

Chamber News

March 2011

WINTHROP AREA CHAMBER TO HOST TEXAS HOLD'EM TOURNAMENT ON SUNDAY, MARCH 13

Will you hold'em or fold'em? Will you go all in or bust? Find out when the Chamber hosts a Texas Hold'em Tournament at the American Legion Post #40 in Winthrop on Sunday, March 13. Texas Hold'em is a poker game that is incredibly easy to learn, but deceptively difficult to master! Playing in the tournament is open to the public, so why not join in the fun? It's a safe bet that you'll have a great time!

The cost to play in the tournament is \$55 (\$5 for state licensing and \$50 for the "pot").

Pre-registration is required. Players must register by calling the Chamber at 207-377-8020 and leaving your name, address, and phone number.

The American Legion Post #40 is located at 117 Bowdoin Street in Winthrop. The doors will open at noon; participants should plan to arrive by 1:30 pm; and the tournament will start at 2:00 pm. There will be a cash bar. Smoking will be prohibited during

the event.

For more detailed information about the Texas Hold'em Tournament, please go to

www.winthropchamber.org, call 207-377-8020, or send an email to info@winthropchamber.org.



Chamber Member Online Survey TELL US WHAT YOU THINK!

As we make plans for the Chamber's future direction, we want to get a clear sense of what our members want going forward. To accomplish this, we need to hear from you!

We ask that you please complete the online survey—see link below—in order to provide us with your feedback about the Chamber. We encourage you to share your ideas and suggestions for making improvements!

Information gathered from the survey will be used to make recommendations for changes to the Chamber.

Your input is very important and valuable to us. Thank you very much for taking the time to go online and complete the survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MYBVK9L>

Breakfast Meeting Rescheduled

See page two for details

Kennebec Cider Company to PRESENT AT MARCH MEETING

Kennebec Cider Company, a family-owned business dedicated to making traditional New England craft hard cider, will be featured at the Chamber breakfast meeting on **Thursday, March 3**. Ben Parks-Stamm, who will be giving the presentation, and his wife, Betsy, started Kennebec Cider Company in 2009.

Due to the abundance, quality, and selection of the apples grown in the region, traditional New England craft hard cider is particularly renowned.

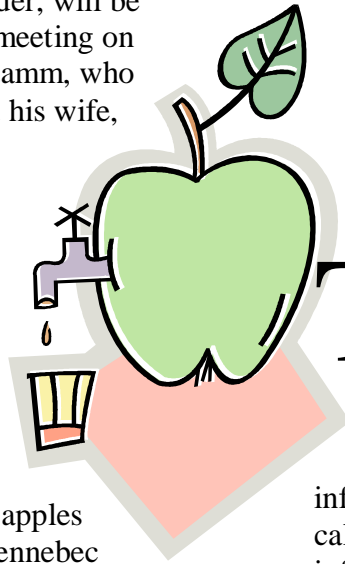
Making it involves a process that is similar to making wine.

Kennebec Cider Company grows apples in its own orchard and buys apples from other area growers as well. Kennebec Cider is sold at various retail locations in Maine.

In addition to making hard cider, Kennebec Cider Company is also developing a Maine ice cider. Ice cider is a dessert wine made by allowing apples to freeze on the tree or the juice to freeze outside naturally in the winter in order to concentrate the flavors and sugars. Kennebec Cider Company received a seed grant from the Maine Technology Institute to develop a commercially viable process for using cryoconcentration (a method of freezing used to concentrate juices) to make their ice cider.

The Chamber breakfast meeting on **Thursday, March 3** will be held at the Winthrop Area Federal Credit Union (located at the intersection of Route 202 and Highland Avenue in Winthrop). The cost is \$5 per person, to be paid at the door. A light breakfast will be provided beginning at 7:15 am and the meeting will start at 7:30 am and end promptly at 8:30 am. The meeting, which is generously sponsored by **Brian S. Berry & Associates, CPAs**, is open to the public. No reservations are required.

For more detailed information, please go to www.winthropchamber.org, send an email to info@winthropchamber.org, or call 207-377-8020.



WELCOME NEW MEMBER!

Winthrop Farmers Market

Local foods and other products for sale on Saturdays from 9 am to 1 pm.

Maine Street in downtown Winthrop

Phone: 207-446-2899

Contact: Kevin Leavitt

Email: farmerkev@roadrunner.com

Advertise Your Business on THE CHAMBER WEB SITE

The current state of the economy makes it more important than ever to promote your business—and advertising on the Chamber's Web site is a cost-effective way to do it. Advertising rates are posted online at www.winthropchamber.org. For more information about advertising on the Chamber site, call 207-377-8020 or send an email to info@winthropchamber.org.

