



February 2016

Upcoming Events

February

- 2/03 KLI Comm., 12:00 p.m. @ KVCC
- 2/10 KVCC Board Meeting
- 2/10 **Women's Network Luncheon**, 11:30 a.m. @ Senator Inn
- 2/17 **Business Insider Breakfast**, 7:30 - 9:00 a.m. @ Senator Inn
- 2/17 KVCC Membership Comm., 11:30 a.m. @ KVCC
- 2/22 **New Member Orientation**, 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. @ KVCC
- 2/24 **Business After Hours**, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. @ *Senator Inn & Spa*

March

- 3/02 KLI Comm., 12 p.m. @ KVCC
- 3/08 KVCC Board Meeting
- 3/09 **Women's Network Luncheon**, 11:30 a.m. @ Senator Inn
- 3/10 **Cynergy: Interviewing & Social Media**
- 3/16 **Business Insider Breakfast**, 7:30 - 9:00 a.m. @ Senator Inn
- 3/16 KVCC Membership Comm., 11:30 a.m. @ KVCC
- 3/23 **Business After Hours**, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. @ *Augusta Civic Center*

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Business Insider

Kennebec Valley Chamber of Commerce
KennebecValleyChamber.com

30th Kennebec Leadership Institute Class

By Katie Doherty



We are pleased to announce the kick off to the 30th year of our Kennebec Leadership Institute. Since 1987, the Kennebec Leadership Institute (KLI) has been a highly acclaimed, 80-hour program specially designed to mentor tomorrow's area business and community leaders - the oldest such institute in the state of Maine. Eight evening sessions introduce the class to leaders in state and local government, education, local history and demographics, public safety/emergency preparedness and more. Four full-day sessions give in-depth training in styles of leadership, communications skills, conflict resolution, negotiation, problem solving, team building, networking, goal setting and action

planning. Steve Pecukonis has been the facilitator of the class since its inception, along with several other quality leadership programs across the state.

KLI seeks to foster a network of leaders who are committed to understanding and improving the Kennebec Valley. Past graduates have successfully run for office, been promoted within their companies, sat on boards of directors throughout the community; and chaired various civic and community groups. This year's participants are:

- Emily Bell**
Thomas College
- Therese Berniger**
MaineGeneral Homecare & Hospice
- Catherine Bourque**
MaineGeneral Medical Center
- Greg Boyd**
Alternative Manufacturing, Inc.
- Erika Bush**
Kennebec Valley Humane Society
- Cary Colwell**
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- Deborah Cunningham**
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Women's Network
 February 10,
 Senator Inn

Karen Stultz: "Gardiner Food Co-op"

Karen Stultz shows professional women how to transform their lives from stressed and tired to energetic and enjoyable. A key to this is transformation is nutrition - a belief that she carries through to her role on the Board of Directors of The Gardiner Co-Op and Café, and lead of the Membership Committee of the Co-Op. Gardiner Food Co-Op has a real sense of community and that fills her heart and soul. Join us to hear Karen speak about the history of the Co-op, their purpose in our community, and their vision for the future. RSVP to info@KennebecValleyChamber.com



Women's Network sponsors:



Business Insider
 February 16,
 Senator Inn

Richard Hopper "Workforce Development"

Richard Hopper, President of Kennebec Valley Community College has overseen a nearly \$30-million investment in the college's infrastructure and programming. He will be speaking on putting programs in place that better prepare our workforce for the demands of today's employers. In the economy of today, there are many vacant positions that companies are unable to fill and equally as many unemployed workers. Dr. Hopper will provide some practical steps to create qualified job seekers in our region and connect them with employers. RSVP to info@KennebecValleyChamber.com



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**MARK YOUR CALENDAR! Membership Appreciation Day
 April 12, 2016**

We are looking for volunteers and donated goodies for the 2016 Membership Appreciation day. The day begins with a fun breakfast, packed with exciting prizes. Teams then go off and deliver amazing gifts to our fantastic members. If you are interested in helping out, please call 623-4559.

