

RENSCONNECT

BUSINESS COMMUNITY CONVERGE WHERE

FROM OUR PRESIDENT'S DESK

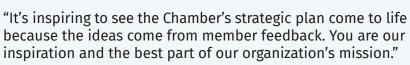
Immerse Yourself in Opportunities for Success

In 2020, the Chamber is celebrating two important milestones: the 120th year of our founding and the 15th graduating class of The Leadership Institute, our award-winning program. The Chamber has come a long way in the past century, thanks to the foresight and hard work of our predecessors. Today, our board and staff are more committed than ever to providing the Chamber's growing membership with opportunities for professional development, job training, networking, and resources that directly impact their professional and personal success. More than 400 Leadership alumni are using their skills to advance their careers and benefit their companies and communities. Could this be the year

you discover The Leadership Institute for yourself or a key member of your staff?

organization to greater levels of engagement and achievement. Your participation in these programs helps us identify and deliver the resources you need to be the best business owner you can be. We encourage your participation and valuable input.

Speaking of engagement and achievement, WE **Advance**, the Chamber's Workforce & Economic Advancement program, is going strong. We're building on the positive response to our annual event, "Future of Workforce Readiness: Education & Business Partnerships," to create ongoing opportunities throughout the year, including a live online forum to connect educators and business leaders looking to collaborate. We're also working with the Troy City School District and Hudson Valley Community College to develop a Smart (Science,



Chamber President Kate Manley



Full-Immersion Experiences

It's exciting to implement a strategic plan, to take the ideas from a page and transform them into real experiences that can change people's lives. For the Chamber, it's especially compelling because the ideas contained in our three-year plan come straight from member feedback. In response to your input and guided by our board of directors, we are working to tackle issues that keep small business owners up at night, including hiring and retaining employees, training, HR regulations and more. This series will be the Chamber's first cross-media offering, combining live events and webinars to make it convenient and relevant to you.

Also in 2020, we are hosting monthly CEO Roundtables, connecting face-to-face over coffee to encourage conversation, discuss challenges and discover solutions. The roundtables are key to the kind of continuous dialogue and member engagement we are always striving for, communication that leads our members and our

Mathematics and Research for Transformation) Scholarship-for-Service program for students pursuing college degrees in STEM fields. WE Advance is also partnering with Questar III BOCES, public and private schools to bring together educators and businesses in solid partnerships to better prepare our region's future workforce. To get involved, contact me at the email listed below.

Forward Thinking

During 2020 the Chamber will introduce more ways than ever for members to access our programs and resources. It's all part of making things easily available to you. Got an idea to share? We're looking forward to hearing from you.

Fondly,

Kate Manley kmanley@renscochamber.com ASK A BOARD MEMBER:

Value-Driven Advertising

John Tanner is director of sales for Spectrum Reach, the advertising sales services offered by Spectrum. He is an expert in providing measurable, customized advertising and marketing solutions for the modern media landscape.



Serving on the Board of Directors is particularly meaningful for me because much of my work at Spectrum Reach relates directly to the Chamber's mission. The Chamber is engaged every day in providing the maximum advertising value to member businesses and non-profit organizations. Let me give you a few examples:

- » Target your audience. At Spectrum Reach, we empower advertisers to zero in on their best potential customers by using data. The Chamber offers members customized marketing and advertising packages designed to attract and retain your targeted audience online, in person and in print. The goal is to keep your message consistent, relevant and noticed, generating new and repeat business.
- **» Keep the conversation going.** All relationships thrive on communication and advertising is no exception. At the Chamber, your feedback drives our programs and services. What works for you? How are your needs changing? In what ways is your audience evolving and how can we help you stay ahead of the competition?
- » Look for the next great idea. Advertising trends move at light speed and we are always looking to engage audiences in new ways, such as Spectrum Reach's development of a selfprovisioning client portal. The Chamber's costeffective advertising opportunities give you access to their interactive website, social media platforms, live events and more.

