

THE HARTFORD LINE COMMUTER RAIL ANNOUNCEMENTS



Late in July, Governor Dannel P. Malloy , Lt. Governor Wyman and CTDOT Commissioner Redeker announced that a joint venture of TransitAmerica Services and Alternate Concepts has been selected as the service provider that will operate and manage service on the CTrail Hartford Line – the passenger rail service currently under construction that will provide more fre-

quent train service between New Haven, Hartford, and Springfield. The rail line is anticipated to launch in May 2018.

When service begins, the line will more than double the daily round trips currently offered in the corridor, providing more frequent, convenient, and faster rail service to those living, working, and traveling through central Connecticut. Since the start of his administration, Governor Malloy has been working to develop commuter rail service along the New Haven-Hartford-Springfield corridor, saying that a more active rail line in the region is crucial to making more livable communities, attracting businesses and job growth, and keeping the economy moving.

"We are getting closer each day to launching commuter rail service between New Haven, Hartford, and our friends in Springfield – a service that we've needed in the central Connecticut area for decades and will finally allow an option to move people, goods, and services with greater ease," Governor Malloy said. "Creating the Hartford Line is just one part of our efforts toward building a best-in-class transportation system for Connecticut residents that drives growth, attracts businesses, and stimulates job creation, all while improving the overall quality of life for our residents. For the sake of our economy and our future, we cannot sit and let our infrastructure deteriorate – we are stepping up, moving forward, and getting this project done."

The Hartford Line will act as a regional link with connections to existing rail services, including Metro-North, Shoreline East, and Amtrak Acela high-speed rail services on both the New Haven Line to New York and on the Northeast Corridor to New London and Boston. There will also be direct bus connections to the Bradley Airport Flyer and to CTfastrak.

The Governor's press release and remarks at the Wallingford station included

In This Issue:



INSIDE:

President's Piece: (pg.2) Chairman's Corner (pg.2)

We Call Your
Attention to the
Flyers Inside:

Business After Hours - BAH's:

Wepa Art Studio
Pancheros

Important Save the Dates, Too!

a great shout out to Meriden. Malloy said that municipalities with train stations along the Hartford Line corridor are engaged in economic development planning, specifically transit-oriented development (TOD), which includes a mix of housing, retail, office space, and entertainment within short walking distance of high-quality public transit.

"Even before it is scheduled to open later this year, Meriden's new rail station has spurred several TOD projects, including the construction of three mixed-use developments that have a total of 295 new residential units and 31,000 square feet of commercial space, a new Transit Center, a 273-space parking garage, a 14-acre town green, and the demolition of the Mills public housing project and the former Record Journal building. Ongoing public and private investment in Meriden's TOD projects exceeds \$150 million. One of these new developments, 24 Colony Street, was completed in December 2016 and will include a 273-space parking garage, with 225 spaces dedicated for Hartford Line riders. The newly-opened 24 Colony Street is the first new construction in downtown Meriden in 30 years and is just steps from the new Hartford Line train station."

"With this level of direct and connecting service linking the region, municipalities along the Hartford Line will become magnets for growth – ideal places to live and relocate businesses that depend on regional markets and travel," Governor Malloy said.

LOTS OF WHAT WE DO FOR MEMBERS IS LINKING YOU ... to resources, services, sup-

port, and fellow members. Here are some EASY LINKS to the Midstate Chamber to "always keep you in the loop":

NEWS: http://www.midstatechamber.com/News CALENDAR: http://www.midstatechamber.com/Calendar RESOURCES: http://www.midstatechamber.com/Resources DIRECTORY: http://www.midstatechamber.com/Directory

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT (AND MORE ON THE NEXT PAGE!):



ABOUT THE NEW HAVEN REGIONAL CEDS

We want our members to know that this Chamber remains interested and involved in developing the long term employment needs of our communities. The New Haven region is in the process of updating the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. This is done every 5 years and I am serving on the Housing and Workforce working group. Dale Kroop of the Town of Hamden and Christine Reardon of the Workforce Alliance are co-chairs of the committee. Our task is to consider how to integrate transportation, education, housing and all other factors impacting our regional employment. We want to be certain that there is a solid long-term pipeline of talent in our region. I will update you throughout the fall on our progress.

BE ON THE LOOKOUT **FOR LATE 2017 WEB SITE UPGRADE**

We never seem to be content to leave good enough alone...we always want better! So you should know that the Chamber is currently in the design phase of our new Midstate Chamber website. We will incorporate a completely mobile friendly experience in order to capture the new audiences who will be using the Berlin, Meriden and Wallingford train stations and the entire central Connecticut region. There will be some new features to highlight our members and to facilitate RSVP's and e-commerce as well. Stay tuned for updates soon!

LAST CHANCE FOR **INSIGHT ADS...**

Last year we took a risk and changed the format of our Annual Membership Directory and Community Guide and created InSight, the NEW Chamber magazine...and the response was wonderful. We have been seeing them all around the community and we are hearing from members that they were found from the listing in the magazine. Both the

Print and PDF/Online versions look We will be going to print towards late summer 2017 so this is the final opportunity to reserve your ad space in the 2017-2018 InSight Magazine. Ad rates start as low as \$300 and you can call today to reserve your ad space. We will go to print in a month or so and we don't want you to miss out!



HAIRMAN'S ORNER

What is a Chamber of Commerce??

