

INTOUCHNEWS

OCTOBER 2024





November 22-23: 10 a.m.-7 p.m. November 24: -10 a.m.-5 p.m. November 29-30: 10 a.m.-7 p.m. December 1: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.



Presented By

Central Maine Community Betterment Collaborative

In Conjunction With



Alfond Youth & Community Center and Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce



SHOP SMALL SATURDAY:

November 30

Sponsorships Available! Local Coupons Galore!

Contact Cindy to put in your free coupon.

FMI: cindy@midmainechamber.com

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Volunteer Opportunities Available!

FMI: festivaloftreesmaine.net Felicia-207.873.0684

(See Insert)

50 Elm Street
Waterville, ME 04901
TEL: 207.873.3315
FAX: 207.877.0087
midmainechamber.com

LEADERSHIP:

- **★** Michelle Joler-Labbe, chair of the board
- ★ Kimberly N. Lindlof, president & CEO

IN THIS NEWSLETTER:

- **★** Calendar News
- **★** Board Message
- **★** Ribbon Cuttings
- **★** New Chamber Members
- ★ Community Engagement
- **★** Member News
- People News
- Chamber Events
- ★ Member Spotlight

LETTER FROM PRESIDENT'S CHAIR



A year has elapsed, and Mid-Maine Chamber couldn't be happier with the addition of its new position of Community Development Specialist -- Mike Guarino's work. In the last year, Mike has developed relationships and partnered with various organizations including Waterville Creates, Waterville Historical Society, Thomas College, Colby College, and all of our hospitality business members, as well

as others around the state, to assist and embellish their events and activities that they've brought to the region. Some of these have taken more involvement than others, and Mid-Maine Chamber has been happy to lend a hand when requested. Although not an exhaustive list, some activities/events include:

- Elite Kayak Bass Fishing in Hinckley
- GrowSmart Maine Conference he's working on year 2 now!
- 3 Sorority bus tours from Boston to Colby and downtown Waterville
- Rotary District 7790's Conference that contributed ~\$130k to our local economy in less than 72 hours!
- First Friday's with the Waterville Creates team
- SteamPunk Faire
- Annual Firefighters Association Convention
- ATV Glow Ride through Waterville, Oakland and Fairfield
- Maine Book Fair
- ME Arts Education Conference
- ME Tourism Workforce Summit

What's in store for 2025? Well, Mike has some things percolating like a National Unified E-sports Competition, USA Artistic Swimming Competition, Lady Bass World Fishing Tour, a go-cart event, and a few other fairs that would be quirky and fun. We're rolling out the red carpet, and people are taking notice. Some conferences are already repeating, and we hope to establish many of these as annual events that can live on their own, with only minimum guidance from us. If you have an event that you want to bring to the area, let Mike know. He'd love to assist you!

Kimberly N. Lindlof, president & CEO

MMCC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Oct. 1-KV Connect | Coffee & Conversation | Topic: Real Estate | Location: Bricks Coworking-10 Water St., Suite 110, Waterville | 8-9:30AM
- Oct. 2-Executive Committee | 50 Elm St., Waterville | 12-1:30PM
- Oct. 3-BBS | Best Western Plus | 375 Main St., Waterville | 7:15-9AM
- Oct. 4-Public Policy | 50 Elm St., Waterville | 8-9:30 AM
- Oct. 8-KV Connect Steering Comm. | 50 Elm St., Waterville | 8-9AM
- Oct. 14-MMCC Closed | Indigenous People's Day
- Oct. 15-Board of Directors |8 AM-1PM Board Retreat Best Western Plus
- Oct. 16-BAH|Coldwell Banker Plourde Real Estate Location: Holy Cannoli | 70 Main St., Waterville 5:30-7PM (See Insert)
- Oct. 18-Mktg. & Membership | 50 Elm St., Waterville | 7:30-9AM
- Oct. 26-Nightmare on Main Street | Maine Film Center |93 Main St., Waterville | 12:30 "Coraline" showing | 2PM Pumpkin Carving | Trunk -or-Treat: 5PM
- Oct. 23-KV Connect-Deja-Boo Throwback Movie Night: Hocus
 Pocus! | Maine Film Center, 93 Main St., Waterville | 6-9PM
- Oct. 24-KV Connect-Yoga in the Park | Head of Falls | 5-6PM
- Oct. 31-Leadership Luncheon w/Nathan Howell, CEO,
 MaineGeneral |Amici's Cucina, 137 Main St., Waterville
 11:30-1PM (See Insert)

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

201 Tire Battery & Service

1019 Riverside Drive, Vassalboro, ME 04989 James Horak | 207.623.2400 r210tbs@yahoo.com

East Coast Cannabis

465 Kennedy Memorial Drive, Waterville, ME 04901 Chelsea Nigro | 518.257.6569 cnigro@eccannabis.com

Octagon Cleaning & Restoration

272 Skowhegan Road, Fairfield, ME 04937 Robin Mullins | 207.893.0002 robin@octagonrestoration.com



John Butera VP Commercial Banker 207.858.2555 jbutera@skowhegansavings.com "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



