

the voice



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And the ECTy Goes to...

Annual Meeting ECTy Celebration

March 27 | 5:00-9:30pm
Mystic Marriott Hotel & Spa

Tickets at ChamberECT.com

Our annual ECTys, honor excellence in community engagement, innovation, customer service, and business best practices.

Each recipient is nominated by a member of the regional business community and chosen with immense consideration.

Our Annual Meeting & ECTy Celebration will take place on **March 27 at the Mystic Marriott Hotel & Spa from 5:00-9:30pm.**

From 5:00 - 5:30pm we will hold a review of the Chamber impact, budget, Foundation report, and election of Chamber Board of Directors and officers. There is no cost to attend this portion of the event.

Beginning at 5:30pm, you are cordially invited to stay for cocktail hour followed by a plated 3-course meal as we celebrate and honor our 2023 ECTy Award recipients.

Visit **ChamberECT.com** to purchase tickets. Advertising and sponsorship opportunities are available.

Small Business of the Year Miranda Creative

Business of the Year
Mystic Seaport Museum

New Business Award
Drip Bar

Nonprofit of the Year
Project Oceanology

Best Place to Work
Eversource

Industry Innovator
Wonderlosity

Tourism Leader of the Year
Hilton Mystic

Young Professional of the Year
Keith Turner

Volunteers of the Year
Heather Ford Bunn
Dale Bunn

Board of Directors
Special Award
Jeff Godley

Our Annual Meeting and ECTy Celebration is sponsored by

Pat Munger Construction, Robinson + Cole, CorePlus Credit Union, High Tide Capital, Norwich Public Utilities, Bouvier Insurance

A Special Thank You | Through their commitment to the Chamber, these companies have demonstrated support for the many smaller businesses we serve.



Charter Oak Donates \$100,000 in December to Region's Food Pantries

Charter Oak Federal Credit Union donated \$100,000 in emergency food assistance to eastern Connecticut's food pantries and food centers to help boost food supplies to those in need during the holiday season.

For the second year in a row 20 food pantries received \$5,000 this past December for much-needed food supplies at food centers and food pantries serving New London and Windham counties.

"We believe in the power of giving, especially during the holiday season. By contributing to these food pantries, we aim to provide essential resources to those facing food insecurity. This commitment reflects our dedication to supporting the communities we serve," said Brian A. Orenstein, Charter Oak's Chief Executive Officer.

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The emergency food donations were funded through Charter Oak's Community Giving Program, which annually awards sponsorships and grants to non-profits and charitable groups across eastern Connecticut.

Charter Oak's Community Giving Program also includes its Matching Gifts Program, which awarded a combined \$400,000 in Charter Oak and member donations to charities and non-profits in 2023, as well as Charter Oak's \$100,000 annual scholarship program for high school and college students. During 2023, Charter Oak and its members community giving efforts totaled over \$750,000 in New London and Windham counties and since Charter Oak expanded its community outreach efforts in 2009 it has committed more than \$3.5 million in assistance to individuals, non-profits, and charitable organizations.



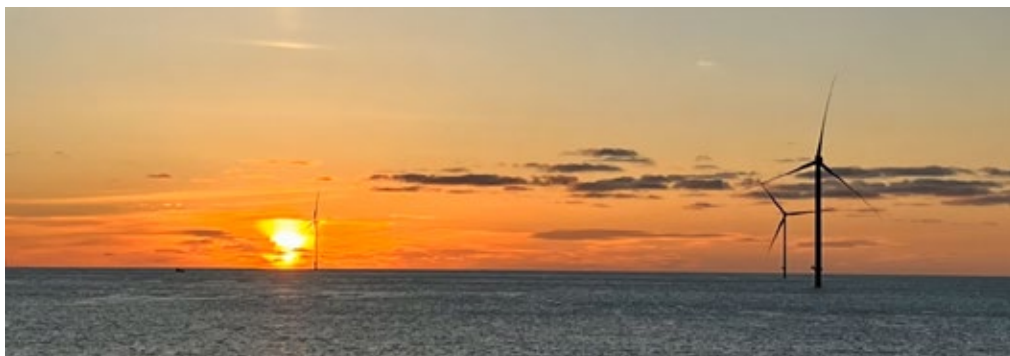
8th Annual Sun Whiskey Union Returns to Mohegan Sun A whiskey event that's aged perfectly takes place on Saturday, April 13th

Sun Whiskey Union is back for another year, and guests are invited to experience a night filled with top-notch whiskey, delicious bites and exhilarating live music.

