10 nonrefundable deposit by July 1st and purchase your ticket for \$80. Purchase 5 seats for \$90 each and get your 6th seat free. Cash or check accepted, call Sam Hildebrandt at 761-0703 or 361-4431 for more information, or email [sanfordstudfarms@aol.com](mailto:sanfordstudfarms@aol.com).

The Fulton Montgomery Farmer's Market Association will be holding a farmer's market in the large parking lot by True Value and the Presbyterian Church in Amsterdam, every Friday from 9 am - 1 pm, until September. Fresh fruits, vegetables, baked goods and flowers will be available for purchase.

Mohawk Fabric Company Inc. was recently honored with an SBA Small Business Excellence Award. The NYS Small Business Development Center at University of Albany nominated Mohawk Fabric Company Inc. for the award. The company is in the process of expanding the facility with a new 14,000 square foot building and bringing in new textile technologies and capabilities. **Congratulations!**

Quality Express Printing is now accepting credit cards, Visa, Mastercard, and Discover. Stop by their office or call in your payment to 843-9000.

Richardson Brands has recently centralized all of its product segments to the company's Canajoharie manufacturing facility. Customers can now ship from, or pick up at a single location. CEO Don Butte believes this centralization will allow the company continued growth across all products and channels with advanced ability to service their customers.

The United Way of Montgomery County is holding a raffle for a Harley Davidson 1200 Nightster. This raffle will be supporting 13 local organizations. \$20 per ticket, only 1,000 tickets will be sold. The drawing will be held on September 15th at Bike Night at the Recovery Grill in Amsterdam. You need not be present to win. For a list of locations tickets can be purchased at, contact the United Way at 842-6650.



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## Chamber Member Business Highlights

### The Chamber Celebrates the Relocation of the Bethany Schumann-McGhee Law Office!



The Chamber recently held a Ribbon Cutting Celebration to celebrate the relocation of Bethany Schumann-McGhee law office located at 2465 Riverfront Center in Amsterdam. Bethany's office is open Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm, and is a General Civic practice.

*Did you know?* Bethany was recently presented with the New York State Bar Association's 2011 President's Pro Bono Service

Award for developing and implementing free educational clinics that help indigent New Yorkers learn how to handle their own divorce proceedings.

### The Chamber Celebrates the Expansion of Curves!



The Chamber recently held a ribbon cutting to celebrate the territory expansion of Curves of Perth. Proprietor, Darla DelSignore, recently increased her customer base to include the Amsterdam territory of Curves, adding to her existing Perth territory. The expansion and success of her business is a direct result of Darla's investment in the latest equipment and techniques she can offer to her customers. Curves is located at 4335 State Highway 30 North in Amsterdam. Hours of operation are Monday, 7am-7pm; Tuesday, 7am-12:30pm, 3pm-7pm; Wednesday, 7am-7pm; Thursday, 7am-12:30pm, 3pm-7pm; Friday 7am-7pm, and Saturday 8am-11am, closed on Sunday.

*Did you know?* Darla has recently added the Curves Circuit with Zumba Fitness to her regimen of work out options. It is the only 30 minute class that mixes the moves of Zumba with the proven strength of training of Curves for a wildly effective workout. For more information or to sign up for a class, call Darla at 842-2244.

## CHAMBER MEMBER SPOTLITE



### C.P.'s Family Restaurant

Chuck and Carol Phillips have been in the restaurant business for almost 40 years. They opened their first restaurant in the village – Chuck's Friendly Corner – in 1971. After seven successful years they sold Chuck's and in 1981 purchased and renovated one of the oldest homes in Hagaman into several apartments. A few years later they transformed one of the apartments into Charlie's Game Room and Candy Store (coincidentally, the same space served as the village candy store 40 years earlier).

