



THE BI-WEEKLY BUZZ

GMCC Member News, Events & Town News

April 28th, 2023

The GMCC Held It's 122nd Annual Meeting



The Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce honored exemplary members of our community and welcomed incoming Chairman Kevin O'Brien.

The Chamber's 122nd Annual Meeting had an amazing turn out! Thank you to our amazing members and guests who joined us and the Sponsors of the event.





2023-2025 Board of Directors

GMCC Officers and Directors

Executive Board



Kevin O'Brien
O'Brien Law



Jordan Coe
ShopRite of Manchester



Dan Wilson
The Wilson Company
Realtors



Philip Nemphos
MMNT Certified
Public Accountants



Lynette Espinosa
Webster Bank



Beth Stafford



Millie Texidor Maffucci
GMCC President

Directors



TJ Barber
Manchester Community
College



Shannon Baldassario
MACC Charities



Carol Cavaliere
ERA Blanchard & Rossetto
Inc., Realtors



John Devanney
Highland Park Market



John Garaventa
Garaventa Photography



Tiffany Geisomino
Eastern CT Health
Network



Greg Ghezzi
G-Force Signs
& Graphics



Taylor Lajeunesse
Always Best Care
Senior Services of CT.



Kelly Ray
Vending for Change, LLC



Brian Pioggia
Yolon Energy



Shell Sawyer
Finding Strength
With Shell



Dan Storer
Bearingstar Insurance



Kevin Young
Edward Jones



Tywan Watkins
ION Bank



David Williams
Key Bank



Robert Wilson
Supreme Lending



Tamara Womack-Speaks
Manchester Adult &
Continuing Education



Kevin Zingler
MARC, Inc.
of Manchester

Elizabeth Ryan
Shoppes at Buckland Mall
NOT PICTURED

Ex-Officio Board Members



Bill Darby
Chief of Police



Matt Geary
Superintendent of Schools



Steven Stephanou
General Manager

Member News

Welcome New Members!





Vending For Change

[Visit our Website](#)

[Email Solomon for more Info](#)

Vending for Change, LLC is a new enterprise which enables individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities to have an enterprise of their own. Within the umbrella of MARC, Inc. of Manchester, Vending For Change is a new revenue stream which will directly benefit local people with development disabilities.

Managed by Solomon Cicero, Vending for Change is operated by MARC's people served, who restock merchandise regularly and service account sites frequently.

Thank you so much for your recent membership, we greatly appreciate your support of the Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce!

Business After Hours



Business After Hours

Date: Friday, May 12th

Time: 5:30pm - 6:45pm

Show Time: 7PM

Save the date!



The Chamber invites you to a Business After Hours event at The Little Theatre of Manchester!

Join us for a night of fun and music! Network and enjoy complementary small bites at The Little Theatre of Manchester, as well as their cash bar in the Silk Room.

You are invited to stay and view Elvis The King, a tribute show! GMCC Members will receive heavily discounted prices for tickets at \$25 per person (regularly \$42).

Address: 177 Hartford Rd,
Manchester, CT 06040



[RSVP For After Hours](#)

[Learn More About The Show](#)

Recognizing Our Annual Meeting Sponsors

THANK YOU

WE APPRECIATE YOUR SPONSORSHIP



Annual Meeting Sponsor 2023

At MMNT, we take pride in getting to know our clients, their families, and particular tax situations. We are here to help throughout the year for many



Annual Meeting Sponsor 2023

At O'Brien Law we represent all of our clients as we would want to be represented. We strive to operate ethically and morally and build trust and confidence.

life events by offering tax service for estates and trusts. Together, we have over 60 years of combined experience and are ready and able to help you with any and all of your accounting needs.

[Visit our Website](#)

We provide quality legal services at a fair and reasonable price. Kevin and Bill O'Brien remain on the cutting edge of new legislation and developments through continuing legal education, seminars, bulletins and professional memberships.

[Visit our Website](#)



Annual Meeting Sponsor 2023

Through lending, investing, grants and volunteerism, we participate in the growth, revitalization and sustainability of the communities we proudly serve. KeyBank is one of the nation's largest, bank-based financial services companies, making it easy for you to bank where you live.

