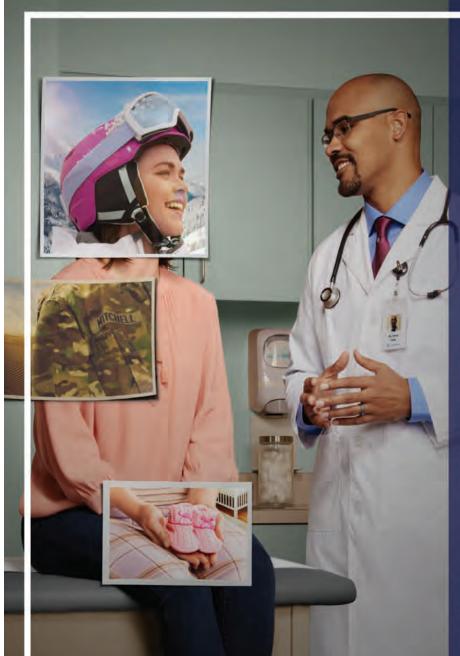
# FOCUS FUTON FUTON MONTGOMERY Region, New York

# BUSINESS

HISTORY

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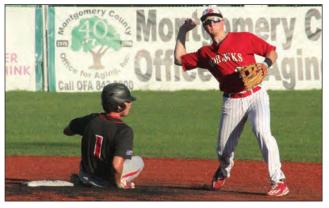
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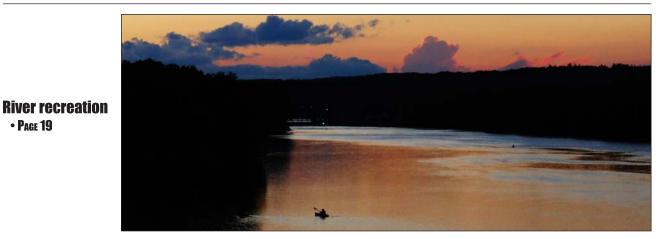




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am thrilled to be able to present our fith locally-written and produced issue of Focus Fulton Montgomery Region, New York.

Our 2015 edition was our first attempt at publishing this annual quality of life piece "in house" and it was met with overwhelming approval from our members and advertisers alike. Each year this piece gets better and better in terms of content and advertising, and we think this issue follows suit and surpasses all of our other editions – although that is hard to do.

Focus Fulton Montgomery Region, New York details and highlights the very diverse character of our region and its communities from the natural beauty of our lower Adirondacks and the 44 lakes in the north, to the rich history and vast agricultural resources of the Mohawk Valley in the south, and everything in between.

You will also read here about the diverse nature of our business community. Many of our region's businesses started out as small family enterprises that have flourished here and grown into international businesses. Many others have seen the benefits of relocating to the Fulton Montgomery region by taking advantage of our wonderful business parks and site availability. You will also read about the multitude of unique happenings and fun events that make our region a great destination for travelers from outside of the area, or the perfect "staycation" escape for our locals.

Not only will our local residents find this publication informative, but thousands of copies will be distributed outside our region to those who may be interested in traveling here, relocating, siting prospective land or starting a new business in Fulton or Montgomery counties. Take a look at the snapshot of our region in the economic and demographic profile in the magazine.

# <u>Contributors</u>

**Publisher** Kevin McClary General Manager Brian Krohn

Associate Publisher Geoff Dylong **Production** Andrew Hanna

COVER PHOTO BY MARK PERFETTI A setting sun shines behind the American flag during the annual Town of Florida Veterans Day Memorial Service.

### LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Fulton Montgomery

I want to thank our partners at McClary Media for making this issue another great success. I also want to give thanks to the many great advertisers and other contributions who made this magazine possible.

Please let us know what you think and check us out on the web at www.fultonmontgomeryny.org and social media (Facebook, Instagram).

You can also email us at info@fultonmontgomeryny.org or call us at (518) 725-0641.

> — Макк Кимек, President/CEO Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce

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### Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce

www.fultonmontgomeryny.org 2 N. Main Street, Gloversville, NY 12078 1166 Riverfront Center, Amsterdam, NY 12010 (518) 725-0641



PHOTO BY MARK PERFETTI

From left, Sen. George Amedore Jr., Assemblyman Angelo Santabarbara, Lt. Gov. Kathy Hochul, Amsterdam Mayor Michael Villa and Montgomery County Executive Matthew Ossenfort stand with the city's ceremonial \$10 million check for the state's Downtown Revitalization Initiative.

# **Building for the future**

### City of Amsterdam gets state funds to revitalize downtown

BY JOHN PURCELL

The third time was a charm for the City of Amsterdam in its bid to be selected as the Mohawk Valley winner of the state's Downtown Revitalization Initiative, which Lt. Gov. Kathy Hochul announced in September alongside area officials at City Hall.

The state funds a \$10 million financial incentive program that's guided by the Local Planning Committee (LPC), which is comprised of stakeholders from various backgrounds, industries and sectors.

Amsterdam Mayor Michael Villa co-chairs the 16-member DRI Local Planning Committee with Fulton-Montgomery Community College President Dustin Swanger.

This was Amsterdam's third attempt to win the DRI funding, having lost the prior two rounds. The state's program awards \$10 million to a downtown neighborhood in each of the 10 regions statewide.

Amsterdam's winning DRI plan spans the downtown core and the South Side waterfront along the Mohawk River with four "anchor" projects. For the northern anchor, the Amsterdam Free Library is envisioned with a new "Makerspace" to be used as a business incubator and as a classroom for teaching. This space will include a laser cutter, a 3D printer and a screen print machine. The Chalmers



Mill Lofts project is the southern anchor of the city's DRI plan, which will include a mixed-use housing development on a 3.29-acre site next to Amsterdam's Mohawk Valley Gateway Overlook bridge.

A community center and recreation facility make up the east anchor for the city's DRI plan. The project will be a joint effort between the city of Amsterdam, Montgomery County and the community anchor organization, Centro Civico, a community organization that provides cultural resources and services.

# Heritage & History

### Elizabeth Cady Stanton Women's Consortium

(518) 762-7638 - www.ecswc.org

Dedicated to providing a forum for discussion of women and community issues. The consortium supports women's education, history, culture, leadership and equity through a variety of activities.

