

JOIN US ON APRIL 6 FOR OUR 120TH YEAR OF MAKING HISTORY

On April 6, 2016 at our Annual Meeting, Dinner, Awards Program and Silent Auction, everyone is invited to attend as the Midstate Chamber celebrates our 120th year serving the businesses and communities in central Connecticut. It is our signature networking event that draws a great crowd in excess of 300 business leaders.

Over our 120 years, we have remained a business organization rich in a history that we all are very proud of. While we will celebrate our past accomplishments at the dinner, we will also recognize the businesses and persons who have made outstanding contributions and continue to make history.

We are recognizing Yvonne deAngeli-Fontanez, General Manager of the Four Points by Sheraton, and loe Mirra, owner of Business Resource Center, LLC, as our two Community Partnership Award winners. These two individuals are exemplary role models and serve in a great number of capacities for both local and regional causes. They are most deserving.

Our Small Business Leadership Award will be presented to Valentin Karate and our Large Business Award goes to Suzio York Hill Companies. These successful businesses are excellent examples of industry leaders in action.

Our new Chamber Innovation Award recognizes the partnership of Protein Sciences Corporation, Healthmed Urgent Care and Hunter's Ambulance with the "thinking out of the box" FastVax Mobile Vaccine Van.

Come celebrate with these deserving businesses on April 6, 2016. See the enclosed flyer in this newsletter for details.



FIRST MILE / LAST **MILE EMPLOYER SURVEY CLOSES ON 3/4/16**

Through the work of the South Central Council of Governments and Chamber member Milone & MacBroom, Inc., the City of Meriden has been working on a First/Last Mile study to understand the anticipated local transit needs of Berlin, Meriden and Wall-ingford. These three communities will experience an increase in ridership from The Hartford Line (www.nhhsrail.com) which will start service in 2018...and we want to be prepared with bus, taxi, van, bike and every mode of ground transportation to get people to and from the centers of commerce and employment.

This chamber has distributed the Regional Employer Survey through our email distribution list and the responses have been pretty good so far. This is your last chance to weigh in on the future needs for your employees, customers and visitors. Please participate today by clicking HERE - or on the link on the Chamber's home page at www.midstatechamber. com. The survey takes approximately 3-4 minutes and we need your valuable input. Thank you in advance for your time on this important project.

CAMPAIGN We continue to ask 650

our members to assist us in growing our organization.

There is strength and a lot more business for all

with greater numbers!

UPDATE

WE are GROWING closer each day to our goal of 650 member by 4-6-16!

With your contacts and connections, we will make it. We are asking you to look through your own contact list and let them know the value of membership in the Midstate Chamber....we deliver on Promotion, Education, Networking and Leadership.

We are busy with meaningful work and very interested in improving the business climate here in CT.

Email membership@midstatechamber.com or call us at 203.235.7901 to help us GROW!

In This Issue:



OF BODY OF NEWSLETTER PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE......2 CHAMBER CONTACT INFO.2 FVENTS CALENDAR 3 MEMBER RENEWALS......4 NEW MEMBERS 4 MEMBER UPDATES......5 MEMBER DISCOUNTS...6

Message from President... *INSIDE: pg 2:*

WOW: **Midstate** Chamber Receives Napier Innovation Grant!

FUNNY BUSINESS Comedy Night



CT Business Day and Legislative ACTION Agenda

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 NEWSLETTERS: http://www.thechambernewsletter.com 2015-16 CHAMBER BOOK: http://www.thechamberbook.com



Midsta Chambe Commer	rof	B	usine	ss (2 🔆	AMAZING EXPOSURE
In Partnership With: The 38 th Annual Daffodil Festival			2/2	016	The ROI is INCREDIBLE	Sunday, May 1 st
Exhibiting Company Information: Please print clearly Name of Presenting Company Mailing Address				able ex	EXPO brings valu- posure—that's why e back each year."	"The contacts I made resulted in over \$10,000 in new sales and kept me busy through summer!"
City		St	Zip	E-mail Ad	dress	
Phone	Fax	I	1	Exact Wo	rding for Booth Signage	
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Choose your Option Below				MEMB	ER RATES:	NON-MEMBER RATES:
□ Title Sponsor(s) * — See t				\$4,5		\$4,800
□ Presenting Sponsor(s) * -				\$2,7		\$3,050
□ Saturday & Sunday "Perin				\$1,2		\$1,500
Saturday & Sunday "Interi			*	\$1,1		\$1,400 \$1,250
 Saturday & Sunday Exhibi Saturday Only Exhibitor Bo 			6:00 n m)	•	50 50	\$1,250 \$ 850
□ Saturday Only Exhibitor Bo				•	50	\$ 650 \$ 650
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 =						
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Visit www.midstatechamber.com or www.daffodilfest.com for more details about the 2016 Festival!





Saturday, April 30th *and* Sunday, May 1st

Central Connecticut's Largest Exhibit of Area Businesses!!

