



2018 Annual Gala

# Celebrating our Legacy

Soaring Towards our Future



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2018  
THE AMBER ROOM COLONNADE  
DANBURY, CONNECTICUT



*Kevin and Elaine Cox*

CONGRATULATE

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STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS FOR THEIR TIRELESS

COMMITMENT TO EDUCATION.

# EVENING'S SCHEDULE

## **RECEPTION**

HORS D'OEUVRES & SILENT AUCTION BIDS ACCEPTED

## **WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS**

NATASHA S. MCNEAL

## **INVOCATION**

REVEREND QUAVON NEWTON, THE MOUNT PLEASANT AME ZION CHURCH

## **REMEMBRANCE OF CORA HORD**

NOEL D. HORD

## **SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

MICHELLE HORD

## **INTRODUCTION OF LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD HONOREE**

NOEL HORD

## **LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

JOHNNY BARNES

## **DINNER**

## **HORD FOUNDATION 25TH ANNIVERSARY VIDEO**

## **HORD SCHOLAR PRESENTATION**

ANDRÉA STANFORD

## **HORD SCHOLAR PRESENTATION**

KENNETH CROUCH

## **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

NOEL HORD

## **HORD SCHOLAR PRESENTATION**

SIMONE HILL

## **FUND THE LEGACY**

CHRISTINE O'LEARY

## **CLOSING REMARKS**

JERRY WALTON, CHAIRMAN

## **THE ETERNITY BAND**



THE HORD FOUNDATION  
LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD  
HONOREE  
MR. JOHNNY BARNES





MARK D. BOUGHTON  
MAYOR



## CITY OF DANBURY

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
155 DEER HILL AVENUE  
DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

(203) 797-4511  
FAX (203) 796-1666  
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February 24, 2018

Welcome Friends:

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the momentous occasion of the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Hord Foundation Gala. Your continuous support of this event has made a significant impact on the important work and legacy of the Hord Foundation.

Established in 1993 by Noel and Cora Hord, the foundation has promoted education and career opportunities for young individuals by providing them with higher education scholarships, and financial assistance.

Since its inception, The Hord Foundation has awarded scholarships to deserving students; and each year it has increased the scholarship dollars distributed in Danbury, and our surrounding community.

I wish to offer my sincere gratitude to the generous individuals, businesses and organizations that make the Hord Foundation and its scholarship program a success every year; and for continuing to support this deserving cause.

Happy 25<sup>th</sup>!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. D. Boughton". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Mark D. Boughton  
Mayor



JOHNNY BARNES

## LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD JOHNNY BARNES

Mr. Barnes is a retired IBM Vice President with over 40 years of IBM service in a variety of strategy, product, solution development, system architecture, management and executive positions. Mr. Barnes was one of IBM's top executives. He has an overall perspective of the computer industry and its applicability to business segments, as well as computing strategies and advanced technologies to meet emerging distributed computing, business and manufacturing future needs. Mr. Barnes' professional experience includes years of business and technical management of products, customer solution contracts and IBM worldwide organizations. He was a major contributor to IBM's 1970 and 1980's mid-range product development, 1990's business and worldwide manufacturing transformation and 2000's IT advance technology strategy and implementation.

As Vice President of Global IT Infrastructure, Mr. Barnes was responsible for transforming IBM's global infrastructure to a premier e-business computing and VOIP telephony environment. As the Vice President and Deputy CIO, Mr. Barnes was responsible for IBM's worldwide information technology environment and advanced technology deployment within IBM. As the Vice President and CTO of IBM's Public Sector, Mr. Barnes was responsible for transforming a strategic government agency infrastructure program into a success and integration of advance technology solutions into multiple government agencies. Mr. Barnes' management responsibilities included business management, strategy, architecture, design, development and deployment of both IBM and customer business solutions utilizing advance technologies and standards.