CALENDAR NEWS

Tues., Oct. 1 |8-9:30 AM- KV Connect-Coffee & Conversation (Topic: Real Estate) | Bricks Coworking, 10 Water St., Suite 110, Waterville FMI: kvconnect.org

Tues., Oct. 1-22 | 3D Printing for Beginners 5:30-7 PM | Ticonic Gallery + Studio, 93 Main St., Waterville | **FMI**: watervillecreates.org

Tues., Oct. 1,8,15,22,29 - Crafternoons 2:30-4 PM 73 Elm St., Waterville | **FMI**: watervillelibrary.org

Tues., Oct. 1 | **E2 TECH**-Environmental & Energy Tech Council of ME-Proposal of \$65M on bonds 5-7 PM | 350 Commercial St., Portland **FMI**: info@e2tech.org

Wed., Oct. 2,9,16,23,30 | Free Tech Help @ Waterville Public Library | 1-4 PM 73 Elm St., Waterville | Sponsored by GrowSmart Maine and the National Digital Equity Center in cooperation with the Waterville Public Library | 73 Elm St., Waterville FMI: librarian@watervillelibrary.org

Thurs., Oct. 3 | Business Breakfast Series: Maine's Next Legislature: What Will It Look Like? | 7:15-9 AM | Best Western Plus, 375 Main St., Waterville | FMI: cindy@midmainchamber.com

Thurs., Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 **Downtown Waterville Farmers' Market** | 2-6 PM Head of Falls, Waterville **FMI:** facebook.com/downtownwatervillefm

Fri., Oct. 4 | Celebrate First Friday in Downtown Waterville | **FMI**: watervillecreates.org/first-friday/

Fri., Oct. 4 | Ribbon Cutting | Heavenly Spa & Cosmetic Ink, 79 Main St., Fairfield | 1 PM

Sat., Oct. 5 | 3rd Annual Flutie 5k for Autism at **Pine Tree Camp**| 9:30 AM |114 Pine Tree Camp Rd., Rome **FMI**: Michaela-207.386.6033 or mcollins@pinetreesociety.org

Sat., Oct. 5 | **2024 Walk to End Alzheimer's** | 8 AM-5 PM | Head of Falls, Waterville | **FMI**: act.alz.org/site/TR/Walk2024/ME-Maine?fr id=17679&pg=entry

Sat., Oct. 5 | MaineGeneral Health | Day of Hope supporting Harold Alfond Center for Cancer Care | 8:30 AM-1 PM

FMI: classy.org/event/day-of-hope-2024/e584435

Sat., Oct. 5 | MaineFest | 10 AM-1 PM

Children's Discovery Museum & Maine State

Museum | Augusta's Capital Park

FMI: mainestatemuseum.org/visit/mainefest-2024,

Sat., Oct. 5 | Kennebec Valley Chordsmen Annual Show | 6-8 PM | St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 60 Eustis Parkway, Waterville FMI: Juan Lavalle-Rivera -207.437.9274

Mon., Oct. 7-11 | Two Cent Theatre
Presents THE PENNY PLAYERS "Treat or Treat
Troupe", in partnership with **Children's Discovery Museum** | 3:15 -4:45 PM | 7 Eustis
Parkway, Waterville

Tues., Oct. 8 | Stardust in Waterville 5-6 PM | Location: Waterville Public Library, 73 Elm St., Waterville FMI: librarian@watervillelibrary.org

FMI: childrensdiscoverymuseum.org/

Wed., Oct. 16 | SCORE-Marketing Channels: Advertising Your Business via ZOOM 12 PM | FMI: 207.772.1147

Wed., Oct. 16 | BAH- Coldwell Banker Plourde Real Estate @ Holy Cannoli, 70 Main St., Waterville | 5:30-7 PM

FMI: cindy@midmainechamber.com

Fri., Oct. 18 | Cirque Kalabanté | 7:30 PM Waterville Creates, 93 Main St., Waterville FMI: watervillecreates.org/shows/cirque-kalabante/

Sat., Oct. 19 | City of Waterville-Household Hazardous Waste Collection 8 AM-12 PM Winslow Public Works, 135 Halifax St., Winslow | FMI: 207.680.4744

Sat., Oct. 19 | Colby Symphony Orchestra Brahms and Poulenc | 7:30 PM | Colby Museum of Art, 5600 Mayflower Hill Dr., Waterville FMI: museum.colby.edu/

Mon., Oct. 21, 28 | Let's Talk: Conversation Class to Practice Speaking English | 1-2:30 PM | Colby Program Room, 18 Main St., Waterville FMI: librarian@watervillelibrary.org

