



Chamber Message

Each month our newsletter will highlight a different benefit our members enjoy. Our hope is that you join us in promoting our work for our members.

The success of our local economy lies within the strength of its business community.

As the largest business-membership group in Cattaraugus County, the Greater Olean Area Chamber of Commerce's Board of Directors, staff and volunteers work each day to provide our members with the support and services they expect. The Chamber also organizes many of the area's premier events, activities and promotions which make the greater Olean area an ideal place to live.

The Greater Olean Area Chamber of Commerce is one of the largest business-membership organizations in Western New York.

By being a part of the Chamber, our members are able to:

- Boost their bottom line with support from fellow members, member-only discounts, and member-to-member promotions.

- Raise awareness through chamber advertising, promotional, and marketing-communications tools.

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O'Keefe elected Chamber Board of Directors' president

There's new leadership within the Greater Olean Area Chamber of Commerce's Board of Directors.

Board members voted unanimously at their first meeting of 2017 to name Tim O'Keefe as the group's president. O'Keefe, the Human Resources Manager at Cutco Corp., succeeds Dennis Pezzimenti of DBP Realty who held the post during 2016.

"I am honored to be elected to this leadership role within the Greater Olean Area Chamber of Commerce," O'Keefe said. "As a chamber, from the Board of Directors to the staff and volunteers, we live our mission every day — to be a member driven business organization that provides benefits, programs, services, and



Tim O'Keefe
GOACC Board of Directors' President

events to enhance the area's quality of life and economic climate.

"The Chamber's work is vital to the region."

In addition to O'Keefe, board members named Ledgie DeRose of Mazza Mechanical Services as vice president; Mari Howard of The ReHAbilitation Center as secretary; and Andrew Caya of Caya Canopies as Treasurer. As

the immediate past president, Pezzimenti will serve in the ex-officio role for 2017.

New board members were also appointed to the group: Vicki Blessing of Park Center Development, John Petruzzi of Petruzzi Insurance, and Terry Brairton of Paul Brown Motors.

O'Keefe's leadership will be an asset to the Chamber, said Larry Sorokes, the Cham-

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Booths available for Greater Olean Home Show

Event set for April 7-9, William O. Smith Recreation Center

The Greater Olean Home Show is the place to go for the latest in products and services for your home.

The Home Show, presented by Greater Olean Area Chamber of Commerce and its 46 Corporate Sponsors, is an all-access pass to home specialists offering all the expert advice; solutions and inspiration for whatever home project you have planned this year. The show is scheduled April 7-9 at William O. Smith



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ber's CEO.

We are grateful to Tim for his willingness to take the top leadership role within the Chamber's Board of Directors," Sorokes said. "His business experience, commitment to the community, and human-resources expertise will serve us well as we work to build a stronger, more effective Chamber of Commerce."

Noting a "...great spirit of optimism and confidence that's apparent in the Olean area right now," O'Keefe is eager to get to work with his fellow Chamber board members throughout 2017.

"As the Chamber's board president, my goal is to ensure the Chamber assumes the leadership role in making Olean a premier location in which to live, work and do business. We will accomplish this through business-to-business marketing, educational and community events, economic development through our partnership with the Olean Business Development Corp., workforce development and advocacy," he said. "As the Southern Tier's largest business organization, we're here to serve both our community and our members. Anything we can do to encourage people in our communities to visit and support our region's businesses will only make our

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Recreation Center

Each year, in one location, business experts gather with everything from kitchen and bath appliances to windows and siding. Hundreds of homeowners walk through the doors of William O. Smith Recreation Center looking for ideas and trends designed for their biggest investment — their home. A jam-packed event complete with exhibitors and giveaways, homeowners will find everything they need all in one weekend.

"Business owners can reach many

customers in the three day event, and their customers can see, touch, compare and buy your product," said Meme K. Yanetsko, the Chamber's COO. "Vendor booths are now available for the annual home show, held at the William O. Smith Recreation Center in Olean. At least 80 of the area's leading businesses are expected to exhibit their wares and services at the upcoming show.

"The Home Show is a unique marketplace to shop, compare and save on a total selection of home-related products and services for building, remodeling,

gardening and decorating."

The show dates and times are: April 7, 5 to 9 p.m.; April 8, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and, April 9, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Area businesses are encouraged to make booth reservations as soon as possible. Chamber members will receive discount booth space.

For more information on the Home Show or other Chamber events and activities, call (716) 372-4433 or email member@oleanny.com.

S. Tier Catholic School, Archbishop Walsh Academy add writing center to suite

Southern Tier Catholic School and Archbishop Walsh Academy will open a Writing Center in the third marking period to assist students in grades 7-12 with writing assignments and endeavors.

