



## **HARTFORDLINE.COM WEBSITE LAUNCHED BY CTDOT IN PREPARATION FOR MAY 2018 SERVICE**

The Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) announced that it has launched a new website for its upcoming passenger rail service, the CTrail Hartford Line, at [www.hartfordline.com](http://www.hartfordline.com). The website provides future Hartford Line riders a taste of what to expect when the service launches in May 2018.

"This initial Hartford Line website offers quick and easy access to essential information, such as schedules, fares, news and events. It will offer more comprehensive information, and be fully functional when the new rail service launches in May 2018," stated CTDOT's Public Transportation Bureau Chief, Richard Andreski.

The website features a "Trip Planner" tool that allows users to review schedules and plan travel once the Hartford Line service begins next year. At this time, the Trip Planner will serve as a tool for demonstration purposes only, and users will not be able to make reservations or purchase tickets until the Hartford Line service launches.

The initial website operates on a variety of devices including mobile phones and tablets. It features Hartford Line news and a Frequently Asked Questions section that covers topics ranging from connecting service options, senior discounts, and the permitting of bicycles on trains. Additionally, the site allows users to request a CTDOT presentation about the upcoming Hartford Line rail service for their neighborhood group, workplace, or school.

Throughout the next several months, the Hartford Line website will be enhanced with additional information and features, including detailed information on connections to other local transit options; interactive, 360-degree views of the train stations that will serve the line; and milestone events as the service approaches its launch date in May 2018.

We are extremely excited to help spread the word about this important NEW resource coming to Berlin, Meriden and Wallingford in the upcoming months. We want to be certain that both businesses and residents are ready to participate and thus grow our communities.

## **SENATOR SUZIO HOSTS PODCAST AT MERIDEN TRAIN STATION**

And in other rail related news, I had a very nice conversation with Senator Suzio a couple of months ago at the NEW Meriden intermodal transportation center...aka the Train Station. In fact it is much more than just a train station as all of the local connections like busses and taxi service are readily available with ample parking available as well. Please click on the link to view the entire video: <https://youtu.be/xoOS0fSt-MTk>. We discuss many of the finer aspects of the project and how the CTrail Hartford Line will benefit the area.



## **WE MOVED!**

**Please Update  
Your Records  
AND  
Check Out The New  
Offices at a Special  
BAH on 2/15/18!**

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

## **INSIDE:**

President's Message  
and  
Chairman's Corner  
(pg.2)

**We Call Your  
Attention to the  
Flyers Inside:**

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**Sexual Harassment  
Prevention Seminar**

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**2 GREAT BAH's**

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**EXPO 2018  
...and LOTS More**

**LOTS OF WHAT WE DO FOR MEMBERS IS LINKING YOU** ... to resources, services, support, 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

### SCORE IS READY TO SERVE YOU...

Séan W. Moore

This past month Rosanne Ford and I had a great meeting with Dick Hart and Gerry Shenkin from SCORE. You should be aware that these gentlemen are available on the second Thursday of every month at the Chamber office offering small business counseling and advice. Simply call our office and we'll slot you into the schedule. It is confidential and it's a free service of the U.S. Small Business Administration.

*In addition, you should know that SCORE wants to be most respectful of your time. If you can't make our regular office hours, they also offer telephone, Skype and in person conferences as your schedules and locations may require.*

The team from SCORE has a wealth of knowledge and an even greater access to a nationwide network of experts. They offer one-to-one confidential consultations about virtually every aspect of your business. If you are thinking about expansion, adding an employee or two, offering a new product or product line, changing up your marketing plan, you should use their services.

If you have any questions, call the Chamber office today.

## REINVIGORATING YOUNG BUSINESS LEADERS

Recently the Chamber hosted a lunchtime brainstorming session with a very energetic and enthusiastic group of about a dozen business owners in the 21- 39 age group. These Millennials are now America's largest generation even surpassing the Baby Boomers. This is an importance audience for both Chambers of Commerce and Communities as well...this is where we will find our future business and future community leaders. We have a responsibility to both teach and learn from this generation.

Some of the Goals expressed in the session were:

- Get connected more quickly with
- Get more involved in the Communities
- Grow their Businesses
- Participate in Professional Development Programs
- Become Stronger Leaders

Our first follow up session will be held on **Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> at noon** here at the chamber office. We will be distilling the ideas into actual programs.

If you know someone born between the early 1980's through late 1990's, feel free to invite them to our next session and call the Chamber office today to register.



