Big Apple Circus Returns to Charlestown!

The Big Apple Circus is back! After years of not touring, the circus is ready to take the show on the road and this time they are going to Dream Big. And because Charlestown is one of the best attended venues for the Big Apple Circus, they’re adding more shows than in the past to accommodate all.

It’s an All–New Show, where the World’s Greatest Circus artists are presented under an intimate Big Top, and no seat is more than 50 feet from the ring! Let your imagination soar and summon the most amazing acts — A juggler with a suit to fit his sweet feats of fancy handiwork! A mechanical doll who comes alive in a sinuous balancing act!

Dream Big
June 23 - July 8th
24 Shows

Tickets
Premium $40-$50
Ringside $40-$45
Boxes $25-$40
Mezzanine $20-$30
Partial View $15-$20

Show Schedule
Saturday, June 23 - 3:00 & 7:00
Sunday, June 24 - 12:30 & 4:30
Wednesday, June 27 - 12:30 & 7:00
Thursday, June 28 - 12:30 & 7:00
Friday, June 29 - 12:30 & 7:00
Saturday, June 30 - 12:30 & 4:30
Sunday, July 1 - 12:30 & 4:30
Wednesday, July 4 - 11:00 & 3:00
Thursday, July 5 - 12:30 & 7:00
Friday, July 6 - 12:30 & 7:00
Saturday, July 7 - 12:30 & 4:30
Sunday, July 8 - 11:00 & 3:00

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Greetings and welcome to the May/June 2012 Charlestown Chamber of Commerce newsletter. We are excited and anxious to begin what I hope will prove to be a very busy summer season. Flowers and trees are in bloom and it is apparent that spring has sprung. Activity has already begun to pick up at the Tourist Information Center and members have informed me that they see an increase in activity around our beautiful South County.

This past winter season proved to be very productive for the Charlestown Chamber of Commerce we enjoyed several very successful events held in conjunction with the United Chambers of Southern Rhode Island. One very special event was the 40 Under 40 event held at the Ocean House in Westerly in March. Congratulations to all the members of our Chamber that were recognized for their outstanding accomplishments in business and public service.

We are well on track in planning the 28th annual Charlestown Seafood Festival scheduled for August 3rd, 4th and 5th, 2012. In addition we whole heartedly welcomed back the Big Apple Circus to Charlestown on June 23 through July 8, 2012 to Ninigret Park. Tickets will be on sale at the Chamber box office beginning May 12th from 10:00am to 3:00pm daily, including weekends. These events bring well needed tourists and tourist dollars to our area and I hope everyone will support them and bring family and friends for an exciting day out in Charlestown this summer.

On May 24th at 5:30pm the Charlestown Chamber of Commerce will be holding a memorial dedication of a permanent park bench with bronze plaques, honoring Gilbert Wallander, Vincent Syriac and William Wuerch. We honor the selfless dedication each of these men gave the Chamber of Commerce and the local community. They will each be sorely missed.

If anyone has traveled US Route 1 in Charlestown, they have had the opportunity to view the beautiful Gateway traffic islands that have begun to come into bloom. Thanks to the dedicated efforts of this Chamber of Commerce and our members Dana Millar of Dana Designs and John Barrow of Barrow Landscaping, the islands have been spruced up for spring and should look great when the plants begin to bloom. These islands are the envy of many area communities and we have received great praise for our beautification efforts along US Route 1. Seven Gateway island sponsorships are available, we need your support, please contact the Chamber office for further information on sponsorship and advertising.

Please check out the Charlestown Chamber of Commerce on Facebook like us and entered to win two tickets too the Big Apple Circus “Dream Big”. Check us out and receive updated information on events and Chamber news.

A reminder, that the Chamber office is accepting brochures and flyers from our member businesses. We need to restock our shelves with updated materials. Stop by and drop off your most current brochures.

Please attend our monthly Business after Hours and continue to network with Chamber members and potential customers. In this newsletter we welcome several new members that you will all probably be familiar with. As always we are seeking new business and associate members. Pass the word and help build your Charlestown Chamber of Commerce.

Thank you and Happy Spring.

