

# Chamber ACTION

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE MOHAWK VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Volume 27

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[www.mvchamber.org](http://www.mvchamber.org)

## Chamber Passes Resolution In Support of Open Government and a Business Friendly Environment

The Mohawk Valley Chamber Board of Directors passed the following resolution on February 12:

**WHEREAS**, The Mohawk Valley Chamber of Commerce supports fair and open government and a business friendly environment; and

**WHEREAS**, Governor Andrew Cuomo signed into law on January 15, 2013 The Safe Act, a sweeping package of gun-control measures for the State of New York; and

**WHEREAS**, Governor Andrew Cuomo signed the bill less than three hours after the State Assembly approved it on the second full day of the 2013 legislative session; and

**WHEREAS**, Governor Cuomo cited that gun violence constituted an emergency which required immediate

action and waived a constitutionally required three-day waiting period between the introduction of legislation and a vote; and

**WHEREAS**, Remington Arms Company has a manufacturing plant that employs approximately 1,300 workers in Ilion; and

**WHEREAS**, Remington Arms Company and the region as a whole will be negatively effected by The Safe Act; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Mohawk Valley Chamber of Commerce holds that no public comment was considered or allowed, there was no time to read nor reflect on the bill, no consideration was made to any unforeseen or unintended consequences and that passing laws in secret is not the way open government should act.

## Chamber Passes Resolution In Support of the Oneida County Board of Legislators Board Reduction and Redistricting

The Mohawk Valley Chamber Board of Directors passed the following resolution on February 12:

**WHEREAS**, The Mohawk Valley Chamber of Commerce's Board of Directors adopted a Resolution on February 8, 2012 calling for the reduction in size of the Oneida County Board of Legislators; and

**WHEREAS**, The Mohawk Valley Chamber of

Commerce issued an Open Letter on December 4, 2012 expressing its thanks to resident voters who supported the reduction of the Oneida County Board of Legislators by six (6) members; and

**WHEREAS**, The Mohawk Valley Chamber further supports the efforts of Board of Legislators in reducing the present Board from 29 to 23 Legislators which will result in approximately \$50,000 savings while

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# Chamber NEWS

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bringing about better efficiencies and stronger board involvement; and

**WHEREAS**, The next step is to draw new district lines in a nonpartisan manner whereby each legislator will represent approximately 10,000 residents; and

**WHEREAS**, The reduction of Legislators is consistent with the efforts to redistrict at the present time in time

for November 2013 elections; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mohawk Valley Chamber of Commerce supports both the Oneida County Board of Legislators Board reduction and redistricting as well as urges completion prior to November elections.

## Chamber Passes Resolution In Support of the Rehabilitation of the Adirondack Railroad

The Mohawk Valley Chamber Board of Directors passed the following resolution on February 12:

**WHEREAS**, The Mohawk Valley Chamber of Commerce has previously sponsored the Adirondack Scenic Railroad North Country Regional Economic Impact Analysis, which analysis strongly sets forth the positive economic impact that would be achieved by using the railroad as a primary corridor alternative; and

**WHEREAS**, The Adirondack Railroad from Remsen to Lake Placid is a unique and singular transportation asset, providing the last remaining rail access into and

out of the central Adirondacks and protected on the National Register of Historic Places; and

**WHEREAS**, The rehabilitation of the remainder of this infrastructure would be of great economic value to this region through the creations of jobs, increase in tourism, the opening for the future green movement of individuals and goods into and out of the region; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Mohawk Valley Chamber of Commerce does hereby express its support for the retention and restoration of the Adirondack Railroad from Remsen to Lake Placid.

## Small Business Council Roundtable Discussion

The Mohawk Valley Chamber Small Business Council would like to invite Chamber Members, who own or operate businesses, to a round-table discussion on **March 14th at 8:30 am, Radisson Hotel, Utica.**

We are holding this open meeting to discuss concerns that owners/operators have regarding their businesses. It is through this forum we can determine if other businesses are having the same issues, and share strategies on how best to resolve those issues.

This is a great opportunity for the Chamber to assist small businesses in communicating and working together as a community.

If you have any items you would like to add to the agenda, please let us know by contacting Eva at (315) 724-3151 ext. 227 or [info@mvchamber.org](mailto:info@mvchamber.org)

Please RSVP before March 7th so we can accommodate everyone. Walk-ins will be welcome if seating is available.



# Chamber NEWS

## Chamber's 2nd Annual Sweater Ball a Success!

The Chamber's 2nd Annual Sweater Ball, held at Munson-Williams-Proctor Arts Institute, with delicious food by A Moveable Feast by O'Connor's and rockin' music by Gridley Paige, was a wonderful event and a great time had by all who attended. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to MWPAI.