With an audience of 50,000+ ... This is <u>THE PLACE</u> for Maximum Exposure for your Business Up to 65 Exhibitors Under One Tent Expo in 2016 is 2 DAYS! Friday Setup only + exhibit on Saturday and Sunday



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 \$350 to \$4,000



2016 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. Refreshments for vendors will be provided on Friday!
- Saturday, April 30: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. (the Festival activities continue until 9:30 p.m.)
- Sunday, May 1: 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 & SIMPLE:

- 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 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 company name on bags distributed from the chamber booth throughout the weekend, prime space, special sponsor signage, and more.
- Reservations for all Expo locations are required by March 1, 2016 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,* 2016.
- 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.





Help Grow Your Business We are here to help!

The Midstate Chamber of Commerce presents this workshop series on Constant Contact. April Woodcock will facilitate the sessions to help you learn about marketing your business on social media, to identify what tools your business should use for marketing and social media.

March 15th

Email Marketing for Success: Newsletters & Announcements

You will learn the most effective strategies for creating email newsletters and more. Also you will learn how to get more people to open their email campaigns and how to make them more effective marketing tools. (Appropriate for all levels.)

April 14—Getting Started with E-mail Marketing (Live Demo) May 19—Social Media Marketing

> (Visit our website for details of each session. Materials from previous sessions can be sent to you with payment of the full series.)



Announcements 4-14: Email Marketing for Success— Demo

3-15: Newsletters &



5-19: Social Media Marketing

Sessions will be held at 8:00 AM at the Midstate Chamber 3 Colony St., Suite 301, Meriden Cost is \$7.00 for each class or \$20 for all 4 sessions.

	Please indicate sessions attending All 4 sessions 3/15 4/14 5/19 Space is Limited. Please register Early!
Company Name: _	
Attendees:	
Contact E-mail:	
	Bill me Credit Card (Amer. Exp, VISA, M/C, Discover) Please Make Checks Payable to Midstate Chamber of Commerce
Card #	
Card Expira	tion: Card Ver. # Card Zip Code

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT: MIDSTATE CHAMBER RECEIVES NAPIER INNOVATION GRANT

Séan W. Moore

In celebration if its 60th year, the James H. Napier Foundation announced that the Chamber has recently been awarded an *Innovation Grant*. With this award, the Chamber will convene a steering committee, area realtors, community leaders, consultants and the community at large to study and to

plan for the future long-term housing needs of Meriden.

While there will certainly be a Transit Oriented Development focus, we are especially interested in a thorough understanding of three types of residential dwellings being affordable housing or workforce housing units, housing for the millennials or "early renters" and housing for the baby boomers or empty nesters. This project will complement the Brownfields Area-Wide Revitalization (BAR) Grant and other studies currently underway within the city. We want to match the lifestyles of the hundreds of new community residents with the over 100,000 square feet of commercial development to create a vibrant district with the amenities that the residents will require.

We'd like to thank the Napier Foundation Board and staff for supporting the project and we look forward to getting to work very soon.

LAUGH WITH US ON MARCH 18



Because everybody needs a break from the business of business, the Chamber will host its first annual "Funny Business Comedy Night" on March 18th at the PNA Park Hall. We have planned a light evening of connection, comedy and camaraderie on a Friday night to end the week with a few laughs. Tables of 8 are available and feel free to call the Chamber today to make your reservation! THANKS to Quinnipiac Valley Community Credit Union for their sponsorship - we have room for more sponsors so give us a call and check out the details on the enclosed flyer.

CT BUSINESS DAY IS MARCH 9, 2016

As a Connecticut business leader, you have clout at the Capitol. Exercise that influence at Connecticut Business Day at the Legislative Office Building in Hartford, next to the State Capitol. You'll have a chance to meet with our state lawmakers to help them understand and support legislative proposals for a more positive business climate. Connecticut Business Day is free of charge and supported by Connecticut chambers of commerce and other business and trade groups. Together, business leaders and legislators will address factors impacting Connecticut's ability to reach its great economic potential.

CLICK HERE to view our 2016 Legislative Action Agenda and bring these items AND YOUR SPECIFIC ISSUES to Hartford with us on the 9th.



WHO'S WHO AND PEOPLE TO KNOW

It has been said that The Midstate Chamber is the BEST WAY to make connections within the communities of central Connecticut. In this section we keep you - our members - updated on area leaders in business and community.

This month we introduce you to our new Treasurer and newest member of our Board of Directors: *Mike Nowicky, Connex Credit Union.*

Michael J. Nowicky is the new Treasurer on the Midstate Chamber's Board of Directors. After a 26 year career in banking/credit unions, Mike recently accepted the role as Branch Manager of Connex Credit Union in Meriden. He joined the Chamber to get involved with local business leaders, make



Mike Nowicky

strong connections in the community of his birth, business, and residence, and to learn more about the workings of Meriden and the surrounding communities. Mike graduated from Post University with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. He also served in the United States Marine Corps during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Mike believes in giving back to his community and enjoys coaching youth sports including the Meriden Raiders, South Meriden Baseball and the YMCA Winter Basketball League. Mike resides in Meriden with his wife, his 15 year old daughter and 9 year old son.

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.

