Thank You To Outgoing Chair and Board Members

The Board of Directors, Staff and Membership of the Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce wishes to thank our outgoing Chair, Karen Widico of Hunterdon Prevention Resources for her service as Chairman of the Chamber Board for the past two years. Karen has lead the Chamber during a transition of Chamber Presidents, when Suzanne Lagay retired in September to our new President Chris Phelan. In addition, Karen also oversaw new initiatives of the Chamber with Shared Services and Tourism. We also thank the following Board Members for their tenure of service on the Board, George Ditzler of TeamLink HR, John Kellogg retired County Administrator, Robin Von Ohlsen of the Hunterdon County Democrat, Debbie Stout of TD Bank North and William Farrell of ExxonMobil.

The Chamber welcomes this month Jim Robinson of Embarq as our new Chair. He will be officially installed at the Annual Meeting and Dinner Dance on January 23rd.

Annual Meeting & Dinner Dance

We will be returning to the magnificent Grand Colonial ball room. Come, be part of this year’s celebration at the Chamber’s Annual Meeting and Dinner Dance on Friday evening, January 23rd from 6:00 to 11:00 PM and help bring attention to and appreciation for this beautiful facility. Just being there is a celebration.

Routinely, there will be a 15 to 20-minute business meeting, the granting of the Chairman’s and President’s awards and then on to the mouth-watering menu that has been selected. Interspersed will be opportunities to bid on elegant items in the silent auction and to just plain dance the night away with friends and colleagues.

We thank Merck for their Signature Sponsorship for the 2009 Annual Meeting and Dinner Dance.

Cost per ticket is $90. Pre-registration is required by calling 908-782-7115 or by registering on line at www.hunterdon-chamber.org You will be receiving your invitation in the mail within the next several weeks and you may fax it back as a means of registration as well.

Please consider placing an ad in the Annual Report, Community of Commerce, and providing an item for the silent auction.

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Greetings! I want to wish everyone a very Happy New Year and all the best for your business and organizations in 2009. It is an exciting start for the New Year for the Chamber as we have officially moved over the Holidays. The Chamber has returned to the County Seat of Flemington. Founded in 1916 as the Flemington Chamber of Commerce we have moved into wonderful space at Liberty Village Premium Outlets. I truly want to thank everyone who has helped us during this transition. A special thanks to Dominikija Prostak and her staff at Liberty Village Premium Outlets. In addition, I thank all of the sponsors and members who have donated dollars and time to support this move. At the time of print we are scheduling an open house celebration that we will invite our members in early February.

Consider using this New Year as an opportunity to get involved with the Chamber. The Chamber has great programs, committees, task forces and events. I would personally like to invite you to take the next step if you are not involved to do so. Call or email me and we can find a way to get you connected.

At our January 23, 2009 Annual Meeting and Dinner Dance we will be recognizing all of the Board Members and Chamber Leaders who have served us in 2008. I want to especially recognize Karen Widico, of Hunterdon Prevention Resources who has served as Chairman of our Board for the last two years. Under her leadership the Chamber has accomplished many noteworthy initiatives, including Shared Services and Tourism. Thank you Karen and I welcome Jim Robinson of Embarq who will serve as the new Chair of the Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce in 2009.

Remember to Buy Hunterdon!

January Card Club

January Card Club to be held Monday, January 12th, 5:00 - 7:00PM at Magnus Hair Salon in Pittstown & co-sponsored with European Country Kitchens. The food & beverage will be provided by European Country Kitchens & Magnus Hair Salon. Extra parking will be in the Pittstown Inn’s parking lot across from the Inn.

2008 Annual Report of the Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce

Place your ad now!

The deadline for having ads to the Chamber for the 2008 Annual Report is Friday, January 9th. Please make every effort to meet the deadline as we lay the book out and then send it to the printer, all of which must happen prior to the Annual Meeting and Dinner Dance. You’ll want to see your company’s ad and message prominently displayed when the Report is distributed. Call us (908-782-7115) if you’re having difficulties prior to deadline.