Mr. Barnes is recognized worldwide as an accomplished executive leader and technologist. In Mr. Barnes' career with IBM, he received 8 patents, 3 IBM invention achievement awards, several IBM informal, divisional, and corporate awards for his technical and management contributions. Mr. Barnes has numerous publications on a wide variety of technical areas. He was recognized nationally by DOD Continuous Acquisition and Life-cycle Support (CALs), the National Eagle Leadership Institute (NELI) and National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE). NSBE awarded Mr. Barnes the Black Engineer of the Year award in 2011. Mr. Barnes holds a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Houston and attended graduate school at the University of Texas concentrating on computer design, software engineering and manufacturing automation. He is Project Management (PMP®) and IT Infrastructure Library (ITIL®) V3 certified. In addition, Mr. Barnes has one of the highest government clearances.

Mr. Barnes has served on numerous company and government Standards and Advisory boards such as National Initiative for Product Data Exchange Steering Committee Executive Board Member, US Pro Board, PDES, Inc. Consortium-Chairman, RPI Advance Integrated Manufacturing Environment (AIME) Executive Board Member, Assoc. for Enterprise Integration- AFEI, CALS ISG Policy Board Member, Aspect Corporation Advisory Board member, Verizon Technology Advisory Board, Wireless Internet for the Mobile Enterprise Consortium Advisory Board (WIMEC at UCLA), National Eagle Leadership Institute (NELI) and NSBE Black Engineer of the Year

Mr. Barnes has spent his life serving communities and youth by working with community and religious organizations and mentoring youth.

Currently, as the owner of an IT consulting and services company, Mr. Barnes provides leadership and consulting to companies and government agencies globally. In addition, he served 18 years as a director on the board of SCRA Advance Technology International and is on the board of STEM Premier (Chairman).

# HORD SCHOLARS



## ANDRÉA STANFORD

Andréa Stanford is the Assistant County Manager of Allegheny County, the second-most populous county in the state of Pennsylvania. In this role, she supports the daily operations of county government and serves as a liaison to community stakeholders.

Ms. Stanford's expertise in digital marketing, public relations and community engagement spans the non-profit, health care, and financial services industries. Prior to her transition into the public sector, Ms. Stanford was a Digital Experience Product Manager at PNC Financial Services Group, Inc., where she managed the online presentation and content strategy of PNC's Personal Banking product portfolio.

An advocate for social justice and gender equity, Ms. Stanford dedicates her time to engage and volunteer with several nonprofits in the Pittsburgh community. She is a past president of the YWCA Greater Pittsburgh Young Leaders Board, a former Partner in the Social Venture Partners Pittsburgh network, and is currently on the board of directors for the Kelly Strayhorn Theater and Strong Women, Strong Girls.

Ms. Stanford recently received the 2017 Greater Pittsburgh ATHENA Young Professional Award, a regional honor which recognizes an emerging leader who demonstrates excellence in their profession, contributes to their community and helps other women succeed through mentorship.

Ms. Stanford graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree from the University of Pittsburgh. She currently resides in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

# HORD SCHOLARS



## KENNETH CROUCH

Kenneth Crouch is a first-year law student at Harvard Law School. He currently serves on the board of the Harvard Civil Rights–Civil Liberties Law Review and is a member of the Harvard Black Law Student Association and the Harvard Defenders, a student practice organization that provides pretrial defense to indigent clients. Immediately before matriculating to law school, Kenneth worked in New York City Mayor’s Office of Criminal Justice for the DeBlasio administration. At the Mayor’s Office, he assisted in the planning and implementation of the Mayor’s Action Plan for Neighborhood Safety, a comprehensive citywide strategy to increase neighborhood safety through economic empowerment, community partnership and targeted investment.

Prior to his work in city government, Kenneth worked for two years as a legal advocate with the Bronx Defenders, a holistic public defender office in the South Bronx. In addition to assisting attorneys in eviction defense and pre-litigation advocacy, he presented written and oral testimony to the New York City Council’s Public Safety Committee regarding the city’s property retention policies and its disparate impact on low-income city residents.

