

RENSCONNECT

BUSINESS + COMMUNITY CONVERGE WHERE

NON-STOP NETWORKING | MAY 09

Chamber's 119th Annual Dinner {with a twist}

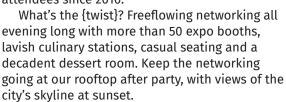
"If you're looking for the perfect opportunity to grow your real-world network in a fun and social setting, this is it. Reserve your spot for the 119th Annual Dinner {with a twist} & Business Expo and you'll enjoy a wonderful and productive evening. This is always one of our team's favorite events of the year and I promise you'll leave the event with new business ideas, contacts and friends."

Howard Gross President & CEO, eBizDocs

"The casual format offers a great opportunity to connect with businesses from across the region. As an expo booth participant, we're able to showcase different sponsorship outlets and hospitality options that we have available at the ballpark. This event lets us build relationships with existing partners and new contacts alike. The date for this event is circled on our calendar every year!"

Matt Callahan General Manager, Tri-City ValleyCats This is the event Chamber members look forward to, can't wait to get to and don't want to leave! Attracting more than 500 regional business professionals, the Chamber's 119th Annual Dinner {with a twist} & Business Expo gives you maximum opportunity to Market, Develop & Connect. The Chamber's premier annual event has

received a 98% approval rating from attendees since 2010.



Join us for this year's event and share your photos and favorite moments with us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter @renscochamber #Twist2019



"It's such a unique event that brings tremendous value and ROI. The Expo allows us to spotlight our business, showcase our expanding services and strengthen relationships with other members."

Kathleen E. Kirvin, Marketing Manager, Marvin and Company, PC, CPAs

THU MAY 09

Register now at renscochamber.com/events

🕘 Networking Reception and Business Expo start at 5:30 p.m. \$130 per member | \$1,550 per Chairman Circle Table of 10. Franklin Plaza Ballroom, 4 Fourth Street in Troy. Major sponsors: Bouchey Financial Group, Ltd. | Bouchey & Clarke Benefits, Inc., CDPHP and NBT Bank. Expo Tent sponsor: Turner Construction Company. Dessert Room sponsor: Sunmark Federal Credit Union. After Party sponsor: Spectrum Reach.













APPLICATION DEADLINE | MAY 15

Build Your Career: The Leadership Institute



Make this YOUR year! Applications are being accepted for The Leadership Institute's Class of 2020, the Chamber's transformational,

skills-based professional development program that incorporates a "learning from leaders" approach to successful training. Our awardwinning model develops participants' professional and personal skills as they learn from a distinguished faculty of the region's top executives.

Starting with an overnight retreat, the program builds with monthly sessions on strategic thinking, communication, career-life balance, financial management, human resources, organizational development and board development. Our graduates increase their value as leaders within their companies and communities, paving the way for career advancement and personal success. In addition, Leadership alumni enjoy exclusive networking opportunities.

Learn more about The Leadership Institute and submit online applications at renscochamber.com/ leadership-institute. Contact Communications & Web Strategies Manager Staci O'Neill at 518.687.1243 or soneill@renscochamber.com for information. Application deadline is Wednesday, May 15 at 5 p.m.

ASK A BOARD MEMBER:

The Leadership Institute

Victoria Carosella Baecker is Director of Community Relations & Corporate Events for CDPHP. She is responsible for the coordination and execution of CDPHP's philanthropic efforts. She also acts as a community liaison and provides support for



CDPHP's special events. She is past chair of The Leadership Institute and a Class '12 graduate.

Q » How has The Leadership Institute impacted yourself and your career?

A » Participation in the class gave me confidence, exposure to people I didn't know and a network that I would not otherwise have. My experience, however, has lasted far beyond graduation. The Chamber, the faculty and my fellow classmates — as well as more than 350 alumni — have continued to be references and resources for me, professionally and personally, countless times throughout the years. I strongly credit The Leadership Institute for the direction my career has taken since my graduation.