Heather Paliotta
Executive Director

Mission Statement

“To support the business community and to maximize its members’ ability to conduct business in Rhode Island, through means including, but not limited to, the Tourist Information Center, business networking opportunities, newsletters, the Chamber website, civic and social events and supporting our youth through a scholarship program.”
Big Apple Circus Returns - from Page 1

Spirited horses, frolicsome dogs, and a capybara and porcupine to perk up the sawdust party! Audacious acrobats who astound with athletic grace! Comical conjurors with magical moments of grand illusion! The aerial daring of the trapeze flyers! A singing Ringmistress and the Big Apple Circus Band creating the ringing melodies of memories to last! And Grandma!! Yes, Grandma, apogee of comical aspiration and mirthful joy! Your dreams will inspire a Big Apple Circus of living thrills and marvelous delight — a celebration of the imagination — an astonishing circus world of wonder!

Big Apple Circus Box Office
Opens Saturday, May 12
Seven days a week
10 am - 3 pm.
Tickets Must Be Purchased In Person

The brand new beach facilities for Blue Shutters Beach and the Charlestown Town Beach will be open for the 2012 season.

The Charlestown Flag Company is now open for the season.

The Nordic Lodge will open for the season, Friday, April 27th
www.nordiclodge.com

Beach Fees 2012

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Daily Entrance Fees

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A Look Back At One Of Our Business After Hours

Haversham's Tavern
Westerly, RI
February 3rd

South County Hospital
March 21st
Gateway Project

Our beautifully landscaped “Gateway Islands” on Route 1 are now available for sponsorship. Since 2006 the three original islands (in front of the Chamber and at both sides of Narrow Lane) have been maintained by us. The 7 new islands which were planted 2 years ago have been the responsibility of RIDOT, however starting in 2011 the Chamber will need to care for them.

We now have a total of seven islands which can be sponsored by local business’. The sponsorship will include an 18” x 18” sign displaying your business name. If your business is interested, please call the Chamber.

Congratulations
Steve Duprey of Famous Pizza on the birth of his 8lb 12oz daughter Caoilean Mary on April 11th!
Join The Charlestown Chamber

The Charlestown Chamber of Commerce is always seeking new members and associated members to become a part of the Chamber family. Associate membership allows citizens to get involved in community events and donate time and energy in support of our Chamber for only a $25.00 annual fee. Call for more information!

LIKE us on Facebook

And be entered to WIN two BIG APPLE CIRCUS tickets (a $60 value).

Annual Police Unity Tour Scheduled for May 15

The Annual Police Unity Tour is scheduled for May 15th which is National Law Enforcement Memorial Day. Families of police officers killed in the line of duty gather in Washington, D.C. to pay tribute to their fallen hero as the officer’s name is inscribed on the wall of the National Law Enforcement Memorial.

This year, 30 Rhode Island police officers are raising money and training for the 2012 charity police unity bike tour to Washington D.C. In order to participate in the tour each rider must raise $1,900. The donations you make are used for the upkeep and maintenance of the National Law Enforcement Memorial.

For information on how you can donate, please contact William Campbell, 401.787.8205 or email wcampbell@charlestownpolice.org. You may also visit www.policeunitytour.com.
UNITED CHAMBERS OF SOUTHERN RHODE ISLAND

Value Added Membership Benefits & Opportunities

Available to all active members of any of the following five partner chambers of commerce:

Block Island Chamber of Commerce
Charlestown Chamber of Commerce
Greater Westerly-Pawcatuck Area Chamber of Commerce
Narragansett Chamber of Commerce
North Kingstown Chamber of Commerce

Businesses with an active membership in any one of the partner chambers of commerce can:

Enjoy 3 FREE attendances at Business After Hours per year at EACH of the other four partner chambers of commerce. (That’s 12 additional free networking events per year!)

Promote their business in any newsletter, publication, or web site of any of the other 4 partner chambers for just 20% over member rates. This includes membership directories and Go Westerly Magazine.

Build contacts and attend the Southern Rhode Island Speed Networking events for just $10 versus $30 for non-members.

Gain exposure and new business leads! The membership directories and travel guides of all 5 partner chambers of commerce will be distributed from each chamber’s tourist welcome center.

This is just the beginning! Many other value-added benefits will be offered.

Cross Mill Farmer’s Market
Opening For The Season
Saturday, May 5th

Fridays 4pm - 7 pm,
Saturdays 9 am - 1 pm
Sundays 10 am to 2 pm.
Nondeductible Expenses

As a small business owner, you have the opportunity to deduct certain expenses from your taxes. Don’t let yourself get carried away though; there are some expenses that are not deductible, regardless of the situation. Just as a reminder, below are some common expenses that CANNOT be deducted as a business expense.

