

**2013 Board of Directors**

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- #Michael D. MacPherson*
- Jim Bennett,*  
*Presque Isle City Manager*

\*Executive Committee  
 #Industrial Council

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- Theresa M. Fowler*  
*Executive Director*
- Nikita Cate*  
*Administrative*  
*Assistant*

# 2013 Annual Dinner & Awards



**An advertising opportunity you won't want to miss! (See page 13 for more details)**

# Featured Member



MAINE PUBLIC SERVICE  
VALUES AT WORK



## Maine Public Service's Energy Education Program

Contact your local  
Maine Public Service  
office to find what  
other programs are  
available for you. 110

Carmichael St.

Presque Isle, ME

04769

(207)760-2300

1(877)655-4448

Or visit them online:

[www.mainepublicservice.com](http://www.mainepublicservice.com)

Maine Public Service's (MPS) Energy Education Program dates back to the 1970s. Offered in northern Maine, the program has changed to reflect modern energy issues, and now includes two components.

### Energy Eagle Patrol

The Energy Eagle Patrol is a team of students who raise the awareness of energy issues within the schools by distributing materials and reminding fellow students and teachers to turn off lights. The Patrol Program includes presentations on how to read electric meters, the advantages of fluorescent lighting and the energy used by computers. One Energy Eagle Patrol team was established in each of the following schools: Fort Street School in Mars Hill; Pine Street School; Patrick Theriault School in Sinclair; and Zippel School in Presque Isle. The schools saved approximately \$1,500!

### BE Energy Wise Program (BEEP)

Maine Public Service's BE Energy Wise (BEEP) program is part of a larger, national energy education effort. BEEP materials are designed to fulfill educational learning standards in most disciplines and at all grade levels. Portfolios of student work developed through the program are entered into a national competition. From October 2003 to October 2004, Maine Public Service conducted 59 educational presentations and reached over 1,139 students.

### Classroom Activities

The three E's programs introduce basic concepts on energy, environment and economics, and the interaction among the three. These programs assist the participant to understand some of the challenges and problems related to energy use. Energy workshops are also offered, which enable each participant to gain knowledge and understanding of the fundamental concepts of energy education through hands-on activities.

- **Lighting Demonstration Program**

Using graphs and work sheets, students can utilize their math skills to learn how much electricity daily classroom lighting consumes.

- **Meter Reading**

Demonstrations are given of how a meter works, how to read the electricity meter and how to save on electricity bills.

- **Energy and Energy Management Programs**

A discussion of energy sources and their wise use is presented. Teacher/Student Energy and the Environment Workshops  
A daylong workshop filled with energetic activities on energy, electricity, and environmental concerns.

To Register, contact Nancy Chandler at 207-760-2556. FMI contact Efficiency Maine.





# New Members!



**Star City Coffee** serves fresh Carrabassett Coffee, delightfully crafted pastries and a wonderful selection of sandwiches and soups. Plus, they provide an artistic and comfortable, friendly atmosphere sure to be a great start to anyone's day!

483 Main Street  
Presque Isle, ME 04769  
Phone: 207.554.4222



At Harry's Motor Sports & Equipment the Owner is on site. John Alexander has owned Harry's Motor Sports & Equipment for 6 years and has become sole owner with his wife Debbie for the past 2 years. John is dedicating his full attention to the dealership. After having 30 years in the retail business in the Presque Isle area, John prides himself on treating his customers like friends.

Stop into Harry's Motor Sports & Equipment today and see the full lineup of products. Check out Honda's line of ATV's, Motorcycles, Dirt Bikes, Scooters, and Honda Power Equipment. The line of Honda Power Equipment includes Generators, Snow Blowers, Water Pumps, Grass Trimmers, and Lawnmowers. Harry's Motor Sports has also added the Honda Big Red MUV.

640 Main St  
Presque Isle, ME 04769  
Phone: 207-764-7180  
Toll Free: 1-877-353-7635  
Fax: 207-764-2316  
[info@harrismotorsportsonline.com](mailto:info@harrismotorsportsonline.com)

## Central Aroostook Chamber of Commerce Opportunities to be Involved

CACC has several committees in which members of the community and businesses in the area are welcome to help plan and participate while learning what the Chamber does.

