

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



Local on purpose.

October 2025

HarvestFest & Hello October

What an incredible day! We're thrilled to report that this year's Harvestfest on September 20th was a huge success, thanks to the overwhelming support from our community, local businesses, and dedicated volunteers.

Thank you to all our sponsors Hancock Lumber, Northeast Bank, Mahoosuc Realty, Maine Ski Lodging Co., MaineHealth Stephens Hospital, Oxford Casino & Hotel, Twin Town Plaza, Allen's Coffee Flavored Brandy, HealthReach Community Health Centers, Bennett Automotive & Power Equipment, The Suds Pub, Good Food Store & Catering Company, Oakhurst Dairy, Mainely Provisions, Smokin Good BBQ, Renewal by Andersen, Pine Tree Waste/Casella, W.B. Unlimited, BAAM (Bethel Area Arts & Music), WOXO Bennett Radio Group, Bethel Regional Airport and Mahousuc Land Trust. Can not wait to see everyone next year!

As October comes and goes may your days be filled with crisp air, cozy moments, and vibrant fall color. We are ready to see what the rest of this wonderful year has to offer.



Business Spotlight

In this month's Business Spotlight, we're shining a light on Mainely Provisions, a full-service grocery store that's become a cornerstone of our community. More than just a place to grab groceries, Mainely Provisions offers a personalized shopping experience with a strong focus on local and fresh products.

Located right on Main Street in Bethel, Mainely Provisions is your one-stop shop for all your culinary needs. They offer a fantastic selection of custom-cut meats, fresh produce, and a full-service bakery with delicious baked goods. You'll also find a great variety of organic and locally sourced items, supporting Maine's farmers and producers.

Beyond the aisles, Mainely Provisions is committed to convenience and community. They offer online ordering for easy curbside pickup. Making it simple to get what you need without a trip to the store. 🚚

Mainely Provisions isn't just a business; it's a vital part of the fabric of our town. They've been a huge supporter of local events and are dedicated to providing a friendly, neighborhood feel. Be sure to stop by say hello, and follow them on social media to see their latest weekly specials!

Mainely Provisions 72 Main St, Bethel, ME 04217 (207) 824-2121

Welcome
NEW
MEMBERS

Todd's Discount & Gift Shop

207-364-4206
6 Roxbury Road
Mexico, Manie

The Poland Boys LLC

Stump Grinding & Property Management

Dylan 207-461-5365

Camrin 207-515-0561

www.thepolandboysllc.com

adminops@thepolandboysllc.com

HarvestFest Highlights



For more photos follow us on Facebook and on our web page

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sunday, October 19th free admission day at the Maine Mineral and Gem Museum
- "Simple Steps to Stronger Branding" Join Allie Masten, Director of Marketing at Mt. Abram October 29th 11 am-1pm @ The Gem Theater. If interested in attending, please register online.
- Awards & Annual Meeting at The Bethel Resort and Suites, November 6th. Buy your tickets now on the Chamber's website.
- Job Fair and Expo coming soon! November 14th, If interested in joining please email sign up online

For more events follow us out on Facebook and bethelmaine.com

Do you want to see something in the newsletter? Do you have pictures? Let us Know!



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Bobbi Vandenbulcke

Join Us for Our First-Ever Holiday Tree Lighting!

Get ready to kick off the holiday season in style! The Chamber is thrilled to announce our inaugural Holiday Tree Lighting, happening Wednesday, December 4th at the Chamber Office. This festive new tradition will bring together families, friends, and local businesses to celebrate the season with lights, laughter, and community cheer. Enjoy holiday music, hot cocoa, treats, and a few magical surprises as we light up the night — and our beautiful holiday tree — for the first time!

We're inviting local businesses to get involved as a sponsor, decorating pine cones, or hosting a holiday booth to showcase your goods and spread some cheer. It's a wonderful way to connect with the community and be part of something special from the very beginning.

We hope you mark your calendars, bundle up, and come celebrate with us. Let's make this a night to remember!

Looking for the Perfect Office Space?

The Chamber has a rare opportunity available, a 15' x 18' office space for lease within our building! This bright, professional space is ideal for a small business, startup, or solo entrepreneur looking to grow in a supportive, high-visibility environment. With affordable rent, plenty of free parking, and unbeatable convenience just steps from the heart of our local business network, it's the perfect place to plant roots and connect with the community. Don't miss your chance to work where business happens — contact us today for details!

bobbi@bethelmaine.com

207-824-2282



EVENTS

Tara Poole - Events & Marketing Coordinator

Join us for the Bethel Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards and Membership Meeting on Thursday, November 6th at The Bethel Resort & Suites! It's a great opportunity to celebrate our community, recognize outstanding members, and network. To make the awards night extra memorable, we're looking for more fun and unique raffle donations! If you or your business can donate a gift certificate, product, or experience, please let us know. Your contributions directly support the Chamber's mission throughout the year.

Fall Job Fair Opportunity

Also coming up is the Fall Job Fair on Tuesday, November 14th! This event is a valuable chance for local businesses to connect with job seekers and for attendees to explore open positions right here in the Bethel region. We encourage all businesses with current openings to participate! Contact the Chamber for details on how to reserve a space.



TRAVEL SEASON

Cathy Howe - Information Specialist

As my favorite season draws down, the trees are barren, ready for snow, and those blessed tourists are thronging to lower latitudes. We have time to pause for a moment to think about everyone who came in. Our guest book filled up very fast. Most folks seemed, again, to come from the middle of America, with one memorable day where 2 couples arrived from the same town. The laughter was marvelous.

Once again, we would appreciate our members' rack and business cards. We promise to give them out!