The goal of the Writing Center is to provide individualized, one-on-one assistance for students of all skill levels. Writing centers are not proofreading or editing services; rather, they are a unique space where students discuss their work with trained peer consultants who provide guidance and a sounding board for improvement. Students of all skill levels, from a middle schooler struggling with commas to a senior pre-

paring a scholarship essay, are welcome in the Writing Center. In some instances, students will also have the opportunity to attend small-group workshops to focus on honing a particular skill.

"As our International Baccalaureate program prepares our students for college, the addition of a Writing Center is a natural fit. We are excited to foster a culture of learning and inquiry through literacy," said Danielle Michel, curriculum coordinator for the IB Diploma Programme. "This expansion gives our students an advantage over their peers entering college."

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- Enhance professional skills through educational seminars and training opportunities.
- Explore cost-effective strategies through human-resource services, health insurance programs, energy-savings incentives, on-the-job training grants, and much more.
- Build a strong network of peer mentors, advisors, colleagues, and customers.
- Keep current on local, state, and federal legislative agendas affecting business.

Welcome to our new member

Union Tea Cafe
301 N. Union St
Olean, NY 14760
716-701-4014

GOACC Staff

Larry Sorokes	Chief Executive Officer	larry@oleanny.com
Betty Burrows	Administrative Assistant	betty@oleanny.com
Michelle Joyce	Staff Accountant	michelle@oleanny.com
Brenda Kasperski	Health Insurance Administrator	brenda@oleanny.com
Chris Michel	Marketing/Communications	cmichel@oleanbd.com
Meme Krahe Yanetsko	Chief Operating Officer	meme@oleanny.com

Greater Olean Area Outdoor & Rec Sports Show sees continued success

The Greater Olean Area Chamber of Commerce's ninth-annual Greater Olean Area Outdoor & Rec Sports Show held in January was again a success with more than 2,000 visitors. The show, which featured 50 vendors, was held at the Good Times of Olean Events Center.

"This show provided attendees with a wonderful opportunity to learn about outdoor recreational choices, search for and purchase recreational equipment and accessories, as well as plan experiences the entire family will enjoy," said Betty Burrows, the Chamber's program associate. "The seminars on Spring Gobblers, Walleye Fishing, A Woman's Guide to Purchasing Firearms, and Kayak Basics had great interest and attendance," added Mrs. Burrows.

The winners of the Greater Olean Area Outdoor and Recreation Sports Show were:

• Grand Prize: - Savage Model 11 Trophy Hunter with 6.5 Creedmoor went to Raymond Keeseler of Olean.

Second Prize: Outlander Ski Package went to Teri Barie of Olean.

Additional prizes: Kabar Becker Crewman went to Brad

Peterson of Williamson; Cutco Gut Hook Dave Miller of Dalton; and the Kabar USMC went to John Long of Olean.

Prizes were supplied by: Red Barn Guns, Franklinville; Cutco Cutlery Corporation, Olean; Ka-Bar Knives, Olean; and Country Squirrel Outfitters, Ridgway, Pa.

Tom and Renee Moore of Spectacular Sports, a vendor from Frewsburg, said: "We were a little slower than last year, but sales and customer leads were great. We'll be back next year."

"For a first time vendor at this show, Upcycle got our name out to many customers on the product lines we carry. The many contacts made today will definitely generate future sales," added Chris Piaggi, manager.

The Chamber's Home Show is set for April 7-9, 2017. For more information on the Greater Olean Area Outdoor & Rec Sports Show or other Greater Olean Area Chamber of Commerce events and activities, please call the Chamber at (716) 372-4433 or email events@oleanny.com.

Local brewery increases amenities, distribution

Four Mile Brewing has seen two major expansions

Four Mile recently completed renovations to the second floor of its headquarters, located at 202 E. Greene St., Olean., transforming former offices into a large events center.

The capital project, which represents a \$50,000 investment in the former home of Olean Brewing Co., gives Four Mile a new space to host private parties and gatherings.

Four Mile's second floor can accommodate large groups of up to 60. The space boasts a private bar — which was once part of the bar in Four Mile's tap room — plenty of seating, several TVs, and a projector and screen.

The brewery is currently taking reservations for the space and can be reached by phone at 716-373-2337.

In early January, Four Mile more than tripled its availability footprint in New York. Through new agreements with T.J. Sheehan Distributing and Tri-Valley Distributing, Four Mile's beers are now being distributed throughout 25 counties comprising much of the Finger Lakes, Southern Tier, Central North Country and Mohawk Valley regions of the state.



Archbishop Walsh to host youth b-ball tourney

Archbishop Walsh Academy is holding its annual Shamrock Tournament on March 3-5 for area youth basketball players.