AND... HERE is your 2016-17 Planning / Budgeting Guide



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

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. Just SCAN and CLICK! RSVP NOW for the highlighted chamber events below - just click and enter your info! Wed, Mar 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 - 5:30 pm 2016 Small Business Boot Camp - You can still register - call 203.235.7901. Thu, Mar 3 - 8:00 am Campaign 650 Meet & Greet with Midstate Chamber at EDGE Fitness Club, Meriden. Fri, Mar 4 & Sat, Mar 5 3rd Annual NFL Players Weekend: Silent/Live Auction & Dinner Buffet held at Zandri's Stillwood Inn Friday at 6pm; Players Youth Clinic held at Worthington Johnson Athletic Center, Choate Rosemary Hall Saturday at noon;"Bowl with the Pros" held at Brunswick Colony Lanes Saturday at 6:00 pm. Tue, Mar 8 - 2:00 pm: CT Tourism Marketing Outreach Meeting held at Radisson Hotel Med, Mar 9 - 9:30 am: Connecticut Business Day held at Legislative Office Building (LOB). See enclosed flyer. Thu, Mar 10 - 9:00 am: SCORE - Counseling Sessions for Businesses held at Chamber of Commerce Fri, Mar 11 - 8:00 am: Campaign 650 Meet & Greet with Midstate Chamber at Wallingford Flower & Gift Shop Mar 14 – Mar 18 Connecticut Export Week - Free Export Training to Grow Your Business. Visit www.ctexporters.com to view the many training opportunities to globalize your business. Tue, Mar 15 - 8:00 am: Constant Contact Workshop - Email Marketing for Success: Newsletters & Announcements at Midstate Chamber. See enclosed flver for details Thu, Mar 17 - 7:30 am: Worker's Comp Seminar at Waterbury Country Club with Employers Association of the NorthEast. Fri, Mar 18 - 5:30 pm: Campaign 650 Meet & Greet with Midstate Chamber (Pre-Comedy Night) at The Hall at PNA Park – North Plains Industrial Rd., Wallingford. Register your guests: 203.235.7901. 🚰 Fri, Mar 18 - 7:00 pm: Funny Business - A Midstate Chamber Comedy Night held at The Hall at PNA Park - Polish National Alliance - #513. See enclosed flyer. Sun, Mar 20 - 8:00 am: 2016 Palm Sunday Brunch at Platt High School Cafeteria, 220 Coe Ave., Meriden. \$10 Adults / \$4 for children 5 -10. Tue, Mar 22 - 5:00 pm: Business After Hours featuring Salon Nathaniel . See enclosed flyer. Villa Capri's Annual Easter Champagne Brunch Buffet at Villa Capri, 906 N. Colony Rd., Wallingford, 203.265.7174 Sun, Mar 27 Wed, Mar 30 - 5:30 pm: Literacy Volunteers Scrabble Challenge at JCC of Greater New Haven, 360 Amity Rd., Woodbridge. 203.776.5899. Wed, Mar 30 - 6:00 pm: Paint Nite at ARC of Meriden & Wallingford Thu, Mar 31 - 5:00 pm: Business After Hours Featuring the Transition Expo held at Four Points by Sheraton. See flyer. Thu, Apr 1 - 6:00 pm: HOLA Paint Night at Wepa, downtown Meriden. \$50 pp incl refreshments. 203.235.7901. Benefits Education Awards.

This is a SHORT LIST of some of our KEY events - for even MORE business and community events - including Chamber Committee meetings - along with details and

updates visit...http://www.midstatechamber.com/Calendar

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



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!

Find event photos at: at www.midstatechamber.com







UPCOMING MARCH EVENTS:

SAVE THE DATE For the Midstate Chamber's

Midstate

Chamber of

20th Annual Meeting, Dinner, Awards 🕤 Silent Auction

> *Wednesday, April 6th, 2016 4:30 pm to 8:00 pm*

Celebrating 120 years as the Chamber of Choice in Central Connecticut

> at the Four Points by Sheraton 275 Research Parkway, Meriden

> > **Election of Board Members**

Honoring our Chamber Award Winners Join in the Celebration of this year's Chamber Award Winners: Innovation Award-FastVax Mobile Van Community Partnership Award-Joe Mirra & Yvonne de Angeli-Fontanez Small Business Award-Valentin Karate Large Business Award-Suzio York Hill Companies

Silent Auction

Past Auction Items have included: gift certificates, wine & beer baskets, Overnight Stays, etc. We will accept Auction donation items until March 23rd. Each Auction package has a minimum \$50 value.

Invitations will be mailed shortly to all members.

Sponsorship opportunities available Register early for maximum promotion

See Reverse for Sponsorship Opportunities



Sponsorship Opportunities

Title Sponsors: \$1,500

Reserved Table of 10 Recognition in Press Releases Recognition with a 120 Year Plaque Banner Displayed Web/E-Minder Recognition Premium Display Table 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 120 Year Plaque Banner Displayed Web/E-Minder Recognition Premium Display Table ¹/₂ Page Ad in Commemorative Program

Silver Sponsors: \$450

Reserved Table of 5 Shared Display Table Pre-Event Web Promotion Logo on Screen at Event ¹⁄₄ Page Ad in Commemorative Program

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

Program Ads in Commemorative Program:

 Full Page Ad:
 \$200

 (5"W x 8"H)
 \$125

 Half Page Ad:
 \$125

(5"W x 4"H)

Quarter Page Ad: **\$65** (5"W x 2"H) Sponsor or Place an Ad in the Special Commemorative Program Book for our 120th Year!

