

# NEWSLINE

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



October 2019

## Impact Of Area Traveler Spending More Than \$107 Million in 2018

By Jessica Ford

Newsline Editor

Traveler spending in Fulton and Montgomery counties has increased consistently over the past 5 years, to have a 2018 impact of more than \$107 Million on the local economy.

That impact translates directly to the wallets of local residents. According to a recent report, were it not for tourism-generated state and local taxes, the average household in the region would have to pay between \$677 to \$970 more per year to maintain the same level of government revenue.

Mark Kilmer, President of the Fulton Montgomery County Regional Chamber of Commerce, said, "We are happy to hear the great news from this report, showing that travelers enjoy visiting and spending in Fulton and Montgomery counties, and greater numbers are discovering this amazing area each year. The Chamber will continue, in partnership with our county governments and tourism businesses, to promote the incredible resources we have and continue to foster



Hikers start a summer trek through the Southern Adirondack forest in Fulton County.

new growth."

Statistics for 2018 tourism spending were recently released for New York State and each tourism region, by Tourism Economics, an Oxford Economics company – one of the world's leading providers of economic analysis, forecasts and consulting advice.

According to Tourism Economics, New York State's

tourism economy expanded in 2018 with 6.2 percent growth in traveler spending, reaching a new high of \$71.8 billion – 35 percent above the state's pre-recession peak set in 2008.

Key data illustrate the industry's performance: Room demand expanded 4.1 percent in 2018. A 2.3 percent increase in average daily room rates, coupled with strong room demand, led to a total hotel revenue increase of 6.6 percent.

Passenger counts at all NYS airports increased 4.5 percent in 2018, and associated ticket revenue ticked up modestly (+0.7%), following three consecutive years of declines.

Personal income climbed

See Tourism,  
on page 4



Fishermen cast their lines in the Mohawk River, as seen from the Mohawk Valley Gateway Overlook Bridge in Amsterdam, Montgomery County.

### Area Traveler Spending By the Numbers:

**\$64.2 Million**

The total impact of traveler spending in  
Fulton County in 2018

**27.1 percent**

The increase in traveler spending  
in Fulton County from 2014 to 2018

**\$5.19 million**

The amount of traveler spending on lodging in  
Montgomery County in 2018

**25  
percent**

The amount of increase  
in food & beverage  
spending by travelers  
in Montgomery County  
from 2014 to 2018

**12,674**



Total number of  
followers for Fulton  
and Montgomery  
counties Facebook pages,  
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*Newsline* is published by the Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce in partnership with **McClary Media/The Recorder**

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#### Fulton County Tourism

[www.44lakes.com](http://www.44lakes.com) | Facebook: Visit Fulton County, NY  
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#### Montgomery County Tourism

[www.visitmontgomerycountyny.com](http://www.visitmontgomerycountyny.com)  
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## Letter from the President

It's definitely "sweater weather" in Fulton and Montgomery counties, and each weekend is filled with fall festivals and fun events to celebrate the changing of the seasons and the stunning natural resources we enjoy in our two counties.

The lead story in our Newsline this month focuses on tourism and the growth of traveler spending in our communities over the past year, and five-year span.

I'd like to extend kudos to all of our tourism-related businesses, as well as to anyone in our region focusing on bringing people to our community to enjoy it as we do. Those who plan festivals, share fishing tips, invite their family to visit, and even those who are just passing through for a night, are all part of the extensive network of traveler resources that help drive our local economy.

For the first time, Fulton County has broken through the \$60 million level of spending, with more than \$64 million in 2018. Tourism is expanding and growing, and we have nothing but good things to look forward to as each individual business, attraction, restaurant, hotel and tourism entity works individually, but also adds to the collective good.

The Chamber remains committed to promoting the area with a comprehensive program that includes extensive marketing, websites, social media, events and partnerships.

So please join me in sharing a sense of pride in our region, it's beautiful and attractive to visitors, and we are glad to welcome each and every traveler.



**Mark Kilmer**  
President/CEO



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# Chamber's Executive Training Program Underway



Luke Scarchilli of Sandler Training speaks with participants in the 8-week Executive Training Program created in partnership with the Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce. The group's first session was at the Chamber's Gloversville offices.

The Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce partnered with Sandler Training of Cohoes, to present an 8-week Executive Training Program that takes the methodologies of the sales industry's most powerful selling system, and applies them to the issues of management.

Attendees at each week's session receive 2 hours of instruction, followed by discussion led by a host business, along with a tour of the host site.

The course teaches skills and processes for various topics including recruiting and hiring the best candidates; understanding and communicating with staff; staging effective meetings; leadership roles such as supervising, training, coaching and mentoring; and setting goals, time management, and delegation.

For more information about these educational sessions, contact Nicole Tennant at the Chamber, (518) 725-0641 or via email: [info@fultonmontgomeryny.org](mailto:info@fultonmontgomeryny.org).



Businesspeople taking part in the Executive Training Program tour the HFM-BOCES Career and Technical Education — Auto Body Repair / Technology program in Johnstown, as part of their weekly educational session. One aspect of the Executive Training Program is to hold discussion and education while interjecting details from the site host organization.



Executive trainees get to see the HFM-BOCES Career and Technical Education — Cosmetology program as part of their session.

## Chamber Legislative Breakfast Set for November

The Fulton Montgomery Chamber of Commerce 2019 Legislative Breakfast is set for Nov. 14 at Hales Mills Country Club in Johnstown.

The Chamber's Governmental Affairs Committee is sponsor of the event, starting with registration at 7:30 a.m. and program and breakfast at 8 a.m. Attendees will hear firsthand from the state legislators on issues and initiatives for 2019 and beyond. Panelists to be invited include New York State Senator George Amedore, Senator James Tedisco and Assemblyman Robert Smullen.

Chamber President Mark Kilmer said, this event is an informative and valuable time for us to have "all of our legislators in one room" to foster discussion and hear the lawmakers' positions on various issues. It is also a positive forum where attendees and organizers can advocate for the best possible business conditions. Kilmer said one of his priorities is to advocate on behalf of local businesses for "lower taxes and less constraints, for a better climate for business in New York State." The panelists will answer several questions focusing on various topics, including pending laws, current legislation, and the nature of politics in Albany.

Tickets for the 2019 Legislative Breakfast are \$25 for Chamber members and \$30 for future members.

For more information contact Mark Kilmer, Chamber President, at (518) 725-0641, or RSVP to [info@fultonmontgomeryny.org](mailto:info@fultonmontgomeryny.org).

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## Tourism, continued from page 1

4.9 percent over the prior year, outpacing the general economy.

### How Traveler Spending Generates Impact

According to the study, travelers create direct economic value within a discreet group of sectors (e.g. recreation, transportation). This supports a relative proportion of jobs, wages, taxes, and GDP within each sector. Each directly affected sector also purchases goods and services as inputs (e.g. food wholesalers, utilities) into production. These impacts are called indirect impacts. Lastly, the induced impact is generated when employees whose incomes are generated either directly or indirectly by tourism, spend those incomes in the regional economy.

### Fulton County

Fulton County's 5-year growth in tourism spending was a whopping 27 percent since 2014, with a one-year growth from 2017 to 2018 of 10 percent. Last year's total traveler spending was \$64.2 million.

This total tourism spending increase from 2014 to 2018, is on par with growth in Saratoga County, which also

showed a 27 percent increase over the same time period.

Also of note for Fulton County are the spending numbers for second homes. Fulton County was second only to Saratoga County in the region in 2018. Washington, Rensselaer, Albany and Schenectady all lagged behind in this measure. Over 5 years, Fulton County growth in second homes increased by \$6.2 million, or 21.6 percent.

Retail & service stations figures were also impressive for Fulton County, with traveler spending of more than \$6.58 million in 2018. This translates to an increase of \$766,000 or 13.2 percent since 2017. Five-year statistics show growth of 23.3 percent, as spending increased by \$1.24 million.

Traveler spending on recreation also jumped more than 30 percent over 5-years, increasing by \$225,000. One-year figures show \$953,000 for the county in recreation spending, which translates to an increase of \$77,000 or 8.8 percent since 2017.

Were it not for tourism-generated state and local taxes, the average household in the region would have to pay an additional \$677 to maintain



**Visitors to Johnson Hall State Historic Site in Fulton County hear about the life of Sir William Johnson, one of the most influential loyalists to settle the area before the American Revolution.**

the same level of government revenue. (Capital-Saratoga Region includes Albany, Fulton, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady and Washington counties).

### Additional details:

#### Lodging:

1-year statistics: 2018 traveler spending included more than \$9.4 million in lodging sales, which translates to an increase of \$1.5 million (or 19 percent) since 2017.

5-year statistics: Traveler spending on lodging has increased by \$3 million, which represents growth of 46.35 percent.

#### Food & Beverages:

1-year statistics: 2018 traveler spending included more than \$11.48 million in food & beverage sales, which translates to an increase of \$1.03 million (or 9.9 percent) since 2017.

5-year statistics: Traveler spending on food & beverages has increased by \$2.9 million, which represents growth of 33.8 percent.

#### Transportation:

1-year statistics: 2018 traveler spending included more than \$858,000 in transportation sales, which translates to an increase of \$55,000 (or 6.8 percent) since 2017.