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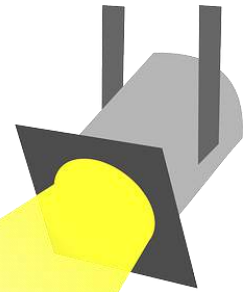
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Spotlight

By Amarinda Keys



What does it mean to be an entrepreneur? On Thursday, January 18th, young professionals from the Kennebec Valley area gathered to listen to a panel of entrepreneurs tell their story's of success. Among the individuals was Hilary Davis, co-owner of Scrummy Afters Candy Shoppe, a little candy shop in downtown Hallowell. If you've ever walked into Scrummy Afters, you know that you've arrived somewhere special. The space is vibrant, the walls lined with candy, the tables designed to look like they are dripping with chocolate. Every inch of the space has been carefully crafted. As Hilary describes it, success for her was being able to turn shopping for candy into an experience - an escape. And she has certainly accomplished that.

Hilary, an artists who completed art school in Boston, has found a way to turn her passion and love for art and design into a business. She says she doesn't feel like an entrepreneur and would never have thought to call her self one. But her ability to think out side the box, to constantly dream up new ideas and then execute them, and to throw her time and passion into building a transformative space and a consistent brand are all at the heart of what it means to be an entrepreneur. And it doesn't seem like Hilary or the store are going to be slowing down anytime soon, with a trip to "chocolate boot camp" in Connecticut in the works! For upcoming events and the chance to meet more successful young entrepreneurs like Hilary, visit kennebecvalleychamber.com/index.php/cynergy-home.

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the kenney awards



CEO Corner

Our chamber family gathered several weeks ago to celebrate the amazing work being done in the Kennebec Valley at the Kenney Awards. It was a fabulous evening and we are already looking forward to next year! I wanted to congratulate the winners and nominees for all of their hard work over the past year. You have all made this a better place to live and work. I challenge all of our chamber members to follow in the footsteps of these great people and spend some extra time on your community. We will all be better for it.



Ross Cunningham,
President & CEO

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Community Service
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Nathan Cotnoir



Congratulations
Brian Tarbuck!
Two round-trip tickets from
Augusta to Boston
from Cape Air!

Congratulations
Peter Thompson!



Your tireless efforts in your past and future work in our community is commendable and we congratulate you on your Lifetime Achievement Award.

Sincerely,
University of Maine at Augusta
President James Conneely, faculty,
students and staff.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: TRI-STATE STAFFING



Tri-State Staffing Solutions was incorporated in 1999 and is a local, woman owned and operated, staffing agency located at 225 Western Avenue in Augusta. Linda Veilleux, President/Owner, has over 25 years of experience in the staffing industry. Linda and her staff at Tri-State offer temporary, temp2hire, direct hire, payroll services, skills assessment service and outplacement services for the following job categories:

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This section, dedicated to highlighting a member business, is given away at the monthly Business After Hours!



Meet the Board: Eric Jermyn

Eric Jermyn has served on the Kennebec Valley Chamber Board since 2010. Jermyn, who will serve as the KV Chamber Board Chair for 2016, is the Vice President of Business Development for Cross Employee Benefits. As such, he is charged with leading Cross Employee Benefits' sales effort, a responsibility that comes with

challenges.

According to Jermyn, Cross Insurance's history and growth attracted him to join the company in November of 2015. "I've worked in the insurance industry in Maine for 21 years," he said. "Most of that time was spent working in partnership with Cross and other brokers in the State. Cross's reputation and leadership in the insurance industry are second to none." Prior to joining Cross Employee Benefits, he spent 21 years with Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield, most recently as the company's Director of Large Group Sales.

Jermyn lives in Gardiner with his wife, Kathie, and their two children, Peri and Sam. In addition to his service on the KV Chamber Board, he is the Vice Chair and Finance Committee Chair for Maine School Administrative District 11 serving Gardiner, Pittston, Randolph and West Gardiner. He also volunteers his time as an umpire for Gardiner Area Cal Ripken baseball.

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Johnson Hall continues its season in February with Capitol City Improv (Feb 6), Daponte String Quartet (Feb 13), and The Ghost of Paul Revere (Feb 20). Visit johnsonhall.org or call 582-7144 for more information.

The Harlow Gallery's Annual Silent Art Auction returns February 3-13 at 160 Water Street in Hallowell, offering spectacular deals on original art donated by local Maine artists and art collectors. You'll find paintings, pastels, sculpture, prints, photographs, crafts, artifacts, vintage and antique art — This is a great way to start a new collection or add fresh artwork to your existing collection. Open for bids February 3-13, 12-6pm Wednesday-Saturday, Saturday, February 13, 12-4pm; Bidding ends at 4pm sharp. For more information contact Allison McKeen, 207-622-2813, kvaa@harlowgallery.org.

