

July 2011 Chamber Corner  
Marji Graf, Executive Director  
Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce

What a busy month of July we had. Congratulations to Elise & Payne Junker of Gallery 103, along with Michael Alon of DaVallia Art & Accents, and the bridge re-opening party committee. It was a great turnout and fun party!!

Governor Shumlin, Deputy Secretary of Transportation Sue Minter, Chris Williams DOT, Tourism Commissioner Megan Smith, Jim Hall and team from Cold River Bridges, Representative Leigh Dakin, Town of Chester Manager David Pisha, and selectboard chairman, John DeBenedetti, all participated in the ribbon cutting(s).

Lew Watters presented a signed Chester print; Leah Cunningham along with parents Cynthia Prairie and Shawn Cunningham presented Chester flags and Leah read a letter from the USDA (who provided ChesterUnited with the grant). Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce President Bill Dakin said a few words and gratitude was shared by all!

Thanks to the kids for helping with the games, Ryan, Leah, and Erika.

Thanks to the Green Mountain Banquet and Conference Center at the American Legion complex, for all your hard work, venue, and all the things you do for the community!

Thanks to Lisai's, The Fullerton Inn, Heritage Deli, the American Legion, and everyone who brought a dish to share.

Many, many pictures were taken from all the newspapers as well as our own photographer, Donald Dill - check out his pictures on our [facebook](#) page!

I hope I didn't leave anyone out. We are blessed to live, work and play in such a great Okemo Valley community!!!

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We're also happy that the Chester Info Booth has re-opened on July 21st before the first Chester Music Series. Big thanks to the [following businesses](#) who donated time, money, expertise to help get this done under budget and on time.

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Thanks to the Ludlow Merchants for putting on a great firework show!

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We have been hosting free continental breakfasts in each town, to share with the community what the Chamber is doing, and what resources we might be able to bring to each community that we serve.

Please join us at **8am**. Feel free to invite a guest.

August 15 - Java Baba - Ludlow

September 15 - Wilder House Restaurant at President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site in Plymouth

October 24 - Bryant House – Weston

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We sure to Shop the Valley at our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Business Expo on Wednesday, August 10 From 5:30-7:30p at the Green Mountain Banquet and Conference Center in Chester (American Legion). There will be free food samplings, music, cash bar, and you'll get to meet the business community that makes up the Okemo Valley all under one roof!! You might even win a door prize or two!

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Our Golf Tournament is scheduled for Thursday, September 15 at the Okemo Valley Golf Club. Please call Mary Knight to sign up your foursome 228-2260.

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS – You won't want to miss this event. On Wednesday, September 21 from 5:30-7:30pm come meet the women of Okemo Valley who posed for our "2012 Women of Okemo Valley" calendar for a good cause, Susan B. Komen Race for the Cure. You will be able to purchase a calendar at the door, then have it autographed by the calendar women! There will also be an auction of the items used in each shoot! This is an adult only night!! Free hors d'oeuvres and cash bar!

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Eight months and counting for our China Trip. For \$2200, you can visit 4 cities in China. This is an all inclusive price – airfare, hotels and 3 meals a day, plus transfers in between cities. This is a once in a lifetime trip. Call the Chamber for more information.