

INTOUCH NEWS

JANUARY 2024

In this issue:

- -From the Board Chair
- -Chamber Calendar
- -Community Events
- -New Members
- -Member News
- -People News
- -Ribbon Cuttings
- -Meet the Reps
- -2024 Board of Directors
- -Member Spotlight

Happy New Year from the Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce

First and foremost, thank you to our Chamber members, our sponsors, and all volunteers that have given so much of their time in 2023 to exemplify and promote our business community.

Our goal is to further the interests of local businesses and be the driving force for economic prosperity.

Let's kickstart the year with your access to valuable resources, discounts and relationships that help build your business, save money and market your product and/or services.

midmainechamber.com/member-center/membershipbenefits-chamber-services

Mid-Maine Chamber, Making the Difference



50 Elm St. Waterville, ME 04901 (207) 873-3315

www.midmainechamber.com

Michelle Joler-Labbe - chair of the board

Kimberly N. Lindlof - president & CEO

Inserts include:

- -Business Breakfast Series
- -Business After Hours
- -Waterville Dental Arts
- -Fidium Fiber Internet

FROM THE BOARD CHAIR



Michelle Joler-Labbe
Thomas College and Chamber Board Chair
Chair of the Business Breakfast Committee

We look forward to the year ahead as we continue to grow the Chamber's impact. I would like to express my humble gratitude to the entire business community for the incredible opportunity to have spent the past year serving as your Board Chair. I'm looking forward to serving once again in 2024.

Let us continue to build on momentum and help businesses in the Maine region reach their full potential.

In 2024, we will be focusing on some new opportunities and priorities for our region. With this said, actionable strategies, fresh news, insights and ideas from economic development are inevitable.

Continued accountability, engagement and effectiveness will support our Chamber members in 2024.

Let's do this together!



CHAMBER CALENDAR

 Friday, January 5: Public Policy Committee Meeting

Mid-Maine Chamber Boardroom 8:00-9:30 a.m

 Tuesday, January 9: KV Connect Steering Committee Meeting

Mid-Maine Chamber Boardroom 8:00-9:00 a.m

 Wednesday, January 10: Executive Committee Meeting

Mid-Maine Chamber Boardroom 12:30-2:00 p.m

 Tuesday, January 16: Board of Directors Meeting

Mid-Maine Chamber Boardroom 7:45-9:15 a.m

 Friday, January 19: Marketing & Membership Committee Meeting

Mid-Maine Chamber Boardroom 7:30-9:00 a.m









COMMUNITY EVENTS

Every Monday: Career Help

Waterville Public Library 73 Elm Street, Waterville 1:00-4:00 p.m.

FMI: www.watervillelibrary.org

Friday, January 5: First Friday!

Downtown Waterville (All-Day Event)

Celebrate the vibrant creativity in Waterville through a wide array of arts experiences.

Wednesday, January 10: Community Draw

Ticonic Gallery + Studios Paul J. Schupf Arts Center 93 Main St. Waterville

FMI: www.watervillecreates.org

Friday, January 12: Date Night

Children's Discovery Museum 7 Eustis Parkway. Waterville FMI: www.childrensdiscoverymuseum.

FMI: www.childrensdiscoverymuseum.org/programs

Saturday, January 13: Waterville Moves

Paul J. Schupf Arts Center 93 Main Street, Waterville 9:30-11:30 a.m.

A 45-minute dance class open to all. No experience needed.

FMI: www.watervillecreates.org

Saturday, January 20: Nosh & Knock Off

Waterville Public Library 73 Elm Street, Waterville 6:30 p.m.

A live and interactive mystery event featuring some of our region's most talented actors FMI: www.watervillelibrary.org/



Member FINRA/SIPC CFPs Professional, ChFC, CLU, CMFC, MSFS, CASL, REBC

NEW MEMBERS

Affiliated Realty

63 Silver St, Waterville | (207) 873-0751 Email: commercialre@affiliatedrlty.com

Candor Realty

10 Water St, Waterville | (207) 872-7650 Email: maxstandardmanagementco.com

CMR Construction

10 Water St, Waterville | (855) 766-3267 Email: jmorrison@cmr.construction

SkyBox LLC

145 Granite Hill Rd, Manchester | (207) 989-1759 Email: Kaleb@skyboxlighting.com

· Somic America, Inc.

