



The City of Caribou presents: Community Connections

A bulletin for you, our valued Caribou businesses.

February 20 23 Edition

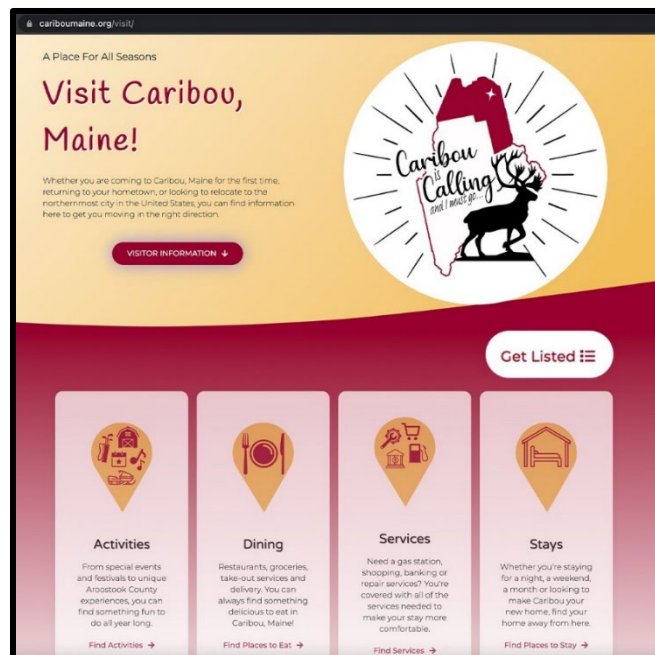
Welcome New Businesses to Caribou

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| ○ Aspire Body Sculpting | 159 Bennett Drive |
| ○ Memere Rae's Designs | 82 Herschel Street |
| ○ DiOddo's Pizza | 117 Sweden Street |
| ○ Evergreen Lanes featuring Rendezvous Restaurant | 60 Access Highway |

Thank you for investing in Caribou!

The new tourism focused website is now active!
*If you haven't listed your business,
what are you waiting for?*

**Go to cariboumaine.org/visit
and click the "Get Listed" link,
or use your phone to scan this
code and be taken directly to
the business survey!**



Recreational Trails, the Aroostook River, and Natural Beauty

When we think about the foundations of Caribou tourism, these and other impressions come easily to mind. The Caribou Riverfront Renaissance Committee has raised \$10,000 toward funding for a Riverfront master plan and are seeking more through a USDA grant. In other Riverfront news, the City of Caribou applied for a Brownfields Grant to tear down the former diesel plant. The Caribou Planning Board has started to work on the 2024 Comprehensive Plan – a roadmap for the next ten years. What do you as a business owner see as important priorities to consider? Please let us know!



The Caribou City Manager would like to hear about you and your business! Why not give her a call to set up a time to talk?

Penny Thompson
(207) 493 – 5961
pthompson@cariboumaine.org

Or Judy Kleeman in the City Manager's office:
493 – 5962 or
jkleeman@cariboumaine.org

What's Happening in the City

- The first annual Snowbowl will be held from March 2 to 5, 2023. Website: www.caribousnowbowl.com
- The City of Caribou has a Façade Improvement Grant for businesses located within the Downtown TIF District. To find out if your business is located there, here is the map: <https://www.cariboumaine.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/TIF-District-Location-Map-301508.pdf>
- The City's Spring 2023 Façade Improvement Grant application period is open. Deadline to apply: March 15, 2023.
- Do you need additional business assistance? If you are in a Tax Increment Financing District, there are programs available to help.
- 2023 Business Personal Property & BETE exemption forms will be mailed soon from the tax assessor's office. Please contact the office for help!
- Citywide Yard Sale May 20 – 21

Are you looking to expand?

The Caribou Economic Growth Council (CEGC) has funds available to loan to your business. More information is available on our website:

<https://www.cariboumaine.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/CEGC-LOAN-PORTFOLIO.pdf>

<https://www.cariboumaine.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/CEGC-PROGRAM-CHEAT-SHEET.pdf>

The first step is to speak to Northern Maine Development Commission (NMDC) who manages the application process and loan servicing.

The CEGC meets monthly. The Council has eight community members with two ex-officio members: a member of the Caribou City Council and the Caribou City Manager.

Thinking about Small Business Saturday?

City staff is too! Santa and his reindeer were a big hit again in 2022. We switched it up a bit and offered a \$1,000 Caribou Shopping Spree. Do you have feedback on that approach? If you are a retail business and would like to participate in 2023, please reach out. We are open to new ideas!

Do not wait: Let us know how City staff can assist you with your business goals!



BUILD A SNOWMAN CONTEST

FREE

Community wide snowman contest! Compete to build the best snowman! Business and homeowner class with prizes! Winner announced March 4th
**Starting Building
February 17th**



EVERGREEN LANES KICK OFF PARTY

Invited sponsors and guests get together at Evergreen Lanes for pizza, finger foods and beverages!

