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**CITY, BID PARTNER WITH CHAMBER TO CO-HOST TWO MEMBER MILESTONE CELEBRATIONS**

GENEVA- The Geneva Area Chamber of Commerce will be co-hosting two upcoming Member Milestone Celebrations. The first will be a *Relocation Celebration & Open House* on Wednesday, Nov. 28 to showcase the newly expanded storefront for Community Proud Apparel at 423 Exchange St. The second will be a *Grand Opening & Ribbon Cutting* event on Thursday, Dec. 20 at downtown Geneva's new Thai restaurant, The Elephant, which is located on the ground floor of the One Franklin Square building (537 Exchange St.).



Both Milestone Celebrations will take place from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., and will provide guests with the opportunity to meet the owners, take property tours, and learn more about the businesses. The events will also include a presentation by Chamber staff and local officials, with a photo op taking place at 4:30 p.m. There is no charge to attend, and the public is welcome.



Member Milestone Celebrations are a key benefit of Chamber membership, providing awareness and exposure for member businesses by further promoting the stories of who they are and what they do. Started in 2016, Member Milestone Celebrations were designed to feature the major events for a business, such as anniversaries, grand openings or relocations. They have grown in both popularity and success, with participation now including involvement from local officials and regional organizations.

For the two Member Milestone Celebrations being planned, the Geneva Area Chamber of Commerce has also announced that the City of Geneva and the Geneva Business Improvement District (BID) will be partnering with the Chamber on the events in an effort to promote and support these two local businesses.

“The Geneva Area Chamber of Commerce is happy to join together with our partners at the City and the Geneva Business Improvement District to celebrate the continued development and awareness of our local and regional businesses,” said Miranda Odell, GACoC executive director. “We are excited to see the growth, in both the re-location and expansion of Community Proud Apparel, and the opening of The Elephant restaurant.”

Community Proud Apparel provides screen printing and embroidery services, along with a full line catalog offering. The business – which also sells the popular I Heart FLX clothing- offers marketing solutions, from logo creations to

promotional products. They were originally located in the One Franklin Square Building. The owner, Chad Lahr, is an active Chamber Board Member.

The Elephant, which had a soft opening in November, offers authentic Thai cuisine, available for dining in, delivery and take-out. The business prides itself on its modern interpretation of classic dishes and use of high quality, fresh ingredients. Locally owned and operated, the Geneva restaurant is the newest location among other sister restaurants that are also open throughout the Finger Lakes region.

"The BID is delighted to celebrate, with the Chamber of Commerce, the opening of The Elephant, along with Community Proud Apparel, as it expands its business offerings, and moves to a more visible location on Exchange Street," said Mark Palmieri, BID executive director. "These are a couple more examples of the vitality of Downtown Geneva, and the cooperation of the Chamber and BID in welcoming new businesses, and celebrating an existing business as it experiences growth and success."



"Businesses in Geneva continue to provide the city with a strong foundation for a competitive future – to be a city that people and businesses of all kinds are drawn to for its high quality of life – a uniquely urban city," said City Manager Sage Gerling. "Congratulations to Community Proud Apparel on the expansion and welcome to Geneva, The Elephant restaurant."



For more information on Member Milestone Celebrations or other promotional programs and member benefits that the Chamber of Commerce offers, please call the Chamber at (315) 789-1776 or email [info@genevany.com](mailto:info@genevany.com). The Chamber is located at One Franklin Square, Suite #202.

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*The Geneva Area Chamber of Commerce is a private, membership-based organization with a sole focus of serving and representing its member businesses and organizations. As a primary benefit of Membership, the Chamber generates awareness and provides exposure for its members by effectively promoting the people, property, products and services of each.*