



Chamber members showed great resolve and creativity in overcoming the many challenges of Covid-19. The Chamber itself accelerated its efforts and worked 7 days a week, providing much needed marketing, distribution of PPE, assistance with federal and state paperwork requirements and generating \$34,000 in gift certificate sales.

Pictured above: Tracy McCann of Guytanno's International Cuisine receiving free masks from Jen Brinton, Chairman of The Chamber Board of Directors.

Ocean Community Chamber Foundation Response to COVID-19

- \$12,000 raised for small businesses grants
- \$6,300 raised for Chamber of Commerce gift certificates, awarded to local employees in need
- \$3,770 in \$10 Gift Certificates awarded to residents stimulating the economy
- \$775 donor designated sponsorships of 3 Chamber memberships for struggling small businesses
- \$2,275 raised to support the flower pots for downtown


ChelseaGroton


WASHINGTON TRUST

Raised Donations for the following:

- | | |
|---|--|
| • \$147.50 for Johnny Cake Center | • \$69.26 for RICANN |
| • \$247.50 for Stand Up for Animals | • \$100 for Warm Center |
| • \$2,850 and N95 masks for Westerly Hospital | • \$1,000 for Wood River Health Services |

FEDERAL PAYCHECK PROTECTION PROGRAM

New provisions that should take away many of the roadblocks businesses were facing in order to be eligible to receive full forgiveness of the PPP loans. Modifications will implement the following:

The narrow provisions requiring employers to spend the loans in 8 weeks after disbursement will now be expanded to 24 weeks.

The new regulations also:

- Lower the payroll payment threshold from 75% of a borrowers proceeds to 60%
- Relax the loan forgiveness stipulations for the instance when a business is unable to return to the same level of business activity, even with the PPP loan, largely due to state PHASE restrictions
- Provide more protections for borrowers that are both unable to rehire their staff or hire similarly qualified employees for unfilled positions by December 31, 2020.
- Increase the maturity of SBA approved PPP loans to 5 years
- Extend the deferral period for borrower payments of principal, interest, and fees

Any employer who would like to get approved for the legislative amendments to the PPP should work through their lender to complete a modified borrower application form and a modified loan forgiveness application. June 30 remains the last date on which a PPP loan application can be approved. Talk with your lender if the new rules make this a program that will help your business.

Lathrop Insurance

Lathrop Insurance has insured our coastal community since 1939, and the Lathrop Insurance commitment to offer best in class products with excellent service remains as evident today as it was then. In 1938, a hurricane wreaked havoc on the New England coast. Francis Lathrop Sr. saw how ill-prepared many homeowners were and in 1939 founded Lathrop Insurance to help safeguard local families from further disasters. Over the last 81 years, Lathrop Insurance has built new partnerships to ensure coastal families and businesses are protected when the unexpected happens.

In April of 2020, Lathrop Insurance joined the Renaissance Alliance to give their clients access to more options for their insurance, while maintaining local ownership and operations. This gives Lathrop Insurance the purchasing power to compete with the largest insurance brokers and carriers while preserving the ability to provide local service. Even throughout the COVID crisis, Lathrop Insurance has invested in technology to maintain full operations for customers and remained committed to providing excellent service.

Lathrop Insurance has maintained its commitment to the coastal community for 81 years. Lathrop Insurance now has policies with 312 unique underwriting companies, providing solutions based on client need. While the way business has been done has evolved significantly since Francis Lathrop opened the doors, Lathrop Insurance remains committed to providing clients with unique solutions and superior service, no matter what is happening in the world.

CHAMBER NEWS

Chamber Asks RI Legislators to Address Unemployment Insurance Deficit

The Rhode Island Unemployment Insurance fund will be depleted by the end of September. RI Public Expenditure Council is already telling employers that they can expect to be paying an increase of a minimum of a \$600 per employee for unemployment insurance come January renewal time. That includes every business—even those that were forced shuttered by the government for weeks and all those that have sustained astronomical losses in revenue, dramatic increases in expenses to re-open in phases and challenges by some employees who desire not to return to work just yet. The OCCC has contacted the legislative delegation to strongly urge that a large portion of the Covid-19 federal stimulus money in RI coffers be used to offset the unemployment insurance fund.

