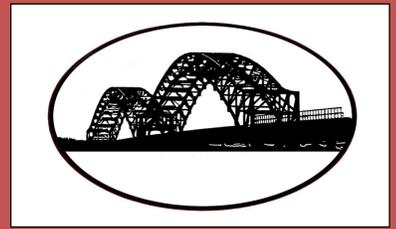


The Portland Business Journal

Winter Edition 2013

A Publication of the Portland Economic Development Commission



5th Annual Community Partners Awards Scheduled

The Economic Development Commission's Community Partners Program will hold its fifth annual Awards Ceremony on Thursday, March 21, 2013 at 10 a.m. at the Portland Senior Center, 7 Waverly Avenue. The 2012 Business of the Year will also be announced at the ceremony. In addition, the EDC will honor Portland's "Business Person of the Year" for the first time.

Community Partners Program Decals can be found on the windows, doors, and work trucks of more than 150 Portland businesses. The decal indicates that the member business supports a wide variety of activities, including educational programs, recreational programs, organized sports programs, community outreach programs, and nonprofit groups. Portland residents are urged to look for these decals and support our local businesses that so generously support the community.

Nominations made be made by filling out an application, available in the Planning Office at Town Hall and online at www.portlandct.org. Alternatively, nominations may be e-mailed to edcportland@yahoo.com. E-mailed applications must include the name and address of the business and the type of contribution made during the past year. Completed hardcopy applications should be sent to:

Portland Economic Development Commission
C/o Portland Town Hall
P.O. Box 71
Portland, CT 06480.

Economic Development Commission Establishes New Award

The Economic Development Commission has established the, "Business Person of the Year Award". The Commission will continue to honor the, "Business of the Year", but wanted to be able to recognize Portland business owners who are leaders in charitable giving and working for the betterment of the community. The first award will be presented at the Community Partners Breakfast on March 21, 2013.



COMMUNITY PARTNERS PROGRAM



**2013
MEMBER**

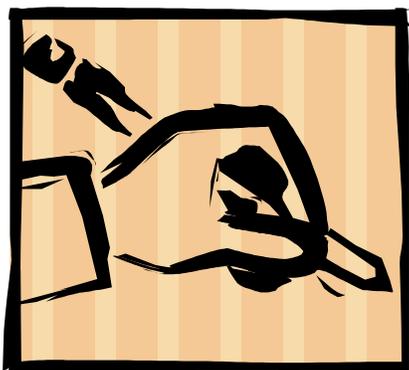
**AWARDED BY THE
PORTLAND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

Unicorn Writers' Conference to be Held at St. Clement's Castle

The 4th Annual Unicorn Writers' Conference will be held on March 9, 2103 at St. Clements Castle, 1931 Portland-Cobalt Road. The Conference brings together writers from across New England for workshops covering a variety of topics.

The Conference's website offers an overview of their goal, "Whether you like it or not, publishers view your manuscript as much as a business proposition as a work of art. The Conference will offer dozens of workshops involving the inside world of book publishing from the perspectives of various departments within a publishing company— Contracts, Copyrights, Permissions, Legal, Subsidiary Rights, Foreign Rights, Audio, Electronic, Special Sales and Premium Sales, Marketing, Advertising, Promotion, Publicity, Sales, Royalties, Art and Design, Production, as well as Editorial workshops focusing on key genres: Fiction, Nonfiction, Memoir, Children's Books, Mystery Writing, Screenwriting, and more. Plus, we'll have renowned agents, publishers, and editors at the event." This years' keynote speaker is Mathew Pearl, bestselling author of *The Dante Club*, *The Poe Shadow*, *The Last Dickens*, and *The Technologist*. Advanced registration is required to attend.

For more information, registration forms, and the program fee schedule visit the Unicorn Writer's Conference website at: <http://www.unicornwritersconference.com/>



Visit the "Portland Connecticut Marketplace" on Facebook!

The Portland EDC's Facebook page, "Portland Connecticut Marketplace" provides information about our programs, local businesses, business promotions, and town and community events. Click "Like" and stay up to date will all the latest business news.

