

# Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce

www.midmainechamber.com



# Community Connection

January/February 2021

Albion • Belgrade • Belgrade Lakes • Branch Mills • Benton • Burnham • China • Clinton • Fairfield • Hinckley • Oakland • Rome • Shawmut • Sidney • South China • Thorndike • Unity • Vassalboro • Waterville • Weeks Mills

## Takeout Challenge

Ready, set . . . get your takeout menus ready!

Beginning mid-January, we will be offering Takeout Challenge once again, to help out our area Chamber member restaurants.

Start saving your takeout receipts – it's easy to join the fun. Simply scan, take a photo or email your receipts to [cindy@midmainechamber.com](mailto:cindy@midmainechamber.com) and you could win a \$25 gift card, courtesy of Damon's Beverage.



Check out the Chamber's Facebook page for additional details coming soon!

## 2021 Business Breakfast Series

brought to you by Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce

Thursday, January 14, 2021 – 7:15 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.  
Best Western Plus – 375 Main St., Waterville

### 10 Tips for How Your Small Business Can Beat COVID-19.



Nancy Marshall, CEO and founder of Marshall Communications will offer tips on how to combat the effects of COVID-19 in your small business.

Take this opportunity for a discussion on empathetically connecting with your customers during a time of upheaval, building and retaining your network through digital and social platforms, creating a

sense of safety within brick-and-mortar stores, and more. All CDC guidelines will be followed for this in-person presentation, limited to a maximum of 50 persons. Masks and hand sanitizer will be provided. Pre-register today, call 207-873-3315 or email [cindy@midmainechamber.com](mailto:cindy@midmainechamber.com).

## 2021 Business Breakfast Series

brought to you by Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce

Best Western Plus - Colby/Coburn Rm.  
375 Main St., Waterville - 7:15 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

January 14: 10 Tips for How Your Small Business Can Beat COVID-19:

Nancy Marshall of Marshall Communications will offer tips to address how businesses and business leaders can embrace adaptability, exercise empathy in the workplace, and take action to assure success during and after the pandemic.

February 11: Human Resources Law and Best Practices in Challenging Times: Peter Lowe of Brann & Isaacson Attorneys will cover new workplace laws, best practices for workplace safety and compliance, legal issues surrounding remote telework and key policies and practices for employers.

March 11: Leveraging Community Marketing Opportunities: Founder & CEO of MXH Marketing, Mary Haley will discuss what community marketing opportunities really are and how to leverage them to engage current customers, attract new ones, and get the best return on your investment.

April 8: Engaging the Generational Divide: Career Management Associates CEO David Ciullo will address the effectiveness of organizations in valuing and creating a culture where all generations thrive and engagement soars, capitalizing on the strengths of different workstyles to communicate better, lessen conflict, and achieve results.

May 13: Cannabis Panel: Local business leaders Dawson Julia (East Coast CBD), Ryan Poulin (New Dimensions FCU), Bill Rafuse (GHM Agency) and Erik Gundersen (State Office of Marijuana Policy) will address changes and updates in the cannabis market with regard to retail/growing, insurance, finance and regulations.

Cost per person: \$20 members; \$27 at the door and non-members. Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce, 50 Elm Street, Waterville, ME 04901-6015 TO REGISTER: E-mail: [Cindy@midmainechamber.com](mailto:Cindy@midmainechamber.com) • PHONE: 873-3315 • FAX: 877-0087 (PLEASE NOTE: Cancellations must be two (2) business days prior to the event to avoid being charged.) All CDC protocols and procedures are followed for this in-person programming.

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## Virtual Business After Hours

Virtual Business After Hours  
Wednesday, January 20  
4 to 5 p.m.

This event will offer a great opportunity to "mix & mingle" with your friends and other business professionals. Take the opportunity to let us know what your business has been doing. Join us for New Year's trivia and a chance to win "real" prizes in a virtual format. Visit [MidMaineChamber.com](http://MidMaineChamber.com) to register for the event.



