



SPRING MADNESS CONTINUES AT THE MIDSTATE CHAMBER!

This is our season of LOTS of chamber activities...and this abbreviated newsletter and package certainly demonstrates that fact. The envelope includes:

1. The 2019 edition of InSight Magazine – The member directory and resource guide of the Midstate Chamber
2. An abbreviated paper version of the Chamber Newsletter including our NEWEST members (look for more Newsletter changes in the upcoming months)
3. And information on the 41st Annual Daffodil Festival on April 27th & 28th , Job Fair on May 17th and our annual golf tournament on June 5th.
4. And MORE!

Please get the dates into your calendars and devices to maximize your participation and exposure for you and your businesses.

APRIL NOTES FROM PRESIDENT MOORE:



Séan W. Moore

The Midstate Chamber Announces **2019 Awards to be presented on April 11 at the Aqua Turf Club:** On behalf of the 2019 Midstate Chamber Awards Committee, it is my pleasure to officially announce our 2019 Award Winners:

Our 18th Annual Small Business Leadership Award winner is **Shiner Signs, Inc.**
Our 23rd Annual Large Business Leadership Award will be presented to **Jonal Laboratories, Inc.**
The 27th Community Partnership Awards go to **Eileen Bongiovanni of Bongiovanni Insurance and Financial** *and* a second award to **Karen Roesler of the Meriden Public Library.**

The 6th Special Achievement in Innovation Award will be presented to the *partnership of Mid-State ARC, Assisted Living Technologies, Futures, Inc. and NESIT Makerspace* for the Assisted Technology Training Center of CT.

The 6th Excellence in Education Award winners for 2019 is **GUS Robotic Team 228, Inc.** *and* a second award to the **Meriden Community Classroom Collaborative.**

The downtown themed “William Sears Rice Award” goes to **Girls Incorporated of Meriden** serving Meriden and Wallingford in recognition of their 100 years of service.

We encourage all members and guests to come out and support these individuals and businesses who all do great work in our community. The Awards will be presented at our 123rd Annual Meeting, Dinner and Silent Auction on April 11, 2019. Come join the 300 attendees... it's always a great night!

I'd like to personally thank all of the Chamber members who had submitted nominations this year. I'd also like to thank Nate Bottone, Lori O'Brien, Richard Pendred, Frank Ridley and Thomas Welsh, for serving on the Annual Chamber Award committee. Job well done!

LET'S GET READY FOR THE BUSINESS SHOWCASE AT THE 41ST ANNUAL DAFFODIL FESTIVAL

Please call the Chamber if you are interested in exhibiting at the 41st annual Meriden Daffodil Festival. We can walk you through all of the details, logistics and the top reasons why your business needs to be boldly promoted on April 27th and April 28th for Daffodil weekend. Flyers are also included in this newsletter or you can visit <https://www.midstatechamber.com/calendar/2019expo> and download an application.

One added attraction is our Health and Wellness row featuring hourly LIVE demonstrations...it's another way to attract the audiences and to showcase your businesses. And in addition, we are going with a “Beach Theme” and encouraging exhibitors to think warm thoughts! I recently saw another local chamber that bragged that their business expo had over 500 attendees. **The 50,000 people at the Daffodil Festival on two days is an opportunity that you simply cannot miss and virtually NO chamber can match! Call the office today.**

There is still time to register and reserve your booth space.

INside:

Chairman's Chamber Minute
Calendar of Events
Member Updates
NEW Members

IMPORTANT NOTES

**“At the Beach” is
the theme for
EXPO at 4/27-28
Daffodil Fest:
Exhibit Under the
Big Tent**

**..and LOTS
More**

CHAIRMAN'S CHAMBER MINUTE

Did someone say **SPRING**? I know it doesn't look like it now, but Spring is right around the corner. Two major events for the Midstate Chamber are also right around the corner: the Annual Dinner and the Daffodil Festival.



Nate Bottone

The Annual Dinner Committee has been planning a very special time for all of us. We are expecting a record breaking turnout, so don't hesitate to book your table. **The event is Thu., April 11 at Aqua Turf.**

The Daffodil Festival with 699,999 beautiful flowers is the perfect opportunity to exhibit under the Midstate Chamber Expo tent. This is a wonderful way to connect with 50,000 people over the weekend of **April 27& 28**. Call today to reserve your spot.

Thank you to all the committee members who met last month. I know how hard it is to carve out time in your busy day. We are stronger as a group because of you.

With much appreciation - Nathaniel Bottone



<https://www.instagram.com/midstatechamberofcommerce/>



@MidstateCoC



Midstate Chamber of Commerce



Midstate Chamber of Commerce

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

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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 546 South Broad St., 2C, Meriden, CT 06450. 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.



For all of your needs visit our members at www.midstatechamber.com



NEW MEMBERS!

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!

Aresco's Superette, Inc., 203-235-5112, 238 Gravel Street, Meriden, CT. Specializing in fresh cut meat, deli sandwiches, and grab and go groceries, Aresco's Superette has been serving the Meriden area for over 50 years.