This month we are going to continue our discussion on What is a Chamber of Commerce? Last month we discussed Leadership - this month our pillar is **EDUCATION**. The education pillar is an important part of our Chamber. We, as organization, work with all of our local actions to the control of the



Rich Pendred A&A Office Systems, Inc. Chairman of the Board

schools to create an environment for our youth to be ready for college and/ or careers. To support this we have an Education Committee that meets monthly. This committee provides school-to-career opportunities for students of all ages, educators and businesses. It promotes business education and training partnerships in our community. They are always looking for new volunteers to serve on the Committee. The committee meets at 8:30 a.m. on the last Tuesday of the month.

Our commitment to our youth doesn't stop there. The Midstate Chamber offers several Education Awards every year to applicants from the area. The Sanford S. Shorr Education Awards Committee is responsible for the administration of the awards. The awards are for area residents graduating from high school as well as for students returning for undergraduate and graduate studies. We also take applications from members who have family attending college. Our funds for the education awards are raised at our annual golf tournament. We also distribute education awards from our Young Business Leaders and HOLA committees and lonal Labs and HOLA committees and Jonal Labs.

We are very committed to the education of our members. Many of our members are new business start ups and can use some specialized training. The second Thursday of every month we have SCORE at our Chamber office offering free training for future and current business owners. There are several free seminars offered through the year on sales, goal setting, technology and finances. The Ready, Set, Go! Free Entrepreneurship Workshop Series is wrapping up in August. The SBA, the Midstate Chamber of Commerce, and the City of Meridan, have worked together to present this business. of Meriden have worked together to present this business workshop which lays the groundwork for helping new and aspiring entrepreneurs launch a business idea and understand the steps to building a business that is credit ready.



To help our established business we have a HR Roundtable.

The group has focused discussions in relation to various HR issues/topics. Chamber members are invited to attend for discussion, networking, best practices, etc. The group meets every other month. These are just a few of the services we offer to our members. The Midstate Chamber is always looking for new ways

to educate our members and make our community better for all. Please contact the Midstate Chamber Office for more information on how you can be more involved in our education

See you at the next event! - Rich Pendred

Questions? Here's How to Reach Us...

This issue of Chamber News is a member service of the Midstate Chamber of Commerce, Inc. with offices located at 3 Colony St., Suite 301, Meriden, CT 06451. You can also visit us on line at www.midstatechamber.com. Ph: 203.235.7901 Fx: 203.686.0172 info@midstatechamber. com. We welcome Chamber member and community news, events and other articles of interest from our diverse membership base. The Midstate Chamber of Commerce serves its member businesses in Meriden, Wallingford, Southington, Berlin, Cheshire and Middletown, Connecticut. We invite all businesses to join with us and become members of our chamber.

MESSAGE FROMTHE PRESIDENT (CONTINUED)...

CONGRATULATE OUR 2017 EDUCATION AWARD WINNERS

On July 26th, BL Companies generously hosted a Business After Hours which featured all seven of our 2017 Education Award winners.



Four Education

Awards are funded by the Chamber's Golf Tournament and the Sanford S. Shorr awards are in memory of Sandy Shorr who served for more than 29 years as Executive Director of the Chamber. This program is open to ALL students of ALL Chamber members and recipients are selected by our Education Awards Committee through a blind application process.

The first presentation was to **Domonique Carnot**, a returning college student attending University of Saint Joseph majoring in Nursing.

Jim Ieronimo of the United Way of Meriden and Wallingford presented Shorr awards to **Meghan Partesano** who graduated from Sheehan and will be attending the University of CT and to **Aislinn Quinn** who graduated from Platt and will be attending Villanova University.

Jim presented **Olivia Santos** with both the Shorr and the Young Business Leaders Dan M. Hunter Award. Ms. Santos graduated from Maloney and will be attending lona College majoring in Business.

Two awards supported by the activities of our Hispanic Outreach Leaders in ACTION committee were presented to **Yarisel Santos** who graduated from Platt and will be attending the University of New Haven and to **Veronica Espinosa** who graduated from Maloney and will be attending Tunxis Community College pursuing a career in Biology.

Marc Nemeth presented the Jonal Labs / Bruce H. Kannenberg 4 year award to **Lindsey Mercurio.** Ms. Mercurio graduated from Platt and will be attending UCONN majoring in Chemistry with a minor in Environmental & Political Science.

Congratulations to all and we look forward to welcoming you back to work in central Connecticut after college!

INTRODUCING ... AND A MESSAGE FROM ... MADISON

If you have called the office at some point over the summer, you might have heard a different voice. The Chamber has been delighted to host a Meriden student from the Summer Youth Employment program Meet Madison:



Hello, my name is Madison Kroher, and I am the student office assistant here at the Midstate Chamber of Commerce! I was hired by the Meriden Youth Services, and through them, I received my first job opportunity. I am a student at Maloney, going into my sophomore year this fall. My hobbies include reading, writing, drawing, and caring for my pets. I play tennis and I run cross country, two sports I dedicate much of my time to. Here at the Midstate Chamber, I assist with filing, mailings, updating events and the database, posting on the Chamber Facebook page, creating flyers, and answering the phone. I've learned professionalism, diligence, and creativity; various skills needed for future occupations and volunteer opportunities. I will be working with the Chamber for six weeks; so far I have completed four and I have enjoyed my time immensely!





LAST & FINAL CALL for ADS RESERVE NOW - ADS DUE BY 8/31/17 see examples - next page!







The Midstate Chamber Magazine

Magazine Ad Ontions

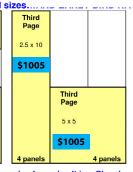
YES! I LOVE the LOOK of the MAGAZINE and WANT TO RESERVE an AD NOW for the 2017-18 edition! IF YOU ARE DOING BUSINESS IN THIS REGION...YOU MUST BE IN THE MAGAZINE – YOU WILL STAND OUT WITH AN AD – and we've created pricing for every budget.