Read about the efforts of the Board and staff in 2008, the scope of work for 2009, the financial status of the Chamber, the working of the county’s Shared Services.

Thanks so much for your participation.
Chamber Membership Value Increases

One significant benefit of joining a chamber of commerce is to grow one’s business; to have new customers calling to buy your products, to use your services. Among the biggest challenges to overcome is targeting customers when they are ready to buy. The Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce is assisting members to solve that challenge using breakthrough technology via the search engine called Zidster. Developed by a local firm and through a strategic partnership with Fitting & Zidd, LLC, potential consumers using the new “Find a Chamber Business,” which is powered by Zidster, can now search by brand, make, model, product, service and keyword to find your business, your products and your services right on the Chamber’s web site!

Building Link Equity
Zidster’s unique online system makes a businesses’ inventory of goods and services searchable online. Here’s how it works: let’s say someone has a hankering for a Caesar salad. Using a special search box on the Chamber’s web site, they type “Caesar salad” in the search field and click “go.” In an instant, they’ll have a list of all the Chamber Members that serve Caesar salad, complete with phone numbers, addresses and more!

FOR A LIMITED TIME, HUNTERDON COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEMBERS WILL RECEIVE TWO IMPORTANT BENEFITS FREE!

The Zidster engine will provide Hunterdon Chamber of Commerce businesses with a full business profile and list up to 200 of their products and services as part of Zidster’s expansion in Hunterdon County. Chamber members will appear both on the Chamber’s “Find a Business” segment of the web site and appear as part of the Zidster systems, too. With thousands of people using Zidster, each business listed increases its chances of receiving more leads, more sales, and more opportunities to grow its business! (Opportunities for enhanced listings are available separately via Fitting & Zidd.)

All you need to do is:
• Be a Hunterdon Chamber of Commerce member
• Prepare a list of your products, services and keywords.
• Expect a call from the folks at Zidster during December and January.
• Start connecting with new customers who are already looking for products and services to buy NOW!

Questions? Call the Chamber at 908-782-7115.

Bedard, Kurowicki & Co., CPA’s, PC welcomes Steven Strohl to the firm’s growing accounting team. Steven is a recent graduate of Moravian College.

The Center for Educational Advancement received: $22,400.00 From the Large Foundation. $10,000.00 from Ronald McDonald House Charities. $1,000.00 from Walmart. The funds will be used for on-site mobile classroom learning center, employment service programs, & to buy a pizza oven.

Continued on page 10
**Destinations Welcomes Wellness Coaches**

In keeping with our goal to provide comprehensive and personalized fitness services that deliver results, Destinations Personal Fitness Coaching is pleased to welcome two outstanding nationally certified wellness coaches, Karen Leary and Terri Kersch, to their professional team.

Wellness coaching at Destinations means speaking with a coach by phone to address your unique barriers and motivations to success, and tackling such issues as fitness, emotional eating, body image, stress reduction, and developing and maintaining healthy relationships. Wellness Coaches assists clients as they define short and long term goals and support clients every step of the way as they employ their unique skills and strategies to reach their specific life changing goals. Addressing these issues and developing practical solutions enables clients to make lasting behavioral changes and look and feel their best.

Karen Z. Leary, earned her Masters Degree in Social Work at Rutgers University. She brings her social work experience, her experience as a mother of two sons, and her love for helping people to Destinations. Whether you struggle with emotional eating or desire a healthier lifestyle Karen can help move you in the direction of your dreams. Karen lives in sunny California, where she integrates her passion for exercise with her face-to-face clients with her hiking toward you goals programs. Terri Kersch joins Destinations from upstate NY. As a Certified Health Education Specialist for more than 20 years Terri has worked with hundreds of men and women as they addressed issues in the multiple facets of wellness: physical, emotional, social, spiritual and professional. Terri has worked on the state and national levels in areas of wellness including healthy living, life changes or transitions, alcohol, drugs and violence prevention. Terri is passionate about the impact of mental health on positive behavior change. Her coaching goal is to empower clients to reach higher levels of wellness.