5-year statistics: Traveler spending on transportation has increased by \$119,000, which represents growth of 16.1 percent.

### Montgomery County

Montgomery County also saw growth in traveler spending, with an increase over the past 5 years of 10.5 percent, from spending 2014 of \$39 million, to \$43.1 million last year.

The Food & Beverages

sector showed significant growth over 5 years, with a 25 percent increase. Spending of more than \$12 million was tracked in 2018.

Recreation spending numbers ramped up by 26 percent in the county between 2014 and 2018, with a total growth for five years, of \$244,000. Over the 2017-2018 year period, the county showed a 5.9 percent growth, or \$66,000 increase.

Lodging spending of \$5.2 million in 2018 showed an increase of 19.5 percent over the year, or \$848,000. Five-year figures showed a 15.5 percent increase, which translates to \$699,000.

Were it not for tourism-generated state and local taxes, the average household in the region would have to pay an additional \$970 to maintain the same level of government revenue. (Central New York Region includes Broome, Chenango, Herkimer, Montgomery, Madison, Oneida, Otsego and Schoharie counties).

### Additional Details:

#### Second Homes:

1-year statistics: 2018 traveler spending included more than \$2.48 million in

sales, which translates to an increase of \$132,000 (or 5.6 percent) since 2017.

5-year statistics: Traveler spending on second homes has increased by \$303,000, which represents growth of 13.8 percent.

#### Food & Beverages:

1-year statistics: 2018 traveler spending included more than \$12 million in food & beverage sales, which translates to an increase of \$745,000 (or 6.6 percent) since 2017.

5-year statistics: Traveler spending on food & beverages has increased by \$2.4 million, which represents growth of 25 percent.

#### Retail & Service Stations:

1-year statistics: 2018 traveler spending included more than \$4.7 million in retail & service station sales, which translates to an increase of \$300,000 (or 6.5 percent) since 2017.

5-year statistics: Traveler spending on retail & service stations has increased by \$241,000, which represents growth of 5.3 percent.

#### Transportation:

1-year statistics: 2018 traveler spending included more than \$17.4 million in transportation sales, which translates to an increase of \$761,000 (or 4.6 percent) since 2017.

5-year statistics: Over five years, traveler spending on transportation has remained fairly flat, with an increase of only \$207,000, or growth of 1.2 percent.

Kilmer noted that the Chamber's tourism program currently works within a comprehensive plan that is activated each calendar year, and includes a vibrant website, events calendars, extensive marketing, and cooperation with local and regional partners.



**A snowmobile rider stops for a moment before continuing to ride across the frozen Great Sacandaga Lake, a Mecca for ice fishing.**



**A day on the fishing boat beats almost any day. There are 44 lakes in Fulton County for fishermen to test their skills on.**



**This boat is preparing to leave Lock 13 on the Erie Canal in Montgomery County.**



# Mohawk Overlook Named 'Great Place' by National Association

The American Planning Association (APA) named the Mohawk Valley Gateway Overlook in Amsterdam, one of six Great Public Spaces on APA's annual Great Places in America list.

APA announced the Great Places at its Planners' Day on Capitol Hill, which is part of APA's annual Policy and Advocacy Conference. This announcement begins the official countdown to National Community Planning Month celebrated each October, a time to honor and promote the incredible community efforts that make their Great Places possible.

The American Planning Association's Great Places in America program recognizes the streets, neighborhoods and public spaces in the United States demonstrating exceptional character, quality and planning attributes that enrich communities, facilitate economic growth, and inspire others around the country. The Great Neighborhoods, Great Streets and Great Public Spaces of 2019 are places that are unique and exemplary in their success stories of revitalization, cultural identity, and strong community connection. The American Planning Association took an in-depth look at submissions from 28 states, and this year, APA recognized 13 designees across three categories and the Mohawk Valley Gateway Overlook was one of the six Great Public Spaces that were awarded.

City of Amsterdam Mayor Michael Villa stated, "It is with great pride to accept this award on behalf of the City of Amsterdam. This marquee award exemplifies the strides our city has made and we look forward to sharing this recognition with our community and beyond."

Only four other places in New York State have received this award, they are Central Park, New York, NY, Delaware Park, Buffalo, NY, Grand Central Terminal, NY and Queens Botanical Garden Flushing, NY.

Now the Mohawk Valley Gateway Overlook Bridge sits amongst these great public spaces. Mayor Michael J. Villa, United States Congressman Paul Tonko and New York State Assemblyman Angelo Santabarbara were in Washington D.C. to accept the

award on behalf of the City of Amsterdam.

"I am deeply moved and gratified by this national recognition for our Mohawk Valley Gateway Overlook and the years of work, planning and the community embrace that have made it what it is today. While our vision for Amsterdam's rebuilding has always been faithful, great planning has delivered us here, ready to seize this comeback opportunity. I could not be more proud today to join with you to celebrate my hometown and our home of Amsterdam, New York" said United State Congressman Paul Tonko.



LEFT: Amsterdam Mayor Michael J. Villa accepts the award from New York State Assemblyman Angelo Santabarbara in Washington D.C.

"Since its opening, this transformational project has become a unique regional attraction unlike any other in this

area of upstate New York—bringing families, friends and neighbors together with visitors from as far away as Canada

to celebrate the rebirth of the great City of Amsterdam" said Assemblyman Angelo Santabarbara.



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## Health Insurance News

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### Overview

The Department of Labor (DOL) recently proposed changes to the forms that are frequently used for administering employee leaves under the federal Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA). The DOL is asking for the public to comment on the proposed revisions by Oct. 4, 2019.

According to the DOL, the proposed changes are intended to increase FMLA compliance and reduce the burden on employers, employees and health care providers by making the forms easier to use. The proposed changes would:

- Reduce the number of questions that require written responses (and replace them with check boxes);
- Reorganize the medical certification forms to simplify

the determination of a serious health condition; and

- Expand the instructions to clarify how to accurately complete the forms.

### Action Steps

Employers that use the DOL's model FMLA forms should watch for developments related to these proposed changes. The draft revisions are in proposed form for comment only. At this point, they should not be used to administer FMLA leaves.

### FMLA Forms

The federal FMLA requires private sector employers with 50 or more employees, schools and public agencies to provide unpaid, job-protected leave to eligible employees for certain family and medical reasons.

The DOL created seven forms to help employers and employees meet their notice obligations under the FMLA. These forms are free and publicly available on the DOL's website at: [www.dol.gov/whd/fmla/forms.htm](http://www.dol.gov/whd/fmla/forms.htm).

Employers are not required to use these model FMLA forms, although the use of these forms (properly completed) may help employers satisfy their FMLA notice obligations.

### Proposed Changes

The DOL has proposed revisions to its model FMLA forms for the stated purpose of increasing compliance with the FMLA and reducing the burden on the public by making the forms easier to use. More specifically, the DOL says it hopes to reduce the number of forms returned for additional information because they are considered incomplete or contain insufficient information.

The DOL also wants to reduce the amount of time it takes to complete some of the forms.

The DOL is requesting public comment on the proposed changes to the forms, which include:

- Fewer questions requiring written responses (re-

placed with statements that can be verified by checking a box);

- Reorganization of the medical certification forms to more quickly determine if a medical condition is a serious health condition as defined by the FMLA;
- Clarifications to reduce the demand on health care providers for follow-up information;

— More information on the notification forms to better communicate specific information about leave conditions to employees;

- Changes to the qualifying exigency certification form to provide clarity to employees about what information is required;
- Changes to the military caregiver leave forms to improve consistency and ease of use; and

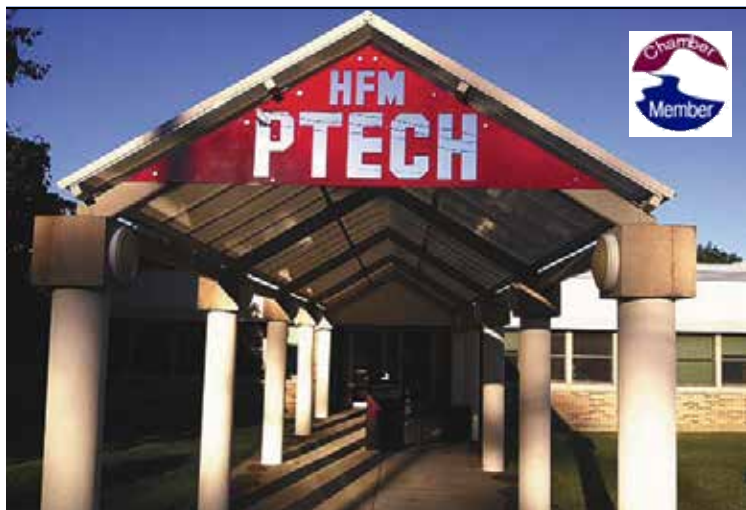
— Layout and style changes to reduce blank space and improve readability.