Q » How is the Leadership program an effective avenue for your staff's development?

A » Community service is part of CDPHP's mission. Obtaining exposure and opportunity beyond the company's four walls is a critical component to broadening the skills of our current and emerging leaders. The Leadership Institute provides immense networking opportunities and aids participants in honing their leadership skills in a safe, educational environment.

Q » As the sponsor of the Class of '20, why is CDPHP committed to this professional development program?

A » CDPHP and the Rensselaer County Regional Chamber of Commerce share in a mission to improve the lives and financial well-being of the communities we collectively serve. As a business, CDPHP understands that a talented and professionally trained workforce is best equipped to serve our number one asset: our members. The skills-based sessions included in The Leadership Institute's program cover such a wide variety of topics that employees are immediately exposed to unique training opportunities to propel their careers and skills forward, no matter the industry. CDPHP is proud to sponsor The Leadership Institute.

Ask a Board Member is a monthly Q&A featuring members of the Chamber's Board of Directors.

"RENSCONNECT" is published monthly. Submissions considered for publication are based upon content and space availability.

Kate Manley, President 90 Fourth Street, Suite 200, Troy, NY 12180 Phone: 518.274.7020 | Web: renscochamber.com

Editor: Doreen M. Ercolano Co-Editor: Staci O'Neill Design: Spiral Design Studio, LLC



of Commerce





@renscochamber



Welcome New Members

Albany Leadership Charter High School for Girls

Schools
Non-profit Organizations
Rep: Natalie Orcutt
19 Hackett Boulevard
Albany, NY 12208
Phone: 518.694.5300
VISIT albanyleadershiphigh.org

ATALIAN Global Services

Janitorial & Cleaning Services Rep: Julia DiNova 125 Wolf Road Albany, NY 12205 Phone: 518.203.8800 VISIT atalian.us

The Eastside Inn Victorian Bed & Breakfast

Bed & Breakfast Rep: Beth Gray 460 Pawling Avenue Troy, NY 12180 Phone: 607.376.2098 VISIT eastsideinnvictorianbedandbreakfast.com

Helpir, LLC

General Contractors Handyman Rep: Mitchel Wacholder 476 North Greenbush Road Rensselaer, NY 12144 Phone: 855.443.5747 VISIT helpir.com

LCS Facility Group

Commercial Cleaning/Janitorial Post-Construction Cleaning Rep: Joe Fairley 61 Fuller Road Latham, NY 12205 Phone: 845.485.7000 VISIT lcsfacilitygroup.com

RE/MAX Platinum

Real Estate Rep: Catherine Graziano 52 North Greenbush Road Troy, NY 12180 Phone: 518.720.3400 VISIT remax.com

Spring Electric, Inc.

Construction Management Electric Contractors Rep: Vicki Spring 93 Blue Factory Road Averill Park, NY 12018 Phone: 518.720.3400 VISIT springelectricny.com

Please welcome our newest members by stopping by to say hello and patronizing their businesses. You can invite non-members to join our growing Chamber by contacting Membership Manager Elizabeth McGarry at 518.687.1240 or emcgarry@renscochamber.com.



Member News







UHY LLP promoted three staff members (photos, l-r): Sue Lambert, senior manager in the firm's tax department; Stephen Comer, manager in the audit department; and Charlie Smith, manager in the audit department. VISIT uhy-us.com

The Northern Rivers Family of Services announced Justin Priddle, vice president and banking relationship manager with Berkshire Bank, was elected president of its board of directors. He will provide oversight and stewardship for the \$80 million human services non-profit organization. Rose Miller, owner of Pinnacle Human Resources, was elected vice president of the board. VISIT northernrivers.org



Fenimore Asset Management appointed Erin Luciano as business development manager. A Malta resident and Mechanicville native, she works from Fenimore's Albany office and serves both individual and institutional investors. Fenimore is investment advisor to FAM Funds, with offices in Albany and Cobleskill. VISIT famfunds.com