Maine State Chamber Sponsors BUSINESS DAY AT STATEHOUSE

The Maine State Chamber of Commerce is once again sponsoring Business Day at the State House on Tuesday, March 29 from 8 am to noon.

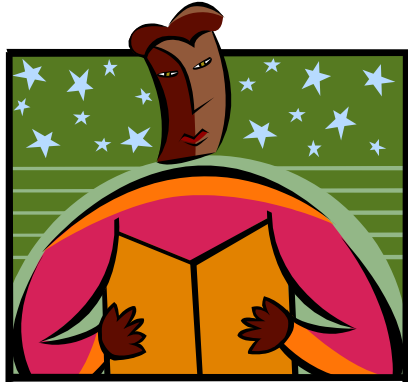
The purpose of this event is to emphasize the importance of preserving and retaining existing jobs, strengthening the economy through the creation of new opportunities, and keeping Maine businesses competitive in this very fragile economy.

Given the new legislature, the event will provide the perfect opportunity for business people to meet legislators and tell them their stories first-hand. Business Day at the State House will take place in the Hall of Flags.

If you have any questions, please call Linda Caprara, Director of Grassroots Advocacy, at 623-4568 x 16 or send her an email at lcaprara@mainechamber.org.

Member News & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Kennebec Land Trust (KLT) is holding its 2011 Lyceum, New England Nature Writers on the Land, on Thursday evenings in March at the Ladd Recreation Center in Wayne:



- Thursday, March 17 at 7 pm: **Wilderness Lost, Wilderness Regained** with Robert Kimber, author of *A Canoeist's Sketchbook* and other publications. Kimber will read from his essays on subjects as various as dogs, black flies, brook trout, and wilderness, dwelling not so much on what we have lost in the natural world as on saving, celebrating, and enjoying what we still have.

- Thursday, March 24 at 7 pm: **Technology and Sense of Place** with Jane Brox, author of *Here and Nowhere Else; Clearing Land*; and *Five Thousand Days Like This One*. Brox will read from her most recent work, *Brilliant: The Evolution of*



Artificial Light, and talk about the way changes in technology change people's sense of place.

For more information and directions call KLT at 207-377-2848.

The Winthrop Center Friends Church will continue their pizza, film, and discussion series with "Food, Inc." on Thursday, March 24. "Food, Inc." is an exposé on America's food industry as controlled by corporations that often put profit ahead of consumer health, the livelihood of the American farmer, the safety of workers, and the condition of our own environment.

Starting at 6 pm on Thursday, March 24, there will be pizza, followed by the opportunity to view this thought- and heart-provoking film and then discuss it.

For more information, contact Pastor Maggie Edmondson by calling 207-685-4797 or e-mailing hearthstone1@myfairpoint.net.



Help the Chamber Share the NEWS ABOUT YOUR BUSINESS

Do you have news about your business that you'd like to share with your Chamber colleagues? Send an email message to info@winthropchamber.org and we'll put it in the *Chamber News*.



WINTHROP AREA
CHAMBER of COMMERCE
Serving the Winthrop Lakes Region

Your Chamber at Work:

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

Local businesses, individuals, and organizations receive great benefits from Chamber membership:

- **ADVERTISING:** Members get a FREE listing on the Chamber WEB SITE and a FREE entry in the Chamber's VISITORS' GUIDE. They also get the opportunity to LINK THEIR WEB SITE to the Chamber Web site; ADVERTISE in the monthly newsletter; participate in special promotions and free distribution of MARKETING materials; and purchase advertising in specially designed brochures that PROMOTE TOURISM in the Winthrop Lakes Region.

- **AFFILIATING:** Members get a FREE membership decal; are encouraged to do BUSINESS with other members; and are given REFERRALS from inquiries made to the Chamber. Members also get to participate in the CHAMBER CASH PROGRAM, available to member businesses *only*.

- **LEADING:** Members get to be part of a lobbying effort to REPRESENT CONCERNS of the business community on a LOCAL AND STATEWIDE LEVEL.

- **NETWORKING:** Members get to KNOW ONE ANOTHER in casual meeting, reception, and other event settings. They also get to WORK TOGETHER on committees and as volunteers.

For more information about becoming more involved or joining the Winthrop Area Chamber of Commerce, please call 207-377-8020, send an email to info@winthropchamber.org, or go to www.winthropchamber.org.

LEGISLATIVE STRICTLY SOCIAL

Wednesday, March 30, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Senator Inn & Spa, Western Avenue, Augusta

The Maine State Chamber of Commerce invites you to its LEGISLATIVE STRICTLY SOCIAL networking reception. Our annual series of statewide receptions is an ideal way for you, the Maine business leader, to interact with business associates, new and prospective Maine State Chamber members, and state representatives in a relaxed setting.

To register: Please contact Rita Stoddard at rstoddard@mainechamber.org or 207-623-4568, 15