Clothing - Unless it is protective gear, or a uniform not to be worn during non-working hours, clothing cannot be deducted.

Commuting Expenses - The cost of transportation from your home to your main/regular place of work.

Life Insurance Premiums - If the business or the business owner is a direct or indirect beneficiary, the expense cannot be deducted.

Lunches with Co-workers - Meals with co-workers are nondeductible, unless traveling away from home on business.

Personal Legal Expenses - For example, legal fees relating to custody of children, divorce, preparation of a will, and personal injury claims are nondeductible.

Political Contributions - Political donations and lobbying expenses to influence voters are not deductible.

Residential Telephone Service - The first telephone line to your residence is non deductible even if used in a trade or business.

Health Club, Social Club or Country Club Dues - In general, club fees are nondeductible, even if your job requires you to stay in shape. (Note: If certain conditions are met, the expense may qualify as a medical expense.)

Fines and Penalties - Traffic tickets, tax penalty payments, and violations of law are not deductible expenses.

Health Insurance Deduction for the Self-Employed

In 2011, eligible self-employed individuals and S corporation shareholders can use the self-employed health insurance deduction to reduce their income tax liability. Eligible taxpayers still claim this deduction on Form 1040 Line 29. Premiums paid for health insurance covering the taxpayer, spouse and dependents generally qualify for this deduction. In addition, premiums paid to cover an adult child under age 27 at the end of the year, also qualify, even if the child is not the taxpayer’s dependent. However, the deduction from self-employment income for determining self-employment tax, which was available only in tax-year 2010, no longer applies.

Call today to learn how we can help your business grow: (401) 785-4800
Municipal Meetings Schedule

Economic Improvement Commission:
Last Thursday, 9:00 a.m.

Historical Preservation Commission: Last Thursday at Police Station, 6:30 p.m.

Juvenile Hearing Board: 4th Wednesday at the Police Station, 6:00 p.m.

Mosquito Abatement District Council: No Members

Parks & Recreation Commission:
4th Tuesday, Town Hall, 7:00 p.m.

Planning Commission:
4th Wednesday, regular meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Probate Court:
1st Tuesday, 9:30 a.m.

Senior Citizen Commission:
4th Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. June, July & Aug., no meetings

Town Council:
2nd Monday, regular meeting 7:00 p.m., Agenda the Wed. before at 5:30 p.m.

Wastewater Management:
1st Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

Charlestown Town Hall
4540 So. County Trail
401.364.1200
Hours 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Monday – Friday

Charlestown Town Council

Thomas B. Gentz, President
152 Sea Breeze Avenue
Charlestown, RI 02813
401-527-7181
tom.gentz@charlestownri.org

Gregory J. Avedisian
354 West Beach Road
Charlestown, RI 02813
401-212-0078
greg.avedisian@charlestownri.org

Lisa A. DiBello
35 Morley Street
Charlestown, RI 02813
401-213-6729
lisa.dibello@charlestownri.org

Marjorie F. Frank
4700 Old Post Road
Charlestown, RI 02813
401-364-6645
marge.frank@charlestownri.org

Daniel J. Slattery, Vice President
24 Watchaug Lane
Charlestown, RI 02813
401-213-6182
dan.slattery@charlestownri.org

Public Contacts

Town Administrator
401.364.1210

Chief of Police
Jack Shippee
401.364.1212

Town Clerk
Amy Rose Weinreich
401.364.1200

Tax Collector
Jo Anne Santos
401.364.1234

Tax Assessor
Kenneth Swain
401.364.1233

Harbormaster
Justin Vail
401.641.3083

Building/Zoning
Joseph Warner
401.364.1215

Town Planner
Ashley Hahn-Morris
401.364.1225

Parks & Recreation
Jay Primiano
401.364.1222

Director of Public Works
Alan Arsenault
401.364.1230

Chariho Regional School District
Superintendent Barry Ricci
401.364.7575
455 A Wood River Jct.
401.364.3260,
Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Monday – Friday

Trash Disposal
Charlestown Residential Collection Center
Sand Hill Road,
401.364.1220
Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Mon, Thu, Fri, Sat
New Members