Tues., Oct. 22-23 | Tourism Workforce Summit 5:30-7:30 PM | **Thomas College**, 180 W River Rd., Waterville FMI: mainetourism.com/workforce-summit/

Wed., Oct. 23 | Deja-Boo Throwback Movie Night: Hocus Pocus! | 6 PM | Maine Film Center FMI: facebook.com/kvconnectmaine/

Thurs., Oct. 24 | World Polio Day | Rotary Club of Waterville—Purple Pinky Project | 11 AM-1 PM (KVCC +Colby) & 4-6 PM (Shaw's + AYCC + Thomas College) | FMI: watervillerotary.com

Fri., Oct. 25 | Paint the Town Purple for Domestic Violence Month | Augusta Elks Lodge 5:30 PM | **FMI**: familyviolenceproject.org/getinvolved/paint-the-town-purple

Sat., Oct. 26 | Children's Discovery

Museum Trail of Treats | 1-4 PM | Viles
Arboretum, 153 Hospital St., Augusta

FMI: 207.626.7989

Sat., Oct. 26 | Nosh & Knock Off: A Mystery Theater Fundraising Event 6:30-9 PM | Waterville Public Library, 73 Elm St., Waterville

FMI: watervillecreates.org/shows/nosh-knock-off-a-mystery-theater-fundraising-event/

Sat., Oct. 26 | COLBY MUSIC: Cappella Nova Mundi Renewals and Reincarnations | 7:30 PM Colby Museum of Art, 5600 Mayflower Hill Dr., Waterville | FMI: museum.colby.edu/

Thurs., Oct. 31 | Leadership Luncheon w/ Nathan Howell, President & CEO of MaineGeneral | Amici's Cucina | 11:30-1 PM FMI: cindy@midmainechamber.com

Fri. Nov. 1 | 80's Tubular Mystery | 6 PM KVCC's Carter Hall, Fairfield FMI: kbhmaine.org/anightout/

The Back of the Napkin Challenge returns on Oct. 17 |6-8 PM | Greene Block + Studios, Waterville, showcasing downtown Waterville's Innovation Ecosystem and inspiring creativity among regional college students from Colby College, KVCC, and Thomas College.

FMI: tinyurl.com/dj8tzxbu

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PEOPLE NEWS

Cole Ellis, heading into his second year at **Thomas College** in Waterville, won 2nd place of Season 9 of Greenlight Maine's College Edition business competition show. Ellis won \$7,500 for pitching his business, *Keep it Clean Heat Pumps*, a service and cleaning company in Searsport.

Preti Flaherty welcomes Matthew Worthen to its real estate and finance group as a director.

Assistant Residential Manager Nicole Hubbard recently celebrated her 15 yrs of employment with **SKILLS**. Congratulations, Nicole!

Tom Judge, founding exec. dir. of **LifeFlight of Maine**, was appointed to the U.S. Dept. of Transportation's Advisory Committee on Air Ambulance Quality and Patient Safety. The Committee was created by Congress as part of the No Surprises Act to prevent patients from balance billing disputes.

Skowhegan Savings 2nd Quarter Retail Employee awardee is Chelsie Berkey from the Fairfield location. Congratulations!

Welcome Paul Rucci as the new MaineGeneral Sports Medicine Athletic Training Coordinator at the Alfond Youth and Community Center (AYCC) | FMI: 207-872-1722 or mgsm.aycc@mainegeneral.org

Fenway Bowl Honor Roll, a charitable program focused on recognizing and thanking educations who have gone above and beyond to support their students and respective communities in NE has included **Educare Central Maine** Teacher Mattie Jernigan as one of its 15 honor roll nominees (from 1200 nominations)!

KVCAP welcomes its newest employees: Kayla Bragg, Child & Family Services, substitute teacher aide; Melissa Greenlaw, Child & Family Services, teacher aide; Ashley Talcove, Child & Family Services, teacher assistant.

HealthReach welcomes Bethany Shalit to its Governing Board of Directors.

Thomas College announced recently that Bob Moore has joined its board of trustees. Welcome aboard!

Effective Oct. 1, Blue Keim will assume the role of managing director at the **SAPPI Somerset Mill**. Paul Bortolan will assume the role of VP of sales and marketing for SAPPI's graphics, packaging and specialties businesses. Sean Wallace will join the Sappi NA lead team as VP of research, development and sustainability. Gary Couture will assume the role of managing director of the Westbrook Mill.

James Sweet has recently accepted full-time position at **Kennebec Behavioral Health** as a Peer Support Partner. Congratulations, James!

Congratulations to Deputy Chief, Jason Frost on his appt. as the next Fire Chief for the **City of Waterville.**

Congratulations to **town of Winslow**Firefighter Greg Stuart on passing his 6-month probationary period.

Bangor Savings Bank has expanded its leadership team with the hiring of Bob Williams as senior VP and controller.

