



Come Join The Fun at the RRCC Business Show Set for March 10th



East Creek Catering offers food samples at the RRCC Business Show 2008

The Rutland Region Chamber of Commerce is excited to present the 16th Annual Business Show. The Business Show is sponsored by Rutland Regional Medical Center.

The Business Show will be held at the Holiday Inn on March 10, 2009 from 4:00-7:30pm.

This year's show will feature over 80 vendors representing a diverse group of members who have chosen to exhibit everything from home services, air services, real estate and new and used cars. There will be great door prizes, great food and lots of fun! Admission and parking is free. Members and the

general public are encouraged to attend. Come and sample the fun!

There is still time to reserve space to showcase your business at the RRCC Business Show. An exhibitor contract is enclosed in this issue of the Courier. Spaces are sold on a first come, first pay basis with a limit on electricity and wall locations, so get your form in early.

Call the Chamber office at 773-2747 for more information or go to www.rutlandvermont.com.



Vermont Country Store displays their products at the RRCC Business Show 2008

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Calendar/Buy Local Inserted

Welcome New Members

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Thomas L. Donahue

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Penny J. Inglee

Marketing & Project Manager

Joan Hill

Director of Membership Development

Ann Marie Clifford

Information & Finance Manager

Committee Chairs

Public Policy Committee

Larry Jensen

747-1611

Membership Development

Steve White

775-0510

Special Events

Donna Blight

775-6062

Tourism Marketing

773-2747

Transportation/Airport

Joe Giancola

773-6251

Crossroads of Vermont Partnership/ Regional Marketing Program

Tom Donahue

773-2747

Winter In August

Donna Blight

775-6062

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Chamber of Commerce

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www.rutlandvermont.com

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Coviello's Pizza Express

Rob Johnson or

Andrew Coviello

97 State St.

Rutland, VT 05701

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Email: nysicsol@hotmail.com

Real New York pizza made by real New Yorkers. Fresh made pulled pork. Monday is pizza night, \$10.00 1 large 1 topping pizza. Grandma's home made meatballs are the best. Catering available. New York Bread & Vermont cheese and sausage.

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Jay Grimes

157 Heritage Hill Place

Rutland, VT 05701

Ph: 775-3300 Fax: 770-5290

Email: jayatmeadows@aol.com

The Meadows, an affiliate of RRMC, has been enhancing the lives of area seniors for fifteen years, providing both Assisted Living and Dementia Care.

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Members**

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for more information**

We Need Your Brochures

We need member brochures to distribute our brochure locations. Please mail or drop off your brochures to
RRCC,
256 N. Main St.
Rutland, VT 05701

January Chamber Mixer



Ed Allen, owner Allen Pools & Spas addresses the large crowd at the January Chamber mixer

Also pictured (L to R): RRCC President, John Valente, Mark Triller of Triller Print Source; Rutland City Board of Alderman President Dave Allaire and Rutland City Rotary President George Ambrose

Computer Ease By: Larry Gold



Online apps? SaaS? What on earth are these?

Not sure? Well, don't feel bad. Most people don't. In the cloud? What does that mean? Isn't it funny how this business works? You hear a term for the first time, being used in a conversation or in an article, and it's kind of like it's expected that not only do you know what it is, but that you've always known. Incredible! "In the cloud" is a metaphor for the Internet. Why don't they just continue saying "Internet"? I don't know. The reason some people have decided to start calling it the cloud, is because most of the diagrams of the Internet, show the Internet as a cloud. (I can't believe I'm explaining this.) The cloud got so popular, that now we are going to start calling the Internet, the "cloud". But I digress, as if that was possible.

