≻SUPPORTING CHAMBER BUSINESS TO BUSINESS *◄*



AMDEN REGIONAL CHAMBER OF **COMMERCE** & **VISITOR'S CENTER**

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Guest Feature Article by: TripleOne Consulting: Getting Back to Business

If you're a parent, you've probably spent the past few weeks in a frantic push to get your child or children ready to head back to school. You've invested in new wardrobes, bought countless glue sticks, notebooks and other school supplies, and mentally prepared them for the rigors of getting back to a daily schedule after the more relaxed pace of summer.

Now, it's time to give your organization that same level of attention and focus on getting back to business. This is a critical time of year for every leader to step back and ask some intentional questions like:

- \Rightarrow Are we reaching our sales goals?
- \Rightarrow Are we struggling to consistently attain fundraising objectives?
- \Rightarrow Are we making strides to reach our next level of growth?
- \Rightarrow Do we lack an overall strategy for sales and business growth?
- \Rightarrow Are we still toiling to provide marketing support that truly addresses our organizational needs?

This examination is critical now because the reality is that both for-

Welcome New Members

Beacon Hospice Laurie Ferraro I I Founders Plaza East Hartford, CT 06108 860-969-9244 Category: Hospice Care

Comfort Keepers

Pat McGoldrick 500 Howard Avenue Suite 200 Shelton, CT 06484 860-280-6587 Category: Home Care

profit and non-profit organizations the day-to-day pressures and only have September and October to really "set the table" for January business, it's easy for an 2018 and beyond. Why? Because it organizational leader to

deadlines of simply doing

takes time to effectively assess needs and to put nev plans in

place. As

WAKE UP YOUR BRAND

you approach November and December, the holidays and resulting employee and vendor vacations, end of year reporting burdens and more make it much more difficult to effectively assemble your team, coordinate strategies and have plans in place that are ready to execute as the calendar page turns to 2018.

So what can you do **now** to ensure that 2018 lives up to your expectations?

First, identify the questions you need to ask. Start with our list above, but then take the next step to customize them for the unique needs of your organization and to face those elephants in the room head on.

Next, step back and honestly answer those questions. With all

automatically say, "we're doing fine" without looking at the bigger picture. Sales and/or donations

may be growing, but are they growing at the pace your plan requires? You might be meeting clients' current needs, but are you actively planning how to address their future needs as technology changes or as they require additional products or services? Is your staff able to handle the current workload effectively, or are they always operating in crisis mode and just telling you that they can handle the work?

Once you have a clear picture of what you need, it's time to take action and address those requirements. Many organizations attempt to tackle this on their own, yet a more effective course of action is to invest in a professional

Continued -2-

HC2 Associates

Michael Schaffer 2321 Whitney Avenue Hamden, CT 06518 203-777-6891 Category: Real Estate

Soulcraft Martial Arts

Brad Wolfson 1125 Dixwell Avenue Hamden, CT 06514 888-765-5510 Category: Fitness

U.S. Small Business Administration

Tanisha Baptiste 280 Trumbull Street 2nd Floor Hartford, CT 06103 860-240-4671 Category: Government Relations

ZZAAM

Owen Guo 2300 Dixwell Avenue Hamden, CT 06514 203-889-2726 Category: Restaurant

Summer Happenings! **Grand Openings & Ribbon Cutting Celebrations!!**



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consultant who can objectively assess your organization's needs and offer solutions that are aligned with current best practices. Why? Because you and your staff are often too close to the situation and far too burdened with the details of daily work to take that necessary step back. A consultant has the expertise - and the time - to help you determine what realistic objectives should be and then to align your organizational

practices with those objectives to ensure that you reach them.

But whichever route you choose, the time to start is now so that you can toast your success in the New Year.

TripleOne #Brand Inspiration Consulting is a Woodbridge based, diversified consulting agency that offers integrated fundraising, business development, sales services and responsive marketing designed to help its clients shatter the

barriers that stifle success. No matter what your challenge, TripleOne #BrandInspiration can solve it by creating practical, comprehensive solutions that fuel top and bottom line growth. Call Iohn Cunneen at 203.530. 5259 or Michael Desroches at 203.824.4282 to learn more.

You find us online at www.tripleoneconsulting.net and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ **BrandInspiration**

place this year! Participating

restaurants will offer either a

Buy-One-Get-One

menus will now be

offered at a range

and dinner menus

option or a three course

prix fixe menu. Lunch

petween \$9.00 and \$15

ranging between \$20.00

and \$30.00. "Like" our

Facebook page to stay

informed on what each

restaurant will offer and

choices. All menus are

currently up and ready

to see their menu

7th Annual Hamden Restaurant Week begins on September 11th

businesses, this is a perfect

opportunity to take a client for

Please join us for another Un-Fork-Getable Restaurant Week from Monday, September I Ith through Saturday, the 16th presented by Bankwell. For the seventh year, Hamden Restaurant Week is committed to introduce an appetizing local dining experience to all who live, work and visit Hamden. Hamden is known for its distinct and diverse eateries and we are proud to bring people from the surrounding communities to experience Hamden's best.

We hope that you will take advantage of this week and support this community wide event. For all our local

join us in

Membership

Grand Re-Opening Hamden Auto



Chamber Staff Supporting Hamden **Farmers Market**



is excited to once again meet with businesses and engage them on all the benefits and opportunities that the Chamber can offer! We are happy to have her back with us!

North Haven Health & Racquet collected clothing,



lunch and dinner.