## CHAIRMAN'S CORNER



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

Brrrr!! February can be the coldest month of the year. The Midstate Chamber is warmed up and ready for our busy season. There are plenty programs coming up that you will want to be a part of. Please review the Chamber calendar for the latest opportunities to promote your business. I want you to invite to the **Midstate Chamber's BAH at our new office on February 15th from 5-7pm.** Join us for a tour of the new office and network with some friends of the Chamber. This is the first time we have done a Business After Hours for the Chamber office. We are excited to show off our new office and share some exciting things happening in our Chamber and community. Please feel free to bring a guest or staff member that hasn't been out to an event. We currently are in a membership campaign! Our Ambassadors are out promoting and talking up our Chamber and looking for new members. Have you seen our Billboard on I-691 and 91 South...the "shared spot" promoting business growth in the area was generously donated by the City of Meriden and we are grateful for that. It's another way to promote our Chamber which in turn promotes YOU, our MEMBERS. Perhaps you have seen our ads in the Record Journal, another creative advertising partnership that touts the value of membership. We are working as an organization to grow to 650 members by April. This is a lofty goal but very attainable with the efforts of our staff, volunteers and membership. **SO HOW CAN YOU HELP???** Share the Midstate Chamber with your clients and friends who are not members. We might frequent a business that's not a member. Why not ask them to join?? Share your testimony of the Midstate Chamber with them. The Chamber staff or Ambassadors will reach out to any referral you may have. So if time is an issue please refer a business to the Chamber office. As the Chamber grows so will your businesses. There are many Chambers out there, but what makes the Midstate Chamber different? It's our Membership and the energy and excitement that you bring to our organization. Let's grow by telling the community why the Midstate **Chamber is your Chamber of Choice!!**



See you at the next event!!! - Rich

## 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](http://www.midstatechamber.com). Ph: 203.235.7901 Fx: 203.686.0172 [info@midstatechamber.com](mailto: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](http://www.midstatechamber.com)

**There's ALOT you don't know about...easterseals:  
Register NOW for this event - click flyer!**

# Wellness After Work

Sponsored by



THE HEALTH AND WELLNESS COUNCIL INVITES YOU TO NETWORK  
AND GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE EASTERSEALS REHAB  
FACILITY AND DRIVER ASSESSMENT PROGRAM-THE ONLY ONE IN  
THE STATE OF CT THAT HAS A CERTIFIED DRIVER TRAINING  
SPECIALIST!

Thursday February 8th, 2018

5:00 to 7:00PM

Easterseals Medical Rehab Facility

158 State Street, Meriden

5:00 PM-5:30 PM - Registration

Program/Networking to follow

Please RSVP by calling the chamber at 203-235-7901,  
emailing: [info@midstatechamber.com](mailto:info@midstatechamber.com) or visit  
[www.midstatechamber.com](http://www.midstatechamber.com)



# Don't Miss This YOU HAVE TO BE THERE: Central CT's Largest Business Showcase



Featuring Title Sponsor:



In Partnership With: The 40<sup>th</sup>  
Annual Daffodil Festival



Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup>  
and  
Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup>

**Register NOW: 2  
Days = BEST  
Exposure & Rates  
BE a SPONSOR!  
ONE Day Rates  
Available**

Exhibiting Company Information: Please print clearly

Name of Presenting Company				Contact Person	
Mailing Address					
City	St	Zip	E-mail Address		
Phone	Fax		Exact Wording for Booth Signage		
1. Please read and complete this application and returned to the Midstate Chamber of Commerce with your minimum non-refundable deposit of \$350.00 to reserve your space.					
2. Your Vendor Packet will be sent prior to the event.					

**Choose your Option Below**

<input type="checkbox"/> Title Sponsor(s) * — See trifold for features	<b>RATES</b> <b>\$3,975</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Presenting Sponsor(s) * — See trifold for features	<b>\$2,775</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday & Sunday "Perimeter Prime Booth" *	<b>\$1,195</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday & Sunday "Interior Prime Booth" *	<b>\$1,095</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday & Sunday Exhibitor Booth *	<b>\$ 995</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday Only Exhibitor Booth (10:00 a.m.—6:00 p.m.)	<b>\$ 695</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Sunday Only Exhibitor Booth (10:00 a.m. —5:00 p.m.)	<b>\$ 495</b>

- Sell Your Products
- Increase Market Share
- HUGE Exposure
- Get NEW Customers
- Brand Your Business
- Climate Controlled Tent
- Display Vehicles

Electricity is \$35.00 for each 15 amp circuit. Please plan accordingly and bring any extension cords and power strips you may need.

Electricity is available at Perimeter locations only. Please indicate here the equipment requiring electricity: # of Outlet(s) x \$35 = \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL** Amount Due including Exhibitor Booth & Electricity \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\* All Saturday exhibitors can take advantage of a leisurely set-up on Friday afternoon from 2:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.  
This will allow exhibitors to set up during normal working hours, go home and get rested and come back on Saturday ready to greet the crowds!

☐ Yes ☐ No **We will be setting up on Friday Afternoon**

Regular Daffodil Festival EXPO Hours: Saturday—10 a.m. to 6 p.m. (Daffodil Festival closes at 9 p.m.) and Sunday—10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

All booths will be 8' (Deep) x 10' (Wide) with: 3' High Flameproof Draped Side Rails, 6' Skirted Display Table, 8' High Flameproof Back Wall Drape, 2 chairs, Exhibitor ID Signage. Additional items may be contracted through the pipe and drape vendor.

Please indicate what you will be exhibiting at your space.