Imagine a web site that you log in to, and all of a sudden your web browser looks more like a word processor. Software as a Service in a nutshell. Google Apps has been doing this for some time. Microsoft is now doing it. Imagine rather than buying a copy of Microsoft Office, you buy a subscription, like \$10 a month rather than \$200 for the product off the shelf. As long as you are at any computer connected to the "cloud", you can get your documents, (stored on their web site, by the way), and work, save your work, go home, log on, work on the same documents, log off, go to an associate's house, log in with their computer, work on the documents, log off, go to the office, log on, work on the documents, print them to your printer, and log off. Anyone you give permission to, can log on and work on the same document, making it easier if there are multiple people collaborating on the same document. Word processing, spread sheets, and presentations are available already. I'm not sure if this is on the earth or not. Maybe we won't have to back up anymore!

For additional information call Larry Gold at 773-6065 or go to www.computer-ez.net.

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TD Banknorth
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Free Rent For A Year Grant Contest

The Downtown Rutland Partnership is offering free rent for a year through their grant contest.

For an application go to www.rutlanddowntown.com or call 773-9380.

From Our Members

American Cancer Society is looking for Rutland County Volunteers to support their annual Daffodil Days program. To find out how you can help call Amy at 872-6316 or email: amy.deavitt@cancer.org

College of St. Joseph is excited to announce its 3rd Annual Gala, "Celebrating Excellence," on February 27th at the Holiday Inn in Rutland. Every year CSJ presents the "Commitment to Excellence" award to be presented to Joseph A. Giancola, outstanding entrepreneur and business owner in the Rutland Region. There will be a cocktail hour, silent and live auctions, dinner and the awards ceremony during dessert. To reserve your tickets or for more information call 776-5257.

College of St. Joseph has named Ben Turner as the new head coach for the women's soccer team. Coach Turner comes to CSJ after four years of coaching at Poultney High School and has been involved in youth soccer for more than seven years. He has also coached in the Southern Vermont Adult League for the past two seasons, serving as the league commissioner last summer. For more information call 773-5900 ext. 3290.

Rutland Area Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice now offers a comprehensive cardiovascular/cholesterol health risk screening, including a total lipid profile and blood glucose at the RAVNAH office on Feb. 4th, Feb. 18th at 8:30am and Feb. 4th at 8am in their Dorset Office. The cost is \$30, call 775-0568 for more information.

Rutland Area Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice and Rutland Regional Medical Center are offering a variety of comprehensive birth education classes for parents to be. Call 775-0568 for dates, times or more information.

Rutland County Community Land Trust has a conference room table to donate to a local non profit organization. The table sits 12-16 people. Call 775-3139 or email lwright@rcclt.org.

Rutland Regional Medical Center's Community Education & Wellness and Vermont Orthopedic Clinic present an educational forum to explain the benefits of Minimally Invasive Knee & Hip Replacement Surgery on March 10th. For more information call 772-2400.

Rutland Regional Medical Center's Community Education & Wellness Department announces the new schedule for the Safe Sitter Program. The program is open to girls and boys ages 11-13. The February classes take place Feb. 18 & 19, 9am-4pm at RRMC. Cost \$50.00. For additional dates or more information call 747-3771.

Tattersall's Clothing Emporium will hold a fashion workshop on February 5th 11am-6pm. For more information call 773-5007.

The Homebuilders & Remodelers Association of Southern Vermont has announced their 2009 Slate of Officers and Board of Directors. President – Stewart Barker; 1st Vice President – Linda LaCroix; 2nd Vice President – Jerry Sterns; Secretary – Scott Moore; Treasurer – Scott Raymond; Board of Directors: Jeff Findeisen; Brian Harrington; Gene Hathaway; Steve Ellerin; Dave Fucci; Jeff Gephart; Tim Herbert; Peter Jenne; Jeff Larson; Ron Ryan; Life Directors: Joe Giancola and Jim Mumford, Sr. The organization will hold their Home, Garden & Recreation Show on April 4th at College of St. Joseph. Call 773-0672 for more information.