Everyone wants value for their money. The Chamber strives every day to market, develop and connect its members to reach their business goals within budget. Our job is to tell **your** story in a compelling way, to the right audience, through evolving media platforms. Contact the Chamber today at 518.687.1243 or visit renscochamber.com/market-yourbusiness.

a business, civic and economic development alliance that strives to enhance the economic vitality of Rensselaer County and the neighboring Gateway communities of Cohoes, Green Island, Waterford and Watervliet. The

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

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Editor: Doreen M. Ercolano Co-Editor: Tom Engle Design: Spiral Design Studio, LLC







of Commerce

Rensselaer County Regional Chamber





90 FOURTH STREET, STE. 200 | TROY, N.Y. 12180

PERMIT NO. 164 **УИ , ҮИАВЈА GIA9** J.S. POSTAGE PRSRT STD



Welcome **New Members**

A New England Nanny **Child Care Centers** Rep: Melissa Schoonmaker 99 Pine Street Suite 103 Albany, NY 12207 Phone: 518.348.0400 VISIT anewenglandnanny.com

KPM Restoration

Restoration & Remodeling Rep: Jaimie Carr 201 Maple Avenue Saratoga Springs, NY 12866 Phone: 518.859.9769 VISIT kpmrestoration.com

LMB Development Consulting, LLC

Nonprofit/Business Consultant Coaching - Business & Personal Rep: Laurie Ballard Phone: 518.774.0886

Melissa Russom Strategic **Communications**

Communication Consultants Marketing Rep: Melissa Russom Phone: 518.275.3391 VISIT melissarussom.com

Slocum Wander Publishing, LLC

Publishers Rep: Craig Wander 595 New Loudon Road Suite 212 Latham, NY 12110 Phone: 518.376.9462

Specialized LawnCare, LLC

Lawn Maintenance Excavating Rep: Ms. Meaghan Campbell 21 Wagar Road Troy, NY 12182 Phone: 518.857.0514

Vincent J. Leach Tax Prep

Tax Return Preparation Rep: Vincent J. Leach 170 Pawling Avenue Troy, NY 12180-4721 Phone: 518.272.0727

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

Member News



Fenimore Asset Management, the investment advisor to FAM Funds, promoted John Fox to chief executive officer, while maintaining his position as chief investment officer. As part of the firm's succession plan, Tom Putnam, Fenimore's founder, will shift his attention to a broader strategic role as executive chairman. VISIT famfunds.com

eBizDocs' Howard Gross, chief executive officer and founder, received the 2019 Albany Best Buddies Champion of the Year Award. The Champion of the Year competition is a 12week fundraising event that promotes the mission of Best Buddies and its programs. Champion of the Year recognizes the community's most active leaders who work for inclusion on behalf of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. VISIT ebizdocs.com

The Arts Center of the Capital Region launched Capital Region Artist Initiative, a program that provides resources for artists to develop professionally and advance their careers. The initiative includes an Artist Training Certificate Series for beginning artists and The Critical Forum for emerging and mid-career artists. VISIT artscenteronline.org



Tri City Rentals annual "Volunteer Day" (photo above) was a success, with employees donating and delivering meals, holiday gifts and household necessities to individuals and families in need at Unity House of Troy, Inc. and the YWCA of the Greater Capital Region. VISIT tricityrentals.com



Commission on Economic Opportunity (CEO), in partnership with CDPHP, cut the ribbon on their new food truck for Head Start centers across Troy (photo above). VISIT ceoempowers.org

Ribbon cuttings are presented by RENSSELAER the Chamber, in partnership with the Rensselaer County IDA. Let us assist with your ribbon cutting

COUNTY

life looks good from heresm

or milestone celebration by contacting Tom Engle at 518.687.1243 or tengle@renscochamber.com.

CAP COM Federal Credit Union has merged with the City of Schenectady Employees Federal Credit Union (CSEFCU). CSEFCU members joined CAP COM's portfolio of 133,000 members and \$1.9 billion in assets and have access to CAP COM's full menu of banking products and services at 11 branches across the Capital District. VISIT capcomfcu.com

National Grid Foundation presented a record \$125,000 grant to Catholic Charities' Emergency Energy Assistance Fund to help eligible applicants receive emergency financial assistance to pay their energy bills this winter. The funding will help more than 550 households in 14 upstate New York counties, including the Capital District and outlying areas. VISIT nationalgrid.com

Mosaic Associates Architects announced that Associate Principal Callie Gaspary and Architectural Designer Amanda Vottis recently completed the Advanced Academy for Designing Learning Spaces to become Accredited Learning Environments Planners (ALEP). VISIT mosaicaa.com

Events Calendar 2020

F E B



Ask the Experts 2020 Economic Outlook

An insider's look at how current economic and geopolitical environments will impact markets and the economic cycle in 2020.