[Visit our Website](#)



Annual Meeting Sponsor 2023

MACC Charities is a Manchester-based non-profit with the mission of building partnerships to break cycles of poverty in our community.

Food donations can be dropped off at the Community Emergency Food Pantry, located at 460 Main St. in Manchester, CT. Please only drop off during donation hours (or call to schedule a time). For all other donations, please call 860-647-0440.

[Visit our Website](#)



Annual Meeting Sponsor 2023

As the largest community bank in the market, we have a unique ability to help the communities we serve through volunteer efforts and millions of dollars in donations to charitable and civic causes. Our associates devote an average of 10,000 hours to volunteer work each year, and 74 of



Annual Meeting Sponsor 2023

Ion Financial, MHC is an independent financial services company committed to building lifetime relationships by partnering with our customers to help them identify and achieve their financial goals.

We seek profitable growth while delivering superior customer service and offering a comprehensive package of progressive financial

the bank's associates have served on the boards of directors and committees of 54 nonprofit organizations in the area.

[Visit our Website](#)



Annual Meeting Sponsor 2023

MARC, Inc. provides the opportunity for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to lead meaningful lives of independence, choice, inclusion, and continuous personal growth. Through our services, each individual has the opportunity to live, work, enjoy, and contribute to their community, according to their individual choices and abilities.

[Visit our Website](#)



Annual Meeting Sponsor 2023

Established in 1935, American Eagle Financial Credit Union is a full-service credit union headquartered in East Hartford, Connecticut. American Eagle offers savings accounts, checking accounts, credit cards, auto loans, mortgages, business accounts, and much more. Open to everyone in Hartford, Middlesex, Tolland, and New Haven counties in Connecticut and Hampden County in Massachusetts.

[Visit our Website](#)

products through multiple delivery channels, ultimately benefiting our customers, employees and communities.

[Visit our Website](#)



Annual Meeting Sponsor 2023

Hartford Distributors, Inc. was incorporated in 1944 and started out as a very small Anheuser-Busch distributorship in downtown Hartford, Connecticut. Throughout the years HDI has steadily grown and outgrew three locations. HDI relocated twice in East Hartford and in 1981 moved to our current location in Manchester. We now operate in six counties, covering over three fourths of the state with various brands. It is our honor and pleasure to serve our customers.

[Visit our Website](#)



Annual Meeting Sponsor 2023

In 1965, LTM re-organized as a non-profit 501(c)3 corporation in the State of Connecticut. Since 1961, LTM has produced at least three major dramatic works each year, a total of more than 1,100 performances of 197 major productions, playing to a total estimated audience of a 300,000. Since 1991, LTM has resided in Cheney Hall, a National Historic Landmark building and the oldest operating theater in Connecticut.

[Visit our Website](#)



Annual Meeting Sponsor 2023

From the beginning, Highland Park Markets has immersed ourselves into each community that we are located and have been blessed to be welcomed by a strong family base of customers in each area that we enter. Being a Connecticut business is something we are extremely proud of and we try to stock our shelves with items from the very place we call home from the freshest produce to a wide variety of gourmet grocery, bakery, deli and meat.

[Visit our Website](#)

And a special thank you to our Door Prize Donors!



Always Best Care
senior services®



Thank You For Your Sponsorship!

The Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce expresses it's sincerest gratitude for your generous support of our 122nd Annual Meeting. Thanks to your sponsorship, we were able to host a successful event that brought together leaders from a diverse range of industries.

We look forward to working with you in the years ahead as we continue to build a strong and vibrant business community in Greater Manchester. Once again, thank you for your invaluable support!

Upcoming Coffee & Connect Events



Get kids off their phones and into one of our fun STEM education and coding classes for kids! At iCode, our goal is to equip children with a strong foundation in computer science, while enriching their overall academic strength. During iCode's program, kids learn skills in problem solving and creativity and gain experience in leadership, collaboration and problem solving.

Marietta St Onge
May 29th, 2023
8:00am-9:00am

Location: 1131 Tolland Turnpike
Suite 27, Manchester, CT 06042

[RSVP](#)



MARC, Inc. is committed to providing the highest quality services to the individuals we support. Through a wide variety of activities, our people served are encouraged to be involved in all aspects of community life. This promotes positive experiences for our participants and fosters the understanding that every person, regardless of their ability, contributes to a rich and vibrant community.