**Presenting:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this reservation form with your payment or deposit to: The Midstate Chamber of Commerce, Inc.  
546 So. Broad St., Unit 2C, Meriden, CT 06450 info@midstatechamber.com 203-235-7901 / fax 203-686-0172 www.midstatechamber.com

ACCEPTANCE: I agree to abide by all guidelines, specification, rules and regulations governing the Midstate Chamber of Commerce and to the terms and conditions of payment. All cancellations must be in writing by April 1, 2018. All initial deposits are non-refundable. Please sign below.

Signature: _____	Title _____	Date _____
Printed Name of Signer _____	Company Name _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bill us <input type="checkbox"/> Credit Card (AX, Disc., VISA, MC) # _____		
Exp. Date: _____ Zip Code of Card _____ Card Verification # _____		

Visit [www.midstatechamber.com](http://www.midstatechamber.com) or [www.daffodilfest.com](http://www.daffodilfest.com) for more details about the 2018 Festival!





Featuring Title Sponsor:



## Central Connecticut's Largest Showcase of Area Businesses!!



Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup>  
and  
Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup>



In Partnership With:  
40<sup>th</sup> Annual Daffodil Festival

With an audience of  
**50,000+ ...**

This is **THE PLACE** for Maximum Expo-  
sure for your Business  
Up to 65 Exhibitors Under One Tent  
Expo In 2018 Is 2 DAYS! Friday Setup



### WHY YOU SHOULD EXHIBIT:

- Sell Your Product
- Gain Maximum Exposure
- Make Valuable Connections
- Increase Market Share & Visibility
- Expand Your Contact Base



This event offers outstanding exposure in a unique venue and is a fun filled weekend for all! That's why we've created  
OPTIONS FOR EVERY BUDGET: from \$495 to \$3,975

**Sponsorships  
and  
Prime Spots  
Offer GREAT  
Visibility &  
Valuable  
Promotion!!**



**Register Early—Prime Spots SOLD OUT in 2017!**

### 2018 EXPO Hours of Operation

- If you plan to exhibit on Saturday, you are eligible to take advantage of Friday afternoon setup from 2:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
- Saturday, April 28 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. (the Festival activities continue until 9:30 p.m.)
- Sunday, April 29 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

See reverse and brochure for more information and application.

### WE DO OUR BEST TO MAKE THIS AN ENJOYABLE EVENT FOR ALL OF OUR VENDORS...EXHIBITING IS EASY:

- ALL Exhibits are located inside a 100' x 120' enclosed tent on the tennis courts—so all exhibits are out of the elements and off the dirt ground.
- Electricity is available on the perimeter of the tent.
- The tent is secured by Security Guards and assisted by Mule Security Systems during the off hours on Friday and Saturday evenings so exhibits are not tampered with and items do not have to be brought back and forth daily.
- Prime spaces are located near entrances and at the end of aisles. Perimeter Prime have access to electricity; Interior Prime locations do not.
- Expo Sponsors receive additional "perks" such as 2 prime space booths, special sponsor signage, and more.
- Reservations for all Expo locations are required by March 1, 2017 to guarantee accurate signage & booth placement. Booths must be staffed at all times for maximum prospect interaction. Electricity availability cannot be guaranteed with reservations placed after March 1, 2018.
- Parking IS allowed in the Park on Friday ONLY. If setting up your exhibit on Saturday or Sunday, you may enter the Park between 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. All vehicles must be out of the park by 9:00 a.m. For Saturday and Sunday, vendors are shuttled in after your exhibit is set-up. Easy, Convenient Shuttle Transportation begins running continuously at 8:00 a.m. and continues until 9:00 p.m. on Saturday and 5:00 p.m. on Sunday.





These are just SOME of the Daffodil Festival Weekend Highlights:

- ⊛ 2 hour parade on Saturday morning
- ⊛ Huge variety of food vendors
- ⊛ Over 30 continuous musical performances at 3 separate stages
- ⊛ Arts & Crafts Section and Carnival Amusements
- ⊛ Special Activities & Programs for Children
- ⊛ FREE ADMISSION to festival AND expo tent

Our 2 Day exhibitors take advantage of a leisurely Friday afternoon setup from 2:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at no additional charge. Set up early, go home and rest and come back on Saturday morning refreshed and ready to connect with the crowds!

REMEMBER, Midstate Chamber is also YOUR CONNECTION to:

- ⊛ TIPS on HOW TO set up your BOOTH
- ⊛ SIGNAGE / BANNERS for your exhibit
- ⊛ PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS & Giveaways

...We have Members that can help you with this & more!

We are pleased to accommodate special displays such as vehicles, tractors, hot tubs, motorcycles, and more INSIDE the tent! Call us to learn more.

#### 2018 EXPO Hours of Operation

- Setup on Friday - 2:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
- Exhibit Saturday - 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Festival activities continue until 9:30 p.m.
- Exhibit Sunday - 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

This Expo is produced by: The Midstate Chamber of Commerce, Inc.  
546 So. Broad St., Unit 2C, Meriden, CT 06450  
Ph: 203.235.7901 / Fx 203.686.0172

[info@midstatechamber.com](mailto:info@midstatechamber.com) [www.midstatechamber.com](http://www.midstatechamber.com)

and

The Meriden Daffodil Committee dba Festivals in Meriden, Inc.  
producers of the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Daffodil Festival!  
[www.daffodilfest.com](http://www.daffodilfest.com)

## Sponsorship & Vendor Info

Why our Members exhibit and ...  
keep coming back each year!