Kenneth holds a bachelor’s degree in history from Yale University, where he was a member of the Yale Black Men’s Union and the nonprofit Community-Based Learning Initiative. He will spend the upcoming summer interning with the New York chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union. Upon graduation, Kenneth aspires to work as a civil rights attorney and social justice activist.

# HORD SCHOLARS



## SIMONE HILL

Simone Hill is the Senior People Operations Associate at Upstart, a fintech marketplace lending platform based in the Bay Area. In her current role, she is helping to build the People team from the ground up, specifically focused on recruiting and developing diverse talent for the company. She is also responsible for building a welcoming and inclusive culture for the company. Prior to her current role, Simone served as the Diversity Officer at Stanford Graduate School of Business, creating and implementing the diversity and inclusion strategy for the MBA Admissions team. She also served as the Director of Programs at Beyond 12, a San Francisco-based college persistence organization, managing the personalized and peer college coaching programs.

Simone earned her MBA and MA in Education from Stanford University and a BS in Finance from the University of Connecticut. Simone was also a finalist for the Rhodes and Marshall scholarships during the 2010 competitions. She is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. In her spare time, Simone enjoys reading and dancing.

EDUCATION IS FOR IMPROVING THE LIVES OF OTHERS  
AND FOR LEAVING YOUR COMMUNITY AND WORLD  
BETTER THAN YOU FOUND IT.

~MARIAN WRIGHT EDELMAN



## LISA & RUDY

RSI FUNDRAISING AUCTIONS

## LISA & RUDY

RSI Fundraising Auctions was established in 2000, and has serviced the NFP community exclusively for 15 years. The RSI model has built partnerships and long lasting relationships with more than 150 charity based organizations. We bring variety, fair pricing, professional display, and innovative thinking to each event.

Rudy Saviano is the Founder and CEO of RSI. He is a professional auctioneer and an expert at event based fundraising. His ability to engage an audience has allowed him to double and triple revenues for some organizations.

Lisa Vincenzi is the Business Manager of RSI. Before joining the RSI team in 2013, she was the Director of Development for a Long Island based charity. Her background enabled her to bring the concerns of the customer to the fore, and created programs that help our customers with the issues that concern them most.

Together, Rudy and Lisa form a team that works with each of our partners on a direct level before the event, and provides a quality experience at the event. Our displays are comparable to an art gallery, and Silent Auction Announcements are memorable, fun, and effective.

RSI carries a diverse line of products including Art Work, Sports, Entertainment, and Historical Memorabilia, Jewelry and Pocketbooks. Our inventory includes items with minimum bids of \$25 to several thousand dollars. Our product line is designed to make every attendee a potential participant in the auction.





## CHRISTINE O'LEARY

FUND THE LEGACY AUCTIONEER

## CHRISTINE O'LEARY

Christine O'Leary is an award-winning stand-up comedian, comedy teacher (18x SOLD OUT stand-up workshop teacher), comedy mentor to members of her Team Green Light Comedy collective, and philanthropic auctioneer who recently raised nearly half a million dollars for nonprofits in New England for the 2016 Gala Season in less than three months.

O'Leary, nominated by Curve Magazine as one of the '50 Funniest Lesbians in America,' has worked with the top comedians in the business who grace the stage at The Ridgefield Playhouse, including Gilbert Gottfried, Joy Behar, Susie Essman, Chevy Chase, Sinbad, Tracy Morgan and Janeane Garofalo. She's also worked with Margaret Cho, Ian Harvie (Transparent) and headlined Long Beach Pride events with Jennifer Hudson, Indigo Girls, KC and the Sunshine Band, and more.

