The Eighth Annual Spring Dinner Auction, held on April 23, 2009 at Traditions at the Links, was an overwhelming success with over 130 people attending. Due to the very generous bidders at this year’s auction we were able to donate $2000 to the FM Food Community Food Pantry in Manlius and Heaven’s Pantry in Minoa. Committee Co-Chairs Kim Kutzer and Cheryl Schotz would like to thank their very dedicated Spring Dinner Committee members who made this event such an overwhelming success. Also, thank you to all the area businesses who so generously donated items for this year’s auction.
THANK YOU to all (attendees and planners) who made our 8th Annual Spring Dinner and Auction a HUGE success. It is a lot of work to put the event together but the time was well spent this year!!!! We are so very happy to give a portion of our proceeds to local Food Pantries that are so helpful to those in need.

The Chamber Board is busy working on some very exciting projects and activities for this spring and summer so keep watch!!! Details on some have not been finalized but the troops are busy planning away!!! Don’t forget the monthly Business After Hours...a great way to relax, network and have fun. Check the Newsletter for upcoming sites on the 3rd Thursday of the month.

Central New York is sure a glorious place to be this spring as we truly are experiencing the beauty of nature. Each season seems to have it’s own character but spring, to me, always indicates the start of something new. Rebirth of that which has been hiding. Let’s hope the economy does the same and begins to show new growth.

Wishing you HEALTH and HAPPINESS,
Barbara Barnell, President

The premise that M&S Desktop Publishing is built on is to do all work quickly, economically, and to the customer’s satisfaction. Our services include pickup and delivery of all work, as well as all work being done within a reasonable time frame that is determined by the customer. We pride ourselves on the fact that we stay on budget, meet deadlines and exceed the customer’s expectation.

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**What's Coming Up**

### Chamber Events

**Wednesday, May 20**  
Business After Hours  
5:00 - 7:00 pm  
Sotiris Taverna  
6523 East Seneca Tpke at Rte 173  
Jamesville

**Thursday, May 21**  
Board of Directors Meeting  
8:00 am  
Chamber Office

**Thursday, June 25**  
Business After Hours  
Compassionate Care Veterinary Hospital  
8275 E. Seneca Turnpike  
Manlius

**Thursday, July 23**  
Business After Hours  
J&S Drapery/Manlius Jewelry  
Kinloch Commons

### Member Events

**Limestone Art & Framing Gallery** presents an exhibition of curious narratives and commentaries from May 8 to June 5, 2009. This exhibition features **Kyle Mort's "Sleight of Hand"** (watercolor paintings), **Curtis W. Readel's "Non Sum Qualis Eram"** (currency themed prints and collages made from currency), and **Roger Bisbing's "Small Assemblies"** (sculpture).  
Opening reception is Friday, May 8, 6-8pm.

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**Have you always wanted to be in a Parade? WE NEED YOUR ASSISTANCE**

The Chamber is looking for volunteers to help with the Memorial Day and Fourth of July Parades. Please call the Chamber Office for more details.  
*A really fun time to see the whole community!!!!*

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**PLEASE NOTE**

EXTRA COPIES OF THE 2009 MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY ARE AVAILABLE AT THE CHAMBER OFFICE AT A COST OF $3.00 EACH.

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**Welcome New Members**

**At Your Home Personal Trainer**

304 S. Collingwood Ave.  
Syracuse, New York  13206  
Phone: 247-3727  
Email: mknapp15@twcny.rr.com

Michael Knapp, Owner/Personal Trainer

**Holiday Inn Express & Suites**

5908 Widewaters Parkway  
East Syracuse, New York 13057  
Phone: 546-1000  
Fax: 546-1002  
Email: heidi@actioncompanies.com

Heidi Hackett, District Manager

**Saucy Swan**

301 Fayette Street  
Manlius, New York  13104  
Phone: 692-4911  
Fax: 692-4912  
Email: chefjohnnya@live.com  
Website: www.saucyswan.com

John Aliasso, owner
With all the variations of the word Diversity that have emerged over the past fifteen or so years, it is no wonder that we don’t have a universal definition of the concept, let alone the relevance to our businesses.

As small business owners we must focus on getting the job done, and done on time. So, naturally, when we are in a position to hire someone, we look for the most qualified, most experienced person who will fit into our business “family.” Too often this focus is based on imaginations of the perfect candidate; thus, we risk eliminating the best candidate.