**Cross Mills Farmer’s Market**  
4219 Old Post Road  
Charlestown, RI  
Katie McAllister  
401.965.4041  
E: Katharine.elizabeth.mcallister@gmail.com  
www.crossmillsfarmersmarket.com

**Rotary Club of Chariho**  
P O Box 543  
Hope Valley, RI  
Theresa Cavalier  
401.447.4374  
Email: tcavalier@thorptrainor.com  
www.charihorotary.org

**Jennifer Prete School of Dance**  
1 Charlestown Beach Road  
Charlestown, RI  
Jennifer Prete Wasfy  
401.364.7400  
Email: Jennifer@jpsdri.com  
www.jpsdri.com

**Charlestown Land Trust**  
Kettle Pond Visitor Center  
P O Box 1387  
Charlestown, RI  
Michael Maynardi  
401.364.9124 ext 23  
www.charlestownlandtrust.com

Renewing Members

**Andross Hardware**  
**Antiques Americana**  
**Arrowhead Dental Associates**  
**Ballos Etc.**  
**Beausoleil Bros, Inc.**  
**Bigelow Landscaping**  
**Birdegiovan.net**  
**Breachway Bait & Tackle**  
**Buckley Heating & Cooling**  
**Carpenter’s Service Station**  
**Carpentry Plus**  
**Castle Rock Condominium**  
**Chariho Times**  
**Charlestown Ambulance Rescue**  
**Charlestown Crossing, LLC**  
**Charlestown Flag Co.**  
**Charlestown Land Trust**  
**Charlestown Wine & Spirits**  
**Church of the Holy Spirit**  
**Clean Rite Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning**  
**Cross Mills Farmer’s Market**  
**Dana K. Designs**  
**Data Jet**  
**Down Under Jewelry**  
**Dreams the Wolf**  
**East Beach Veterinary Service, Inc.**  
**East Coast Lot & Pavement**  
**Eckel Insurance**  
**EZ Waste Systems, Inc.**  
**Famous Pizza**  
**First Baptist Church of Charlestown**  
**Frosty Drew Nature Center**  
**Gates Insurance Agency, Inc.**  
**Hathaway Guest Cottages**  
**Health Service Administration**  
**Henry Walsh**  
**Initiatives for Human Development**  
**J & D’s West Kingston Service**  
**Jim Halloran**  
**John Ward Physical Therapy LLC**  
**Lisa Schachter**  
**Matunuck Oyster Bar**  
**Megrew’s Boats, Inc.**  
**Nursing Reviews Inc.**  
**Nordic Lodge, Inc.**  
**Old Coach Farm**  
**Old Wilcox Tavern, Inc.**  
**Out-Back Storage, LLC**  
**P. Magnone Carriers, Inc.**  
**Pat’s Power Equipment**  
**Pavement Warehouse, Inc.**  
**Peggy Bennett**  
**Phil & Ann’s Sunset Motel**  
**Properties Unlimited, LLC**  
**Quilts & More/BJ’s Bed & Breakfast**  
**Randall Realtors H. Doug Randall**  
**Randall Realtors Marcia Ferretti**  
**Rhode Island Center Assisting Those in Need**  
**Richmond Veterinary**  
**South County Independent**  
**South County Tourism Council, Inc.**  
**Stedman & Kazounix Plumbing & Heating Co., Inc**  
**Surfside Motel**  
**Think Outside the Box**  
**Tree Works Unlimited**  
**United Builders Supply Co., Inc.**  
**W.B.Cody’s Restaurant**  
**Waterfront Properties**  
**Westerly Community Credit Union**  
**Worden’s Pond Family Campground**
2011 Board of Directors

Executive Board:

President
Ann Cook
Washington Trust Comp.

Vice President
Nicole Manfredo
South County Hospital

Secretary
Vacant

Board Treasurer
Amy Stedman

Executive Director
Heather L. Paliotta

Administrative Assistant
Susan Shea

Directors:

John Barrow
Barrow Landscaping

Peter Dandurand
Dandurand Real Estate

Jim Duckworth
Windswept Properties, LTD.

Jane Gross
Charlestown Wine & Spirits

Kara Scott
Kenyon Law Firm

Save the Date
28th Annual
Charlestown Seafood Festival
August 3 - 5