

Welcome to May!

There is much to celebrate at your Chamber and in the Community! It was a joy to take time to acknowledge the strength, perseverance, and creativity that lives in our community at the Chamber's Community Awards event that was held on April 21 at the Galley Hatch. Congratulations to all our winners- it was wonderful to hear the stories and remarks you shared with us- and thank you to all who attended, sponsored and volunteered to make this event a true celebration of this year's award winners. If you missed it, you can watch the 2022 Community Awards event on Exeter TV's YouTube channel.

Speaking of sharing... a few weeks ago, we asked for your feedback for the Chamber's strategic planning process. Many thanks to everyone who responded! Your thoughtful responses are an important step as we chart the course for the future of the Chamber. We look forward to sharing more information with you as we continue this important discussion.

Happy Spring!

Jennifer Wheeler
Jennifer Wheeler, President
Exeter Area
Chamber of Commerce



To Blog or Not to Blog?

Do you hate to blog but know it's a good idea for SEO? Change your mindset (and your blog page title) to be an FAQ section for your website.

It can be as easy as:

1. Change your Blog page title to "FAQs"
2. Write out some of your most frequently asked questions like you've already told (or typed) it 100 times before.
3. Create a blog post writing out each of your FAQs in a Q&A format.

It's information people want and you already know it like the back of your hand AND search engines will LOVE IT!

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CHAMBER HAPPENINGS

MAY 2022

Friday 20 **Exeter High Job Fair @ 11:00 am**
1 Bluehawk Drive, Exeter

Monday 23 **ChamberConnects @ 11:00 am**
Speed Networking
Zoom

Tuesday 24 **Ribbon Cutting @ 10:00 am**
ReMax on the Move
81 Water Street, Exeter

Monday 30 **Office Closed in Observance of Memorial Day**

JUNE 2022

Tuesday 7 **Morning Mixer @ 7:30 am**
Bangor Savings Bank
& Water Street Bookstore
125 Water Street, Exeter

Tuesday 7 **Ribbon Cutting @ 10:00 am**
Melanie Taylor - Liberty Mutual
Exeter Bandstand

Wednesday 8 **Fast Track @ 8:30 am**
Learn to maximize your benefits
Zoom

Tuesday 14 **BIA Policy Roundtable @ 1:00 pm**
Great Bay Community College
320 Corporate Dr, Portsmouth, NH

Tuesday 21 **Business After Hours @ 5:00 pm**
location TBD

Monday 27 **ChamberConnects @ 11:00 am**
Speed Networking
Zoom

MEMBER NEWS

2021-2022 LEADERSHIP

Board of Directors

Officers

Linda Horne, Chair
Mary Kay Cosmetics

Devin Oot, Vice Chair
WIN Waste Innovations

Elliot Evans, Secretary
Edward Jones

Joanna Bramer, Treasurer
Lighthouse Advisory, LLC

George Soderberg, Past Chair
Hay Creek Hotels

Directors

Rachael Ela
Cambridge Trust

David Fittro
Exeter Health Resources

Kelly Hutchinson
Newburyport Bank

Melissa Koren Wilson
Melissa Koren Photography
You're a Big Deal Digital
Marketing

Karyn Krause Cumberland
sklawyers

Matt Labbe
The Rowley Agency

Kimberly Merrill-Wood
Tobey & Merrill Insurance

Kimberly Myer
Southern District YMCA

Pearla Phillips
Resiliency in Motion

Honorary Directors

Russ Dean
Town of Exeter

Aimee Gigandet
Newmarket Parks & Recreation

Seth Hickey
Stratham Parks & Recreation

David Ryan, Ed.D
SAU 16

Staff

Jennifer Wheeler
President

Bobbi Vandenbulcke
Director, Member Partnerships

Kim Lindquist
Director, Events & Marketing



First Seacoast Bank Welcomes Bonnie Roberts

Timothy F. Dargan, First Seacoast Bank Senior Vice President, Senior Commercial Loan Officer is pleased to announce the addition of Bonnie Roberts as Vice President, Senior Commercial Portfolio Lending Officer. With more than 21 years of commercial banking experience in the N.H. Seacoast, Bonnie is well versed in helping local business owners and is dedicated to the community.