Any local students in 5th or 6th grade are eligible to participate in the tournament, and the tournament also welcomes students from the Buffalo, Jamestown, and Rochester communities as well. Co-ed teams are encouraged. In the past, upward of 18 teams have participated in the double-elimination tournament, which is played at locations around Olean.

Registration fees are \$125 per team or \$200 for two teams. For more information or to sign up, visit www.stcswalsh.com

GOACC offers new way to pay dues

The Chamber of now offers an automated ACH payment plan for your membership dues.

Under this optional plan, members can elect to have dues automatically deducted from a bank account on a monthly basis. When members switch to this option, GOACC will waive the first month payment for your dues (one-time only).

Member changes to plans must be made in writing at least 30 days prior to the effective date of requested change. The Chamber may adjust the payment on an annual basis with a written notice to members. A \$20 service charge will be billed for insufficient funds.

Welcome to our new member

On Point Property Management

220 W. State St.

Olean, NY 14760

716-373-3360

Got News?

Did your company recently receive recognition? Did an employee do something noteworthy? Did you add to your staff or introduce a new product or service? Let us know!

Email your news to info@oleanny.com or cmichel@oleanbd.com.

Olean Area Young Professionals sees strong response

The area's young professionals are invited to become part of a growing local network of their peers.

The Greater Olean Area Chamber of Commerce recently formed Olean Area Young Professionals, a network to bring young professionals throughout the area together for socialization, professional development, and community service.

"Given the new trajectory of Olean's economic future coupled with the Chamber's work to help area employers attract and retain the next generation of the workforce, we feel it's a natural step to create a group focused on engaging the recent college grads to the 30-somethings of our community," said Christopher Michel, the Chamber's director of marketing and communication who's helping organize the group. "This new network provides an opportunity to young professionals that's been missing in the Olean area for some time."

Similar to the Chamber's monthly Business After Hours program, Olean Area Young Professionals meets once a month at different locations throughout the greater Olean area.

Olean Area Young Professionals has already hosted two events.

Its first was held at Good Times of Olean in early December. The event saw more than 100 of the area's young professionals attend. Through their generosity, the group collected \$303 and a bin of cold weather clothing donation, all of which was given to Genesis House of Olean. Olean Area Young Professional's second event was held at St. Bonaventure University's



Rathskeller before the basketball game against George Mason University on Jan. 7. Around 25 young professionals attended and the event raised \$50 for SBU's Bona Buddies program.

"A common story we've heard from young professionals who move to this area is that they find some difficulties in becoming a part of the community. At the same time, many of the young professionals already here have very busy schedules making it tough to connect with their peers professionally outside of the workday," Michel said. "We're hopeful young professionals from all of our area's companies, no matter what size, will take advantage of this new group and use it as an opportunity to bridge gaps."

The network's organizers also plan on incorporating professional development and service components into Olean Area Young Professionals' activities.

The group has scheduled its next event: 5:15 to 7:15 p.m. March 8 at

Greater Olean Area Chamber of Commerce. More details on each event will be released in the coming weeks.

For more information on the Olean Area Young Professionals Network, visit the group's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/oleanareayoungprofessionals/, call 716-372-4433, or email cmichel@oleanbd.com.

Welcome to our new member

Olean Soccer Club
P.O. Box 87
Olean, NY 14760
716-244-0635

Business After Hours schedule

Business After Hours is an opportunity for our members to meet once a month from August to May and meet fellow members.

Here's our schedule for the remainder of the current program:

- **March 22**, 5 to 7 p.m., Sub-Con, Charles Ried Center (enter from Constitution Ave.)
- **April 26**, 5 to 7 p.m., Olean Physical Therapy, 3132 Route 417
- **May 24**, 5 to 7 p.m., Buckles Agency, 1224 E. State St.

Tickets on sale for S. Tier Catholic School, Archbishop Walsh Academy annual St. Patrick's Day Party

Southern Tier Catholic School and Archbishop Walsh Academy will hold their annual St. Patrick's Day Party on Saturday, March 18, from 7-11 p.m. at the school.

The St. Patrick's Day Party features Irish food, games of chance, music, and a raffle for cash prizes, including a grand prize of \$20,000. The party is a community-wide event that raises significant funds for students in all grades.

Tickets to the event are \$100, with each ticket providing admission and a meal for two adults. Each ticket also serves as one entry into the raffle.

For more information on this fundraiser, please contact the advancement office at 716-372-8122.

Boundless Connections set to open soon

Boundless Connections Technology Centers is a \$3 million initiative that will do for technology what the YMCA has done for sports and fitness – make it accessible for everyone – is slated to open its doors on March 15.