These businesses shut down because they were forced to do so by government order, related to Covid 19 concerns. Now they should not be subjected to penalties for the ensuing lay offs that resulted from that government. To the contrary, it is not only appropriate, it is critical that the Covid-19 response money be properly directed into the unemployment fund.

We need a strong voice for business and are relying upon our state legislators and the Governor. We expect our pre-emptive communication to our elected delegation will warrant appropriate influence. Our small businesses in Westerly and the rest of the state cannot, and should not, be further penalized. We are not at a crossroads. We are at a tipping point for survival.

Chamber's Impact on Economy

While the economy was shut down and businesses shuttered, this is the only regional Chamber that accelerated its operations. While expanding efforts and operating 7 days a week, The Chamber worked extremely hard to generate over \$70,000 in direct sales which was generated for retailers during The Chamber's Facebook Live shopping program. We generated over \$27,000 in direct sales for local artists through the VIRTUAL art show. During the worst economic environment in history The Chamber was able to double its support of small businesses through an effective community campaign. From 3-13-19 to 6-1-19 gift certificate sales were \$16,830 For the same period 3-13-20 to 6-1-20, Chamber gift certificate sales were \$34,650! Thank you to all who supported our efforts to generate support when businesses needed it the most.



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DOWNTOWN BUSINESS DISTRICT

Flower Pots Return

With the Duck Race having been cancelled, there were no funds within the Ocean Community Chamber Foundation to support the flower pots this year. Thank you to the following generous businesses and residents who responded and sponsored the funds to place 35 flower pots in our two-state downtown. Thanks to Shaun Mastroianni for leading the effort.

Jewett City Savings Bank
Winnapaug Country Club
Antonio Hair Design
First Physical Therapy
Jessica Morrissey
Sal Ritacco, Attorney at Law
Town of Stonington Human Services Dept.
Denise Williams



CHAMBER CHAMPIONS 2020

Platinum Sponsors:



Gold Sponsor:



Silver Sponsor:



Bronze Sponsor:



NORTH END BUSINESS DISTRICT

Grey Sail Brewing

We have been proud, through the years, to be not only a chamber member, but also a Chamber Champion. The value this organization provides to businesses, and the community in general, is seen on a daily basis; however, it is never as apparent as when we need to rise to a challenge. We have managed through local natural disasters such as hurricanes and floods. But this year is like no other. Every business, every person, every part of our community is impacted. And with the daunting challenge in front of them, the Ocean Community Chamber of Commerce rose to the challenge and has not let up. I expect they never will. With tremendous appreciation, Grey Sail Brewing Company (Jen, Alan, Daniel, Michelle, Rich, Carey, Earl, Ruedi, Dave, Melissa and Justin)



Here for you, your business and your employees.

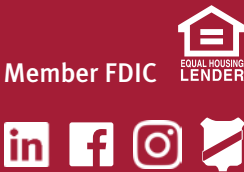


John W. Couillard
Assistant Vice President
Business Loan Officer



Shannon Haeseler
Branch Manager

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860.650.6005



NEW MEMBERS



BANK SQUARE BOOKS

53 West Main Street, Mystic, CT 06355

Phone: (860) 536-3795

Web: banksquarebooks.com

Contact: Annie Philbrick

Located in the heart of downtown Mystic, Bank Square Books has been a cornerstone of the community since 1988 and has been under the current management since 2006. The bookstore has expanded throughout the years and now occupies two storefronts on Main Street, easily identifiable by the iconic whale painted by Pamela Zagarenski outside the front door. Bank Square Books' sister store is Savoy Bookshop & Café in Westerly, and the two stores host a wide range of events throughout the area, both in-store and offsite. Click here for more info about the bookstore and to see a list of upcoming events.