Bar Harbor Bank & Trust in partnership with its employees and directors donated \$10,334 through the Bank's Community Commitment program during 2015. Each week, Bar Harbor Bank & Trust directors and employees, in exchange for being able to dress casually on Fridays, voluntarily contribute to a charitable fund that disburses gifts monthly to local charitable organizations. This employee-driven

donation program is called Community Commitment. The Bank matches the employee donations, doubling the amount given to the chosen organization. Each month the employees at a different bank location get to choose the recipient of these contributions. For more information call 1-888-853-7100 or go to www.bhbt.com.

Kennebec Savings Bank's generous customers and employees donated 35 coats, 31 scarves, 31 pairs of mittens or gloves, six snowpants and 38 hats in the Augusta, Farmingdale, Waterville and Winthrop locations. Kennebec Savings

Bank is a \$805 million state-chartered community bank, part of a mutual organization with a team of over 100 employees and offices in Augusta, Waterville, Winthrop and Farmingdale as well as "KSB Anytime" 24-hour electronic banking centers in Manchester, Augusta and Farmingdale. Customers and employees alike are proud to say, "That's My Bank." For more information call 622-5801.



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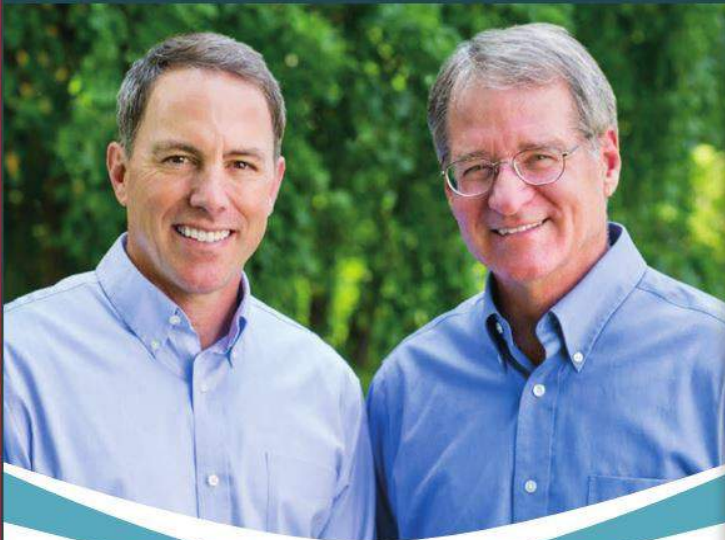
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Our Mission:

The KV Chamber exists to enhance life quality by strengthening our regional economy.



Join us in February at The Senator Inn & Spa!

The Senator Inn & Spa will host the **February Business After Hours** on **Wednesday, February 24th** from **5:00 – 7:00 p.m.** at their location in Augusta. KV Chamber members and guests are welcome to join us for networking and great food!



Every Business After Hours is an incredible opportunity to win amazing door prizes and take part in the 50/50 raffle. The Senator Inn will be giving away several door prizes and the space will be graced with live entertainment. Delicious hors d'oeuvres will be available and guests are welcome to partake in the cash bar.

Be sure to bring a large stack of *business cards* to share with your new business contacts. To RSVP call 623-4559 or email info@kennebecvalleychamber.com.

Mark your calendar! The next Business After Hours will be held on March 23, 2016 at The Augusta Civic Center!



NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

WHEN

February 22, 2016

11:30 am - 1:00 pm

WHERE

Kennebec Valley Chamber of Commerce

**269 Western Avenue,
Augusta, ME 04330**

Whether you joined in the last month or the last decade, you are welcome to join us for the *first* New Member Orientation! You will have an opportunity to learn about the many benefits of chamber membership and network with other new members. Join us for lunch and gain a wealth of information on putting your membership to work for you!