**March 2nd 6PM-9PM
at Evergreen Lanes**



Spud Speedway



Follow us on Facebook to keep up with SnowBowl 2023 updates!

PLOURDE & PLOURDE, INC.

PLOURDE & PLOURDE HISTORIC TOUR & MEAL

Historic guided tour by Brian's Ride at the former Loring Air Force Base along with a hot dog roast and chicken stew on the border trail to

FREE

Van Buren and back!

**March 3rd 10AM-3PM
at Caribou Park & Ride**



CFCU CASINO & RESTAURANT BAR CRAWL

Tour local restaurants in the area and participate in Casino Night at the Caribou Rec from 7-9pm!

**March 3rd 5PM-9PM at
Caribou Restaurants**



DEAD RIVER CO. SNOCROSS RACE

Enjoy a fun filled day watching snocross racing with vendors on site at Spud Speedway!

**March 4th & 5th 9AM-3PM
at Spud Speedway**



SNOWBOWL

CARIBOU, MAINE

Maine's Largest Snowmobile Event of the Year!



PRINOTH COUNTY GROOMER RODEO

FREE

Enjoy a fun filled day watching County snowmobile club groomers navigate through an obstacle course! Which club will take home the trophy?

**March 4th 9AM-1PM
at Spud Speedway**



MACHIAS SAVINGS SLEDABRATION

Vintage snowmobile show, music, food trucks & beer garden, fireworks, parade and a RaveX freestyle stunt show at

**Caribou Rec Center!
March 4th 4PM-9:30PM
at Caribou Rec**



RAVE X STUNT SHOW

Come check out the high flying action and snowmobile backflips at the Sledabration!

**March 4th 4PM-9:30PM at
Caribou Parks & Rec Dept**

FREE



CLUB POKER RUN

Ride or drive to local snowmobile clubhouses to help raise money for our trail system and have a chance to win a prize! Start and finish at Spud Speedway!

**March 5th 8AM-2PM
at Spud Speedway**



MONSTER TRUCK MOOSE MAINE-IAH

Enjoy rides during Snocross races!

FREE

**March 4th & 5th
9AM-2PM at
Spud Speedway**

caribousnowbowl.com

What is the next effort to promote Caribou businesses?

The City of Caribou Economic Development department is working on a project to have a kiosk in the lobby of the municipal building at 25 High Street! To kick off this new initiative to promote Caribou businesses, the City of Caribou is working with CKG Creative Consulting to give local businesses an opportunity to design a rack card to be featured prominently in the display. Five (5) local businesses will receive: up to 1 hour of consultation about the card content, and up to 3 drafts of a two-sided rack card. CKG will then have 250 of the rack cards printed for use at the Caribou City Office.

Interested? Send a quick email to: jkleeman@cariboumaine.org with the subject "Boost My Business" by 1:00 pm on Tuesday February 28, 2023.



Central Aroostook Chamber of Commerce Executive Director LaNiece Sirois stands at the 24-hour kiosk at the CACC office that has four literature floor stands.

The Caribou installation will feature two units to fit the space available. The Central Aroostook Chamber of Commerce provides good value to its members.

Learn more at:

www.centralaroostookchamber.com

Here is what's happening in Augusta:

- Information for the State of Maine Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program is now online: <https://www.maine.gov/decd/community-development/cdbg-program> so please reach out to the City or NMDC if you need more info!
- The Finance Authority of Maine (FAME) has GrowMaine funds available for small businesses: <https://www.famemaine.com>



**Thursdays
on SWEDEN St.**

**MAKE US PART OF
YOUR 2023
REUNION PLANS!**

2023 EVENT DATES
JUNE 1 • JUNE 15 • JUNE 29
JULY 13 • JULY 27 • AUGUST 10

SWEDEN ST

*Caribou
is Calling
and I must go...*

cariboumaine.org/visit

SPONSORED BY: **Maine** VisitMaine.com **GRIFFETH** FORD MITSUBISHI www.GriffethFord.com www.GriffethMitsubishi.com **S.W. COLLINS CO.** The Pioneer Lumber Yard

Caribou Cares About Kids is July 27 – 30, 2023.

2023 Theme ~ Caribou Agriculture: Pioneer Days to Modern Ways

The Caribou City Council prioritizes our Caribou businesses!

When making their 2023 priorities, the Caribou City Council gave City administration a clear directive about business retention, promotion, and communication!

We want to know how we can help. Please reach out to the City Manager Penny Thompson with your questions, comments, or concerns.



2023 Caribou City Council from left:

Dan Bagley, John Morrill, Courtney Boma, Jody Smith, Joan Theriault, R. Mark Goughan & Lou Willey.



City of Caribou
Economic Development
25 High Street
Caribou Maine 04736
www.cariboumaine.org