### Signature Events

Strawberry Shortcake Sale—June  
Taters & More— June - September  
Crown of Maine Balloon Fest—August  
Haunted Woods Walk—October  
Holiday Light Parade—December

In addition to the above event planning committees there are also committees essential to the basic operation of the Chamber. Anyone with an interest in the success and future of the Chamber is encouraged to become involved through committee participation.

The Public Relation and Membership committees meet regularly throughout the year. There are possibilities for several other committees such as Property Maintenance and Seminar Planning to develop if people are interested.

Event Committees meet seasonally at a frequency determined necessary by the committee.

Now is a good time to join and help make a difference in your Chamber and community.

For more information please contact  
Theresa Fowler at:  
tfowler@centralaroostookchamber.com  
or 764-6561.



at [info@centralaroostookchamber.com](mailto:info@centralaroostookchamber.com).

Snow has fallen, the trails are packed; It's time to hit the Sleds! Contact your local Chamber of Commerce and make arrangements to get your snowmobile trail maps and get you quickly and safely on the trails

Unfolded maps are also available, suitable for framing.

Please contact the Central Aroostook Chamber of Commerce office to request one

**Peter Coffey**  
Sales Manager 974-3171

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YOUR YELLOW PAGES CONNECTION In Print & Online

The familiar EZ to Use Big Book can now be found at EZ to Use.com. Contact them for advertising or web design needs.

## Business Information Breakfast Series

The Central Aroostook Chamber of Commerce is partnering up with local business leaders to offer informative seminars and discussion periods for businesses of any size. Our first one in this particular series will discuss the effects on changes in healthcare for businesses.

**Next Scheduled Seminar will be  
March 14th.**

Please call the Chamber for more detailed Information.

Sponsored by:



**Bank**

America's Most Convenient Bank®





Join us for

# Winter Family Fun Day

TAKE IT OUTSIDE!

x-country skiing, snowshoeing, ice skating, tote rides, nature walks, sliding, **HOT LUNCH and MORE!**

**DOG SLED RIDES-\$3 donation**

**10 a.m.-3 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 23**

**Aroostook State Park**

**"Maine's First State Park"**

**Presque Isle, ME**

\$1.50 adults and youth age 12-64; kids and seniors free

FMI: 768-8341 or go to: [www.parksandlands.com](http://www.parksandlands.com)

Maine Parks and Public Lands

Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry



**L.L.Bean**



Haines Manufacturing, Inc.

# Area Events & Happenings

**Saturday, February 16, 2013**

**Aroostook County's 6th annual Planet Head Day** will take place on Saturday, Feb. 16, during the 82th "birthday" of the discovery of Pluto. The event will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the University of Maine at Presque Isle's Wieden Gymnasium. This unique event celebrates space science while also serving as a fundraiser for C-A-N-C-E-R [Caring Area Neighbors for Cancer Education and Recovery]. To do this, participants raise money to have their heads shaved and painted as planets, dwarf planets and moons.. To celebrate Planet Head Day, people from throughout northern Maine and nearby Canada gather at UMPI for an afternoon of food, fun and science and cancer education. Four barber chairs are available for those who have their heads shaved, while others opt for "bald" caps prior to painting. All the funds raised stay local and is distributed to those that need our help and support while in treatment for cancer. C-A-N-C-E-R is run completely by volunteers. Shave your head...wear a cap... become a planet. There will be lots of fun, Pizza from Pizza Hut and cake. Plus, a 50/50 drawing or a Door Prize! FMI call Louise Calabrese at 207-764-0766.

**The Northern Maine Bridal Expo;** Your one stop shopping event for all things bridal in Aroostook County! Join some amazing and talented vendors at The Crow's Nest Restaurant & Event Center from 10 am until 3 pm and get all of your planning done in one day.

This year's sponsors are: KC & Company DJ, Mary Kay with Norma Newland, Oasis Salon, Pampered Chef with Tammy Kordenbrock, Seamstress Terry Burtchell, Weddings by HollyAnn. There will be a Fashion Show and the first 50 brides will receive a gift bag full of valuable coupons and free items! Admission will be \$5.00 per person and will benefit the Presque Isle Homeless shelter.