Destinations coaches are passionate about coaching and the coaching process. If you want personal change, and are ready and willing to do the work, Destinations Personal Fitness Coaching provides you the opportunity – NOW. As Terri says, Coaching is the springboard from aspiration to achievement.

**Thank You!**

I want to thank the following organizations who have contributed so far to our Move Campaign.

- Merck for their Furniture Donation.
- The Business and Education Alliance for their Furniture Donation.
- Liberty Village Premium Outlets

**Signature Sponsor**

Embarq
Financial Resources Federal Credit Union

**Supporting Sponsor**

Still Available

**Friend of the Chamber**

Shaun Van Doren
Frank Barlow

**Additional Support & In Kind**

Carpet One
Esozo Computer
Lowes of Raritan Township
Danker Sellew & Douglas for Furniture Move Support

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**Thank you for your Reinvestment with the Chamber!**

2008 Renewals (at time of print)

- Cracker Barrel Old Country Store
- ESOZO Computer & Network Services
- Flemington Granite and Architectural Supply
- Foundation Title LLC
- Mehner Assoc., Inc. dba The Entrepreneur’s Source
- MGx Promotions
- Snap Fitness Annandale
- WoodsEdge Wools Farm, LLC

2009 Renewals (at time of print)

- 1742 Taylor Wharton Square
- AAA Guaranteed on Time Service
- Alexandria Field
- American Heart Association
- Anderson House, Inc.
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Hunterdon & Somerset Counties
- Bryhn Construction, Inc.
- Copper Hill Country Club
- De Sapio Construction, Inc.
- Di Bianca, Thomas, F, Esquire
- Dilts & Koester
- Gebhardt & Kiefer
- Hilltop Petroleum, Inc.
- Holcombe Fisher Funeral Home
- Hunterdon/Somerset Association of Realtors
- In Flight Balloon Adventures
- Lee Wayne Corporation
- Lucinda Neily Chou, CPA
- Melick’s Town Farm Orchards
- Palumbo Associates, Inc.
- Quest Environmental & Engineering Svcs., Inc.
- Sandrian Camera Shops
- Somerset Patriots
- Spanner Tree & Shrub Care, Inc.
- Stem Brothers, Inc.
- Stout’s Charter Service
- The Arc of Hunterdon County
- The Goddard School
- Turntable Junction
Business & Government Committee

The Business and Government Committee at its December meeting, pictured from left to right, Katie Shanahan, Debbie Meoloa, Nick Pellitta, Jim Robinson, Bill Flahive, Kathy Frank-White and Chris Phelan.

Who’s Rudolph?

Pictured above Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer, aka Karen Palotas of MGx Promotions at the Shoppes at Flemington.

Leads Exchange

Santa Claus made a special visit to the December Leads Exchange at the Hampton Inn in Flemington.

The Annual Holiday Gala at Drumthwacket

Pictured is incoming Chamber Chairman, Jim Robinson of EMBARQ who served as Gala Chair, Gov. Jon Corzine and Chamber President, Chris Phelan.

Holiday Party

The Chamber’s Annual Holiday Party-December Card Club was held at Stanton Ridge Country Club and sponsored by TeamLinkHR. Pictured above, George Ditzler and the TeamLink HR team.

Christmas on the Alpaca Farm

Pictured above our Hosts Linda Berry-Walker, son, Brett Walker and Chamber president, Chris Phelan.