Savor the rich tapestry of flavors at the exclusive Sun Whiskey Union at Mohegan Sun! From smoky and peaty to smooth and complex, each whiskey tells a unique story. From those who are new to the world of whiskey to those who are knowledgeable enthusiasts, all are invited to chat with the distilleries' representatives to learn more about their styles of whiskey and other libations! Listen to live music from Locals Live 2023 finalist, The Rakes, while sipping on top-shelf whiskey, scotch, bourbon and rye. Also, all guests in attendance will have the opportunity to sample unique craft cocktails and indulge in mouthwatering food from Bear's Smokehouse BBQ and tasty treats from NoRA Cupcake Company.

Tickets are on sale now at ticketmaster.com and the Mohegan Sun Box Office, subject to availability. Prices are subject to increase the day of the event. A portion of ticket proceeds will go to support the United Way of Southeastern Connecticut. Guests must be 21 years of age or older to attend Sun Whiskey Union. Valid ID and ticket are required upon entry.

South Fork Wind has completed installation of more than six of its 12 turbines



South Fork Wind has completed installation of more than six of its 12 turbines, reaching the significant halfway milestone for construction of America's first utility-scale offshore wind farm in federal waters. As you know, turbines for the project are being staged and assembled at New London State Pier in Connecticut.

The milestone comes roughly a month after South Fork Wind made history as the first utility-scale offshore wind farm in federal waters to begin powering up. The six turbines are commissioned and already delivering power to the Long Island grid. The 7th turbine has also been installed, with components for the 8th turbine next to be installed.

Welcome!

NEW MEMBERS!

Aesthetics Ink Day Spa

A full-service aesthetics day spa offering facials, eyebrow bar, massages, and LED therapy.

Waterford | aestheticsinkdayspa.com
(860) 446-6464

Auxiliary of L+M Hospital

Established in 1914 to support Lawrence and Memorial Hospital's mission to improve community health.

New London | (860) 367-4583

Class 101 New London County CT

Your college planning partner for admissions, test preparation, and scholarships.

Groton | class101.com/newlondoncountycyct
(860) 908-5476

CoLabs

Provides back-office support for independent and trade businesses to streamline administrative, management, and marketing tasks.

Old Saybrook | CoLabsHQ.com
(413) 250-3348

Coldwell Banker Realty - East Lyme/Mystic Regional Office

Real estate brokerage services in East Lyme.

East Lyme | coldwellbanker.com
(860) 739-6277

Comix Roadhouse

A lively bar, restaurant, comedy club, and music venue providing a blend of entertainment and hospitality.

Uncasville | comixroadhouse.com
(860) 862-7000

Couture Financial Services, LLC

Financial services company based in New London.

New London | couturefinancialct.com
(860) 444-1472

Deedy Construction Co., INC

Providing septic system repair, basement drainage solutions, and sewer line services.

Waterford | deedyconstrcompany.com
(860) 215-4855

Donovan Builders LLC

Carpentry and remodeling services founded in 2023.

Salem | (860) 705-2154

Elevate to Even Plus Inc

Eleven+ offers transformative, paid internship experiences to underserved students.

Waterford | eleven-plus.org | (908) 679-9260

FamilyWise, LLC

Applied Behavior Analysis services and Positive Behavior Supports for children with autism.

Colchester
familywisebehaviorsolutions.com
(860) 642-7379

GinaJohnson.co

Assisting business owners in navigating the early stages of business growth.

ginajohnson.co | (860) 573-4590

Highland Ave Capital, LLC

Real estate investment, brokerage, and finance specializing in various projects.

Niantic | highlandavecap.com

(203) 431-7685

JLN Associates

Global fire protection and occupational safety organization offering innovative solutions.

Old Lyme | safejln.com | (860) 434-3443

La Luna Ristorante

An upscale dining experience with award-winning fine Italian cuisine.

New London | lalunanewlondon.com
(860) 326-7258

Law Office of John Bashaw LLC

Providing collaborative and efficient environmental legal counsel to businesses for over 35 years.