6 Baker Blvd, Brewer | (207) 989-1759 Email: amanda.johnson@somicamerica.com

Swish Indoor Golf

10 Water St #109, Waterville | (207) 313-2932 Email: nick@swishindoorgolf.com

T&K Landscaping, LLC

9 Bassett Rd, Winslow | (207) 692-7563 Email: tburbank74@gmail.com

· Waterville Dental Arts

325D Kennedy Memorial Dr, Waterville | (207) 859-3314 Email: frontdesk@watervilledentalarts.com

Showcase your business with InTouch!

2.5" w x 1.25" h - \$495/year 2.5" w x 2.5" h - \$645/year

Contact: jennifer@midmainechamber.com







MEMBER NEWS

- Waterville launched a new alert system for weather and public safety. Residents can sign up to receive alerts via email, text, pager or voicemail at: watervilleme.myfreealerts.com
- Central Maine Power will be trimming trees in China, Sidney and Vassalboro in 2024.
- Thomas College is pleased to announce that it exceeded its Day of Giving goals: Participant Goal: 750 Outcome: 869 (116%) & Fundraising goal: \$400,000 Outcome: \$408,615 (102%).
- Colby College would like to thank the community for their generous support in 2022-23. Colby has received over 13,000 gifts totaling over \$64 million.
- Dirigo Labs secured \$278,000 through Congressional Funding for Accelerated Growth and Tech-Forward Curriculum Development.
- Starting January 1, 2024, most small local corporations and LLCs will need to report beneficial ownership information to FinCEN. For more information visit: <u>fincen.gov/boi-fags</u>

Waterville Police & Fire have a portal where businesses can put in an emergency contact should first responders need to reach someone during off hours. www.waterville-me.gov/fire/emergency-contact/



Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce is proud to maintain an A+ rating with the Better Business Bureau.



PEOPLE NEWS

- Redington-Fairview General Hospital is pleased to introduce Shelby Mast, D.O. to their pediatrics practice.
- Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) and U.S. Dept of Agriculture Rural Dev. (RD) announced \$2.85M in funding for economic-development projects in ME, NH, NY and VT. The awards being made through this partnership support community-driven initiatives with a particular focus on outdoor recreation, business support and workforce development efforts. The only ME award will support Friends of Quarry Road (Waterville) \$712,500 for public park improvements for the region's outdoor recreation capacity, including construction of a guest services building, multi-use trail, parking lot with smart charger stations and onsite facilities and water. This award will also address parking, draining and stormwater management issues.
- Tanya Verzoni has started a new position as Vice President of Human Resources & Talent Development at New Dimensions Federal Credit Union.
- Jamie Plourde received \$5000 reward from Camden National Bank for Children's Discovery Museum of Central Maine.
- Kristina Cannon named Outdoor Industry Leader of the Year by Maine Outdoor Brands.

CHAMBER BOARDROOM RENTAL

4 Hours (1/2 day) -

Members: \$75 | Non-Members: \$105

Full Day -

Members: \$125 | Non-Members: \$155

Includes Coffee Service

Call (207) 873-3315 to book!





RIBBON CUTTINGS



November 29, 2023 Dr. Brian Gillis, D.O. Medical Peptide Age Reversal 8 Water Street, Oakland



December 6, 2023 **Central Maine Equipment** & Motorsports 56 Garland Road, Winslow

RIBBON CUTTING SPONSORS:





MEET THE REPS - DEC. 7, 2023 | Hampton Inn













THANK YOU TO OUR MEET THE REPS SPONSORS:

















"John Butera assisted us with navigating the Paycheck Protection Program. He is quick to return our calls and takes a personal interest in our business." - John Goodine, Elm City Photo





PRESENTED BY:



Housing Policy and Practices: Here's What You Can Do Now

CEO of GrowSmart Maine, Nancy Smith, will present on creation of more housing choices, and policy options keeping municipal budgets stable, protecting productive farmland and open space and fostering economic and community development.