BERLING & ASSOCIATES, LLC

3 Shaw's Cove

New London, CT 06320

Phone: (860) 443-0266

Web: berlingassoc.com

Contact: Jack Patten

As a Financial Advisor, Jack helps his clients with their protection and investment needs. Whether that's providing education and guidance with determining the right amount of insurance and helping them select the best solutions for their situation or helping them invest and save for their future, he acts as a resource helping them build sound financial strategies to put them in the best position to attain their financial goals. At Berling & Associates, we focus on helping executives and business owners create a comprehensive financial strategy to help you retire on time. We also provide investment advisory services. Our firm understands the complex financial issues concerning, employee benefits and retirement plans. In short, our mission is to help you identify and achieve your financial goals, making the most of your hard work and sacrifice. When it comes to preparing for the future, it's important to work with someone who has the foresight and resources to help you navigate life's changes successfully.



BLUE ROCK CATERING + EVENTS

76 1/2 Oak Street, Westerly, RI 02891

Phone: (401) 846-9902

Web: bluerockscatering.com

Contact: Katie Behan

For over twenty years, Blue Rocks Catering has created flawless events that have left everlasting memories for our clients and their guests. We take the stress out of planning by perfecting every detail before your big day. We believe in eating with the seasons, from locally sourced sustainable farms, innovatively prepared, and always fresh. We love what we do and strive to do all that we can so you will too.

BREEZY'S

BREEZY'S

56 Bay Street, Watch Hill, RI 02891

Phone: (401) 207-5924

Web: Facebook.com/breezysofwatch-hill

Contact: Breezy Heller

Breezy's sells amazing fashions for men including long sleeve, short sleeve cotton blend and linen shirts. They have many different varieties of patterns and colors that make each shirt so special and different. Along with their shirt selections they sell Bamboo Blend Breathable shirts with embroidery detailing that is washer/dryer friendly. Even your man can wash! To pair off with their fabulous shirts, they also sell linen shorts, slacks, and cotton blend shorts. Let's not forget they also have amazing belts, ranging from classic styles to unique designs and ranging in sizes from 34 to 46. You will also find sharp ties and bow-ties! If you have ever shopped Breezy's before, you know you've definitely bought an outfit that is a quality item and one that will hold up over time (especially for your man). Breezy's offers apparel for all types of men, with sizes ranging Small to 3XL. Breezy Heller looks forward to meeting you!



DENISON HOMESTEAD MUSEUM

120 Pequotsepos Road

Mystic, CT 06355

Phone: (860) 536-9248

Web: denisonhomestead.org

Contact: Julie Soto

Located just five minutes from downtown Mystic and nestled on over 160 acres of woodlands, meadows, and rock ledges, the Denison Homestead is the home to one of Mystic's first families. Eleven generations of Denisons have lived on the land granted to Captain George Denison in 1654. Upon her death in 1941, the last owner and resident of the property, Ann Borodell Denison Gates bequeathed her beloved home to the Denison Society. Mrs. Gates was a visionary and had created the Society in 1930 with the intention of charging them with the stewardship of the property. In 1946, the manor house under the direction of distinguished architect, J. Frederick Kelly, was restored and converted into a museum. Within the walls of this 1717 pre-Revolutionary War house are treasures of an early New England family. The house features five rooms furnished to represent distinct periods in American history. Open year-round: M-F 10am-4pm. (June thru October, open Mon-Sat) Admission: \$5/person. Free admission for Homestead Members, Active Military, and children under six.

info@pawcatuckroofing.com

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**DRISCOLL DESIGN**

Quaimbaug Cove Professional Ctr
107 Wilcox Rd., Suite 104
Stonington, CT 06378
Phone: (860) 222-4113
Web: lesliedriscolldesign.com
Contact: Leslie Driscoll

Leslie N. Driscoll, ASID Driscoll Design, celebrating 20 years in Connecticut and Rhode Island. Good design is imaginative and intentional with every project being unique. Each project reflects the client's goals guided and shaped into environments they love. Get the design right then make it beautiful. Leslie earned a Bachelor of Science in Interior Design from the University of Delaware. Precise space planning skills were honed early in her career as a corporate aircraft interior designer. Making the best use of small spaces while maintaining a beauty and elegance expected of a discerning clientele became a hallmark in her work in interior design. Now those space planning skills bring even the most challenging environments to be beautiful and functional for those who live and visit. Universal design is a concept that is considered in every design project making the interiors accessible for people of all ages and abilities, who live, visit and work in them.

