

NEWSLINE

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



October 2021

Golf Classic 2021

Business community comes together for a great cause

By Joanne E. McFadden

Continuing a four-decades-long tradition, around 90 local businesspeople hit the golf course for the Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce's annual Golf Classic at Hales Mills Country Club in Johnstown on September 10.

Golfers were treated to pastries, coffee, tea, and bloody marys before the shotgun start at 11 a.m. As they made their way around to 18 holes of golf, there were several contests to break up the day. These included a Hole-In-One contest to win a Harley-Davidson motorcycle, a closest to the pin contest, a men's and women's longest drive contest, a straightest/closest to the line contest, and a land on the green — double your money contest.

A traveling food cart provided refreshments for lunch, made by the Hales Mills Country Club. At one hole, golfers could sample craft beverages from Stump City Brewing, Rogers' Cideryard, and the Great Sacandaga Brewing Company.

Golfers enjoyed hors d'oeuvres and cocktails upon completion of the course while everyone was waiting for all teams to finish before the chamber announced the tournament and contest winners. Epimed International won the tournament with golfers Nick



Epimed International won the tournament, featuring Nick Salatell, Allen Wade, Steve Savaria, Terry Denney.

Salatell, Allen Wade, Steve Savaria, and Terry Denney.

A dinner of bourbon barbecue-glazed salmon and chicken marsala followed the awards presentation.

While the event provided an opportunity to relax, catch up with friends, and network with other businesspeople in the region, it also served the important purpose of fundraising for the Chamber, supporting its mission, community advocacy, and programming for member businesses.

The fundraising success is due in large part to the dozens of businesses that sponsored

See Golf, on page 3



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Bouchey & Clarke Benefits, Inc.; Dollar General, Amsterdam Distribution Center

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We are the leading voice in business, and tourism development, providing our members with resources to enhance their organizations and our local communities

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www.44lakes.com | Facebook: Visit Fulton County, NY
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Mohawk Valley Brownfield Development Summit: Learn, Network and Invest in New York's Mohawk Valley

The Mohawk Valley Brownfield Development Summit, created by a unique collaboration of the six Mohawk Valley Counties and the Mohawk Valley Economic Development District, will take place October 6th and 7th, 2021 in Johnstown, NY. The Summit will provide developers a dynamic in-person opportunity to learn, network and invest in New York's Mohawk Valley Brownfield redevelopment. According to Stephen Smith, Executive Director of the Mohawk Valley Economic Development District, "The Summit will tie in the Mohawk Valley's economic leaders, the brownfield

sites ready for restoration, and America's brownfield developers looking to acquire sites for future economic growth."

Keynote speaker Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer's will spotlight why investment in the Mohawk Valley has never looked brighter. With a \$2 billion investment forecast, businesses are looking to invest. Federal and state investment in semiconductors and the innovation economy are closely aligned with investments in the Marcy Nanocenter, Cree/Wolfsped, Danfoss Silicon Power, Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL), and the Innovare Advancement Center underway. The surge of econom-

ic activity is putting more focus on preparing sites for industrial, commercial residential and infill development. Seasoned experts from the public and private sectors will address redevelopment including, the Valley's needs, redevelopment opportunities, leveraging, incentives and why businesses are investing in the Valley. The Summit will showcase prioritized sites for redevelopment on a dedicated and interactive website.

Visit the Mohawk Valley Economic Development district website www.mvedd.org/about-brownfields-1 to register for a unique event and become a part of this exceptional networking opportunity.

FMCC Business and Community Partnerships Team works with local employers

FM is a valuable local resource for employers and community organizations. The Business and Community Partnerships Team can assist you with training of existing employees to advance the skills of your workforce, with both credit and non-credit coursework. We can post your job openings and reach out to both current students and Alumni.

Our staff can help you to develop an internship site for FM students in various majors, where qualified students learn valuable hands-on experience under your supervision and training. FM also provides no-cost meetings spaces for employers to gather. We assist employers with designing a continuous training path linking non-credit programs and degree and certificate programs.



The Business and Community Partnerships Team plays a major role in workforce-

development initiatives as an integral part of local economic development efforts. Listed below are the various resources offered by the Center for Employer Services.

For more information, employers can contact Daniel Fogarty, Director of External Partnerships and Applied Learning at daniel.fogarty@fmcc.suny.edu, 518-736-FMCC (3622) ext: 8302, or visit www.businesscommunitypartnershipsfm.com/.



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Golf, continued from page 1

the tournament (see sidebar). Bouchey & Clarke Benefits and Dollar General were this year's presenting sponsors.