RRCC/REDC Legislative Events Continue



Gov. Jim Douglas addresses the large crowd at the Kick Off Breakfast of the RRCC/REDC 2009 Legislative Breakfast Series sponsored by TD Banknorth

The Rutland Region Chamber of Commerce and Rutland Economic Development Corp. held their kick off Legislative Breakfast Series sponsored by TD Banknorth with Governor Jim Douglas as the guest speaker on January 5th with over 100 people in attendance at South Station Restaurant.

Thank you to the following Legislators who attended the Legislative Reception: Rep. Peg Andrews, Rep. Bill Canfield, Rep. Gale Courcelle, Rep. Peter Fagan, Rep. Peg Flory, Sen. Hull Maynard, Rep. Jim McNeil and Sen. Kevin Mullin.

The RRCC/REDC Legislative Breakfast Series sponsored by TD Banknorth will continue on February 2nd - 7:30am at Franklin Conference Center on the Topic of Energy. The remaining breakfasts will take

place at the Franklin Conference Center on March 16th - Topic Transportation and April 13th - Hot Topic.

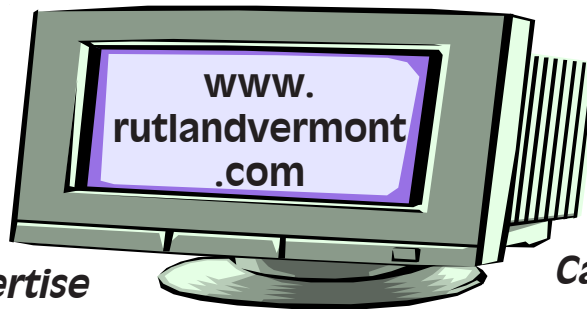
The Annual RRCC/REDC Legislative Bus Trip to Montpelier sponsored by OMYA will take place on February 11th. This is a great opportunity to see YOUR Legislature at work and be part of the process. Lunch with the delegation and other state officials will take place at Capital Plaza. The bus leaves RRCC at 7:30am and will return by 5:00pm. The cost of the trip is only \$10 and includes round trip transportation, light breakfast at RRCC and lunch at Capital Plaza. Please call 773-2747 to reserve your seat today.

For more information on the Public Policy Committee or Legislative events call 773-2747.

December 2008 Website Report

Top Chamber Web Site Member Listing Page Views

1. Lodging 859
2. Restaurants 776
3. Attractions 632
4. Retail 371
5. Real Estate 170



6. Services 148
7. Health 126
8. Food 67
9. Construction 64
10. Recreation 63

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Other Top Page Views of Interest