**HOMBÄDI**

Westerly, RI 02891
Phone: (401) 692-1571
Web: hombadi.com
Contacts: Brenda Owren & Sarah Gardner
Owners Brenda Owren and Sarah Gardner are former bank managers that had a passion for community, giving back and of course shopping, so they created HOMBädi. Their boutique offers hand selected unique finds that will be perfect anytime you need the right gift, that will make you laugh hysterically, and make you think...I NEED that! HOMBädi has chosen AdoptionRI as this years recipient and donates a portion of their branded merchandise to them. We invite you to visit our shop online.

**MACY O&P**

1 Chamber Way, Westerly, RI 02891
305 Flanders Road, Suite 2, East Lyme, CT 06333
Phone: (860) 333-5558
Web: macyop.com
Contact: Sarah Leonard & Paul Macy
Small business specializing in custom orthotic and prosthetic devices. Our top priority is to carefully listen to the needs and goals of our patients, and then design and deliver the best fitting, most technologically

advanced orthotic and prosthetic devices available. Our motto and commitment to our patients is "custom care with you in mind." Paul Macy, CPO and Sarah Leonard, CPO are our two ABC Certified Orthotic and Prosthetic clinicians who care for patients dealing with limb loss, wounds, drop foot, arthritis and many more diagnoses. We utilize 3D printing technology and CAD/CAM design to optimize the fit, function, and comfort of the devices we build and deliver. Contact us if you're interested in learning more or scheduling a free consultation appointment. Check out our Facebook and Instagram pages for our latest projects!

**MECHANIC STREET MARINA**

179 Mechanic Street
Pawcatuck, CT 06379
Phone: (860) 501-6848
Web: mechanicstreetmarina.com
Contact: James & Suzie Douglas
This veteran/family owned marina and bait shop offers slip rentals, kayak rentals, and bait and tackle to outfit all your fishing needs. The shop, located along the Pawcatuck River, is open from May 1st – Nov 1st and carries local bait, live eels, locally made lures and rigs, traps, ice, and apparel. Kayak rentals are available from launch points on the wild and scenic Pawcatuck River as well as Barn Island Wildlife Management Area. Transient dockage is also available with reservations. Whether you are planning a fishing trip, exploring the local waterways, or looking to spend a day at one of the areas

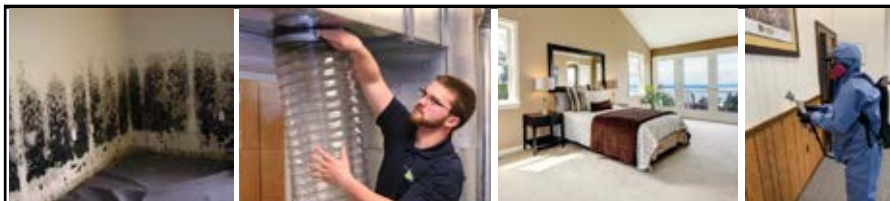
amazing beaches, the family team at Mechanic Street Marina can help set you up. Learn more and make kayak reservations online.