In 1983 they renovated again, this time into a 35-seat restaurant. When it came to naming the restaurant, the entire family submitted suggestions and C.P.'s Family Restaurant was chosen (for Chuck and Carol Phillips). The following year they expanded into one of the apartments, adding another dining area and nearly doubling the seating capacity. In 1988 they expanded once again and built the addition that is now the main dining area of the restaurant, accommodating 70+ customers.

When we say that our experienced, friendly staff is "part of the family", we mean it. Aunts, uncles, siblings, sons-in law, grandparents, cousins and children have contributed in one way or another over the years. Several of our waitresses have been with us for more than 20 years. Carol (mom) does a lot of the food preparation and waitressing, Lisa and Shannon cook, Sandra Leanne, and Sarah waitress, and you'll find Chuck (dad) hosting, greeting customers, and taking care of the day-to-day maintenance. Even some of Chuck and Carol's 13 grandchildren are old enough now to help out.

Aside from the food, C.P.'s is perhaps most notable for its collection of cars, trucks, trains, antiques and gas station memorabilia. Our nostalgic atmosphere, home cooked meals and personable service are a few of the many things that keep our valued customers coming back.

C.P.'s is located at 10 Main Street in Hagaman. Hours of operation are Tuesday – Saturday, 11:30 am. – 8:30 pm; Sunday, 11:30 am. – 6:30pm, and closed on Mondays. They offer daily lunch and dinner specials. For more information you can call the restaurant at 843-1905.

	Amsterdam, 106 Hannaford Plaza*, 842-2121
	Catskill, 24 Church Street*, 673-3243
	Fonda, 34 West Main Street*, 853-4621
	Fort Plain, 41 Canal Street*, 933-2393
	Pakine Bridge, 44 Dutchtown Plaza, 873-3201
	St. Johnsville, 16 West Main Street, 568-7612
* ATM Location	www.nbtbank.com
	Member FDIC

# The Chamber Celebrates Grand Opening of Imagination Garden!



Chamber Members along with Kristie Simonds, proprietor, cut the ribbon to celebrate the Grand Opening of Imagination Garden. Front row l to r: Carol Constantino, Chamber Board Member; Frank Pullen, Common Goods; Sophia Pullen; Kristie Simonds, Imagination Garden; Olivia Fiorillo Brooks; Leila Brooks; Andrea Brooks, Membership Assistant; Jeanne So, Chamber Board Member; and Polly Slezak, Homestead Funding. Back row l to r: Natalee Simonds; Paul Brunetto; and Chuck Schwartz, Chamber Chairman.

Imagination Garden is a non-profit creative learning center that provides FREE classes to inspire young children and their families to learn about the world through imaginative play, songs, stories, art and movement! Their goal is to offer free programs to the community and to do their best to reach all families and children in need, but can't achieve their mission without your support! Your donations will allow Imagination Garden to continue to provide programs free of charge! No donation is too small! Every dollar helps to provide a learning experience and educational materials for young children and families in our area!

To donate you may contact Kristie at 538-0987 or [kristiesimonds@myimaginationgarden.com](mailto:kristiesimonds@myimaginationgarden.com). Imagination Garden is located at 1110 Riverfront Center in Amsterdam. For more information on classes visit [www.myimaginationgarden.com](http://www.myimaginationgarden.com).



Imagination Garden displays artwork made by the children who attend classes.

Leila Brooks and Olivia Fiorillo Brooks play in the ball pool at Imagination Garden's open house.



Kristie Simonds, proprietor Imagination Garden; Helen Seward; and Polly Slezak, Homestead Funding.



Carol Constantino of Noteworthy holds Sophia Pullen, daughter of Frank Pullen, proprietor of Common Goods.

