

Chamber News

November 2009

CHAMBER LAUNCHES CAMPAIGN TO SUPPORT COMMUNITY LIFE AND ECONOMIC VITALITY

Cards for Thanking Customers NOW AVAILABLE AT CHAMBER

In an effort to promote greater support of the local economy, the Chamber has launched a program to support shopping locally. The program is designed to heighten awareness of the importance of doing business and making purchases locally as a critical aspect of strengthening the region's community life and economic vitality.

As a first step in the program, the Chamber has produced cards for merchants to use to thank customers for shopping locally and supporting local businesses. Cards are available for use by Chamber members at no charge.

Future plans for the program include creating decals, exploring the possibility of joining *Keep Maine Strong* (www.keepmainestrong.com), and installing signage signs about shopping locally at town entrances.

The program is a great example of the way that the Chamber is hard at work on behalf of the membership. To learn more about the ways in which the Chamber serves its members, see the benefits of membership column on page 4.

Chamber Events: COURSES, MEETINGS, & MORE

The Chamber is sponsoring a variety of activities and events that are designed to serve the needs of the business community. Coming right up are the QuickBooks Advanced Training Course on Tuesday, October 27 and the Halloween Business after Hours event at Kennebec Savings Bank on Thursday, October 29.

To learn more about these activities and events, as well as what the Chamber has lined up for November and December, please see pages 2-3.



Prepare to Participate in 25TH ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARADE

There will be plenty of opportunities to participate in the 25th Annual Holiday Parade in Winthrop at 4 pm on Saturday, December 5. (Storm date: Sunday, December 6.) Floats and marching bands, and sponsors and volunteers are all needed to make the 25th annual holiday parade something truly special. New this year is a change to the parade route, which will start on Highland Avenue.



Upcoming

See More Holiday Event Information on Page 3.

Chamber Sponsors QuickBooks ADVANCED TRAINING COURSE

The Chamber is sponsoring a QuickBooks Advanced Training session on Tuesday, October 27. For those already using QuickBooks, which is considered by many to be the best small business accounting software available, the session will provide training on QuickBooks' advanced features.

The session will take place from 6 to 8 pm in the training room of the Winthrop Area Federal Credit Union (located at the intersection of Route 202 and Highland Avenue in Winthrop).

The cost of the training is \$10 for Chamber members and \$15 for nonmembers who preregister. At the door, the cost is \$15 for Chamber members and \$20 for nonmembers. Registration forms are available for downloading at www.winthropchamber.org. For questions or more detailed information, contact the Chamber at 207-377-8020 or info@winthropchamber.org.

Halloween Pumpkin Contest Is FUN FOCUS OF KSB BAH

The Halloween Business After Hours event, (g)hosted by **Kennebec Savings Bank**, will take place on Thursday, October 29 from 5 to 7 pm at the Winthrop branch, located at 84 Main Street. Part of the fun of this particular Halloween Business after Hours event has traditionally been the Halloween pumpkin contest. Local kids, ages 6-17, are invited to participate by completing an entry form (see page 6), creating a Halloween pumpkin, and dropping it off on Wednesday, October 28 from 3 to 5 pm at the Winthrop branch, located at 84 Main Street.



United Way Executive Director TO SPEAK AT NOV. MEETING

Rob Gordon, Executive Director of **United Way of Kennebec Valley**, will be the speaker at the Chamber breakfast meeting on Thursday, November 5.

The United Way is a national network of local organizations that work to advance the common good by focusing on education, income, and health--the building blocks of a good life. Local United Ways, such as United Way of Kennebec Valley, create long-lasting community change by addressing the underlying causes of the most significant issues that prevent some people from achieving a good life. Local United Ways accomplish this by bringing people from all across the community to work together to tackle the issues.

More specifically, United Way of Kennebec Valley serves the community by identifying human care needs, raising and allocating funds to meet those needs, and encouraging volunteers to participate in community service. In addition to speaking about the efforts of United Way of Kennebec Valley in general, Gordon will discuss programs that may be of particular interest to area residents.

"United Way of Kennebec Valley has worked with Winthrop on the Emergency Home Heating Fund, which is now ready for the coming winter," says Gordon, who has been with United Way of Kennebec Valley for 20 years. "We have also worked with the area high schools—Maranacook, Monmouth, and Winthrop—on our annual Day of Caring."

The Chamber breakfast meeting on Thursday, November 5 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.

Chamber-sponsored Holiday EVENTS ARE COMING SOON

The season of holiday-related Chamber events will begin on Wednesday, November 18 from 5 to 7 pm with a Business After Hours event at **DR Struck**. Attendees will find plenty of inspiration for the coming holiday season as they take in the festive and lavish decorations at DR Struck. Look for more information about the event coming soon.



For the third year in a row, there will be an **Adopt-a-Pole Contest** in downtown Winthrop. Pole adoption is a great way to advertize your business or organization and help to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the holiday parade at the same time! (Please note that decorating may not begin before Friday, November 27 and must be completed by Friday, December 4 at 4 pm.) The contest winner will be announced at the holiday parade and will receive \$50 in **CHAMBER CASH**.



Poles are available for adoption on a first-come, first-served basis, so get your entry in ASAP! The cost to enter is \$20 (nonrefundable). Entry forms and contest guidelines are available for downloading at www.winthropchamber.org. For additional contest information, call Laurie Tompkins at 377-6143 or Victoria Christopher at 441-1463.



The Chamber-sponsored holiday parade will take place on Saturday, December 5 at 4 pm and the Chamber will round out the season with a holiday Business After Hours event at the **Winthrop Area Federal Credit Union** on Thursday, December 17 from



5 to 7 pm.