Sell Products & Services | To Make Valuable Connections  
Gain Maximum Exposure | Increase Market Share and Visibility  
To HAVE SOME FUN!!!

### Expo Title Sponsorships

**\$2,975 Early Bird Rate**

**Includes COMPANY NAME on Expo Tent!**

- ⊛ Promotion STARTS NOW - press release with "Naming of 2018 expo tent"
- ⊛ Banner at Entrance of EXPO tent & Logo on Continuous Slideshow at Chamber Booth
- ⊛ Double Prime Exhibitor Booth for 2 days - Electricity included!
- ⊛ Company Name/Logo on all materials such as press releases, e-minders, Expo newsletter flyers, and Chamber website special event page (40,000 unique visits to the website on average/month), & vendor maps at event
- ⊛ Prime Sponsor Signage (18x24)
- ⊛ One Year Premier Web Ad (chamber home page or internal pages)

### Presenting Sponsorships - \$1,975 Early Bird Rate

- ⊛ Double Prime Location Exhibitor Booth with or without electricity for 2 days
- ⊛ Name Inclusion on promotional materials
- ⊛ Company Name/Logo on all materials such as press releases, e-minders, Expo newsletter flyers, and Chamber website special event page
- ⊛ Company banner displayed inside the tent in a key location
- ⊛ Prime Sponsor Signage (18x24)
- ⊛ One Year Top Banner Ad on chamber website (\$550 value)

### Prime Location Sponsors From \$895 Early Bird Rate

Prime Location Exhibitor Booths are located near the entrances and at the ends of aisles for 2 days. Prime Location Sponsors also receive a single prime space, Prime Sponsor 18 x 24 signage, and recognition on the Chamber's website.

### All Other Vendors - 1 or 2 Days From \$495 Early Bird Rate

Lots of exposure inside a climate controlled tent! Perimeter locations have access to electricity. All locations provide our vendors with excellent visibility and traffic.



Featuring Title Sponsor:



**April 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>**

**This is THE VENUE to  
PROMOTE your Business:  
THE LARGEST SPRING  
SHOWCASE  
of Area Businesses in Central CT!**



**Hubbard Park  
West Main Street, Meriden, CT**

In partnership with the  
**40<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Daffodil Festival**



The Midstate Chamber of Commerce, Inc. invites your business to take advantage of the 2018 Business Expo under the big tent to promote your business, organization or products! The Expo, at the regional Daffodil Festival, features displays from a variety of companies and organizations who want to connect with a huge and diverse audience of over 50,000 people over two days.

Whether you are a new business, a seasoned company, a general contractor, financial institution, non-profit, technology company, insurance company, car dealer, etc., this two-day event is the PERFECT venue to advertise to a wide audience and the exposure connects you with a large population from all over New England.

Look at what our past and returning exhibitors have said:

- "A valuable opportunity to reach new customers"
- "You can't afford NOT to be there"
- "I received so many leads for my business..."
- "Very organized - ALL businesses should exhibit"
- "The BEST venue in central CT...very generous space!"
- "The Return on Investment is incredible"
- "Can't wait until next year"



### DON'T MISS THIS VALUABLE OPPORTUNITY

- This event is held in conjunction with the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Meriden Daffodil Festival drawing attendees from all over New England.
- The exhibit tent is secured by Security Guards and assisted by Mule Security Systems during the off hours of Friday and Saturday nights so displays are protected and items do not have to be brought back and forth daily.
- Easy on and off the highway with many area hotels available.
- All Expo Exhibits are in a 100' x 120' enclosed tent on the tennis courts. All exhibits are out of the elements and off the dirt ground.
- All exhibits requiring electricity are on the perimeter of the tent.
- The Festival Food tent is across from the EXPO tent.
- Restrooms are available for exhibitors just steps away from the EXPO tent.



**A SPECIAL BAH - OPEN HOUSE: NEW Chamber Offices!**  
**Register NOW for this event - click flyer!**



**Thursday, February 15, 2018**

**5:00 to 7:00 pm**

**546 South Broad St., Ste. 2C, Meriden**

The Board of Directors and Staff of the  
Midstate Chamber of Commerce invite you to  
a Ribbon Cutting and Open House for the new  
home of the Midstate Chamber.

Come and Tour the new Office Space and  
mingle with fellow Chamber Members and  
other special guests!

**Please RSVP to this event** by calling the Chamber:  
203-235-7901, e-mailing: [info@midstatechamber.com](mailto:info@midstatechamber.com), or visit  
[www.midstatechamber.com](http://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](http://www.midstatechamber.com) for the most up-to-date listing of members in good standing!

Accel International

ACORD, Inc.

Aeroswiss

Bankcard Financial Group LLC

Barker Specialty Co.

East Side Veterinary Clinic, LLC

Firestone - Broad St.