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## Welcome New Members

### Bee's Snack Bar

Danielle Sylvester  
1 Lithgow Street, Winslow, Maine 04901  
207-314-3844

### Dow's Quick Stop

Todd Dow  
74 Western Avenue, Fairfield, Maine 04937  
207-453-7054

### Hight Family of Dealerships

Sam Hight  
242 Madison Ave./ PO Box 528, Skowhegan, Maine 04976  
207-474-3334 [www.hightauto.com](http://www.hightauto.com)

### Sunset Flowerland & Greenhouses

Cathy Hebert  
491 Ridge Road, Fairfield, Maine 04937  
207-453-6036  
[www.sunsetflowerland.com](http://www.sunsetflowerland.com)

### The Lockwood Hotel

Jordan Rowan  
9 Main Street, Waterville, Maine 04901  
1-800-760-7718



Business After Hours: A great place to network and market your business. After Hours is hosted, or co-hosted, by chamber members in our region and is one of many benefits we offer our Mid-Maine Chamber members. Hours of oysters, beer, wine, and other beverages are available, or you could win the 50/50 raffle and fabulous door prizes donated by area businesses. Make sure to bring your business cards!

Please join us for in-person events from 5:30-7:00 p.m.

- January 20: Virtual Business After Hours—4-5 p.m. Zoom
- February 17: Virtual Business After Hours—4-5 p.m. Zoom
- March 17: AYCC & MaineGeneral Health  
126 North St., Waterville
- April 14: The Warehouse  
826 Kennedy Memorial Drive, Oakland
- May 19: Waterville Country Club  
39 Country Club Rd., Waterville
- June 16: Pine Tree Camp  
114 Pine Tree Camp Rd., Rome
- July 21: Vacationland Skydiving  
Robert Lafleur Airport, 2 Lafleur Rd. Waterville
- September 15: Ware-Butler  
14 North St., Waterville
- October 20: Educare Central Maine  
56 Drummond Ave., Waterville
- November 17: Bar Harbor Bank & Trust  
368 Rt. 3, So. China
- December 15: Maine State Credit Union  
81 Grove St., Waterville

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## 2021 Board of Directors

Brandi Meisner, Chair  
Heather Thorne, 1st Vice Chair  
Michelle Joler-Labbe, 2nd Vice Chair  
Bruce Harrington, Treasurer  
Gary Levesque, Director-at-Large  
Joy McKenna, Past Chair  
Kimberly N. Lindlof, President & CEO

Dr. Richard Hopper  
Linanne Gaunce  
Rick Whalen  
Bill Layton  
Larissa Larrabee  
Shawn Michaud  
Rick Barry  
Greg Zimba

Martha Wentworth  
Brian Bowman  
Mike Guarino  
Dr. Melik Peter Khoury  
Mark Bradford  
Ken Walsh  
Garvan D. Donegan, ex-officio

## Board Member Profile

Name: Ken Walsh

Place of Birth: Brooklyn, NY

Education:

Secondary – Webutuck HS, Amenia, NY  
College – State University of New York, Cortland BSE Physical Education  
Other – Seminars, etc. – University of Michigan Ross School of Business

Place of Employment: Boys & Girls Clubs and YMCA at the Alford Youth & Community Center

Position: Chief Executive Officer

Length of Employment: 29 years

Current Service and Civic Organization: YMCA and BGCA State Alliance, Maine Sports Legends, BGCA Presidents Council, Assistant Baseball Coach Colby College, Planned Giving and Legacy Gifts advisor.

Past Service and Civic Organizations: Board of Directors: Herring Gut Learning Center, GoodWill Hinckley, BGCA Workers Association, YMCA Public Policy, KVCAP, Waterville Sunrise Charter President, Member of the Waterville Rotary Club, Past President of Maine Sports Legends, State of Maine Martial Arts Past Co-Chair, Snow Pond Advisory Board, Mt. Merici Resource Committee.

Personal Data:

Family: Wife, Suzanne; Son, Sean age 13 and Daughter, Kate, age 10.

Hobbies: Second and third baseman, State and National Baseball Teams, 7th Degree Black Belt, USTA Tennis player, Ultra Marathon Runner, Triathlons, White Water Kayaking, Hiking.

Chamber Involvement and Statement of Purpose: The Chamber has been a key source in our community to help support and create business opportunities. I am humbled to be able to serve on the Board to support the strategic efforts to move the community forward with the initiatives designed by the hard work of the current and former Board members of the Chamber.

## December Ribbon Cuttings

Bolley's Famous  
Hot Dogs  
Ribbon Cutting Dec. 4



Sweet Dirt  
Ribbon Cutting Dec. 7



Gorham Bike & Ski  
Ribbon Cutting Dec. 23



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Contact Lori Gervais at 861-9252 or [lgervais@centralmaine.com](mailto:lgervais@centralmaine.com) to help sponsor these monthly newsletters.

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