



SPECIAL ECTys EDITION

THE Best IN Eastern Connecticut = THE = ECTys

The shining lights, the applause, the toasts—will have to wait for another time when we can gather to recognize these leading organizations in our region with the grandeur they deserve. We can't, however, wait any longer to sing their praises. The Chamber of Commerce of Eastern CT is pleased to recognize the winners of the 2019 Eastern Connecticut Regional Awards—The ECTys.

The ECTys join the echelon of major award ceremonies this year in two ways. First, they have earned their own moniker—now the awards with cache have a catchy name. Second, we had to forego the celebration at our annual meeting in March, where the 2019 winners would have accompanied our retrospective on the previous year, and like the Emmys and the ESPYs, we are now acknowledging our winners remotely, in our local media and online via social media. See the award presentation videos by visiting our Facebook page @ChamberECT.

Our thanks to the members of the business community who joined in congratulating their colleagues on winning these prestigious awards. We invite everyone to share their congratulations on Facebook.

WINNERS ON PAGES 2-4

— PRESENTED BY —



A SPECIAL THANK YOU | Through their commitment to the Chamber, these companies have demonstrated support for the many smaller businesses we serve.



Your winners are...



SMALL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR Dunklee Cooling & Heating, Inc.

A small business with a wide reach, Dunklee, Inc. actively supports their customers and economic growth in the region and contributes generously with both funds and time to local nonprofits, including Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center, Avalonia Land Conservancy, Willimantic Food Coop, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, The Riverfront Children's Center, and New London Landmarks. A Top Performer with Green Bank, Dunklee promotes green technology and energy sources as job creators and economic development drivers.

dunkleeinc.com



BUSINESS OF THE YEAR Pfizer

We could not have anticipated the prescience of this award in 2019, but Pfizer truly is the business of the year as they move forward with trials of a COVID vaccine. Their over 60-year history in Southeastern CT includes a breadth of contributions consistent with innovation and meaningful work in the community. Pfizer donated generously to local nonprofits, hospitals, and educational initiatives; engaged in green initiatives; and employs over 5,000 people who contribute to global health through drug discovery and development.

pfizer.com



COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION LEADER

A.R. Building Company

A.R. Building is contributing to the redevelopment of New London with the completion of a \$15 million apartment complex at 60 Mansfield Road and the construction of a \$12.5 million complex at Bank and Howard Streets. The upscale residential developments help to meet demand for housing and add vibrancy to downtown New London.

arbuilding.com



INDUSTRY INNOVATOR Mohegan Sun

Mohegan Sun leads in innovation through their unwavering commitment to customer service: launching a new app for at-seat food service during a show, making parking easy with digital indicators showing available spaces, and creating a hotel experience "unlike any other" for its Aspire guests. Mohegan Sun also built an exemplary vocational inclusion program for persons with disabilities, where 85% of participants find meaningful employment upon successful completion.

mohegansun.com



BEST PLACE TO WORK

Chelsea Groton Bank

Chelsea Groton Bank's logo of an acorn reflects their ability to see potential and nurture growth. Employees at the 166-year strong mutual bank feel supported and encouraged to be the best they can be for customers and themselves. Exceptional service extends beyond the bank lobby into their work with businesses and nonprofits, free financial education, volunteering on boards, and giving back to the communities where they live and work.

chelseagroton.com



NONPROFIT OF THE YEAR

Public Library of New London

New London Public Library embraces an expansive view of its role in the community and diverse ways to meet the needs of its patrons. In addition to fulfilling the traditional functions of the library, they offer a club to teach job-hunting skills, the Social Service Spotlight program, free violin lessons, nonprofit workshops, and many fun and informative groups across ages and interests.

plnl.org

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We're proud to be named **Best Place to Work** in our region!

Congratulations to all of the winners who have made our community the wonderful place it is.



TOURISM LEADER OF THE YEAR
Bill Furgueson

Bill Furgueson, President of the Downtown Mystic Merchants, is working to expand the group’s presence in the community and attract new businesses. He volunteered for Mystic River Day Festival at the Kid’s Art Park, served on the organizing committee for Mystic Outdoor Art Festival, and is working on enhancing the Mystic Eats Festival. Bill focuses on collaboration and leveraging the downtown’s many assets.

mysticmainstreet.org



VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR
Gail Weber, Minuteman Press

Gail Weber contributed significantly as a volunteer on the Chamber’s Strategic Planning Committee and Vice President Search Committee. She offered valuable insights from her many years as a small business owner who interfaces with many other businesses in the region and as a former Chair of the Chamber’s Board of Directors.

minutemanpress.com



YOUNG PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR
Matthew Spring, Stifel