"Bouchey & Clarke Benefits has been a proud partner of the Fulton Montgomery Chamber of Commerce for many years," said Matthew Clarke, co-founder and vice president of the company. "We were delighted to be able to sponsor and support the Chamber's Golf Classic again this

year. Our entire agency believes that the Chamber is a tremendous business community resource, especially during the difficult times we have all been through for the past year and a half."

Bouchey & Clarke uses the tournament as an opportunity to develop better relationships with the clients it serves in a relaxed atmosphere away from the office. "We look forward to this every year and give a lot of credit to the Chamber for all of their efforts in putting together a great day," Clarke said.

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Visit The Chamber online at: www.fultonmontgomeryny.org



Thank You!

The Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce would like to thank the sponsors, volunteers and golfers who made the 2021 Chamber Golf Classic a success!

Proceeds will benefit the Chamber's mission, community advocacy, as well as creating innovative and informative programming for Chamber member businesses.

Presenting Sponsors	Apparel Sponsor	Dinner Sponsor	Cocktail Sponsor	Longest Drive Sponsor	Lunch Sponsors
 					  

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Glove Cities Arts Alliance announces new exhibition

The Glove Cities Arts Alliance (GCAA) is pleased to announce its October 2021 exhibition, Face to Face. This exhibition will feature the portraiture works of regional artists. From October 1st- 29th at the Fulton Montgomery Chamber of Commerce, the works of:

Chris Evans, Hannah Williams, Lynda Naske, Robert Tomlinson, Madison Janetsky, Janelle Krause, Valeria Orozco, Don Cooper, and Corey Pitkin.

Face to Face will feature a variety of mediums such as photography, drawing, painting, and collage, all focusing on the theme of contemporary portraiture. The opening reception for this exhibition will be at the Chamber of Commerce, 2 North Main Street, Gloversville, NY, from the hours of 5:00pm-7:00pm. This event is free and open to the public.

This exhibition will be on view from October 1st- 29th at the Fulton Montgomery Chamber of Commerce, 2 North Main Street, Gloversville, from 8:00am- 5:00pm, Monday through Friday.

On October 7th, Glove Cities Arts Alliance will join with Micropolis Gallery to open an "Art on Main" event in two locations. The Alliance will be presenting "Face to Face," a show of portraits, will open with a reception from 5-7pm at the Chamber of Commerce Rotunda Gallery, 2 North Main Street, Gloversville. Micropolis Cooperative Art Gallery, located inside Mohawk Harvest Cooperative Market, 30 N. Main St., Gloversville, will hold its opening show on the same date at the same time.

GCAA is a new Arts Council in Gloversville, serving Fulton and Montgomery counties. Our mission is to help sustain the health and vitality of the arts in our local communities and to create an environment where the arts are accessible by all. We at GCAA believe there is a lot of unseen talent in Fulton and Montgomery counties and we want to help share that with the larger community.

Hunting Season Underway

By Joanne E. McFadden

Around the end of the summer, fishing tapers off as hunters prepare for hunting season, which is now underway. Two chamber members, Frank's Gun & Tackle Shop in Amsterdam and Runnings in Gloversville find hunting season to be one of their busiest times of year.

Like many other outdoor activities, as people isolated themselves and may have had more leisure time due to COVID-19 job layoffs, the number of people out hunting increased. According to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, there were 7,677 hunting licenses sold in Fulton and Montgomery counties in 2019 to 2020 and 8,865 sold in 2020 to 2021.

For both Runnings and Frank's, the biggest challenge now is keeping their customers supplied with ammunition. "Everybody is scrambling around for ammo because ammo is so scarce," said John Havlick, owner of Frank's. He purchased the business, started by his parents in 1982, about a decade ago.

The ammunition shortage began with the pandemic when people started hoarding it (think toilet paper). "On top of that, last year all the ammunition manufacturers were shut down," said Rodney Oathout, the gun room specialist at Runnings. "They got behind and they're still playing catchup."

That said, gun sales are high, Oathout said. Frank's is so busy during hunting season that none of his staff takes vacation during this time, and he himself rarely gets an opportunity to hunt.

Havlick puts in 12-hour days on the six days a week that the shop is open and then goes in on Sundays when the store is closed to do administrative work. "New York State requires a lot of paperwork, as well as the federal government," Havlick said.

Oathout said that Runnings has been selling a lot of tree stands as more and more people have started hunting, including women and youth. One of the changes that the New York Legislature made this year was the adoption of a temporary program through 2023 where licensed hunters as young as 12 years old can hunt deer with a firearm and crossbow, including during the Youth Firearms Big Game Hunt on Columbus Day Weekend.