Calendar 1,405
Things To Do 928

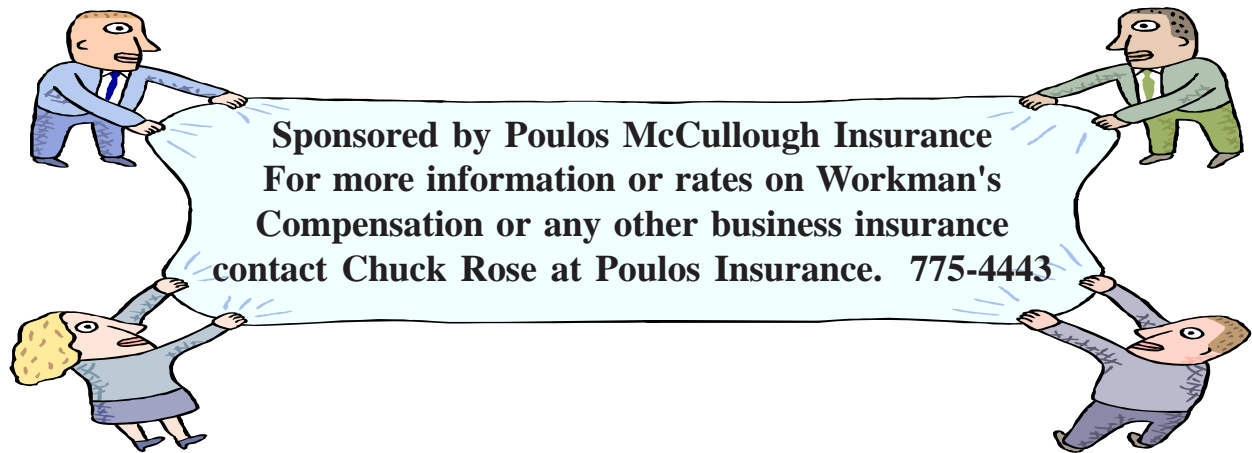
Photo Album 866
Visiting 739

Shopping 613
Perk Card 298

Workers' Comp. Corner

7th Annual Vermont Workplace Safety Conference & Governor's Awards

The 7th Annual Vermont Workplace Safety Conference and Governor's Awards will be held May 13, 2009, 9am-3:45pm at the Double Tree Hotel and Conference Center, 1117 Williston Rd., Burlington. An Excellent professional development opportunity for HR and Safety Staff. Topics include: Tool Demonstrations; Supervisors as Safety Leaders Panel; What Works for Employee Wellness; and the Governor's Safety Awards. Sponsored by: the Partnership in Safety (Project Worksafe, Green Mtn. Coffee Roasters and VT Small Business Development Center), and the Vermont Safety and Health Council. Registration \$75, \$65 before 4/15/09 at: www.vtsbdc.org (training tab). To register at no cost for Governor's Awards only please email: pcrawford@vtc.edu. Find Vermont Safety Seminars at: www.vshc.org (upcoming events)



2009 Upcoming Chamber Events

- February 2nd:** Legislative Breakfast on Energy @ Franklin Conference Center, 7:30am.
- February 10:** RRCC Mixer @ Vermont Country Store, 5-7pm
- February 11:** RRCC/REDC Legislative Bus Trip to Montpelier.
- March 10:** RRCC Business Show 2009, Holiday Inn, 4-7:30pm.
- March 16:** Legislative Breakfast on Transportation @ Franklin Conference Center, 7:30am

Informed Chamber Members Read the RRCC Courier



Ellen Atkinson
MVRTD/The Bus

Make A Difference In Your Community

The Vermont Association of Business, Industry & Rehabilitation (**VABIR**), a statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to increasing the employment of people with disabilities, is seeking new business representatives to join the **Rutland County Business Advisory Council**. This council works to develop innovative outreach and awareness activities to promote the recruiting and hiring of Vermonters with disabilities. The only requirement for membership is a desire to improve employment opportunities for this untapped labor force. If you would like to contribute your time and creativity, please contact Karen Letourneau, VABIR Employment Consultant @ 786-5875 or visit the BAC website: bacrutland.org

Grand Opening Coviello's Pizza Express



The Rutland Region Chamber of Commerce celebrated the opening of Coviello's Pizza Express located at 97 State St., Downtown Rutland. Pictured: Front: Tom Donahue, RRCC Executive Vice President/CEO; Marleen Cenate, RRCC Board of Directors, Heritage Family Credit Union; Rob Johnson, owner; Andrew Coviello, owner; Joanne Slattery, Rutland City Board of Alderman; Joan Hill, RRCC Membership Director; Bill Notte, Rutland City Board of Alderman; Rear: Barbara Giancola, Building Owner; Joe Giancola, Building Owner; Mike Coppinger, Executive Director, Downtown Rutland Partnership; Don Wickman, Marketing/Special Events Coordinator, Downtown Rutland Partnership

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Rutland Region Workforce Investment Board Nancy Burzon, Executive Director Green Jobs - What Does The Industry Look Like?

Everyone is talking about the next wave of job creation and saying it will be driven by the “green economy.” Energy efficiency is a top priority for newly inaugurated President Obama, who is calling for the modernizing of federal buildings and increasing the energy efficiency of two million homes—part of the economic stimulus program. Governor Douglas has also put the “green industry” as one of our economic development priorities for Vermont, feeling it will not only create jobs but is also consistent with the values and culture of Vermonters. So, with that sense of priority, what type of jobs will be created and who will be the winners in the new economy?