The center is located at 120 N. Union St. (the Chamber's former office) and will boast a full suite of services, programs and events are designed to develop a technology pipeline and create a pathway for people to engage and solve local challenges with technology. These programs and events are tailored to various interest groups by exploring tech topics such as "Technology for Real Estate Agents," "Technology for Parents," and "Tech for Fitness and Sports." Customers can even request a tech topic. The center will also facilitate regular community discussions on implementing technology in rural areas like ours – like coordinating transportation and child care.

Currently, Boundless Connections is running a Kickstarter campaign for pre-sale memberships and sponsors.

Co-owners Mike Marvin and Christina Lopez say their

hometown is the perfect place to develop a tech sector.

"We are excited to be joining walkable Olean. It's the right time and place to be piloting our first Technology Center. Everyone we talk to about it is excited and ready to engage," Christina says. Mike goes on to say "The development of the Boundless Connections Technology Center will provide a place for the community to discover how technology is being utilized in various areas of life. Silicon Valley does this on a grand scale for urban settings. We'd like to facilitate conversations in our region about how we can use technology to address local matters."

The tech center will provide a focal point for young and old with various skill-sets and interests to collaborate and utilize the power of cutting-edge technology. This can be anything from how to help grandparents use their phones to stay in touch with their grand kids, to how regional agencies might use technology to address our regional transportation issues. No topic is too big or too small.

North Union Street project earns honor

The City of Olean received a 2016 Transportation Project of the Year Award for the North Union Street Complete Street Project at the Western New York American Public Works Association Awards Banquet at Statler City in Buffalo on Feb. 2.

The award was established to promote excellence in the management and administration of public works projects by recognizing the partnership between the managing agency and participating consultants and contractors. The consultant in the project was Mott MacDonald and the contractor was CATCO.

"The City of Olean is honored to accept this award," said Mayor Bill Aiello. "The North Union Street project was actually a three year long endeavor if you include the planning. It was a leap of faith for our residents and the early signs indicate that the transformation of the street has made an impact, as both new and established businesses begin to invest in properties along the street."



Lunch & Learn season continues

The Greater Olean Area Chamber of Commerce has announced its next Lunch & Learn workshops.

Between September and May, the Chamber has arranged for six different speakers who will present on a variety of topics of interest to businesses.

The Lunch & Learn schedule is as follows:

- Feb. 23, noon to 1 p.m., Self

Defense for Business People. Grandmaster Barry A. Broughton will teach self defense including hand techniques, kicks, stances, blocks, and many more reality-based techniques.

• April 6, noon to 1 p.m., Cyber Security. Greg Lindberg of the U.S. Small Business Administration will present on defining cybersecurity; explaining the importance of securing

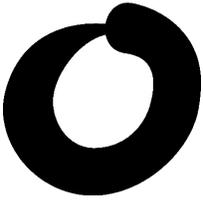


information through best cybersecurity practices; identifying types of info that should be secured; identifying the types of cyber threats; defining risk management; and listing best practices for guarding against cyber threats.

- May 16, noon to 1 p.m., Data Security/ Business Continuity. Adam Jester of Southern Tier Technical Services will discuss projecting data.

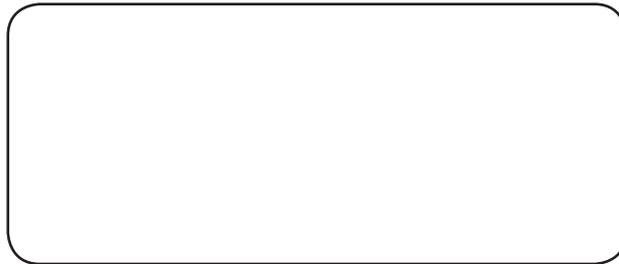
The seminars are held at the Chamber's office, 301 N. Union St., and is free for members to attend. Non-members must pay a \$10 admission fee.

For more information or to make a reservation, contact the Chamber by phone at 716-372-4433 or by email, betty@oleanny.com.



Greater Olean Area
CHAMBER of COMMERCE
301 N. Union St.
Olean, NY 14760

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2017 Board of Directors

Tim O'Keefe, President
Louis "Ledgie" DeRose, Vice President
Mari Howard, Secretary
Andrew Caya, Treasurer
Dennis Pezzimenti, Ex-Officio
Mayor William Aiello, city of Olean
Cory Duckworth, Jamestown Community College
Tim Finan, Olean General Hospital

John Gerringer, Besecker & Coss
Matthew Kahm, Shults Auto Group
Vicki Blessing, Park Centre Development
Amy Schneggenburger, Five Star Bank
Jim Snyder, Cattaraugus Empire Zone
John Petruzzi, Petruzzi Insurance
Terry Brairton, Paul Brown Motors
John Stahley, Dresser-Rand

Greater Olean Area Chamber of Commerce
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