

catchmakers, inc.

personal matchmaking. confidential service.

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More Young Singles Finding Connections through Modern-day Matchmakers

Carole Schiffman knows what its like to be single and 30. She's met friends of friends, she taken classes and she's even joined a few dating services. Now married, Schiffman decided to take what she learned in the dating scene and create her own local matchmaking service, Catchmakers.

“I wanted to bring the concept here locally because there are so many close-in professionals, but Ithaca doesn't have a venue for them to mix,” said Schiffman. “Working professionals come to Ithaca and they love their jobs, but they want to put down roots and start a family and they don't know where to look.”

The company is a new matchmaking service available to those living in central New York that caters to the single, working professionals who are looking for love. Schiffman felt that these working professionals were struggling to connect with others, and societies such as Ithaca Forward, a social and business networking community, are trying to help change that.

With clients from Syracuse, Binghamton, Elmira, Corning, Aurora, Geneva and Ithaca, co-owners Schiffman and Meredith MacLeod of Catchmakers meet with applicants for a face-to-face interview to get a real feel for what the person is like and what type of person they are looking for. This gives them the opportunity to ask the “deal-breaker” questions about religion, political affiliation and even feelings about children. These questions might be awkward to ask on the first date but can be very important to some people when looking for a partner.

“Young professionals that come to Ithaca and work are so busy,” Schiffman said. “They are really focusing on building their career, and they don't have a lot of time to go out and try to meet people. In such a heavy college town, it can be difficult. We wanted to provide a service to them that would really help.”

“Originally, it was all about the demographic under 40 that moved here and said, ‘How do I network and connect to other people so that I have a healthy life?’” said Deb Mohlenhoff, chair of Ithaca Forward, a networking group of young professionals in the region. “I hear from people that they live, sleep, eat and breathe their job and they are having problems making connections. That's where the idea of Ithaca Forward came from.”

Catchmakers is open to all who are single, divorced or widowed. Specifically designed for those seeking long-term commitments, anyone over the age of 25 — heterosexual, lesbian or gay — is encouraged to try Catchmakers.

For more information, check out their Web site at www.catchmakers.com. ♥