Celebrating 120 years as the Chamber of Choice In Central Connecticut

This is THE event of the year!

Enjoy a scrumptious dinner which includes:

Southwest salad: baby mixed green, charred sweet corn, black beans, cherry tomato, cheese and dressed with lime cilantro vinaigrette

Southwest stuffed chicken: stuffed chicken breast with Chorizo sausage, Monterey jack, cilantro and chopped chilies, served with Spanish rice and stewed eggplant, tri color peppers, red onion and tomato sauce

Dessert: Flan garnished with fresh berries, mints, whipped cream and caramel sauce.

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!

A & A Office Systems, Inc. Alderman Motor Co. Atty. Jon Patrucco **City Roofing & Siding, Inc. Connecticut Baptist Homes Connex Credit Union Data-Link Corporation Double Play Café** E. Haberli Electric, LLC Edward Zavaski Agency, L.L.C. **Empire Pizza Employers Association of the NorthEast Fosdick Fulfillment Corporation George McGoldrick Green Olive Diner Instant Imprints Meriden Daffodil Festival Nutmeg State Financial Credit Union Seniors Have Dreams Too, Inc.** Shiner Signs, Inc. **Spanish Community of Wallingford Ulbrich Stainless Steels and Specialty Metals United Way of Meriden & Wallingford** Web Solutions, Inc. Westmount Management, Inc. Workforce Alliance, Inc.







We are delighted to introduce our new members - the lifeblood of our organization and the reason we exist. We continually strive to connect you to one another and to our communities. 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!

Art Capsule, LLC: 105 Hanover St., Meriden, CT 06451. The phone number is 207.233.7281. Alexa Schwartz is the primary contact. Art Capsule is an art digitization and advisory service that headquarters offers antique, vintage and artisanal goods and hosts exhibitions, community events and learning opportunities.

Captel Outreach: 88 N. Pearl St., Meriden, CT 06450. The phone number is 475.689.5835 and the fax number is 310.450.9918. Kim Schmidt is the primary contact and is an Outreach Representative, OEI: outreach-education-installation of CapTel Captioned Telephones. Ideal for people with hearing loss, the CapTel Telephone shows word-for-word captions of everything a caller says. Like captions on TV-for your phone. The telephone, captioning service & installation is free for people with verified hearing loss.

Double Play Café: 320 Main St., Yalesville, CT 06492. The phone number is 203.265.2599. Kevin LaMay is the primary contact. Double Play Café is a sports bar with 12 big screen TV's, award winning steamed cheeseburgers, and a full menu including appetizers, sandwiches and salads.

Shop.com: I Davenport Place, Wallingford, CT 06492. the phone number is 203.843.4378. Lynelle Prast is the primary contact. Shop.com is your ultimate on-line shopping destination with over 1,000 brands, over 20,000 coupons and deals and you can earn cashback on your purchases.

Solar City: 714 Brook St., Suite 150, Rocky Hill, CT 06067. The phone number is 888-765-2489. Brian Paeth is the primary contact. Since 2006, Solar City has been offering clean, affordable energy.

TEM-Sandler Training: 35 Cold Spring Rd., #400, Rocky Hill, CT 06067. The phone number is 203.549.1943. Ron Taylor is the primary contact. TEM-Sandler Training provides training and consulting solutions for Fortune 500 companies and small- to medium-sized businesses through Sales and sales management training; Management and Leadership training for business owners and senior executives; Negotiations training; Customer Service training; and Coaching and Mentoring.

The Center for Foot & Ankle Surgery, LLC: 187 N. Main St., Suite 6, Wallingford, CT 06492. The phone number is 203.265.4814 and the fax number is 203.949.4741. Mary is the primary contact. The Center For Foot & Ankle Surgery LLC provides a high level of care for all conditions that affect the foot and ankle and specializes in all foot and ankle surgery and conservative treatments. Thank you to Ron Nagy of the Record-Journal Publishing Company for inviting Mary to join the Chamber!

Ulbrich Boys & Girls Club: 72 Grand St., Wallingford, CT 06492. The phone number is 203.269.7535 and the fax number is 203.269.0414. Zully Torres is the primary contact. The mission of the Ulbrich Boys & Girls Club is enable youth, especially those who need them most, to reach their full potential.

Yankee Home Improvement Inc.: 36 Justin Dr., Chicopee, MA 01022. The phone number is 413.341.5259 and the fax number is 413.341.5269. Alecia Surprenant is the primary contact. Yankee Home Improvement believes that improving your home should be a stress-free and enjoyable experience.

Join us in welcoming these new members.



Find business resources at: www.midstatechamber.com



Salon Nathaniel would like to invite you to their 8th Anniversary Celebration. Tour the newly remodeled salon.

Enjoy a Champagne Toast and Hors d'oeuvre, Networking, Door Prizes, and more!

