

Chamber News

January 2010

BEST HOLIDAY WISHES AND HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE WINTHROP AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE!

January Breakfast Meeting to FOCUS ON WINTHROP PAC

At the Chamber breakfast meeting on Thursday, January 7, David Setchell, director of the Winthrop High School Performing Arts Center (PAC) will speak about the role that the facility plays at the school and in the community. Those who attend the breakfast meeting will have the opportunity to learn more about what's been happening at the PAC over the past several years as well as what is planned for 2010 and beyond.

The purpose of the PAC is to enrich the school curriculum and serve as a community resource. The PAC has been up and running for more than five years, and Setchell has been the director for the past four.

"The most exciting and enjoyable parts of what I do truly revolve around the kids," says Setchell. "The students get real world training on state-of-the-art equipment and learn the way the pros work."

During Setchell's tenure, the frequency with which the PAC is used has grown significantly. Community and school events, such as dance recitals and instrumental and vocal concerts, routinely keep the facility in use three out of four weeks per month.

Unfortunately, flood damage that occurred over the summer forced the closing of the PAC for repairs in the fall. The venue recently reopened and, although many events haven't been scheduled, plans are underway to bring in some of the acts that have performed at the PAC in the past, including the highly successful *Lakeside Revue*, starring local actor Dennis Price.

Going forward, Setchell will be searching for new acts to continue to draw audiences and scheduling as many community and school events as possible.

"We truly want to be the center of things," continues Setchell. "We are always striving to get there."

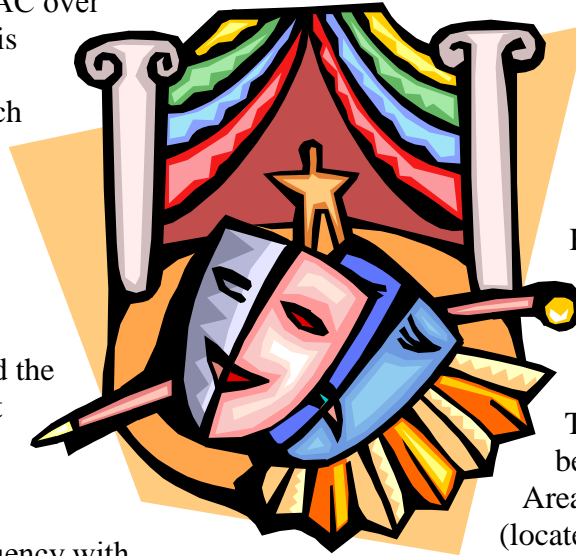
Setchell attended Castleton State College in Vermont, where he majored in theatre arts. Upon graduation, he served first as general manager at the Greenbrier Valley Theatre in West Virginia and subsequently as the theatre teacher at Gilford High School in New Hampshire. He and his wife reside in Gardiner.

The Chamber breakfast meeting on Thursday, January 7 will be held at the Winthrop Area Federal Credit Union (located at the intersection of Route 202 and Highland

Avenue in Winthrop). The cost is \$5 per person, to be paid at the door. A light breakfast will be provided beginning at 7:15 am and the meeting will start at 7:30 am and end promptly at 8:30 am. The meeting, which is generously sponsored by **Brian S. Berry & Associates, CPAs**, is open to the public. No reservations are required.

For more detailed information, please go to www.winthropchamber.org, call 207-377-8020, or send an email to info@winthropchamber.org.

**NEW VISITORS' GUIDE PLANNED!
SEE PAGE 2 FOR DETAILS.**





Plans Underway for New CHAMBER VISITORS' GUIDE

The Chamber Visitors' Guide will be updated in the new year. Once again, Direct Display of Bath, Maine, will be producing the guide. Chamber members will be contacted regarding advertising by Direct Display representatives, Spencer Richie and Brenda Ramsell, in early 2010, when more detailed information will be made available.

Your listing in the Chamber Visitors' Guide, which is distributed to tourist centers throughout the state, is one of the many benefits of Chamber membership. (See page 3 for more information about the benefits of Chamber membership.)

Congratulations Holiday BAH DRAWING WINNERS!!!

The holiday Business After Hours event at the Winthrop Area Federal Credit Union on Thursday, December 17 was a great success. Congratulations to door prize drawing winners Todd Frost and Cliff West, who received \$50 Visa gift cards.

Advertise Your Business on THE CHAMBER WEB SITE

The current state of the economy makes it more important than ever to promote your business—and advertising on the Chamber's Web site is a cost-effective way to do it. Advertising rates are posted online at www.winthropchamber.org. For more information about advertising on the Chamber site, call 207-377-8020 or send an email to info@winthropchamber.org.



Help the Chamber Share the NEWS ABOUT YOUR BUSINESS

Do you have news about your business that you'd like to share with your Chamber colleagues? Send an email message to info@winthropchamber.org and we'll put it in the *Chamber News*.



Your Chamber at Work:

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

Local businesses, individuals, and organizations receive great benefits from Chamber membership:

- **ADVERTISING:** Members get a FREE listing on the Chamber WEB SITE and a FREE entry in the Chamber's VISITORS' GUIDE. They also get the opportunity to LINK THEIR WEB SITE to the Chamber Web site; ADVERTISE in the monthly newsletter; participate in special promotions and free distribution of MARKETING materials; and purchase advertising in specially designed brochures that PROMOTE TOURISM in the Winthrop Lakes Region.

- **AFFILIATING:** Members get a FREE membership decal; are encouraged to do BUSINESS with other members; and are given REFERRALS from inquiries made to the Chamber. Members also get to participate in the CHAMBER CASH PROGRAM, available to member businesses *only*.

- **LEADING:** Members get to be part of a lobbying effort to REPRESENT CONCERNS of the business community on a LOCAL AND STATEWIDE LEVEL.

- **NETWORKING:** Members get to KNOW ONE ANOTHER in casual meeting, reception, and other event settings. They also get to WORK TOGETHER on committees and as volunteers.



WINTHROP AREA
CHAMBER of COMMERCE

Serving the Winthrop Lakes Region