- Comments on the proposed changes must be submitted by Oct. 4, 2019. The

proposed changes to each of the forms are available at:

- + Form WH-380-E – Certification of Health Care Provider for Employee's Serious Health Condition
- + Form WH-380-F – Certification of Health Provider for Family Member's Serious Health Condition
- + Form WH-381 – Notice of Eligibility and Rights and Responsibilities
- + Form WH-382 – Designation Notice
- + Form WH-384 – Certification of Qualifying Exigency for Military Family Leave
- + Form WH-385 – Certification for Serious Injury or Illness of Covered Servicemember for Military Family Leave
- + Form WH-385-V – Certification for Serious Injury or Illness of a Veteran for Military Caregiver Leave

These draft revisions are in proposed form for comment only. At this point, they should not be used to administer FMLA leaves.



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Contact Nicole Walrath at

(518) 725-0641 or [nicolew@fultonmontgomeryny.org](mailto:nicolew@fultonmontgomeryny.org) for more information.



## DaBiere-Gibbs Joins Statewide Tourism Board

Fulton County Tourism Director Gina DaBiere-Gibbs was elected to the board of directors of the New York State Travel Industry Association at their Annual Meeting held in September in Auburn, NY.

The newly elected and re-elected members include Valerie Knoblauch, Finger Lakes Visitors Connection; Sara Poe, Strong National Museum of Play; Nick Calderazzo, Twin Travel Concepts; Corey Fram, 1000 Islands International Tourism Council; Gina DaBiere-Gibbs, Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce; Jennifer Ackerson, Alon Marketing Group; and Ken Meifert, National Baseball Hall of Fame.

NYSTIA is governed by a 25-member board of directors who represent the travel industry's various sectors and work together to provide leadership and overall guidance to NYSTIA's mission and operations.

"The NYSTIA board of directors welcomes and looks forward to the insight, expertise and knowledge of our new



Gina DaBiere-Gibbs

members who are distinguished and accomplished leaders in our industry," said Valerie Knoblauch, NYSTIA Immediate Past Chair. "We also extend our gratitude to Janet Clerkin, Jaime Claudio, and Talia Cass, for their years of service and leadership on the board," she said.

The following officers were elected to lead the board of directors: Chair – Natasha Caputo, Westchester County Tourism; First Vice Chair – Josiah Brown, New York's Best Experiences; Second Vice Chair – Matt Mitchell, Corporate Communications; Treasurer – Kelly Rapone, Genesee County Chamber of Commerce; and Secretary – Ron Ofner, Adirondack Regional Tourism Council.

"We are excited to welcome these talented and dynamic executives to the NYSTIA board of directors. Their knowledge, expertise and energy will contribute significantly to the momentum of our organization and its value to our membership," said Bob Provost, NYSTIA President & CEO.



## Walleye Challenge Ice Fishing Tournament Gives Back to the Great Sacandaga Lake

Representatives of the Eleventh Annual Walleye Challenge Ice Fishing Tournament presented a \$1,000 check, as well as \$518 from a special raffle raised by event co-coordinator Lou Stutzke to the Great Sacandaga Lake Fisheries Federation for fish stocking this fall. Stutzke is owner of Fuel-N-Food in Mayfield.

The Walleye Challenge was held on Feb. 16, 2019 on the Great Sacandaga Lake. Director of Tourism, Gina DaBiere-Gibbs, presented the check to Randy Gardinier of the Great Sacandaga Lake Fisheries Federation at a recent ceremony at the Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce.

The tournament registered 1750 fishing enthusiasts with approximately 55 percent of the registered participants from outside of Fulton County, representing ten states outside of New York: Connecticut, Florida,



(L-R) Walleye Challenge Co-coordinator Lou Stutzke of Fuel-N-Food and Gina DaBiere-Gibbs, Director of Tourism, present cash and a check to Great Sacandaga Lake Fisheries Federation President, Randy Gardinier. Missing from the photo is Walleye Challenge Co-coordinator, Hank "Beaver" Ross.

Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Virginia.

The event has sold out in each of the eleven years it has been held.

The 2020 Walleye Ice Fishing Tournament is sched-

uled for Saturday, Feb. 15, 2020. Anyone interested in adding their name to the event's mailing list is asked to call the Fulton County Tourism Department at (518) 725-0641 or to send a request via e-mail to [tourism@fulton-montgomeryny.org](mailto:tourism@fulton-montgomeryny.org).

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# Fulton Montgomery Chamber of Commerce Annual Golf Classic

## Sponsors, Players, Volunteers Come Together For A Great Cause

Many generous corporate sponsors and a great field of golfers made the Fulton Montgomery Chamber of Commerce's Golf Tournament a fun-filled fundraising day on Sept. 20. Funds from the event will support the high-school scholarship program spearheaded by the Chamber, and will help the Chamber to continue to present business-enhancing programming for members throughout the year.

In June 2019, four worthy seniors from local high schools were awarded \$1,000 each in scholarship money.

The tournament is held in alternating counties each year, with this year's event in Fulton County at Hales Mills Country Club in Johnstown. Golfers received a signature souvenir gift, as well as breakfast treats, lunch on the course, beverages, an hors d'oeuvres hour immediately after play, and dinner. Awards were given for the lowest-scoring foursomes, as well as to contest winners. This year's champions were from the St. Mary's Healthcare foursome, that included Ron Limoncelli, "Butch" Greco, Bob Kosineski and Tony Torani.

Chamber President Mark Kilmer thanked all of the sponsors during the dinner and awards portion of the day. He said, "We could not have made this event a success without all of our sponsors, volunteers and players today. Our heartfelt thanks goes out to all of our participants."

The event's Presenting Sponsor was Bouchey & Clark; Apparel Sponsor was St. Mary's Healthcare; Dinner Sponsors included First Light and Nathan Littauer Hospital & Nursing Home.

Cocktail Sponsor was NextEra Energy Resources, LLC; and Lunch Sponsors included Dollar General; Miracle Ear; National Grid and SWANY America



Foursome members watch as a teammate tees off during the annual Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce Golf Classic, held on Sept. 20 at Hales Mills Country Club in Johnstown.



Tournament players observe as a teammate putts the ball during the Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce Golf Classic.



Chamber staff members Tara Ryczek and Gina DaBiere-Gibbs (left and right) pose at the "Margarita Tee" with tournament volunteer Shannon Armstrong of TYSYS.

Corporation.

Media Sponsors included *The Leader-Herald*; McClary Media; and AM 1340 WENT. Water Sponsor was CG Roxane. Specialty Drink Hole Sponsor was Alpin Haus.

Hole-In-One Sponsors were Brown's Ford/ Brown's Collision; and Adirondack Harley-Davidson, Inc.

Beverage Cart Sponsors included Community Bank, N.A.; Fuel-N-Food Inc; Holiday Inn Johnstown-Gloversville; River Ridge Living Center; Steet Toyota of Johnstown-Gloversville; Universal Warehousing, Inc.; and Wells Fargo Advisors.

Tee & Contest Sponsors were: Apollo Northeast Sales and Service; Benson's Pet Center; State Farm

**See Golf, on page 9**



**Thank You!**

The Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce would like to thank the sponsors, volunteers and golfers who made the 2019 Chamber Golf Classic a success!

Proceeds will benefit the Chamber's High School Scholarship Program, as well as business development programs available to Chamber members.

Presenting Sponsor		Apparel Sponsor	Dinner Sponsors	Cocktail Sponsor	Lunch Sponsors	
 		 	 		  	
					 	

**Media Sponsors:** The Leader-Herald; McClary Media; 1340 WENT    **Water Sponsor:** CG Roxane    **Specialty Drink Hole Sponsor:** Alpin Haus

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 Steet Toyota of Johnstown-Gloversville; Universal Warehousing, Inc.; Wells Fargo Advisors

<p><b>TEE &amp; CONTEST SPONSORS</b></p> <p>Apollo Northeast Sales and Service            Benson's Pet Center            State Farm Insurance, Jenny Rulison-Fisch            Brett A. Preston, Attorney and Counselor at Law</p>	<p>Coldwell Banker Arlene M. Sitterly, Inc.            DeGiulio Brothers Flooring Derby            Office Equipment            Dunlap Chiropractic            Adirondack Harley-Davidson, Inc.            Gabriel Contractors of Amsterdam, Inc.</p>	<p>Fulton County Barbershop Corp.            Fulmont Community Action Agency            Argersinger Office Complex, Gloversville            First National Bank of Scotia            Brown's Ford / Brown's Collision            WEST &amp; Co. C.P.A.s, PC</p>	<p>Jankowski Agency, Inc.            Philip Beckett C.P.A., P.C.            Letter Memorial Co.            Pineview Commons L.L.C.            FAGE USA Dairy Industry            Sen. George Amedore, Jr.            Shannon-Rose Design            Liberty ARC            Gloversville Sewing Center, Inc.</p>	<p>Mental Health Association in Fulton &amp; Montgomery Counties</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AND...</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Special thanks to our dedicated volunteers, and all of our GOLFERS!</p>
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## Golf, continued from page 8

Insurance, Jenny Rulison-Fisch; Brett A. Preston, Attorney and Counselor at Law; Coldwell Banker Arlene M. Sitterly, Inc.; DeGiulio Brothers Flooring; Derby Office Equipment; Dunlap Chiropractic; Gabriel Contractors of Amsterdam, Inc.; Fulton County Barbershop Corp.; Fulmont Community Action Agency; Argersinger Office Complex, Gloversville; First National Bank of Scotia; WEST & Co. C.P.A.s, PC; Jankowski Agency, Inc.; Philip Beckett C.P.A., P.C.; Letter Memorial Co.; Pineview Commons L.L.C.; FAGE USA Dairy Industry; Sen. George Amedore, Jr.; Shannon-Rose Design; Liberty ARC; Gloversville Sewing Center, Inc. and the Mental Health Association in Fulton & Montgomery Counties.