The first 25 guests will receive gift bags & everyone will receive 20% off of all product.



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.







Transition Expo 2016

will be held at Four Points by Sheraton

275 Research Parkway, Meriden

Thursday, March 31st, 2016

5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Deb Kohan, Transition Coordinator for the Meriden Public Schools and member of the Midstate Chamber of Commerce Education Committee is inviting all Chamber Members and their staff to this special Business After

Hours to provide businesses with firsthand information regarding the benefits and experiences of employing folks with disabilities.



The Goal of the Transition Expo is:

- To engage the Business Community in this great event
- Provide valuable information about employing folks with disabilities
- Share how we can collaborate especially in the area of jobs and careers
- To provide a better understanding of individuals with disabilities
- · Highlight many successful experiences of students with disabilities



Attendees are also encouraged to visit the approximately 40-45 exhibitor booths for more information until 8:00pm.

Mingle, Meet and Enjoy Refreshments after Work!

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 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 submis-sion date OR by member. Just SCAN and CLICK!



Find ALL of our members' news online:

http://www.midstatechamber.com/News

Boscov's: March 19 - 10:00 AM - 3:00 Easter EGGstravaganza - Hop PM: Along the Bunny Trail for Treats and Prizes. At the end of the trail, each child receives an Easter prize! - Guess the Num-ber of Jelly Beans - Easter Coloring Sheets Temporary Tattoos - Decorate an Easter Cookie - Bring your Camera and Take a Photo with the Easter Bunny. Boscov's is teaming up



oscová

with the Easter Bunny, boscov's is tearning up with March of Dimes to make this Easter eggstra special! Purchase a paper pin-up at the Courtesy Desk for \$1. All proceeds go directly to the March of Dimes. For more infor-mation, please contact Kathy Horsky at khorsky@boscovs. com or call 203.235.4144 ext. 1202. Boscov's is located at 490.1 evis Ave Maridan 480 Lewis Ave., Meriden.

Central CT Massage & Wellness - Mallory Simone from Central Connecticut Massage and Wellness and The Edge in Meriden will be partnering up for a Char-ity Drawing during the Month of March. All proceeds will be going to the Meriden Women and Families Center located at



169 Colony Street, Meriden. The winner will receive a com-plimentary I hour recovery massage with Mallory, as well as a membership from The Edge of Meriden and more! Draw-ing is March 28th. Visit www.centralctmassageandwellness. com for more info on Central CT Massage & Wellness – check out www.theedgefitnessclubs.com for more on The Edge and visit www.womenfamilies.org for details on WFC. Stop in to support all of these members - all for a great cause!

Colonial

Flooring America.

Colonial Flooring America was recognized recently at a Nation-

al Flooring Convention in Las

Vegas. The store's most recent name change was due to its new membership status with Flooring American, but Colo-nial Flooring America in Wallingford, CT has been updating its name for years to evolve in a continual changing marketplace. "Progression of business dictates from time to time you have to make certain changes," said Peter Escobar, presi-dent, Colonial Flooring America. The 43-year-old company started as The Colonial Carpet Shop in 1973, changed to Colonial Carpet Plus in 2002, and became Colonial Flooring Plus in 2003, one year after Escobar took over the business. With a body and the starter the starter business. With a background in marketing, Escobar took over the business. With a background in marketing, Escobar knows the right name is an essential component of growth. "Colonial' itself has gained a great reputation and is very well known in this area," Escobar said. "We wanted to keep that intact. When I bought the business in 2002 I knew it was more than carpet so I changed it to 'flooring,' I took it upon myself to change with the times." Escobar said the name change was a "great move" that belond so this store apart from compositors move" that helped set his store apart from competitors. "Lots of stores were still working in the dark ages. You have a little bit of an upper hand; consumers and business people realize when you make changes that your company is doing something different as opposed to someone who is always operating the old fashioned way." The store officially ac-knowledged its affiliation with Flooring America by adding it to its name in June 2015, which was promoted heavily through local newspapers, especially during the first month and special in-store events.

Connex Credit Union: What's bet-ter – free checking or \$100? Or both? Open a free Unbank Checking



account with Connex Credit Union we'll welcome you with a \$100 gift! Connex Unbank Checking is always on your side with: no minimum balance requirement, free online and mobile banking, free mobile check deposit, free bill pay, free eStatements, and free Advocates to help you reach your financial goals. Open your free Unbank Checking account today online, over the phone or in a branch. New members only. Visit us at www.connexcu.org for more information or stop into the Meriden office, located in Townline Plaza, 533 South Broad St., Meriden.