Matthew Spring is a registered investment advisor for Stifel in Mystic, actively managing investment plans for businesses and individuals that serve their present and future needs. He serves on the boards of the Child and Family Agency, Ocean Community YMCA, and L+M’s LAMBS and the advisory committee of Mystic Aquarium.

stifel.com



BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL AWARD
Jack Malone, SCADD

After a 25-year career at Southeastern Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (SCADD) – including the past 19 years running the \$10 million agency, Jack Malone retired earlier this year as Chief Executive Officer of this regional organization that has served thousands of clients over the years, saving and improving many lives along the way. Deeply committed to the organization, he lives by the “one day at a time” creed and will remain as SCADD President until 2021.

scadd.org



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Bouvier and Mark Spinnato send a hearty congratulations to Duncklee Cooling & Heating as Small Business of the Year

Matt Spring
Young Professional of the Year




Matt is an active and tireless supporter of Child & Family Agency, serving as Secretary of CFA’s Board of Directors & President of Onward Leaders.

Matt is a forward looking thinker who always has CFA’s long-term sustainability in mind. We are so proud of him and congratulate him on this important recognition from the Chamber!

Child & Family Agency
of Southeastern Connecticut, Inc.

Stifel is pleased to support the
Chamber of Commerce Eastern Connecticut



Congratulations to
Matthew Spring
awarded Young Professional
of the Year 2019

(860) 440-3373 | (800) 297-5508
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Congratulations!

The Chamber staff and community express their deepest congratulations to all our ECTy winners and special thanks to this year’s ECTy sponsors.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Golden Egg Concepts

Golden Egg Concepts provides a range of services in strategy, design, and web. Our experience enriches our understanding of the challenges that design and construction firms face every day. Colchester | goldeneggconcepts.com | (860) 531-9721

Lahan & King, LLC

Attorneys P. Michael Lahan and Daniel King practice in the areas of estate planning (Wills & Trusts), elder law, and probate administration in a highly personalized setting. 53 Lafayette Street, Norwich | (860) 886-0011

Long River Farm

Long River Farm provides honest, naturally grown produce to the communities of the lower Connecticut River Valley, offering a variety of premium salad greens, fruits, vegetables and herbs. Old Lyme | facebook.com/longriverfarm | (860) 575-9806

Main Avent Sports & Apparel

In designing quality sportswear for championship athletes, a high emphasis is placed on customer satisfaction. Main Avent Sports is committed to making sure that our customers' specific needs are always met with exceptional service every time. 66 Franklin Street, Norwich | mainaventgroup.com (860) 977-4779

Rise Nutrition

Nourish and rejuvenate your body with organic, Non-GMO shakes, juices, coffees, and tea. Located at the Pawcatuck Shopping Center, Rise Nutrition is open for take-out and has indoor and outdoor seating available. 37 South Broad Street, Pawcatuck | rise-nutrition.com (860) 495-2529

Rustic Boutique Catering and Events

Rustic Boutique Catering & Events was born out of a love and knack for turning our local parks, farms, pavilions and private venues into an affordable wedding of your dreams. 39 Military Highway, Gales Ferry | dinerustic.com | (860) 394-9349

Sweet Hill Farm

Established in 2018 as an evolution of a long time local staple, Sweet Hill Farm offers "Pop's Ice Cream Shop", a picnic pavilion, farm animals, retail greenhouses, a boutique store and educational center. 39 Military Highway, Gales Ferry | sweethillfarmct.com (860) 865-5764

Work Vessels for Veterans

Work Vessels for Veterans is a 501-(c)(3) nonprofit, charitable organization whose mission is to award equipment to America's returning veterans so they may start a business or pursue career education. workvesselsforveterans.org | (860) 536-4418

UPCOMING EVENTS

NOV 19

Webinar: Succession and Exit Planning for Small Businesses and Non Profits
10:00 - 11:00 am

Pre-registration is suggested for most events. Call (860) 701-9113 or visit ChamberECT.com to learn more about any event. Cancellation Policy: Notice must be given at least three business days prior to event. No-shows or those unable to cancel in time will be billed.

Holiday Shopping Trail & Challenge

Free Business Promotion for the Holiday Season!

Join the Holiday Shopping Trail to benefit from our regional sweepstakes promotion from November 28 to December 24. Shoppers can win prizes by visiting shops registered on the Trail--in person or online.

Register your business for free or choose an enhanced listing at **ChamberECT.com/hst**



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\$39.95

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When Disaster Strikes:
Shipwrecks, Storms and Other Calamities in Southeastern Connecticut
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UConn Women's 30-Year Reign
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