Thursday, January 11 | 7:15 - 9:00 a.m. Best Western Plus, 375 Main St., Waterville Email: cindy@midmainechamber.com Members: \$23 | Non-Members: \$29

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY:













Track proposed legislation: <u>legislature.maine.gov/lio</u>

To testify: mainelegislature.org/testimony







Join us at the Alfond Youth & Community Center for Business After Hours!

Wednesday, January 17 | 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. 126 North Street, Waterville CENTRAL MAINE

> **PROUDLY** SPONSORED BY:

ValleyBeverage Kennebec Savings Bank



Brought to you by Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce

Ticonic Bridge Project Construction Updates

For current updates and information on the Waterville/Winslow Ticonic Bridge Project, visit:

www.maine.gov/mdot/projects/waterville/ticonicbridge



2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- · Michelle Joler-Labbe, chair* Thomas College
- · Shawn Michaud, 1st vice chair* Seacoast Security
- Gary Poulin, 2nd vice chair* Mix-Maine Media
- Gary Levesque, director at large* New York Life Insurance
- Bruce Harrington, treasurer* Maine State Credit Union
- · Joy McKenna, past chair* MaineGeneral Health
- Linanne Gaunce Central Maine Motors
- Larissa Larrabee Huhtamaki
- Mark Bradford Valley Beverage
- Ken Walsh Alfond Youth & Community Center
- Karen Normandin Kennebec Valley Community College
- Molly Woodward Cappza's Pizza
- Jamie Plourde C.B. Plourde Real Estate
- Kristian Suttle Central Maine Power Co.
- Brian Bowman **Bowman Constructors**
- · Martha Wentworth Allen Insurance & Financial



Left to right: Robin Getchell, Tom Shupe, Sabrina Gormley, Dan Wildes being sworn in by Bob Harriman. Absent: Brian Bowman, Tanya Clark and Martha Wentworth.

- Sabrina Gormley Northeast Laboratory Services
- Tonya Clark T-Mobile
- Tom Shupe Gateway Financial
- Dan Wildes Sheridan Corp.
- Robin Getchell The Robin's Nest
- · Garvan D. Donegan, ex-officio Central Maine Growth Council
- Kimberly N. Lindlof, president/CEO* Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce

* executive board members



Supporting the Waterville arts, culture and business community.



Food and companionship enriching life

www.elanco.com







50 Elm Street Waterville, ME 04901 PRE-SORTED STANDARD U.S POSTAGE PAID PERMIT #146 Waterville, ME 04901

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

O'Donnell Lee, P.A. law firm was founded in 1996 by Bill Lee and Tim O'Donnell, motivated by their shared vision to provide clients with comprehensive legal representation under the highest professional standards and dedication to personal client attention. The Firm began with three lawyers and five staff members. Tom McCowan joined the Firm in 2001, and Mike Phillips in 2006. Bryan Ward started with O'Donnell Lee in 2009. Today, Mike, Tom, Bryan steer the Firm as its shareholders. Bill Lee continues in active practice, and the recent addition of associate attorneys Rachel Bouchard and Sarah Gracie has expanded the Firm to six attorneys and twelve staff members.



For 27 years, O'Donnell Lee has taken pride in assisting clients with legal matters regarding Wills, Trusts, Estate Planning, and Probate; Business and Corporate Law; Residential and Commercial Real Estate; Personal Injury; Family Law; Criminal Defense, Municipal Law, Litigation, and a multitude of issues that fall in between or span several of these areas. The Firm's clients range from individuals to large corporations, non-profit organizations, and municipalities.

In January 2022, the Firm made its biggest facilities enhancement since its founding, moving from its Silver Street location to larger, newly renovated offices at 325-E Kennedy Memorial Drive, Waterville.

Extending its long-range vision from the legacy of its founders, O'Donnell Lee continues to make investments in technology, employees, and facilities to ensure its ability to effectively assist its clients for decades to come.