The Bonadio Group's Albany office raised \$3,500 for Habitat for Humanity Capital District as part of the 2019 Upstate



New York
Construction
Summit.
The annual
event is part
of a series
presented by
The Bonadio
Group's
construction
division. VISIT
bonadio.com



Wojeski & Company CPAs, PC raised \$41,723 for the Wojeski Fund, including \$2,500 from SEFCU, to benefit low-income children and adolescents in Rensselaer County. The fund donated more than \$274,000 to needy children in the past 14 years through a partnership with Conserns-U, a non-profit organization. VISIT wojeskico.com



KeyBank promoted April Ulrich from vice president to area leader, retail banking. Based at the bank's Cohoes office, she is responsible for administration and sales management of 12 branches in KeyBank's north territory, including parts of Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga and Warren counties. VISIT key.com

Couch White, LLP announced James E. Walsh joined the firm, of counsel. A public and private attorney, he is an experienced election law attorney. This addition expands the firm's existing commercial and complex litigation, real estate and environmental practice groups. VISIT *couchwhite.com*







CAP COM Federal Credit Union hired three staff members to its senior leadership team (photos, l-r): Jason Greco, chief technology officer; Christine Horne, chief experience officer; and Lee Carman, chief lending officer. VISIT *capcomfcu.com*

Events Calendar 2019

APRIL



The Leadership Institute Class of 2019 Graduation Ceremony & Dinner

Celebrate this year's class and network with business professionals.

• Networking reception 5:30 p.m.; graduation ceremony 6:30 p.m. \$50 per person | \$550 per Chairman Circle Table of 10. Franklin Terrace Ballroom, 126 Campbell Avenue in Troy. Sponsored by KeyBank, with media sponsorship by Albany Business Review.



Ask the Experts | Managing & Supervising Staff

Learn the best practices to manage and supervise staff, train new managers, HR responsibilities and more. Led by Charles F. Seifert,

more. Led by Charles F. Seifert, dean, School of Business, Siena College.

• Check-in & breakfast 7:30 a.m.; presentation 8-9 a.m. \$35 members | \$50 walk-in members. Shaker Pointe at Carondelet, One Bell Tower Drive in Watervliet. Sponsored by CDPHP and SEFCU.



College Presidents Panel Discussion

A dynamic discussion with the presidents of area colleges and universities. Discover how these institutions collaborate with

businesses for mutual success. Voice your ideas during an interactive Q&A.

• Check-in & breakfast 7:30 a.m.; panel discussion and Q&A 8-9:30 a.m. \$35 members | \$50 walk-in members. Hilton Garden Inn, 235 Hoosick Street in Troy. Sponsored by CAP COM FCU, Duncan & Cahill, Mosaic Associates Architects and UHY LLP.

MAY



119th Annual Dinner {with a twist} & Business Expo

Non-stop networking, lavish culinary stations, expo booths and more!

Networking reception and Business

Expo start at 5:30 p.m. \$130 per member | \$1,550 per Chairman Circle Table of 10. Franklin Plaza Ballroom, 4 Fourth Street in Troy. Major sponsors: Bouchey Financial Group, Ltd. | Bouchey & Clarke Benefits, Inc., CDPHP and NBT Bank. Expo Tent sponsor: Turner Construction Company. Dessert Room sponsor: Sunmark Federal Credit Union. After Party sponsor: Spectrum Reach.



NetworkingPlus Luncheon

Get connected, develop leads and build relationships at our one-of-akind, fast-paced networking event.
A structured format, three table

rotations and ambassador facilitators ensure purposeful and effective networking for business success.

① Check-in & luncheon 11:30 a.m.; networking 12-1:15 p.m. \$35 members | \$50 walk-in members. Shaker Pointe at Carondelet, One Bell Tower Drive in Watervliet. Sponsored by FocalPoint Coaching & Training, Sandler Training and Sunmark Federal Credit Union.