June 22nd, 2023
8:00am-9:00am

Location: 151 Sheldon Rd,
Manchester, CT 06042

[RSVP](#)

Grand Openings



Ken O'Hara Agency
Ribbon Cutting - Tuesday, May 9th at 5PM
Location: 48 Purnell Place Suite 10, Manchester, CT 06040

At the Ken O'Hara agency, our team will review your policy and recommend the best coverage and prices to protect you from potentially one of the worst days of your life.

We are located in historic Downtown Manchester off of Main Street. (Across from Urban Lodge and above ML Fitness by the Orange Parking Lot). Let's make your insurance work for you and protect your life, family, and livelihood.

[RSVP Today!](#)

Grand Openings Held

Always Best Care

4-11-2023





Town News



Small Business Week April 30 to May 6

LUNCH & LEARN
Wed. May 3rd at 12pm



Do you know what you don't know?

Join us to share a meal & information for sustainable success.

- Lynette Espinosa, Managing Director at Webster Bank
- Allie Geilich Parker, Human Resource Consultant at Boss Consulting HR
- Jennifer Jones, Realtor at Jones & Jones Realty and author of "Intropreneur"

Speakers

Get your ticket by 3p Mon. 5/1 via
bit.ly/May3LunchLearn2023

\$13 non-members

\$8 GMCC & WS members (code: MBR5)

\$17 after 3p on 5/1, Lunch by Filomenas



WORK_SPACE - 860.647.6029
903 Main St., Manchester, CT

WORK_SPACE
coworking - meeting - gallery space

WORK_SPACE and the Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce are cohosting a Small Business Week Lunch & Learn. Join us to network, share a meal and learn what we need to know for sustainable business success.

Guest speakers include:

- Lynette Espinosa, Managing Director at Webster Bank
- Allie Geilich Parker, Human Resource Consultant at Boss Consulting HR
- Jennifer Jones, Realtor at Jones & Jones Realty and author of "Intropreneur"

RSVP by 3pm on Monday, May 1st for early bird: \$13 non-members, \$8 GMCC & WS members (code: MBR5)

\$17 after 3pm May 1st

Lunch catered by Filomena's Pizzeria

RSVP Today!

Did You Know?



Fraud Prevention (synonym: Vigilance)

Who would have predicted fraud, scams, and schemes designed to steal your money and identify would have become such a large part of our society. Across the board everyone has been forced to learn about spoofing, phishing, vishing, skimming, malware, spyware, and ransomware to better protect themselves from being victimized. A billion-dollar industry and growing, fraudsters have forced everyone to become anti-fraud professionals and stay abreast of the latest schemes in order to avoid falling prey to their schemes. As perpetrators improve their tactics, strategies like looking for misspellings in emails are becoming ineffective. Bottom line – the fake emails today look good and appear legitimate.

One such example I received multiple times is an email purportedly from Eversource alerting me my account was delinquent, and to avoid having service suspended, I needed to call the number listed in the email. The email looked authentic. The account number on the notice was not mine, but I called the number anyway. The menu options matched the ones legitimately used by Eversource. I suspect the difference was a fraudster standing by to steal regardless of the option I selected. The fraudster stayed on the phone with me for a few moments and then hung up. Each time I received this email I also received a phone call a few days later from someone stating to be from Eversource. The first thing they asked was if I received the shut-off email a few days earlier. It is all a scam to get unsuspecting Eversource customers to send the fraudsters money. When in doubt, find your monthly bill and only call the number included on the invoice.

Most advice directs users to simply delete spam emails. In the next article I will highlight why you may want to pay attention to spam emails (but don't click on anything within them) before simply deleting them.

By: Stephen A. Pedneault of Forensic Accounting Services, LLC

Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce | 20 Hartford Rd., Manchester, CT 06040

[Unsubscribe staffgmcc@manchesterchamber.com](mailto:Unsubscribe_staffgmcc@manchesterchamber.com)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by staffgmcc@manchesterchamber.com powered by



Try email marketing for free today!