O'Leary regularly performs with her Team Green Light Comedy collective to SOLD OUT shows. She's actively honing the comedic skills of her Step Up 2 Stand Up students and is booking shows and creating opportunities to bring new talent and fresh laughs to new places, including teaching comedy classes in Key West and headlining comedy events.

She lives in New Fairfield with her partner and a little dog and is passionate about using comedy to support causes. O'Leary served as the host for the Coalition for the Homeless NYC 'Women Mean Business Luncheon Fundraiser.'

A comedienne that brings the 'funny' to companies, colleges, charitable events, clubs and prides across the country, O'Leary's co-dependent motivation is to make a difference and make you laugh until you cry! But her favorite role is that of the host that 'can make a show out of anything.'





NOEL HORD

FOUNDER  
THE HORD FOUNDATION

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the annual Hord Foundation gala. This year is a special evening as we celebrate our 25th Anniversary...Yes, 25 years of serving the youth of this community. During that time, we have awarded over \$5 million dollars in scholarships and have Hord Scholars doing great things all over this country. We are proud of their many successes and achievements and the contributions and the impact they are making in their communities.

For many of you have made it a tradition to attend, we are grateful and pleased to see you again. For those who are first time guest – welcome. We hope that you will enjoy an evening that is both entertaining and inspiring.

Tonight, we are pleased to recognize Johnny Barnes with The Hord Foundation Lifetime Achievement Award. Johnny, a retired IBM Executive has served on The Hord Foundation Board of Trustees since the Foundation's inception. He has served as Chairman, Vice Chairman and today sits on our Executive Committee. Johnny has been closely involved in the development of our website and has gotten much of the work done pro bono or paid for it himself. Johnny, we thank you for your 25 years of dedication and service.

Tonight also marks the beginning of "Gabrielle's Wings", an endowment in honor of my late granddaughter, Gabrielle Eileen White. Through this endowment we will continue the legacy of The Hord Foundation's Scholarship aid, but also introduce programs that enhance and enrich the lives of younger scholars.

Thank you to all who have worked so hard on tonight's program. We will celebrate our legacy and are committed to soaring towards a greater future.

Enjoy the Evening!  
Noel Hord

*Noel Hord*



Gabrielle Eileen White was a vivacious seven year old with a million dollar smile and a true love for animals...especially butterflies. Her infectious laugh would brighten up any room. She loved all types of arts and crafts and spent a lot of time making up song lyrics, music, painting and drawing. She was an avid swimmer and loved being in and around water.

Gabrielle's love of learning was augmented at her beloved Hudson Country Montessori School over two academic years and four summer camp sessions. In 2016, she attended the Summer Institute for the Gifted at Sarah Lawrence for STEM courses. She spent almost three full years at Ward Elementary School as part of CILA, a coveted dual language immersion school. She was an active Brownie in the Girl Scout troop at her school.

Even at a young age, her spiritual life and faith were both very important to Gabrielle. She was a member of Grace Baptist Church and attended Sunday School regularly. In recent years, she joined her family on Thanksgiving serving the community at church. For her last two birthdays, she asked party guests for donations for needy children in lieu of gifts. She made an impression on peers and adults in her life and created a lifetime of memories for many.

Gabrielle suddenly was granted her "angel wings" in June of 2017. This beautiful girl was blessed with educational and cultural exposure opportunities that many children do not have access to or cannot afford. In honor of her legacy, The Hord Foundation, Inc. has created a new fund entitled, "Gabrielle's Wings." The mission is to encourage and reward excellence among children of underserved communities by providing scholarships and offering educational support and programs. Our hope is that Gabrielle's legacy will enable children to aspire to dreams beyond their horizons and that her "wings" will enable them to soar.

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# The Hord Foundation

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MasterCard salutes The Hord Foundation for its achievements in providing scholarships to young people of African-American descent in the greater Danbury area.