Special Edition Luncheon: U.S. Reps. Delgado and Tonko

Meet Antonio R. Delgado (D-NY) and Paul D. Tonko (D-NY) for a discussion about today's important issues, followed by an informative Q & A.

Come prepared to join the conversation!

• Check-in & luncheon 11:30 a.m.; panel discussion and Q&A 12-1 p.m. \$35 members | \$50 walk-in members. The Century House, Route 9 in Latham.

A LOOK AHEAD

- » Accelerate Business Academy 06/14/19
- » SAVE THE DATE Annual Chamber Golf Classic 08/12/19
- » SAVE THE DATE Van Rensselaer Awards Dinner 09/26/19

Sponsorship Opportunities Available! Events Coordinator Rachael Murray rmurray@renscochamber.com ph: 518.687.1238

ADDITIONAL INFO

No-shows will be billed; 24-hour notice is required for all cancellations.

Questions?

Contact Events Coordinator Rachael Murray at 518.687.1238 or rmurray@renscochamber.com.





Register for Events: renscochamber.com/events

If you have special requirements, please contact us one month prior to event.

CONNECT FOR SUCCESS | MAY 22

Meet Your Next Lead at NetworkingPlus

"Spring" forward with the Chamber's high-impact networking event. This luncheon is a purposeful and effective way to build business contacts, develop a pipeline and pitch a message about your business or nonprofit. NetworkingPlus provides an engaging opportunity to share your information and get to



know fellow members. Offering three table rotations, ambassador facilitators and a system designed to avoid repeat introductions, you are guaranteed to leave with a stack of business cards. Get connected, develop leads and build relationships with the Chamber's NetworkingPlus Luncheon.



Register now at renscochamber.com/events

Check-in & luncheon 11:30 a.m.; networking 12-1:15 p.m. \$35 members | \$50 walk-in members. Shaker Pointe at Carondelet, One Bell Tower Drive in Watervliet. Sponsored by FocalPoint Coaching & Training, Sandler Training and Sunmark Federal Credit Union.

NO-COST BUSINESS RESOURCE

Meet SBDC's Tom Reynolds at the Chamber

The New York Small Business Development Center (NYSBDC) assists entrepreneurs and businesses with free one-on-one counseling, technical assistance, training and small business research to help determine needs.



answer questions and establish a plan of action to achieve goals. Through close business interaction, NYSBDC provides the personalized, enterprisespecific and client-directed support needed to start, expand and re-energize businesses. NYSBDC emphasizes assistance to women, veterans, people with special needs and minority clients.



"Annually, we provide services to approximately 1,100 prospective small business owners and assist with \$15 million in successful funding applications," said NYSBDC's Tom Reynolds. "Our free services include structuring loan proposals, business plans, three-year projections, procurement technical assistance and more. We facilitate an SBIR (Small Business Innovation Research) assistance program and we are the only center in the state with a revolving SEED (Small Enterprise Economic Development)

program for non-traditional loans, in partnership with SEFCU and University at Albany's School of Business and School of Social Welfare. NYSBDC also focuses on projects that advance job development, investment and economic growth priorities, particularly manufacturers, exporters and technologyoriented firms."

Tom Reynolds is available at the Chamber office every other Thursday. To make an appointment, contact the Chamber at 518.274.7020 or NYSBDC at 800.732.7232.

Check Out These Chamber Benefits

Here's a quick reminder of important benefits we offer to you and all of your employees. For additional member benefits, visit renscochamber.com.



✓ COUNTRY CLUB OF TROY MEMBERSHIPS

Take advantage of significant savings with an exclusive membership at the award-winning Country Club of Troy. Established in 1925, the club is a premier facility in the Capital District and the only private club in Rensselaer County. Initiation fee is waived for all members of the Chamber, a value of up to \$2,500 per family. Enjoy several "dues free" months,

a savings of more than \$1,700 per family. To schedule a tour of the club or discuss membership options, contact the Country Club of Troy at 518.274.1000.