Portage Laker's Snowmobile Club - **Pie Auction & Dance** at Dean's Motor Lodge at 7 pm. There will also be a dance at 9p.m. featuring music by "Common Crossing"

**Sunday, February 17**

**Snowshoe Hike at Aroostook State Park** from 1 pm until 4 pm. Partnering with the Great Maine Outdoor Weekend, Aroostook State Park will offer a led snow shoe hike. No better time to try if you have never done this activity, equipment will be loaned out from the Maine State Park's winter activities trailer. Use your own if you have them. Participants will trek to the campground enjoying this fun winter activity. An outdoor winter cooking demo will take place, along with educating the public on winter camping. Participants must dress appropriate for the weather, wear warm footwear, and bring own drinking water.

Fees are \$1.50 for adults ages (12-64) all others are free. FMI call: 207-768-8341.

**Wednesday, February 20**

**Free Ski Night** at Bigrock Mountain, Mars Hill. 3:00 – 8:00 p.m.; Sponsored by TAMC and Townsquare Media. Free lift tickets, \$25 Rentals, \$5 lesson clinics. Come see the LL Bean Bootmobile! Visit [www.bigrockmaine.com](http://www.bigrockmaine.com)



Get REDY...

Get Set...

Let's Go!

## Save the Date!!

REDY...Set...Let's Go! *Youth Triathlon* will be

Sunday, September 8, 2013

For more information,  
visit  
[redyyouthtriathlon.org](http://redyyouthtriathlon.org)



### **Friday, February 22, 2013**

Aroostook Teen Leadership Camp will be hosting a **Stew Night** on Friday, February 22, 2013 at the Presque Isle Snowmobile Club from 5:00-7:00 PM. The menu will include stews, soups, chili, homemade rolls, grilled cheese and some delicious desserts too! The prices will range from \$1 to \$6. The Aroostook Teen Leadership Camp (ATLC) program is a leadership development and drug prevention program focusing on Aroostook County students in grades 6-9

**Aroostook Youth Ski Festival**, Caribou. Hosted by the Northern Skiers Club, this popular half-day event is open to all youth skiers ages 5-14. Activities: barrel races, games, terrain park, and more. \$5 entry fee includes snacks, prizes, and entry to all the activities. Contact Northern Skiers Club (207-227-6733) FMI

### **Saturday, February 23, 2013**

Head down to Aroostook State Park for their **6<sup>th</sup> Annual Winter Family Fun Day**, from 10 am until 3 pm. We have everything you need to have fun with the family, outside in Aroostook County's winter wonderland. Dog sled rides, cross country skiing, snowshoeing, ice skating (conditions permitting and must provide own skates), sliding hill, snowmobile "tote-rides", guided nature interpretive walks, vintage snowmobile display, bonfires, hot food, Smokey the Bear comes out of hibernation and the LL Bean Boot mobile will join in the days fun. Have no equipment? Don't know how to use it? Don't worry; we have all of that, including expert instruction! All you need is to wear warm winter clothing and want to have fun!!! Adults 12 -64 are \$1.50; everyone else free. Dog sled rides will be a \$3.00 donation per/person. LUNCH IS PROVIDED!

There will be a **Texas Hold-em Tournament** at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 170 Fox Street, Madawaska. Registration will begin at 1:00 pm and the game begins at 1:30. Entries cost \$50.00 per person. For more information, contact Gary at 207-729-6464 or at [garysupholstery@live.com](mailto:garysupholstery@live.com)

**Drumming Workshop and Dance** at the Whole Potato Café & Commons with Michael Wingfield from 2:00-5:00 P.M. This workshop is for High School Students and Adults. The price is RIGHT! – \$20 for three hours of instruction and FUN! Eat together and play for dancers in the evening from 7:00-10:00 P.M. (Optional) – Workshop attendees can dance for free, otherwise, there will be a charge of \$5 Dance cover for the evening. Call The Whole Potato at 207-554-4258 to register!