### **Elizabeth Cady Stanton Hometown Association**

PO Box 753, Johnstown • (518) 773-8800 www.ecstantonhometown.org • Facebook

An organization dedicated to honoring the life and legacy of Elizabeth Cady Stanton through community service, educational activities and by fostering charitable outreach on behalf of women of all ages and is centered in the home of Stanton's birthplace.

### Friends of Sanford Stud Farm

Route 30 and Tessiero Square, Amsterdam (518) 761-0703 • www.sanfordstudfarm.org Facebook

Works to preserve the legacy of the Sanford Stud Farm, at one time one of the largest and most recognized thoroughbred breeding facilities in the country.

### **Fulton Montgomery Quilt Barn Trail**

Across the two-county region

www.fmquiltbarntrail.com • Facebook

Tourism trail that visually connects the outdoor landscape with unique barn squares through the region. A quilt barn square is a painted wooden square, once displayed, helps create a trail. Over 80 squares currently on display.

### Johnson Hall State Historic Site

139 Hall Avenue, Johnstown (518) 762-8712

parks.ny.gov/historic-sites/ • Facebook

18th-century Georgian home of Sir William Johnson and Mohawk Indian Molly Brant. Johnson was the most influential and largest landholder in the colonial Mohawk Valley. Visitors are able to interpret the Johnson family through guided tours of the period room settings and of the historic grounds, educational programs and special events.

### Johnstown Historical Society

17 N. William Street, Johnstown

(518) 762-7076

fulton.nygenweb.net/history/johnsvisit.html • Facebook Operates and maintains three historic sites:

The Historical Society Museum (17 N. William St.), The Drumm House (117 W. Green St.) and The Jimmy Burk Inn (200 S. William St.) in Johnstown, NY.

#### **Knox Mansion**

104 W. Second Avenue, Johnstown • (518) 752-8231 • Facebook

The Knox Mansion is a historical home built in 1889 by businessman Charles Knox, owner of Knox Gelatine Factory. With 42 rooms, elevator, grand staircase, lava ash fireplace, it cost \$1.2 million when it was built.

### **Mohawk Valley Collective**

Fort Plain and Canajoharie

(518) 993-5506

mohawkvalleycollective.com • Facebook

Dedicated to the restoration and adaptive reuse of two of our area's historic architectural gems: Unity Hall in Ft. Plain and the former West Hill School in Canajoharie. Promotes tourism, the arts and job creation. Also maintains the regional visitors center in Canajoharie.

### National Shrine of Kateri Tekakwitha

3628 State Highway 5, Fonda

(518) 853-3646 - www.katerishrine.com - Facebook

The site of the Mohawk village of Ossernenon, the Shrine of Our Lady of Martyrs, established in A sacred place of peace and healing, with a 17th-century Kanienkehaka village site listed on the National Register of Historic Places, an 18thcentury Catholic chapel, 150 acres of trails, and museum.

### Northville 5 & 10

122 South Main Street, Northville

(518) 863-4424 - www.northville5and10.com - Facebook

The oldest operating Five and Ten in America. Everything you need in one place: hardware, boating supplies, gifts, cards, souvenirs, clothes, crafts, books, toys, camping, homemade fudge, candy and more.

### Shrine of our Lady of Martyrs

136 Shrine Road, Fultonville

(518) 630-9922- www.auriesvilleshrine.com – Facebook

The site of the Mohawk village of Ossernenon, the Shrine of Our Lady of Martyrs, established in 1885, honors the martyrdom of three Jesuit missionaries and is the birthplace of Roman Catholic Saint Kateri Tekakwitha. Individuals and groups are welcome to visit the Coliseum church, museums, chapels, gardens, gift shop, and picnic pavilion. May-October, open dawn to dusk.

### **Tribes Hill Heritage Center**

### Tribes Hill

### (518) 829-7031 • Facebook

Future community center and educational facility in Tribes Hill, NY dedicated to preserving the cultures and ways of life of those who came before us in this area.

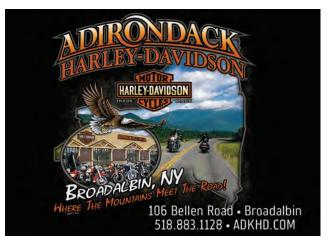
For more information on historical sites in our region visit: www.44lakes.com (Fulton County tourism) and www.visitmontgomerycountyny.com (Montgomery County tourism)



PHOTO BY MARK PERFETTI

Allen Freeman of Johnstown looks at local artifacts on display at Old Fort Johnson, the 1749 limestone house William Johnson built on the Mohawk River in colonial New York. It was fortified for protection during the French & Indian Wars. Today Old Fort Johnson is a museum. Visit https://www.oldfortjohnson.org





## **REGION IN FOCUS: Museums**



### THE ARKELL MUSEUM AT CANAJOHARIE 5 Erie Boulevard, Canajoharie

### (518) 673 - 2314

# www.arkellmuseum.org • Facebook • Twitter • Instagram

The Arkell Museum showcases a world-class collection of American paintings purchased by founder Bartlett Arkell for the people of Canajoharie. It includes 21 works by Winslow Homer, and significant paintings by many distinguished artists, including George Inness, William M. Chase, Childe Hassam, Mary Cassatt, Georgia O'Keeffe, Robert Henri, and other members of The Eight. Permanent and changing exhibitions also feature selections from the museum's Mohawk Valley history collection, as well as early 20th century advertising material for Beech-Nut, which was founded by Arkell in 1928.

### FORT PLAIN MUSEUM 389 Canal Street, Fort Plain (518) 993-2527

#### www.fortplainmuseum.com • Facebook • Twitter

Revolutionary War Fort Plain, also known as Fort Rensselaer, was built in 1778 and remained in service through 1800. The museum and historical park are 65 acres that includes the museum and more.

# FULTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND MUSEUM

### 237 Kingsboro Ave., Gloversville (518) 725-2203

#### www.fultoncountyhistoricalsociety.com • Facebook

The Fulton County Museum hosts exhibits and events to showcase the county's rich history in Native American and colonial life, and its roots in agriculture, industry, and leather making. Highlights include exhibits of local history in sports, military, schools, technology, the FJ&G Railroad, public service, business and more. Open May through October.

### JOHNSTOWN SCHOOL MUSEUM 501 Glebe Street, Johnstown (518) 762-7646

### Facebook

Collection of Johnstown school nostalgia dating back to the 1700s. Enjoy The Baronet yearbook (1925-present), sports memorabilia, photos, historical documents, artwork and more. Class reunions welcome! Open June 1 to September 30, Saturdays 9:00 am - 2:00 pm or by appointment.