✓ MEMBER-TO-MEMBER DISCOUNTS

Our Member-to-Member Discount Program encourages a valuable exchange of discounted business products and services among Chamber members. It's a great way to attract new customers to your business AND enjoy considerable discounts yourself. Use it to shop local and build networking contacts. To view available discounts and to submit a discount from your company using an online form, visit renscochamber.com/member-tomember-discounts.

Did You Know?

Member-to-Member Discounts are available to ALL of your employees, even for non-work related purchases. Keep checking our website for the latest additions from participating Chamber businesses.

CHAMBER MEMBER

potlight

Yonder Farms is a family-owned and operated garden center and farm market dedicated to growing high quality plants and produce for retail and wholesale customers. With more than 15 greenhouses filled with trees, shrubs, annuals, perennials, hanging baskets, roses, vegetables and herbs, the Chiaro family has also grown a reputation for hearty, beautiful stock since the founding of the business in 1970. Under the direction of grower Dave Chiaro (photo, below), Yonder Farms uses cutting-edge methods, including the latest



radiant heat technology for seed germination, producing the dense root balls that make for larger, healthier plants with abundant blossoms and fruit.



Customers, particularly families, come from all around the Capital District, Massachusetts, Vermont and Connecticut, drawn to the care, expertise and exceptional selection of varieties available at Yonder Farms. "We get so excited to see generations of families come year after year, and to inspire young people to discover the enjoyment of gardening," said Carla Chiaro, co-owner.

During the summer and fall months, the Chiaro's sell fruit and vegetables grown on their own farms in Hudson, including 500 acres of apple orchards. In addition.

Yonder Fruit Farms operates a seasonal farm stand on Route 9 in Valatie and Yonder Farms in Colonie offers a country store with gift shop, bakery and cafe.



Yonder Farms

381 North Greenbush Road | Troy, New York 12180 Ph: 518.283.4267 | YONDERFARMS.com

To purchase a Spotlight, contact the Chamber at 518.274.7020

Alumni News from The Leadership Institute

Congratulations to the Class of 2019



The Chamber is proud to present The Leadership Institute Class of 2019, to be recognized at a Graduation Ceremony and Dinner on Thursday, April 4 at 5:30 p.m. at Franklin Terrace Ballroom in Troy. Join us to celebrate their accomplishments and to network with regional business professionals by registering at renscochamber.com/events.

Submit your Leadership Institute alumni news to Communications & Web Strategies Manager Staci O'Neill at soneill@renscochamber.com.

Member Milestones

20 Years

Amtrak

15 Years

Renaissance Corporation Capital District Transportation Authority Resource Advantage, Inc.

5 Years

Davida's Boutique & Salon Whistling Kettle

2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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JERILEE BEAUDOIN* Pioneer Bank

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Hoosick Valley Contractors, Inc.

* Executive committee members.



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Market. Develop. Connect.

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ASK THE EXPERTS | APRIL 10

Managing & Supervising Staff

Build upon your skill sets and learn the best practices for leading your team including managing, supervising, HR responsibilities, delegating former tasks and more at the Chamber's Ask the Experts | Managing & Supervising Staff. Our guest expert, Siena College's Charles F. Seifert, will share strategies for enhancing your effectiveness as a leader. We'll discuss crucial skills including communication, conflict resolution, critical thinking, time management, problem-solving and other aspects of practical supervising. You'll leave ready to bring new life to your management style.



Register now at renscochamber.com/events

Check-in & breakfast 7:30 a.m.; presentation 8-9 a.m. \$35 members | \$50 walk-in members. Shaker Pointe at Carondelet, One Bell Tower Drive in Watervliet. Series is sponsored by CDPHP and SEFCU.





Charles F. Seifert, Ph.D. is dean for the School of Business at Siena College and a professor of management. His teaching and research include leadership effectiveness; enhancing multisource feedback programs,

influence strategies, corporate governance and applied statistics. An international presenter, he is published in the most highly regarded iournals in the field.