Additional information about the firm and its lawyers is available at www.watervillelaw.com.

Disclaimer: Mid-Maine Chamber's InTouch newsletter is published monthly as a benefit to members and affiliates. All member news is compiled and submitted solely by our members; therefore, we reserve the right to omit and/or edit as appropriate and cannot guarantee complete accuracy of all announcements. Sponsorship inserts do not necessarily reflect the position of Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce.





We are currently accepting new patients.

We are in-network with Delta Dental and work with out-of-network insurance.

Monday-Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

(207) 859-3114

OR email: frontdesk@watervilledentalarts.com

to schedule an appointment today.

www.watervilledentalarts.com



Dr. Ryan Creighton is a native of central Maine and earned his Doctor of Dental Medicine degree from the University of New England College of Dental Medicine. He graduated with multiple letters of commendation and was a recipient of the Alva S. Appleby, Delta Dental, Agnus M. Lindsay Trust, and Wes Mills, DDS Memorial Endowed scholarships. Dr. Creighton is currently a member of the American Dental Association and Maine Dental Association.

When he's not practicing dentistry, Dr. Creighton enjoys all things outdoors including hiking with his young dog Oscar and fishing on Sebasticook Lake.

Fidium math.

Fiber dependability + Gig speeds + Stronger WiFi = A better internet experience

2 Gigs \$75/mo

1 Gig \$55/mo 300 Mbps \$35/mo 100 Mbps \$25/mo

Fidium participates in the Affordable Connectivity Program and Lifeline Service. Please visit FidiumFiber.com/ACP to learn more.



100% fiber internet and customer service that'll make you smile.

See what makes Fidium Fiber better than cable internet:

- · A dedicated connection
- The same ultra-fast upload and dowload speeds
- Attune[™] WiFi app for ultimate network control
- No "throttling" speed during peak times of the day
- Reliable connectivity, less prone to outages



Streaming TV service as an easy add-on.

- · Watch what you want, when you want
- · Live TV, sports, movies, music and much more
- Stream on multiple devices at the same time



Add home phone through your Fidium internet service.

- · Unlimited local and long distance
- Voicemail and call forwarding, waiting and blocking
- Keep your current phone number

Free installation | No bundling | No contract

Visit FidiumFiber.com/SwitchCable to check availability today!



Ltd-time offer for 1st yr of residential internet service. Standard rates apply after promo. No contract req'd. Prices before taxes & surcharges; requires AutoPay, paperless billing & Fidium online account. Fidium WiFi gateway (\$10/mo) incl'd in advertised price is req'd to support Attune WiFi app & proactive network monitoring. Upload/download speed based on max wired speeds to single connected device. Actual internet, WiFi speeds & WiFi coverage varies based on home size/layout, construction materials, hardware/software limitations, simultaneous users/devices, etc. If needed for full home coverage, WiFi extenders are \$10/mo (waived with 2 Gig plan). Details: FidiumFiber.com/SwitchCable. © 2023 Fidium. All rights reserved.



2024



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 chamber members. Hors d'oeuvres, 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 from 5:30-7:00 p.m.

January 17: Alfond Youth & Community Center and MaineGeneral Health

126 North Street, Waterville

February 28: TD Bank

182 Main Street, Waterville

March 20: Mid-Maine Homeless Shelter & Services

19 Colby Street, Waterville

April 10: Humane Society—Waterville Area

100 Webb Road, Waterville

May 15: Mbingo Mountain Coffee

7 Silvermount Street, Waterville

June 12: Friends of Quarry Road

300 Quarry Road, Waterville

July 17: Silverton BBQ Bar

51 Webb Road, Canaan

September 18: Northern Light Inland Hospital and Purdue Global

222 Kennedy Memorial Drive, Waterville (Simulation Ctr.)

October 16: Coldwell Banker Plourde Real Estate

143 Silver Street, Waterville

November: No Event

December 18: SKILLS, Inc. / Ervin Community Supports

15 Wandrup Road, Hinckley



PROUDLY SPONSORED BY:







2024

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

January 11: GrowSmart Maine. Housing Policy and Practices: Here's What You Can Do Now. CEO of GrowSmart Maine, Nancy Smith, will present on creation of more housing choices, and policy options keeping municipal budgets stable, protecting productive farmland and open space and fostering economic and community development. Hear about statewide policy and community technical assistance where you live and work.