### NORTHAMPTON HISTORICAL MUSEUM/PAUL BRADT MUSEUM

South Main Street adjacent to the Village/Town Offices, Northville

#### (518) 863-4211/(518) 863-4040

Two separate facilities - Northampton Historical Museum is a one-room former schoolhouse preserving the history of the townspeople; Paul Bradt Museum hosts a collection of logging, hunting, fishing and other settler history.

### PECK'S PARK HISTORICAL SOCIETY, SCHOOLHOUSE & MUSEUM 104 Peck's Lake Road, Gloversville

### (518) 725-6236

The school was built by John Peck, a businessman whose businesses included a tannery and sawmill, for his children and his workers' children. Built in 1857, the school continued until 1959. Open June through September every Wednesday and Saturday 1-4pm; special tours for groups encouraged on other days.

### WALTER ELWOOD MUSEUM 100 Church Street, Amsterdam 518-843-5151

#### www.walterelwoodmuseum.org • Facebook • Twitter

The Walter Elwood Museum is a gateway to learning using the past to illuminate the present. Utilizing local experience, stories and artifacts, we examine history and culture in all its dimensions. We offer educational programs, unique collections and creative activities to enrich understanding of ourselves and each other. Our extensive assortment of approximately 25,000 artifacts fall into four categories: multicultural, Victorian, natural history, and items that relate to Mohawk Valley's colorful industrial past (documentary, photographic and tangible).

### WILDLIFE SPORTS & EDUCATIONAL MUSEUM 3747 State Highway 30, Vail Mills/Amsterdam (518) 883-5933

### www.wildlifesportsmuseum.com - Facebook

The largest collection of mounted animals - bird, fish, deer and bear - in upstate New York. Extensive collection of antique hunting, fishing and trapping equipment. Over 160 record white-tail deer mounts. Art gallery and gift shop. Open seven days in June, July, August; Fall/Winter/Spring Saturdays only. Plans for new Library and Research Center adjacent to Museum.









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- Iron & Ironing Boards
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Daily Breakfast Lunch Dinner Sunday Breakfast Lunch/Dinner 6:30 a.m. -11:30 a.m 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. 4:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. 6:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. 12:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.



Holiday Inn Johnstown-Gloversville 308 North Comrie Avenue Johnstown, NY 12095-1095 • 518-762-4686 www.holidayinn.com/johnstownny

















PHOTO BY MARK PERFETTI

Members of the Fonda-Fultonville Central School chapter of the New York Future Farmers of America Association at their display during the annual Sundae At the Farm event, held last year at Dykeman and Sons Inc., dairy farm in Fultonville.



Photo BY MARK PERFETTI Rachel Gardner takes a selfie with her calf "Lucy Lou" during last year's Fonda Fair. The annual event features agricultural displays and competitions, rides, entertainment and a variety of food.

# REGION IN FOCUS: Nature & Agriculture





Tree: Sugar Maple



Bird: Blue Bird



State Fruit: Apple



Snack:

Yogurt

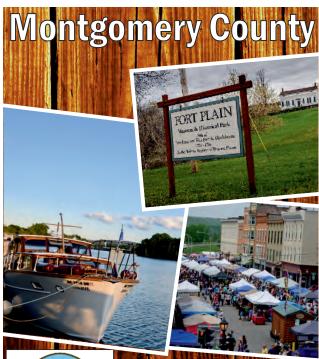


Freshwater Fish: Brook Trout

### Fulton & Montgomery Counties encompass the natural beauty of New York State

Located in the Mohawk Valley, Montgomery County is split by the Mohawk River which flows east finally converging into the Hudson River in Albany County. Much of the valley's geography was formed by glacial carving. The river has provided rich fertile soil making the valley a prime agricultural seedbed for early settlers.

Fulton County is in the Southern Adirondacks. It is approximately 533 sq. miles, and 59% of the county sits within the Adirondack Park.





Rooted in history, Montgomery County is a location of breathtaking beauty and abundant natural resources, the MONTGOMERY ultimate playground for year-round outdoor activities, good strong fun and is a great place to do business.

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# Johnstown's Rick Frasier is Miracle Ear's most successful franchise owner

#### BY JESSICA FORD

It's not your typical career ladder: Start out as a dairy farmer, end up one of the most successful hearing aid store operators in the country.



**Rick Frasier** 

For Rick Frasier, President of Frasier Enterprises Inc. in Johnstown, the path seemed perfectly natural. At age 60, he oversees 18 corporations with more than 325 full-time / part-time Hearing Aid Dispensing offices and more than 600 employees across the United States. Frasier Enterprise Inc. is currently the largest franchise owner within the Miracle-Ear Corporation.

Frasier was born and raised as

a dairy farmer in Fulton County. He explained that at the age of 26 he answered a blind ad in the paper offering the chance to make \$1,000 per week. At the time, his family farm was going through a difficult time financially, and Frasier said there was a chance his parents were going to lose the farm.

He took the job for a Hearing Aid Dispenser, and within 9 months, was able to buy the farm for his parents, and take the financial strain off of them. Within a year and a half, he became one of Miracle-Ear's top consultants in the country.

It seems like a stretch to go from farmer to salesman, but for Frasier, it was an organic progression. He said, "Growing up on the farm you learn to work 7 days a week. Going into the business world was easier, it didn't seem like that much work." He said he was blessed from a young age with the ability to get along with people, even older people, which served him well. Great communication skills carried him further and further in his path.

After serving as a Hearing Aid Dispenser, Frasier spent the next 5 years as the owner and operator of 40 Hearing Aid Dispensing offices throughout several states. Within the next 5 years he went on to become the corporate national sales manager for Miracle-Ear. In his position as as national sales manager he taught and hired over 400 Hearing Aid Dispensers.

Rick entered the private sector in 2002 maintaining stores in 4 different states, reaching sales of \$4 million. By 2018 he operated stores in 17 different states and reached sales above and beyond \$130 million.

At this time he holds his Hearing Aid Dispensing license in New York and Massachusetts and is Board Certified by the National Board for Certification in Hearing Instrument Sciences. He sits on the Board of Directors for the Hearing Healthcare Alliance and was previously the President of the Franchise Advisory Board to Miracle-Ear.

