



CHAMBER of COMMERCE
EASTERN CONNECTICUT
1910 - 2011 | SUPPORTING BUSINESSES

PRESORTED
STANDARD MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Norwich, CT
PERMIT NO. 9

914 Hartford Turnpike
Waterford, CT 06385



(860) 701-9113



(860) 701-9902



www.ChamberECT.com

Business Center

Need help for your business? Visit the Chamber! **SCORE, a free, confidential organization supported by the Small Business Administration**, is available at the Chamber office every Tuesday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and at Dime Bank in Norwich every second and fourth Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Please call the Chamber for an appointment.

Insurance Resource Center representatives are available every day.

An advisor from the **Small Business Development Center** will be available the first and third Thursday of each month to provide free one-on-one counseling at the Chamber offices by appointment only. For more information, call the Chamber at 860-701-9113.

Special Thanks to Our Regional Benefactors



September 2011

LIVE | WORK | PLAY

Eastern Chamber forms group for young professionals

Group to provide young professionals a chance to help improve region

YP of Eastern Connecticut

The Chamber of Commerce of Eastern Connecticut has announced the formation of the Young Professionals of Eastern Connecticut, a group designed to provide opportunities for individuals between 22 and 45 to pursue common interests and to help improve the region.

The group's chair, Lauren Miner, a social media specialist at Miranda Creative in Norwich, said the group will provide young professionals with a chance to meet, network and showcase the region.

"There will be educational opportunities and a chance for 'YP's' to connect in a fun, social setting," she said. "We also look forward to promoting this region to upcoming generations. Our hope is that young professionals will be encouraged to stay and seek employment within our area. YPECT will not only unite 'YP's' but also provide a platform to showcase the many opportunities within reach here in eastern Connecticut."

Tony Sheridan, the chamber's president and CEO, said the new group is one way the 1,600-member business organization is working to fulfill its mission.

"The Chamber's mission is to support the business community in eastern Connecticut. We help promote business in general while providing networking and other opportunities to support the career development and personal choices of young professionals."

He said the Chamber also sees the new group as another way to promote the region.

"We are promoting the qualities that make our region an attractive place for young professionals. We want them to remain and thrive in eastern Connecticut."

Prospective members generally can be between 22-45, but there is no hard-and-fast limit. Those seeking membership may

work in an office setting, but also can be artists, service workers, the self-employed, among other employment categories.

As envisioned by the Chamber, the YP group will provide these opportunities to network with other young professionals at monthly events, meet with prominent business and philanthropic leaders, develop professional skills through YPECT programming, and use membership and experience with YPECT as a resume builder.

In addition to learning how to improve their leadership skills, YPECT members will be able to gather each month at informal meetings to make new contacts and develop leads, but also to create lasting contacts, build friendships and share ideas.

YPECT members will be encouraged to take part in a variety of volunteer activities decided upon by the YPECT steering committee. The volunteer opportunities will give members a chance to contribute to building a stronger eastern Connecticut and to help make important contacts.

Anyone interested in learning more about the group or in joining can contact Meghan Akeman, Manager, Programs & Events, at the Chamber of Commerce.

www.YPECT.com

www.facebook.com/YPECT

www.twitter.com/YPECT



A Special Thank You



Through their commitment to the Chamber, these companies have demonstrated support for the many smaller businesses we serve.

Chamber Photos



We take pictures at all our events. Check out our flickr page on our website: www.ChamberECT.com/photos



Business After Hours at Florence Griswold Museum



Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
Mooring Fields, New London

CHAMBER STAFF

TONY SHERIDAN
President & CEO
tsheridan@chamberect.com

MEGHAN AKEMAN
Manager, Programs & Events
makeman@chamberect.com

DEBY MARTINEZ
Administrative Assistant
dmartinez@chamberect.com

CAROL MURPHY
Grant Financial Coordinator
cmurphy@chamberect.com

SHERI COTE
Vice President
scote@chamberect.com

KATHY CHARTIER
Business Services Representative
kchartier.ctwbs@ct.gov

BAMBI POPPICK
Membership Sales Coordinator
bpoppick@chamberect.com

MATTHEW LIPMAN
Graphic/Web Designer
mlipman@chamberect.com

DENNY HICKS
Director of Strategic Planning
dhicks@chamberect.com

RON HAUBERT
Membership Sales Coordinator
rhaubert@chamberect.com

FRANK MCLAUGHLIN
Downtown Development &
Investment Coordinator
f.mclaughlin@snet.net

ALLYSON SMITH
Marketing/Programs & Events
asmith@chamberect.com

BRUCE MAC DONALD
Director of Communications
bmacdonald@chamberect.com

LORI THOMPSON
Office Manager
lthompson@chamberect.com

News and Editorial

Chamber Challenge



American Heart Association
Learn and Live™

The Chamber of Commerce of Eastern Connecticut is a team captain for this year's Heart Walk, being held on October 2, 2011, at Rocky Neck State Park in Niantic.

Teaming up with the American Heart Association, we are challenging our members to help this cause by creating a team of walkers at your organization and join our team to help raise funds for the American Heart Association.

The Chamber member/company that raises the most funds for this cause will be recognized the day of the event and will receive a prize.

Joining is easy. Just visit www.ChamberECT.com/heart and click the "My Team Page Link." Click the "Join our Team" link and follow the prompts to register.

The Chamber and the American Heart Association thank you for your support.

New Members

- R & W Heating LLC
- Toll Brothers, Inc.
- Bankers Life Jamie Poulos
- Connecticut Humane Society
- L.V. Computer Solutions
- Lia Sophia Jewelry
- LumaChip, Inc.
- Marine Science Magnet High School
- Savin Rock Roasting Company
- Direct TV
- Lyric Cafe
- Interdistrict School for Arts and Communication (ISAAC)



Business After Hours

September 20, 2011

The Harp & Dragon
130 Main Street, Norwich

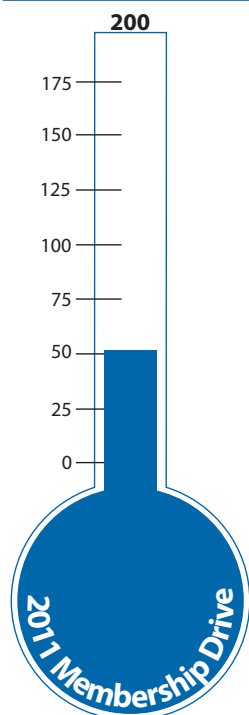
October 5, 2011

Courtyard by Marriott
181 West Town Street, Norwich

Please join the Chamber staff and fellow members for an evening of networking in a casual, relaxed setting. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres, wine, beer, and soft drinks will be served. Business After Hours continue to be a very beneficial networking experience for all of our members.

Cost to attend is \$15 for members - \$25 for non-members
An additional \$5 will be applied to walk-ins.

To Register, log on to www.ChamberECT.com
or call 860-701-9113



Refer a member, and be entered to win

There is strength in numbers

Our Chamber Membership Drive is producing results. Check out our website, www.ChamberECT.com to track the progress, and view the details of our great rewards program. If you refer a company that joins, you will automatically become eligible for a fabulous prize. The more businesses you refer, the more you can win. Prizes include an iPad, flat screen TV, romantic evening for two, and more.

www.ChamberECT.com/drive