New London | jbbashawlaw.com
(203) 314-8070

Marvel Home Decorating

Serving New London County for over 80 years with a focus on treating customers like family.

East Lyme | marvelhomedecorating.com |
(860) 451-8437

Mc Cabe & Associates

Private wealth advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC.

Portland | ameripriseadvisors.com/team/mc-cabe-associates | (860) 342-1756

Mikasa Financial Services LLC

Dedicated to accounting and tax services for individuals and small business owners.

Waterford | mikasafinancialservices.com
(860) 442-8000

Mystic Film Festival

An annual event showcasing independent narrative films and documentaries from around the world.

Mystic | mysticfilmfestival.com
(347) 731-4003

Mystic Transportation Ltd

Transportation logistics, including trucking, courier service, and warehousing.

Stonington | mystictransportation.com
(860) 535-3278

New Life Carpet Cleaning LLC

Locally owned and operated carpet and upholstery cleaning business.

Waterford | 860-445-7780

Rossa Negra Restaurant

Offering international fusion cuisine in an upscale setting.

Niantic | rossanegra.com | (860) 850-4824

Siam Therapeutic & Spa

Providing wellness treatments in majestic settings for mind, body, and soul.

New London | siam-therapeuticspa.com
(860) 772-9182

Valvoline Instant Oil Change

Quick, easy, and trusted choice for preventive maintenance needs, offering drive-thru oil changes.

Groton, New London | vioc.com
(860) 244-9310

Walter Electric, LLC

Residential and commercial electrical services from multi-generational contractors.

New London | walterelectricllc.com
(860) 446-0600

Wonderlosity

Innovative company specializing in immersive retailing with various retail brands.

wonderlosity.com | (860) 451-8096

Writers Block Ink, Inc.

Arming young voices with the power of pen and prose to ignite social change.

New London | writersblockink.org
(860) 442-5625

Maximizing Your 24 Ways to Engage



To kick off 2024, here are 24 ways to engage and take full advantage of your membership with the Chamber.

1. Networking Events

Register for chamber networking events regularly to connect with fellow members and expand your professional network.

2. Online Access

Manage your chamber membership completely online using the member portal. Access billing, add employees, post jobs and more all at ChamberECT.com/login.

3. Promotional Opportunities

Take advantage of promotional opportunities like member news, member to member discounts, ads in our eNews and event programs, or submit a blog.

4. Social Media Engagement

Interact with the chamber on social media platforms to stay informed and promote your business updates, and we'll engage with your pages too!

5. Chamber Awards

Nominate your business or colleagues for chamber awards to gain recognition within the community.

6. Support Opportunities

Sponsor chamber events or programs to increase visibility for your business and support the local community.

7. Business Directory Listing

Ensure your business information is updated in the chamber's business directory to enhance your online presence.

8. Professional Development Workshops

Attend educational workshops and seminars organized by the chamber to stay updated on industry trends and acquire new skills.

9. Council Participation

Chamber councils cover topics including HR, energy, education, legislative affairs, and military. Join a council and actively contribute to the community and influence chamber programming.

10. Use your New or Renewing Member Benefits

Make sure you take advantage of the perks of joining or renewing your membership. Be sure to book your advertising and attend one of our monthly networking events with your complimentary Business After Hours passes.

11. Job Postings

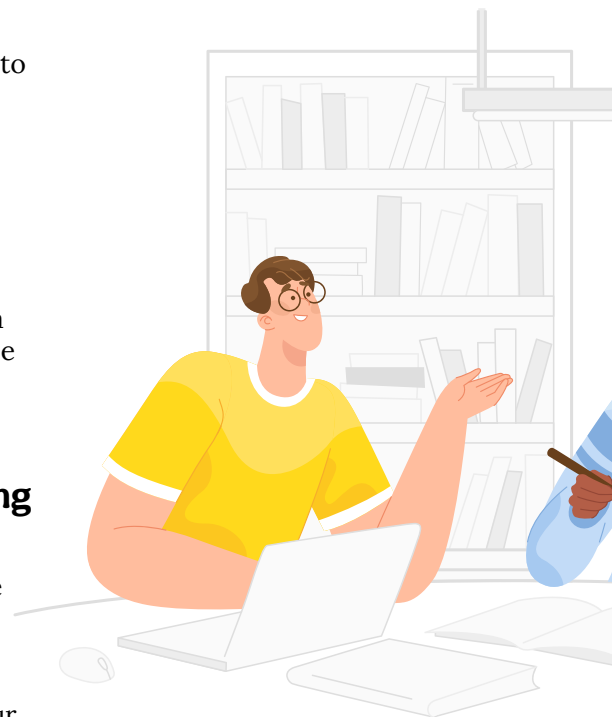
Take advantage of the chamber's job board to find qualified local talent for your business.