# Business

Frasier attributes his mind for math as another factor in his ability to grow his business. But, he said, "It's the energy I have — the enthusiasm," and a factor he calls "likability," that are key. "That's what makes me go," he said.

Frasier is more than willing to share the wealth he has built, with those people who have helped him build the company. He has at least 20 people who he has groomed to be partners, giving them ownership shares, and helping them reap the benefits of their work, or what he called their "sweat-equity."

Frasier Enterprises, headquartered in the refurbished historic Johnstown Hotel, has employees from all over the region, including from Schenectady, Saratoga Springs and the Capital District. He said he looks for talented people everywhere, and those people help his company "take their game to a new level."

He said he feels it is important to be a generous employer, and offers wages that are atypical for Fulton and Montgomery counties. A hearing aid consultant can make an average of \$80,000 to \$90,000 in this region, he said.

Staying at the front of the pack in his business is a goal and a passion for Frasier. "We have been able to build systems that place us at the forefront of this industry, in marketing, analytics and more," he said. And, he is happy to keep all of that success local. In Johnstown, the Miracle-Ear Call Center fielded more than 1 million calls last year, booking appointments and managing customer service for all of the Frasier franchises throughout the country.

He and his wife, Mary Fox-Frasier, are the proud parents of 4 children, and have 8 grandchildren. They have outwardly shown their support for their community with charitable donations to Fulton-Montgomery Community College, among other organizations.

Support of the Miracle-Ear Foundation is also close to Frasier's heart, and his company has been holding an annual golf tournament to support the charity for 10 years. The Foundation "helps those in our community who need hearing healthcare but cannot afford treatment." The Foundation donates hearing aids to children and adults in communities across the United States who have limited income and no other resources for hearing aids.

Despite all of the impressive statistics for his company, Frasier stays grounded, and has a strong commitment to Johnstown, the community he grew up in. He could drive a flashy car, but prefers a pickup. His bio states, "As someone who has been able to travel the world, Rick has always found that there is nothing like coming home to his small town in Fulton County, New York."

"I like the people," he said. "This (community) is me."

# CG Roxane: Johnstown plant bottles Adirondack spring water

Just about 40 feet below the rolling fields and forested land in the western part of Fulton County, lies a crystal clear treasure.

The treasure is pure spring water, bottled by CG Roxane, who has been in our community since 2013. CG Roxane, bottles "Crystal Geyser® Alpine Spring Water®" from this area and ships the water throughout the Northeast. CG Roxane was established in 1990 in California as an independent, family-owned enterprise.

It's not a coincidence that CG Roxane decided to build its plant for the Northeast in our community. With the 2010 closure of the Beech Nut baby food manufacturing facility in Canajoharie, the town had a large volume of unused water. The natural abundance of high quality spring water was a deciding factor for CG Roxane to build here.

The Crystal Geyer website explains further: "Our spring water is obtained from our protected natural spring sources and aquifers. These remote locations provide for geographical isolation and protect our spring sources from manmade activities such as contamination by potentially harmful farming, industrial, and residential activities. We make sure that each of our locations meet specific geological criteria in order to protect our groundwater resources. Water from our protected spring sources is continually and closely monitored by our trained quality control team in order to detect any changes in the microbiological, chemical, or physical characteristics. We perform both internal and third-party laboratory testing and meet all state and federal testing requirements. Since our spring water is bottled right at the spring source, we eliminate the added risk of possible contamination that can occur during bulk transport of the water."

CG Roxane has 7 spring water plants across the country. They include springs near the mountains in the Cherokee National Forest in Benton, Tennessee; the Ossipee Mountains of Moultonborough, New Hampshire; Mt. Shasta in Weed, California; Ouachita Mountain range of Norman, Arkansas; Olancha Peak, in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, Olancha, California and the Blue Ridge Mountains in Salem, South Carolina.

As bottles are being filled, they travel along a conveyer that looks much like the old "Laverne & Shirley" bottling scene from the 1970's sitcom opening credits, but the bottles move very quickly and smoothly through the process. Galster explained that sensors monitor every bottle for quality control.

Chamber President Mark Kilmer thanked CG Roxane for supporting the Chamber and for their great work in the region. Other town and local officials echoed appreciation for the plant as well, saying "Our water is the best," "CG Roxane is a great company to work with."



Kilmer praised the corporation for its founding principles, and said he is proud that utilization of natural spring water "from the source," is what separates CG Roxane from all other U.S. bottled water companies. "We support and celebrate CG Roxane as a vital part of our regional economy, a partner in business, and as a protector of our valuable natural resources."

For more information about CG Roxane, visit www. CrystalGeyserPlease.com.



Fireworks Nights June 1, 15, 28 July 3, 27 www.AmsterdamMohawks.com

# Sports

# Fans, students, players community benefit from Amsterdam Mohawks

### BY JESSICA FORD

"... And they'll walk out to the bleachers, and sit in shirt-sleeves on a perfect afternoon. They'll find they have reserved seats somewhere along one of the baselines, where they sat when they were children and cheered their heroes. And they'll watch the game, and it'll be as if they'd dipped themselves in magic waters. The memories will be so thick, they'll have to brush them away from their faces."

It's hard to forget that vivid dialogue from the movie "Field of Dreams," where character Terrence Mann, played memorably by James Earl Jones, explains why people would come to visit an obscure baseball field in the middle of Iowa.

Fans of the Amsterdam Mohawks understand, as they too, have a special place to enjoy the sport of baseball and all that goes with it. On Thursday, May 30, the Mohawks, one of the region's most successful elite wood bat summerleague teams, will open its 16th season at Shuttleworth Park, and mark the 33rd year since its founding in 1986 in Schenectady.

The Shuttleworth venue is in the confines of the city, but when you're a fan, it seems like worlds away. Sitting in the bleachers or along the baseline, you are reminded of the past, yet all the while you are watching the talented young players that will carry the sport into the future.

The Mohawks, website, www.amsterdammohawks.com, details the team's impressive record in recent years. They won 3 New York Collegiate Baseball League championships prior to 2004. They have won 6 championships since 2009, when current coach Keith Griffin took the helm.