Bonnie holds a degree from Northern Essex Community College and enjoys traveling, gardening, and spending time with her son Justin, daughter Brooke and dog Charlotte. As a member of the First Seacoast Bank commercial lending team, Bonnie will work in the Bank's Portsmouth office, located at 1650 Woodbury Ave.

Exeter DPW Director Named One of the 10 Best in the U.S.

By Lara Bricker, Exeter News-Letter

Jennifer Perry has been named one of the Top Ten Public Works Leaders of the Year by the America Public Works Association.

Perry is the first female public works director in New England to receive the recognition and says receiving the award still feels a bit surreal. Perry has been Exeter's director of public works since 2007 and worked for the town since 2000. Under her leadership, the town has seen construction of a new \$53.5 million wastewater treatment plant and removal of the Great Dam, which had been in place since the town was founded.

The award from the American Public Works Association has been presented for 63 years and is considered one of the organization's highest honors. It focuses on outstanding career service achievements of public works professionals in both the public and private sectors in North America.



Sue Ross Retires After 14 Years of Service with MVS

Susan "Sue" Ross, Mortgage Loan Originator NMLS #165861 for MVS (Meredith Village Savings Bank), has retired after 14 years of dedicated service to the Bank. Sue proudly served the community by helping individuals and families with their mortgage financing needs.

Elizabeth Brothers, who was recently promoted to Mortgage Loan Officer NMLS #69282, has been working alongside Sue to ensure a seamless transition and continued quality service for current and new clients. Elizabeth most recently served as the Bank's Assistant Vice President, Mortgage Strategy Officer and has held multiple roles in mortgage lending throughout her career.

Sue has received recognition throughout her career. Most recently in 2021, she was recognized for her top mortgage production, ranking #2 in Belknap County, #4 in Carroll County and #34 out of 3,000 in the entire state.

Prior to joining MVS, Sue served as a real estate paralegal and as a real estate agent. She is a member of the Gilford Community Church, has volunteered on various committees, and plans to continue to give back to the community in retirement. She also looks forward to traveling with her husband Eston, spending time with family and friends, and playing tennis. Sue said they are planning to travel and hike in New Hampshire, Utah and Europe this summer.



MEMBER NEWS

Great Bay Community College Celebrates the Class of 2022

Great Bay Community College celebrated its 76th commencement outdoors on its Portsmouth campus. Unlike the previous year, where multiple smaller ceremonies had to be held to accommodate spacing restrictions due to the pandemic, the college was able to hold one event for all graduates on Saturday.

Great Bay conferred over 300 degrees or certificates during the weekend festivities. The college began in 1945 as the State Trade School at Portsmouth and has become one of northern New England's leading two-year institutions of higher learning, offering over 50 degree and certificate programs in the sciences, technical studies, and liberal arts while serving as an educational and career hub for students, businesses, and the community.

Distinguished members of the College Community and honored guests represented on the platform included Dr. Mark Rubinstein, Chancellor of the Community College System of NH (CCSNH), Dr. Cathryn Addy, GBCC Interim President from August 2019 to March of this year, Christine Strong, Chair of the GBCC Advisory Board, Hollie Noveletsky, Sharon Harris, and Steven Slovenski, members of the Board of Trustees for CCSNH, Tina Favara, VP of Student Success & Enrollment Management and Lisa McCurley, VP of Academic Affairs for Great Bay.



Great Bay
Community College



Great Bay Services, Honored With 2022 Maine Governor's Award for Service and Volunteerism

Volunteers from Great Bay Services, have won the Outstanding Volunteer Team Award at the 2022 Maine Governor's Award for Service and Volunteerism. The award was presented by Governor Janet Mills in a virtual award ceremony hosted on April 25th. Great Bay Services of Sanford, Maine was awarded this honor due to their valiant volunteer effort in 2021. Highlighting on their assistance with the Toys for Tots program, bringing toys to over 1,400 children each year.