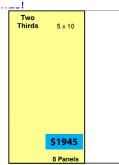
- Ads will be based on 2 ½ x 2 ½ sized panels of ad space in virtually any configuration on a page of 12 panels. (3 across and
- BE CREATIVE! SPLIT your ad space purchase ½ page 6 panels and have ¼ page in TWO areas! Do the same with an ADVERTORIAL: 3 panel ad with 3 panel info / tip from your business!

YES!				
Reserve		Number		
My Space		of		
✓	Popular Sizes	Panels		
	Single Panel	1	\$ 300	Affordable entry ad rate for EVERY business!
	Double H or V	2	535	
	Quarter Page H	3	770	
	Third Page H or V	4	1,005	
	Half Page	6	1,475	
	Two Thirds	8	1,945	
	Inside Full Pages	12	2,885	This allows a full 7.5" x 10" of messaging!
				Only 3 prime opportunities – and they
	Full Page I/O			INCLUDE a top banner ad on the
	Covers	12	3,095	chamber's web site!

Here are some examples of ad layouts based on panel sizes 5 x 2.5 \$535 2 panels Double 2.5 x 5 Single 1 panel 2 panels







THIS MAGAZINE IS THE GO-TO RESOURCE viewed by thousands of people: It is a Chamber Membership Directory, Communities Guide and MORE. This full color Resource Guide is the go-to guide for businesses and residents! A minimum of 5,000 copies (print & digital) are distributed to the Chamber Membership, at Member locations, at special events & in relocation packets. YOUR AD promotes your business / organization AND illustrates your PRIDE in being connected with our central CT region.

	RESERVATION FORM: Make your	Contact:	
Bill Me			
Check Enclose	ed or Credit Card - Card #		
Exp. Date:	Ver. Code:	Zip Code:	
	Submit to: Midstate Chamber of Com	merce, Inc., 3 Colony St., Suite 3	301, Meriden, CT 06451
F	Ph: 203-235-7901 / Fax: 203-686-0172 / i	nfo@midstatechamber.com ww	w.midstatechamber.com

2 panel vertical or horiz

4 panel (1/3 page) v or h







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6 panel (1/2 page)



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Thursday, August 10

5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

35 W. Main St., Meriden

All Chamber members and their staff to the 2nd Anniversary Sip and Paint celebration of WEPA Art Studio. WEPA will be offering a wine glass demo painting. The first 20 attendees will receive a wine glass to paint. Each attendee will receive 1 complimentary Signature Sangria. Cash bar.

Enjoy Live Music, Networking, Refreshments by Pork & Friends Food Truck to be purchased, Door Prizes, and more!





Please RSVP to this event by calling the Chamber: 203-235-7901, e-mailing: info@midstatechamber.com, or visit www.midstatechamber.com

This Business After Hours event is in association with the Midstate Chamber of Commerce to showcase the sponsoring member and to offer both members and members-to-be the opportunity to network and enjoy a wonderful evening.



MEMBER RENEWALS...

We recognize and thank our members who have joined or renewed their investment in the Midstate Chamber within the last month. Visit www.midstatechamber.com for the most up-to-date membership listing!

Achieve Financial Credit Union
Allied Funding Group
Aplicare Inc.
Casa Boricua De Meriden, Inc.
Center For Foot & Ankle Surgery, LLC
Children First Initiative
Connecticut Energy Solutions, LLC

Cox Business
Dr. Craig L. Nielsen, O.D.
Dunkin' Donuts - Batista Companies
Eben-Ezer Restaurant
For Your Paws Only
Girls Incorporated of Meriden
James T. Kay Co., Inc.

JLN Contracting
John C. Fiderio & Sons Inc.
KINDER-GARDEN LEARNING CENTER &

CHILDCARE Kitchen Magic

MEDCO-Meriden Economic Development Corp.
Meriden Aviation Center, LLC
Meriden Business Park, LLC
New Britain Transportation Company
Paul Davis Restoration of Central CT

Post University PROSHRED

RE/MAX Professionals
South Meriden Youth Baseball League Inc.
Universal Healthcare Foundation
Wallingford Tree Service, Inc.
Webster Bank

Members Use Members!

AND, BE SURE TO TELL THEM YOU ARE A FELLOW MEMBER!



We are delighted to introduce our new members the lifeblood of our organization and the reason we
exist. Please welcome them by visiting their website,
sending them an email or stopping by to introduce
yourself. The personal touch will help our chamber
continue to grow and thrive as we continue on our goal
to reach 650 members in the coming months!

A membership application is enclosed - SHARE it with a friend ... don't keep us a secret!

Crazy Ice Tai Ice Cream: 1251 S. Broad St., Wallingford, CT 06492. The phone number is 203.887.8053. Qi Yang is the primary contact. for the new ice cream shop - join us for the Ribbon Cutting on Friday, 8/4 at 4 pm!

Key Bank: 201 Grand Ave., New Haven, CT 06513. The phone number is 203.562.4037 and the fax number is 203.562.3766. Ndeye Fall is the primary contact. Key Bank is one of the nation's largest bank-based financial services companies so it's easier for you to bank where you live.

Rob Nevins Slim Nation: 428 N. Colony Rd., Wallingford, CT 06492. The phone number is 203.294.9346. Alexis Orticelli is the primary contact. Rob Nevins Slim Nation provides customized nutrition and weight loss programs with one-on-one coaching using only foods found in your local supermarket!

THT Health Coaching: 65 Christopher Lane, Meriden, CT 06451. The phone number is 203.676.9265. Patrick Muli is the primary contact and certified health coach.