MEET OUR EXPERT





COLLEGE PRESIDENTS PANEL | APRIL 18

Discover How Higher Education Drives Economy









As major employers in the Capital District, colleges and universities have an economic impact that reaches beyond campuses. Discover how these institutions collaborate with businesses for mutual success at the Chamber's College President's Panel Discussion. Hear regional leaders discuss their academic communities,

future plans and the impact of higher education as an economic driver. Moderated by Guha Bala (above, right), president of Velan Ventures, Inc., our panel includes (top row, l-r) Christopher Ames, Ph.D., The Sage Colleges; Br. F. Edward Coughlin, OFM, Ph.D., Siena College; Hon. Shirley Ann Jackson, S.B., Ph.D., Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute; (bottom row, l-r) Roger A. Ramsammy, Ph.D., Hudson Valley Community College; Havidán Rodríguez, Ph.D., University at Albany; and Carolyn J. Stefanco, Ph.D., The College of Saint Rose. Bring your ideas and questions for a dynamic discussion.



Register now at renscochamber.com/events

Check-in & breakfast 7:30 a.m.; panel discussion and Q&A 8-9:30 a.m. \$35 members | \$50 walk-in members. Hilton Garden Inn, 235 Hoosick Street in Troy. Sponsored by CAP COM Federal Credit Union, Duncan & Cahill, Mosaic Associates Architects and UHY LLP.









SPECIAL EDITION LUNCHEON | MAY 29

Meet U.S. Representatives Delgado and Tonko

Join us for an inside look at Washington, D.C. from the perspective of U.S. Representatives Antonio R. Delgado (D-NY) and Paul D. Tonko (D-NY). We'll discuss today's important issues with Rep. Delgado, a newcomer in the 19th congressional district, and Rep. Tonko, a veteran incumbent in the 20th congressional district. Discover what's at stake for businesses, nonprofits and constituents in our region. The informative discussion will be followed by an audience Q&A with our guests. Come prepared to join the informative conversation and meet your elected officials!







Register now at renscochamber.com/events

🕘 Check-in & luncheon 11:30 a.m.; discussion and Q&A 12-1 p.m. \$35 members | \$50 walk-in members. The Century House, Route 9 in Latham.



Tuesday, May 7, 2019
Century House, Latham, 12 - 1 pm

A Place at the Table is a one-hour lunch program that will illustrate the needs within our communities and the ways in which Catholic Charities is making a difference. Attendees will have an opportunity to support our mission by making a gift of their choosing at the event.

Amidst the challenges our world is facing today, Catholic Charities meets people where they are. The luncheon will offer you a glimpse into the world our clients navigate every day, having to ask themselves questions such as:

My son is growing and needs new clothes. How will I ever make ends meet? Should I pick up food for my children or pay the heating bill?

The holidays are so hard and I get so far behind. How can I keep enough food on the table?

Their struggles are very real and hunger is most often a symptom of a larger issue in their life such as: having no bus fare to get to work, a past due heating bill, or needing back-to-school clothes for growing children. Our goal is to see that no person goes hungry with a larger hope to strengthen their lives and our communities.

Today, I invite you to join me. The success of our work is truly the result of community support. We simply cannot do it without you.

Sincerely,

Han Shople

Jenn Hyde, Executive Director

Catholic Charities Tri-County Services





A Place at the Table

A Place at the Table is a luncheon to benefit the outreach programs of Catholic Charities Tri-County Services:

- Conserns-u
- Hilltowns Community Resource Center
- Roarke Center
- Sister Maureen Joyce Center
- St. John's/St. Ann's Outreach Center

In 2018, these five Catholic Charities outreach programs served nearly 16,000 people throughout Albany, Rensselaer and Schenectady Counties.

Special thanks to First New York Federal Credit Union for making this flyer possible! **Sponsorship Opportunities Available!** For information, contact Justine Carroll at <u>jearroll@ccalbany.org</u> or by phone at 518-512-3577.

Photo: The Welcome Table at the St. John's/St. Ann's Outreach Center provides warm, sit-down meals to guests.