The Learning Experience Ribbon Cutting

A New Daycare Center opens on Route 22 east in Readington Township, with a ribbon-cutting on Dec. 18. Pictured left to right: Gillian Drugos, director of this daycare center; Ernest Renda, building owner; Grace Hufschmid of the Learning Experience corporation; Raj Talasila, the Learning Experience franchise owner; Patty Vaclavicek of the Learning Experience Corporation; Anu Talasila, franchise owner; Chris Phelan, President of the Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce; Mayor Tom Auriemma, Greg Redington, president of REDCO Engineering & Construction Corp., which built and designed the facility; Dave Gasson, REDCO project manager; Ellie Mroz, head of business development for REDCO; Roberto Martinez, REDCO architect; Skip Scibek, REDCO project superintendent.
Burning Off Holiday Indulgences

We all know how hard it is to avoid gaining weight over the holidays. We asked three nutritionists to tally the calories in some holiday indulgences, then calculate how much activity it takes for a 165 pound person to burn them off. The results are surprising:

**Holiday cocktail party**
- Two glasses of red wine
- Five shrimp in cocktail sauce
- Six crackers topped with cheese spread
- 1 piece of fudge

**Calories:** 630  
Burn it off: Jog for at least 20 minutes three days.

**Brunch celebration**
- Eggs Benedict
- Croissant
- Apple cider

**Calories:** 890  
Burn it off: Ice skate for 1 hour on two days

**Family dinner**
- Two slices of ham
- Sweet potato casserole (1 serving)
- Green beans
- 2 rolls with butter
- 1 slice pumpkin pie with whipped cream
- mulled wine

**Calories:** 1,320  
Burn it off: Jog for 20 minutes for seven days

**Hanukkah party**
- Two potato pancakes (latkes topped with sour cream and applesauce
- 1 doughnut
- 1 glass of sweet wine

**Calories:** 750  
Burn it off: Work hard for three hours – preparing and cooking food (grate potatoes, etc.), cleaning dishes, setting table, scrubbing and cleaning.

**Breakfast on a busy day**
- A bagel with cream cheese
- Large hot chocolate

**Calories:** 750  
Burn it off: Walk briskly (3.5 miles an hour) outside for at least 2 ½ hours or jog for 30 minutes on three days.

**What to do?**
- Keep in mind how much exercise you will need to burn off those holiday calories. That second helping may not be worth it.
- Think about what you eat and drink. Make sure you maximize your enjoyment per calorie. Avoid the humdrum and go for the foods you really love. Take the time to enjoy what you love, eat slowly, and savor what you eat as much as the good times with friends and family this holiday season.

Susan Kibler, Destinations Personal Fitness Coaching, Nanci Hellmich – USA Today Eat, Drink and Be Healthy.

Destinations Personal Fitness Coaching offers comprehensive, customized fitness programs using creative fun workouts safely and efficiently tailored to the individual. Destinations Personal Fitness Coaching is located at 47 Maple Street in Flemington. 908 782-6555.

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**January ELC Breakfast**

*Featuring Assemblyman Michael J. Doherty 23rd Legislative District*

January ELC Breakfast to be held on Wednesday, January 28, 2009, 8:00AM at Beaver Brook Country Club, Clinton Township.

**November’s ELC**

Pictured left to right, Christopher Emigholz, NJBIA; Bill Flahive, Esq., chair of the Advocacy committee; Assembly women Marcia Karrow; Chamber president, Chris Phelan and Nick Pellitta, Esq., chair of the Business & Government committee.

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THE HUNTERDON COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
cordially invites you and a guest to attend

island paradise
ANNUAL MEETING AND DINNER DANCE

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 2009
Grand Colonial
86 Route 173 West, Perrvville

6:00PM Cocktails Hors d’Oeuvres
7:00PM Membership Meeting
7:30PM Dinner & Dancing
Music by Bassboards

