



**190 Year Old Eagle House Restaurant
Named Amherst Chamber of Commerce
Small Business of the Year**

Will Be Honored With Six Additional Organizations at May Event

AMHERST, NY – The Amherst Chamber of Commerce will be honoring seven of the region’s leaders in Small Business on Friday, May 19, 2017 at Samuel’s Grande Manor, starting at 10:30 a.m. with its annual showcase, followed by an awards luncheon at 12:00 p.m. The annual Small Business Awards Luncheon and Showcase serves to honor small businesses and/or individuals who continue to support the prosperity of the Buffalo Niagara region through their success and community efforts.

Founded in 1827 by Oziel Smith, the Eagle House, or Eagle Hotel as it was originally named, is now owned and operated by the Hanny Family. Tunnels located beneath the restaurant are believed to have provided a safe haven for slaves traveling to escape to Canada before the Civil War. When first established a hot meal costs about 25 cents, and a bed for the night, 10 cents. Today, the historic Eagle House continues to provide delicious hot meals to patrons, just at a slightly higher cost than a quarter.

Six additional small businesses and/or individuals were selected through a nomination process including Amherst Chamber of Commerce staff, board of directors, and membership. This year’s awards and honorees are:

President’s Award – Buffalo Niagara Heritage Village

**Minority and Women Owned Business Enterprise (MWBE) Award – Huber Electric
Family Owned Business Award – Colvin Cleaners**

Small Business Advocate Award – Rachael Brown, Employer Services Corporation

Sponsor’s Award – Russell’s Tree & Shrub Farm

Friend of the Chamber Award – Rick Glogowski, Keller Williams Realty

“Small businesses are invaluable to our region’s prosperity,” shared Colleen DiPirro, President and CEO of the Amherst Chamber of Commerce. “They employ residents, return capital to their neighborhoods, and enhance the quality of life in our community. We are very excited to recognize these seven businesses and individuals for their continued support of the region.”

According to the US Small Business Administration, there are over 28 million small businesses in America, and they provide 55% of all jobs in the US. Since 1990, big business has eliminated four million jobs, while small business has added eight million new jobs. The Amherst Chamber of Commerce continues to work to develop programs and services to allow small business members to grow and prosper in the Buffalo Niagara region.

Individual tickets to the Luncheon are available for purchase for \$40 each, as well as corporate tables of ten for \$425. The Showcase, featuring over 40 local businesses, will be open to the public, beginning at 10:30 a.m. The event is supported and sponsored by KeyBank.

Additional details are available at www.amherst.org or by calling the Amherst Chamber of Commerce at 716-632-6905.

Amherst Chamber of Commerce

It is the mission of the Amherst Chamber of Commerce to nurture a strong economic base in the Buffalo Niagara Region, thereby making it possible for members of the community to grow and prosper. The Chamber seeks to maintain a high quality of life and promote a sound public policy for the region. With a membership exceeding 3,000, we are committed to partnering with our members to provide ownership in developing marketing driven programs and services.

MEDIA CONTACT

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