www.KennebecValleyChamber.com

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SCHEDULE

11:30 am—Networking & Lunch

12:00 - 1:00 pm—Orientation

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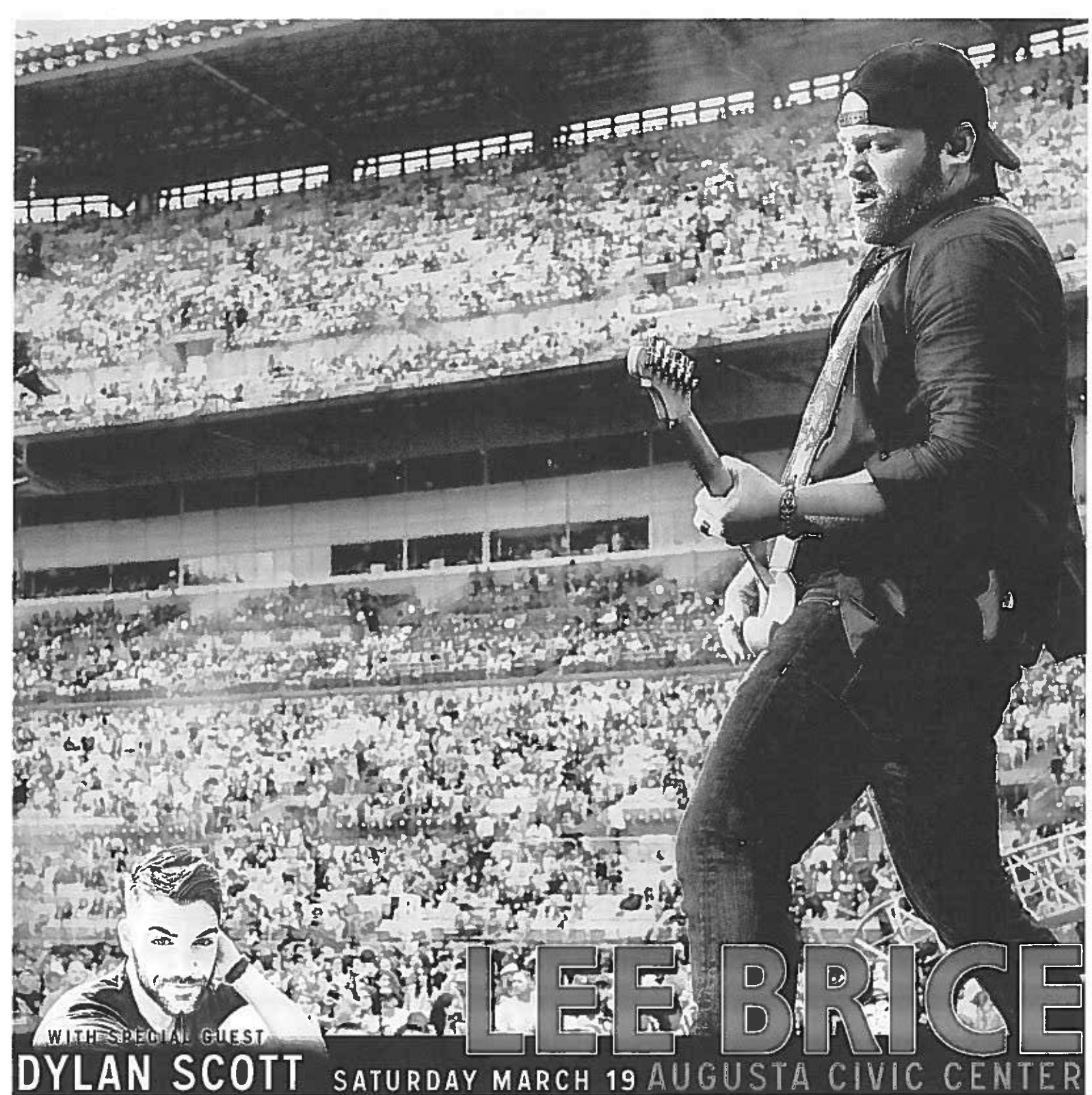