Great Bay Services, a 501(c)3 non-profit supporting adults with autism, mental and physical disabilities for the last 68 years in New Hampshire, expanded into Maine in 2015. Cory Long, Senior Direct Support Professional (DSP) jumped into the role of Volunteer Coordinator in August 2021 after joining the Sanford team in fall of 2020. Ms. Long spent the fall and winter months establishing volunteer opportunities, building a volunteer team and schedule, while assisting the volunteers (if needed) as part of her Senior Direct Support Professional role. For the months of October to December Great Bay Services volunteers did 216 hours of volunteering. In less than a year, as a volunteering program, these individuals have worked over 600 hours.

BUSINESS BANKING

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makes all the difference.**

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Newburyport Bank

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**YOUR
LOGO
HERE!**

Email kim@exeterarea.org for more details, advertising, and sponsorship opportunities. Support your Chamber and your community while building brand recognition!

MEMBER HAPPENINGS

OUT AND ABOUT

April Business After Hours

Exeter Hospital at Exeter Country Club



May Morning Mixer

Minuteman Press of Exeter



Ribbon Cutting Ceremony You Holistic



NEW MEMBERS

April New Members

Bleeding Heart Tattoo

Daigneault Family Care
daigneaultfamilycare.com

Harmony Speech
Language Therapy
harmony-slp.com

Tami Mallett
Realtor at Keller Williams
facebook.com/tamimallettrealtor

Spin Off Productions
spinoffproductions.com

RENEWING MEMBERS

- Great Bay Acupuncture
- Melissa Koren Photography
- NH Granite State Ambassadors
- The Seacoast Esthetic Dentistry Assoc.
- Senior Helpers of the Greater Seacoast
- Shaklee
- The Word Barn

MEMBERSHIP MILESTONES

We'd like to take a moment to recognize the following businesses their continued partnership with the Chamber!

Over 30 Years

Leone, McDonnell & Roberts

Over 20 Years

Ashworth by the Sea
Seacoast Mills Building Supply

15 Years

RCH Paving

10 Years

Newburyport Bank

5 Years

Granite State HydroShield
Greg & Jane's Beer & Wine Shop
Make A Difference Landscaping

THANK YOU!

FROM THE CHAMBER OFFICE

CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP, WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?

This is a question the Exeter Area Chamber staff hears all the time. This is a great opportunity to answer this question. In a word, Everything!

Everything we do is to improve our local business environment through programs, events and promotion.

Customer Development-Every program and every event is designed specifically to promote customers and traffic to your business and communities.

Workforce Development-Today's workforce issues require that our local businesses are represented at Job Fairs and that you have the opportunities to work with our partners at NH Employment Security, Small Business Administration, Seacoast SCORE and many other resources available.

And we are ready to circle the wagons for business. When a crisis comes, we are always available and willing to do what is necessary to help our members. The pandemic is a perfect example of the resources, programs, events and promotions that were provided to you to help you through this crisis.

Exeter Area Chamber serves 10 communities: Brentwood, East Kingston, Epping, Exeter, Kensington, Kingston, Newfields, Newmarket, Raymond and Stratham.

If you want to make sure you are utilizing all the benefits the Exeter Area Chamber offers, join us at our next Fast Track meeting on the second Wednesday of each month from 8:30 am - 9:30 am, this is a virtual event. Register to attend today!

Bobbi Vandenbulcke
Director of Member Partnerships



THE CHAMBER BUZZ WITH BOBBI



Looking for a creative and cost-effective way to reach the community? Consider being a guest on The Chamber Buzz with Bobbi!

Bobbi will give you an opportunity to talk about your organization, what brought you to the area and what is on the horizon for you.

It doesn't cost you anything, we do all of the work, you just need to have the conversation.

Email Bobbi at bobbi@exeterarea.org to set up your episode today!

✦ NEW EPISODES ✦

- Mike Wilson, Exeter Health Resources
- Karen Poplaski, Bodywise Physical Therapy
- Michelle Belskis, Bay Equity Home Loans

WHERE TO LISTEN



[ANCHOR.FM/EXETER-AREA-CHAMBER](https://anchor.fm/exeter-area-chamber)

SAVE THE DATE!