One area that has seen an increase in sales for both businesses is in fluorescent orange and pink hats and upper body clothing, as the new rules require hunters to wear these colors when hunting deer or bear with a firearm. "I don't think it's a bad idea," Havlick said, noting that it could help to prevent accidental shootings.

The hunting and fishing industry has flourished during the pandemic. Havlick timed his move from State Highway 30 in



Gloversville to State Hwy 30 in Amsterdam just right. He opened his doors on August 4, 2019. He and his family, including his father, wife, and children, worked for 14 months prior rehabbing a building that had been vacant for eight years. "I gutted it, and we started from scratch," Havlick said. "I would work at the gun shop all day and work here all night." The new space of almost 4,000 feet was three times as big as the shop's previous location across from Adirondack Animal Land. Since Havlick moved the business to its new location, the volume of business has tripled. The shop did not close during the pandemic because it sells propane and has a government contract that required it remain open.



Rodney Oathout, the gun room specialist at Runnings with a buck.

One of Havlick's favorite parts of his work, despite the long hours, is meeting people and hearing their hunting stories. "You see the father bring the son in, and as the son gets older, he may get married and bring his kid in," Havlick said. "It's kind of cool. With generations of people, you get to hear their stories."

Havlick has a story of his own to tell. In July 2014, Mike Hanback, host of Big Deer TV on the Sportsman channel, featured Havlick at his camp in Speculator during an episode about Adirondack hunters.

Both businesses look forward to serving the area's hunters this season and beyond. For more info, visit www.runnings.com and www.facebook.com/FranksGunShop.

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Business Education Partnership News

HFM Pathways in Technology Early College High School (HFM PTECH)

Internship Spotlight

AT RIGHT: Seniors Aurora Morley of Amsterdam and Madison Handy of Mayfield participated in a summer internship in the Information Technology Department at the Gloversville Enlarged School District.



HFM Career and Technical Education (CTE)

Local business partners sought for expanded student internship opportunities

The HFM Career & Technical Center is seeking local businesses in need of employees as it prepares to launch an expansion of its Work Study Program. The CTC is now seeking to partner with employers who will provide internship opportunities for students two days per week for a 10-week period in the spring. The internships will run from approximately April 4, 2022 through June 10, 2022.

Two-week internships have long been a part of the curriculum at the HFM Career and Technical Center, which offers 16 career programs for



area high school juniors and seniors. By expanding the Work Study Program, select students will be able to gain even more

real-world experience while providing employers with the

See HFM, on page 7



Workplace Challenges Wanted

An authentic industry challenge or Workplace Challenge provides students the opportunity to work on real-world challenges in a collaborative, team-based environment, applying instructional content to technical workplace problems. For example, challenges could focus on product packaging, material organization, internal communication methods, process efficiency, marketing/advertising, safety, ergonomics, sustainability, testing processes/methods, office/production floor layout, or product innovations. We would like the challenges to be real-world enough that they will engage students and be appropriate for 9th or 10th grade students who may have limited prior knowledge. You don't have to develop the challenge yourself, but your knowledge and input in developing the challenge will be appreciated. A typical challenge lasts between 4-6 weeks. If your business has a workplace challenge our students can tackle or need additional information, please contact Nicole Walrath at nicolew@fultonmontgomeryny.org or nwalrath@hfmbores.org.

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Tourism News



Anne Boles
Director of
Tourism Development
tourism@fultonmontgomeryny.org

“Fall into Fulton County”

“Fall into Fulton County” is intended to promote local tourism by highlighting local tourist attractions in the area.

Posts and blogs will feature places to visit and explore, as well as restaurants and specialty shops to stop at along the way. Fall is a wonderful time of year to visit historical landmarks, shop at local specialty stores in our downtown area, and eat at a family-owned restaurant.

“Fall is one of the best times of the year to visit Fulton County,” Director of Tourism Development Director Anne

Boles said. “It’s a beautiful opportunity to drive through the county – to visit stops on the Fulton/Montgomery Quilt Barn Trail, go visit a historical landmark, fish on one of our 44 lakes, hike or bike on a trail. While you are apple or pumpkin picking, or choosing mums for your porch at a local flower shop- stop by a specialty shop in a downtown city or village. It is a perfect time to go visit on a beautiful crisp fall day. Then enjoy a meal at one of the family owned restaurants. I encourage businesses to reach out to me – as I will be happy to promote and showcase what your business has to offer.”