### **Sunday, February 24**

**Aroostook Cup #5 & #6 - February Frolic**, Caribou. New Year's Race start: 11:00 a.m. at the CHS Ski Trails. Henry Anderson Ski Dag start: 1:30 p.m. at the Country Club. Awards: 3:00 p.m. at the Country Club. Registration: \$10/person, for one or both events; \$25/family, for one or both events. 18 and under: free. Contact Rob Kieffer [RobKieffer@unitedinsurance.net](mailto:RobKieffer@unitedinsurance.net) FMI

### **Wednesday, February 27**

**Free Ski Night at Bigrock Mountain**, Mars Hill. 3:00 – 8:00 p.m.; Sponsored by Huber Engineered Woods and Townsquare Media. Free lift tickets, \$25 Rentals, \$5 lesson clinics. Visit [www.bigrockmaine.com](http://www.bigrockmaine.com) FMI

**Do you have an event coming up? Let us know and we'll be happy to share the excitement!**  
Contact the Central Aroostook Chamber at 207-764-6561 or at  
[ncate@centralaroostookchamber.com](mailto:ncate@centralaroostookchamber.com) and we'll get it posted on our next "Upcoming Events  
& Happenings"!

Also visit our website [www.chentralaroostookchamber.com](http://www.chentralaroostookchamber.com) for our calendar of events!

The University of Maine at Presque Isle, Wintergreen Arts Center,  
and the Mark & Emily Turner Memorial Library present:

## The 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Brain Art Contest!



We welcome entries from age groups:

Grades K - 2 using the theme:

**"I make my brain better by \_\_\_\_"**

Grades 3 - 5 using the theme:

**"The coolest thing my brain helps  
me do is \_\_\_\_"**

Grades 6 and higher using the theme:

**"Brain research is important  
because \_\_\_\_"**

Brain art exhibit and community judging to be held  
during First Friday on March 1 in the Library gallery.  
Awards ceremony to take place on March 19 at Wintergreen.  
Prizes include books, movie tickets, and more!

Max. size: 12"x18", pen, pencil, crayon, pastel, marker, or watercolor. No oils, please.  
Each entry must have the student's name, school name, teacher or parent name, and  
teacher's or parent's phone number on the back of the entry.

Turn in your artwork by 5 p.m. on Friday, February 22 to:  
The Mark & Emily Turner Memorial Library  
(39 Second Street)

For further information or questions, please visit our website at [www.umpi.edu/BrainWeek](http://www.umpi.edu/BrainWeek)  
or contact Scott Dobrin at [scott.dobrin@umpi.edu](mailto:scott.dobrin@umpi.edu).



## *Would you like an ad space in the upcoming Chamber Connection?*

For just \$25.00 your business could  
be featured in a newsletter  
viewed by over 300 different  
business and their patrons.  
For more information, or to  
purchase an insert, please contact  
the Central Aroostook Chamber of  
Commerce at 764-6561, and we'll  
be sure to get you in  
our next issue!

## SAVE THE DATE: *Retailer Training*

Responsible Beverage Seller/Server (RBS) training will be held for all Aroostook County Liquor Licenses, *April 1 & 2, 2013*

This State Certified training, provided by law enforcement veteran, Frank Lyons, will provide you with the tools, that when applied, can prevent costly violations, instill more confidence, and may reduce your liquor liability insurance.

Attendees will learn more about: *Fraudulent ID detection; Criminal, Civil, and Administrative laws; Lawful Display of Signs and Advertising; Risks associated with unlawful sales of alcohol to minors and intoxicated individuals; and consequences of violation.*

*Attendees will receive 5 year certification with the State of Maine Department of  
Liquor Licensing.*



Hosted by Community Voices, sponsored by Healthy Maine Partnerships, Healthy Aroostook and Power of Prevention.



## Monthly Meetings

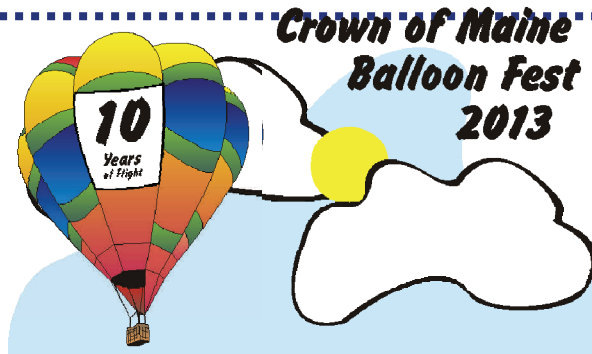
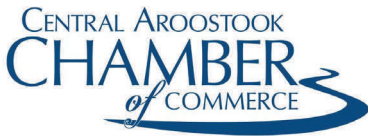
Chamber Board Meetings are typically the FIRST Thursday of each Month. During the winter they are at the Chamber office. During the spring and summer months we like to visit members in the community.