On November 1, Dr. Jeannine Diddle Uzzi will officially assume the role of president, at which time the title of President Emerita will be conferred upon **Thomas College**.

Junior Achievement, Mon., Nov. 4, 5:30-8:30 PM, Holiday Inn by the Bay, 2024 Maine Business Hall of Fame Laureate Peter "Andi" Vigue, chairman & CEO, The Cianbro Companies

FMI: Michelle Anderson | manderson@jamaine.org

New Dimensions Federal Credit Union celebrates 30 years of excellence with CEO, Ryan Poulin!

MMCC CHAMBER CHATTER-VIEW NEW RELEASES!



CHECK IT OUT!



Carroll's Auto Body & Wreckage Shop 548 Benton Ave., Winslow, ME FMI: 207.649.0426

https://youtu.be/GBriZdgDovg



The Playhouse at Waterville Station 17 Railroad Square, Waterville, ME FMI: theplayhouse.me | dirigovet.com

https://voutu.be/DH9ftuisr5I



Dirigo Veterinary Care 14 Waterville Commons Dr., Waterville, ME | 207.618.8232

https://youtu.be/YS0zgZDEk4E

FMI: jennifer@midmainechamber.com or 207.873.3315

MAINE TECHNOLOGY GROUP

MEMBER NEWS

Maine International Trade Center welcomes new staff member, Parker Dinsmore. FMI: mitc.com

More than 100 people have come together this summer to raise >\$200k in the **Cross for LifeFlight** by hiking, swimming, running, and other activities, crossing more than 5k miles in ME.

FMI: CrossforLifeFlight.org to make a donation.

A \$34M cash infusion from the feds will support 20 dam repairs and upgrades for ME's aging hydroelectric dams in order to strengthen the electric grid and improve safety and environmental quality. Updates include installing new equipment to generate power and adding fish passages. Selected projects include **Brookfield's** Kennebec River dams in Skowhegan, Fairfield and Waterville. ME received the 3rd biggest share out of 33 states after CA and WA.

Camden National Corp. has agreed to acquire Northway Financial, Inc., the parent company of Northway Bank, in an all-stock transaction valued at about \$86.6 million. This merger will create Camden National Bank, combining two culturally aligned franchises with 74 branches across NH and ME, and approximately \$7B in assets.

Central Maine Growth Council (CMGC) is supporting early-stage businesses in Kennebec and Somerset County by awarding 11 additional grants to eligible members, including Swish, Baking with Danielle, Oliver & Friends Bookshop, and Maine Coast Creamery, through funding from Maine's DECD. The Economic Recovery Implementation Hub (ERIH) program, which focuses on small and emerging businesses, requires applicants to show proof of COVID-19 financial impact to qualify for funding.

Camden National Bank's Diversity Council Supports Coastal Enterprises, Inc. with \$10K donation; donation provides vital support to advancing women. | **FMI**: camdennational.bank

Woodlands Senior Living has announced that all of its 10 locations have been accredited by the Joint Commission. It is the 1st assisted living facilities in the state to earn this designation.

Alfond Youth & Community Center (AYCC) received a \$4K grant from the Dollar General Literacy Foundation to support youth literacy. **FMI:** www.dgliteracy.org

Serra Public Affairs took home 11 awards at Maine Public Relations Council's annual meeting. Wow!

ME Dept. of Health and Human Services has allocated \$30M in MaineCare payments to support nursing homes in addressing rising costs and workforce challenges related to the pandemic. This funding, sourced from state and federal allocations through a supplemental budget approved by Governor Janet Mills, has been distributed to 77 eligible facilities based on their MaineCare costs and service hours in 2023. MMCC members include: Lakewood Continuing Care and Oak Grove Nursing Care.

In ME, AT&T invested nearly \$175M in its network infrastructure from '19-'23 to connect more people including >\$10M for Augusta-Waterville. AT&T worked with several community orgs across ME, including a nearly \$12k for Jobs for Maine Grads (JMG) new EMS training program, which gives ME students firsthand experience in public safety and emergency management careers.

Looking to push out your marketing?

Buy a MMCC member list!

MMCC's members pay only \$50!

Please note that emails are not included.

FMI: jamie@midmainechamber.com



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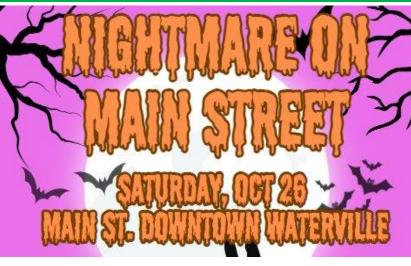
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FMI: jennifer@midmainechamber.com

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT









Congratulations to Todd Brothers, Elite Kayak Fishing Kennebec River champion!

View NEW Interactive Lakes Map! www.MidMaineBass.com





Contact Mike Guarino-207.873.3315 or mike@midmainechamber.com for all community engagement questions or requests.