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## Chamber Members Have Opportunity to Connect at Mohawk's Game and Chamber Vs. Chamber Pre-game

The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce played against the Fulton County Chamber of Commerce in a friendly game of softball prior to a recent Amsterdam Mohawk's Game. The game was a promotional and marketing Project Based Learning project of the Amsterdam High School Principles of Marketing Class taught by Brian Spagnola and Gina Holloway. "In the beginning of our Mohawk's Promotional Event project, the student's proposal was to get area business people together for a game of softball, food, and camaraderie before a scheduled Mohawk's game," explains Gina Holloway. "After meeting with General Manager, Bill Terlecky, they decided to expand the teams to include players from both Fulton and Montgomery Counties. This led the students to seek the involvement of the Chambers of Commerce. It was at their meeting with both Chambers that the idea evolved into a yearly competition, with the 'Chamber Cup' being the coveted prize."

The Montgomery County Chamber won the game, 14-4, but more importantly was the opportunity to work with the High School on this project promoting one of the area's wonderful assets while bringing members of both chambers together to network and connect.

Thanks to our team players: Dr. Charlie Archinal, Robert J. Dunning DDS, PC; Patricia Beck, The Leader Herald; Nancy Carr, Amsterdam Y.M.C.A.; Dr. Anthony D'Addio, Robert J. Dunning DDS, PC; Andy Heck, Alpin Haus; Marty Hughes, Betz, Rossi, Bellinger & Stewart Family Funeral Homes; Alex Kuchis, Teal, Becker & Chiaramonte; Matt Ossenfort, Assemblyman Amedore's office; Brennen Parker, Rose & Kiernan; Bent Pollak, KeyBank; Matthew Rhodes, Key Bank; Mike Rodecker, The Chamber; Dick Rose, Canajoharie Central School District; Pete Rose, Betz, Rossi, Bellinger & Stewart Family Funeral Homes; Andrew Roth, Hear For You; John Salls, The chamber; and Charles Schwartz, The Schwartz Law Firm!

Thanks to cheerleaders: Carol Constantino, Noteworthy; Jeanne So, Sanford Home for Women; and chamber team Andrea Brooks, Theresa Butkevitch, Michele Marzullo and intern Mary Cook!



Chamber Presidents Wally Hart of Fulton County and Deb Auspemyer of Montgomery County wish each other luck prior to the game.

Photo Provided by Mark Perfetti



The team and cheerleaders after the game. Squating, co-captains Chuck Schwartz and Brennen Parker. First row, l to r: Deb Auspemyer, Carol Constantino, Andy Heck, Pete Rose, Nancy Carr, Pat Beck, Mary Cook, Michele Marzullo, Jeanne So, Andrea Brooks and Robert Carr. Back row l to r: Mike Rodecker, Brent Pollak, Alex Kuchis, Andrew Roth, Matthew Rhodes, John Salls, Dr. Anthony D'Addio, Marty Hughes and Matt Ossenfort.

Carol and Jeanne congratulate co-captain Chuck while team memers Pat Beck, Pete Rose, Andy Heck and Brennen Parker look on.



Matt Ossenfort of Assemblyman Amedore's office gives Brennen Parker of Rose & Kiernan a high five after the chamber scored a run.

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**VIP Nominees continued**


Last year we are pleased to say we had over 120 attendees and several nominations in each category!

The Chamber invites you to celebrate the efforts and successes of our workforce and volunteers by nominating your deserving employees and community volunteers. This year especially, the community needs to be recognized.

Nomination forms for the following awards are included in this newsletter and are available to be downloaded on our website at [www.montgomerycountyny.com](http://www.montgomerycountyny.com) under "forms and applications".

- **Employee of the Year** (*Small Business*)
- **Employee of the Year** (*Large Business*)
- **Employee of the Year** (*non-profit*)
- **Volunteer of the Year** (*tourism & community*)
- **Junior Volunteer of the Year** (*18 and under*)

Awards will be presented at a VIP Appreciation Celebration, sponsored by St. Mary's Healthcare in September. Watch for more details on this very successful event!



**Great Escape Tickets  
on Sale Now  
at the Chamber!**

The Chamber is offering discounted tickets to The Great Escape & Splashwater Kingdom for only \$30.00. Tickets are good for any day during the 2011 season and can be purchased at the Chamber office located at 1166 Riverfront Center in Amsterdam. Cash, Check, Mastercard or Visa accepted. No refunds, no exceptions.

