

# Central Vermont Chamber

"Where Business & Technology Meet"



Your partner in business

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## Dear Brenda,

Fall brings us beautiful foliage, shorter days and crisper air. With it there are numerous ways to get involved in activities to make Central Vermont a great place to live and make a living. Read on to find out how you can help Central Vermont be **greener** by volunteering to visit area businesses from October through mid-December as a Business Energy Ambassador.

Attend a forum where all seven candidates for the Vermont Senate from Washington County are slated to participate to discuss housing and the economy on October 20.

Ensure you're doing as much business locally as you can by attending the Mini Business Expo on October 21 and learning about more of the goods and services offered.

Participate in the sixth annual Wheels for Warmth program taking place on October 30th. [Get the flyer.](#)

Check out FairPoint Communications' Tech Business Bundle. [Get the flyer.](#)

And, looking towards winter, Chamber members can now get a corporate discount at Bolton Valley when purchasing a season pass.

## Energy Ambassador Program

The Central Vermont Chamber of Commerce and Regional Planning Commission are seeking volunteers to serve as [Business Energy Ambassadors](#) willing to visit area firms with information on lighting efficiency and cost savings. Volunteers will visit only businesses that have requested a call.

Volunteers don't need any business or conservation experience. Efficiency Vermont will provide three hours training the evening of Oct. 13 in Berlin. That training will equip volunteers to visit businesses and assess the likelihood that savings can be achieved by changes in the lighting system or other energy consumption. The business will be provided with a list of approved vendors and information on rebates for improvements that are available through December. Each volunteer is expected to visit eight to 10 firms at a mutually convenient time. Volunteers can visit alone or in teams.

Anyone who would like [more information](#) on volunteering or any business that would like to request a visit can contact the Central Vermont Chamber at 229-5711, or [email](#) us.

## Senate Candidate forum

All seven candidates for the Vermont Senate from Washington County are slated to participate to discuss housing and the economy Wednesday, Oct. 20 in Montpelier Council chambers from 7 to 9 p.m.

Area residents are encouraged to attend the forum and evaluate the candidates on their understanding of the problems and their approach to solutions.

Although the number of candidates precludes questions from the audience, candidates have been asked to plan on 30 minutes at the conclusion of the formal program to take individual questions and comments from those attending. Jolinda Leclair, former director of the US

Department of Agriculture's Rural Development program will serve as moderator.

The event is sponsored by the Housing Partners of the Central Vermont Economic Collaborative, Montpelier Housing Task Force, Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation, and the Vermont League of Conservation Voters.

Participants in the regional collaborative are Central Vermont Chamber of Commerce, Green Mountain United Way, Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission, and the Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation. Private sector lenders and real estate agents are active participants in the housing partnership. Feel free to drop us an email at [cvchamber@aol.com](mailto:cvchamber@aol.com) if you're planning to attend.

## Mini Business Expo Draws Full House

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Vermont hosts the [mini business expo](#) where twenty area businesses are slated to display their wares and greet potential customers in the Central Vermont Chamber of Commerce complex, Berlin, from 5-7 pm, Thursday, October 21. The final display space was claimed a full three weeks prior to the event.

With 20 firms providing visual displays and dozens more attending, the evening will provide a wealth of networking opportunities for everyone. Joanne Reynolds of BC/BS and Joe Hayes, Chamber program chair, are looking forward to a great evening in the post-foliage lull. "It's a great opportunity to make new connections and renew longtime friendships while the weather is still gentle," Hayes said.

Reynolds said the Berlin-based health insurer was pleased to sponsor the event. She said the number and variety of local firms is amazing, and the mini expo helps everyone become more familiar with other nearby companies and their people.

See, meet, and greet all 20 exhibitors and dozens of other attending companies while enjoying refreshments and the brief program. Registration is just \$10, a friend can accompany for half price. Chamber members receive a \$2 discount, and everyone in attendance is eligible for door prizes.

Reservations are appreciated and can be made by calling the Chamber at 229-5711 or via email: [cvchamber@aol.com](mailto:cvchamber@aol.com)

## Introducing a New Member Benefit

The Central Vermont Chamber of Commerce has teamed up with Bolton Valley Resort to offer discounted rates on season's passes to its members and their employees.

Sign up now to enjoy the slopes at Bolton Valley, a unique, high mountain alpine ski village surrounded by over 5,000 pristine acres. The recreational opportunities are as numerous as the views are spectacular. Whether your interest is skiing or snowboarding, telemark or Nordic, backcountry or night skiing, Bolton Valley has it all in abundance.

Adult passes are available for \$449 (\$100 off regular retail price) with savings of \$90 on youth and senior passes (Only \$199). A side-by-side pass (two parents one pass for parents with infants 2 years old and younger) is only \$719 for members (\$210 less than retail)!

There is no deadline for receiving the discounts simply fill out the [Corporate Season Pass](#) registration form with Central Vermont Chamber Member in the Company field.

Feel free to contact the Chamber at 229-5711 or [cvchamber@aol.com](mailto:cvchamber@aol.com).

## Chamber makes individual offices available

The Central Vermont Chamber is now offering one-person, private offices





for lease in its Berlin complex. The offices range from 100 to more 250 square feet and will be available for \$400 to \$600 per month including utilities. Tenants will enjoy the most favorable rates for conference room rentals and can access the internet via wireless connection at no additional charge. [Details...](#)

If you have suggestions for future newsletters, I'd really love to hear from you! Just email me at [cvchamber@aol.com](mailto:cvchamber@aol.com).

**Enjoy,**

*Brenda*

Central Vermont Chamber