Trifecta Ecosystems, Inc.: 290 Pratt St., Unit 1451, Meriden, CT 06450. The phone number is 860.740.2104. Eric Francis is the primary contact. Find out more about them in member updates!

Don't Keep Us a Secret: Kindly SHARE the enclosed membership application with your friends in business & invite them to join or attend an event with you!



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Upcoming AUGUST EVENTS

Mark your calendars, iPhones, Droids, etc. with these event dates. = Chamber or Business event; = Community event. More details and RSVP information for these events may be found on www.midstatechamber.com! Chamber event RSVP line: 203.235.7901



This QR code in the upper right corner also brings you right out to our business and community calendars.

This is a SHORT LIST of some of our KEY events – for MORE business and community events including Chamber Committee meetings - details & updates visit...www.midstatechamber.com/Calendar

HELP us GROW: Invite Your Biz Neighbors to JOIN! Earn Chamber BUCKS for you & your biz. 203.235.7901

- Fri, Aug 4, 4:00 pm Ribbon Cutting for Crazy Ice Tai Ice Cream at 1251 S. Broad St., Wallingford. Click & RSVP NOW.
- Fri, Aug 4, 7:00 pm: Twilight Summer Music Series Featuring Roxy Perry concerts are held at Meriden Green Amphitheater EVERY FRIDAY check www.midstatechamber.com for details on all of the bands! Weather permitting...
- Sun, Aug 6 12:00 pm 50th Annual Meriden Puerto Rican Festival at Hubbard Park stop by the HOLA table!
- Tue, Aug 8 8:00 am Wellness Walks at the Meriden Green. See enclosed flyer for more dates.
- Tue, Aug 8 12:00 pm Ribbon Cutting for MedExpress at 875 E. Main St., Meriden. Click & RSVP NOW.
- Wed, Aug 9 7:00 pm: August Nites at the Augusta (concerts), 175 E. Main St., Meriden. See web calendar for more events.
- Thu, Aug 10 9:00 am SCORE FREE Business Counseling Sessions at the Midstate Chamber of Commerce
- Thu, Aug 10 5:00 pm Business After Hours Showcasing WEPA Art Studio. See enclosed flyer. Click & RSVP NOW.
- Mon, Aug 14 8:00 pm 1st Annual Movie Night at Meriden Center, 845 Paddock Ave., Meriden.
- Tue, Aug 15 5:00 pm Casa Boricua De Meriden Fundraiser at Wayback Burgers, 893 E. Main St., Meriden.
- Wed, Aug 16 3:00 pm Platt H.S. Girls Soccer Team FUNdraiser at Nina's Café
- Mon. Aug 21 10:00 am 22nd Annual Franciscan Golf Classic at Tunxis Plantation
- Tue, Aug 22 10:00 am 14th Annual Back-to-School Expo Book Bag Drive at Meriden Green
- Tue, Aug 22 5:00 pm Business After Hours Highlighting Pancheros Mexican Grill. See flyer. Click & RSVP NOW.
- Sat, Aug 26 4:00 pm Pop-Up Market/Music Series on the Meriden Green with vendors and performance by Inner Groove.

And, LIKE us on FACEBOOK and FOLLOW us on TWITTER: @MidstateCoC



Twitter - Follow us : @MidstateCoC



Like us: www.facebook.com/MidstateCoC

COMMITTEE CONNECTION

A LOT of work happens at the committee level here at the Midstate Chamber. We do encourage your involvement and that of your employees on any committee! ALL committee meeting dates and times are listed on the Midstate Chamber's website. Come on out and sit in on a meeting to try it - you will like it: the experience, sharing, connections and more!



Your participation helps YOU, helps YOUR BUSINESS and helps OUR CHAMBER! Questions? Call us at: 203.235.7901

BREAKFAST CLUBTV - The Chamber's Breakfast program is NOW AIRING on Cox Public Access #15 - Frontier: #99 on Mondays at 9:00 p.m. Check the chamber website for details and get your popcorn ready!









Tuesday, August 22nd

5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

893 N. Colony Rd., Wallingford

All Chamber members and their staff are invited to Wallingford's newest Mexican Restaurant. Come out and enjoy a "Burrito Built Better" with only fresh, natural ingredients made daily.



Enjoy Networking, Refreshments, Door Prizes, and more!

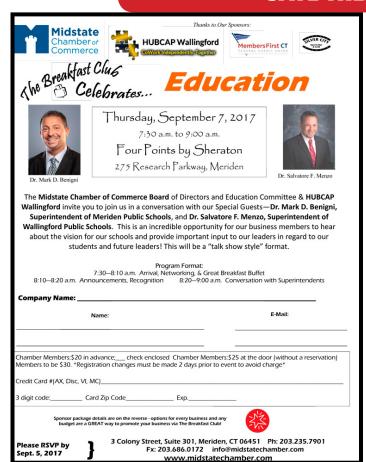




Please RSVP to this event by calling the Chamber: 203-235-7901, e-mailing: info@midstatechamber.com, or visit www.midstatechamber.com

This Business After Hours event is in association with the Midstate Chamber of Commerce to showcase the sponsoring member and to offer both members and members-to-be the opportunity to network and enjoy a wonderful evening.

SAVE THESE DATES!!!











AT THE MERIDEN GREEN

8:00 am: Tue Aug 8 | Wed Aug 16 | Thu Aug 24

3:30 pm: Tue Aug 31

(with Bob Bass, City of Meriden who will provide information on the Green, its flora, fauna, & more)

For all Walks, Meet at Silver City Bridge - Pratt St. Side

OPEN TO ALL - chamber members, not yet members, public...brought to you by the Midstate Chamber Health & Wellness Council

Walk as LONG or as SHORT as your schedule allows!