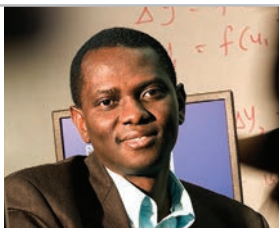
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GOLD



## Congratulations to the Hord Foundation

Pitney Bowes is proud to be a long-time sponsor of the Hord Foundation. We support the important work that you have done for more than 25 years in promoting education and enhancing career opportunities for young people of African-American descent through educational scholarships. Diversity and inclusion are part of our DNA at Pitney Bowes. Kudos to the Hord Foundation and Pitney Bowes own Bernard McFadden as a member of the Board, for making a difference by helping others live the legacy.

For more information, visit us online:  
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Arconic Foundation is a proud supporter of  
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**Johnny Barnes**  
*Lifetime Achievement Award*

Arconic Foundation supports programs that help prepare the 21st century engineering and advanced manufacturing workforce. Through collaboration with our nonprofit partners, our initiatives make quality STEM education opportunities available to students; support engineering and technical skills training through community colleges, vocational technical schools and universities around the world; and help to create access for underrepresented individuals to the STEM fields.



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SILVER

# 25

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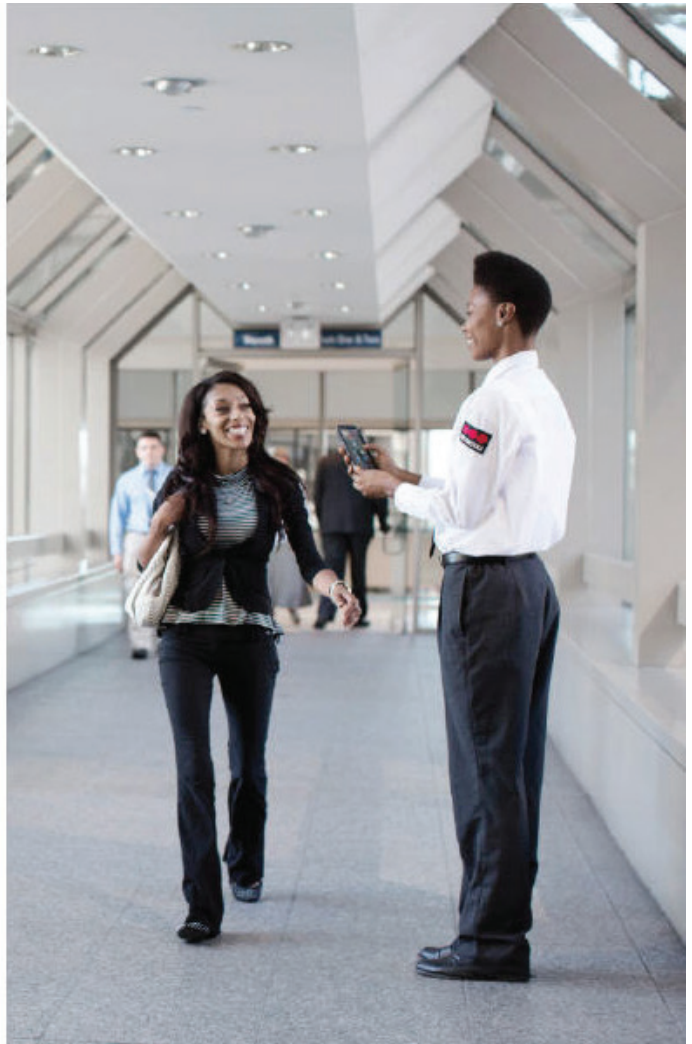
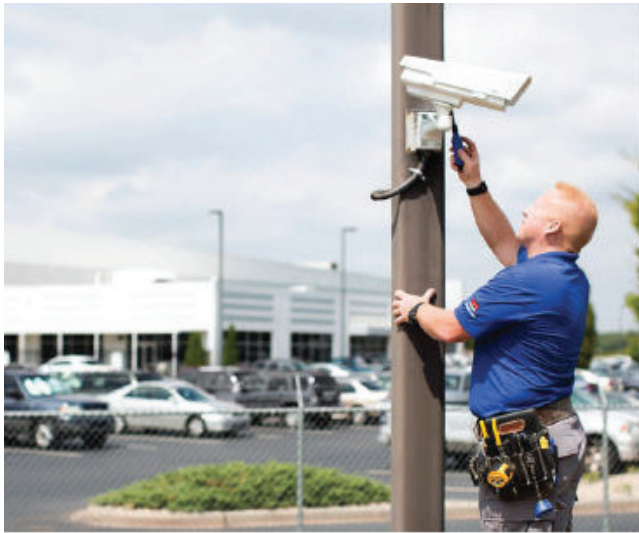
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SALUTE THE HORD FOUNDATION HONOREE  
BROTHER JOHNNY G. BARNES  
FOR HIS  
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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE HORD FOUNDATION  
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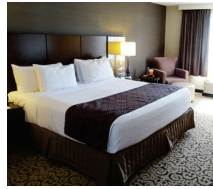
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*The Danbury Board of Education would like to thank The Hord Foundation for 25 years of service and recognition to the students of the Danbury Public Schools. As the cost of college continues to rise, many of our students would not be able to afford college without the generosity of the Hord Foundation's Scholarship Program.*