## Want to get involved in your local events?

Contact the Central Aroostook Chamber of Commerce at 764-6561 or  
[info@centralaroostookchamber.com](mailto:info@centralaroostookchamber.com) for information about

### WHAT'S COMING UP AND HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED!



Level of Sponsorship Cost	Title \$5,000	Event \$2000-\$3000	Tether \$2,000	Gold \$1,000	Silver \$500	Bronze \$100 - \$250	Sponsor < \$100
"Presented by" designation	COMBF	Specific Event	Tether				
Balloon Ride	4 Tickets <small>(arrangements must be made by August 16, 2013)</small>	2 Tickets	2 Tickets	1 Ticket			
Logo on Shirts	Crew/Staff		Pilot				
Self-promote (ie ads, reps, etc)	On Field	At Specific Event	At Tether				
Banner on Balloon Basket	2 banners	2 banners	1 on tether	1 banner			
Thank you on website/brochure	Logo	Logo	Logo	Logo	Text	Text	Text
Banner at Event (sponsor provided)	2	1	1	1	1		
Pilot and Crew Breakfast	4 Tickets	2 Tickets	2 Tickets	1 Ticket			
Tickets to Sponsor/Landowner Breakfast	4 Tickets <small>(Please RSVP by August 20, 2013)</small>	2 Tickets	2 Tickets	1 Ticket	1 Ticket	1 Ticket	
10x10 Spot in Vendor's Hall	1 <small>(arrangements must be made by July 26, 2013)</small>	1	1	1	1		
% Discount on ad in Brochure	50%	20%	20%	10%	5%		



# Annual Haunted Woods Walk!

Planning has begun; we are looking for spooky displays and volunteers to put on a frightening performance. Channel your inner ghoul or goblin and help create a fun and spooky event for your community!

*Have your favorite  
Photos\* Enlarged!*

*Or have your  
Banners Printed!  
and*

**SAVE 10%**

*We print up to 40" wide.*

*We can scan your photos or take them electronically. Print on gloss or satin paper with laminating, UV protecting and/or mounting. We have thin white backer, foamcore, or solid plastic.*

*\* Be sure your photos aren't copyrighted.  
Must present flyer at time of order.*

**260 Missile Street  
P.O. Box 510  
Presque Isle, ME 04769**

**PRINT  
WORKS**



*Bring in this flyer  
or give us a call!*

**1-800-924-9041 or 764-4471**

**[printworks@nepublish.com](mailto:printworks@nepublish.com)**



**Offer for February 2013**



# Ribbon Cuttings



*483 Main Street  
Presque Isle, ME  
Phone: 207.554.4222  
They're on Facebook!  
Star City Coffee*



79 Parsons St  
Presque Isle, ME  
(207) 540-1128  
They're on Facebook! Pit Lane



Please join us on Friday, March 1st at 4 pm for a celebratory ribbon-cutting for Balance BPO's newest facility dubbed "Innovation Central", Located in the historic Green's Department Store building at **459 Main Street**. The Company has completely renovated the highly visible space into a showcase and state-of-the-art software development studio.



# Thank you for joining us at the 2013 Annual Dinner & Awards.



Thank you Mike Gudreau for your wonderful photos!

## Congratulations to:

**The Aroostook Medical Center: the 2012 Business of the Year**  
**Oscar Nelder (Voscar): Lifetime Achievement Award recipient**  
**Floyd Rockholt: The 2013 Citizen of the Year**  
**Jan & Evelyn Kok: Lifetime Achievement Award recipients.**

This year's Annual Dinner and Awards was a great success thanks to:

*Cassidy Orthodontics, Clukey's, Country Collectibles, Dead River, Eagle Hill Stamps & Coins, the Hampton Inn, Jo White, Northern Maine Community College, Oscar Nelder, PenAir, Pottery by Karen St. Peter, Presque Isle Inn & Convention Center, The Aroostook Medical Center and Wilder's Jewelry*

for their generous donations to the Silent and Live Auctions;  
and to the Central Aroostook Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors,  
for their hard work and wonderful Silent Auction Donations!

