



WINDHAM REGION

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

YOUR CHAMBER COMMUNITY IS HERE FOR YOU!

Dear Chamber Community:

We are all worried about what is going right now. We are worried for the safety and health of our family, friends and colleagues. But we are also concerned about our employees and customers. Things are changing by the minute. There is so much information coming at us from so many places. One thing we are doing for you is to sift through all of it and make sure we tell you what is really important. We have created our COVID 19 Business Resource Center on our website. There is a logo on the homepage. Just click and you will find up to date articles, executive orders, recovery assistance and information about the virus and the changing laws that will affect your business.

Things to come: We are gathering information from our community (not just members) about the following that we feel will help everyone get through this:

- 1. Restaurants that are still open and doing take out or deliveries.**
- 2. New hours for important businesses like pharmacies, medical offices, grocery stores, social service centers.**
- 3. Any business that is rising to the occasion and are local heroes—who are going above and beyond to meet the needs of people who are struggling by providing a necessary service.**

Please email us at diane@windhamchamber.com if you have any of the above information. We will send this out to the community as we receive updates. The Chronicle is working closely with us to gather as much information as possible and helping us make sure everyone has access to it. This is a time that we can all pull together to make a difference.

We are promoting a new campaign that we hope you will help share with everyone you know.

“Give a Gift of Community”

As businesses, especially our small, local ones, struggle to keep their doors open, or

prepare to re-open them, we are asking everyone to buy a gift certificate to a place they want to see exist when all of this is over. Every business can use whatever help we can offer. Buy a gift certificate from one. Every little bit counts.

The Chamber's Foundation has officially been approved. We are working on ways to help the small businesses in our community pull through this crisis. We have created a "Small Business Recovery Fund" to help and are actively seeking ways to fund it. Please stay tuned on how you can help your neighboring businesses.

We continue to offer assistance to anyone needing help completing the SBA loan, ideas on how to work with employees and other government programs. Our partners in our Business Resource Center (SBA, SBDC, WBDC, SCORE, CEDF) are here to work with you. if you need ANYTHING, please email me or call the Chamber at 860-423-6389 and we will get you to the right people to assist you.

Please share this information with anyone you know. The COVID 19 Resource Center is for EVERYONE, not just members. As some of our communities' greatest leaders and philanthropists, we are all working together to be the rising tide that lifts all boats. You are all in our thoughts and prayers. Stay healthy, stay safe. Old folks—this is your chance to learn how to skype, facetime and even figure out what Dungeons and Dragons are all about. Anyone needing a hand, a shopping trip, an errand.... Please contact us. We have volunteers willing to help.

FACT: We have been getting a huge amount of emails and text messages from pets. They are very concerned about this situation. Been dishing out referrals for help with their stress caused from "people in their house". They want to know when this will end. They can no longer pretend to be happy that their private sanctuaries have been invaded by kids and adults-their sleep patterns disrupted. No more walks, no more ball chasing, no more roll over or shake hands. But please keep up the butt scratching...it is very therapeutic. :)

IMPORTANT COVID-19 NEWS

- H&R Block franchise offices in North Windham, Willimantic, and Coventry are reaching out to help our communities during this unprecedented time of uncertainty due to the COVID-19 virus. Because of the closures of local VITA and

AARP-run tax preparation services, our offices are currently offering **FREE drop off tax preparation of a federal and one state tax return to taxpayers who had their 2018 tax return prepared at a VITA or AARP location.** This offer is good until March 31, 2020 at one of our three participating locations. Eligible taxpayers must provide a copy of their 2018 tax year return prepared by a VITA or AARP-run service, and must initiate a drop off prior to March 31, 2020 to qualify for this promotion.

- American Red Cross in Need of Blood Donors [Learn More >](#)
- Notice 2020-17; Payment relief on account of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) emergency. The Treasury Department and IRS are extending the due date for Federal income tax payments due April 15, 2020, to July 15, 2020, for payments due of up to \$10 million for corporations and up to \$1 million for individuals - regardless of filing status – and other unincorporated entities. Associated interest, additions to tax, and penalties for late payment will also be suspended until July 15, 2020. [Learn More >](#)



**COVID-19 BUSINESS UPDATES
& GENERAL INFORMATION**

CLICK HERE >

THE CHAMBER HAS ASSEMBLED A COMPREHENSIVE COVID-19 UPDATE CENTER ON OUR WEBSITE. ADDITIONAL COPIES OF OUR NEWSLETTERS WILL BE POSTED THERE ALONG WITH RELEVANT UPDATES RELATED TO YOUR BUSINESS.

[VISIT PAGE >](#)



Access Health CT Announces A
New Special Enrollment Period
For Uninsured Connecticut
Residents

**ACCESS HEALTH OFFERS SPECIAL
OPEN ENROLLMENT FOR
UNINSURED**

As the Coronavirus (COVID-19) continues to threaten public health, Access Health CT announced a **NEW** Special Enrollment Period for qualified uninsured Connecticut residents.

This Special Enrollment Period will be open from March 19 to April 2, 2020.

To see if you are eligible call **855-805-4325** (TTY: 1- 855-365-2428). Enrollment is **available by phone only.**

**[REMINDER - COMPLETE STATE OF CT BUSINESS SURVEY
HERE >](#)**

UPCOMING CHAMBER EVENTS



VIRTUAL CAN MEETING

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2020

If you would like to participate you will need to have a camera either on your computer or phone. Please email Diane@windhamchamber.com so that we can send you the additional information you will need to participate.

MORE VIRTUAL MEETINGS PLANNED!

The Chamber is pleased to announce that we are planning more virtual meetings and professional development podcasts and webinars to keep us all connected during this time. Stay tuned for more info to come.

HEBRON MAPLE



FESTIVAL

RESCHEDULED - HEBRON MAPLE FESTIVAL

**MAY 9-10, 2020
10:00am-4:00pm
Town of Hebron**

Good News!! We are being optimistic and are excited to announce that we are planning the Maple Festival for May 9-10, Mother's Day Weekend. There is, of course, the possibility that there may still be limitations on our mobility, but we are keeping our fingers crossed and hoping that all of our neighbors, family and friends will weather this storm bravely and will come out the other side healthy.... and very hungry!

NEW MEMBERS

Please Note Email Correction for George McDonald from previous newsletter

East Coast Benefit Solutions

George McDonald
20 Western Blvd, 1st Floor
Glastonbury, CT 06033
860-881-4057
gmcDonald@eastcoastbsolutions.com
health insurance for employees

MEMBER NEWS & EVENTS

**The Chronicle Partnering with
The Chamber of Commerce, Inc. Windham Region
Northeastern Ct. Visitors Guide**



the Chronicle
Serving the Communities of Eastern Connecticut Since 1977

Full Page 8" x 10.5"	\$725
1/2 Page 8" x 5.15"	\$375
1/3 page 5.25" x 5.15"	\$270
1/4 8" x 2.4761" or 3.875" x 5.15"	\$190
1/6 2.5 x 5.15"	\$145

- 8.5" X 11"
- Full color
- Glossy magazine
- Feature stories about places to visit, places to eat, things to do and all things that make Eastern CT such a wonderful place to staycation.



Audience: will be distributed to regional places of interest, visitor centers, state highway visitor centers, town halls, libraries, area festivals and special events and fairs.

Deadline: April 22nd.

Call your ad Rep Today! • 860-423-8466

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EVERSOURCE



the Chronicle



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