2022 EACC GOLF TOURNAMENT
GOLFER REGISTRATION IS OPEN NOW
EARLY BIRD DEADLINE IS FRIDAY, JUNE 24TH

69 East Road
Route 107
East Kingston, NH

Golf Tournament

Friday, August 26, 2022
9:00am-Shotgun Start

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Early Bird Registration: | Register After June 24th: |
| Before June 24th | \$125 per golfer |
| \$100 per golfer | \$500 per foursome |
| \$400 per foursome | |

Thank You to Our Sponsors!

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
Golf Cart

Alysia MacDougall, State Farm
Putting Contest Sponsor
AutoFair Nissan
Lunch Sponsor

Register at exeterarea.org

GREAT BAY FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL

Thanks to all our food trucks, vendors, sponsors and participants!

Check out this video of the 2nd Annual Great Bay Food Truck Festival, produced by Spin Off Productions

[View here](#)



Great Bay Food Truck Festival 2022 - EACC Preview.mp4

This is "Great Bay Food Truck Festival 2022 - EACC Preview.mp4" by Jake Provencher on Vimeo, the home for high quality videos and the people who love them



THANK YOU!





Thank You for Attending the 2022 Community Awards.
Congratulations to our Honorees! And Thank you to our sponsors



**Newburyport
Bank**
JOURNEY WELL



A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR PREMIUM TIER MEMBERS

DIAMOND



EXETER HOSPITAL

PLATINUM



GOLD



SILVER

The 101 Grille | 98.7 WBYY Frank FM | Alnoba
Bodywise Physical Therapy LLC | DTC Lawyers
Eversource | F.H. Cann & Associates
First Seacoast Bank | Newburyport Bank
NextEra Energy | Northeast Credit Union
Optima Dermatology | Partners Bank
People's United Bank | Phillips Exeter Academy
Prescott Park Arts Festival | RiverWoods Exeter
Seacoast Oldies | Service Credit Union
Sherwin-Williams Paint Co.
Sky Coach & Transportation
TD Bank | The Word Barn
Townsquare Media | Unitil



2022 Programs & Events Calendar

January

January 11th- Morning Mixer, 7:30-9:00 am
Exeter Area YMCA, 56 Linden St., Exeter

January 12th- Fast Track, 8:30-9:30 am

January 18th- Business After Hours, 5:00-7:00 am
Betty LaBranche Real Estate, 115 Water St., Exeter

January 24th- ChamberConnects
Speed Networking, 11:00am-12:15pm

February

February 1st- Morning Mixer, 7:30-9:00am
Bodywise Physical Therapy & Rejuvenations
Professional Massage
1 Hampton Road, Suite 304, Exeter

February 9th- Fast Track, 8:30-9:30 am

February 15th- Business After Hours, 5:00-7:00 pm
Sky Coach & Transportation, 6, Freetown Rd., Raymond

February 28th- ChamberConnects
Speed Networking 11:00am-12:15pm

March

March 1st - Morning Mixer, 7:30-9:00am
Jersey Mike's, 141 Portsmouth Ave., Exeter

March 9th- Fast Track, 8:30-9:30 am

March 15th- Business After Hours, 5:00-7:00 pm
The 101 Grille, 88 Shirking Road, Epping

March 28th- ChamberConnects
Speed Networking, 11:00am-12:15pm (VIRTUAL)

April

April 5th- Morning Mixer, 7:30-9:00 am
X5 Home Loans & Aroma Joe's, 31 Portsmouth Ave., Exeter

April 13th- Fast Track, 8:30-9:30 am

April 25th- ChamberConnects Speed Networking,
11:00am-12:15pm
In-Person @ Sea Dog Brewing Co., 5 Water Street, Exeter

April 26th- Business After Hours, 5:00-7:00 pm
Exeter Hospital, The Exeter Inn & Epoch Gastropub
90 Front Street, Exeter