Fulton County Administrative Officer Jon Stead also touted the value of the region’s destinations. “Taking a one-day ‘mini-staycation’ is a great idea right now. This year, everyone is looking for a way to get out of the house and enjoy the outdoors. You do not have to go far to find things to do. You just have to go!”

Please reach out to Anne Boles if you are a business owner interested to be featured. Please call 518-725-0641, or email tourism@fultonmontgomeryny.org

Hit the trail for the Canalway Challenge

Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor invites New Yorkers to take part in the Canalway Challenge this fall, tracing history and tracking miles along New York’s canals and Canalway Trail. Part fitness challenge, part journey of discovery, the Canalway Challenge is free and registration is open to people of all ages and abilities. Participants set their own mileage goal and walk, run, cycle or paddle to achieve it.

Nearly 1,000 individuals, teams, and organizations have signed up for the Canalway Challenge – pledging to walk, run, cycle, and paddle 126,000 miles to date.

New this fall, participants are encouraged to take up a quest to discover great food and beverages, historic sites, parks, and communities and discover what’s Hot on the Trail while completing the Canalway Challenge. From now through the end of October, participants are encouraged to visit sites including food and beverage, museums and historic sites, nature preserves, state and national parks, canal structures, and communities. “The Canalway Challenge is another of countless opportunities – both on and off the water – for recreation and fun along New York State’s historic canalway, and I join the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor in encouraging all New Yorkers to enjoy all that we have to offer,” said Brian U. Stratton, Director of the New York State Canal Corporation.”

For information and sign up, visit: CanalwayChallenge.org

Enjoy the Fall Harvest and enjoy an experience at one of our local apple orchards:

Fulton County:
Lake View Orchards
133 County Highway 123
(Mountain Road)
Mayfield 518-661-5017

Rogers Family Orchards
260 County Highway 131
Johnstown 518-762-8736



Rogers Family Orchards

Montgomery County
Pavlus Orchards
272 Hickory Hill Road
Fort Plain 518-993-2643

Bellinger’s Apple Orchard
685 Argersinger Road
Fultonville 518-922-8558

Sand Flats Orchard
371 Martin Road,
Fonda 518-853-4999

Visit our tourism event calendars for events happening in Fulton County:

www.44lakes.com/calendar
and Montgomery County,
www.visitmontgomerycountyny.com/events-calendar.

Haunted history trail, spooky stories:

www.facebook.com/

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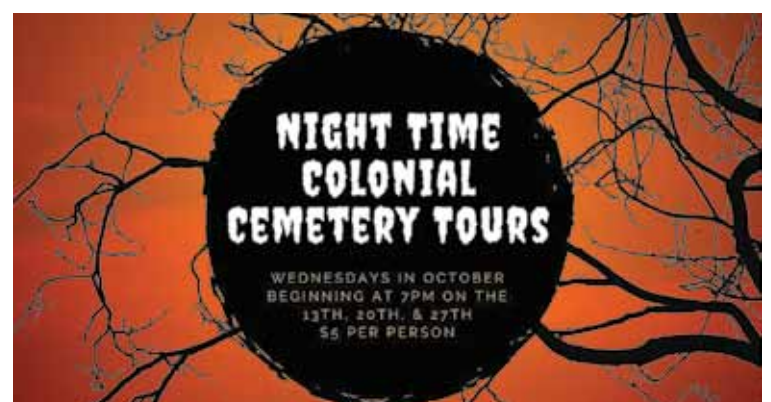
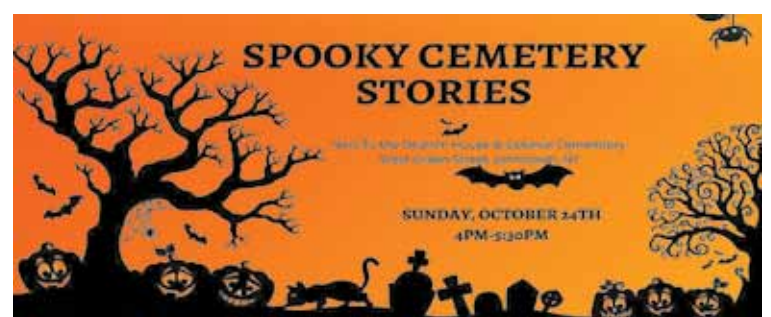
City of Amsterdam Tourism Marketing & Recreation

www.facebook.com/City-of-Amsterdam-Tourism-Marketing-Recreation-205867496214050

First Significant Color Changes Reported in Adirondacks and Catskills

The first signs of New York’s colorful fall foliage are appearing in upstate regions!