The Asian Invasion, 203-235-2059, 1371 East Main Street, Meriden, CT. Specializing in authentic Asian food from different countries in Asia like Thailand, China, Japan, Korea, Laos, Vietnam and the Philippines. Feels like home! Come on in and enjoy our food. Mrs. Suri DeJesus is our primary contact.

Lense's Only, 203-238-2020, 533 South Broad Street, Meriden, CT. Ms. Shelley Carter is our primary contact. Lenses Only believes in giving consumers the control to create their own value and provides consumers with a previously unavailable option - we will just replace your lenses and you can keep your frames! And, we do it at competitive prices because we buy for less.

Luminaries Construction, LLC, 203-537-8833, Mr. Mario Condo, owner, is excited to be a new member of the Midstate Chamber and wants you to consider him for your next roofing, siding and other home improvement projects!

Mr. Taco, Mr. Alberto Guterrez, 203-537-0161, 77 State Street, Meriden, CT 06450, Enjoy delicious authentic Mexican food! We take pride in the quality of the food we serve, even your mamá would be proud! **OPENING SOON** near Meriden Public Library!

PHL Medical Services - Dr. Henri Lamothe, (860) 651-8212, 10 Woodleigh Place, Weatogue, CT 06089, Dr. Henri Lamothe is an emergency medicine physician in Weatogue, Connecticut. He received his medical degree from University of Connecticut School of Medicine and has been in practice for more than 20 years.

Pho Ethan Vietnamese Restaurant Grill & Hot Pot, 203-793-7124, 1145 North Colony Rd., Wallingford, CT. Pho Ethan is a cornerstone in the community and has been recognized for its outstanding Vietnamese cuisine, excellent service and friendly staff.

Santander Bank, 877.768.2265, 1010 Farmington Ave, West Hartford, CT. Mr. Dave Cabezas is our primary contact. At Santander, we believe respecting you and your money is the first step on the journey to prosperity.

St Andrew's Episcopal Church, 203-237-7451, 20 Catlin Street, Meriden, CT 06450, "...to proclaim the good news of the risen Christ by striving to continue his ministry of openly welcoming, nurturing and serving all people." Our primary contact is Rev. Fr. Mark Byers.

Standard Oil of CT, Inc., 800-822-3835, 299 Bishop Ave, Bridgeport, CT 06610, Please consider taking a few minutes to speak with a member of the Standard family and get to know us a little better. Our primary contact is Ms. Tory Baillie.

Tactical Success, LLC, 512-765-4233, 100 Main Street South #223, Southbury, CT 06488, "The principle of timely detection requires an intrusion be detected soon enough to prevent the adversary from completing their intended undesirable event. Tactical Success, LLC utilizes an all hazards approach combined with modern technology to minimize our client's vulnerabilities and lessen their risks." Our primary contact is Mr. Christopher Grillo.

Welcome Home Mortgage, Ms. Liz Sargeant is our primary contact: 203-641-4262. 1331 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield, CT 06109. Liz is licensed to originate loans in CT, FL & NY bringing many years of experience achieving and maintaining home ownership. I pride myself on assisting both first time homeowners as well as borrowers who wish to refinance for a lower rate, home improvements, purchase an investment property or improve financial situation.

WellCare Health Plans, Inc, Ms. Helen Wong, 203-285-7732, 2319 Whitney Ave., 6th Floor, Hamden, CT 06518, WellCare provides managed care health plans primarily through Medicaid, Medicare Advantage and Medicare Prescription Drug plans for more than 4.4 million members across the country. "

MEMBER UPDATES

This QR code in the upper right corner also brings you right out to our member 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>

LOOKING TO GROW YOUR BUSINESS?

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There is SO MUCH GOOD NEWS TO SHARE, and we recognize how valuable your time is ... so we are introducing an abbreviated news section with catchy headlines and you can click for more details on the items ... and/or click this link for all of the current news submitted from Midstate Chamber members:

<https://www.midstatechamber.com/News/newsbydate.asp>

ASG Information Technologies: Tip #23 : A WARNING if you handle, process or store client credit cards. If you handle, process or store credit cards in any manner, you are required to comply with PCI DSS, or Payment Card Industry Data Security Standards. This is a set of LEGAL requirements you must abide by to maintain a secure environment. If you violate them, you will incur serious fines and fees. ...If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to give us a call at 203-440-4413 or email info@asgct.com.