**MYSTIC FILM FESTIVAL**

303 Ridgewood Dr., Mystic, CT 06355
Phone: (347) 731-4003
Web: mysticfilmfestival.com
Contact: Shareen Anderson

An annual event that showcases independent feature-length and short-form narrative films and documentaries from around the world. It brings together a diverse group of filmmakers and audiences to explore ideas, discuss the filmmaking process, and celebrate creativity. Through engaging community events, industry panels, and film screenings by acclaimed and up-and-coming talent, we aim to make the festival a special experience for filmmakers and audiences alike. The festival takes place October 22-25, 2020, at various venues in Mystic and neighboring Connecticut Shoreline towns. Our cornerstone venue is Mystic Luxury Cinemas in Olde Mistick Village. We open with a local premiere and close the festival with an awards event where the best film in each category is recognized. And we're excited to offer something new in 2020; a screenplay competition.

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Web: myscreenprintguy.com
Contact: Robert Follett

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ORTHOCORE PHYSICAL THERAPY

116 Granite Street, Westerly, RI 02891
Phone: (401) 596-0150
Web: orthocorept.com
Contact: Ian Manning

We provide rehabilitation following Orthopedic Injuries, Surgical Intervention, Sports Related Injuries, Injury Prevention and many other life related pains and dysfunc-

tions. Every new patient will receive a full evaluation from one of our licensed physical therapists. We will ask you questions about your injury and how it affects your life. We will then test different motions and movements to discover what elicits your pain and what could be causing it. We then decide which different movements and exercises will be prescribed to help you heal from your injury. We will also use different modality treatments (heat, massage, cupping, instrument assisted soft tissue work dry needling, etc.) to decrease inflammation and pain. The goal is for you to walk out feeling better than when you walked in.



PRANZI TENTS & EVENTS

One Bridal Ave.
West Warwick, RI 02893
Phone: (401) 383-3631
Web: pranzitents.com
Contact: Steve Macchioni

Pranzi Tents & Events is thrilled to be a part of Ocean Community Chamber of Commerce! Pranzi is a sister company of Pranzi Catering & Events (Providence, RI). We provide event rentals and tent services to RI, CT and MA including tent rentals for homes, restaurants, events, and other corporate settings. We can also service chair rentals, commercial tent washing & storage, décor services, and other special event rentals. The event-planning center is located in West Warwick and displays a 3 level showroom showcasing their large vast inventory. Pranzi's mission is "We Create. You Celebrate" and we look forward to servicing our South County Friends in the future. There is no minimum order and we

deliver 7 days a week. For your next special event needs email info@Pranzi.com.



ROCHELLE'S BOUTIQUES
117 Bay Street, Watch Hill, RI 02891
42 W Main Street, Mystic, CT 06355
Phone: (401) 596-1035
Web: rochellesboutique.com
Contact: Rochelle LaRue Gallo

Rochelle's Boutiques owns 4 locations in RI & CT and specialize in personal styling and one of a kind women's clothing, jewelry, accessories, & gifts. Thank you for shopping small! Rochelle's Boutiques are women's clothing boutiques specializing in personal styling our customers in beautiful one of a kind clothing, jewelry, accessories, gifts, & shoes with a wide assortment of brands from California to Europe. Most items are \$50-\$100 & lots of our items are USA made. We now offer a wide selection of our items to be purchased online as well as free store or curbside pickup at all locations. In addition, we now offer live personal styling by video chat. You can sign up for by video chat while you're safely at home. Visit our website under Styling Appointments or email us at hello@rochellesboutiques.com.



STANTON-DAVIS HOMESTEAD MUSEUM
576A Greenhaven Road

Pawcatuck, CT 06379
vicechair@stanton-davishomestead.org
Web: stanton-davishomestead.org
Contact: Mark Bancroft

Founded in 2004 to protect, maintain, and preserve the Stanton-Davis Homestead and artifacts with the purpose of creating a museum and educational center open to the public. This 350 year old homestead is the oldest house in Stonington, built by one of the founding fathers Thomas Stanton. In the 1770s the home was transferred to the Davis family who continue to farm the land making it the oldest operating farm in Connecticut. The Stanton-Davis Homestead holds a unique place in American history as a touch stone for three different cultures: Native Indians; European settlers and African slaves. Through the Stanton family in early Colonial New England, important representatives of these three peoples lived in or visited this house; chiefs of Indian tribes, most notably Uncas of the Mohegans; African slaves; including Venture Smith who bought his own freedom and of course the Stanton and Davis families themselves. Currently under renovation the homestead is available only for private tours.