February 8:Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Panel Part 2: What Can Be Done in Our Communities and In Our Workplaces to Embrace DEI? Panelists will include: Winslow Town Manager, Ella Bowman; Career Success Navigator, Maine Department of Education, Karen Morin, and Thomas College Professor of Education Dr. Richard Biffle.

March 14: The AI Phenomenon—Its Advantages and Cautions: Director of the Davis Institute for Artificial Intelligence, Dr. Amanda Stent will speak on the courses offered in this present day development. She will share the benefits of using Artificial Intelligence (AI) in businesses, given the growing AI proliferation.

April 11: Quality Child Care: A Vital Component of a Community's Economic Structure. A panel of Early Childhood leaders, including Chief Operating Officer KVCAP/Educare Central Maine, Tracye Fortin; Educare School Director Rhonda Kaiser, and a Parent Ambassador to be determined, will share data and strategies to increase quality early childhood programming across Maine.

What Happened? How Did Electricity Get So Expensive? Public Advocate William Harwood will address the underlying reasons why electricity prices are unusually high and what can be done to lower them. Specifically, he will focus on the unpredictability of Standard Offer prices, the option of selecting a Competitive Electricity Provider, the benefits provided to renewable energy developers, the rising cost of restoration of service after major storms and, finally, the need to provide financial assistance to low income ratepayers.

Walking the Tightrope: Finding the balance of Personal Happiness and Passion for Your Job. Join Community Health and Counseling Service Regional Manager, Leslie Lennig, for this informative discussion focused on the continued acclimation to a post-pandemic world, where many find it more difficult to find true work-life balance and address chronic stress. Learn how to find that balance that helps you remain passionate about your work.

Oct. 3: Legislative Topic: TBD.

Nov. 14: Paid Family Medical Leave Act Updates and HR Laws. Back by popular demand, CEO/Owner of Career Management Associates, David Ciullo, and Employment Attorney Peter Lowe, partner at Brann & Isaacson, will educate on the new paid FMLA law that will go into effect in 2025, and additional HR law topics.

<u>Dec. 12:</u> Choosing the Right Marketing Platforms to Attract Customers and Reduce Ad Spend. Marketing & Program Mgr. Dan Reed, of SCORE Maine will explore how to know your audience, given that knowledge is power, helping you choose the correct platforms where your clients make buying decisions.

Cost per person: \$23 members; \$29 at the door and non-members.

Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce, 50 Elm Street, Waterville, ME 04901-6015

TO REGISTER: email: Cindy@midmainechamber.com PHONE: 873-3315 • FAX: 877-0087

Proudly sponsored by:



















TOPIC: GrowSmart Maine Housing Policy and Practices: Here's What You Can Do Now.

When: Thursday, January 11, 7:15 - 9:00 a.m.

Where: Best Western Plus, 375 Main St., Waterville



Nancy Smith, CEO of GrowSmart Maine, will present on creation of more housing choices, and the policy options keeping municipal budgets stable. She will also speak about protecting productive farmland and open space, while fostering economic and community development.

Hear about statewide policy and community technical assistance where you live and work.

Come prepared with your questions and take this great opportunity to start the year off right and network with other business leaders.



Nancy Smith
GrowSmart Maine

Pre-register today: cost per person: \$23 members; \$29 at the door and non-members.

TO REGISTER: email <u>cindy@midmainechamber.com</u> or call 873-3315.











Start the new year right—with business and fun, after hours!









Join us for our next Business After Hours:

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17 — 5:30 - 7 p.m.

Co-hosted by Alfond Youth & Community Center and MaineGeneral Health

126 North Street, Waterville

Great food - great drinks - great prizes - a place to meet great friends!

Proudly Sponsored By:





