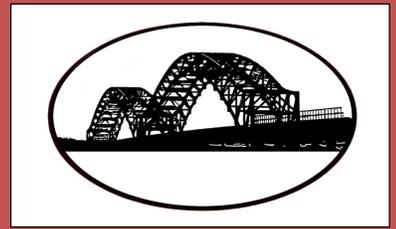


The Portland Business Journal

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Chris Cote's Golf Shop Opens at 750 Portland- Cobalt Road

Chris Cote's Golf Shop celebrated the opening of its' new store at 750 Portland-Cobalt Road. Since opening in a 1,000 square foot store front in 2008, the shop has become the "go to" place for everything golf in Connecticut. Chris and staff advocate the philosophy that the business is all about the customer, offering personal service and custom work. This dedication to the customer has translated into Chris Cote's Golf Shop becoming known as, "Connecticut's Friendliest Golf Shop". The new location at 750 Portland-Cobalt Road is 7,000 square feet and provides the customer with a unique experience. An expanded inventory, an indoor putting green, and three indoor practice areas allows Chris and his staff to provide an unparalleled experience, including golf lessons in a climate controlled environment. Beginning with students as young as 8, Chris has assembled an impressive staff to pass on their experience and expertise: Dick Bierkan and Dave Pianki are both PGA members and many will recognize Ron Victor from his time with PGC.

The construction of the new building was carefully planned, beginning with the selection of the easy to access location on Portland-Cobalt Road, also known as Route 66. Chris and his wife Donna, in partnership with Ben and Holly Srb, and Bill and Kathy Richards have dedicated much of the last year to ensuring no detail was overlooked. Chris said, "We were lucky and fortunate to grow, as we opened in May of 2008, in the midst of the economic downturn. But thanks to great customers and employees, we were able to expand into our new facility. The Town of Portland and Liberty Bank were very helpful in seeing this project completed." The new store is opened seven days a week, Monday through Friday 9 am to 6 pm, Saturday 9 am to 5 pm, and Sunday 9 am to 3 pm. For more information, contact the shop directly at (860)342-2226.



Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce President Larry McHugh, Holly Srb, Board of Selectmen Member Kathy Richards, Portland First Selectwoman Susan Bransfield, Bill Richards, Chris Cote, Ben Srb, Donna Cote, and Liberty Bank VP of Commercial Real Estate Eric Bernard on the putting green at the new location of Chris Cote's Golf Shop.



The Little Yellow Basket Opens at 1456 Portland-Cobalt Road

The Portland Economic Development Commission welcomes The Little Yellow Basket, a new retail business, just in time for the holiday shopping season!

Sisters Laurie Bleeker and Donna Babcock have taken their love of crafts, antiques, and “old stuff” and created a shop full of primitive and country themed gifts and home décor. Now offering a plentiful selection of Halloween and Christmas merchandise, the shop also stocks lamps, candles, soaps, jewelry, dry goods, a selection of coffees and teas, ornaments, wreaths, garden items, custom gift baskets, and handmade cards. The Little Yellow Basket is located at 1456 Portland-Cobalt Road, right next door to the Eggs Up Grill. Laurie and Donna are always on the look-out for quality consignments of handmade country crafts, jewelry, quilts, and other crafts. Artisans are encouraged to stop by! The shop is opened Thursday through Sunday 10 am to 3 pm and accepts cash or checks.



Joseph E. Bordonaro, Jr., R.Ph. Honored by the University of Saint Joseph

The University of Saint Joseph (USJ) School of Pharmacy named Joseph Bordonaro the 2013 Community Pharmacy Preceptor of the Year. In addition to running the family business, Bordonaro's Pharmacy at 283 Main Street, Joe is an instructor at the downtown Hartford campus of the USJ School of Pharmacy. The University press release stated, “As experiential education professionals, pharmacist preceptors teach students practice-related skills necessary to provide quality pharmacist care. In addition to serving as teachers, preceptors mentor student pharmacists, promoting personal and professional growth.” The award was presented by School of Pharmacy Dean Joseph Ofosu, Pharm. D., R.Ph. Be sure to stop by and congratulate Joe on this much deserved award, we are lucky to have him as part of the Portland business community!



“Business of the Month” Program Information

The EDC's “Business of the Month” program is on winter hiatus, but you can still nominate a local business for recognition when the program begins again in the spring. The “Business of the Month” program is a great way to recognize a business for providing a quality product, exceptional customer service, community service, or a business milestone. Nominations are easy! Simply send the name and address of the business along with a short reason for your nomination to edcportland@yahoo.com.



The Genesis Center for Clinical Hypnosis Opens at 270F Main Street

The Portland EDC welcomes The Genesis Center for Clinical Hypnosis to 270F Main Street. Penny Chiasson is a Registered Nurse, Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist, and Certified Consulting Hypnotist. A graduate of the American School of Clinical Hypnosis International and certified by the National Guild of Hypnotists, Penny has been a healthcare provider for more than 20 years. An interest in pain management techniques led her to the study of hypnosis. Hypnosis is a state of focused concentration, a highly relaxed state where a persons' conscious and subconscious mind is focused and receptive to positive suggestion and imagery. In addition to pain management, complimentary therapies like hypnosis can help in the management of many conditions, including headaches, TMJ, stress management, smoking cessation, weight loss, and IBS. Penny's goal is to help people and she opened The Genesis Center to provide an option for the community to work with a consulting hypnotist in addition to their physicians to achieve relief from their symptoms. For more information on The Genesis Center, contact Penny by phone at (860) 638-7777 or by e-mail at penny@thegenesiscenter.net.



Nail Spa Etc., LLC Opens at 258 Main Street

The Portland Economic Development Commission welcomes Nail Spa Etc., LLC to 258 Main Street, in Portland's Village District. Nail Spa Etc., LLC offers professional nail care and spa services, including manicures and pedicures, acrylic nails, UV gel nails, shellac color gel, custom nail designs, eyelash extensions, eyebrow waxing, and full body waxing services. Nail Spa Etc. is open Monday and Wednesday through Saturday from 9:30 am to 7 pm and Sunday 10 am to 3 pm. Walk-ins are always welcome! To make an appointment, call (860)316-5688 or just stop in for a little pampering.



12 Days of Gifting on the “Portland Connecticut Marketplace” Facebook Page

Hate the holiday crowds? Still looking for a special gift? Visit the “Portland Connecticut Marketplace” on Facebook starting on December 12th for ideas to make this holiday season a little easier. From December 12th to the 24th, the Marketplace will feature unique gift ideas available right here in Portland. Don't fight the crowds, shop local! And, remember to click “Like” on the “Portland Connecticut Marketplace” page to stay connected to all the latest business news.



A selection of holiday gifts from The Little Yellow Basket 1456 Portland-Cobalt Road.

Melilli's Caffé & Grill Carries on Veteran's Day Tradition

Seby Milardo, owner of Melilli's Cafe & Grill at 264 Main Street, provided dinner and dessert for more than 200 local veterans and their spouses at the Annual Veteran's Dinner on November 11th. Seby promised to carry on the annual dinner tradition when he took over the Cavaliere's Bakery location. Seby and his staff provided the dinner with the help of the members of the Portland Veterans Affairs Commission.



First Selectwoman Susan Bransfield with Seby Milardo and Marion and Paris Kolas of Portland.

The Portland EDC meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Portland Library, 20 Freestone Avenue. Business owners, residents, and those interested in promoting Portland's business community are encouraged to attend.

The **Portland Business Journal** is a quarterly publication of the **Economic Development Commission**. Issues are published in March, June, September, and December and are available at portlandct.org. If you have ideas for future articles, notices for meetings or events for the **Portland Business Journal**, please contact Mary D. Dickerson, EDC Consultant by e-mail at: edcportland@yahoo.com.