STONINGTON GARDEN CLUB
Stonington, CT 06379
Phone: (860) 961-2256
Web: stoningtongardenclub.org
Contact: Jill Corr

We are a nonprofit, member driven organization based in Stonington. The Club's mis-



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sion is to educate and encourage interest in the environment, conservation, community projects and to stimulate the knowledge and love of gardening. Club members are a diverse mix of active and dynamic men and women – all with an interest in learning more about gardening. For almost 100 years the Club has had a lasting impact on the community. Members help in a variety of gardens, including the Children's Garden at the COMO, the Lighthouse Garden, and the Post Office Garden. Members also supply flowers to the Stonington Free Library, donate wreaths and greens during the holidays, go on field trips and have a popular floral booth at the annual Stonington Fair. The Club is also proud of its legacy of giving, supporting local organizations and awarding scholarships to Stonington students.



STRATEDIA

424 Judson Ave. Mystic, CT 06355
Phone: (860) 415-0340
Web: Stratedia.com
Contact: Steve Bibby

We create websites that are visually beautiful and built to rank high in search engines. We deliver not only stunning websites but results! We have developed over 100 WordPress websites in house and are proud of our Google 5 star review reputation. We recently earned the number one spot for best companies in CT. We are a Google Partner and Bing Accredited. We strive to keep our clients satisfied by exceeding their expectations and delivering results. We are located in Mystic, CT but serve clients nationwide. Let's partner together and grow your business!



STUDIO FAXON

181 Main St, 2nd Floor, Westerly, RI
Phone: (860) 671-1341
Contact: Nancy Mygatt

An award winning fine artist and graphic designer for 35+ years, Studio FAXON creates pieces of art that inspire self-expression. My initial process is the hunt for objects; ordinary and unique. An assemblage of these still life objects unveils unconventional relationships that may appear unusual or strange, but somehow the connections they hold reveals something not originally obvious. These configurations became colored pencil drawings that eventually morphed into wearable art as a 3-D form that wraps its self around the observer as it reveals an intimacy to a particular piece, a voice, a story, an emotion—to wear it or display it. I take pride in creating work that provokes innovative thinking and that can bring an energy of excitement in finding your own personal connection to a FAXON piece. Currently open by appointment only, email me at studioFAXON@gmail.com



TAMI-ANN'S BOUTIQUE

54 Bay Street, Westerly, RI 02891
Phone: (401) 207-6544

Web: Facebook.com/shoptamianns
Contact: Tammy Heller

A Women's fashion forward boutique for all ages! We sell women's clothes that are ready to wear, packable, fashionable, and we carry sizes 0 to 3X. We carry sun, occasion, throw and go, and casual work attire dresses. We additionally carry slacks, beach pants, and jeans. Also great tops from fancy to fun including beach covers, and we can't forget our timeless jean jackets sold in a variety of colors. We have something for anyone or any occasion. Our store is an absolute must see! If you would like to see more of the goods we sell ask to join our group on Facebook under Tami-Ann's VIP's. Treat yourself, you deserve it! We are known for our impeccable customer service and honesty. We want you leaving Tami-Ann's feeling your best. We would love to be your stylist!