# ShopCentralAroostook.com



CENTRAL AROOSTOOK  
**CHAMBER**  
of COMMERCE

**WAGM 8**  
CBS/FOX  
NEWS | SOURCE

**Advertise your business on television in a cost-effective way, while helping to promote the region and the value of shopping locally.**

*The Central Aroostook Chamber of Commerce is partnering with WAGM-TV to offer this great opportunity.*

## **What it means to YOUR BUSINESS:**

- This is a very cost effective way to have a multimedia advertising package including a presence both on TV and on the web!
- Your business will be represented in 5 revolving ads, a total of 110 ads/month.
- Your business will be spotlighted in the ad series a total of 22 times/month.
- This represents less than One Dollar each time your business is advertised.
- The “ShopCentralAroostook.com” landing page, which is available 24 hours a day on line, will have information on your business and a link to your website if applicable.
- You will be able to change your message each month, so you can promote specials, seasonal products, and much more!

## **What it means to THE REGION:**

- Increased exposure of the business, recreation and shopping opportunities available in Central Aroostook County.
- Ads will run for the entire year promoting Central Aroostook, the superb services and unique shops.
- No matter the size of your business, this is an opportunity to attract new customers.
- Visitors and viewers will see your business and be made aware of the shopping opportunities in the region.
- Your business will be promoted year round, encouraging area residents to “Shop Local”.
- In addition to the business information area, ads will feature scenic shots of Central Aroostook, more clearly identifying the region as a whole.

## **Your Commitment:**

You pay just \$100/month for one year in return for all the benefits outlined above! Pay monthly or quarterly, whatever works best for you.

**Learn more:**

Contact the **Central Aroostook Chamber of Commerce**  
at 764-6561 or [info@centralaroostookchamber.com](mailto:info@centralaroostookchamber.com)



## How to: Lower Your Home Heating Costs:

There is good news about the winter! When it comes to home heating this winter, the Energy Information Administration predicts that on average, a household's fuel heating costs will decrease to \$928 per household, which is down from the \$947 it cost last year. While this is good news, that is still a lot of money! Luckily, there are some additional things you, as a homeowner, can do to lower your heating costs even more this winter.

- Turn down the thermostat: You can save an estimated 3% for every degree you turn down your thermostat. If you turn it down when you go to work and go to sleep at night even just 10 degrees, you can save a good deal on your heating costs!
- Use your curtains: Opening up the curtains allows for the sun to heat your home and closing them at night helps reduce the escape of heat.
- Install a low-flow shower head: A water-efficient shower head will use less hot water and therefore, less heat!
- Keep your heating vents clear: Keeping rugs and furniture away from the vents will allow for the hot air to circulate

## Home Insurance and Blizzards

Did you know that in 2011 there was nearly 2 billion dollars worth of snow storm related damages to homes?

Snow storms and blizzards can be a disaster for your home. All of the wind, snow and ice can leave many damages and destruction. Between roof collapses, wind damage and leakage that can result from busted pipes and gutters, as a homeowner, there is a lot to worry about.

While your home owners insurance will likely cover the damages associated with these natural weather-related conflicts, there are some factors that can jeopardize your claim if you are not careful.

If you experience roof damage:

- Make sure your roof is in good condition and not considered "old" before the winter season starts - a roof that is not well maintained may be grounds for a denial of your claim.

- Make sure to take photos right away to prove your claim was in fact caused by an insured disaster.

- Do not attempt to make any repairs yourself that may make the roof better or worse - both could harm your claim.

Additionally, when it comes to other things such as your pipes, you will want to take precautionary measures to avoid damages:

- Always maintain heat in your house even if you are away from home to keep your pipes from freezing.

- If you do go away during the winter and wish to turn off your heat, turn the water off, too.