Get a full day of unlimited rides, spectacular shows and incredible attractions. You have the option to purchase a "C'mon Back" pass for only 19.69 + tax, good for any day during the 2011 season or upgrade to a 2011 season pass for only \$39.99 + tax. (These incentives can be purchased the day of your visit at the Great Escape.) Main gate price for 2011 \$46.79 + tax. Save over \$20 per ticket.



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*Welcome New Members*

**BST Advisory Network, LLC  
459-6700**

**Elemental Gardens  
810-1615**

**GTM Payroll Services, Inc.  
373-4111**

**William D. Wills  
843-4660**

*Visit [www.montgomerycountyny.com](http://www.montgomerycountyny.com) for information on these and other business members! Add [www.montgomerycountyny.com](http://www.montgomerycountyny.com) to your favorites.*

*See enclosed insert on complete information on new members! Call and welcome them to The Chamber! Buy Local and Use Local Services.*

**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!*

<b>Less Than 5 years</b>	
Capital District Child Care Council	2008
Coffee Beanery Cafe	2010
Cushing Stone Company, Inc.	2010
Home Health Care Partners, Corp.	2010
M.W Roosevelt & Son, Inc.	2009
Mid-Atlantic Janitorial	2009
Prime Signs	2007
Sikorski's Service Station	2007
<b>5 to 9 Years</b>	
A Woman's Touch Remodeling	2005
Allen's 19th Century Farm & General Store	2002
Chief's Repair Lodge, LLC	2006
Diehl, Don & Associates	2003
Eileen Katovitch Apartments	2003
Garden Bug	2006
Knapik's Marine	2005
LCS&Z, L.L.P.	2005
Roser Communications Network (WBUG)	2002
Sunshine Gardens	2006
<b>10 to 20 Years</b>	
Bill Lake Homes	2000
Fonda-Fultonville Central School	1997
J. R. Kaczmarek Home Improvement	1994
Mohawk Valley Masonry	1994
<b>Over 20 Years</b>	
Americas Best Value Inn	1989
Arkell Hall Foundation	1991
Bank of America	1983
Becker's Auto Salvage	1983
Blue Shield of NENY	1988
First Niagara Bank	1986
Hill & Markes	1991
Horigan, Horigan & Lombardo, PC	1987
Kinowski Agency	1991
MacKenzie & Tallent	1991
Mental Health Association	1988
New Paris Shop	1980
Norbert Sherbunt, Attorney at Law	1983
Riley Mortuary	1991
School House Pools	1991
Stewart's Shops	1983
Super 8 Motel	1989

*Congratulations!*

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

## Member Benefit Corner

### AUSTIN FINANCIAL

#### Long Term Care Insurance

Do you know?

- There's less than 1/2 of 1% chance of having an auto accident in your lifetime?
- There is less than 1/10th of 1% chance of having a house fire?
- Yet, there is a 50% chance of needing long time care

With the risk that high, should you be looking at Long Term Care insurance (LTCi) as an option?

Are you aware of some of the discounts available for LTCi?

- 10% as a Chamber Member
- 25% if Spouse/Partner applies and qualifies
- 20% NYS Tax Credit

These discounts extend to spouses, parents, grandparents, in-laws, and adult children.

Did you know that businesses can make LTCi available at a discount for their employees and family members at no cost to the Company?

- to help attract and maintain good employees
- to help reduce lost time from work and
- to help reduce lost productivity to the business

*How will I know if LTCi is affordable and suitable for me?  
How will I know if I should be considering it or not?*

If the answers to these questions are important to you, maybe it's worth a call to Al and Judy Austin of Austin Financial for a no obligation free consultation to help take the question marks out of your questions. You can also email Judy at [judithaustin@financialguide.com](mailto:judithaustin@financialguide.com).