Il Monticello Restaurant

Instant Imprints

James T. Kay Co., Inc.

LaRosa Building Group, LLC

Luchs Consulting Engineers, LLC / DeCarlo & Doll, Inc.

People's United Bank

Prentis Printing Solutions, Inc

Robert A. Gollnick, CPA

Rose Flowers & Gifts, Inc.

Seniors Have Dreams Too, Inc.

Stempien Funeral Home, Inc.

The Edge Fitness Club

Top To Bottom Cleaning Services, LLC.

Ulbrich Boys & Girls Club

Westfield Care and Rehab Center

**Members Use Members!**

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

# Welcome

## 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!

**Bouvier Insurance:** 29 N. Main St., W. Hartford, CT 06107. The phone number is 860.232.4491. Carrie Mott is the primary contact. Bouvier Insurance is a full service insurance agency with 30 plus carriers to give you the most extensive coverage for your budget.



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



**HUBCAP Wallingford**

*CoWork Independently, Together*

Incubator & Community Room

\* SPACE AVAILABLE \*

128 Center Street | Downtown Wallingford

203.626.9351

[cwallace@hubcapwallingford.org](mailto:cwallace@hubcapwallingford.org)



**MembersFirst CT**  
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

**Your New Community  
Credit Union**

Anyone that lives or works in Meriden, Wallingford, North Haven, North Branford, Hamden or Cheshire can now join the credit union.

We are a Full Service, Low Cost Credit Union

Call us today at 203-237-6424 ext. 5





## 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](http://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](http://www.midstatechamber.com/Calendar)**

**HELP us \*GROW IN 2018\* Invite Your Biz Neighbors to JOIN the Midstate Chamber! Earn Chamber BUCK\$ for you & your biz. 203.235.7901**

**C** Fri, Feb 2, 5:30 pm: Women & Families Center Presents Super Brew: A Winter Fun & Fundraising Event at Stony Creek Brewery. For more information, call Astrid Ojeda at 203.235.9297 ext. 110.

**C** Sat, Feb 3, Pigments of Your Imagination Show at Gallery 53, 53 Colony St., Meriden. For more information call 203.235.5347.

**M** Thu, Feb 8, 9:00 am: **SCORE – FREE Business Counseling Sessions** for Businesses at the Midstate Chamber

**M** Thu, Feb 8, 5:00 pm: **Wellness After Work Networking & More at Easterseals.** See enclosed flyer.

**M** Sat, Feb 10, 9:30 am: **HOLA Casino Bus Trip to Foxwoods.** See flyer on this page.

**C** Sat, Feb 10, 7:00 pm: **Pink in the Rink: Bridgeport Sound Tigers at Webster Bank Arena, Bridgeport.** Call Jim: 203.345.4812.

**C** Sun, Feb 11, 12:00 pm: Friends of the Meriden Public Library "I Love My Library" Fundraising Dinner at Violis.

**C** Mon, Feb 12, 11:00 am: Casa di Roma Fundraiser for Franciscan Life Center

**C** Tue, Feb 13, 5:30 pm: Senior Living Financial Solutions 101 at Village at Kensington Place, Meriden. 203.235.0181.

**M** Thu, Feb 15, 5:00 pm: **Grand Opening/Ribbon Cutting Business After Hours of the Midstate Chamber of Commerce.** See enclosed flyer.

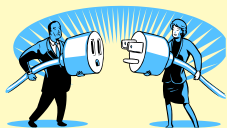
**M** Thu, Feb 22, 5:00 pm: **Business After Hours with the Hamden Regional Chamber at The Farms Country Club.** See flyer.

**M** Wed, Feb 28, 8:00 am: **"It's Time to Revisit How We Approach Sexual Harassment Prevention in the Workplace"** at Meriden Public Library. See enclosed flyer.

**C** Wed, Feb 28, 5:30 pm: Literacy Volunteers 2018 Scrabble Challenge at Four Points by Sheraton

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

@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



**BUS TRIP**

**Destination: Foxwoods**

**Saturday, Feb. 10, 2018**

Hurry Space is limited - Reserve your seat(s) Today!

**Tanger Outlets**

**Departure Time:** 10:00 AM  
SHARP from: Lewis Ave.  
Commuter Lot, Meriden

**Cost:** \$30.00 per person  
(\$20 back: \$10 voucher-use @ food outlet & \$10 bet)

**Return to Meriden: by 7 PM**

Foxwoods is your Connecticut destination for casino excitement surrounded by top entertainment, gourmet dining, premier shopping including the Tanger Outlets, luxury and more. There will be prize drawing's on the bus!

**Proceeds Benefit the 2018 HOLA Education Award Fund!**

Name	Email
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

\$30.00 per person = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check Enclosed Make Checks Payable to Greater Meriden Chamber of Commerce (HOLA in Memo) Credit Card # AX, Discover, VI MC, \_\_\_\_\_ EXP. \_\_\_\_\_

3 Colony Street, Suite 301, Meriden, CT 06451 Ph: 203.235.7901 Fx: 203.686.0172  
info@meridenchamber.com www.meridenchamber.com

Find business resources at: [www.midstatechamber.com](http://www.midstatechamber.com)

# COMBO BAH = DIFFERENT CONTACTS FOR YOUR BIZ!

## Register NOW for this event - click flyer!



The Hamden Regional and Midstate Chambers of Commerce invite you to a special Networking Event.