Building, Planning, Zoning & Health Department Hours

The offices of Building, Planning, Zoning & Health are located on the 1st floor of the Town Hall located at 33 East Main Street.

Office Hours

Monday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday 8:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Friday 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

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.

Portland EDC Welcomes White Dog Café to the Village District

The Portland EDC welcomes the **White Dog Café**, 164 Main Street, to the Village District. With a total renovation, owner John Sullivan has created a warm and welcoming restaurant in the heart of the Village District.

The White Dog Café features a full bar and a menu with something for everyone. Start with soup, salad, chili, wings, or nachos. For lunch, try a burger or club sandwich with hand cut fries. The dinner menu offers a wide selection, including New York Strip, Filet Mignon, and Prime Rib. A full children's menu will keep even the smallest diners satisfied. The White Dog is open from 11 am to 1 am Sunday through Thursday and 11 am to 2 am on Friday and Saturday. Looking for dinner after a late movie or event, the kitchen is open until 10 pm on weekdays and midnight on weekends.

Make plans to stop by and visit Portland's newest restaurant soon. For more information, contact White Dog Café at (860)342-2016.



For more photos of the new White Dog Café, visit the Portland Connecticut Marketplace on Facebook.

Changing Locations or Starting a New Business?

Tuesday nights are a great time to meet with the Development Team at the Town Hall to discuss plans for a prospective new business or to expand your existing business! Our Development Team can give you an overview of the approval process and provide you with the technical information required to complete your project. To schedule a meeting with the Development Team, including the Fire Marshal, Building Official, Planner, Director of Public Works, Sanitarian, and Economic Development Consultant, contact Deanna Rhodes, Planning & Land Use Administrator at (860) 342-6720.

The U.S. Small Business Administration is Celebrating 60 Years

The Small Business Act of 1953 created the Small Business Administration (SBA), to promote economic development. For 60 years, the SBA has been assisting qualifying small business owners by providing training, counseling, and loan guarantees. During 2011, the Connecticut District Office of the SBA provided services to 19,000 people and provided a lifeline through their small business disaster recovery programs after a series of severe weather events. For more information on the SBA and its programs, call (860)240-4700 or visit the SBA website at www.sba.gov/ct.

Thinking of Starting a Business in Connecticut? Learn More About SCORE!

SCORE, The Service Corps of Retired Executives, assists people starting their own business. SCORE is an organization of retired business professionals who volunteer their time to mentor new business owners. The program pairs experienced business professionals, accountants, and attorneys with new business owners to help them navigate the sometimes confusing world of establishing, managing, and marketing a small business.

The SCORE professionals offer one on one counseling and advice. They can also provide invaluable assistance in completing required paperwork, developing marketing and business plans, and establishing a professional network. In addition, the SCORE program offers free and low cost workshops to help you gain the knowledge you will need to succeed.

With expertise in 62 industries, there is a SCORE volunteer that can help you achieve your goal. Connecticut has three SCORE offices, located in Greater Hartford, Southeastern Connecticut, and New Haven. For more information, visit the SCORE website at www.score.org or call (860) 240-4700.



The Small Business Development Center – A Local Resource for Entrepreneurs

The Small Business Development Center is located within the Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce at 393 Main Street in Middletown. The Center, a partnership between the city of Middletown and the Chamber of Commerce offers one on one assistance and a wide selection of business development workshops. Although located in Middletown, the Center serves clients from across the state of Connecticut.

Through one on one consultation, clients learn the ins and outs of developing a business plan, business management, marketing, bookkeeping, and basic financial analysis skills. The Center's workshops include instruction in establishing a legal business entity, capital acquisition, business marketing, and networking. The Center is open Monday through Thursday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Workshops are conducted the 3rd Monday of the month from 6 pm to 8 pm. Prior registration is required.

For more information, visit the Center's website at www.middlesexchamber.com, or contact the Program Coordinator, Paul Hughes at (860)347-6924.



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: marydickerson@yahoo.com.