Sponsored by MERCK

$90.00 per person
RSVP by January 20

RSVP BY JANUARY 20

Fax to: 908.782.7283 or Mail to:
Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce
One Church Street, Suite #73 • Flemington, NJ 08822
or Register online at
www.hunterdon-chamber.org
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<td>Card Club Sponsored by European Country Kitchens and Magnus Hair Salon - Pittstown European Country Kitchen</td>
<td>Board Meeting, 8:00 AM H-Horse seminar, 7:00 PM</td>
<td>Leads Exchange, Hampton Inn, Flemington, 7:15 AM B&amp;G Forum, 8:00 AM</td>
<td>Open House, 8:30 AM</td>
<td>Annual Meeting and Dinner Dance, Grand Colonial, 6:30 PM</td>
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**Start the New Year off right! Join Leads Exchange and make 2008 a banner year for increasing your business contacts.**

**Leads Exchange**

*FREE ADMISSION*

*Bring a friend!*

Continental Breakfast compliments of the Flemington Hampton Inn.

**Date:** Wednesday, Jan. 21, 2009

**Time:** 7:15AM registration 7:30 - 8:30AM program

**Location:**

Royal Rd. • Flemington

**Call 908-782-7115 to register.**

**Upcoming Events**

**JANUARY 15**

Open House
New Chamber Office

**JANUARY 23**

Annual Meeting
& Dinner Dance
Grand Colonial

**FEBRUARY**

CARD CLUB
Chamber Office
Date TBA
Open House

If it’s the third Thursday morning of the month, we’ll be in the conference room chatting with new Chamber members about what’s important to them and what the Chamber can provide for their companies.

The Open House is scheduled for 8:30 AM. Generally 10 to 15 new and prospective members and/or those unfamiliar with the workings of the Chamber join together to learn about the Member Activity, how it serves members, the Chamber’s greater marketing approach with/for its members and the broader scope of other services provided by the Chamber. Mostly they learn about each other and how best to use the Chamber as a marketing tool for their respective businesses.

January’s Open House will take place on Thursday, January 15th at 8:30 AM in the Chamber’s conference room. Coffee will be waiting. January’s focus will be, “Are you ready for business in 2009?”

Please call ahead to let us know you’re coming. We’ll have you on your way in an hour, but it will be an hour well spent.

The Chamber office is located at Liberty Village Premium Outlets, One Church Street, Suite #73, Flemington, NJ 08822. We’re on the second floor, above Nautica. We hope to see you there.

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2008-09 Fall/Winter Horse Seminars

Fall-Winter Horse Seminar Schedule Announced

The very active and engaged H•Horse Committee has planned another Seminar for the equine business community to be held at the Hampton Inn in Flemington on January 13th at 7 PM. The focus on this season’s series is to discuss the very practical yet often critical topics facing the equine business person, farmer or pleasure horse owner.

The topic is a critical one: Large Animal Emergency Rescue with presenter: Nancy Elberty.

The seminar will be held at the Hampton Inn in Flemington, 14-B Royal Road. The cost is $10 per person for each session. Please pre-register by calling the Chamber at 908-782-7115 or by visiting www.hunterdon-chamber.org.

The Hamptoon Inn in Flemington

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new members

Advanta Training, LLC
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Clinton, NJ 08809
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(F) 908-537-4190
Contact: David Harry
www.freedomhousenj.org

Glamour Classics
8 Hillcrest Drive
Flemington, NJ 08822
(908) 782-8989
Contact: Stephen Weinberg

Mid-State Equipment Co., Inc.
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(F) 609-737-6790
Contact: Wayne Tuck
www.midstateequip.com
Tractor dealership providing sales, service, parts and rental, for farm, construction, estate, utility, and consumers.
The Center for Educational Advancement for breaking their record this year for runners/walkers in the 16th Annual Turkey Trot. They had 4,044 runners/walkers. The event winner was Kyle Jamison from PA with a time of 15:18.

Bedard, Kurowicki & Co., CPA’s, PC welcomes Steven Strohl to the firm’s growing accounting team. Steven is a recent graduate of Moravian College.