To view all the photos from the Sweater Ball, go to [mvchamber.org](http://mvchamber.org) and visit the Photo Gallery.

## Congratulations to Bill Guglielmo, Who Celebrates 40 Years at Rome Chamber



Congratulations to Bill Guglielmo, the Rome Area Chamber of Commerce president, who has served the chamber since starting there as a staff assistant 40 years ago Feb. 19, 1973.

"I began as a staff assistant and I did what needed to be done to provide assistance to the committees," he said. "And I still

do that today."

Bill is a graduate of the Institute for Organization Management program sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, having attended six annual one-week sessions at the Univ of Notre Dame, 1974-79. It's a professional development program for chamber executives where they learn how to run a chamber office, how to work with volunteers, and how to manage people and programs for the benefit of their business communities.

"It's been a fascinating career," he said. "And I'm not through yet."

Guglielmo lives in Rome with his wife, Luba.



## Chamber **MEMBER NEWS**

### Vernon Downs Announces Employee Promotions



Vernon Downs Casino announced that three valued members of their staff have been granted promotions.

Ursula Hardin Maunder has been promoted to Senior Director of Marketing. Ms. Maunder will be responsible for marketing, Players Club, VIP Services and Player Development departments. She joined Vernon Downs Casino in August 2006 as Events Coordinator when the facility opened under ARE. She was subsequently promoted to Marketing Manager in April 2008. Ms. Maunder most recently served as Director of Marketing beginning in November 2008.

Arthur Wood has been promoted to Senior Director of Facilities. Mr. Wood will be responsible for the day-

to-day operations of the Facilities department for the casino, track, and hotel. He joined Vernon Downs Casino in August 2006 as Facilities Manager. Mr. Wood most recently served as Director of Facilities beginning in November 2008, and was instrumental in the \$8.2 million Event Center expansion.

Leslie DeLorenzo has been promoted to Director of Operations. Ms. DeLorenzo will be responsible for the daily operations of the casino floor. She joined Vernon Downs in 2006 as Assistant Operations Manager. Ms. DeLorenzo was promoted in 2007 to Operations Manager and most recently served in that capacity.

General Manager Scott Freeman said, "Ursula, Arthur, and Leslie have been proven performers over the past several years. All three have contributed immensely to the growth and success of the property. The property has steadily improved year after year with their dedication and assistance."

### Mohawk Valley Society for Human Resources Management Announces their Board Members for 2013

Mohawk Valley Society for Human Resources Management, (MVSHRM), announces their Board Members for 2013.

Pam Senecal, has been elected as President. Pam is the Human Resources Manager for Black River Systems, Co., in Utica, and has worked in the area of human resources for 10 years.

Also elected to the MVSHRM Board for 2013 are the following:

Janet Wren, PHR, Past President; Sarah Zammiello, President Elect; Katherine Millick, PHR, Treasurer; Leeann Light, Special Events Chair; Joseph DeTraglia, Legislative Chair; Kimberly Hatzinger, SPHR, College Relations Chair; Wilber Allen, SPHR, Workforce Readiness

Chair; Angela Ramp, Sponsorship Chair; Melissa Pine, PHR, Public Relations & Communications Chair; Mylissa Deetz, PHR, Professional Development Chair; Noelle Murphy, V.P. Membership; Dana Hobaica, PHR, Diversity Chair and Cathy Cucharale, CCO, Foundation Chair.



Griffiss International Airport is conducting a survey of local businesses and pilots to better understand the needs of airport users. Your input will be used to:

- Identify strengths, weaknesses, and areas for improvement
- Identify future capital improvements
- Develop a master plan that will benefit the airport's clients, passengers, and community

Take the survey online at  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GriffissBiz>

**Please complete the survey by April 15.**

You may also request a paper copy of the survey from Joni Steigerwald at the C&S Companies toll free at (877) CS-SOLVE or [jsteigerwald@cscos.com](mailto:jsteigerwald@cscos.com).

Please be assured that your answers are completely confidential.

Thank you for participating!