Ion Bank: John Jahne, Sr. Vice President, Chief Information Officer at Ion Bank has been chosen as a "New Leader in Banking" for 2015. The Connecticut Bankers Association and Connecticut Banking magazine asked bankers throughout the Nutmeg State to nominate individuals that they believe are rising stars in the banking profession. Nominees needed to be employed at a Connecti-cut bank, be 50 years of age or younger, and be making a significant contribution to their institution or community. John is among a handful of other individuals that were chosen with this dis-tinguished honor. On Thursday evening, January 14, 2016, the Connecticut Bankers Association hosted a Gala Awards Ceremony and dinner at the MGM Grand Resort at Foxwoods. ~~~~ Five Star Professional is pleased to announce **Diane Dornfried** of Ion Bank has been named as a Five Star Mortgage Professional for 2015. The Five Star Mortgage Professional award winners represent an exclusive group of mortgage professionals who have demonstrated excellence in their field by satisfying ten objective selection criteria that



John Jahne



Diane Dornfried

are associated with providing quality service to their clients. "Di-ane focuses on the customer and provides outstanding customer service, which are fundamental features of the Bank's service standards," said Charles J. Boulier III, president and CEO of Ion Bank.

Meriden Public Library - Crime does pay, at least for The Meriden Public Library which won \$1,000 from the writers' group Sisters in Crime. The only stipulation with the gift is that it must be used to buy books. The books don't have to be crime or mys-



books. The books don't have to be crime or mys-tery books but the group says, somewhat tongue-in-cheek, "why wouldn't you want to buy those?" Al-though the group awards 12 prizes a year to libraries, the Meriden Library is the only one in Connecticut to win in the past year. "We're honored to be chosen for this grant from this group that promotes and honors female crime writers," said Karen Roesler, director of the Meriden Public Library. "Our patrons love myster-ies, thrillers and crime stories so we will be able to make good use of this money." The Meriden Public Library holds many standing events each month such as Poetry Society, Coloring for Adults, Scrabble, Chess Club, Movies, Classics Book Club, Monday Night Card Duels, and Animee Club. Visit www.meridenlibrary.org for more info! more info!

Protein Sciences Corporation and UMN Flublok Pharma Inc. (Akita, Akita prefecture, Japan) an-nounced that Protein Sciences and UNIGEN Inc., influenza v Influenza vaccine Protein Sciences Corp a joint venture of UMN and IHI Corporation

(Koto-ku, Tokyo, Japan), entered into an agree-ment to source bulk Flublok influenza vaccine from Japan for the U.S. market. The drug substances will be manufactured at the Gifu (Japan) Plant of UNIGEN. UNIGEN manufactures Flublok for the Japan market in two 21,000 L bioreactors - ten times the scale the vaccine is manufactured in the United States. With this added the vaccine is manufactured in the United States. With this added capacity, Protein Sciences could provide as many as 25 million ad-ditional doses of Flublok each year to the U.S. flu vaccine supply. The companies have been working together for months on the preparation of a submission to secure FDA licensure of the Gifu plant and have requested a Type C meeting to initiate the process. Two Flublok manufacturing facilities in the U.S. operated by Pro-tein Sciences are already licensed by the FDA. Flublok vaccine is FDA approved for all adults 18 years and older and studies are underway to secure licensure for younger age groups. underway to secure licensure for younger age groups.





LOCATED AT 122 Broad ST. MERIDEN, CT CALL US AT (203) 440-1500

view our menu on Facebook or Laudanosapizza.weebly.com

Delivering to all of Wallingford and Meriden, catering to most of connecticut

Receive \$5 off

your next order of \$30 or more

\$21.95

Large 1 Topping Pizza 8pc Buffalo Wings 2Liter Soda

Receive \$10 off

your next Catering order of \$100 or more Buy 2 Large Speciality Pizzas and receive a small cheese free

Tuesday Special

2 Lg Cheese 20.00 2 Md Cheese 15.00 2 Sm Cheese 12.00 Buy 5 Large Pizzas and receive a Large Cheese free

One Coupon per order and coupon must be present to receive discount.

The Travelers Championship has announced that the ALS Clinic at the Hospital for Special Care (HSC) in New Britain, Connecticut, will be the primary benefi-ciary of the August 2016 tournament. Each year, HSC cares for more than 250 Connecticut residents with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), a progressive dis-order that affects the function of nerves and muscle. Last August, Travelers Chairman Jay Fishman disclosed that he had been diagnosed with the disease. The Travelers Championship,



We were proud to be a part of Three Ribbon Cuttings in February!



2/19 at Art Capsule, LLC 2/26: SBDC at City Hall

2/29: Dailey Professional Counseling







MALL Walk n Talk Marah

The Midstate Chamber of Commerce and our Health and Wellness Council



invites the public, along with chamber members and mall employees to a Mall Walk n Talk on Thursday, March 17th, 8AM-9AM at Westfield Meriden (Mall) (470 Lewis Ave., Meriden). Meet up at the food court - our host is Literacy Volunteers! WALK WITH US!