Chamber Staff Members Nicole Tennant, left, and Becky Dutcher, man one of the popular Beverage Carts on the course during the tournament.

## County Crisis Intervention Team Completes Training

Members of the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office and the Amsterdam Police Department concluded a five-day Crisis Intervention Team training in August, where road patrol officers were taught how to identify individuals with mental illnesses, to help divert these individuals into treatment facilities or support services, and to eliminate adverse incidents between officers and individuals suffering from mental illness.

Elected officials and Montgomery County representatives kicked off the county's CIT team in April. Montgomery County Undersheriff Carl Rust and Amsterdam Police Chief Gregory Culick congratulated the group for completing the course. "We know that this training is very important," Rust said. "We deal with people in society everyday, we are hoping that we are educating our personnel, all of you, to be selective,



Members of the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office and the Amsterdam Police Department, along with instructors, shown after the conclusion of a 5-day Crisis Intervention Team training.

professional and also helping these people in need."

"I think you guys who volunteered to do this are the cream of the crop for APD, you really have your heart set in the right place," Culick said.

"Montgomery County has always had a good response to addressing mental health crisis and emergencies but as with all things, the population is evolving and changing," Public and Mental Health Director Sara Boerenko said. "This training program has been one piece to the larger puzzle of

the behavioral health system. I am hopeful that this CIT will allow officers, community members and the service providers to better serve those who are suffering with mental illness."

"With this type of training, what we learned it's invaluable because it's safer for responding officers, it's safer for the community and it's safer for the people who are actually going through a crisis and it's going to be just more beneficial for their outcomes," Amsterdam Police Sgt. Robert Caputo said.

**Congratulations** to these local businesses for taking action against cancer by adopting a paid time off benefit for cancer screenings!



**Thank you for promoting and increasing workforce health by providing your employees with a paid time off benefit to get life-saving cancer screenings.**

**To learn more about how your business or organization can take action against cancer, contact the Cancer Prevention in Action Program at St. Mary's Healthcare at 518-770-6815**

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# Upcoming Chamber Events

Be sure to check out our website for more details and updates at [www.fultonmontgomeryny.org](http://www.fultonmontgomeryny.org)

**Thursday,  
Oct. 3, 2019:**

## Snyder's Convenient Corner Ribbon Cutting

Snyder's Convenient Corner celebrate their grand opening on October 3 at 11:30 a.m. with a ribbon cutting ceremony in front of their store at 60 Elmwood Ave., Gloversville, with the help of the FM Chamber.

Join us in celebration in front of the plaza as we welcome this wonderful new business into our region. The Snyder family is excited to delve into this new venture and provide the luxuries of convenience. Snyder's offers a bit of everything: seasoned firewood, ice, craft/regular beer, groceries, tobacco, specialty items, etc.. Their deli offers Boar's Head meats and cheeses, in-house salads, and prime cuts of meat. They just started making sandwiches to order too!

**Friday,  
Oct. 4, 2019:**

## 'Remembering Sue' — Gallery Opening at Chamber Rotunda

The Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce will host an exhibit to commemorate life-long Johnstown resident Sue G. D'Amore. The exhibit entitled, "Remembering Sue" will be on display in the Chamber Rotunda, 2 N. Main St., Gloversville, throughout the months of October and November.

The Gallery is open for viewing Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. An Art Show Reception with complimentary refreshments is set for Friday, October 4 from 5-8 p.m. for the public.

Most of the 62 piece exhibit will be available for purchase during the show. For more information or to inquire about showing your artwork in our Gallery Rotunda please

call Nicole Tennant at (518) 725-0641 or e-mail [info@fultonmontgomeryny.org](mailto:info@fultonmontgomeryny.org).

**Thursday,  
Oct. 10, 2019:**

## Business After Hours — Capstone Center for Rehabilitation and Nursing

Come join Capstone Center for Rehabilitation and Nursing and FMRCC for an evening of fantastic food, networking, and fun at this great Business After Hours from 5-7 p.m. Guests will receive gifts from Capstone, enjoy festive snacks and beverages, and enjoy hand-made décor by the residents.

For more information, or to register, please contact James Hannahs at the Chamber: (518) 725-0641 or [membership@fultonmontgomeryny.org](mailto:membership@fultonmontgomeryny.org).

Capstone Center for Rehabilitation and Nursing specializes in long-term and short-term skilled, intermediate and sub-acute nursing and rehabilitative care, including 24-hour skilled nursing, comprehensive physical, occupational and speech therapies. To learn more, please visit [www.capstonecenterrehab.com](http://www.capstonecenterrehab.com).

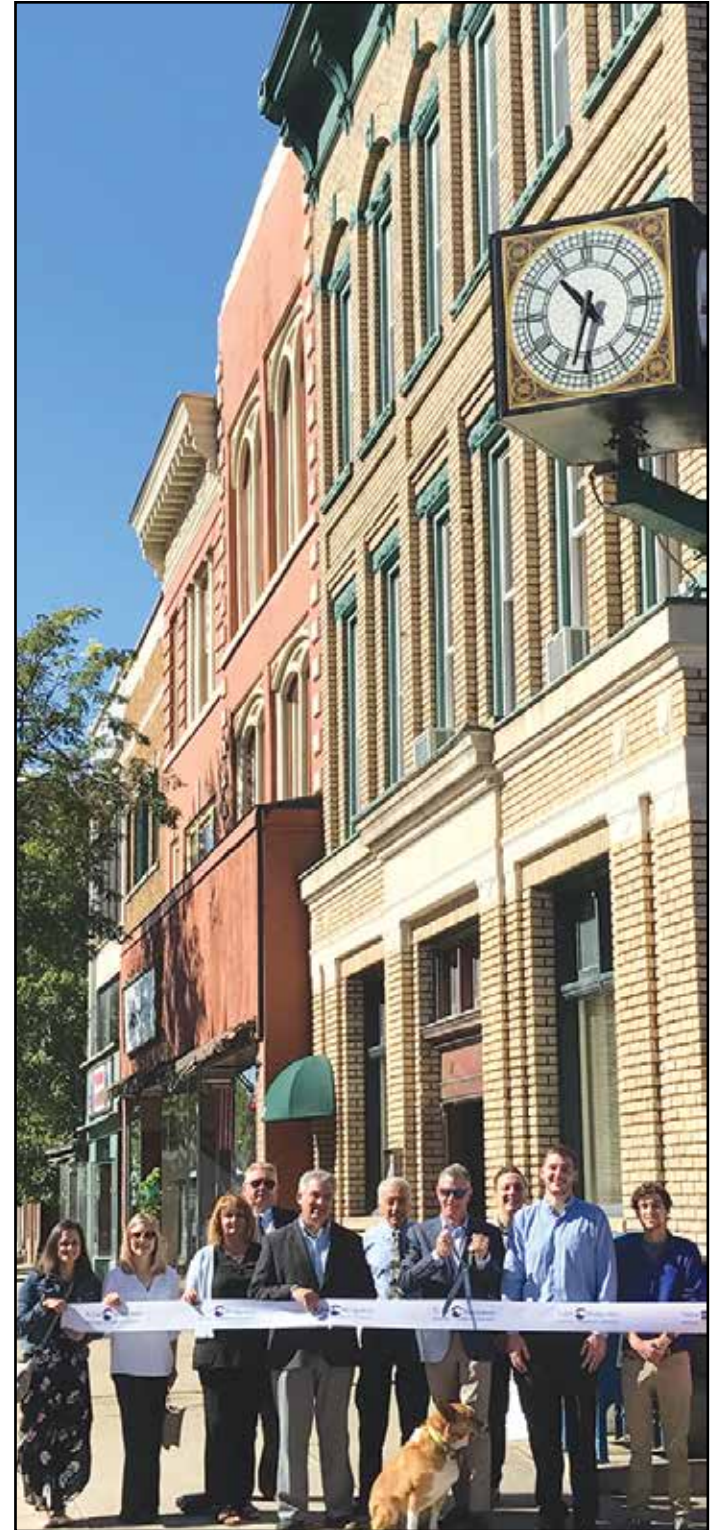
**Wednesday,  
Oct. 23, 2019:**

## Grand Opening — MedSpa Amsterdam

Check out MedSpa Amsterdam's new location in the Clock Tower of Amsterdam on October 23 from 5-7 p.m. Get to know the vast amount of services MedSpa offers and speak to Dr. Ryan about the various benefits of their spa and skin treatments.

Also, for all HR Professionals, learn how MedSpa can be the perfect addition to your company's sponsored benefit packages for employees, and how spa treatments can ultimately lead to increased employee satisfaction and strength for the bottom line. For more information, contact James Hannahs at (518) 725-0641 or [membership@fultonmontgomeryny.org](mailto:membership@fultonmontgomeryny.org).