*Thank you and congratulations on your Silver Anniversary.*

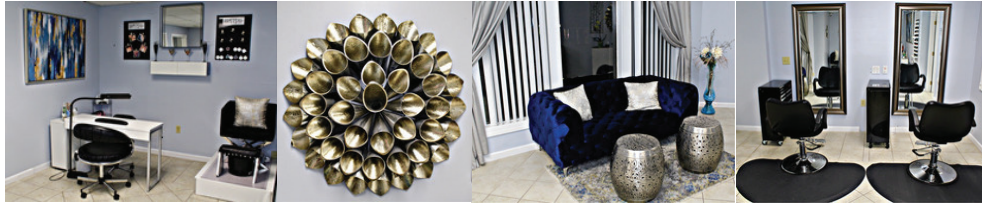


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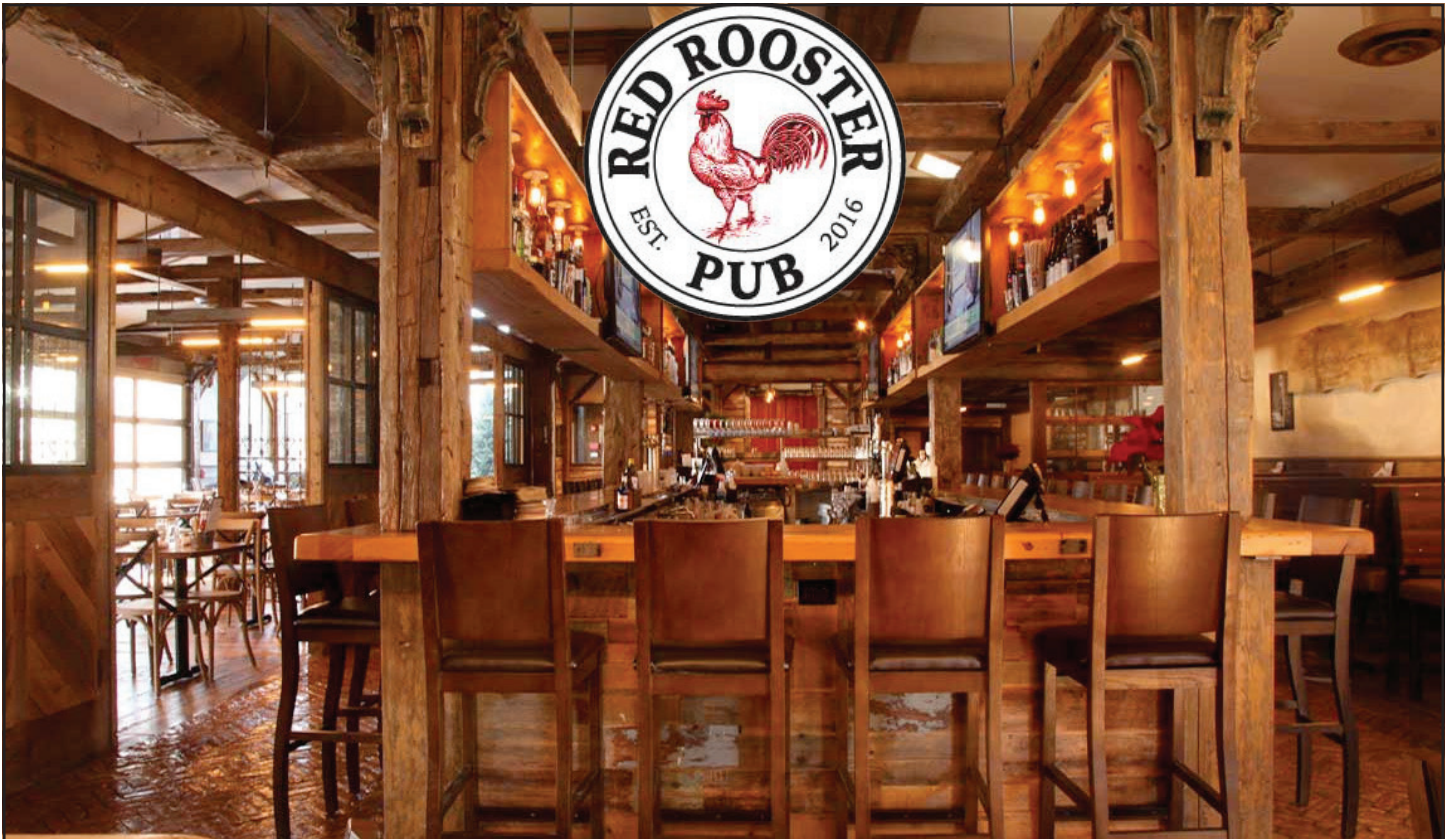