Connex Credit Union: Spring is a time for new beginnings! Give your savings a fresh start with Connex's new Money Market Special. You can earn up to 2.65% APY* on your nest egg, and the rate is good for 18 months after opening. Apply by visiting a branch or call 1-800-CR-UNION. Money Market Account must be opened by April 30, 2019. The Meriden branch is located at 533 S. Broad Street. Please visit connexcu.org for terms and conditions.*APY = Annual Percentage Yield



Coalition on Housing & Homelessness: Housing Crisis Support Still Available for Those Evacuated from Puerto Rico due to Hurricane Maria: **Funding is still available from the Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness (CCEH) to help people who have been evacuated from Puerto Rico due to Hurricane Maria who are continuing to experience a housing crisis.** This funding can be used to help stabilize housing through support such as rental assistance, security deposits, moving costs, utility assistance, credit repair, bus passes to employment, car repairs for employment purposes, furnishings, housing search and placement, housing stability case management, and more. Dial 2-1-1, (option 7 for Spanish) to get connected to housing supports and access this funding.

The Franciscan Life Center, a counseling and education center in Meriden, Connecticut, has a NEW web site thanks to a grant from The Maximilian E. and Marion O. Hoffman Foundation, Inc. Please take a moment and visit us at www.flcenter.org to learn more about programs and services. Synergic Systems, a Franciscan consulting service, created the design of the web site.



Webster Bank Arena: The New York Islanders announced that they have selected Oak View Group to manage the Webster Bank Arena, a 10,000-seat multi-purpose arena which is home to the Bridgeport Sound Tigers of the American Hockey League. Oak View Group Facilities, a division of Oak View Group, will operate the arena on behalf of Harbor Yard Sports & Entertainment LLC, a subsidiary of the New York Islanders that operates the arena pursuant to an agreement with the City of Bridgeport. Oak View Group Facilities specializes in providing premium content and operating venues for its clients.



Women and Families Center - The Board of Directors of the Women and Families Center (WFC) is pleased to announce that Wayne Valaitis, MPA joined WFC on February 19, 2019 as its new Chief Executive Officer. Mr. Valaitis brings to WFC considerable depth and breadth of experience in human services with programs that are closely aligned to the organization, which has been servicing the community since 1889. Mr. Valaitis is excited to be joining WFC, and stated "I am very happy to be joining this outstanding organization and group of professionals. WFC has a rich history of providing an array of human service programs in south central Connecticut." Mr. Valaitis assumes the role formerly held by Robyn-Jay Bage, who retired after 17 years as Chief Executive Officer. For more information, visit www.womenfamilies.org.





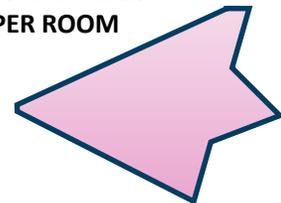
Girls Incorporated of Meriden: 2019 marks a very special year for the organization. We are celebrating 100 years of Strong, Smart, and Bold in Meriden providing enriched after-school programs to girls in our community.

Calling all Alumni, *Girls Inc. is turning 100 this year and we want to hear from you.*

Now is the time to reconnect with the organization you enjoyed growing up! We want to hear from you, hear about how Girls Inc. impacted your life and hear what you are up too. For more information contact Michelle Bourdeau at Michelle@girlsinmeriden.com or find us on Facebook at @GirlsIncofMeriden.

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The Springtime season is upon us offering beautiful weather and relatives visiting to celebrate the Easter holiday. If your house is full, or you may not want to clean or cook – Have them book a room with us and let them take the elevator home here at the Fairfield by Marriott.

This special is available April 18-22, 2019 to all Midstate Chamber of Commerce Members, Families and Friends.

As always, we include choice of king or two queen beds, Complimentary delicious hot and cold breakfast buffet, free parking and WIFI along with meeting our award winning staff.

Call now to book and please mention “Holiday” when making a reservation by calling (203)284-0001.

Fairfield by Marriott, 100 Miles Drive, Wallingford, CT 06492 (203)284-0001
www.marriott.com/hvnfw





PROMOTION



EDUCATION

NOW is PRIME TIME
to JOIN Midstate Chamber of Commerce.
Kindly SHARE this APPLICATION
with your business associates!
When they join YOU will get a
\$100 chamber credit!



LEADERSHIP



NETWORKING

1-5 Employees	\$295.00
6-10 Employees	\$315.00
11-20 Employees	\$440.00
21-30 Employees	\$560.00



The Midstate Chamber supports, promotes and serves our member businesses in Berlin, Cheshire, Meriden, Southington, Wallingford and throughout central Connecticut.
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 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-Time ____ Part-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 that appears with your Member Directory listing on www.midstatechamber.com: _____

**** 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.

Card# _____ Exp. _____ Card Zip Code _____ Verification Code _____



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.



UPCOMING FEBRUARY EVENTS:

Mark your calendars, iPhones, Droids, etc. with these event dates. **M** = Chamber or Business event; **C** = 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.

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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 your knowledge, the connections you will make and more!



Your participation helps YOU, helps YOUR BUSINESS and helps OUR CHAMBER!
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Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Company Website: _____

Type of Business/Classification: _____

of Owners: ____ # of Employees: ____ Full-Time ____ Part-Time ____ Year Founded: ____

Contact Person: _____ Contact's Phone: _____

Contact's E-Mail: _____

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