



# Commerce Connection

*Business Is Good*

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November 2018



This edition of the Vermont  
Chamber's monthly newsletter  
is sponsored by:

### JMM & Associates

JMM & Associates is a full-service public accounting firm providing tax, audit and accounting services to small businesses, individuals, trusts and nonprofit organizations throughout Vermont. Now based in Colchester, and with roots in Burlington area dating back to the 1960s, JMM's dedicated team of certified public accountants combines expertise and experience, giving each client personalized and professional attention.

## Vermont Chamber welcomes Charles Martin, Government Affairs Director

Charles will work to coordinate member engagement on legislative issues, and lobby on behalf of the Chamber's membership to further policies that address the needs of Vermont businesses and employers. Previously, he worked for U.S. Senator Patrick Leahy in both D.C. and Vermont, and the member-based National Guard Association of the United States as part of their legislative advocacy team in D.C. He also serves in the Vermont Army National Guard as an intelligence officer and information operators instructor.



### HIRE Vets Medallion Program

The U.S. Department of Labor Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS) recently announced the HIRE Vets Medallion Program to recognize organizations that have invested in employing and retaining veterans. Get involved today by checking out [HIREVETS.gov](http://HIREVETS.gov).

### Citizen of the Year & Above and Beyond Awards Dinner

Join us on Thursday, December 6, 2018 for a business celebration honoring the prestigious Citizen of the Year Award, as well as the recipients of the new Above and Beyond Awards.

Time: 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Location: DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Burlington (formerly known as the Sheraton)

Tickets: \$85 per person; \$850 for a table of 10 .



[Purchase Tickets](#)



## Policy, Politics & Priorities

The Vermont Chamber's Government Affairs team is partnering with local chambers to discuss highlights from the 2018 legislative session and expectations for the upcoming 2019 session.

Betsy Bishop, President of the Vermont

Chamber will lead the discussion by addressing topics that include:

- Solutions to the declining workforce
- Tourism issues such as, marketing, rooms & meals tax, Airbnb regulations
- Telecom and economic development initiatives
- Energy regulation

Please [contact](#) your local chamber for additional details.

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### Vermont Chamber Teams with Vermont Panurgy to Bridge the Skills Gap

To help address Vermont's workforce skills gap and advance entry-level employees into mid and upper level positions, [Vermont Panurgy](#), a leader in IT and training services, is teaming with the Vermont Chamber to provide members with a 20% savings on courses for: PC Applications, Graphic Design, Web Technologies, and Talent and Leadership Development.



## 2019 Hospitality Awards

The Vermont Chamber of Commerce will announce the 2019 Hospitality Awards at the [36th Annual Vermont Tourism Summit](#), April 4-5, 2019 at the DoubleTree by Hilton Burlington Hotel. This summit draws one of the largest gatherings of tourism professionals in the state, including owners, managers and employees. Nominate that exceptional innkeeper, general manager, restaurateur, chef and tourism partner that is a leader in Vermont's tourism industry.

Nominations are being accepted for all four awards, submit your [nomination](#) today.

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## Thanksgiving...A Time to be Thankful

The Vermont Chamber of Commerce would like to extend a warm thank you to all of our partners and members throughout the state. Wishing you health, hope, peace and a festive holiday season.



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## Welcome New Chamber Members

[ArtisTree Community Arts Center](#)  
[Moguls Sports Bar / dba S&L Entertainment](#)  
[Waitsfield Inn](#)  
[Hampton Inn & Suites by Hilton Manchester](#)  
[Vermont Weddings](#)  
[Websticker](#)  
[AtWork Personnel Services](#)  
[The Hungry Bear Pub & Grill](#)  
[The Auto Shoppe Collision & Restoration Inc.](#)  
[TPW Real Estate](#)

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### Member Spotlight

#### GAZEBO SENIOR LIVING

Serving Vermont seniors for over 30 years. Committed to continuing to provide affordable, high quality supportive independent living and assisted care options. [Contact](#) them today.

2018 Vermont Chamber member.

To learn more about how you can be our featured member of the month, contact [Beverly Gittelson](#). It's just one of the numerous benefits of being a member of the [Vermont Chamber of Commerce](#).

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## #LetsGrowVT

[Cabot Hosiery Mills Expands Production and Workforce](#)

[FirstLight Supports Ronald McDonald House Charities](#)

[Casella Waste Systems Acquires Businesses in NY and Maine](#)

[Mount Snow Celebrates Earliest Opening in 64-Year History](#)

[Primmer Piper Eggleston & Cramer Ranked Among 'Best Law Firms'](#)

This section features news about growing Vermont companies. Add [news@vtchamber.com](mailto:news@vtchamber.com) to your distribution list.

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## In Other News:

[Restaurateurs hope Tipped Minimum Wage Issue will be Resolved](#)

[VTrans Launches Online Applications for Diversity Employment Programs](#)

[Dixon joins Davis and Hodgdon Associates](#)

[Paul Frank + Collins PC Welcomes Two New Attorneys](#)

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## Save the Date:

[Vermont Economic Conference - January 10, 2019 Burlington & January 11, 2019 Castleton](#)

[Introduction to ITAR - International Traffic in Arms Regulations-November 29, 2018](#)

[Vermont Tourism Summit - April 2019](#)

[Vermont Technical College Williston Open House - November 10, 2018](#)

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