Norris McLaughlin & Marcus, P.A. will be presenting a breakfast seminar entitled “Fiduciary Oversight: A Process & Approach to Best Practices” on January 15th, 2009 at Norris McLaughlin & Marcus’ Bridgewater office from 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

The law firm of Norris McLaughlin & Marcus, P.A., is pleased to announce it will participate in the New York Cares’ Winter Wishes for Kids and Families Program, as part of its commitment to community. The program helps fulfill the holiday wishes of more than 31,000 disadvantaged New Yorkers. Children, teens, and families write letters to New York Cares requesting a gift that will make the holidays brighter. A team of attorneys and staff at the firm will volunteer to answer several of those letters by buying the requested gifts.

Frank T. Araps, a Member of Norris McLaughlin & Marcus, P.A., will moderate and speak at a seminar entitled Construction Claims and Law: Preparation, Proof & Defense, presented by the Construction Law Section of the New Jersey State Bar Association (NJSSBA) and the New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education (NJICLE). Deanna L. Koestel, a Senior Associate with the Firm, will also speak on the panel. The seminar will be held on Monday, January 19, 2009, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the New Jersey Law Center in New Brunswick.

Dr. Paul J. Hirsch of Bridgewater has been named the new chairman of the Raritan Valley Community College (RVCC) Board of Trustees. The new chairman was elected to a one-year term during the Board’s reorganization meeting, held November 25 at the College’s North Branch Campus.

The Planetarium at Raritan Valley Community College (RVCC) in North Branch will present a performance of the children’s singer/songwriter mr. RAY (“Music for the Kid in All of Us”), Sunday, January 11, at 2 and 4 p.m.

The Allied Health Department of Raritan Valley Community College’s (RVCC) Corporate and Continuing Education division will hold an Information Session Thursday, January 8, from 6-8 p.m. The program will be held in the Atrium (College Center, lower level), at the College’s North Branch Campus.

Jane Oates, Executive Director of the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education and Senior Policy Advisor to Governor Jon S. Corzine, will deliver the commencement address at Raritan Valley Community College’s eighth Winter Commencement.

Raritan Valley Community College (RVCC) in North Branch will hold a unique event on January 9 to commemorate a special anniversary in scientific discovery. The year 2009 marks the 400th anniversary of when Galileo Galilei first used a telescope to look into space. Galileo, as he is known, is often called the father of modern astronomy.

Older students who are returning to college after many years and those who are thinking about going to college but are unsure how to take the first step are invited to attend a special orientation program at Raritan Valley Community College (RVCC). The Lifelong Educational Opportunity (LEO) orientation will be held Wednesday, January 14, from 6-8 p.m., at the College’s North Branch Campus.

Silent Auction Fever is Recurring But Not Harmful

Remember the excitement of bidding on the thing you really want to take home with you from the Silent Auction? Remember the last minute rush to the tables as closing time for bids approached? Remember the moment of “truth” as you decide whether to raise your last minute bid or “surrender”?

If it’s all coming back, the Chamber’s Annual Meeting and Dinner Dance offers you yet another chance to feel the excitement, to play the game and not be harmed by the fever.

To create that kind of fun and payoff, two things are needed: auction items and bidders, right? So please participate. You may do so by:

- creating a theme or special basket or auction item and donating it to the Chamber’s Annual Silent Basket Auction on behalf of your company,
- planning to get some return for your company as a result of the donation (Make it a win-win),
- being at the dinner dance and at the auction tables deciding which is your special item that you need to take home with you and the going for it!

Please donate an item to the silent auction. Let us know it’s coming and if you need help getting it to the Grand Colonial on January 15th before 6:30 PM so it can be displayed in the best possible light. Call 908-782-7115 about your donation and thank you for contributing.
No matter where you are in life, our full circle of care IS HERE FOR YOU.

No matter what age. No matter what your healthcare need. Our doctors are here to help you stay healthy. We accept all major insurances. Evening and weekend hours are available.