Join us for an informative presentation by Bouchey Financial Group's investment team including Steven Bouchey, CFP®; Ryan Bouchey CFP®, CPA; and Martin Shields CFP®, AIF. This is your opportunity to learn about macro-economic factors and how they can impact your business.

Check-in & luncheon 11:30 a.m.; presentation 12-1 p.m. \$35 members | \$50 walk-in members. Loft 433, the penthouse of The Hedley Building, 433 River Street in Troy. Ask the Experts Series sponsored by SEFCU.



Meet the Legislators

A panel discussion featuring New York State representatives who will address issues facing our communities. This signature Chamber event gives members the

opportunity to establish relationships with key decision-makers and voice opinions on local issues. Attendees will get a first-hand perspective of the legislative activities at the

[●] Check-in & luncheon 11:30 a.m.; panel discussion 12-1 p.m. \$35 members | \$50walk-in members. The Century House, 997 New Loudon Road in Latham. Sponsored by National Grid and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

MAR

TUE MAR

Wonder Women Mentoring Luncheon

Join top women professionals as they share their experiences and strategies for success. Three 20-minute roundtables will spark

lively and candid conversations about career challenges and solutions. Find inspiration to harness your powers, build your network and discover the wonder woman in you.

Check-in & luncheon 11:30 a.m.; mentoring **12-1:30 p.m.** \$35 members | \$50 walk-in members. Pat's Barn 110 Defreest Drive in Rensselaer. Sponsored by CAP COM FCU. Additional sponsorships are available



NetworkingPlus Luncheon

Get connected, develop leads and MAR build relationships at our oneof-a-kind, fast-paced networking event. A structured format, three table rotations and ambassador

facilitators ensure purposeful and effective networking for success.

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 Alchar Printing and Sunmark Credit Union. Additional sponsorships are available.

2020 Sponsorship Opportunities Available! **Events Coordinator Rachael Murray** rmurray@renscochamber.com ph: 518.687.1238

A LOOK AHEAD

- » The Leadership Institute Class of 2020 Graduation & Dinner Thursday, 04/02/20
- » College President's Roundtable Thursday, 04/23/20
- » 120th Annual Dinner {with a twist} & Business Expo Thursday, 05/14/20
- » Annual Golf Classic Monday, 08/17/20

ADDITIONAL INFO

No-shows will be billed; 24-hour notice is required for all cancellations. If you have special requirements, please contact us one month prior to the event. Questions? Contact **Events Coordinator Rachael Murray** at 518.687.1238 or rmurray@ renscochamber.com.



Register for Events: renscochamber.com/events

#LEAPOFKINDNESSDAY

What Will You Do with Your Extra Day?

What will you do with the extra day we all get this leap year on Saturday, February 29? The Chamber invites you to take part in "Leap of Kindness Day" and do something kind for someone else. Locally-based



chambers of commerce across the U.S. are encouraging businesses and individuals to come together for the benefit of others. Some examples? Collecting and delivering warm clothes to a shelter, visiting someone in a nursing home, running an errand for a neighbor or simply a kind gesture to your staff. On Leap of Kindness Day, the possibilities are endless.

Initiated by the Saratoga Chamber of Commerce in 2016, the #LeapofKindnessDay movement is expanding to include more than 100 chambers nationwide. Leap of Kindness Day can motivate individuals of any age to connect with charities, build team spirit among employees who work towards a kindness goal and give nonprofits a new avenue to thank their sponsors or donors. Everyone can participate in any number of kind ways. Share your kindness stories with the Chamber #LeapofKindnessDay.

KEEPING MEMBERS CONNECTED

Chamber Ambassadors Announced for 2020

Join us in extending a warm welcome to this year's Ambassadors! These volunteers may be calling you on behalf of the Chamber to gain a better understanding of your business needs and to relay your questions and suggestions to us. Ambassadors actively encourage members to get involved and utilize Chamber benefits. They are also responsible for greeting and facilitating networking among members at events, including the upcoming NetworkingPlus Luncheon on March 24 (see below).