Q?'s: Call 203.235.7901 | www.midstatechamber.com

MEMBER UPDATES

This QR code in the upper right corner also brings you right out to our member **DEP** news section of the website where you can view FULL news articles by submission date OR by

member. Just SCAN and CLICK!

Find ALL of our members' news online:

http://www.midstatechamber.com/News



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businesses that feel the strain. With managed IT, we can supplement your existing IT team with services such as patch management, which ensures all your software is up to date and secure, or comprehensive anti-virus support powered by AVG. If necessary, A&A can even stand in for traditional desktop support or help desk roles. Give us a call at 1.800.486.7426 or visit www.aaofficesystems.com to learn more!



Alternative Therapy, LLC - A Professional Counseling Service - Raul Avila is a licensed psychotherapist in the state of Connecticut and is also certified by two national boards (NCC and APA) as well as the Wellness Institute in Issaquah, Wash-

ington. Raul is also a Doctoral Candidate in Psychology and will be entitled to the full recognition as Doctor of Psychology as of the Fall 2018, once he concludes with his dissertation. He and his team are active in the Midstate Chamber Health & Wellness Council and are eager to serve residents, employees and employers in the central Connecticut region. Their office number is 203-281-0300. Visit www.therapyandprofessionalcounseling.com to learn more about the services they provide. The office is also accredited as an integrated healthcare clinic by the American Association of Integrative Medicine.

American Eagle Financial Credit Union - On behalf of the Board of Directors, Dean Marchessault, President and CEO of American Eagle Financial Credit Union, announced that the Credit Union plans to relocate its Administrative Offices from 417 Main Street, East Hartford, Connecticut, and 20 Western Boulevard, Glastonbury, Connecticut. The Credit Union has purchased the office building at 333 East River Drive, East Hartford, adjacent to East River Park. The transaction was recently finalized after an extensive search for suitable lease and purchase options in the Greater Hartford market. "Consolidating our operations into one location will provide us with the improved efficiency required to effectively serve our growing membership and maintain a similar cost structure," Marchessault said. In 2018, AEFCU plans to vacate approximately 70,000 square feet of owned office space in East Hartford and Glastonbury and move approximately 200 employees into the new location,





which is a five-story, 100,000-square-foot property that sits conveniently near the intersections of Route 2, Interstate 84, and Interstate 91. The Credit Union will continue to lease out the balance of the space to other tenants, as well as develop space for the American Eagle membership and their families to use for financial education and community meetings. The Credit Union intends to maintain a branch in East Hartford for the foreseeable future. American Eagle Financial Credit Union is a not-for-profit financial cooperative headquartered in East Hartford, CT, and was recently voted "Best Credit Union" by Hartford Magazine for the second year in a row. AEFCU is consistently rated 5 Stars by Bauer Financial, the nation's leading independent bank and credit union rating firm. It is the largest community credit union in Connecticut with 13 community offices, 128,000 members, and \$1.5 billion in assets. AEFCU operates retail offices in Bloomfield, Cromwell, East Hartford, Enfield, Farmington, Glastonbury, Manchester, Newington, Plainville, Southington, South Windsor, West Hartford, and Vernon. The Credit Union is open to anyone in Hartford, Middlesex, New Haven, and Tolland counties in CT. www.americaneagle.org.

***LOTS* TO CELEBRATE!**





Bongiovanni Insurance and Financial, LLC - The Bongiovanni family would like to invite all chamber members and friends to join them on September 26th for a 30th anniversary celebration and Business After Hours. Join us and enjoy networking, refreshments, food, and door prizes as we thank those who have helped us along the way. We will also be celebrating the Grand Opening of Bongiovanni, Sloan & Paradiso Insurance, a new venture offering auto, home and business insurance.







2017 Day of Caring: September 12

Day of Caring 2016 was a huge success thanks to all of our volunteers and agencies where more than 200 volunteers from companies in the Meriden and Wallingford area performed over 1300 hours of community service. Thank you to everyone who participated. Your contributions of time and talent helped us move forward together, strengthening our community.

We would like to invite you to join us in strengthening our community again this year by participating in the 2017 Day of Caring! To register your company and be a part of our event, click here to visit https://www.unitedwaymw.org/Content/Day_of_Caring.asp.

If you have any questions regarding Day of Caring or volunteer opportunities contact The Volunteer Center at thevolunteercenter@unitedwaymw.org. or call Diana: United Way of Meriden and Wallingford, (203) 235-4403, ext. 12.







Workforce Today Podcast Approaching 10,000 Downloads!

The Workforce Today Podcast is close to 10,000 downloads and he 10th Episode has just been released!

The latest is an interview with Ellen David, VP with the National Retail Federation and head of the NRF Foundation. Here's the summary:

For all the stories about closing big box stores and failing malls, there are just as many retailers opening or re-inventing themselves in response to a more educated and intentional customer base. Davis talks about how data helps retailers adapt to buyers' shifting habits and make investment decisions and that behind the register is just one of the 28 million jobs that make up the retail industry.

Bill Villano asks about the global issues impacting retail, like e-commerce, but also discusses local developments like the Havens in West Haven, which is already 65% rented -- before it's broken ground. Davis gives details on Rise Up, a training and credential initiative launched earlier this year to build career pipelines in retail, and how she arrives at the estimate of 28 million.

You can stream live from our website or you download the episodes and the Workforce Today App from iTunes or Google Play.