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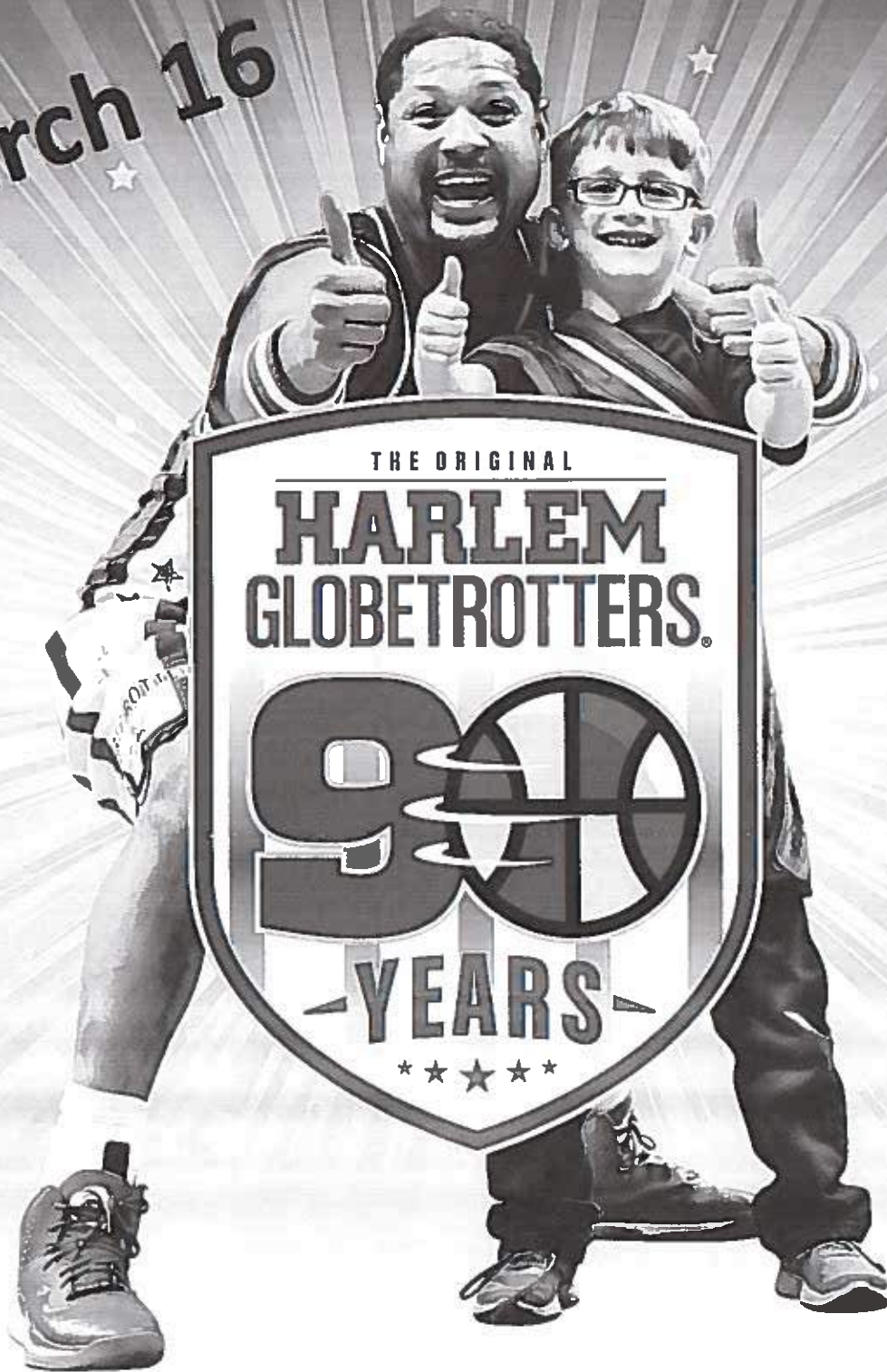
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our facebook page www.facebook.com/augustaciviccenter