Chamber's provide extensive opportunities for their members to connect with each other for business opportunities, referrals, resources, friendship, and more. This special event brings together members from 2 Chambers. Come and get connected with someone you do not know to see how you can help each other grow.

Thurs., February 22, 2018

5:00 pm to 7:00 pm



The Farms Country Club  
180 Cheshire Rd., Wallingford



### RSVP TO:

MIDSTATE CHAMBER  
info@midstatechamber.com  
203-235-7901—Fx: 203.686.0172  
www.midstatechamber.com



### RSVP TO:

HAMDEN REGIONAL CHAMBER  
hcc@hamdenchamber.com  
203-288-6431—Fx: 203.288-4499  
www.hamdenregionalchamber.com

Attendance cost is \$10 per person. Includes food and 2 drink tickets.

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Attendee (s) : \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Bill Me ☐ Charge My Credit Card (American Express, VISA, MasterCard, Discover)

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Expr. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Verification Code # \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code of Card: \_\_\_\_\_



# Special Program Brought to you BY the Chamber's Human Resources Roundtable Register NOW for this event - click flyer!



## **“It’s Time to Revisit How We Approach Sexual Harassment Prevention in the Workplace.”**

*In an interactive session, Mr. Chris Brigham, UKS, will discuss the evolution of sexual harassment in the workplace from the U.S. Supreme Court’s recognition of claims of sexual harassment as a form of discrimination over thirty years ago to the current day where once again sexual harassment is in the forefront of the news. Mr. Brigham will provide an overview of the legal requirements and best practices for sexual harassment prevention and lead a discussion on the current trends and recommendations for improving our approach to sexual harassment prevention.*

**Agenda:** 7:30 to 8:00—Arrival, Networking, Continental Breakfast  
8:00 to 9:30—Presentation with Q & A

\$20 per person for Midstate Chamber Members. \$30 for Non-Members  
Includes Continental Breakfast.

Register 5 or more employees from same company: \$10 per person

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Attendee (s) : \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Bill Me    \_\_\_\_ Charge My Credit Card (American Express, VISA, MasterCard, Discover)  
Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Expr. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Verification Code # \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code of Card: \_\_\_\_\_

RSVP TO: MIDSTATE CHAMBER, 546 South Broad St., Suite 2C, Meriden, CT 06450  
info@midstatechamber.com - 203-235-7901—Fx: 203.686.0172  
www.midstatechamber.com





**Be a SPONSOR for THE Community Networking Affair of 2018! The event is GROWING - we've reserved Aqua Turf's Kay's Pier South Room this year! Register NOW for this event - click flyer!**



**SAVE THE DATE**  
**Thursday, April 12th, 2018**



**122<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting, Dinner,  
Awards & Silent Auction**  
*The Largest Gathering of  
Business & Community Leaders*



**Aqua Turf Club ~ Kay's Pier South, 4:30 pm to 8:00 pm**

**RESERVE NOW & MAXIMIZE YOUR PROMOTION FOR THE BEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR**

This event maintains the reputation as THE NETWORKING AFFAIR OF THE YEAR...attendance continues to grow and we will be in a different room this year at Aqua Turf ~ Kay's Pier South!  
Bringing business & community leaders together for a celebration of successes!  
**Election of Board Members | Honoring our Award Winners | Silent Auction**

**New for 2018:** Gift Bags for all attendees!

Title and Premier Sponsor Opportunities allow for placement of items in gift bags. Items can be a flyer, promotional give-aways, business information and business cards, etc. Items **MUST** be received by **April 1, 2018**. We've also created a "Gift Bag Sponsorship" (for businesses that are not a title or premier sponsor) add a Gift Bag Sponsorship for \$150 and provide 300 items for the bags!

*Thanks to our Title Sponsor to Date:*

**SALONATHANIEL**

**Sponsorship Opportunities**

**Title Sponsors: \$1,500**

Reserved Table of 10  
Recognition in Press Releases  
Recognition with a Plaque  
Banner Displayed  
Web/E-Minder Recognition  
**Items in Gift Bags**  
Representative presents 2 minute Remarks  
Full Page Ad in Commemorative Program

**Premier Sponsors: \$1,000**

Reserved Table of 10  
Recognition in Press Releases  
Recognition with a Plaque  
Banner Displayed  
Web/E-Minder Recognition  
**Items in Gift Bags**  
½ Page Ad in Commemorative Program

**Silver Sponsors: \$475**

Reserved Table of 5  
Pre-Event Web Promotion  
Logo on Screen at Event  
¼ Page Ad in Commemorative Program



**Individual Seats: \$65 (\$75 at the door)**

**Ads in Full Color Commemorative Program:**

Full Page Ad (5"W x 8"H) - \$200  
Half Page Ad (5"W x 4"H) - \$125  
Quarter Page Ad (5"W x 2"H) - \$65

