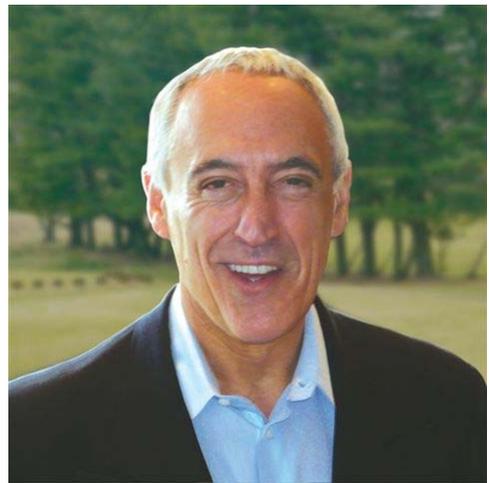


Trumbull Thanks Its Business Community



Jim Randle, Guest Speaker

Tom Ginis, Chairman of Trumbull's Economic Development Commission, welcomed approximately 140 business people at the Fourth Annual Trumbull Business Appreciation Breakfast held at the Trumbull Marriott. Ginis thanked the businesses for continuing to choose Trumbull as their place to do business and recognized them for their contributions to Trumbull's employment and tax base.

Before introducing the keynote speaker, Jim Randel, Ginis introduced three speakers who addressed various aspects of the Town's business environment.

First Selectman Timothy M. Herbst thanked the Trumbull Business Community stating, "You are a critical component of our town's wellbeing." Herbst also stated that the town's leaders are working hard to support Trumbull businesses, and are exploring ways to expand the support for business growth and retention.

Director of Economic Development, Deborah Cox, provided an overview of the town's current and upcoming commercial developments. Displaying a map of the town, Cox highlighted projects currently or soon to be underway. She discussed Westfield-Trumbull Shopping Park's \$40 Million renovation project which is due to be completed by the end of the year; Downtown Trumbull Center's start of the first of three expected renovation projects this year; the new Sepore Deli which will open in Downtown Trumbull Center this summer; Home Depot's new store under construction on Route 111 with an expected opening of May, 2011; Bridgeport Hospital's plans to begin construction of the new Norma Pfriem cancer treatment center next month; Scan Tool's plans to add 11,600 square feet to their building on Trefoil Drive beginning next month; construction of a new commercial building next to Marisa's expected to start this summer; and a proposed mixed use zone coming before Planning and Zoning in June. "Amidst a challenging economy, the town is facing some exciting opportunities that will have lasting positive impact on the town and will truly make Trumbull the place to be" said Cox.

Joe Carbone, President and CEO of The Workplace, Inc., provided an economic overview of the region's employment outlook. The state's unemployment rate has declined slightly over the last four months and is currently at 9.0%.s unemployment rate is currently at 6.6%, while our neighbor's in Bridgeport face 13%. We are still faced with a shaky global financial system and high numbers of housing foreclosures, while other challenges include an unemployment rate that is higher than this time

last year, as is the number of weeks it takes to find new employment. The Workplace, Inc., helps connect employers with employees in the region and also helps displaced workers retool their skills and resumes for greater employment success.

The audience was captivated by Jim Randel, a successful real estate entrepreneur and author. His messages were simple and his delivery was inspiring: "Today, having a job is more like a temporary assignment. You need to see yourself as an entrepreneur – as someone who is self-dependent and always looking to add value. You need to be able to adapt to a changing world, continuously learn, expand your networks, and then even when you don't feel like it, be like Nike and 'just do it.'" Randel told a compelling story of a time when against all odds, his persistence, willingness to learn, and his contacts helped him move forward to build multi-million dollar success story.

Randel's message was a perfect ending to Trumbull's Business Appreciation Breakfast. Those who attended left appreciating the challenging, yet exciting times that lie ahead for the businesses, and they also felt appreciated just for being part of the Trumbull business community. Randel's new venture is in publishing, and his book, "The Skinny On Success" can be found at www.theskinnyon.com.