



Travelers headed to upstate New York this summer on Interstate 87 can find lots of useful information – and maybe a friendly, familiar face or two – at the Southern Saratoga Information Center, located at the Clifton Park Rest Area on the I-87 Northway just north of Exit 9. The Chamber of Southern Saratoga County maintains the information display and there is staff available 7 days per week between Memorial Day and Labor Day, parts of 4 days per week thereafter, or anytime by appointment.

Located “a cup of coffee north of Poughkeepsie”, the Information Center is frequented by guests from the Hudson Valley who may be en route to vacation destinations, in town for sports events, or perhaps taking advantage of the business opportunities of New York’s “Tech Valley” and commuting back and forth to a remote office of their employer or visiting a customer’s facility. Many people considering a relocation to upstate or purchasing a second home also stop at the Center, where there is ample information to help guide them through the process. Since this is a Chamber of Commerce office and not just a tourism center, employees behind the counter have full access to the database of the 1082-member Chamber of Southern Saratoga County, the Capital Region’s third largest in terms of number of members, and can assist with a wide variety of questions or concerns, or contact someone who can help. As President/CEO of the chamber, my business card is on display at the Center and I am reachable to help ensure a great upstate trip for everyone who stops by.

Businesses up and down the Hudson Valley are invited to advertise at the Southern Saratoga Information Center. An audience of at least 200,000 people stops by the information displays each year, coming from locations such as Long Island, Westchester or New Jersey to the south and Montreal to the north, in addition to world travelers. Several promotional packages are available including some that can take advantage of the Chamber’s local reach to double the exposure to 400,000 people.

Located just 15.4 miles north of the I-87/90 Thruway junction, the Clifton Park Rest Area is open year round, 24/7 and has clean restrooms and vending machines (operated by a third party vendor, not affiliated with the chamber) which serve local products under the TasteNY program. It is a safe place, with the NYSDOT office, NY State Troopers’ barracks and truck inspection station all located on site. For more information please call the center at (518) 371-3763 or visit www.southernsaratoga.org.

< left top: A view of the Information Center counter shows that there are so many great exhibits such as waterside attractions, ski areas, malls, breweries, Amtrak schedules, real estate guides and, of course, Boating on the Hudson magazine! There is also an electronic display on the wall mounted TV screen.

< left: This wall mounted canal display was erected by volunteers from Chamber of Southern Saratoga County members A. Champagne Builders, Empire Exhibits & Displays, and Koval Electric. Boaters may recognize it – the placard once formed the exhibit used at boat shows by the New York State Canal Corporation and was re-purposed by the chamber, thus saving taxpayer dollars in the process!

On Your Next Trip North, Stop By The Southern Saratoga Information Center!

by Pete Bardunias, President/CEO, the Chamber of Southern Saratoga County



Visitors are encouraged to “Discover Clifton Park” with this new display at the Southern Saratoga Information Center. Saratoga County’s largest town, often overlooked by travelers, spans Exits 8 through 10 and has nearly 1000 available hotel rooms, plus shopping, restaurants, canalside trails and historic sites, farms and orchards, and is close to many more attractions in neighboring towns and villages including Waterford’s Tugboat Roundup and other events.