ARC of Meriden-Wallingford, Inc. - is NOW MidState ARC! And...The Eatery at the MidState ARC is pleased to provide for all your food service needs. Whether you need a catered lunch for 10 or service for an elegant soiree of 100; they have you covered. Please call to discuss pricing for your event. As all of their cooking is done á la minute and from scratch, a 24 hour notice is required for most orders. Notable dishes include, wraps, panini, green salads, and various hot dishes. Thank you for choosing the ARC Eatery. ARC Eatery also provides daily lunches on premises. They are located at 200 Research Parkway, Meriden. Stop by and meet their new Executive Chef, Joseph Flaherty or contact him at (203) 206-7199. And, in other news, Morra's Youth Center at the MidState ARC is a social activity group for children & adolescents-siblings are welcomed. This free playgroup is designed to meet the needs of children with disabilities, provide social opportunities with peers and creates a support network for parents. Children ages 3-16 are supervised by our specially trained adult volunteers. In addition, we have peer volunteers ages 11+ to lead activities that engage children in learning, creativity, and fun. Field trips are planned to expose children to science, animals, art & music. One to one supervision is provided for each child during all community outings. The playgroup is closed July & August, then resumes in September. Playgroup 2017 remaining dates are as follows: September 9th & 23rd; October 7th & 21st; November 4th & 18th; December 6th & 16th. Morra's Youth Center is located at 200 Research







Parkway, Meriden, CT at the ARC of Meriden-Wallingford and run from 10am to 12pm. For more information please contact Latavia Harge at (203) 238-8361 or email Iharge@arcmw.org. Pictured above is the family of Diane Morra, a longtime ARC employee who passed away in 2015, for whom the center is named.



Connex Credit Union - Low Rates and Flexible Repayment Terms: A Better Way to Pay for College: Don't let gaps in federal funding keep you from getting your education. Connex has partnered with CU Student Choice to provide the additional funds you need and features you want, including: low variable interest rates, deferred payments until six months after graduation, convenient line of credit structure, easy online application and approval, and more! Funds can be used for attendance at most four-year public and private schools. For more information and to apply, visit connexcu. org today! Or, visit the Meriden location in Townline Plaza: 533 South Broad St., Meriden. 203-603-5844.

Meet The Board of Directors



Amisha Tailor, Store Manager of TD Bank in Meriden, is a member of the Midstate Chamber's Board of Directors. Amisha has a Bachelor of Commerce Degree from India. She is a member of the Chamber's Annual Dinner Planning Committee. Through Chamber membership, Amisha has made great contacts in the Business Community as well as the Meriden Community. She has also helped new members or soon-to-be members through sponsorship and presentations at the Chamber's Jump Start Your Business Workshop Series. In her spare time,

Amisha enjoys traveling and cooking. She resides in Meriden with her husband and 2 children.

Easterseals - Your generosity helps Easterseals make dreams come true for many families in our communities. We change the way the world defines



and views disabilities by making profound, positive differences in people's lives every day. Please help us make a difference. Every donation, large or small, is highly valued and greatly appreciated. Donation commitment is needed by August 15, 2017. Please contact: Carolee Kalita, Director of Development; Phone: 203.754.5141 (ext. 243); Fax: 203.757.1198. ckalita@eswct.com; easterseals.com/waterburyct. Since 1958, we have been continuing our tradition of excellence in serving the needs of individuals with disabilities throughout Greater Waterbury, Central and Northwest Connecticut. Below are a few of the programs that we offer in this area:

- Connecticut. Children's Academy (formerly All Kids Child Care) (NAEYC Accredited) Providing a high quality School Readiness early childhood education program to enhance a child's cognitive, physical, personal-social, and creative development in partnership with all families and the community. Locations at: 22 Tompkins Street, Waterbury; 128 Avenue of Industry, Waterbury; 125 Broad Street, Meriden.
- Center for Better Hearing Our highly skilled board certified audiologists provide diagnostic evaluations for all ages. Locations at: 22 Tompkins Street, Waterbury; Heritage Village, Southbury; 158 State Street, Meriden.
- Driver Assessment Provides thorough driving assessments to individuals who have an injury or impairment that may impact their ability to safely operate a motor vehicle. We provide a clinical assessment, as well as an on the road evaluation. Located at 158 State Street, Meriden.
- Employment & Community Services School-to-Work Programs, Community Employment Placement, Employment Industries Work Center, Supported Employment, Vocational Assessment & Training, Janitorial Services, ServiceMaster Clean. Located at: 122 Avenue of Industry, Waterbury.
- Medical Rehabilitation Services A team of licensed, registered healthcare professionals work together to assess and meet the physical and educational needs of each individual with the goal of rehabilitating the whole person. Located at: 158 State Street, Meriden.
- Outreach Programs Hearing aid and dental care for seniors, Post secondary scholarship fund for students with disabilities, Partnership with The Brass City Harvest Nutrition Program, Partnership with Acts 4 Ministry, Partnership with the Waterbury Homeless Outreach Program.



Justin Sloan
Principal Agent / Owner
107 E Main Street
Meriden, CT 06450
203-237-7923
jsloan@paradisoinsurance.com

Nina's Café Billiards! has Located at 39 St., W. Main Meriden, Nina's Café is Monday open through Friday from 7:00 am - 8:00 pm and



Saturday from 11:00 am - 8:00 pm. Billiard hours are Monday thru Friday from 4:30 pm - 10:00 pm and Saturday from 11:00 am - 11:00 pm. There is free parking in the garage behind the building after 5:00 pm and on the weekends. Nina's can validate your parking during the week for customers for up to 2 hours. Nina's also provides catering and platters for your next office meeting, office party, small or large lunch party, grand openings, birthday parties, etc. For more information call Wajid at 203.235.0593 or visit www.ninascfe.net.