**BRANCHBURG**
Branchburg Family Health Center
908-369-8871

**CLINTON**
Riverfield Family Health Center
908-735-4645

Hunterdon Pediatric Associates
908-735-3960

**FLEMINGTON**
Hunterdon Pediatric Associates—Sand Hill
908-782-6700

Hunterdon Pediatric Associates—Reading Ridge
908-788-6070

Cornerstone Family Practice
908-788-8220

Hunterdon Family Medicine
908-788-6161

**HAMPTON**
Highlands Family Health Center
908-735-2594

Charlestown Family Health Center
908-537-2152

**MILFORD**
Delaware Valley Family Health Center
908-995-2251

**WASHINGT0N**
Charlestown Family Health Center
908-689-3200

**WHITEHOUSE STATION**
Hunterdon Pediatric Associates
908-823-1100

**HAMPTON**
Charlestown Family Health Center
908-537-2152

**HOPEWELL**
Hopewell Family Practice
609-466-1101

**LAMBERTVILLE**
Phillips Barber Family Health Center
609-397-3535

www.hunterdonhealthcare.org
Tax Tidbits 2008 Stabilization Act: Tax Changes Affecting Businesses

On October 3, 2008, President Bush signed into law a $700 billion financial markets rescue package, called the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008. The package also includes some valuable individual and business tax incentives that are intended to help revive the economy.

The business tax incentives cover a wide range of activities and industries. We have highlighted some of the key incentives and invite you to discuss them with us in more detail.

Research tax credit - The rescue package extends the research tax credit to amounts paid or incurred in 2008 and 2009. It also increases the alternative simplified research credit to 14 percent starting next year, a significant incentive for smaller firms to use the research credit to grow their businesses.

Leasehold improvements - Qualifying restaurant improvements and retail leasehold improvements will be eligible for 15-year cost recovery rather than a 39-year period, through December 31, 2009. It applies to both owner-occupied businesses and restaurants, as well as leased establishments.

Energy conservation - The new law extends a host of energy tax incentives, some targeted to consumers (including businesses) and others to producers and manufacturers. Most notable are the extension of the special deduction for energy efficient commercial buildings through December 31, 2013; and the substantial, long-term tax breaks given to businesses that develop or use solar energy. For businesses in urban areas, a $20/month transportation tax-free fringe benefit may be set up for employees who bicycle to work.

Charitable contributions - The Tax Code gives businesses enhanced deductions for contributions of food to charitable organizations, as well as contributions of books and computer equipment to qualifying schools. The new law extends these tax breaks through December 31, 2009. S-Corporation shareholders may also be eligible for special tax treatment when making charitable contributions of qualifying property.

Other business extenders - The rescue package also targets a whole host of extended, enhanced and expanded tax breaks to specific businesses. If you believe your operations touch upon any of these areas, please contact our offices for further details.

In addition to tax breaks only available to businesses, the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 also provides tax relief to individuals in their capacities as business owners or shareholders. All told, the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 is one of the largest tax laws in recent years, a law in which there is something for almost everyone. Some of these breaks, however, require quick action before the 2008 tax year ends; others call for careful coordination with standard year-end tax strategies; and still others require planning now to maximize the benefits available in 2009 and beyond.

We encourage you to contact our office to discuss in more detail how the new Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 applies to you and your business. Andrew D. Ross, CPA of Bedard, Kurowicki & Co., CPA’s, PC (908) 782-7900 x 113, adr@bkc-cpa.com, or visit www.bkc-cpa.com.

This tax tidbit was provided by Bedard, Kurowicki & Co.

Certified Public Accountants
114 Broad Street, Flemington, NJ 08822
www.bkc-cpa.com

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Chair, Business & Government Committee, Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce

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**Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce**

...in the business of promoting business

**We’ve Moved!**

As of January 1, 2009, the Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce will be changing our address and phone number to the following:

**Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce**

At Liberty Village Premium Outlets
One Church Street, Suite #73
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Please update your records accordingly. Thank you.