# Business **AFTER HOURS**

*Thank You to JAY-K LUMBER for  
Hosting The Chamber's February Business After Hours*



Jonas Kelly, Dean Kelly and Eva Kelly, JAY-K LUMBER



Amanda Potter and Howard Potter, A&P Master Images  
& Aida Mariani, The Arc, Oneida-Lewis Chapter



Steve Zogby, Scalzo, Zogby & Wittig, Inc.; John Buffa, NBT Bank  
& Ed Casper, Casper Chiropractic



Gene Falvo, Falvo Manufacturing Co.; Meghan Fraser, F.X. Matt Brewing Co.;  
Cindy Salerno, F.X. Matt Brewing Co.; Daria Helmer, Gilroy, Kernan & Gilroy Inc.;  
Mike Morrill, Total Solutions & Cathy Cucharale, M. Griffith Investment Services

**BUSINESS**  
*after hours*

## March Business After Hours

**Preswick Glen** will be hosting the March "Business After Hours." Please join us on **Tuesday, March 12, 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm** at 55 Preswick Drive, New Hartford. For reservations, visit [mvchamber.org](http://mvchamber.org), e-mail [info@mvchamber.org](mailto:info@mvchamber.org), or call 724-3151.



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**Welcome to the newest Members...**

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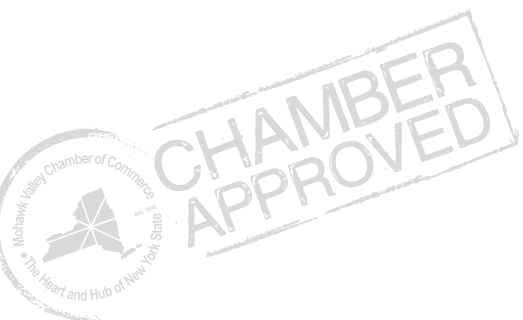
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p: 315-624-2210  
f: 315-624-2071  
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[www.M3BSN.com](http://www.M3BSN.com)  
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### On Point for College

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524 Elizabeth Street  
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[christine.onpoint@gmail.com](mailto:christine.onpoint@gmail.com)  
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### Wellcare

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[kathleen.telaak@wellcare.com](mailto:kathleen.telaak@wellcare.com)  
[www.wellcare.com](http://www.wellcare.com)  
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2013

## ANNUAL MEETING

The Chamber's Annual Membership Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, April 23, 12:00 noon**, Hart's Hill Inn, Whitesboro. The event will be held in conjunction with the Business Person of the Year Award. This award was established in 1998 and each year honors an individual who has demonstrated an exceptional commitment to the Chamber and the community.

*Save The Date*



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## The Mohawk Valley Chamber of Commerce

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**John F. Kenealy, Esq.**

**First Vice-Chair:**

**Scott K. Williams**

**Second Vice-Chair:**

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**Treasurer:**

**Thomas G. Bashant**

**Assistant Treasurer:**

**Brian R. Loughlin**

**Secretary:**

**Vincent Chiffy**

**Executive Director:**

**Pamela G. Matt, Esq.**

**Assistant Executive Director:**

**Eva Aboussleman**

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**Jennifer R. Sumner**

**Comptroller:**

**Jennifer Gilbert, CPA**

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**Presidents' Council Chair:**

**Gary Scalzo**

**Publicity & Tourism Council Chair:**

**Bruce Davis**

**Small Business Council Chair:**

**Vincent Chiffy**



UNITED STATES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

# ACCREDITED



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[@MVChamber315](https://twitter.com/MVChamber315)



Mohawk Valley Chamber

## Calendar of Events

<b>Tuesday, March 5</b>	<b>State of County Address, Radisson Hotel, 7:30 am</b>
<b>Wednesday, March 6</b>	<b>Chamber's A Day at Gore Mountain Ski Trip, Gore Mountain, 6:45 am</b>
<b>Friday, March 8</b>	<b>Choo Choo Committee Meeting, Chamber Office, 8:30 am</b>
<b>Tuesday, March 12</b>	<b>Board of Directors Meeting, 12:00 noon</b>
<b>Tuesday, March 12</b>	<b>Business After Hours, Preswick Glen, 5:00 - 7:00 pm</b>
<b>Wednesday, March 13</b>	<b>Ribbon Cutting, National Water Main Cleaning Co., 11:00 am</b>
<b>Thursday, March 14</b>	<b>Small Business Council Roundtable Discussion, Chamber Office, 8:30 am</b>
<b>Friday, March 15</b>	<b>LinkedIn for Business Seminar, Utica School of Commerce, 8:00 am</b>
<b>Friday, March 15</b>	<b>Publicity &amp; Tourism Council Meeting, Chamber Office, 8:30 am</b>
<b>Thursday, March 21</b>	<b>Health Benefit Exchange Countdown, Radisson Hotel, 7:30 am</b>
<b>Friday, March 22</b>	<b>Presidents' Council Meeting, Excellus BlueCross BlueShield, 8:30 am</b>
<b>Wednesday, March 27</b>	<b>Membership Council Meeting, Chamber Office, 8:30 am</b>
<b>Friday, March 29</b>	<b>Good Friday, Chamber Office Closed Half Day</b>