First Fridays celebrate the
vibrant creativity in Waterville through a wide
array of arts experiences. On the first
Friday of every month, visit Main St.,
downtown Waterville to
meet artists, see
performances, listen to live
music, eat delicious food, shop at
local businesses, enjoy the arts, and come
together as a community.

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FMI: jennifer@midmainechamber.com or 207.873.3315

MAXIMIZE YOUR CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP!

At the Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce, we believe in empowering our members to thrive in a competitive landscape. Every year, we offer a rich array of networking events, leadership forums, and professional development opportunities designed to foster connections and inspire growth.

Our events provide the perfect platform to meet fellow business leaders, share insights, and collaborate on innovative ideas.

In addition to networking, members gain access to exclusive resources, advocacy support, and promotional opportunities that enhance visibility and drive business success. Explore how our comprehensive member benefits can support your journey and help you unlock the full potential of your membership!

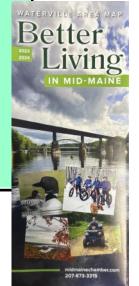
CHECK THIS OUT:

https://www.midmainechamber.com State & Region | Mid-Maine Chamber Area Map

Call Jennifer-207.873.3315
Jennifer@midmainechamber.com
to reserve your spot!

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PRE-SORTED STANDARD
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MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: DR. BRIAN GILLIS WELLNESS CENTER

Dr. Brian Gillis, DO, Proctologist, is a board-certified specialist in both proctology and family medicine, dedicated to enhancing the health and well-being of his community. As a member of the American Osteopathic Association and the American Osteopathic College of Proctology, where he previously served as president from 2007 to 2008, Dr. Gillis brings extensive expertise to his practice. He earned his medical degree from the UNE College of Osteopathic Medicine in 1995 and completed his internship at St. Vincent Hospital in Worcester, MA, followed by a residency at Grandview Hospital in Dayton, OH.

Renowned for his work in anal-rectal pathology and physiology, Dr. Gillis has a subspecialty in defecatory disorders. He is licensed as an Osteopathic Physician and Surgeon in the State of Maine, practicing at MaineGeneral Hospital in Augusta and Northern Light Inland Hospital in Waterville, where he has held significant leadership roles, including Vice Chief of Staff and Board of Trustees member. From 2008 to 2011, he served as Chief of Surgery at Inland Hospital.

In addition to his clinical work, Dr. Gillis owns and operates the largest anorectal defecatory laboratory in Maine, a key referral center for patients experiencing fecal incontinence and chronic constipation. Recognizing the important link between obesity and an increased risk of colon cancer, he established the Dr. Brian Gillis Wellness Center in April 2023. This center aims to further support his community in achieving optimal health. With over 25 years of experience in gut health, Dr. Gillis has positively impacted the lives of over 1,000 patients. Due to the success of his wellness initiatives, he has recently opened a second location in Brewer. Dr. Gillis resides in nearby Belgrade, with his wife and three children, where he continues to inspire and empower others on their wellness journeys.

FMI: Dr. Brian Gillis Wellness Center, 8 Water St., Suite 1, Oakland, ME 04963 | 207.465.3003

E: topratedoctor.com/dr-brian-gillis-do.html









Keep the fun coming with business and fun, after hours!





Join us for our next Business After Hours:

WEDNESDAY, October 16 — 5:30 - 7 p.m.

Hosted by

Coldwell Banker Plourde Real Estate

To Be Held at Holy Cannoli, 70 Main Street, Waterville

Great food - great drinks - great prizes - and a great opportunity to network

Proudly Sponsored By:







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Peter Lowe and David Ciullo

When:

Thursday,
November 14, 2024
7:15 - 9:00 a.m.

Where:

Best Western Plus – 375 Main St., Waterville

Thank you to this month's additional sponsor:

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. They will also cover additional HR law topics valuable to your organization.

Entertaining and enlightening, these Ciullo and Lowe will put forth great information.

Come prepared with questions for these two knowledgeable individuals.

Pre-register today. Cost per person: \$23 for members.

\$29 at the door and for non-members.

Registration includes breakfast.

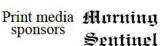


TO REGISTER: cindy@midmainechamber.com, www.midmainechamber.com or 873-3315.

Thank you to our Major Sponsors:













Radio sponsor











Our next Leadership Luncheon will be held

Thursday, October 31, 2024

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Amici's Cucina, 137 Main St., Waterville

Nathan Howell - MaineGeneral Health

Join us for a delicious lunch and presentation with Nathan Howell, President & CEO of MaineGeneral Health.

A Maine native, Nate took the opportunity in 2018 to move back to Maine with his family to oversee strategy and operations of Southern Maine Health Care (SMHC). At SMHC, Nate led a programmatic and financial turnaround that was driven, in part, through service line development and growth. Following that success, Nate took over the helm as President and CEO of MaineGeneral, where he is focused on directing the system through strategic goals to meet its mission to enhance, every day, the health of its patients, its families and its communities.