We’re not referring here to obvious constitutional considerations. The persons so often overlooked through misunderstanding and analysis from the interviewer (us) are those living with disabilities. As soon as an applicant discloses a condition that might have an impact on his/her ability to perform all aspects of the job exactly as described in the ad, we jump to the conclusion that they are out of the running. How sad for everyone involved!

We owe it to ourselves, our businesses, our communities to explore possibilities of incorporating differently-abled individuals into our daily routines. As with any other category traditionally included under the Diversity umbrella, persons designated disabled, handicapped or developmentally challenged bring a unique set of abilities to their environments. They have much to give, as well as to learn.

Yes, it is difficult to imagine how you might do this in your small business. You might have specialized equipment, require the ability to think fast on one’s feet, have excellent telephone skills, and the list goes on. It is much more convenient to operations if you do not add the consideration of a disability to the training process when you hire someone. But, how do you know who can do what if you do not create the opportu-
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This past January, officials from the Onondaga County Water Authority, the Metropolitan Water Board and the Town of Onondaga completed a new water supply line from the South Branch System, which runs along Sentinel Heights to Nedrow area via a new water connection. This was partially paid for by a grant that I was able to help the town obtain two years ago.

In the past, residents along the easterly side of Salina Street in Nedrow have experienced low water pressure, especially during the evening hours when the pumping station which supplied the area was turned off. I was able to work with the City of Syracuse, OCWA, the Town of Onondaga and the Metropolitan Water Board to rework the supply for the area which also included the undoing of an old agreement which all of the parties had labored under for many years. I’m glad I was able to help this process move along.

As you may be aware, there’s a new interoperable radio system being organized by Onondaga County which will make communications between the various fire services much more efficient and increase the safety level for them. The cost for this is approximately 30 million dollars with one half being applied to the new towers and the balance for the new radios. The County is again requesting that the Governor allow us to add a small surcharge of approximately $.75 a month on landlines to help pay for this much needed improvement.

I continue to work with the residents of the Village of Fabius and the Village of Tully to promote a study to see if the villages would find it to their benefit to merge their government with the town government. As this moves along, I’ll keep you apprised.

Onondaga County now offers a prescription discount drug card to all residents of the County. This can be used without the necessity of any application to receive a discount on prescription drugs. This is especially helpful for individuals who do not have prescription drug coverage or for those on Medicare to help reduce the cost of prescription drugs for certain gaps in that coverage. Please give me a call if you’d like more information on this program.

Some issues that are coming before the Legislature concern a new roof for the War Memorial, possible surcharge on tickets for the Oncenter Complex to help cover the cost of maintenance and improvements for those facilities and updates to Van Duyn Home.

If you wish to contact me, my phone number is 683-5655 and my email address is rdemore@cnymail.com.

Hoping that you and your family are enjoying the early spring weather, I remain

Yours truly,
Bob DeMore
Spring 2009

Special thanks to the entire Spring Dinner Planning Committee for their hours and hours of hard work and dedication. Our community is so lucky to have such dynamic people that donate their expertise to make this special evening happen. A special Hats Off to Spring Dinner Co-Chairs Kim Kutzer and Cheryl Schotz and the entire committee Barbara Barnell, Ann Butts, Robin Cortese, Judy Dardzinski, Renee Dellas, Mary Dunaway, , John P. Goodman, Heather Graham, Jeannine Masucci, Brenda Minelli, Marcia Philipp, and Charlie Sovik.

“TOOT YOUR OWN HORN” and Be Featured in the Hats Off Column

Tell us what good things you have been up to so that it may be featured in the “Hats Off” section of the Chamber Happenings Newsletter.

Simply email your information to GreaterManlius@windstream.net

If you have an ad, member event, or business announcement that you would like listed in Chamber Happenings please email Donna Goyette at dgoyette@twcny.rr.com.

All articles must be received by the 20th of the month.
The deadline for the June newsletter is May 20th, 2009
Please have your information submitted by that date in order to be included.

MISSION

Our goal is to serve the local community by promoting and encouraging business growth and developments within the Town of Manlius, while at the same time supporting those civic and cultural programs which enhance our lives.

We hope to increase public awareness of the many fine products and services and promote the advantages of living and shopping in Manlius.

Our members are an integral part of this community, and we share your desire to preserve and enhance the image and integrity of the Greater Manlius area. We invite businesses and individuals to join with us to accomplish these goals.

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