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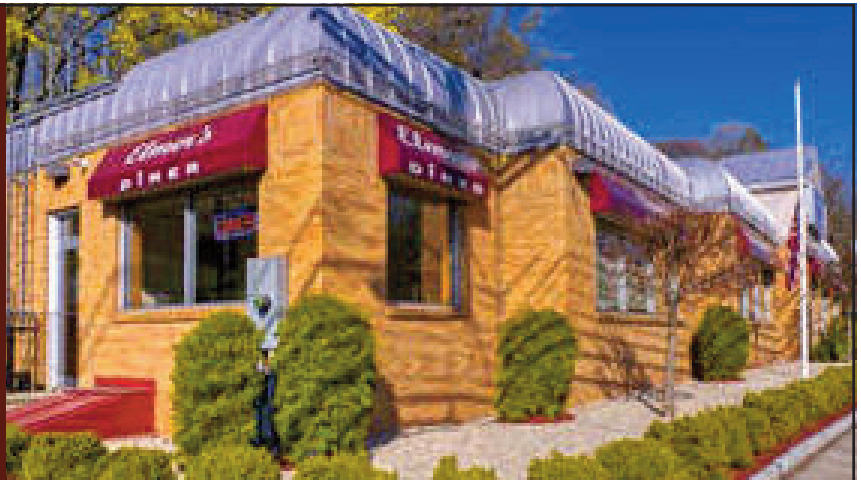
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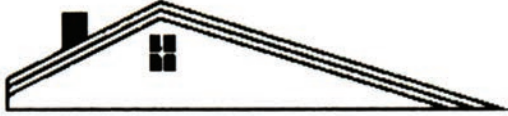
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