MaineGeneral has earned recognition for achieving high levels of patient care and safety by the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

Nate is married with two teenage children. He enjoys family activities, boating and woodworking.

Come hear Nathan's interesting story, including his challenges along the way, as he continues to develop programs and services within the MaineGeneral Health system, fostering growth through their commitments to the highest standards of excellence.

Register today!

\$25 for Chamber members; \$30 for non-members or at the door. Registration includes lunch.

Thank you to our 2024 Leadership Luncheon Sponsors:







CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP REFRESHER and NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION



Are you taking full advantage of your Chamber membership?

How can you *engage* with the Chamber and help us help you *grow* your business?

Discover ways to get the best value for your Chamber membership by attending this event. Perfect for new and existing members.

Let us show you how to make your membership work for you!

~ FREE to all new and current Chamber members ~

Wednesday ~ November 13, 2024

4:00—5:30 p.m.

Zoom and in-person formats are offered, though in-person attendance is encouraged.

Once you register, you will receive the link for the meeting.

In-Person:

Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce ~ 50 Elm St., Waterville—873-3315

Happy hour drinks and light appetizers will be provided for in-person attendees. Please call/email Jamie Feyler to confirm for food count:

Jamie@midmainechamber.com



SAVE THE DATES FOR THE **2024 FESTIVAL OF TREES**



Nov 22 & 23 10:00 am-7:00 pm



Nov 24 10:00 am-5:00 pm



Nov 29 & 30

10:00 am-7:00 pm



Dec 1

10:00 am-5:00 pm



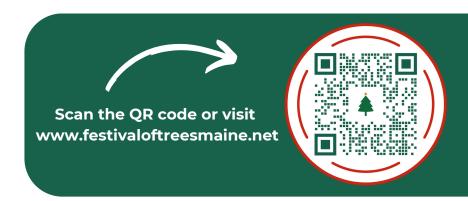


Presented By AY CC Central Maine Betterment Collaborative In Conjunction With Alfond Youth & Community Center and Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce



Location:

Waterville Elks Banquet Center 76 Industrial Rd., Waterville, ME



The Central Maine Betterment Collaborative is a 501C3 organization.

Sponsor a Tree!









What is the Festival of Trees?

The Festival of Trees is a cherished annual event that transforms the Waterville Elks Club into a winter wonderland, beautifully decorated with dazzling trees, each uniquely adorned with fantastic gifts curated by local businesses and organizations. We invite the community to revel in the holiday spirit while supporting community initiatives. Funds raised during the festival directly benefit our community experiencing food insecurity and provide meaningful workforce development opportunities.

What Does Sponsoring a Tree Mean?

Sponsoring a tree at the festival typically means that an individual, business, or organization donates and decorates a tree that will be displayed at the event. Here's what's involved:

- **Providing & Decorating a Tree:** Sponsors provide the tree and decorate one to reflect the sponsor's chosen theme or holiday spirit.
- **Recognition:** Sponsors are recognized on social media, the website, and other marketing materials. This provides excellent visability for your business/organization. Sponsors are also invited to a catered kick off event the evening before the opening day.
- **Contributing to the Cause:** The sponsor's contribution, whether through financial support or providing a decorated tree, helps raise money for the cause.
- Auction: Festival goers bid on trees (50¢ per ticket) they like and at the end of the festival, if their tickets are chosen, they win the tree with all the decorations, and gifts.

Ready to Sponsor a Tree?

Contact Felicia Lambert at 207-872-8080 or email flambert@clubaycc.org

Volunteer Opportunities

Scan the QR code at the right to register on Sign Up Genius: https://bit.ly/3MHNz9T Contact Heidi Sumner at 207-873-0684 or email volunteer@clubaycc.org





Do you know someone who serves the area unselfishly?

Do you wish they could receive recognition? Here is your opportunity! For 62 years, the Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce has given prestigious awards to deserving and distinguished area businesses and professionals.

Please take the time to review the selection criteria below.

*All nominees must be Chamber members in good standing except for the Distinguished Community Service award. *

DISTINGUISHED COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

The nominee must have:

- Been involved with the betterment of the community for at least ten years.
- Demonstrated community leadership.
- Initiated creativity with no fewer than three (3) different areas of community service.
- Demonstrated unselfishness towards the economic betterment of the mid-Maine area.

Attach additional pages to explain why this person is deserving of this award.

BUSINESS OF THE YEAR – Two Awards: Small and Large Business

Small Business of the Year: Less than 50 employees

Large Business of the Year: Over 50 employees

Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce Business of the Year Award is given to an area business that:

- Exemplifies commitment to growth within the community through an expansion of workforce, major renovations and/or foresight.
- Contributed to the overall well-being of the community.

Attach additional pages to explain why this person is deserving of this award.