## Ribbon-Cutting: Powersports Insurance Agency, Inc.



Powersports Insurance Agency, Inc. of Gloversville, along with the Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce, hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony in September. The ceremony was in honor of a new partnership between Powersports Insurance Agency and the Chamber, as well as to highlight their brand-new rotating sign towering over North Main Street. Chamber staff and President/CEO Mark Kilmer, Mike Schaus from WENT, Mayor Vince DeSantis, and President Sam Hoyer, and his team of professionals from Powersports Insurance Agency came together to showcase the new addition to the Downtown Gloversville landscape. Powersports Insurance Agency, located at 21 North Main St., is a specialized recreational-lines agency. Fast growth at the agency has been achieved by concentrating on point-of-sale marketing with power sports dealerships including off road vehicle, motorcycle, snowmobile, boat and RV segments. They are licensed and doing business in every state except Hawaii. The Powersports Agency also writes traditional insurance including home, auto, and small business.



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# 'Remembering Sue' Show to Memorialize Local Artist's Life

The Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce will host an exhibit to commemorate life-long Johnstown resident Sue G. D'Amore. The exhibit entitled, "Remembering Sue" will be on display in the Chamber Rotunda, 2 N. Main St., Gloversville, throughout the months of October and November.

The Gallery is open for viewing Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. An Art Show Reception with complimentary refreshments is set for Friday, October 4 from 5-8 p.m. for the public.

Susan was a lifetime resident of Johnstown, NY. Born on September 2, 1947, she grew up through the 1950s as a whimsical daydreamer. She could transform luggage into a riding pony. She would draw and color and play with dolls like a lot of kids do. She could escape into her own world for hours, making worlds of her own. In the 1960s her aesthetic interests molded to societal norms, all things fashion and an interest in beauty. This led to attending cosmetology school to be a hairdresser. This didn't stick as a vocation, but she certainly practiced on herself and her kids a lot over the years. From coloring to styling, she was not afraid to try something new. But after a while she began to look for something else to nurture her creative impulses.

In the 1970s she started to get serious about her creative life. Starting with simple



Sue G. D'Amore

matronly crafts like knitting and crochet, she would create socks, sweaters and blankets for her kids, nieces, nephews and friends. Being a stay at home mom, she made time every day to make something, often using patterns provided in magazines.

By the 1980s her interests began to evolve, eventually taking on the challenges of mastering quilting. She dabbled with drawing and painting but lacked confidence enough to put serious effort into it. Quilting became her singular interest. She taught herself pattern making using shape, color and pattern.

By the 1990s, with her kids in college, she had more time on her hands, so she dove into a broader range of crafts including doll making and miniature models. These crafts carried over the skill and attention to detail she developed with quilting, and turned it up a notch. This period of her

life was very productive, even taking to the arts and crafts fair circuit to sell some of her work.

In the 2000s with her grandchildren on the scene, she finally put her energy into truly learning the refined skill of pencil drawing. The advent of the internet offered her an opportunity to learn techniques that she might otherwise not have learned in art school, doing human portraits, animal portraits, architectural illustrations, flowers and still life. Just as when she was a kid, she would lose herself in time and place when working on a drawing. Her drawings would eventually reach a level of skill that rivals any fine artist.

These all are the artifacts of a creative soul that needed to make something, to make an imprint in the world, to be seen.

Susan died on May 22, 2019 after a 10-month battle with cancer at the too-young age of 71. She left behind her greatest creative accomplishment, her family, husband Carm, son David (Virginia), son Daniel (Tory) and grandchildren Augustus, Azya, Cecelia and Skylar. This show is offered as memorial for and love letter to Sue, from her family, to celebrate her life and her artistic contributions.

Most of the 62 piece exhibit will be available for purchase during the show. For more information please call Nicole Tennant at (518) 725-0641 or e-mail [info@fultonmontgomeryny.org](mailto:info@fultonmontgomeryny.org).

## Vendors Wanted for Nigra Arts Center Event

The Paul Nigra Center for Creative Arts will host a Shop, Sip and Savor Event on Friday, Nov. 8, 2019 at its facility at 2736 State Highway 30, Gloversville. The event is focused on women and will feature products and services from dozens of businesses and gifts and items for the upcoming holidays. The event will be open to the public and tickets for the event will be available in early October.

The Nigra Arts Center is looking for vendors for the event – retailers, shop-at-home, direct-selling businesses and more are encouraged to apply. Wine and liquor stores/vendors will be offered discounted booths

for providing tastings that evening. There are a number of different spaces available at the event for \$75 each; members of the Nigra Arts Center will get a 20% discount on their booth space. Vendors are able to sell their products and services at the event. There will be refreshments provided to vendors and attendees at the event.

Vendor applications are available on the Nigra Arts Center website, <https://www.pncreativeartscenter.org/news>. For more information visit the Nigra Arts Center website, its Facebook page, email [info@pnarts.org](mailto:info@pnarts.org) or call (518) 661-9932.

## Businesses: Sign-up Now To Accept Chamber Checks This Holiday Season

Members of the Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce are invited to participate in a marketing opportunity that helps keep shopping dollars local, by joining the Chamber Checks program.

Chamber Checks are issued by the Chamber in the form of a check. Anyone can purchase Chamber Checks in any denomination at the Chamber office, 2 N. Main Street, Gloversville. When a Chamber Check is presented to your business, you honor it as cash, and deposit it into your business account. Chamber officials said, "It's as easy as ACCEPT, ENDORSE, DEPOSIT!"

Chamber checks allow the recipient to choose where and what they would like to spend their check on — from auto repairs to clothing, travel plans to groceries, and much more. It is flexible, and keeps shopping dollars in our local economy.

Participating businesses are promoted in the Chamber's newsletter, and in local media outlets through publicity and advertising of the program. Each Chamber Check recipient also receives a listing of participating businesses with their check.

Chamber Member businesses who would like to join the program for the coming holiday season are asked to pay a \$25 fee and join by Nov. 1, 2019. Contact the Chamber (518) 725-0641, or email [bdutcher@fultonmontgomeryny.org](mailto:bdutcher@fultonmontgomeryny.org) to sign up.



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## Membership News



**James Hannahs**  
Membership Coordinator  
Membership@fultonmontgomeryny.org  
518-725-0641

### Businesses Invited To Join Festival of Trees

Now is the chance for business owners to create a little holiday spirit for staff and the community, as the Century Club of Amsterdam is hosting its annual Festival of Trees across Fulton and Montgomery Counties in the spirit of celebrating the 2019 holiday season.

Businesses throughout the region are encouraged to take part in the event by competing for Best in Show, which will be awarded to the tree with the most votes from the event's attendees.

The weeklong Festival of Trees is the Century Club's main fundraising event as they kick off the month of December. Over 100 volunteers decorate the Club's hall with garland, wreaths, and trees sponsored by local businesses.

To participate in the festivities and this year's "Polar Express" theme, contact the Century Club of Amsterdam to be put on the list of contributing businesses and sponsors. In order to qualify for the December 7-14 festival, trees and sponsor forms must be completed by November 29, 2019. While there is no cost for businesses to participate with their own tree, sponsored trees are available through the Century Club.

Established in 1924 by a group of women interested in joining together to social-

ize and serve their community, The Century Club opens its doors to the public for all events. The club's space is handicapped accessible, features a gift shop with affordable items, and continues their mission for Amsterdam and its surrounding communities.

For more information, contact me at the FM Chamber at (518) 725-0641, or Kim Rogers at the Century Club of Amsterdam at (518) 813-8254.

### Business After Hours – Angelica's Angels

Angelica's Angels celebrated their grand opening in September with a beautiful reception and ribbon cutting. Attendees enjoyed a night filled with networking, decadent onsite catering, and libations as staff, FMRCC representatives, and community supporters gathered to welcome Angelica's Angels into the community. Angelica's Angels offers



state-of-the-art adult daycare facilities and respite care for seniors seeking a fun, clean, and caring health and wellness club. They are located at 188 Riverside Drive in Fultonville and can be

reached at (518) 763-5384.

For more information on how your business can become a member of the Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce, please call at (518) 725-0641.



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## Welcome New Members!

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

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## New Dense Breast Tissue Diagnostics Available at Nathan Littauer Hospital

Nathan Littauer Hospital now offers Automated Breast Ultrasound for better evaluation of women with dense breasts. The hospital's Diagnostic Imaging Department recently installed the Invenia™ ABUS 2.0, a technology approved by the FDA for breast cancer screening as an adjunct to mammography for women with dense breast tissue. The system demonstrates a 35.7 percent improvement in cancer detection in women with dense breasts without prior breast intervention.

Nathan Littauer employee, Tammy Gerdes, Senior Mammography Technologist, said, "At Nathan Littauer Hospital, we strive to provide our patients with the best technology available for their health care. We are pleased to announce the addition of an Automated Breast Ultrasound System to coincide with screening mammography for our patients with dense breast tissue."