Volunteers Needed for CHAMBER'S HOLIDAY EVENTS

Some say that volunteers make the world go around and others know it! Volunteers are all needed to make the 25th annual holiday parade a remarkable one. If you are interested in volunteering, please call Victoria Christopher at 441-1463.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!!!

Edward Jones

Helping serious individual investors identify and reach their financial goals and dreams with an emphasis on personal and local service.

61B Main Street in Winthrop
Phone: 207-377-1111

Contact: Victoria Christopher
Email: victoria.christopher@edwardjones.com
Web: www.edwardjones.com

Sexual Assault Crisis & Support Center

Providing services to those impacted by sexual violence in Kennebec, Knox, Somerset and Waldo counties, including direct client work as well as educational presentations.

134 Main Street, Suite 3 in Winthrop
Phone: 207-377-1010

24-hour Support: 1-800-871-7741
Contact: Kat Perry
Email: admin@silentnomore.org
Web: www.silentnomore.org

Village Wellness

Featuring a holistic approach in a tranquil setting at a reasonable price. Offering Massage, Reflexology, Reiki and Cranio-sacral Therapy, as well as Reflexology and Reiki classes.

168C Main Street in Winthrop
Phone: 207-377-3338
Contact: Connie Hubley



Member News & ANNOUNCEMENTS

On Saturday, November 7 from 5 to 9 am, the **Rotary Club** is hosting a **Hunters and Families Breakfast** at the **Winthrop Congregational Church**. The breakfast will cost \$6 for adults and \$3 for children (\$18 max.). All proceeds will go toward the Rotary's community projects.

The **Winthrop Center Friends Church** is hosting a **Local Foods Supper** on Saturday, November 7 from 5 to 7 pm. The supper featuring local foods will include soups, bread, biscuits, apple crisp, tea, and coffee and will cost \$7 for adults and \$4 for children.

The next **Fish Chowder Luncheon** at the **Winthrop Congregational Church** will be held on Friday, November 13 from 11:30 am to 1 pm. The luncheon features homemade fish chowder, crackers, hot biscuits, pickles, pies, and beverages for only \$6. Take-out is available.

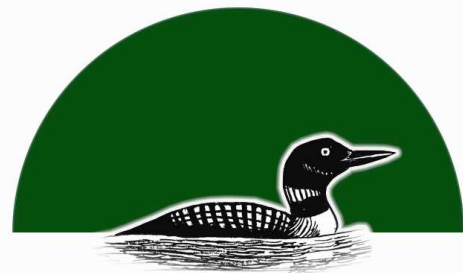
***D**o you have news about your business that you'd like to share with your Chamber colleagues? Send an email message to info@winthropchamber.org and we'll put it in the Chamber News.*

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.



WINTHROP AREA
CHAMBER of COMMERCE

Serving the Winthrop Lakes Region

FOR HOLIDAY GIFT-GIVING, CHOOSE CHAMBER CASH*

CHAMBER CASH is a great way to give gifts that suit every taste and support the local economy at the same time. CHAMBER CASH gift certificates, available from the Winthrop Area Chamber of Commerce, are easy to purchase through the Winthrop Area Federal Credit Union. Redeem them at any of these businesses:

A Touch of Health
Apple Valley Books
Audette's Ace Hardware
Augusta Fuel Co.
Annette Barney, Hypnotherapy
Becky's Second Time Around
DR Struck Landscape Nursery
Fairpoint Communications
Foshay-Carlton Cards & Gifts
Homestead Realty
Hopkins Flowers & Gifts
Lakeside Motel & Marina

Monmouth/Winthrop Adult
Education
Dr. Kenneth F. Nuzzo, OD
Peppers Garden & Grill
Pond Town Antiques
The Potter's House
Rent-A-Geek, LLC
Shepherd Chiropractic Center
Sir Lines A Lot
The Theater at Monmouth
Winthrop Fuel Company
The Write Approach
Your Maine Stamper



This holiday season, support the businesses that support the community by giving CHAMBER CASH! For information, call the Winthrop Area Chamber of Commerce at 377-8020.

**CHAMBER CASH gift certificates do not expire, and like cash, are non-refundable if lost or stolen.*

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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.



HEY KIDS!

Kennebec Savings Bank wants
you to create a Halloween Pumpkin for
our Business After Hours Event!

Just create your pumpkin, drop it off at Kennebec Savings Bank in Winthrop on Wednesday, October 28th
between 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm and you could win:

**\$100 Grand Prize; \$50 Second Prize;
\$25 Third Prize**

All entries will be displayed at Kennebec Savings Bank on Thursday, October 29th from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm
and judged by attendees of the Chamber's October Business After Hours Event, hosted by Kennebec Savings
Bank in Winthrop that evening. Feel free to copy this entry form as many times as you like. Kids must be
between the ages of 6-17.

Student's Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Age: _____ Name of Pumpkin: _____

School you attend: _____

**KENNEBEC SAVINGS BANK IS A MEMBER OF THE
WINTHROP AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

Serving the Winthrop Lakes Region

The Winthrop Area Chamber of Commerce—unlike any other organization in the region—is truly representative
of the local business community. Chamber members include individuals and those who are in business for
themselves, as well as large and small companies—all working together to improve the business climate for
everyone involved. The Chamber promotes, supports, helps to develop, and provides a forum for new and
existing businesses, as well as trade and economic interests in the Winthrop Lakes Region. The Chamber hosts
monthly meetings and special events to foster information-sharing and networking opportunities and to
showcase area businesses. For more information about the organization, please call 207-377-8020, send an
email to info@winthropchamber.org, or go to www.winthropchamber.org.