OUTSTANDING PROFESSIONAL

To nominate a person for the outstanding professional award, the nominee must:

- Demonstrate leadership and excellence in their profession.
- Give back in support to the community.

Attach additional pages to explain why this person is deserving of this award.

MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce Municipal Employee of the Year Award is given to an employee of a Chamber-area municipality who:

- Displays leadership in supporting the positive direction of his/her/its municipality.
- Goes above and beyond in his/her assignment or in project fulfillment, making a difference in the community.
- Demonstrates positive support of business initiatives.

Attach additional pages to explain why this person is deserving of this award.

EXCEPTIONAL VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Nominees in this category must:

- Be a volunteer with at least one Chamber member organization.
- Exemplify service above self through in support of the organization's mission and the community.

Attach additional pages to explain why this person is deserving of this award.

RISING STAR AWARD

The Rising Star recipient must:

- Be under the age of 40.
- Be in management or other leadership capacity within the business organization.
- Illustrate a combination of business success and community involvement.

Attach additional pages to explain why this person is deserving of this award.

CUSTOMER SERVICE STARDOM AWARD

Nominees in this category must:

- Illustrate pride in his/her job.
- Demonstrate examples of exceptional customer service.
- Not be a business owner or a member of top management.

Attach additional pages to explain why this person is deserving of this award.

ELIAS A. JOSEPH AWARD

"In honor of Elias A. Joseph, for dedication of over 28 years of volunteer and loyal service to the Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce and for professional achievement and unselfish devotion to his community, effectively developing, coordinating and supervising programs and projects that greatly enhanced all the people of mid-Maine for over a quarter of a century, and acknowledging his exceptional initiative, that includes over 10,000 hours of volunteer service to this Chamber of Commerce, we of the Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors hereby proclaim and declare that henceforth the *Elias A. Joseph Award* shall be awarded to those most worthy to bear the name and having displayed similar service to the Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce."

Attach additional pages to explain why this person is deserving of this award.

To submit a nomination, please respond by mail, fax or email to the Mid-Maine Chamber office by December 3, 2024 to:

Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards Nomination 50 Elm Street, Waterville, ME 04901

P: (207) 873 - 3315 | F: (207) 877 - 0087 | E: <u>Cindy@midmainechamber.com</u>

Remember to review the criteria for each category, and provide your nominee's name and reason for nomination for the category. We look forward to receiving your response by December 3, 2024.

Please join us for our Annual Awards Ceremony in April 2025.

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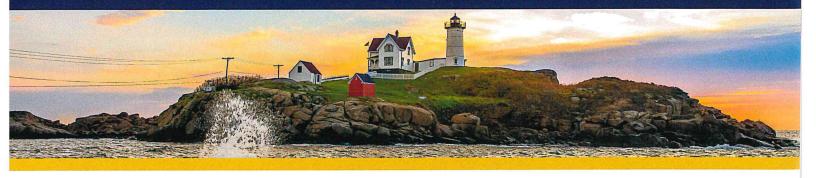
FALL 2024 SCHEDULE

MED VALLEY AT WATERVILLE	BS 3:30
	BS 3:30
	FH 3:30
LAWRENCE AT MESSALONSKEE	FB 7:00
GNG AT WATERVILLE	FB 1:00
WISCASSET AT MADISON	GS 3:30
WINSLOW AT NOKOMIS	BS 3:30
GARDINER AT LAWRENCE	FH 3:30
MESSALONSKEE AT MT BLUE	BS 6:00
MESSALONSKEE AT SKOWHEGAN	FB 7:00
WELL AT WINSLOW	FB 1:00
MCI AT WATERVILLE	BS 3:30
WINSLOW AT WATERVILLE	BS 3:30
MCI AT MADISON	FB 7:00
BELFAST AT WINSLOW	FB 1:00
ERSKINE ACAD AT WINSLOW	FH 3:30
WINSLOW AT LAWRENCE	GS 3:30
FALMOUTH AT MESSALONSKEE	FB 7:00
MDI AT WATERVILLE	FB 1:00
	WISCASSET AT MADISON WINSLOW AT NOKOMIS GARDINER AT LAWRENCE MESSALONSKEE AT MT BLUE MESSALONSKEE AT SKOWHEGAN WELL AT WINSLOW MCI AT WATERVILLE WINSLOW AT WATERVILLE MCI AT MADISON BELFAST AT WINSLOW ERSKINE ACAD AT WINSLOW WINSLOW AT LAWRENCE FALMOUTH AT MESSALONSKEE

**SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE PLAYOFFS BEGIN FOLLOWING WEEK

OCT THE GATEWAY BUZZ





Holiday Charitable Giving & Year-End Financial Strategies

As the holiday season draws near, it's the perfect time to consider how you can share your wealth with loved ones and give back to the causes that matter to you. With thoughtful planning, your charitable donations and financial gifts can have a meaningful impact, while also helping you manage your financial situation effectively.