More than 100 former Mohawks players have signed professional baseball contracts, including San Francisco Giants phenom Hunter Pence (Texas-Arlington) who played for the Mohawks in 2002 and helped the Giants to World Series victories in 2012 and 2014; Luke Maile (Kentucky) of the Toronto Blue Jays; Mark Leiter Jr (NJIT) of the Phillies; Cord Phelps (Stanford) of the Baltimore Orioles; Brendan Harris (William and Mary) of the Dodgers; and Logan Darnell (Kentucky) of the Twins, among others.

The Mohawks history explains, "In 2011, after more than 30 years in the NYCBL, the Mohawks joined the newly formed Perfect Game Collegiate Baseball League which combined some of the better summer baseball franchises in the nation and partnered them with Perfect Game USA, the world's utmost leader in scouting and reporting services."

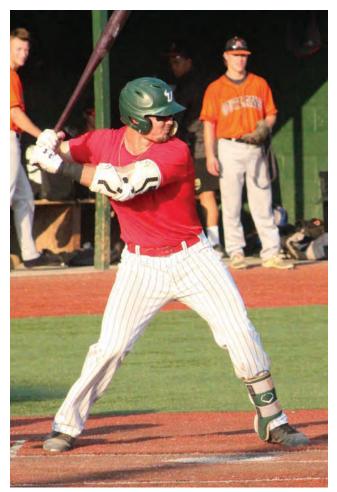


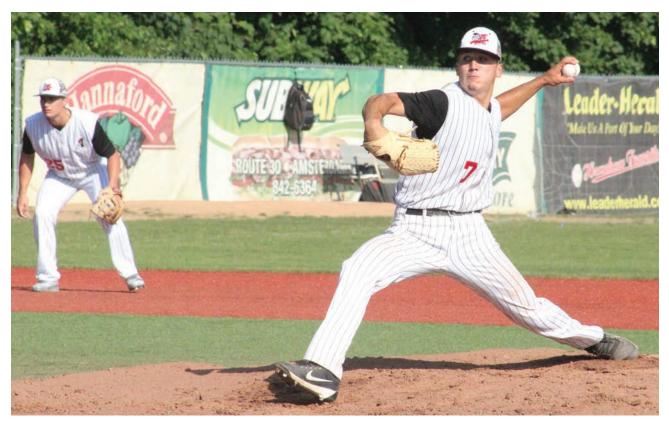
PHOTO BY ADAM SHINDER

Amsterdam Mohawks designated hitter Joe Genord bats during a July 1, 2018 game against the Oneonta Outlaws at Shuttleworth Park.

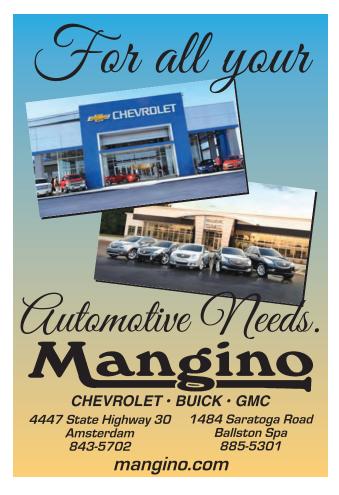
The PGCBL is a 13-team summer league played throughout upstate New York. In addition to Amsterdam, the PGCBL consists of teams located in Little Falls, Glens Falls, Albany, Newark, Jamestown, Geneva, Oneonta, Boonville, Utica, Saugerties, Watertown, and Elmira.

Brian Spagnola, Mohawks President & General Manager, is a lifelong resident of Amsterdam, and has been involved with baseball as a coach at various levels, including a 3-year stint as a coach of the Mohawks, since the early 1990s.

He said the team is grateful for the support it receives from the community. One of the keys to the success of



Рното ву Адам Shinder Dale Stanavich of the Amsterdam Mohawks pitches during a July 10, 2018 game against the Saugerties Stallions at Shuttleworth Park.









Рното ву Адам Shinder Amsterdam Mohawks infielder Cole Barr, right, turns a double play during a July 3, 2018 game against the Glens Falls Dragons at Shuttleworth Park.

the operation, he said, is that there is no other venue like Shuttleworth Park in the area. "Here, we just feel that we're the community team," he said. "Historically, Amsterdam has always embraced its baseball teams." Spagnola says the organization acknowledges and appreciates that loyalty.

The Mohawks also draw a large percentage of its fans from outside Montgomery County, Spagnola said, and it's a popular location for small and large events and gatherings, including birthday parties, student field trips, little league, summer picnics and corporate outings. On a typical evening, you can hear the game announcer welcoming groups and VIP's to the stadium, where they can enjoy various locations including the skybox, and even a special party deck alongside the first-base line.

The players, who come from colleges and universities all across the country, are housed with local families for the summer. The families get special seating at the stadium, and the players own families often come from out of town to watch their kids play. Spagnola said local hotels, restaurants, stores and other attractions are often beneficiaries of the Mohawks' positive financial impact on the community.

The Mohawks organization represents the opportunity to learn about business, promotions, sports management and life for many of the young people who are involved with the team each season. Spagnola recruits at least 10 interns to serve as staff for college credits. They work closely with paid employees in operations, broadcast, media relations and marketing for the team. Spagnola said the students get a great education at the Mohawks. One student, for example, worked with the broadcast team as an intern, and two years later, was employed as a broadcaster for the New York Yankees.

The stadium and surrounding park has a special feel, of both professionalism in its operations, and small-town safety and comfort in its environment. The Mohawks mascot, "Mojo," along with on-field entertainer Barry Rouse, also play a large part in setting the festive and fan-inclusive mood of each game. Additional staff members include Vice President David Dittmann; Bob Malicki, PA announcer; Adam Agresta, Broadcaster; Pat Beck, Director of Corporate Relations; Jon Sargalis, PR / Graphics; Miguel Gonzalez, Director of Stadium & Grounds; Lisa Walendziak, Group Coordinator & Game Ops; Bob Scott, Director of Veterans Relations; Paula Hawkins, Host Family Coordinator; Carla Pasquarelli, Head Athletic Trainer; and Andrew Spagnola, Stadium Sound.

Spagnola and his team are well aware that the making the experience memorable for the guests who purchase the 43,000 tickets sold each year, is one of the most important gifts they can give. "Kids — they've grown up in this park," he said. "This is so rewarding, we love giving back to the community."

For information on the Mohawks including schedules, results, rosters, statistics, history, tickets and the like, visit www.amsterdammohawks.com.

# The Mohawks by the numbers

# 43,000

 The approximate total attendance logged for the 2018 Mohawks season

# 4,899

 The approximate distance between Amsterdam, NY and University of Hawaii, the farthest distance a student has traveled to play for the Amsterdam Mohawks

# 2,500

 Maximum capacity of Mohawks Stadium and additional viewing areas

# 50

 The number of games played each season by each team in the PGCBL

## 40

 The number of staff and interns onsite for each game

### 35

— The number of players on the Mohawks roster.

# 30

 The number of freebies (tee shirts, frisbees, etc.) that are thrown to excited fans during each game

### 12

Number of families in and near
 Montgomery County who house Mohawks
 players during any given season

6

 Number of championships won by head coach Keith Griffin to date

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# **REGION IN FOCUS: Recreation**





PHOTO BY MARK PERFETTI

A variety of boats are docked at Riverlink Park in Amsterdam on the Mohawk River.

## The Mohawk River

The Mohawk River flows through the city, villages and towns that make up Montgomery County and provides waterfront opportunities for tourists to enjoy and a pathway for traveling boaters. The river's canal is open from May to late November.

There are a number of marinas and boat launches in the county, including the St. Johnsville Municipal Marina, Canajoharie Pavilion Landing, Schoharie Crossing, Amsterdam's South Side boat launch, and Riverlink Park in the city of Amsterdam.

The City of Amsterdam's Riverlink Park plays host to an elevated walkway that links downtown Amsterdam to a riverside plaza – not to mention its breathtaking views. Riverlink Park includes an open-air stage, children's playground, visitor's center, gardens and 600 feet of boat docking. Free concerts are held during July and August. On-site laundry, shower facilities and power hookups are a few of the amenities offered here. Amsterdam Waterfront Foundation organizes concerts and events in Riverlink Park; check them out online for schedules at www.riverlinkconcerts.com or on Facebook.

River's Edge Restaurant, located adjacent to Riverlink Park, is open in the summer months and its waterfront location offers BBQ, steaks, seafood, burgers, pasta. It seats 135, event tent seating 275, and they offer off-premise catering up to 2,000. Find more information on Facebook or by calling (518) 320-4868.

The village of St. Johnsville maintains a beautiful municipal park and marina. River travelers can stop at the boat launch, fill up on fuel, have a picnic, and be treated to a summer's evening concert. If you dock, camping is nearby, along with other lodging. You can find more information about the village and its amenities through the St. Johnsville Chamber of Commerce, www.stjcoc.com or on Facebook.



A person kayaks on the Mohawk River .



PHOTO BY MARK PERFETTI



usa.fage.eu

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PHOTO BY MARK PERFETTI

Halina, Tom, TJ and Kristin Michaels from Mayfield participate in the annual Walleye Challenge Ice Fishing Tournament on the Great Sacandaga Lake.



Photo BY MARK PERFETTI Wayne Gottobed from Broadalbin displays a fish he caught during the 20th annual Spring Fishing Contest at Lanzi's Lakeside Tavern.

## Great Sacandaga Lake

There are 44 lakes in Fulton County, and the biggest and most heavily frequented is the Great Sacandaga Lake. This tremendous body of water stretches 29 miles through two counties and laps ashore in five towns. From ice-fishing contests to an end-of-summer Ring of Fire celebration, this man-made reservoir provides opportunities for lake dwellers, their families and friends, in winter and summer. Let's start with summer.

### Accommodations

Places to stay abound around and near this lake, from tenting to large, resort-style house rentals. We have beds and breakfasts - The Inn at the Bridge in Northville, (www. innatthebridge.com or Facebook); Betty's River Road Bed & Breakfast in Northville/Benson, (magicratproductions. com/bettysriverroad/); or the Finch Guest House in Broadalbin (finchguesthouse.com) to large, amenity-filled RV parks like Sunset Bay Vacation Resort RV Park & Marina (www.sunsetbayny.com) and 185-site Birch Haven Campground in Broadalbin (Facebook), cabin rentals at Lapland Lake Nordic Vacation Center (www.laplandlake. com), at the Orendaga on Northville Lake (www.orendaga. com), or Ward's Lakefront Retreat, (518) 863-8837, or search through great vacation and home rentals through Adirondack By Owner (www.AdkByOwner.com). At Pops Lake Campground you can tent, bring your RV, or rent a cabin (Facebook).

### The Northville Lake Placid Trail

This trail is 133 miles long, and is utilized by advanced hikers. The trail head is located on Main Street in the village, and the trail also has a starting point at the Trailhead Lodge in the town of Benson. For more information, visit: www.nptrail. org/Home.php

### **Boat Launches**

Suppose you are looking to take your vessel for a ride on Sacandaga waters. The lake offers four state boat launches for public use. For more information, visit: www.dec. ny.gov/outdoor

### Winter Activities

In the winter, the Sacandaga becomes an ice-covered playground for those who enjoy seasonal activities. The lake transforms into an arena for ice fishing, snowmobiling, ice skating, snowshoeing and skiing.

Two of the largest ice-fishing contests of the season are scheduled in January — the annual Walleye Challenge Ice Fishing Tournament and the Great Sacandaga Lake Fisheries Federation winter fishing tournament.

These events draw thousands of participants, and 54 percent of the competitors come from out of town.



**BUILDING A HEALTHY COMMUNITY** 

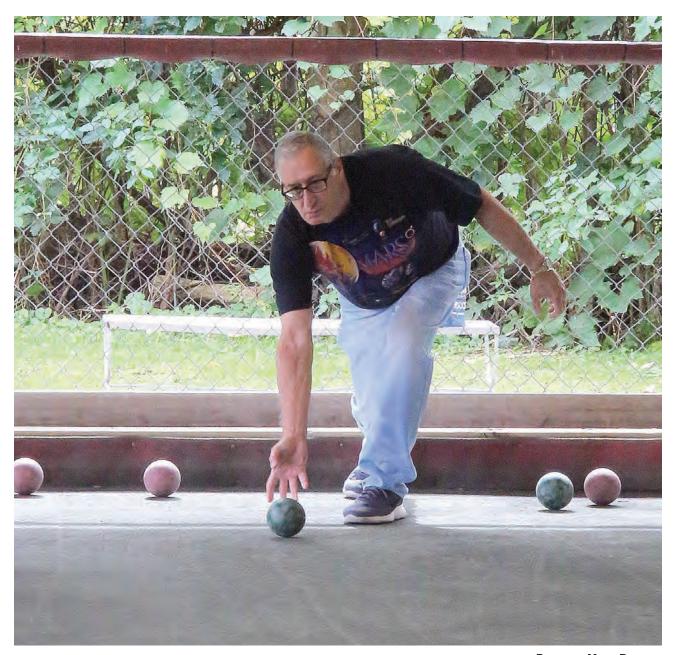
The Family Counseling Center offers a wide variety of mental health and support services to children, families and adults.

Counseling
Primary care
Crisis management
Family support
Peer support
School based programming
Domestic violence safe shelter
Domestic violence hotline

Health coaching







Рното ву Макк Регетті Rich Conte from Amsterdam is spotting for a point at the Port Jackson Bocce Courts in Amsterdam's South Side neighborhood.



### REGION IN FOCUS: Transportation

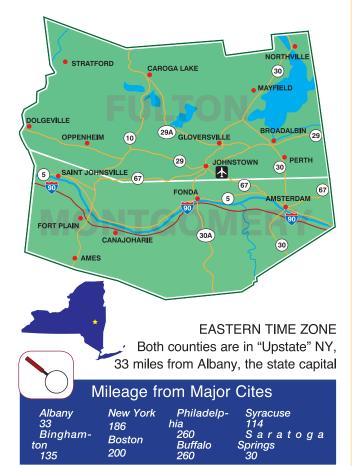
**Fulton County**, located just north of the New York State Thruway (I-90). State Routes 30, 30A, 10 and 29 connect the traveler to the interstate highways.

**Montgomery County** is accessible by Route 5 and 5S and by the NYS Thruway from exits 27 (Amsterdam), 28 (Fonda/Fultonville), and 29 (Canajoharie/Palatine Bridge), as well as by scenic Routes 10, 30 and 30A, heading south from the Adirondack State Park, and Route 67 from Saratoga Springs.

**Fulton County Airport** is a county owned, public use airport for general aviation aircraft. It is within an hour's flight time from Boston, New York City and Montreal. A fixed-base operator is available: The 195 Factory (www.the195factory.com). For airport information visit www.fultoncountyny.gov

Albany International Airport: 33 miles from Amsterdam: www.albanyairport.com

Amtrak station in Amsterdam: www.amtrak. com



### **Business Directory**

Alpin Haus – 4850 NY 30, and Rt 5S, Amsterdam, NY 12010 518-843-4400 • www.alpinhaus.com

Amsterdam Mohawks – Shuttleworth Park, Amsterdam, NY 12010 518-791-7546 • www.amsterdammohawks.com

Benjamin Moore – 155 Union Ave, Johnstown, NY 12095 855-724-6802 ● www.benjaminmoore.com

Capstone Center for Rehabilitation & Nursing – 302 Swart Hill Road, Amsterdam NY 12010 • 518-842-6790 capstonecenterrehab.com

CDL Associates Insurance Agency – 111 Bridge Street, Northville, NY 12134 • 518-863-2100 www.cdlassociates.org

Coldwell Banker – 363 North Comrie Ave, Johnstown, NY 12095 518-762-9885 • coldwellbankerarlenemsitterly.com

Fuel-n-Food – 3006 State Hwy 30, Mayfield, NY 12078 518-661-6917 • www.fuelnfood.com

Fulton County Historical Society – 237 Kingsboro Ave, Gloversville, NY 12078 • 518-773-4089 www.fultoncountyhistoricalsociety.com

Fulton-Montgomery Community College – 2805 NY-67, Johnstown, NY 12095 • 518-736-3622 • www.fmcc.edu

Gordon's Lakeside Marine – 322 Lakeside Dr., Mayfield, NY 12117 518-661-5031 • www.gordonslakesidemarine.com

Holiday Inn – 308 N Comrie Ave, Johnstown, NY 12095 518-762-4686 • www.igh.com

Kinderhook Bank – 4781 Rt 30, Amsterdam, NY 12010 518-843-5841 ● www.nubk.com/index.htm

#### Nadine Bloom-Attorney -

41 Market Street, Amsterdam, NY 12010 • 518-842-8213

Nathan Littauer Hospital – 99 E State St, Gloversville, NY 12078 • 518-725-8621 • www.nlh.org

Mangino Chevrolet – 4447 NY 30, Amsterdam, NY 12010 518-620-4984 ● www.manginochevy.com

Montgomery County Business Development Center – 9 Park Street, Fonda, NY 12068 • 518-853-8334 www.mcbdc.com

Park Marine Base – 199 County Hwy 152, Northville, NY 12134 518-863-8112 ● www.parkmarinebase.com

**River Ridge Living Center** – 100 Sandy Drive, Amsterdam, NY 12010 • 518-843-3503 • www.riverridgelc.com

Ruby & Quiri – 307 N Comrie Ave, Johnstown, NY 12095 518-762-7829 • www.randq.com

Sacandaga Valley Arts Network – PO Box 660, Northville NY 12134 • 518-883-5761 • www.svanarts.org

Salmon Law Firm – 179 Wallins Corners Road, Amsterdam, NY 12010 • 518-842-1650

Steet Toyota – 310 North Comrie Ave, Johnstown NY 12095 518-762-7222 • www.steettoyotajohnstown.com

Universal Warehousing – 204 County Rd 157, Gloversville, NY 12078 • 518-725-6960 • www.universalwarehousing.com

# Culture & Tradition



PHOTOS BY MARK PERFETTI

Amsterdam High School's annual Homecoming is a day-long event that begins with a parade including numerous floats (above), and ends with a huge bonfire celebration (below).







PHOTOS BY MARK PERFETTI ABOVE: Alyssa Dumblewski, her horse Samone and Santa during part of the tour at the Dumblewski home, which was among those featured in the St. Mary's Healthcare Auxiliary 12th Annual Christmas in November Holiday Home Tour. LEFT: Carolyn DelSanto and Janet Santoro marvel at the decorations on display at the annual Century Club Festival of Trees.



Office (518) 842-8213 Fax (518) 842-3420 bloom@nabloomlaw.com





Рното ву Макк Рекретти Thousands of people attend Amsterdam's annual Italiafest on the city's South Side. The event features a variety of food, entertainment, games and activities for children.



Рното ву Макк Регетті The St. Johnsville marina hosts a concert series each summer at the gazebo along the Mohawk River.