### Washington continued

Also discussed were the rules prohibiting riders from New York City and Montreal to be able to bring their bicycles onto Amtrak trains. Allowing them to do so would provide easier access to our communities and businesses.

Meeting as a group was productive in that we were able to discuss the issues that can assist our region in continued development and growth collaboratively. It was also an opportunity to hear from our representatives about the

### Golf Tournament continued

organizations, and youth oriented recreational outlets. The NBT Mohawk Valley Classic assists both organizations in reaching their goals of improving the quality of life for Montgomery County.

Thanks to this year's sponsors:



We thank our sponsors for their continued support of this event. Many of them have been involved in this tournament since its inception, their contributions are invaluable.

Registration is still only \$125 per golfer. Golfers are provided a gift pack, lunch, dinner, golf, cart and the opportunity to have fun! See the enclosed registration form or download one from the Chamber's website at [www.montgomerycountyny.com](http://www.montgomerycountyny.com) under "forms and applications".

actions they are taking and what they are working on to address these challenges.

The chamber execs met with representatives from the offices of Senator Gillibrand and Senator Schumer, as well as Congressman Chris Gibson and Congressman Paul Tonko. The chambers will be working on another regional trip and will be inviting business representatives to join us as well.



## 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)  
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The Chamber is also now on

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Chamber of Commerce**



MONTGOMERY COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

1166 Riverfront Center  
Amsterdam, New York 12010  
(518) 842-8200 • Fax: (518) 684-0111  
E-mail: chamber@montgomerycountyny.com  
Website: www.montgomerycountyny.com

**Member**

- American Chamber of Commerce Executives Association
- Business Council of New York State
- Center for Economic Growth
- Chamber Alliance of New York State
- Farmer's Direct Marketing Association
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**UPcoming EVENTS!**

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

7/14 ~ **Celebration Cruise: 1 River. 12 Chambers, Boarding 5:30-6 p.m., cruise 6-8 p.m.** Come aboard as we gather a dozen area chambers of commerce for "Celebration Cruise: 1 River. 12 Chambers" on the Captain JP II on Thursday, July 14. Here's a rare opportunity to connect with business professionals from all 12 chambers in the greater Tech Valley region, making this a "must-attend" event. The Celebration Cruise will include non-stop networking, live entertainment, valuable door prizes, hot hors d'oeuvres, drink specials, and so much more, all in a fun and relaxed setting. Tickets are \$36 per person. Please remember: a reservation paid is a reservation made. Register with the Rensselaer Regional Chamber of Commerce online at [www.renscochamber.com](http://www.renscochamber.com) or contact Kate Ollier, programs & communications manager, at 274.7474. Sponsored by CDPHP, with media sponsorship by Times Union.

7/21 ~ **The NBT Mohawk Valley Classic Golf Tournament, Amsterdam Municipal Golf Course, Upper Van Dyke Ave, Amsterdam, 10:30am Registration, 12 Noon Shotgun Start.** Join the Chamber & the United Way for a fun day of golf and networking. Registration \$125 per golfer, includes greens fees, cart, on-course refreshments, lunch, dinner, prizes, raffles and more! Proceeds to benefit the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce and The United Way of Montgomery County. Sponsorship opportunities are still available. For more information or to register call 842-8200 or see enclosed insert.

7/28 ~ **Karen's Ice Cream & Produce Business Mixer, 2311 State Highway 5s, Amsterdam, 5-7pm.** Come out and support Karen's Ice Cream & Produce, the recipient of the Chamber's 2011 Agricultural Award! Join the Chamber and host Deanna Nelson, for an evening of networking and socializing with other business professionals. This is a great opportunity to mingle with colleagues and prospective customers while picking up some in-season vegetables, or enjoying an ice cream cone! Hors d'oeuvres and refreshments will be provided.



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our website: [chestnuthillapartments.net](http://chestnuthillapartments.net)



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