I found some predictions in a report entitled **Green Recovery: A Program to Create Good Jobs and Start Building a Low-Carbon Economy**, from the Political Economy Research Institute of the University of Massachusetts. “The recovery program aims to boost private and public investment in six energy-efficiency and renewable-energy strategies:

- * Retrofitting buildings to improve energy efficiency,
- * Expanding mass transit and freight rail,
- * Constructing ‘smart’ electrical grid transmission systems,
- * Wind power,
- * Solar power,
- * Next generation biofuels.

The related career opportunities include electricians, heating/air-conditioning installers, carpenters, construction equipment operators, roofers, insulation workers, carpenter helpers, industrial truck drivers, construction managers, project managers, energy auditors and building inspectors. In addition, add the accountants and office staff needed to support this volume of work, folks to verify savings, and quality assurance professionals. Also consider that new products will need to be created and manufactured to support the industry.

These jobs certainly look familiar and in fact, they are already in existence. They do require some new areas of knowledge and skill development—staying current with new and evolving technologies. Many of these job categories are already in short supply and we will need to recruit more people into these fields of employment. So here is another area of opportunity— **educators will be needed to train people on the new technologies.**

Looking at the list, one could conclude that the “green economy” will provide better paying occupations than those of the “service economy” and that is good news for the workforce. For those looking for a new career, take a good look at this list. Training is available locally for many of these “new” careers.



Membership Directors Update ~ Joan Hill

Hi Everyone,

2009 is a new and promising year and I look forward to working with each of you and making it the best year possible.

Thank you to Allen Pools & Spas for hosting the January mixer. The food and presentation were wonderful.

Each month in the newsletter I will be highlighting a different chamber benefit to keep you informed of the advantages of being a member of the Rutland Region Chamber of Commerce.

February's Benefit of the Month is the Perk Card member to member discount program. There are 90 discounts available from our members and this list keeps growing continuously. If you are a business and offer a discount you will increase your business and if you are an employer, you can offer this benefit to your employees. There is no charge for this program. Over 18,000 have already been distributed in Rutland County. Please call me for more details.

The 2009 Business Show will be held at the Holiday Inn on Tuesday, March 10th from 4-7:30PM and is sponsored by the Rutland Regional Medical Center. If you would like to be an exhibitor, please call the Chamber office as soon as possible as space is limited.

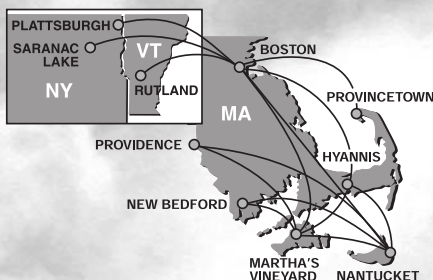
Welcome to our new member: The Meadows.

NEW PERK CARD ADDITIONS: Centre Sport Health Club at the Holiday Inn is offering a 20% off 3, 6 or 12 month memberships, The Other Sports Store is offering a 10% discount on non sale items with 20% off non sale items every Tuesday.

The 2009 perk cards are here, and I have been busy distributing them. If by chance, I missed you, please call me at the Chamber office.

Join a committee, offer perk card discounts and get involved to receive the most benefits from your Chamber. I look forward to seeing you all at the next mixer at The Vermont Country Store on February 10th.

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Merchants: Be Alert

by James P. Mongeon, State's Attorney

Video Cameras & Video Recording The Witness You Need

In an economic downturn property crime often increases. Crimes against businesses are not just about statistics but about the real impact on the business and its employees. A substantial loss of inventory can bring a business down. An armed robbery can have devastating and potentially fatal consequences.

Below is a reprint of my article from January 2008 because I cannot over emphasize the need for every business to have video cameras **and** video recording.