PHOTO BY MARK PERFETTI Kelly Quist-Demars with Signature Brass Quintet members Jonathan Marziano, Steve Weisse and Shaub Bazylewicz during Amsterdam's 2nd Annual OktoberFest.



\*Annual Percentage Yield. Rates current as of May 1, 2019 and may change at any time prior to account opening. 11 month CD: Minimum to open is \$500 and account will automatically renew into a 1-Year Certificate of Deposit term at the current rate in effect at that time and posted on our website at www.kinderhookbank.com. Penalty will be imposed for early withdrawal. Fees may reduce earnings. Limited time offer and may not be combined with any other rate promotions.



PHOTO BY MARK PERFETTI

Jason Rattray, Jamie Georgelos, Brennen Parker and Greg Heck gather before teeing off in the 2018 Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce Tryon Cup Golf Tournament at Amsterdam Municipal Golf Course.



Kevin McClary and Tom Cosentino set out for a round of golf at Rolling Hills Country Club.

### Amsterdam Municipal Golf Course

158 Upper Van Dyke Avenue, Amsterdam

(518) 842-9731

www.amsterdammuni.com Facebook

A historic 18-hole public golf course designed by Robert Trent Jones and run by the City of Amsterdam. Clubhouse restaurant offers lunch, dinner and breakfast.

# Canajoharie Golf & Country Club

154 Golf Club Road, Canajoharie (518) 673-8183 • canajohariegolf. com

An 18-hole public golf course located in Canajoharie, in the beautiful Mohawk Valley. Established in 1936, the Club includes a restaurant/banquet facility and pro shop. Conveniently located 5 miles off of Exit 29 on the NYS Thruway.

### Fox Run Golf Club

129 Fox Run Drive, Johnstown (518) 762-3717 • www.foxrungolfclub.net • Facebook

An 18-hole championship layout, driving range, restaurant, proshop, chipping and putting greens, indoor simulators, lessons, memberships, open to public.

### Hales Mills Country Club

146 Steele Road, Johnstown (518) 736-4622

www.halesmillscountryclub.com • Facebook

18-hole golf course open to the public. All grass driving range, carts, extensive pro shop and full-service restaurant with bar. Banquet facility.

# Golf



Рното ву Макк Рекетті Montgomery County Executive Matt Ossenfort and county Legislator Mike Pepe at Hales Mills Country Club.

### Holland Meadows Golf Course

1503 State Highway 29, Gloversville

(518) 883-3318

hollandmeadowsgolfcourse.com • Facebook

18-hole course and extensive pro shop for all your golfing needs. Open year round with four-Indoor Golf Simulators, driving range.

### Kingsboro Golf Club

301 N. Kingsboro Avenue, Gloversville

(518) 725-4653

www.kingsborogolfclub.com Facebook Scenic golf club offering a competitive 9-hole course for novice and experienced golfers. Enjoy cold beverages and a varied menu in the Double Eagle Restaurant.

### **Rolling Hills Country Club**

2258 State Highway 5, Fort Johnson

(518) 829-7817 • golfrollinghills.cc/ • Facebook

Rolling Hills is open to public play and membership. Serene views of the Mohawk River with superb course conditions. Full service Bar/Restaurant.



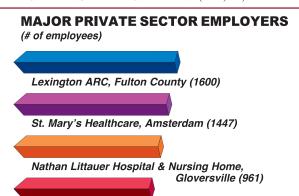


### **FULTON MONTGOMERY REGION PROFILE**

The region's economy features agriculture, commercial, retail, industrial, warehousing and distribution, transportation, food manufacturing, and other businesses.

### **POPULATION:** Total = 103,135 (2017 estimate)

Fulton County = 53,877 City of Gloversville 14,940 City of Johnstown 8,309 Montgomery County = 49,258 City of Amsterdam 17,858 LAND AREA in square miles (2010): 898.51 Fulton County = 495.47 Montgomery County = 403.04 PERSONS PER SQUARE MILE (2010): Fulton County = 112.1 Montgomery County = 124.6 TOTAL NUMBER OF FIRMS (2012): 6.283



Wal-Mart Distribution Center, Johnstown (750)

Kasson Keller Keymark, Fonda (795)

Target Distribution, Amsterdam (662)

Liberty ARC, Montgomery County (675)

Amsterdam Printing & Litho, Amsterdam (376)

Exel, Johnstown (477)

Taylor Made Group, Gloversville (340)

FAGE USA Dairy Industry, Johnstown (295)

Robison & Smith, Gloversville (288)

Beech-Nut Nutrition Corp., Amsterdam (276)

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES

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

**Fulton County Center for Regional Growth** 34 West Fulton Street, Gloversville, NY 12078 www.fccrg.org (518) 725-7700

**Fulton County Industrial Development Agency** fcida.org 1 East Montgomery Street, Johnstown, NY 12095 (518) 736-5660

Montgomery County Business Development Center www.mcbdc.org 9 Park Street, Fonda, NY 12068 (518) 853-8334

### COST OF LIVING

Median Housing Prices (2016): Fulton County = \$115,000 Montgomery County = \$97,000 Median Rental Price (average of three cities' rates): For a 2 bedroom/1 bath = \$720/month

### SALES TAXES

County = 8% (Fulton County and Montgomery County)State Sales Tax = 4%

### **OCCUPATIONS OF RESIDENTS**

Montgo	omery Co.	Fulton Co.
16+ Years Civi	ilian Employed	d
	21,714	23,639
Management, H	Business, Scier	nce & Arts
	30%	28%
Service Occupa	ations	
	18%	20%
Sales And Offi	ce	
	23%	25%
Natural Resour	ces, Construct	ion & Maintenance
	10%	10%
Production, Tra	ansportation, N	Aaterial Moving

18%

17%

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### **RIVER RIDGE LIVING CENTER**

is a premier 120 bed newly renovated and decorated Rehabilitation and Long Term Care facility.

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OUR COMPREHENSIVE ARRAY OF CLINICAL SERVICES INCLUDES:

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- Sports Medicine Rehabilitation
- Wii Therapy
- IV Certified Program
- Pulmonary Rehab & Psyiatry
- Stroke Management & Recovery
- Respiratory/Pulmonary
   Management
- 24/7 Skilled Nursing Care
- Physicians Services
- Comprehensive Wound Care
- Pain Management
- Joint Replacement Therapy



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