It's always a good idea to have a neighbor keep an eye on the place if you happen to be out of town. If disaster does strike, you will want to deal with it right away and not leave



Call Us Today!  
(877) 764-4297





Thank You to all  
**RENEWING MEMBERS**

**For your continued support!**

*The Central Aroostook Chamber of Commerce is only as strong as its membership. We invite you to attend our Board meetings at any time, and encouraged to join committees and serving on the Board of Directors if you do not already have a representative on the Board.*

**Acme-Monaco Corporation**

**Ashland Diner Inc.**

**Cassidy Orthodontics**

**Chandler Farms, Inc.**

**City of Presque Isle**

**Cushman and Sons, Inc.**

**Dana's Auto Sales**

**Diana Higgins, LMT**

**Fair Point Communications**

**Gagnon's Auto & Repair Shop**

**H&R Block**

**Homeless Services of Aroostook**

**Hotham's Veterinary Services**

**Huber Engineered Woods, LLC**

**J P Martin & Sons**

**Just Value Associates, CLLC**

**Katahdin Trust Company**

**Maine Woods Company**

**McCluskey's R.V.**

**NorState Credit Union**

**RE/MAX Central**

**Richard C. Engels**

**The Sled Shop**

**Thompson-Hamel, LLC**

*New Owner!*



**CUSHMAN  
& SONS INC.**  
Custom Embroidery Screen Printing Ad Specialty Items  
**Garrett Cushman**  
garrett@cushmanembroidery.com  
Phone: 207-764-3833  
Cell: 207-227-8000  
Fax: 207-764-3432  
5 Maple Street  
Presque Isle, ME 04769

Your one-stop shop for Custom Embroidery and Digitizing, Screen Printing, Ad specialty items and trophies and awards: Cushman and Son's offers a wide array of products that can be personalized; A great way to customize yourself or a whole company! Their ad specialty items allow you to advertise your company affordably, while there trophies and awards make great tokens of appreciation for your hard working employees. ...and they don't require a minimum order!!!

**Store Hours**

Sunday: Closed

Monday-Friday: 8-5

Saturday: By Appointment

# *Final Word*

*by Theresa Fowler*

Thank you to all who supported the Annual Awards Dinner in various ways. It was a great evening of recognition and socialization. The success of the event and the auctions will keep us energized for the year ahead!

After the dinner, I had the opportunity to tour a lot of the State of Maine. I went to Augusta, Rockland and Sunday River in a 3 day marathon of driving and meetings. We talked about Aroostook County, tourism and political leadership struggles. The State budget was the topic of much of the conversation. It is agreed that we, as a State, have some tough times ahead and there will be decisions made that will not be popular. Governor LePage recognized the contribution of small business owners to the economy of the State when he spoke at the Tourism conference.

I continue to participate in the Maine State Chamber weekly calls regarding upcoming legislation and hearings. LEAD has also had the initial call of this session from County legislators to Aroostook County locations. This is a communication that was started several years ago and is very informative for both Legislators and area residents.

I think it is great that MPBN has started televising hearings and legislative sessions. As I am writing this I am listening to a hearing on LD 121 which will affect tournament games operated by non-profit organizations. As the legislative session proceeds there will be many times that public hearings will be of interest to us. Living this far from Augusta, we cannot attend all hearings but at least this way interested parties can follow the proceedings. You can find this programming on the web at [www.mpbn.net](http://www.mpbn.net).

The Maine-Quebec Winter Carnival Caravan will be leaving Portage Lake on February 15th. The roads are very well maintained and it is a great chance to take a personal vehicle through the North Maine Woods. Thank you to the various companies that maintain the roads, Maibec Logging Inc. for hosting the mid-morning coffee break and North Maine Woods for their support.

While I head for a few days in the sun, Nikita will be working on the Membership Directory, and will be contacting you about your listing information and interest in advertising. We will be unveiling an exciting cooperative advertising opportunity in the next few days as well. Making the world aware of all that Central Aroostook has to offer is an ongoing effort that we are very active in.

As always there is a lot going on. Webinars, seminars and information meetings are available often on a variety of topics. March promises to be a busy month at your local Chamber office.

Hope to see you soon!