> **Vestfield** MERIDEN VISIT WESTELELD COM

LITERACY VOLUNTEERS



nament beneficiary that provides medically supervised summer camps and programs free of charge to children with serious illnesses and their families. A fundraising dinner will also be held on Friday, August 5, to support the Bruce Edwards Foundation for ALS Research. The dinner will feature leg-endary golfer Tom Watson, award-winning sports columnist John Feinstein and Fishman. Feinstein and Watson founded the Bruce Edwards Foundation in honor of Watson's longtime caddy and Wethersfield native, Bruce Ed-wards, who eventually lost his battle with ALS. The Travelers Championship bas generated more than \$20 million for more than \$20 monor for events. has generated more than \$33 million for more than 500 nonprofit orga-nizations across the region since the event began in 1952, and more than \$10 million since Travelers became the title sponsor in 2007. Tables at the Bruce Edwards Foundation Benefit Dinner can be purchased by contacting Tara Gerber at 860.502.6815. The Travelers Championship will be held August 1-7 at TPC River Highlands in Cronwell, Connecticut. JOIN the Midstate Chamber Volunteer Crew on Hole #12 on Thursday and Sunday during tournament week – call Rosanne at the chamber at 203.235.7901.

which donates 100 percent of its net proceeds to local charities, will continue to support a diverse mix of more than 100 charitable causes throughout the region, including The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp, a long-standing tournament beneficiary that provides medically supervised summer camps and

The Village at Kensington Place is seeking the business community's assistance for our visiting guest speaker program in which businesses or individuals are to present on a subject matter of personal interest or business related. Subjects can vary from talks on politics, finance, health, computers, the Arts, travel or any special inter-ests or hobbies. Our residents are lifelong learners and are interested in hearing about the local community and world around them. Guest speakers should be able to: Present on subject matter with confidence; Present for



a minimum of 45 minutes; Provide materials for presentation (if needed); Village will supply the use of a projector and screen. For more information or schedule at time to be a guest speaker contact: Leonora Rodriguez, Pro-gram Director (203)235-0181. Email: Lerodriguez@benchmarkquality.com

Wheeler Clinic Alternative in the Community - Wheeler has expanded the scope of its federally qualified health center (FQHC) to meet the health care needs of individuals with serious mental illness and co-occurring substance abuse disorders in Hartford, New Britain and surrounding commustance abuse disorders in Hartford, New Britain and surrounding commu-nities. The expansion was approved by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration. Wheeler's Health & Wellness Center in Bristol, achieved designation as a federally qualified health center in August 2015. "Our board, leadership and commu-nity partners have worked collaboratively to design strategies to address the alarming disparities in health and in access to health care, which so many of our consumers face," said Susan Walkama, LCSW, president and chief executive officer Wheeler Clinic chief executive officer, Wheeler Clinic.

Meriden Y.M.C.A. - CrossFit is used by police, firefighters and military personnel around the country to stay in top form. Whether you are getting in shape for your physical fitness test or working out to be fit for your job, CrossFit can help you achieve your goals. We have special member-ship rates for: firefighters; law enforcement officers; military (active duty, reserves, and veterans.) Here's what Tim, a police officer and CrossFit Meriden member says about CrossFit: "I have gotten into the best shape that have been in along time be the optic that held my interact that I have been in a long time. It is the only thing that holds my interest. I look forward to WODs (Workout of the Day) every day plus my strength is back!" Thank you for keeping us safe. Now let us help you stay healthy. Call Carrie today to schedule a free trial class at 203-235-6386 x18.

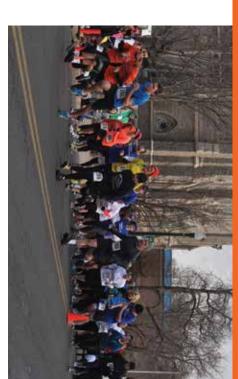


Miguel Castro, owner of Prestige Construction Home Improvement and Leader of Team Prestige presented checks to American Cancer Society & St. Jude's





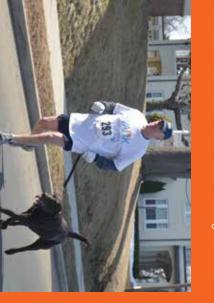
2016 Walk for Warmth 5K Run & 3K Walk Saturday, April 9th in Downtown Meriden a USATF Sanctioned Event



Walk for Warmth 5K Run & 3K Walk

New Opportunities Inc. 74 Cambridge Street Meriden, CT 06450

Visit us online at newoppinc.org or iholdapiece.org



VENT DETAILS

WHEN Saturday, April 9th, 2016 @ 10am * The event will be held rain or shine

aturday, April 9th, 2016 (2) 103
 * The event will be held rain or shine
 ** Pre-registration begins at 9am

WHERE First Co

irst Congregational Church 2 Colony Street in Meriden, CT 06450

PRE-REGISTRATION

Registration is now open at newoppinc.org/5K \$25. Minimum donation for individual runner registration \$10. Minimum donation for individual walker registration * The first 50 runners to pre-register receive a free t-shirt **Children 16 and under run or walk for free with a registered adult

2016 SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

annual event held each March to benefit an emergency heating assistance fund for Now in its 27th year, New Opportunities Walk for Warmth 5K Run and 3K Walk is an families and the elderly living in Meriden, Wallingford, Southington, Berlin and Cheshire.