**Gift Bag Sponsorship - \$150**

Please call or e-mail the Chamber today to reserve your sponsorship or seat.  
Midstate Chamber of Commerce  
546 South Broad St., Suite 2C, Meriden, CT 06450  
203-235-7901 ~ [info@midstatechamber.com](mailto:info@midstatechamber.com)

**Register early for maximum promotion & take advantage of these amazing sponsorship opportunities or place an ad in the full color Program**



## 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**!



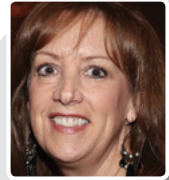
**Find ALL of our members' news online:**

<http://www.midstatechamber.com/News>

## LOOKING TO GROW YOUR BUSINESS?

We are the only publication that reaches every home in central Connecticut, more than 265,000 readers in print and even more online!

Put Elaine to work for your business today.  
Contact Elaine at 203.317.2327  
or [ejustino@rjmediagroup.com](mailto:ejustino@rjmediagroup.com)



Call **Elaine Justino**,  
your media consultant for the  
Record-Journal, Weekly Citizens  
and Homebase Digital.

MEDIA THAT MOVES YOUR BUSINESS FORWARD >>

**There is SO MUCH GOOD NEWS TO SHARE, and we recognize how valuable your time is ... so we are trying 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>**

### **American Addiction Centers, Inc.**

- Be a part of the first Recovery Allies Group on the last Tuesday of the Month (**February 27th this month**). *Learn More...*



**Clean Homes by Valerie LLC** - We recently finished our annual collection of shoeboxes filled with basic commodities and small toys for Operation Christmas Child/Samaritan's Purse. *Learn More...*



### **Community Health Center of Meriden**

- The Hartford Business Journal's annual Health Care Heroes awards recognize "individuals and organizations that work hard every day to care for the community." Congratulations to CHC - named a Health Care Hero for Corporate Innovation. *Learn More...*



**Connex Credit Union** - It's always a good thing to put away something for tomorrow. And with Connex's Step Money Market Special - *Learn More...*



**Ferraro's Market** - Ferraro's Meat King Winter Hours at the MERIDEN location are as follows: Tuesday - Friday 10:00am - 6:00pm; Saturday 9:00am - 5:00pm; Closed Sundays & Mondays. *Learn More...*

**Hartford Yard Goats** - Book NOW for Prime Seating - Individual Tickets on Sale to Public Feb. 9. Call your Midstate Chamber Contact - *Learn More...*



### **Home Store Real Estate Celebrates 10th Anniversary!**

The Home Store Real Estate recently celebrated its 10th anniversary, announced Joe Criscuolo, owner/broker. Encouraged by past and present clients, Joe left the corporate real estate world in December of 2007 to open up his own company to specialize in providing the best hands on service available - *Learn More...*



**Ion Insurance Corporation**, a full-service independent insurance brokerage affiliated with Ion Bank, has hired Brian Paul as a Commercial Lines Producer. In his new position, Brian will be responsible for advising business owners on Commercial Property and Casualty products. *Learn More...*



### **Meriden Board of Education**

- A very informative presentation on **SCL (Student Centered Learning)** was the main event at January's Midstate Chamber Education Committee Meeting. *Learn More about the presentation and work of the Education Committee...*



Find community resources at: [www.midstatechamber.com](http://www.midstatechamber.com)

**O&G Industries** Receives Sustainability Award For "Bat Cave"  
 - O&G Industries, one of the country's Top 400 Contractors, was recently presented with a 2017 Sustainability Award by the Connecticut Chapter of the American Planning Association for the construction of a brown bat hibernaculum at the company's New Milford Quarry. [Learn More...](#)



**Seasons Federal Credit Union** was recently named as one of the Best Places to Work in Connecticut.



This thirteenth annual program was created by the Hartford Business Journal and Best Companies Group. [Learn More...](#)

**In other O&G news..** O&G Industries, one of the country's Top 400 Contractors, recently completed the four-year addition and renovation project at Meriden's Orville H. Platt High School. [Learn More...](#)



**Wheeler Clinic Opens Hartford Flagship Location**  
 - On January 8th, 2018, more than 125 community leaders, supporters and staff gathered to celebrate the opening of Wheeler's Family Health & Wellness Center. Located at 43 Woodland St., Hartford. [Learn More...](#)



## The "I Love My Library" Dinner



**Violi's Restaurant  
 Hunter's Golf Course  
 688 Westfield Avenue, Meriden**

**Sunday Afternoon, Feb. 11, 2018  
 12:00 pm — 4:30 pm** (snow date 2-18-18)

**\$25.00  
 per person**

**Buffet • Soda • Dessert • Cash Bar**

**TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE FRIENDS BOOKSTORE**  
 105 Miller Street (East side of the Meriden Public Library)

OUR HOURS:

Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri

10AM-4PM

Thursday

10AM-8PM

Saturday

10AM-1PM

**A NOTE ON TAXES:** \$7 of your ticket is tax deductible as a charitable donation.  
 If a ticket is not used, you may deduct the full \$25 as a charitable donation.  
 Every ticket given as a business gift is tax deductible as a cost of doing business.