Cathy

TRIVA

WHAT FAMOUS COVERED BRIDGE, OFTEN CONSIDERED THE MOST PHOTOGRAPHED IN MAINE?

Artist's Bridge



Thursday September 18th Hancock Lumber opened up there doors and did the annual tour of the mills. It was an incredible experience that highlighted both their advanced technology and the hardworking team behind it.

We were truly impressed by the dedication and skill of the employees. Their teamwork and pride in their work are why Hancock Lumber is a leader in our community and a multi-year recipient of the "Best Place to Work in Maine" award.

A huge thank you to the entire Hancock Lumber team for the tour. It was a great reminder of the amazing people and companies that make our community strong.

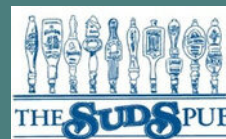
CHAMBER 101

Introducing Chamber 101

Learn, Connect, Grow

We're excited to launch our new Chamber 101 sessions—monthly classes designed to help you build practical skills and get more from your Chamber membership. Each session will focus on a different topic, from mastering Canva and navigating ChamberMaster to leveling up your social media game and more. Whether you're a new member or a longtime participant, there's always something new to discover. Let's learn together, grow together, and strengthen our community one skill at a time.

bobbi@bethelmaine.com



Cheers to The Suds Pub!

We want to raise a glass to The Suds Pub, whether you're stopping by for a meal or an event, we love having you as a cornerstone of our downtown scene.



SPICE UP YOUR KITCHEN AND DECLUTTER YOUR LIFE!

Gneiss Spice's founder shares her personal "Spice Journey," revealing the story behind their innovative, magnetic, zero-waste spice jars and commitment to the freshest organic seasonings. Start your adventure to a more organized and flavorful kitchen: gneiss spice.com

Happy Haunting, Bethel Area!

As October comes to a close, we hope your days are filled with crisp air and cozy moments —and maybe a few friendly frights!

Whether you're decorating your porch, carving a pumpkin, or planning to take the kids trick-or-treating, we encourage everyone to share in the holiday fun.

Don't forget to tag the Bethel Area Chamber in your spooky photos! We love seeing how our community celebrates the season.

Have a Safe and Happy Halloween!



Naming of the Newsletter contest
check it out on our Facebook

If you would like a Business after Hours
please email
connect@bethelmaine.com



Bethel Area CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

2025 LEADERSHIP EXECUTIVE TEAM:

CHAIR

STEPHANIE CAYER
MAINE SKI LODGING
CO.

VICE CHAIR

ELLEN WAINWRIGHT
SUNDAY RIVER RESORT

SECRETARY

TREASURER

REBECCA "BECKY"
RECORD
TAX LOFT

DIRECTORS:

ROBIN BENNETT
THE SUDBURY INN

TYLER BENNETT
BENNETT AUTOMOTIVE
& POWER EQUIPMENT

AARON BENTLY
WEST BETHEL MOTEL

NATASHA COLBRY
ELIZABETH INN &
RESTAURANT

JANET EVERETT
EVERETT OIL &
PROPANE

SARA HEMEON
ELEMENTS ART
GALLERY

JAY KIEL
NORWAY SAVINGS
BANK

MARGARETTA
"MAGGIE" KROENKE
MAINE MINERAL AND
GEM MUSEUM

ALEXANDRA "ALLIE"
MASTEN-WILLIAMSON
MT. ABRAM SKI & BIKE
RESORT

JENNIFER MERRILL
FRANKLIN SAVINGS
BANK

B.J. OTTEN
MAINE ENERGY
SYSTEMS

LLOYD SWEETSER
NORTHEAST BANK

JOHN POOLE
HOLIDAE HOUSE

STAFF:

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
BOBBI VANDENBULCKE

EVENTS & MARKETING
COORDINATOR
TARA POOLE

OFFICE COORDINATOR
CATHY HOWE



How to Get Involved This Fall

Want to support your Chamber and connect with the community? Here are three easy ways to participate in our upcoming events!

1. Donate to the Annual Meeting Silent Auction

Help make the Awards & Annual Meeting on November 6th a huge success by donating an item, gift certificate, product, or unique experience for the silent auction. Your contributions directly support the Chamber's mission throughout the year.

2. Reserve Your Space at the Fall Job Fair

Do you have open positions to fill? Local businesses are encouraged to participate in the Fall Job Fair on Thursday, November 14th, a valuable opportunity to connect with job seekers in the Bethel region.

3. Host a Business After Hours

This is a great chance to showcase your business, meet other members, and network. If you're interested in hosting a Business After Hours event, please let us know.

To get details, reserve a space, or make a donation, please email us today!

connect@bethelmaine.com

Thank you to our Premium Tier Members Cornerstone Members



Leader Members

Clean Cut Painting Company
Elements Gallery
Good Food Store & Catering
Company
Gould Academy
Leighton's of West Paris
Mt. Abram Ski Area & Bike Park

Modern Barn/Evergreen Construction
207
River View Resort
Smokin' Good BBQ
Sudbury Inn/Suds Pub
Sunday River Brewing Company

Partner Members

Bethel Area Business Association
Bethel HealthReach
Carter's XC Ski Center
Chalmer's Insurance Co.
Cho Sun/Pok Sun Emporium
Community Energy/Brooks Bros.
Dead River Co.
Friends of Bear Mt. Music Hall

Gem Theater
Gneiss Spice
Holidae House Bed & Breakfast
Lovell Software Consulting
MEDCO/Barking Dawg Market
Maine Energy Co.
MaineHealth Stephens Hospital
Maine Mineral & Gem Museum

Northeast Bank
Ripley & Fletcher Ford
Rumford Hospital
Sport Thoma
Varney Agency
Western Maine Supply
Wheeler's Insurance Co.

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