Dense breast tissue has been found to be the most common risk factor for the development of cancer. It also makes cancer more difficult to detect using mammography, according to multiple large studies. As breast density goes up, the accuracy of mammograms goes down. The difficulty radiologists experience when reading mammograms is that both dense tissue and cancer appear white on a mammogram. With ABUS, suspicious masses appear black against the white dense tissue, making visual interpretation much easier.

"The issue with a regular mammogram is

that some patients may have pacemakers, implants, or dense breasts, making it very difficult to interpret a mammogram," says Dr. John Mastrangelo. "ABUS is a much more efficient screening and the image is clearer. With this new system, we can detect up to two to six more cancers in conjunction with a women's mammogram."

In early 2019, a national density inform law was passed that mandates that the FDA update mammography reporting so that women be notified if their breasts are dense. Providers may offer supplemental imaging as appropriate to help find cancers hiding in dense breast tissue.

The unique challenges of breast cancer screening led to important technology innovations that result in high resolution images that can be acquired rapidly. Clinically, this offers an efficient option that provides enhanced resolution and contrast, making the Invenia ABUS 2.0 system well-positioned to address the workflow challenges of breast cancer screening and improve the detection of breast cancer, in women with dense breasts.

Dr. Mastrangelo recommends, "Women should get regular mammograms as suggested by their doctor. If they have been informed that they have dense breast tissue, they should talk to their doctor or radiologist about their specific risk and additional screening tests that might be appropriate."

## New Pediatrician Welcomed

Ashley Rosloff, M.D., has joined the medical staff of Nathan Littauer Hospital, at the organization's Johnstown Decker Drive Pediatric Center.

Dr. Rosloff obtained her Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry at the University of Michigan. She continued her studies at St. George's University in West Indies, Grenada, where she obtained her Doctor of Medicine. She completed her general pediatrics residency at Albany Medical Center.



**Ashley Rosloff, M.D.**

Dr. Rosloff has received numerous accolades for her work, including: The Excellent Facilitator Award for Physiology and The Legacy of Excellence Scholarship for St. George's University.

"Everyone loves her," says Meegan Goodman, Network Practice Manager for Littauer. "We are hearing very good things about her from patients, colleagues, and parents."

"I am extremely excited," says Dr. Rosloff. "The staff have been really supportive and helpful. They are extremely welcoming. I love the patients I have had the opportunity to work with, and I am looking forward to meeting more of the community."

Dr. Rosloff is accepting new patients at Littauer's Decker Drive Pediatric Center in Johnstown, NY. Her office hours are from 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. For more information or to make an appointment, you may call (518) 762-6731 or visit: [www.nlh.org/medical\\_staff/ashley-rosloff-md](http://www.nlh.org/medical_staff/ashley-rosloff-md).

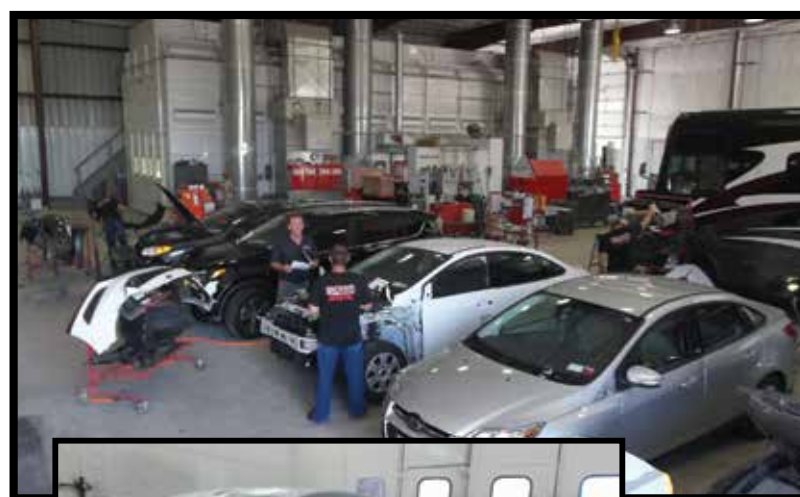
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## Chamber Member Events

### Saturday, Oct. 12, 2019

The Glove Theatre Presents: Hey Jude – A Beatles Tribute Band. This fun and energetic concert is a great time for all ages. General Admission is \$20 per ticket, and Senior ticket price is \$15. Doors open at 7 p.m. at the Theatre, in downtown Gloversville.

Tickets are available at the Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber Gloversville Office, Mohawk Harvest Cooperative Market, and the Glove Box office.

### Thursday, Oct. 17

The Montgomery County Office for Aging, Inc. will hold its annual Community Breakfast and Public Hearing on Thurs., Oct. 17 at 8:30 a.m., at Rolling Hills Country Club in Fort Johnson.

The program is sponsored by CDPHP and will include a free buffet breakfast. The agency's Advisory Council and Executive Director will

present the proposed 2020 budget and services. Guest speakers County Executive, Matthew Ossenfort and Tammy Thackrah, OFA Senior Transport Coordinator will provide information pertinent to the senior population.

Reservations are required as seating is limited. Please contact OFA at (518) 843-2300 to reserve a seat.

### Sunday, Oct. 20

The Arkell Museum at Canajoharie will present Adirondack Lumber Camp Songs, a program launched in 2019 by award winning songwriters and singers Cosby Gibson and Tom Staudle, who live near the Adirondacks.

They will present the music and information about this tough, rough, and crucial work, during the program, that also includes informative narratives about Adirondack Mountain logging camps in the 1800s. The program begins at 2 p.m.

Gibson and Staudle have



been performing as a duo for eight years and tour regionally and nationally. Together they play original and favorite tunes with a variety of instruments including guitar, fiddle, banjo, and harmonica, and in many settings such as festivals, concert series, house concerts, and events.

The program runs about an hour and is most enjoyable for older children and adults. Admission is free. Donations are always welcome and help support future programs.

For more information, call (518) 673-2314, visit [www.arkellmuseum.org/](http://www.arkellmuseum.org/) or contact Mary Alexander, Curator of Education and Public Engagement, 518-673-2314 ext. 113.

arkellmuseum.org/ or contact Mary Alexander, Curator of Education and Public Engagement, 518-673-2314 ext. 113.

### Friday, Oct. 25

Spend a spooky evening with Capital Region-based paranormal group Tri-City Paranormal Society, as they show and tell their findings from an investigation of the Fulton County Museum in Gloversville.

The presentation is set for 7 - 8:30 p.m.; and there will be a VIP Investigation from 9 - 11:30 p.m. Cost is \$10 for the presentation only. VIP tickets are \$30 for and includes the presentation, pizza and the opportunity to investigate the building with the team. Fulton County Museum is located at 237 Kingsboro Avenue, Gloversville.

Organizers said VIP tickets are very limited and reservations for the VIP experience are required. Tickets are available online at [fultoncountyhistoricalsociety.org/](http://fultoncountyhistoricalsociety.org/), or by contacting [ssaladino@fultoncountyhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:ssaladino@fultoncountyhistoricalsociety.org).

tyhistoricalsociety.org, or by contacting [ssaladino@fultoncountyhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:ssaladino@fultoncountyhistoricalsociety.org).

### Thursday Oct. 17

Join performer and artist Ragliacci on Oct. 17 at the Fulton County Historical Society for an exciting re-telling of Washington Irving's classic ghost story, The Legend of Sleepy Hollow.

Washington Irving's sister, Sarah Ann Irving, married Johnstown resident Brigadier General Richard Dodge, a veteran of the American Revolution and the War of 1812. Both are buried in the Colonial Cemetery on Green St. in Johnstown.

Reservations are encouraged, as space is limited. Email [ssaladino@fultoncountyhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:ssaladino@fultoncountyhistoricalsociety.org) or call (518) 725-2203 to reserve your spot. Tickets are \$10 per person, \$5 for under 18, and \$7 for FCHS members.

The program was funded in part by Humanities New York with support from the National Endowment for the Humanities.



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## Chamber Member Events *continued*

### Saturday, Oct. 19

Dr. Gerald Zahavi will present “Radical Union Activism in Fulton County Tanneries” at 2 p.m. on Oct. 19 at the FMCC Allen House in Johnstown. Dr. Zahavi is a Professor of History at the University at Albany. This presentation is free and open to the public and is part of the Fulton County Historical Society’s Year of the Glove programming. Please visit [ful-toncountyhistoricalsociety.org](http://ful-toncountyhistoricalsociety.org) for more information.

The Allen House is located at Fulton Montgomery Community College near the main campus entrance on Route 67.

### Friday to Saturday, Nov. 1-3; Nov. 15

Sacandaga Musical Theater & Sacandaga Valley Arts Network will present: “BOATLOAD OF TROUBLE: A Murder Mystery Dinner Theater,” at several locations in Fulton County.