12. Utilize our Regional Innovation Center

Chamber members can enjoy 2 complimentary Day Passes and a 2-hour Conference Room Rental at no additional cost.

13. Chamber Advocacy

Utilize our legislative tracking tool on ChamberECT.com to stay informed about the chamber's advocacy efforts on behalf of the business community and provide input.



ur Membership Engage in 2024



14. Business Referrals

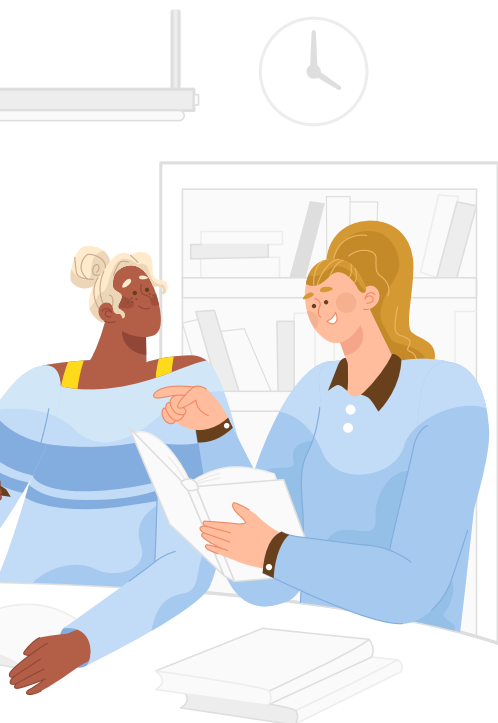
Actively refer fellow chamber members to your clients and partners and encourage them to do the same for you.

15. Member-to-Member Discounts

Offer exclusive discounts to other chamber members to encourage collaboration and business among members.

16. Stay Informed

Regularly check the chamber's website, newsletters, and communications to stay informed about upcoming events, opportunities, and important updates.



17. Engage Your Young Professionals

Register your young employees for our YP program which not only cultivates personal and professional growth but also fosters a dynamic workforce.

18. Leadership Program

Apply to the program, support an employee's application, or engage as a sponsor. Our Leadership Program prepares future leaders for positions of responsibility by acquainting them with community processes, programs, and problems.

19. Entrepreneur Academy

Contribute your expertise as a teacher or mentor, support the program as a sponsor, or encourage emerging entrepreneurs to enroll in this 8-week program designed to help them transform their ideas into profitable businesses.

20. Refer a new member

Referring new members to join the chamber is a powerful way for you to strengthen the collective voice, expand the network, and foster a thriving business community through mutual support and collaboration.

21. Host a Ribbon Cutting

Celebrate your new business, an anniversary, or a renovation, while connecting with the local business community and legislators.

22. Health Insurance

As a member you have access to an exclusive, customized health coverage option with a dedicated team of experts, ready to help you find the best health coverage fit for your business's needs.

23. Host a networking event

Showcase your business and foster community connections as the host of a Business After Hours or Coffee and Contacts.

24. Donate a raffle prize

Enhance your visibility and reach new customers at our events while supporting the Chamber. Plus, you'll receive a complimentary Business After Hours passes and recognition during remarks.

Not a member yet? No problem!

Our Director of Membership and Engagement, Jane Davis, can help you sign up and begin enjoying a host of benefits and resources. To join the chamber, visit ChamberECT.com, call (860) 701-9113, or email memberships@ChamberECT.com.

CorePlus Credit Union Launches New Member-Centric Website

CorePlus Credit Union (CPCU) is proud to announce the launch of a newly designed, modern, and responsive website focusing on an enhanced user experience. This exciting evolution reflects CPCU's commitment to providing our members with the most user-friendly and convenient online banking experience possible while advancing our mutual goal to become the premier digital credit union in eastern Connecticut.