New York State’s 2021 fall foliage season is underway, with the first signs of the spectacular seasonal colors to come appearing in the Adirondacks and Catskills regions, according to volunteer observers for the Empire State Development Division of Tourism’s I LOVE NY program. Weekly updates are every Wednesday. Follow on Facebook.



Membership News



Janet Davis

Director of Membership
and Member Services

Membership@fultonmontgomeryny.org

Chamber's Ambassador Committee

One of the most important role models is our Ambassador Committee:

Ambassador Mission Statement: Ambassadors promote goodwill and communicate the mission of the Chamber to new and existing members; encourage all members to get involved with Chamber; and support Chamber membership and staff.

Ambassador Goals and Objectives: Ambassadors are often the first link new members have with the Chamber. Our goal is to help members feel welcome and comfortable with the Chamber. We do this by attending ribbon cutting ceremonies to welcome new businesses and by

contacting new members to answer any questions they may have. We are also the official hosts of Chamber events, where we pay special attention to first-time attendees, meeting them and introducing them to other members. Ambassadors have responsibility to be Chamber advocates for all members.

Ambassador Committee Expectations:

- An Ambassador can expect to spend 4-10 hours/month performing Chamber-related duties.
- Attend monthly Ambassador Committee meetings
- Attend FMRCC events on a regular

basis

- Mentor new Chamber members
- Assist the Chamber in continued success through member retention visits, calls and other projects.
- Promote the FMRCC and its programs and services to members and non-members in the business community
- Stay current on FMRCC information by visiting www.fultonmontgomeryny.org, liking the Chamber Facebook page, reading Chamber Newsline, or asking questions of Chamber staff.

Chamber Member Anniversaries

The following businesses realize the value of their Chamber investment and have renewed their membership in the months of August and September 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

Nadine A. Bloom, Esquire	2017
Ashley Home Store Select	2017
DeGiulio Brothers Flooring	2018
Dove Creek Animal Hospital	2020
ATR Fleet Service	2020
Microtel Inn and Suites by Wyndham.....	2020
Wine & Roses	2020

5 to 9 Years

Top Quality Home Care Agency, L.L.C.....	2012
Country Valley Veterinary Clinic	2012
Heritage Meadows Farm Bed & Breakfast....	2012
518 Grille	2013
Runnings	2014
Centro Civico of Amsterdam	2016
Capital City Coffee Roasters.....	2016

10 to 19 Years

L&L Embroidery, Inc.....	2002
Miracle Ear.....	2003
C.F.I. Construction, Inc.....	2005
Bouche & Clarke Benefits, Inc.....	2005

10 to 19 Years continued

O'Connors Pub.....	2005
Frank & Sons Body Works, Inc.	2005
Ruggiero Realty, L.L.C	2005
Railside Café.....	2005
Carole Petrelia of Coldwell Banker- Arlene M. Sitterly Inc.	2006
Adirondack Mechanical Corporation.....	2005
R & D Sales	2006
KeyBank	2007
Fulton County Historical Society & Museum	2008
Sacandaga Outdoor Center	2008
Village of Fort Johnson	2008
New York Oncology Hematology, P.C....	2008
John H. Blackmon.....	2009
Kimberly P. Travis, CPA	2011
Kwiat Eye and Laser Surgery	2011

20 to 29 Years

Don's Electric & Plumbing	1998
Power and Composite Technologies, L.L.C. ..	1999

30 to 39 Years

Greater Amsterdam School District	1981
Robert J. Hoy Agency, Inc.	1986
Mountain Valley Hospice.....	1987
Greater Johnstown School District	1991

HFM, continued from page 5

help they need.

The expanded Work Study Program will provide employers with highly-motivated students who must be recommended by their instructors in order to participate. Through the program, students will gain invaluable experience while learning the skills that are crucial to success in their particular career fields.

"Partnerships with local businesses are a critical part of our Career and Technical programs," HFM Career and Technical Center Principal Michael DiMezza said. "Providing workplace

experiences helps ensure our students are prepared to enter the workforce and that we're meeting the needs of local employers."

HFM BOCES is looking for employers in the following fields: restaurants and food service, cybersecurity, information technology, digital multimedia, veterinary fields, construction, engineering, heavy equipment operation, auto body repair, automotive repair, criminal justice, legal services, forestry, environmental conservation, renewable resources, and the skilled trades.

To learn more about this opportunity, employers should contact Ryan England, Work-Based Learning Coordinator, at rengland@hfm-boces.org.

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