Organizers said, “What happens when a has-been tv star, the head of a frozen fish stick empire, a booze-loving sea captain, an airhead heiress, a talented performance duo, and an obsessive whale-ologist all get together at the Feed the Whales Foundation Fundraiser? MURDER! Join us for an evening of glitz, glam, and mystery as YOU try to figure out whodunit!” Tickets

are \$30 per person. Admission includes dinner, dessert, and show; and a cash bar will be available. Check or cash only, please, and reservations are required. Dates include Nov. 1, at Harold’s in Gloversville with dinner at 7 p.m. and show at 8 p.m.; (Call (518) 420-9591 to reserve). On Nov. 2, the show will be at 7 p.m. at the Inn at the Bridge in Northville, with dinner at 7 p.m. and show at 8 p.m.; (Call (518) 863-2233 to reserve). On Nov. 3, the show will be at 4 p.m. at The Alpine in Wells, with dinner at 4 p.m. and show at 5 p.m. (Call (518) 863-3150 to reserve). On Nov. 15, the show will be at 7 p.m. at the Johnstown Moose, with dinner at 7 p.m. and show at 8 p.m. (Call (518) 684-0314 to reserve).

## St. Mary’s Institute Students Say No To Plastic



St. Mary’s Institute in Amsterdam made a month-long commitment to help the oceans and the Earth, as part of the first #SMICares Service Project of the new school year.

Students signed a “No Plastic Pledge” to help reduce or eliminate single use plastics at the school and every student received a reusable water bottle on the first day of the school to aid in the effort.

The project was inspired by Pope Francis and his recent call for all people to protect our oceans and be good stewards of the Earth. Students school-wide, along with faculty and staff, contributed \$1 each to dress down for charity on a designated date, with proceeds going to the Marine Conservation Institute.

The school’s Grade 3 Classroom took particular interest in this project, through classroom discussion on the importance of recycling, reducing waste and reusing plastics as much as they can—as well as brainstorming ideas on how they can help to “change the world.”

St. Mary’s Institute students, age 3 through Grade 8, assist a different charity each month as part of the school-wide #SMICares Service Project Initiative. Each project has a “pray every day” component, a hands-on service component and a dress down day component to raise funds for the charity.

“SMI stands for St. Mary’s Institute, but it has a second meaning for our students: Service, Mission, Integrity,” said SMI Principal Nicole Luft. “SMI students live their Faith through personal, Christian Service and this part of our vision is achieved each school day at St. Mary’s Institute through our SMI Cares Initiative.”

Earlier in September, the school partnered with Montgomery County Soil and Water Conservation District to gift an evergreen tree to each student in the school to plant at home. SMI students continued their “no plastic pledge” through September.

For more information about SMI, visit [www.saintmarysinstitute.com](http://www.saintmarysinstitute.com).



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[brian.krohn@mcclarymedia.com](mailto:brian.krohn@mcclarymedia.com)





## Tourism News



**Gina DaBiere-Gibbs**  
Director of Tourism  
tourism@fultonmontgomeryny.org

### Fall Foliage Report

The I LOVE NY annual fall foliage report started on Wednesday, September 11 and will continue through October to early November after New York State has reached peak season.

Fulton and Montgomery Counties are reporting weekly about the status of our leaves. The leaf report is based on brilliance, color, rating (near peak, peak, past peak, etc.), and percentage of leaves that have changed.



Thank you to our "foliage spotters" at Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site and the Town of Caroga for

the weekly reports which are available at [www.44lakes.com/blog](http://www.44lakes.com/blog) and [www.visitmontgomerycountyny.com/blog](http://www.visitmontgomerycountyny.com/blog) and shared on our tourism social media pages.

### The Underground Railroad, Anti-Slavery & African Americans in Montgomery County

In partnership with Montgomery County Historian Kelly Farquhar,



a new brochure, "The Underground Railroad, Anti-Slavery & African Americans in Montgomery County, NY" was produced to tell the story about how residents of Montgomery County fought against the oppression of slavery from the early 1800s through the Civil War. The brochure includes a map with physical locations, historic markers and historic stories plotted throughout the entire county to tell this important story.

The brochure is available at both Chamber locations: 1166 Riverfront Center, Amsterdam, and 2 North Main Street, Gloversville, as well as the Montgomery County Department of History and Archives, 9 Park Street, Fonda.

### Snowmobile Safety Course

Two upcoming Snowmobile Safety Courses have been announced. New York State law requires youths between 10 and 18 years of age take the safety course and obtain a snowmobile safety certificate when riding on public lands.

There is no fee, and lunch will be provided with a donation. Pre-registration is required. Please contact Marilyn Sawyer, Instructor, at (518) 842-7874. Both courses are Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. with the schedule as follows:

— November 2, Town of Florida Fire Department, 5766 Route 30 South, Amsterdam

— November 9, Sharon Springs Fire Department, 137 Beechwood Drive, Sharon Springs.

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# Cancer Prevention Session Held For Business Leaders

**AT RIGHT:** Cancer Prevention in Action of Fulton, Montgomery, and Schenectady Counties at St. Mary's Healthcare held a session at the Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce offices in Gloversville to talk about ways to create a policy for businesses to offer paid time off for their employees to receive cancer screenings. Community Cancer Prevention in Action (CPiA) is a New York State Department of Health program supporting local cancer prevention and risk reduction interventions using a PSE change approach.



## Mural unveiled at Nathan Littauer Hospital

(L-R): Nathan Littauer Hospital & Nursing Home Director of Volunteer Services, Sue McNeil, and artists Tammy Merendo, Linda Biggers and Susan Ruscitto stand next to the mosaic waterfall recently unveiled in the Reflection Garden at the hospital. The mural is comprised of stained glass, agate and clay, and was made inside RN and artist Merendo's studio in Amsterdam. She said, "Every time you look at the mural, you see something different. Everything you see in the mural has a purpose and a story to tell. Some of the Tiffany glass, which was lovingly found and scrubbed clean, was from the razed Second Presbyterian Church in Amsterdam. The flowers throughout the piece were from made from a barrette that belonged to Sammy, McNeil's granddaughter, who has passed. The barrette was made into a mold to make flowers for the mural. Homemade stamps from the late Laurie Priest, an RN who has passed, were used to create some of the leaves in the mosaic. Both were used to represent loved ones who are no longer with us. The memories of those passed will continue to live-on through this installation." Patients who are staying at the hospital can ask staff to bring them to see the mural, and the public is encouraged to come and visit from the hours of 8 a.m. – 8 p.m.



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

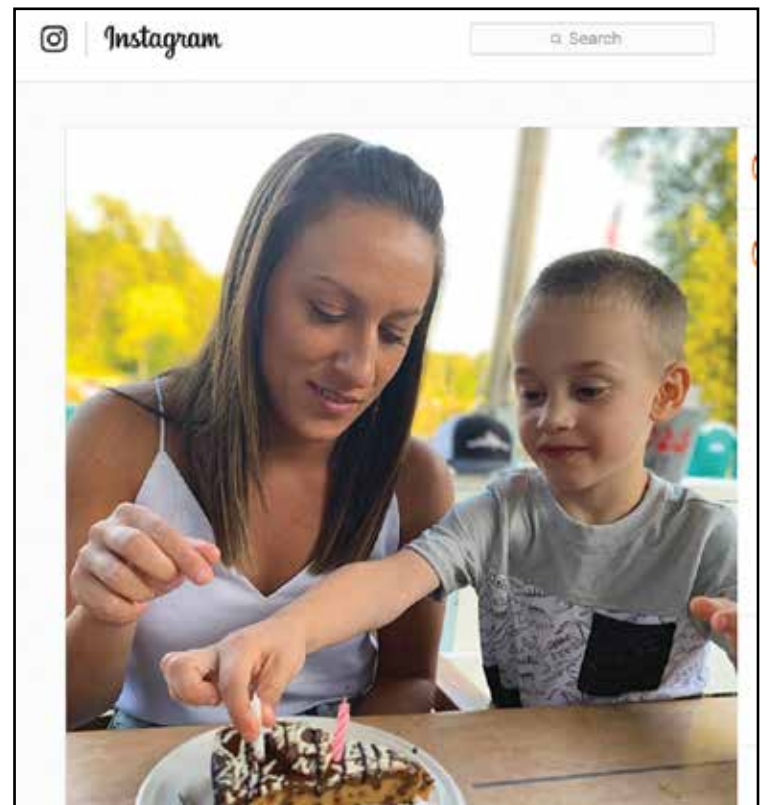
## Chamber's Young Professionals Congratulate 'Summer Challenge' Winner

A photo depicting a family party at a local restaurant was the winning entry in the Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce's Fulton Montgomery Young Professionals Network (FMYPN) "Summer Challenge," a contest to encourage young professionals to post an Instagram photo of themselves exploring, eating, or shopping within our community.

The 2019 winner is Jen Hazzard. She was presented a \$50 Chamber Check for following the group on Instagram: FMYPN, and for tagging FMYPN in her image. FMYPN organizers said they would like to thank all of those who participated in the Summer Challenge.

The Fulton Montgomery Young Professionals Network (FMYPN) is looking for business professionals in the "20-something to 40-something" age range to connect and participate in the Fulton Montgomery Young Professionals Network. The mission of the group is to foster an environment for young professionals in the Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce region to network, conduct community outreach programs and to interact with community leaders.

Although the targeted age range for this group is "20-something to 40-something," the expertise, participation, and camaraderie of professionals of all ages is sought, welcomed and



The FMYPN's winning photo, tagged to the group's Instagram site, shows the fun of holding a birthday party at Lanzi's Lakeside Tavern on the Great Sacandaga Lake.



Jen Hazzard is presented a \$50 Chamber Check as winner of the FMYPN's "Summer Challenge."

encouraged.