**The Friends of the Meriden Public Library**



Find it all at: [www.midstatechamber.com](http://www.midstatechamber.com)



## Free online courses for entrepreneurs and business owners



Earn a certificate from a distinguished university in Silicon Valley

CEDF's *We Teach Success* program, in partnership with Santa Clara University's My Own Business Institute, is pleased to offer access to the world's leading source of free online education for entrepreneurs. This program is open to all small business owners and those contemplating opening a business, not just CEDF clients.

These popular courses are used by students worldwide to bolster the results for every kind of enterprise you can imagine. The material can prepare you to start your business or expand your existing operation. Videos, audio files and text are employed to help you understand the best practices for selecting, financing, staffing and marketing your business.

Each course, *LAUNCHING YOUR BUSINESS* and *GROWING YOUR BUSINESS*, contains 15 sessions. You can take the courses at your own pace without the pressure of deadlines or class attendance. The program design offers freedom for you to focus on the areas that require more of your attention while letting you move faster through material that you more easily absorb.

### Benefits of registering and completing one or both courses:

- You'll earn a Certificate of Completion and Digital Badge from Santa Clara University and CEDF.
- Your Certificate is recognized by CEDF as evidence of seriousness and prudent preparation by our lending department. While many other factors influence our final decision on a lending application, completion will positively impact your presentation.
- Direct access to resources for each session, including a user forum monitored by business ownership veterans including CEDF Business Advisors
- A way to measure your learning through quizzes and a final exam
- Access to additional videos featuring subject matter experts
- Access to revisit the materials as needed for reference as your business journey unfolds.
- No cost at any time for the courses contained in this platform.

Full information and registration at [cedf.com/success](http://cedf.com/success)



### Course Contents

**Launching your Business**  
 Session 1: Deciding on a Business  
 Session 2: The Business Plan  
 Session 3: Home Based Business  
 Session 4: Financing the Business  
 Session 5: Business Organization  
 Session 6: Licenses and Permits  
 Session 7: Business Insurance  
 Session 8: Communication Tools  
 Session 9: Buying a Business or Franchise  
 Session 10: Location and Leasing  
 Session 11: Accounting and Cash Flow  
 Session 12: E-Commerce  
 Session 13: Opening and Marketing  
 Session 14: Managing Employees  
 Session 15: Expanding and Handling Problems

**Growing your Business**  
 Session 1: Getting Financial Controls in Place  
 Session 2: Getting Your Team in Place  
 Session 3: Customer Feedback  
 Session 4: Achieving Lowest Expenses  
 Session 5: Develop Negotiating Skills  
 Session 6: Alternatives for Capital Allocation  
 Session 7: Advanced E-Commerce  
 Session 8: Growth By Duplication  
 Session 9: Vertical Integration  
 Session 10: Franchising Your Business  
 Session 11: Global Expansion  
 Session 12: Buying Businesses  
 Session 13: Public Ownership  
 Session 14: Selling Your Business  
 Session 15: Considerations for Family Succession



Invites you to attend the

## 2018 SCRABBLE CHALLENGE

Register your team of 4 online at

[www.lvaghn.org](http://www.lvaghn.org)

\$35 per player/\$140 per table

Special college team price: \$100 per table

Prizes for Highest Team Score and Best Literacy-themed Team Costumes!



FEBRUARY 28, 2018

The event is being held at the 4 Points by Sheraton  
 275 Research Parkway, Meriden, CT  
 5:30-8:00 PM

For more information call (203) 235-1714

or email at [scrabble@lvaghn.org](mailto:scrabble@lvaghn.org)



# RORY MCILROY

## JOINS 2018 PLAYER FIELD

TRAVELERS CHAMPIONSHIP

**95 WEEKS AT WORLD #1**

**13 PGA TOUR VICTORIES**

**2016 FEDEXCUP CHAMPION**

**FOUR-TIME MAJOR WINNER**

JUNE 18-24, 2018 | TPC RIVER HIGHLANDS | CROMWELL, CT

## BUY TICKETS NOW

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

PLEASE COMPLETE OUR SURVEY

[Click Here for the survey](#)

The Meriden Public Library is thinking about its future and how it can meet the community's interests and needs.

By completing this online survey, you will help the Meriden Public Library develop and implement a plan of service for now and in the future.

The survey has 11 questions and is in English and Spanish. Printed copies are available at the Library, City Hall, Senior Center and Health Department. You don't have to be a frequent Meriden Library user to complete it.

To thank you for your time, your completed survey will be entered into a random drawing for

a new iPad Mini

OR

a grocery store gift card

[Click Here for the Survey](#)

Meriden Public Library  
 105 Miller Street  
 Meriden, CT 06450  
 (203) 238-2344  
[www.meridenlibrary.org](http://www.meridenlibrary.org)



PROMOTION



EDUCATION

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



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.*

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

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 501(c)(6) are not a charitable tax deduction. The organization serves as an advocate for and promotes its member businesses.