THREE ISLANDS LLC

99 Bay St. Watch Hill, RI 02891
Phone: (401) 596-1121
Web: threeislandslifestyle.com
Contact: Justin Goff

We produce fun and vibrant Balinese batik clothing for the entire family! Ladies, mens and childrens clothing available and is the creation of cousins Phil Barney and Justin Goff. Growing up on the coast of Rhode Island, they fostered a real passion for sandy beaches, salt water and all the glorious activities of seaside life. From Rhode Island, they ventured across the globe to the Indonesian island paradise of Bali and onto New Zealand's pristine South Island. The time Justin and Phil spent on these islands is the

inspiration for the company's name - Three Islands. Three Islands challenges the men to stop settling for the humdrum and put a little fun back in life. Leave the plain button down behind and turn up the color dial with a Three Islands original. Guys, trust us, your significant other will love it! Not to be outdone, Three Islands caters to the care-free women in our life who gracefully don our tunics, tops, skirts and dresses. These women embrace color and march with the bohemian chicness found only in a Three Islands original. Three Islands is excited to introduce new items this year for men, ladies, children the home



ANNIE WILDEY STUDIO

32 Friendship St, Westerly, RI 02891
Phone: (646) 325-7530
Web: Anniwildey.com
Contact: Annie Wildey

Can you smell the salty sea air? Bring the beauty of land and sea into your home with paintings, prints or a commission from Annie Wildey's Studio. A British award-winning artist, Annie draws her inspiration from the coastal landscape and captures the energy and movement of the ocean, with freedom and fluidity. She works primarily in oils but is also an accomplished print-maker. Annie received her MFA from the New York Academy of Art, and exhibits her work in galleries and museums, regionally, nationally and Internationally. She recently moved her home and studio to downtown Westerly, which is open to the public by appointment. Her work can be viewed and purchased online at anniewildey.com.

info@pawcatuckroofing.com

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Dime Bank Rises to the Occasion

It's long been said that what makes a community bank different is that unlike bigger banks, they have a personal banking relationship with their customers. Never has this rang truer than in today's environment.

During the current COVID19 pandemic, many small, local businesses have been hit hard and their survival has depended on the assistance of others. As a community bank for over 150 years, Dime has relationships with many businesses that have gone on for decades.

It was these relationships that helped push Dime to the forefront in its ability to

help many local businesses navigate the Small Business Administration's Paycheck Protection Program.

As part of this program, Dime has worked with nearly 500 businesses in western Rhode Island and southeastern Connecticut, including many who could not get help from a larger bank. More importantly, it is estimated that these efforts have resulted in nearly 5,500 employees remaining employed throughout this crisis. And while these numbers leap off the page, they are just part of what is business as usual at Dime, long recognized as a leading commercial lender in our region.

"Our team worked long and hard hours during the busiest times of the PPP program but they were happy to do it," said Brian McNamara, Chief Lending Officer, Senior Vice President at Dime. "As a community bank, we know that helping local businesses succeed goes a long way to helping communities thrive and we're glad to play an important role in this."

If your business would like to know how Dime can help, visit dime-bank.com



Hartford HealthCare



To mark the opening of Hartford HealthCare's Mystic HealthCenter in 2020, the company made one-time donations of \$2,020 to five area nonprofits whose work benefits the greater Mystic region.

Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center, Weekender Backpack Food Program for Children. The Weekender Backpack Food Program for Children benefits about 300 children residing in Mystic, Stonington, North Stonington and Westerly. Each child receives a "backpack" every Friday containing about 45 pounds of food to make breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Stonington Community Center, Youth STEAM and Makerspace programs. Hundreds of kids each year cycle through these programs. The programs include Girls Who Code, Tinkering Tuesdays, Design for 3D Printing, and Family Maker Fridays (includes laser cutting and other activities).

Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center's Giving Garden at Coogan Farm. DPNC's Giving Garden grows more than 6 tons of fresh produce annually for the Gemma E. Moran United Way Labor Food Center, which distributes food to 63 programs that serve 91 feeding sites across the county.

Always Home, Wheels to Work program. Always Home, which prevents homelessness, serves families with minor children, with a particular emphasis on helping parents achieve stability so that they can focus on the well-being of their children. The Wheels to Work program provides funding for car repairs, and also purchases cars for families when needed.

Groton Community Meals. This collaboration of local churches provides a hot meal every Monday and Wednesday night to between 100 and 150 people at two locations in Groton. The organization exists entirely with donations and volunteers.



Local Service, Global Reach.

Insuring Coastal Businesses since 1939.

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