Charitable Giving Options

If you're thinking about giving to a charity this year, there are several ways to contribute beyond just a cash donation. Donating appreciated stocks or taking advantage of qualified charitable distributions (QCDs) from your IRA (if you're eligible) could be worth considering. These strategies may offer potential tax benefits while supporting the organizations you care about most.

Financial Gifting to Loved Ones

Holiday gifting doesn't have to be just about presents under the tree. You can also make a financial gift to family members, which may help them with future goals. Under current tax law, you can gift up to \$17,000 per person annually without triggering gift taxes. Whether you're helping with education expenses or contributing to a loved one's savings, these gifts can make a lasting difference.

Tax Loss Harvesting

The end of the year is also a good time to review your investment portfolio. If you've experienced losses, tax loss harvesting may allow you to offset gains with losses, potentially reducing your overall tax liability. Pairing this strategy with charitable donations could help you manage your taxes efficiently.

We're Here to Help

As you plan for the holidays, our team is ready to assist you, whether you're exploring charitable giving options, preparing for retirement, or reviewing your overall financial strategy. Feel free to reach out to us to discuss how we can help you work toward your financial goals.

CONTACT US

Gateway Financial Partners 46 First Park Drive, Suite B Oakland, ME 04963 (207) 707-7346





Thomas Shupe, Jr. LPL Financial Advisor tshupe@mygfpartner.com



Lindsey CameronLPL Financial Advisor
Icameron@mygfpartner.com



ROTARY CLUB OF WATERVILLE PURPLE PINKY PROJECT

LOCATION: COLBY COLLEGE, KVCC, SHAW'S SUPERMARKET, THOMAS COLLEGE, AYCC

TIME: 11AM-1PM (KVCC + COLBY) AND 4-6PM (SHAW'S + AYCC + THOMAS COLLEGE)

DONATE HERE OR AT WATERVILLEROTARY.COM

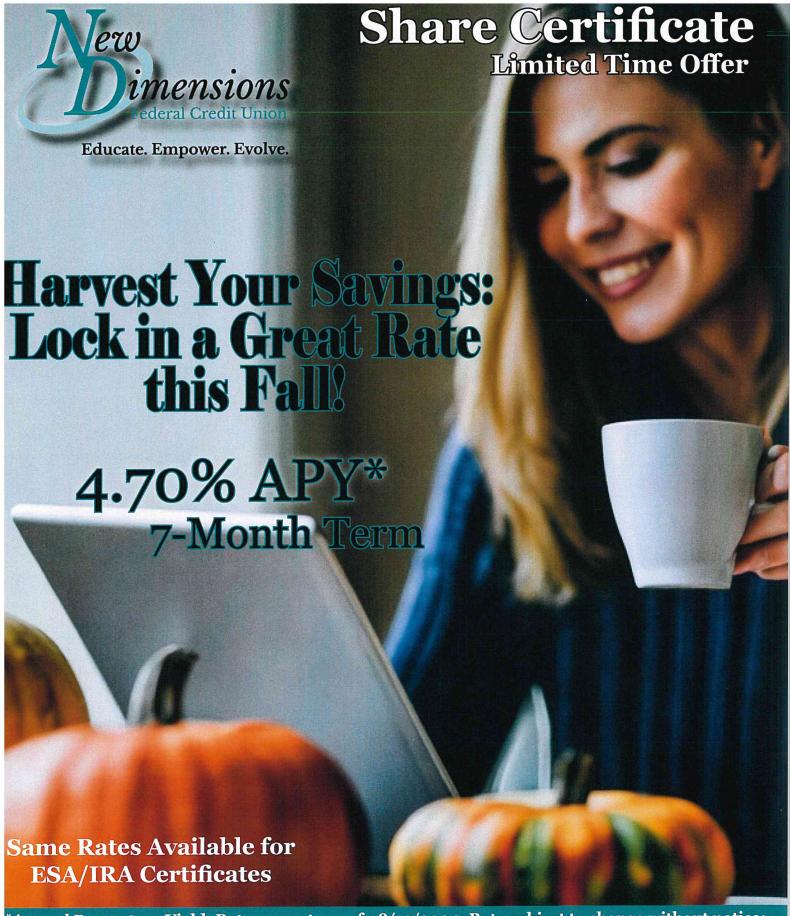


CLUB ID 6317

The Rotary Foundation transforms your gifts into service projects that change lives both close to home and around the world. Since it was founded more than 100 years ago, the Foundation has spent more than \$4 billion on life-changing, sustainable projects.

With your help, we can make lives better in your community and around the world. To learn more about the Rotary Foundation, visit www.rotary.org/en/about-rotary/rotary-foundation

Foundation



*Annual Percentage Yield; Rate accurate as of 08/19/2024; Rate subject to change without notice; embership eligibility required. Early withdrawal fees apply. Fees could reduce earnings. Minimum deposit of \$1,000.00.Federally Insured by NCUA.

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