

CHAMBER NEWS



MARIA L. NIEVES
PRESIDENT AND CEO

It's hard to believe that we've already turned the page on January 2012. The New Year is certainly off to a fast start. Here at the Chamber, we're also off to a great start. We kicked off 2012 with another highly successful event. Our **Annual Business Meeting**, attended by more than 125 members and future members, provided a showcase for members to exhibit their products and services.. (See [photos](#) of the Annual Business Meeting.) At

the event, we also recognized those members who volunteer their time and energy on the Chamber's Board of Directors and we learned the story of Hamilton Square's transformation from Paul Silverman, Partner at SILVERMAN.

At the Annual Business Meeting, I also promised that one of the Chamber's resolutions for 2012 is to engage in more direct communications with our membership. Here we go!

We intend this newsletter to provide information that can help our members take advantage of the many benefits your Chamber membership provides. In addition to member promotions and upcoming events, we plan to keep you abreast of community updates, policy issues and other topical items we think will be of interest.

Another of the Chamber's resolutions for 2012 is to showcase the success, innovation and leadership that our members demonstrate. From our Annual Business Meeting to our **Legends Ball** in December, we plan to focus the spotlight on the dynamic business leaders of Hudson County who make it happen.

Let us know how we're doing. I invite you to [follow us on Facebook](#), join us at an upcoming event, or email us with any questions.

-Maria Nieves, President and CEO

WELCOME ABOARD

Since January 1st, the following businesses and organizations have made a commitment to raise their profile by joining the Chamber. We welcome all 23 to our association—now more than 325 strong.

1. Office Depot (Store #3274)
2. Farmer's Insurance
3. Harborside Sport & Spine
4. MetLife Home Loans
5. Newport Centre Mall
6. WoolPunkStudios
7. Sherwin-Williams Co.
8. European Wax Center

We also thank **SILVERMAN** for sponsoring the annual memberships of the retailers at Hamilton Square in Jersey City:

9. Smith & Chang
10. Hound About Town
11. Antheia Floral Design
12. Art House Productions
13. Downtown Cooperative, Inc.
14. GP's Restaurant
15. Hamilton Health and Fitness
16. Hamilton Park Montessori School
17. Institute for Personal Growth, Inc.
18. Jersey City Art School
19. Madame Claude Wine
20. Newport Pharmacy
21. Next Step Broadway
22. Sophie Sophia
23. Tribeca Pediatrics

Visit the [Chamber website](#) for contact information for all of our new members.

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

- New Jersey Transit has published a **Draft Environmental Impact Study** on a plan to extend the Hudson-Bergen Light Rail (HBLR) into Englewood or Tenafly in Bergen County. The extended system would include a direct connection to the existing HBLR at Tonnel Avenue in North Bergen. The Impact Study, prepared by NJ Transit in cooperation with the Federal Transit Administration, is available for review at [northernbranchcorridor.com](#) and public comments will be accepted through Tuesday, February 21.
- The **National Labor Relations Board** has issued a **Final Rule** requiring most private-sector employers to notify employees of their rights under the National Labor Relations Act by posting a notice. Employers should begin posting the notice on January 31, 2012. The 11-by-17-inch notice will be provided at no charge by **NLRB regional offices** or can be downloaded and printed in color or black-and-white. Translated versions will be available, and must be posted at workplaces where at least 20% of employees are not proficient in English. Employers must also post the notice on an intranet or an internet site if personnel rules and policies are customarily posted there. See the **NLRB FAQs** for more info.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Thursday, February 2:** The Chamber's **Young Professionals Committee** hosts their first **Business Networking Event** of 2012 at the Hard Grove Café (319 Grove Street, Jersey City) from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. We're looking for the perfect name for our "Young Professionals" group. Submit your ideas in a re-naming contest we're launching on February 2 and you'll have the chance to win complimentary admission to all remaining Young Professionals events in 2012!
- **Friday, February 10:** The next meeting of the Chamber's **Young Professionals Committee** is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. To join the conference call meeting, Chamber members can RSVP at [info@hudsonchamber.org](#).
- **Thursday, February 16:** Start your engines at the **2nd Annual Business Networking & Racing Event** and discover why indoor kart racing is the fastest growing sport in the United States. Race a state-of-the-art go kart on the Monster Track at Pole Position Raceway (99 Caven Point Road, Jersey City) from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
- **Wednesday, February 22:** The **Hudson County ELC** (Employer Legislative Committee) will host Assemblyman Vincent Prieto at noon at Rita & Joe's. The cost is \$25 per person. [Click here](#) for information on how to RSVP.
- **Tuesday, February 28:** The Chamber is launching a new **Membership Committee** to help plan member-related events and communications. The first meeting of the Committee will be held at 9 a.m. at the Beechwood Café (290 Grove Street, Jersey City). While space is limited, interested Chamber members can RSVP at [info@hudsonchamber.org](#).
- **Thursday, March 1:** The Chamber's Young Professionals present **Mastering the Art of Networking** featuring guest speaker Joy Stephan, Founder of Change the Conversation. Ms. Stephan will present strategies to take your networking to the next level and help you deepen professional relationships. Practice your new skills while enjoying hors d'oeuvres & beer/wine. 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Venue TBD.

Want to feature your business at an upcoming **Business Networking Event?**

Contact the Chamber for sponsorship opportunities.

MEMBER PROMOTIONS

- **Genua & Mulligan Printing Corporation** and **Minuteman Press** celebrate their 25th Anniversary and send a hearty thank you to their loyal clients! Congratulations to Joe Genua, Joe Mulligan and Bill Reda. [Click here](#) for announcement.
- The **Brightside Tavern** is offering a special for the biggest game of the year. Watch the Superbowl at Brightside for \$75 and enjoy an open bar (from 5:30 p.m. to game end), pre-game tailgate with burgers, hotdogs, chili and a buffet during halftime. Free shuttle service will be provided. For more information or to reserve your seat, call [The Brightside](#).
- The **Courtyard Jersey City Newport** (540 Washington Boulevard) has unveiled a new state-of-the-art lobby, the highlight of which is The Bistro. Book your next weekend getaway today. Learn more [here](#).
- The **European Wax Center** (389 Washington Street, Jersey City) is offering **The Bare Necessities** now through February 19. Purchase a waxing service & skincare product, and receive any service of \$21 or less for only \$3. This in-store special is available to both women and men. Learn more [here](#).
- **NJ.com** is offering **Superbowl Sponsorships** through February 10: 10% SOV of the half-page position on NY Giants and Super Bowl pages. [Click here](#) for more information.
- Get on the map with **Discovery Maps International**. Resort Maps has joined forces with Discovery Maps International and presents their multi-media advertising program, featuring a fun-to-use, full color artist rendering of Hoboken & Jersey City; web exposure and the ResortMap app. The deadline is May 1 for inclusion in the 2012 map to be published in July. A 5% discount is offered to those who sign up early. [Learn more here](#).
- The Brennan Gallery and The Afro-American Historical Society Museum present **Textile and Culture**, curated by Neal Bunson, Esq., February 8 – 24. An The Brennan Gallery is located at the Hudson County Justice William J. Brennan Court House (583 Newark Avenue, Jersey City). Gallery hours are Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

To learn more about Member announcements and offers, [click here](#).