JOHN BURGER

Comfort Inn & Suites

NICHOLAS BYRNE

Bouchey & Clarke Benefits, Inc.

SARAH COMMON

Best Western Plus Franklin Square Inn Troy/Albany

CHRISTOPHER D'ALLAIRD

Christopher D'Allaird, CPA

KRISTINE DIMAS

Elite Design Granite

DEANNA DAL POS

NAI Platform Realty Group

NICHOLAS DEMARCO

Proctors Collaborative

Northeastern Association of the Blind at Albany (NABA)

DARYL LOCKROW

Canon Solutions America, Inc.

JOSLYN MCARDLE

Regional Food Bank of Northeastern **New York**

FRED REALBUTO

Audubon International

STEVEN ROCQUE

Saratoga National Bank and Trust Co.

CARIE SALA

Sunmark Credit Union

ANASTASIA VASILAKOS

Pioneer Bank



NetworkingPlus Luncheon | Register at renscochamber.com/events Ocheck-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 Alchar Printing and Sunmark Credit Union.





Check Out This Chamber Benefit

Here's a quick reminder of an important benefit we offer to you and all of your employees. For additional member benefits, visit renscochamber. com or contact Membership Manager Elizabeth McGarry at emcgarry@ renscochamber.com or 518.687.1240.



V CONSTANT CONTACT DISCOUNTS



Constant Contact is a one-stop source for your marketing needs, giving you more ways to build your business. Chamber members receive exclusive savings on Constant Contact's entire suite of online tools, including: email marketing, social campaigns, event marketing, surveys/polls and e-commerce. New tools include landing pages, websites, a free logo

builder and an easy-to-use Search Engine Optimization (SEO) tool to drive traffic to your website. Contact our local representative Erik Buanes at erik@endorphinadvisors.com to learn more and get up to a 25% discount, even if you are already using Constant Contact.

CHAMBER MEMBER

spotlight

For more than a century, Dale Carnegie has been improving individual and business performance through results-driven training that continues to evolve while remaining true to its founding vision: real transformation begins from within. Dale

Carnegie's rich history and innovative process has connected people around the world and in our regional business community with proven training in such areas as presentation, leadership, sales, service, organizational development and people skills. Wherever professionals seek impactful results, Dale Carnegie provides the training for profitable performance change.



"We help companies by helping the individuals within the companies realize their potential," said Khamali Brown, director of sales and marketing and a certified instructor at Dale Carnegie of NENY, the region's local affiliate. "Performance change occurs when people are invested in being the best they can be, from leadership skills to effective communication to managing stress. We inspire people to be more effective at work and at life."

Dale Carnegie offers two new courses to help foster growth within organizations. The Leadership Training for Results program is for seasoned leaders working in a multi-generational environment, helping them strengthen their ability to bridge the gap, increase collaboration and lead with results. Develop Your Leadership Potential is designed for newer and aspiring leaders to transition from "doing to leading," to hold themselves and others accountable and to work with their team for efficiency and engagement. For these and other courses, visit neny.dalecarnegie.com.

When I started taking Dale Carnegie courses, I was managing a mortgage department and had very high goals for our success. But I was not presenting my ideas to executive leadership as effectively as possible and needed an alternative approach. Dale Carnegie courses helped me advance my communication and presentation skills. Since then, I have continued to take advantage of courses, workshops and coaching opportunities, building my skills



and competencies to new levels. In my current position, I manage more than 60 employees over multiple lines of business. Using Dale Carnegie principles, I can effectively deliver my message and impact our company vision, while coaching my direct reports to their own higher career success. Dale Carnegie gives Sunmark the skills and mindset to develop our people, promote from within, build our brand and provide a dynamic workplace culture.

> Alissa Sykes, Senior Vice President/Chief Growth Officer, Lending Sunmark Credit Union

DALE CARNEGIE OF NENY

Ph: 518.283.1300 | neny.dalecarnegie.com

To purchase a Spotlight, contact Nancy Carmello at 518.687.1242 or ncarmello@renscochamber.com



News from The Leadership Institute

You are Cordially Invited to



The Leadership Institute Class of 2020 Graduation & Dinner

Thursday, April 02, 2020

elebrate this year's class of emerging leaders and - network with business professionals. Our alumni — more than 400 of them — use the skills they've learned from our award-winning program to take primary roles in their communities, making our region a better place to live and work. Join us to meet our grads and make connections to enhance your business success!