Billing Address Business or Organization Name SPONSOR INFORMATION **Contact Phone Number** City, State & Postal Code **OTHER SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES** Contact Email Address Contact Name dditrio@newoppinc.org Please email a high resolution (.ai, .eps, .jpg, .png) copy of your logo to Apparel Water Food Auction Item **Gift Bag** Printing Volunteer Marketing & Advertising All sponsorships must be received by February 20, 2015 to receive all sponsorship benefits SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES HEATING OIL SPONSORSHIPS 3 runner / walker spots, featured in event program, website Bronze Silver Brass **Community Champion** and on event signage and apparel 15 runner / walker spots, featured in event program, website Title Sponsor and on event signage and apparel 10 runner / walker spots, featured in event program, website Platinum and on event signage and apparel 7 runner / walker spots, featured in event program, website and on event signage and apparent 5 runner / walker spots, featured in event program, website and on event signage and apparel 2 runner / walker spots, mention in program 1 runner / walker spot, mention in program **Community Partner** Individual and on event signage and apparel 3 runner / walker spots, featured in event program, website 1 runner / walker spot, mention in program \$125. - \$249

NA for WARN

Presented by New Opportunities of Greater Meriden 2016 Walk for Warmth 5K Run & 3K Walk

ABOUT THE EVENT

\$50. - \$124

elderly living in Meriden, Wallingford, Southington, Berlin emergency heating assistance fund for families and the hardship, such as a job loss or medical emergency and Cheshire who have been impacted by financia Established in 1990, the Walk for Warmth 5K Run & 3K Walk is an annual event held each March to benefit an

downtown Meriden. distinction of being the first 5K race ever to be held in its 25th anniversary. The Walk for Warmth also holds the race was incorporated into the event in celebration of the In 2014, a USATF (USA Track and Field) sanctioned 5K

\$1,000. - \$2,499

\$2,500. - \$4,999

\$500. - \$999

\$250. - \$499

children and an auction. The event is presented by New Opportunities Inc., a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. The event is pet friendly and features food, activities for

EVENT & SPONSORSHIP CONTACT

\$10,000. plus

\$5,000. - \$9,999

E: dditrio@newoppinc.org **Dona Ditrio** New Opportunities Inc. F: (203) 639-5060 74 Cambridge Street in Meriden, CT 06450

125 gallons plus





Page 1 of 2.....

Midstate Our Members can GIVE \$25.00 and

GET \$25.00



with this Midstate Chamber Campaign 650 Referral Form

Our Chamber Ambassadors have had a number of great membership campaigns in the past but this time we're taking it to the next level by involving and engaging our entire Midstate Chamber membership in getting to our goal for 650 Chamber members by our Annual Meeting in April 2016. In January 2016 through March 2016, we are offering a great incentive program to thank both our existing chamber members and new chamber members as well.

Every time an individual person who is associated with a current Chamber member refers a non-member business who becomes a Chamber member, the individual can earn a \$25.00 credit towards any chamber program including events, publications, ads and even your annual membership dues. (You can always check www.midstatechamber.com or call the chamber to verify membership status.)

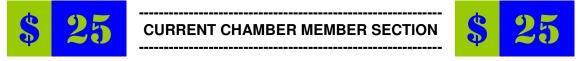
In detail, here's how it works:

Chamber of

Commerce

- 1. Our current members refer a colleague or business neighbor who is not yet a Midstate Chamber member.
- 2. Our current members will complete this form and present it to their friends, associates or colleagues.
- 3. New prospective member completes their Midstate Chamber Membership application, on the reverse side of this Campaign 650 Referral Form, and returns it to the Midstate Chamber of Commerce.

In addition, the NEWLY signed Chamber members can also enjoy a \$25.00 savings...which may even be deducted from the new member's first year's dues or applied to any other Midstate Chamber program!



Current Chamber Member Referring Person's Name: _____

Current Midstate Chamber Member Company Name: _____

_____ (Referrer's Signature goes here), would like to recommend Ι.

Company Name of Prospective New Member: _____

Contact Person: _____ Title: _____

Contact Person's Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Dear Prospective NEW Midstate Chamber Member:

Simply return this form with your membership application, conveniently located on the reverse side of this form. Your promotion will begin on our Chamber's website at www.midstatechamber.com within 24 hours of joining.

Note: This credit is for NEW members only and can't be combined with any other special rate or offer.

CHAMBER OFFICE STAFF SECTION

Date Joined: Current Member Credit Applied to:	Date Processed:	Credit Applied on/by:
New Member Credit Applied to:		Credit Applied on/by:
\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25

\$280.00

\$295.00

\$410.00

\$525.00



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

1-5 Employees

6-10 Employees

11-20 Employees

21-30 Employees

info@midstatechamber.com www.midstatechamber.com

Membership Application

Company Name:	
Address:	
City, State, Zip:	
Phone:	
Company Website:	
Type of Business/Classification:	
# of Owners:# of Employees: Full-Time _	Part-TimeYear Founded:
Contact Person:	Contact's Phone:
Contact's E-Mail:	

How Did You Learn About Us?

Chamber Activity / Interests:

Promotion: UMember Directory Advertising UWeb Site Advertising UChamber Business Expo UNewsletter
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 DYoung Business Leaders of CT DAmbassadors DMembership 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:

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.

Card#				Exp.	Card Zip Code	Verification Code
	MasterCard	AMIERICAN EXPRESS	DISCOVER	Signature A one-time \$15 dollar s	-	

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