Ion Bank - The Ion Bank Foundation has awarded the Mat-



tatuck Museum a \$4,000 grant for their Summer Youth Art Program. This grant allows program participants the opportunity to apply for a full or partial scholarship for the program. The Summer Art Program is designed to provide a creative

learning environment which educates the participants and develops a solid core understanding of art and history and its importance to the community and society as a whole. other news, Ion Bank announced recently that David I. Rota-

tori has been named President and a Director of the bank. The announcement comes as part of an 18-month transition that will see Charles J. Boulier, III, Chief Executive Officer at Ion Bank retire from daily operations and gradually transfer leadership over to Rotatori. David has an extensive background in accounting, finance, audit, and risk management within the financial industry. His experience and leadership will strengthen us for years to come,



Boulier stated. He has served the past several years as the Bank's Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer as well as Corporate Secretary and Chief Risk Officer and this is the next logical step in a carefully planned succession plan. This will be a seamless transition with no noticeable change to our operations for our customers or our staff.

Ion Insurance Corporation, a full-service independent insurance brokerage affiliated with Ion Bank, has hired Douglas Coulter as a Commercial Lines Producer. In his new position, Mr. Coulter will be responsible for advising business owners on Commercial Property and Casualty products. Mr. Coulter was employed by State Farm in Wallingford for the past 6 years as a Commercial Lines Specialist. He has been a mentor for the FIRST Team 237, Watertown High School Robotics from 2004 – 2017. A native of Waterbury, Doug resides in Meriden with his wife, Mary and their three children - Trevor, Justin, and Christian. Ion Insurance is a 102 year old full-service community insurance agency that was founded in Naugatuck as John M. Sutherland Inc. in 1915. It was acquired by Nutmeg Financial Mutual Holding Co., the precursor to Ion Financial MHC, in 2005. Its name was changed to Ion Insurance in the fall of 2013.

MedExpress Urgent Care - is offering Free Sports Physicals

MedExpress to Meriden students over the age of 5 from August 9th to August 22nd. A sports physical is

an important first step toward preparing your child for a safe and healthy sports season, camp experience, or school year. MedExpress is open every day from 8am to 8pm with no appointment necessary, MedExpress is a convenient way to help your kids ready for their next adventure. MedExpress is located at 875 E. Main St., Meriden. MedExpress Urgent Care accepts most insurance. They also perform employment and DOT physicals, immunications, flu shots, screenings, X-rays, IVs ad labs. They will treat illnesses and injuries for all ages.

O&G Industries,

Connecticut's largprivately-held construction company and one of the country's Top 100 Green Building Contractors, substantially completed the renovation of Putnam High School in Putnam, Connecticut. Construction on the \$36.6 million, 98,000 square foot renovate-as-new project began in the





fall of 2014 and was completed in the winter of 2017. The scope of the project included replacing windows, renovating science labs, expanding the gymnasium, transforming the existing library into a multi-media center and upgrading the mechanical infrastructure of the 60 year old building. O&G also recently completed a five-month renovation project for Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center that saw significant upgrades to its 20-room oncology pavilion and adjoining flex space. The new pavilion is part of the Hospital's "Hope & Healing" campaign and places a premium on technology for treatment, amenities for patients and their families, and home-like aesthetics in patient areas. New headwalls at bedsides give patients control over the temperature and lighting of their rooms. The redesign included new private suites where visiting family can overnight, and a spacious healing lounge for relaxation, visits and programming. Renovations included nursing station areas, a conference room and a staff respite suite. Additionally, as General Contractor, O&G renovated an area adjoining the oncology pavilion for use as flexible swing space that will handle patient overflow during peak usage or temporarily house other Hospital functions should the need arise. Together the two spaces represent 16,000 square feet of new and renovated space for Saint Francis. O&G Industries recently raised \$3,500 to benefit the United Way of Northwest Connecticut through their 3rd Annual Touch a Truck event. The 2017 Touch a Truck event featured over 40 pieces of equipment and vehicles from O&G's fleet, local businesses and first responders. In addition, there were activities for kids including face painting, sand art and a hay ride which were hosted by local organizations. Money was raised through a small suggested donation with all proceeds benefiting the United Way and the numerous nonprofit organizations throughout the Northwest Corner that they support.

Trifecta Ecosystems is opening the doors to its newest





indoor aquaponics farm at 290 Pratt street in Meriden by announcing its new Community Supported Agriculture

(CSA) program, FreshCSA! The FreshCSA Founder Share program offers the unique opportunity to receive high-quality, locally and sustainably grown food. The FreshCSA Founder Share program brings you the freshest local produce, all while supporting your local community. For each week you receive produce, you'll also be donating a weekly share to a local non-profit! As part of Trifecta's mission to create the City that Feeds Itself™, our farm is dedicated to improving the local community. As a founding member, you can join the mission yourself! To learn more about the FreshCSA program and the mission to create the City that Feeds Itself™ visit: trifectaecosystems.com/freshcsa/founders-share.

Ulbrich Boys & Grils Club - AM CARE SERVICES ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR THE 2017 - 2018 SCHOOL YEAR Transportation will be provided for the following schools in Wallingford: Cook Hill Elementary, Parker Farms Elementary, Dag Hammarskjold Middle School, and James H. Moran Middle School. As of September 1st, 2017 - The Club's Annual Membership Fee will raise from \$75 to \$100. If paid before September 1st, you will only have to pay the \$75 fee. If you are unsure of your child's current membership status, please contact the Club. Registration is needed for the Academic School Year - Even if you already paid the \$75 annual membership fee for your youth to attend the 2017 - 2018 Academic School Year, please fill out the registration form for the program so we know that we can count your child in. Space is limited to 90 Academic School Year registrants.Please note: Registration will now be needed one week in advance for vacation days. Registration for Labor Day (September 4) will be available shortly at a cost of \$5 per family. For more information, please call 203-269-7535, email begreat@ulbrichbgc.org, or visit 72 Grand Street, Wallingford.