AUGUSTA CIVIC CENTER

March 16



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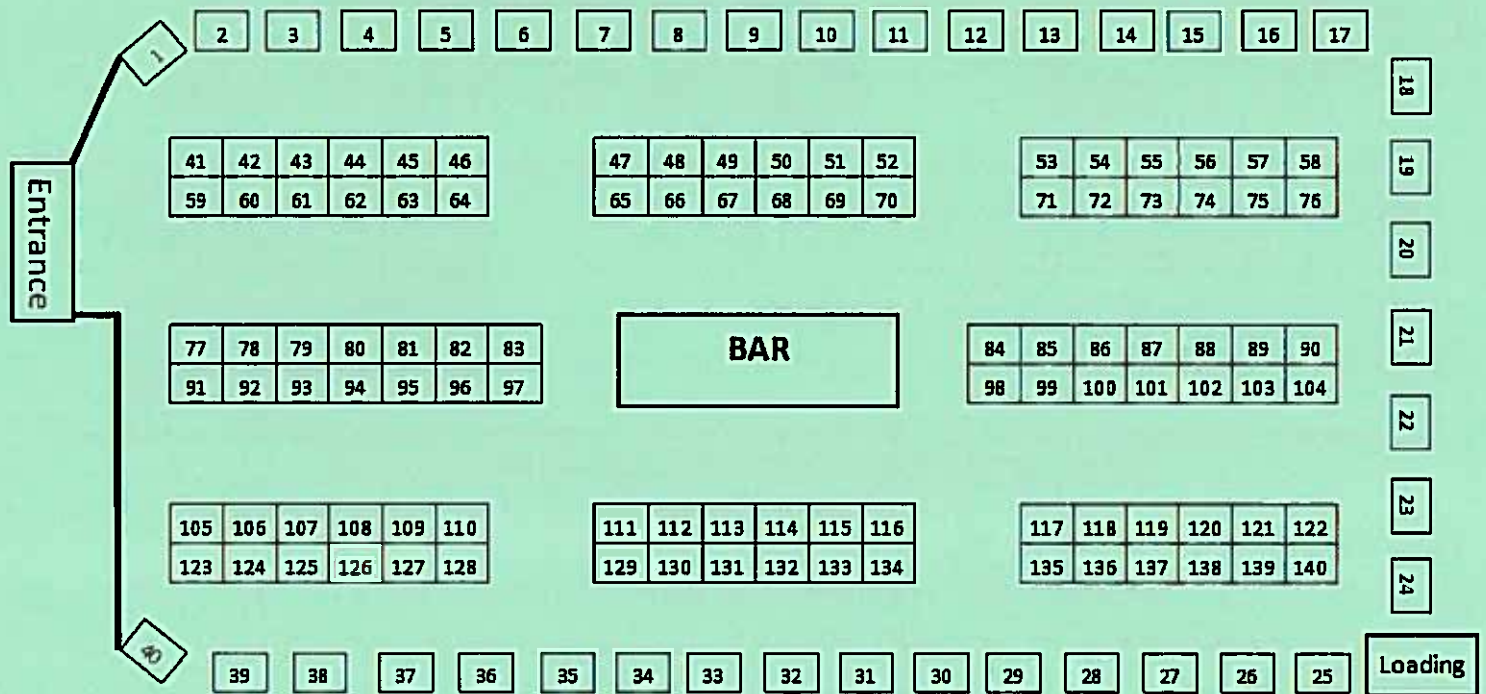
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Excellent lease terms available

For more information please call

Bill Mitchell at **207-873-5101**

Health Savings Accounts



 Kennebec Savings Bank

Do you offer High Deductible Insurance Plans? **We make house calls**

Make Health Savings Accounts [HSAs] part of your benefits package – as a local provider of **HSA Checking Accounts**, Kennebec Savings Bank can do the legwork for you and your employees all **on-location** at your workplace.

Our HSAs are **hassle-free** and **convenient**. We can easily **transfer** active HSAs from other financial institutions and help you establish **direct deposit**.

Our HSA Checking Accounts are free.

HSA checking account holders have access to HSA debit cards, checks, eStatements and account activity through online or mobile banking.

HSA Savings Accounts are also available.



Healthy Check-Up & Savings

"Our former bank gave us short notice that fees would be charged for our HSA account holders. KSB quickly helped us transition all of our accounts to their bank within days — and with no fees. This is just another reason why J.S. McCarthy banks with Kennebec Savings Bank."

**Matthew Tardiff,
Controller
J.S. McCarthy Printers**

Add **HSAs** as part of your benefits package:

- Spend less time completing account openings
- Direct deposit funds to your employees HSAs
- No lines, no waiting, no hassle!
- This is a **free service** to you as an employer and to your employees.

As your HSA provider, **Kennebec Savings Bank's Customer Care Team** will work with you to maximize your time and resources.

We value all of our business partnerships, so let us do the hard work for you.

Our knowledgeable staff will work with each of your employees individually —every-step-of-the-way.



Kennebec Savings Bank



Augusta 622-5801 • Waterville 872-5563
Winthrop 377-5801 • Farmingdale 588-5801
www.kennebecsavings.com