To find out more about the Fulton Montgomery Young Professionals Network, fol-

low the group on social media – Twitter (@FulmontYPN), Facebook or Instagram (FMYPN).

## Solar Energy, Climate Training For Municipalities Planned

The NYSEERDA Clean Energy Siting Team and the Mohawk Valley Clean Energy Communities Coordinator will present basic training aspects of solar energy development including zoning, permitting and SEQR, steps to becoming a certified Climate Smart Community, and resources for municipalities converting streetlights to LED technology, during a workshop on Saturday, Oct. 19, 2019 from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Mohawk Valley Community College.

The event will be held at Alumni College Center, 1101 Sherman Drive in Utica. Lunch is included and doors open at 8:30 a.m. Cost is \$15 per person.

The program agenda topics include:

Why become a Climate Smart Community; NYSEERDA Solar Guidebook Workshop; and LED Streetlight Conversion Resources, Options and More. The training provides an opportunity for local planning and zoning board members to receive 4 hours of training credits.

To RSVP, contact the Herkimer-Oneida Counties Comprehensive Planning Program, phone: (315) 798-5710 and email: [planning@ocgov.net](mailto:planning@ocgov.net).

For more information on local government training, requirements or for other helpful tools visit the New York State Department of State's Web site at: [www.dos.state.ny.us/lgss/training.htm](http://www.dos.state.ny.us/lgss/training.htm)



## Ribbon Cutting: Frank's Gun and Tackle Shop



Congratulations to Frank's Gun and Tackle Shop, as they celebrate a Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting ceremony at their new location, 3831 St. Hwy. 30 in Amsterdam. Guests got to tour the beautiful new location, check out their expansive inventory and learn about firearm safety. Assemblymen Robert Smullen and Jennifer Conkling-Donovan, from Senator Tedisco's office, also came to congratulate John, Frank Jr., and Frank Sr. on their successful move. Shown from L to R: FM Chamber Tourism

Director Gina Dabiere-Gibbs, Frank Havlick Jr., Frank Havlick Sr., John Havlick, FM Chamber President Mark Kilmer, Assemblyman Robert Smullen, Jennifer Conkling-Donovan, and FM Chamber Director of Workforce Development Nicole Walrath. Frank's offers all outdoor sporting needs, not limited to firearms, ammunition, bait, tackle, archery, and more. They also offer gun safety training courses. For more information, contact (518) 883-5053 or visit their facebook: Franks Gun Shop.

## Chamber Member Anniversaries

The following businesses realize the value of their Chamber investment and have renewed their membership in the month of October 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

Kiki's Laser Spa.....	2018
Anderson - Negele .....	2018
CG Roxane .....	2018
Nadine A.Bloom, Esq. ....	2017
Amsterdam Pediatric Dentistry .....	2017
Lee's Shops at Wagner Square .....	2017
Northville 5 & 10 .....	2016
Capital City Coffee Roasters .....	2016
Caroga Arts Collective, Inc.....	2016
Something Special .....	2016
ShoeLeather Express; The .....	2015
Lillian Johnson; HTCP .....	2015
DHL Supply Chain .....	2015

### 5 to 9 Years

518 Grille .....	2013
TLC Grooming .....	2012
Country Valley Veterinary Clinic .....	2012
Top Quality Home Care Agency, L.L.C. ....	2012
Kimberly P. Travis; CPA .....	2011
O'Connors Pub.....	2011
Home Helpers & Direct Link of Amsterdam .....	2011
Northville Rotary Club .....	2011
Amsterdam Rotary District 7190 .....	2010

### 10 to 19 Years

Empire Automotive Solutions, LLC .....	2009
R. H. Crown Co., Inc. ....	2008

### 10 to 19 Years continued

William R. Dorn Construction, Inc.....	2008
Catalano, Russell; L.M.T. ....	2007
Bosco's Family Restaurant, Inc. ....	2006
Carole Petrelia of Coldwell Banker- Arlene M. Sitterly .....	2006
Finch Guest House .....	2006
4X Heaven & Krown Rust Prevention... ..	2005
Bouche & Clarke Benefits, Inc. ....	2005
C.F.I. Construction, Inc.....	2005
Railside Cafe.....	2005
Ruggiero Realty, L.L.C.....	2005
Frank & Sons Body Works, Inc.....	2005
Whittaker Appraisal Group, Inc.....	2005
Empower Federal Credit Union .....	2005
Soroptimist International of Fulton & Montgomery Counties .....	2004
Miracle Ear.....	2003
Colonial Little Theatre, Inc.....	2002
Subway of Amsterdam.....	2000

### 20 to 29 Years

Edward Valentine, M.D. ....	1999
Montgomery County Office for Aging, Inc.....	1999
Amsterdam School District; Greater.....	1998
Centro Civico of Amsterdam .....	1998
Ship and Copy.....	1993
HFM BOCES- Hamilton-Fulton-Montgomery .....	1990

### 30 to 29 Years

Robert J. Hoy; Agency, Inc.....	1986
Fulton Friendship House .....	1985
Arthur Carl Spring, Esq. ....	1983
Lexington .....	1983
Gloversville Palace Diner .....	1981

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## Business Education Partnership News

### Foothills PTECH



**Nicole Walrath**  
Director of  
Workforce Development  
NicoleW@fultonmontgomeryny.org



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



Freshmen and sophomores at Foothills PTECH recently completed an App Tank project. Students were tasked as a software designer, with experience in the health and medical field, to propose a new app that increases people's awareness and understanding of a character strength. The final presentation included storyboards to show the design plan of the app and also a pitch to "investors" as to why to fund the app.

### Amsterdam College and Career PTECH & Pathways

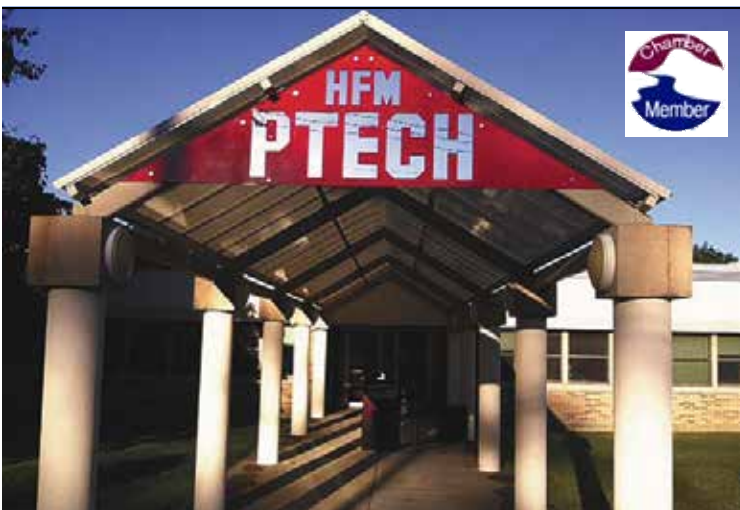


Sophomores in the Greater Amsterdam School District's College & Career PTECH Pathway program attended a presentation by Mary Alexander, Curator of Education & Public Engagement at the Arkell Museum. Mary's visit was a part of the Murder Mystery Theater project the students are working on.

### HFM Career & Technical Education (CTE)



**HFM Career & Technical Education (CTE)** Environmental Conservation student Colin Hennessey, from Mayfield, uses a demolition saw to remove a concrete-anchored fence post on the HFM campus. Aidan DeJong from Broadalbin-Perth, sprays water on the saw blade to keep the dust down.



**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



ABOVE and ABOVE RIGHT: Freshman at Ag PTECH hosted their first Pathway Panel Discussion in September where they explored the Agricultural Business pathway with some of our business professionals. Thanks to Kaitlyn Kelder and Kali Kraeger of Farm Credit East, Jared Goderie of Goderie's Tree Farm and Bruce Button of Lee Newspapers Inc. for participating in the panel discussion. Sophomores at Ag PTECH

had their first Mentor Monday session this past month where local businesses came in to teach students professional skills needed to be successful in the workplace. Students spent time looking over their resumes and discussed ways to improve them, but also highlight their accomplishments. A special thanks to Gail Breen of FMS Workforce Solutions, Debbie Sams of Springer's Stables and Matt Sherman of Stump City Brewing LLC.


### HFM PTECH




### HFM PTECH students to host sixth annual Cancer Awareness Fair at St. Mary's Healthcare

The public is invited to the sixth annual Cancer Awareness Fair from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 29, in the cafeteria at St. Mary's Healthcare, 427 Guy Park Ave., Amsterdam. Hosted by freshmen in the Hamilton Fulton Montgomery Pathways in Technology Early College High School (HFM PTECH) program, the event will include dynamic, interactive booths that will showcase the students' research on how different cancers form, early warning signs, treatment, prevention and statistics. Students also will hold a bake sale and basket raffle to raise money for programs within the community. TO RSVP or for more info, please contact Nicole Walrath: [nicolew@fultonmontgomeryny.org](mailto:nicolew@fultonmontgomeryny.org).








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To learn more about how your business or organization can take action against cancer, contact the Cancer Prevention in Action Program at St. Mary's Healthcare at 518-770-6815



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