The Bridgeport Sound Tigers, proud AHL affiliate of the New York Islanders, are thrilled to reveal one of their most extensive and exciting promotional lineups in team history for the 2017-18 season. Drawing on last year's successes, the Sound Tigers are pleased to bring back several fan favorites as well as new themed



games. The ultra family-friendly calendar is also highlighted by special ticket packages and attractive food and beverage offerings during weeknight and Sunday home games. Plan on coming to more than one theme night? Flex Packs are also on sale now, saving you money and guaranteeing a seat to the biggest games of the season. Call (203) 345-4813 to lock in yours today. Bridgeport kicks off its 17th AHL season on Saturday, Oct. 7 at Binghamton. The Bridgeport Sound Tigers, proud AHL affiliate of the New York Islanders, have announced their 2017-18 regular-season schedule, which features several new matchups including the team's home opener on Saturday, Oct. 21 at 7 p.m. against the Laval Rocket. In addition, the Sound Tigers are excited to once again boast a family and fan-friendly schedule that places 31 of the team's 38 home games on a weekend date. Bridgeport's home schedule will feature 17 Saturday nights, 12 Sunday afternoons and two Friday night games.. Season tickets and flex plans are on sale now for the 2017-18 campaign, offering the greatest savings and ultimate flexibility of all ticket packages. Pick between a full-season, 20-game, 15-game or 10-game plan and you'll also be entitled to exclusive benefits, including the ticket holder exchange policy, which means any unused tickets can be traded for future games. Seating options are broken down into six different pricing sections, giving you the flexibility to fit Sound Tigers' hockey into any kind of budget. Lock in your seats today and receive two (2) free tickets to the 2017-18 home opener by contacting Jim Bataille - your Midstate Chamber contact at 203-345-4812 or e-mail jim. bataille@harboryardse.com. Visit www.soundtigers.com to view whole Sound Tigers website.







2017 HEALTH, WELLNESS & SAFETY

OPEN HOUSE

MONDAY OCTOBER 9

Westfield Meriden Mall, 470 Lewis Ave., Meriden

Vendor Set-Up 10am Expo: 11a-3p



(Timing subject to change. More information to come.)





NOW is PRIME TIME to JOIN Midstate Chamber of Commerce. **Kindly SHARE this APPLICATION** with your business associates!





1-5 Employees \$280.00 6-10 Employees \$295.00 11-20 Employees \$410.00 \$525.00 21-30 Employees



The Midstate Chamber supports, promotes and serves our member businesses in Berlin, Cheshire, Meriden, Southington, Wallinford and throughout central Connecticut. 3 Colony Street; Suite 301, Meriden, CT 06451 Ph: 203.235.7901 Fx: 203.686.0172 info@midstatechamber.com www.midstatechamber.com

Membership Application

Company Name:						
Address:						
City, State, Zip:						
Phone: Fax:						
Company Website:						
Type of Business/Classification:						
# of Owners:# of Employees: Full-TimePart-Time Year Founded:						
Contact Person:Contact's Phone:						
Contact's E-Mail:						
How Did You Learn About Us?						
Chamber Activity / Interests:						
Promotion: ☐ Member Directory Advertising ☐ Web Site Advertising ☐ Chamber Business Expo ☐ Newsletter						
Advertising Marketing Committee, etc						
Education: Education Committee Education Awards Workshops School-Business Partnerships						
Hispanic Outreach Leaders in Action (HOLA), etc.						
Networking: □Business After Hours □Breakfast Club Celebrates □Annual Meeting/Dinner □ Annual Golf Tournament □Young Business Leaders of CT □Ambassadors □Membership Committee, etc.						
Leadership: Government & Business Development Committee Pizza, Pasta, & Politics Health Insurance, etc.						
** Please Include Your "Web Words": Web Words are a 25-30 word description of your business hat appears with your Member Directory listing on www.midstatechamber.com:						
New member add on – Specials—reserve now and save \$50: \$100 web image (appears next to your web listing making you stand out) - \$150 value \$100 3 month newsletter ad (business card size) - \$150 value						
** Please E-Mail Your Key Employees Information to info@midstatechamber.com. Key employees are employees who you wish to receive additional Chamber updates/information and who may be attending events. Key employee information may consist of name, title, direct phone number or extension and e-mail address.						
Exp. Card Zip Code Verification Code						
AMERICAN DISCOVER Signature						









A one-time \$15 dollar set up fee is due at time of application

Membership dues in this organization may be tax deductible as an ordinary & necessary business expense. Dues paid to this 501c(6) are not a charitable tax deduction. The organization serves as an advocate for and promotes its member businesses.

M.P.C Presents....

Music Happy Hours

4ish -6ish

4ish -6ish
On the Patio when its nice
Inside when it rains

Music Happy Hour Appetizer Specials

Upcoming Performers

Thursday August 10th Leo Boogie



Wednesday August 16th
Cole Morson

Thursday August 24th
Tommy O



Open 6 days a week (Closed on Sundays)

We have 6 pool tables on the 2nd floor,

Free Parking in the garage behind the Building after 5 and Weekends.

Catering and Platters are Available for Groups

39 W Main St ~ Meriden, Connecticut