You have heard the expression "A picture is worth a thousand words". A quality video is worth much more than a picture. A video will document not only the location and identity of a person engaged in criminal activity but it can show the actual commission of the crime. It provides a view of events to the police and a jury. You can provide that type of video evidence by using some simple concepts:

1. Purchase **quality cameras and recording equipment** from a specialty firm that will install the entire system properly. Quality cameras are needed to capture the details of the event as a clear picture. The recorder cannot capture a better image than the camera can view. A quality recorder is essential for proper recording for later viewing.
2. Camera locations should be chosen carefully. Know the subject area you wish to cover. For example, a small store may wish to have one camera focused on the public entry/exit, one on the cashier area, and a third in the area of potential product loss.
3. The recording device should use a **system that is reasonably common**. Unique systems can create problems for police in promptly retrieving valuable evidence. Access to the recorder should be limited to the installer and the store owner (or corporate area manager).
4. Use **quality recording media**. Cheap media can undermine the quality for later viewing despite having quality hardware.

Join Us In Montpelier



Eric Bohn of OMYA is greeted by Lt. Governor Brian Dubie during the annual RRCC/REDC Bus Trip to the State House

The Annual RRCC/REDC Legislative Bus Trip to Montpelier sponsored by OMYA will take place on February 11th. This is a great opportunity to see YOUR Legislature at work and be part of the process. Lunch with the delegation and other state officials will take place at Capital Plaza. The bus leaves RRCC at 7:30am and will return by 5:00pm. The cost of the trip is only \$10 and includes round trip transportation, light breakfast at RRCC and lunch at Capital Plaza. Please call 773-2747 to reserve your seat today.

New Systems Coming to FairPoint Communications

The New Year is bringing new systems to FairPoint Communications. The company will be transitioning to its own state-of-the-art systems through early February. This is great news for customers as the new systems will allow FairPoint to offer new products and services and create new customized bundles.

This transition is a large, complex undertaking during which all data will be transferred to FairPoint's new systems. As the company transitions from Verizon systems to our own integrated communications network, some delays in normal processes are expected. In order to prepare for the transfer of data to the new FairPoint systems, new information cannot be placed into the existing systems through February 8th. Repairs and service issues will be addressed although there will be some delays in the response time.


FairPoint Internet customers with Verizon.net email addresses will transition to myfairpoint.net addresses during this period. All emails will be automatically forward to the new addresses until April 30.

FairPoint has spent months testing the new systems and planning for this transition, and the company and its employees are working to ensure this transition goes smoothly and successfully with as little inconvenience to customers as possible. FairPoint sincerely appreciates its customers' patience during this complex project.

Business customers can get information by calling 1.866.984.3001. Please visit FairPoint's Web site at www.FairPoint.com.

February Chamber Meetings & Events

- 2 RRCC/REDC Legislative Breakfast on Energy, Franklin Conference Center, 7:30am. \$8 pp
- 3 Special Events Committee, 8:30am
- 9 Public Policy Committee, 7:30am
- 10 RRCC Mixer @ Vermont Country Store 5-7pm
- 11 RRCC/REDC Legislative Bus Trip to Montpelier. Bus leaves RRCC at 7:30am, returns by 5pm. RSVP Required
- 23 Public Policy Committee, 7:30am
- 25 RRCC Board of Directors, 12:15pm



The Rutland Region Chamber of Commerce fielded 923 phone inquiries during the month of December 2008



Don't forget Valentine's Day

Flowers and romance are as inseparable as two people in love. Nothing says "I love you" like a beautiful bouquet.

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February Chamber Mixer!



Tuesday, February 10, 2009 ~ 5-7pm



*Location: Airport Industrial Park,
401 Innovation Drive, N. Clarendon, VT.*

*(Follow Route 7 South to Route 103, turn left onto Route 103 and
make the first right onto Route 7B and
follow to the Airport Industrial Park on your left.)*



~ Hors d'oeuvres ~ Door Prizes ~



**Next Month: RRCC Business Show 2009 - March 10, 2009 ~ 4-7:30pm.
sponsored by: Rutland Regional Medical Center**