New pricing structure will take

Chamber News & Upcoming Events

shoes and toiletries to support victims of Hurricane Harvey

on Labor Day. The Chamber couldn't think of a better way than to give over 40 golf tournament polo shirts for the cause.

Margarita's & **Mulligans Ladies**

Golf Outing on Friday, September 22nd at Sleeping Giant Golf Course and Aunt Chilada's. Join us for a casual 9 hole tournament. We have limited space so if you are

interested in participating or getting a foursome, please call

om to see the full listing of

participants and their offering.

us to register. This is a scramble tournament. Registration begins at 1:30 and ends with a Mexican fiesta on the patio at Aunt Chiladas following the tournament. We have

> great raffles and players gifts. If you have

been thinking of starting to golf or just want to enjoy a relaxed 🕥 tournament, than this is for you!

The Side Bar by Joseph McDonagh - National Punctuation Day!

Yes, there really is a National Punctuation Day! It's September 24, a day to celebrate the 13 different punctuation marks of the English language; can you name all 13? Well.

www.nationalpunctuationday.com says that there are 13, though www.yourdictionary.com says there are 14 (they add in braces, which look like this $- \{ \}$).

Personally, my favorite misunderstood punctuation mark is the lowly semicolon. Kurt Vonnegut wrote, "Do not use semicolons. They are transvestite hermaphrodites representing absolutely nothing. All they do is show you've been to college." Rather cruel of him. On the other hand, George Bernard Shaw once wrote to T. E. Lawrence (yes, that Lawrence), "You practically do not use semicolons at all. This is a symptom of mental defectiveness, probably induced by camp life." Need more evidence? Let's hear from Gertrude Stein: "They

(semicolons) are more imposing more pretentious than a comma but marks. But of course, they also they are a comma all the same. They really have

within them deeply within them fundamentally within them the comma nature." (Yes, Stein wrote all of that without ever resorting

to a comma.)

Then there's the issue of whether punctuation marks should come within quotation marks, or should be outside them. American rules state that a comma or a period should be within the quotation marks, but not the semicolon. Why not? I have no idea, and couldn't find any reference to this matter. The Brits, on the other hand, put all punctuation marks (unless the punctuation, like a question mark or an exclamation point, is a part of the

Member & Community News:

Greater New Haven Cat Project: Friscos's Pizza & Purrs on Sunday, September 17th from 11am—9pm. The GNHCP will receive 100% of the proceeds from both eat in and take out orders during the event. There will also be an on site cat food drive from 11am-5pm collecting unopened dry and canned cat food. Frisco's Pizza is located on 383 Forbs Avenue, New Haven. For more information on how to support the GNHCP visit www.gnhcp.org.

Ireland Great Hunger Museum-Quinnipiac

University: Friday, October 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Irish Whiskey Tasting-Ireland's Great Hunger Museum, galleries and outside lawn. The word "whiskey" comes from the Irish (or 'Gaelic') uisce beatha, meaning water of life. Enjoy a night of tasting and learning guided by experts from The Wise Old Dog, a boutique bottle shop in West Hartford. Participants will learn what makes Irish whiskeys unique in flavor profile and sample several from the last Irish-owned distilleries. Surprisingly during the

height of the Great Hunger, whiskey was still in production, giving this distilled drink centuries of uninterrupted history. The tasting will be held in an outdoor tent next to the museum. Light food will be served. The museum will be open with live music from Irish music-trio Daymark, and will offer various activities and crafts. Tickets to this event are \$50 and must be purchased online in advance. All attendees must be over 21. The ticket cost includes a tasting glass.

Recreation Department—

Hamden Recreation Department is offering diving program instruction with lessica Boni, Sacred Heart Academy class of '02 and Clemson University class of '06. Diving program is held at the Hamden HS community pool located at 2040 Dixwell Ave. Each session will be limited to 7 divers. For Beginner class: students must be able to dive off the board and swim to the side unassisted and must be at least 8 years old. For Intermediate Class: Divers must be able to do front dives and Town of Hamden: Hamden back lineups on their own. These sessions will be I hour Learn to Swim & Diving Lessons Cost:, \$85. Dates: Mondays. Hamden Recreation Department 9/25-11/6; Times 7:15/ 8:00 pm will be offering a children's learn to Stop by the Recreation office at swim program. New session begins 2750 Dixwell Avenue to register on Saturday's only beginning or visit the website at September 16th from 1:30-2:10pm www.hamden.com to download Dates: 9/16-11/2. Time change for registration form and mail to the class held on 10/28 (2:00-2:40) Recreation Office. Cost: \$60/\$70. All sessions held at Hamden High School Community The Hamden Recreation pool. Levels taught range from Department also offers AM/PM beginners through intermediate. open swim time to residents For children in grades K-6th. and non residents. Daily Enrollment is extremely limited due admission is \$2 residents and \$5 to availability of instructors. The non-residents.



for view. Search for Hamden Restaurant Week You can also visit www.iloverestaurantweek.c

quote) outside the quotation use single quotation marks,



whereas we use double quotation marks. Makes all the more sense out of Oscar Wilde's statement, 'We really

have everything in common with America nowadays, except, of course, language.'

Perhaps someone could explain to me what I think is the oddest use of a punctuation mark, a road sign I came upon in Ireland when I was there a couple of months ago:

So far, I've used 11 of the 14 punctuation marks identified by www.yourdictionary.com. What's missing? That's for you to figure



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