 Networking reception at 5:30 p.m.; graduation ceremony at 6:30 p.m. \$50 per person. Table reservations are also available. Franklin Terrace Ballroom, 126 Campbell Avenue in Troy. Sponsored by CDPHP with media sponsorship by Albany Business Review.



Submit your Leadership Institute alumni news to Communications Manager Tom Engle at tengle@renscochamber.com.

Member Milestones

10 Years

The Psykomanteum Mark J. Zdunczyk LLC Integrated Technology Group Palace Performing Arts Center

5 Years

DALLE Accounting and Cash Management, Inc.

2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

JOHN MILLET, Board Chair* Bouchey & Clarke Benefits, Inc.

EDWIN C. ANKER IV, AIA* Phinney Design Group

JERILEE BEAUDOIN*

Pioneer Bank

SCARLET CLEMENT-BUFFOLINE

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Startup Grind Albany

RATNA RANDIVE

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JEFFREY SIMONS

East Greenbush Central School District

JOHN TANNER III

Spectrum Reach

PAUL VON SCHENK, CIC, CSRM*

Amsure

JAIME WATSON

Capital District Transportation Authority (CDTA)

SCOTT WILEY

Hoosick Valley Contractors, Inc.

BRIAN WILLIAMS

Rensselaer County Department of Employment & Training

* Executive committee members

ASK THE EXPERTS | FEBRUARY 05

Join the Chamber for a 2020 Economic Outlook

MEET OUR EXPERTS







Steven B. Bouchey, CFP® (left), president and CEO of Bouchey Financial Group, Ltd.; Ryan S. Bouchey, CFP®, CPA (center), vice president; and Martin X. Shields CFP®, AIF (right), vice president.

Get an insider's look at how current economic and geopolitical environments will impact markets and this year's economic cycle with the Chamber's Ask the Experts training workshop, "2020 Economic Outlook." This informative presentation by Bouchey Financial Group's investment team (at left) is your opportunity to discover how macro-economic factors can impact markets and businesses like yours at a local, micro level. We'll explore pertinent factors that play a major role in 2020 and how they impact the economic forecast. Attend this highly informative session held at the newly opened Loft 433, located in the penthouse of the Hedley Building in Troy. You'll leave with the knowledge you need to make informed business decisions in 2020!

WED FEB 05

FRI

FEB

28

Register now at renscochamber.com/events

• Check-in & luncheon 11:30 a.m.; presentation 12-1 p.m. \$35 members | \$50 walk-in members. Loft 433, the penthouse of The Hedley Building, 433 River Street in Troy. Ask the Experts series is sponsored by SEFCU.



LOCAL ISSUES, STATE REPRESENTATIVES | FEBRUARY 28

Meet the Legislators and Join the Discussion

State representatives will participate in an informative panel discussion at the Chamber's Meet the Legislators Luncheon. Join us as we meet with elected officials including (clockwise from upper left) New York State Senator Neil D. Breslin, Senator-elect Daphne Jordan, Assemblyman Jake Ashby and Assemblyman John T. McDonald III. Take advantage of this opportunity to establish relationships with key decision makers and voice opinions on local issues. Attendees will get a first-hand perspective into the legislative activities at the capitol. Register today and get ready to join the conversation!

Check-in & luncheon 11:30 a.m.; panel discussion 12-1 p.m. \$35 members |









\$50 walk-in members. The Century House, 997 New Loudon Road in Latham. Sponsored by National Grid and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

Register now at renscochamber.com/events



OUR PRESENTERS

Angela Dixon, President/Owner, Dixon Consulting II, LLC

Joanmarie Dowling, Owner, Dowling Law, PLLC

Susan Fogarty, Chief Relationship Officer, CAP COM FCU

Kathleen Godfrey, President, Godfrey Financial Associates, Inc.