May

May 3rd- Morning Mixer, 7:30-9:00 am
Minuteman Press, 1 Portsmouth Ave., Suite 5, Stratham

May 11th- Fast Track, 8:30-9:30 am

May 17th- Business After Hours, 5:00-7:00 pm
Newburyport Bank, 137 Portsmouth Ave., Exeter

May 20th- Exeter High School Job Fair, 11:00 am-12:30 pm
Exeter High School, 1 Blue Hawk Drive, Exeter

May 23rd- ChamberConnects
Speed Networking, 11:00am-12:15pm (VIRTUAL)

June

June 7th- Morning Mixer, 7:30-9:00 am
Bangor Savings Bank & Water Street Bookstore
125 Water Street, Exeter

June 8th- Fast Track, 8:30-9:30 am

June 21st- Business After Hours, 5:00-7:00 pm
TBD

June 27th- ChamberConnects
Speed Networking 11:00am-12:15pm (VIRTUAL)

July

July 12th - Morning Mixer, 7:30-9:00 am
Service Credit Union, 109 Epping Road, Exeter

July 13th - Fast Track, 8:30-9:30 am

July 19th- Southern Seacoast Business After Hours, 5:00-7:00 pm
Hosted by Exeter Hospital, Held at Grill 28, 200 Grafton Road,
Portsmouth

July 25th- ChamberConnects Speed Networking,
11:00am-12:15pm
In-Person @ Sea Dog Brewing Co., 5 Water Street, Exeter

August

August 3rd- NH Fisher Cats Ballpark Business Series, 5:30pm
Northeast Delta Dental Stadium, 1 Line Drive, Manchester

August 10th- Fast Track, 8:30-9:30 am

August 16th- Business After Hours, 5:00-7:00 pm
The Exeter Inn & Epoch Gastropub, 90 Front Street, Exeter

August 22nd- ChamberConnects
Speed Networking, 11:00am-12:15pm (VIRTUAL)

2022 Programs & Events Calendar

September

September 13th- Morning Mixer, 7:30-9:00am
Exeter Health Resources, Location TBD

September 14th- Fast Track, 8:30-9:30 am

September 20th- Business After Hours, 5:00-7:00 pm
Kennebunk Savings, 9 Portsmouth Ave., Stratham

September 26th- ChamberConnects
Speed Networking, 11:00am-12:15pm (VIRTUAL)

October

October 4th- Morning Mixer, 7:30-9:00 am
Exeter Health Resources, Location TBD

October 12th- Fast Track, 8:30-9:30am

October 18th- Business After Hours, 5:00-7:00 pm
Partners Bank, 53 Church Street, Kingston

October 24th- ChamberConnects Speed Networking
11:00am-12:15pm
In-Person @ Sea Dog Brewing Co., 5 Water Street, Exeter

November

November 1st - Morning Mixer, 7:30-9:00am
Verizon Wireless Zone of Stratham, 15 Portsmouth Ave., Stratham

November 9th- Fast Track, 8:30-9:30 am

November 15th- Business After Hours, 5:00-7:00 pm
All American of Kingston, 193 Main Street, Kingston

November 28th- ChamberConnects
Speed Networking, 11:00am-12:15pm (VIRTUAL)

December

December 7th (Wednesday)- Morning Mixer, 7:30-9:00 am
Trends Gift Gallery, 85 Water Street, Exeter

December 14th- Fast Track, 8:30-9:30 am

December 20th- Business After Hours, 5:00-7:00 pm
Location TBD

****Please Note: The Chamber office will be closed between
December 26th and December 31st****



Community Awards
Thursday, April 21st
Galley Hatch Restaurant



**Great Bay Food
Truck Festival**
Saturday, May 7th
Stratham Hill Park



Golf Tournament
Friday, August 26th
Apple Hill Golf Club



**Powder Keg
Beer & Chili Festival**
Saturday, October 1st
Swasey Park



**Women of Excellence
Awards**
Friday, November 4th
Location TBD



Santa's Block Party
Thursday, December 1st
Downtown Exeter