The new CPCU website features a clean and modern design, making it easy for members to navigate and find the information they need quickly and easily. The website has been optimized for all devices, ensuring a seamless experience — from desktop computers and tablets to smartphones.

The design of the new website recognizes the growing trend of mobile banking and the understanding that more and more of our members are accessing their finances on their tablets and smartphones. That's why CPCU made sure this new website is perfectly responsive and easy to use on any mobile device.

Experience the future of digital banking with CorePlus Credit Union. Visit www.coreplus.org and discover a banking experience that is truly seamless, convenient, and member-focused.

Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts Presents Diverse 2024 Season

Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts on the UConn Storrs Campus will continue to present the best of music, dance, and entertainment in the second half of their 2023-2024 season. More of the world's most celebrated artists will come to UConn Storrs to entertain the greater Storrs community and far beyond. Tickets are now on sale for all events at Jorgensen. UConn.edu or through the Box Office.

Jorgensen literally kicks things off with Step Afrika! on Saturday, January 27 at 8 pm. Known for their percussive dance styles practiced by historically African American fraternities and sororities, traditional African dances, and an array of contemporary dance, Step Afrika's performances are much more than dance shows. They integrate songs, storytelling, humor, and audience participation. The blend of technique, agility, and pure energy makes each performance unique and leaves the audience with their hearts pounding.

The Spring 2024 features an exceptionally robust Lenard Chamber Music Series. Spring 2024 features

six performances within the Series, including the twice Grammy-nominated Imani Winds, legendary a cappella ensemble The King's Singers, Mnozil Brass, Takács Quartet with Marc-André Hamelin on piano, Bennewitz Quartet with an all-Czech program, and violinist Ray Chen with Julio Elizalde on piano.



"It is always a pleasure to prominently feature chamber music, and we continue to be grateful for the generosity of Jean and John Lenard and our several donors who contribute to the Lenard Chamber Music Endowment," Rock said.

Tickets for all Spring 2024 events are now on sale. Please check the website, jorgensen.uconn.edu, for event updates, ticket and discount information. (Note: all artists, events, dates, programs, and policies are subject to change.)

Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts is located at 2132 Hillside Road on the UConn campus in Storrs. The Box Office is open Mon – Fri, 10 am to 5 pm. For questions and assistance, email jorgensen.tickets@uconn.edu or call 860-486-4226.



R&W Heating Energy Solutions Celebrates 20 Years

Established in 2004, owners Rick and Wanda Hatch are celebrating twenty years in business in 2024! Their team has grown to include family members, and employees who have become like family - including eight licensed technicians, two apprentices, and four customer support specialists.

Ever-pursuing the latest technologies, products, services, and information to keep their customers up to date, efficient, and warm (or cool!), Rick, Wanda and their staff consistently look to the future; The future of their business, their employees, their customers, their craft, and the HVAC industry. Here's to the next 20 years!

Events Schedule

THURSDAY MAR 21 5-7 PM	YPSOCIAL WITH MYSTIC CHAMBER Beer'd Brewing at the Mill 22 Bayview Ave, Unit 15, Stonington
WEDNESDAY MAR 27 5-9:30 PM	Annual Meeting & ECTy Celebration Mystic Marriott Hotel & Spa 625 North Road, Groton
FRIDAY APRIL 5 7:30 - 9 AM	State of Stonington & Groton presented with Mystic Chamber Hilton Mystic, 20 Coogan BLVD, Mystic
TUESDAY APRIL 9 11:30 AM - 1 PM	BUSINESS LUNCHEON Governor Ned Lamont Ocean Beach Park 98 Neptune Ave, New London
WEDNESDAY APRIL 17 11:30 AM - 12 PM	BUSINESS LUNCHEON CT Offshore Wind Forum: Industry Perspectives Holiday Inn New London 35 Governor Winthrop BLVD, New London

[Register at ChamberECT.com](https://www.chamberect.com)



**DYNAMIC
ALLIANCE**

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Making IT Make Sense

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12 Douglas Lane, Suite 4, Waterford, CT 06385
860.701.0058
dynamic-alliance.com

Mystic Marriott Hotel & Spa
Friday, April 19, 2024 from 5:30 pm to 10:30 pm



Heart to Heart

*Always Home's Gala honoring
Community Partners
Karen Stone, David Schulz,
Amanda Arling
and The Whaler's Inn.*



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New London, CT 06320

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