Laurie D. Kelly, Vice President of Global Communications, GLOBALFOUNDRIES

Ruth Mahoney, Market President and Regional Retail Leader, KeyBank, NA

Christine Nealon, Executive Director, TRIP & RCHR

Startup Grind Albany

Elizabeth Stack. Executive Direction

E. Patrice Perkins, Director,

Elizabeth Stack, Executive Director, Irish American Heritage Museum

Dr. Donna Watson, Assistant Superintendent, Troy City School District

WONDER WOMEN MENTORING | MARCH 10

Learn Strategies for Success



Find inspiration to harness your powers, build your network and discover your own wonder women of support at the Chamber's upcoming Wonder Women Mentoring Luncheon. We're gathering top women professionals (at right) to share their experiences in a series of three 20-minute roundtables, focused on timely topics about today's challenges and triumphs. Join the lively and candid

conversations about career strategies and solutions. Table hop as you meet with mentors and discover new strategies for success. Sign up for an event that will give you "a-ha!" moments and impactful connections. Develop empowering relationships with local "Wonder Women" and discover the wonder woman in you.



Register now at renscochamber.com/events

Check-in & luncheon 11:30 a.m.; mentoring 12-1:30 p.m. \$35 members | \$50 walk-in members. Pat's Barn, 110 DeFreest Drive in Rensselaer. Sponsored by CAP COM FCU. Additional sponsorships are available.



THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2020

120th ANNUAL DINNER
{with a twist} & BUSINESS EXPO

Visit RenscoChamber.com/events for more information and to register today!

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By Mazzone Hospitality

Now Open

A New Dinning Experience
 Now Booking





- Versatile Event Space
- Industrial Vibe & Elegant Touches
- Outdoor Rooftop Patio
- Skyline Views of the Hudson River
 Downtown Albany
- ullet Mazzone Hospitality Food ℓ Service
- The Perfect Backdrop for Your Event!





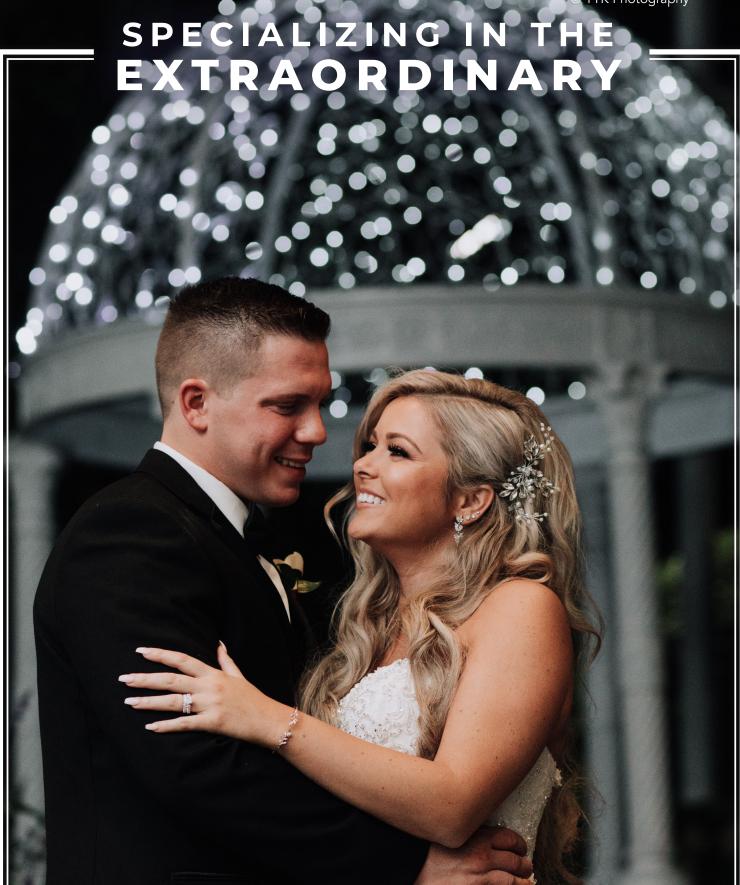
For event inquiries or to schedule a tour please contact:

Katelyn DeSieno at 518.375.2306 or Katelyn D@mazzonehospitality.com

433 River Street Troy, NY 12180

loft433.com

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Contact one of our experienced wedding professionals today at 518.690.0293

www.mazzonehospitality.com

mazzone hospitalit