

## ***Corporate Champion Circle Member: Tuttle's Auto Sales, LLC***

*United Way of the Tri-Valley Area launched its Corporate Champion Circle in the summer of 2018. Circle members partner with United Way for one year, support their community, and receive unique marketing benefits. Corporate Champion Circle members contribute at one of three giving levels - Platinum (\$5,000), Gold (\$3,000), and Silver (\$1,500). To recognize Corporate Champion Circle members, and to get to know those who are passionate about United Way, we have started a series that profiles these dedicated businesses. Please welcome Tuttle's Auto Sales, LLC located in New Sharon, Maine.*

Alston (Al) Tuttle, owner of Tuttle's Auto Sales, LLC in New Sharon recently joined the United Way's Corporate Champion Circle. Al, born in Skowhegan, grew up in New Portland and after graduating from Carrabec High School went on to earn his auctioneering diploma from World Wide College of Auctioneering in West Des Moines, IA in 1977. After college, Al moved back to Maine and worked as a salesman for Beisaw's Garage for a few years before going to work for his father, Carroll, at his dealership, Tuttle's Auto Sales in New Portland. After the passing of his father, Al purchased a garage in New Sharon from Roger Allen in 1991 and that is where the home of Tuttle's Auto Sales has been ever since.

Tuttle's has a total of six employees – Al, Owner / Mione Douin, Secretary / Greg Greene, Sales Manager / Marcus Rowe, Office Manager / Candy Marshall, Reconditioner / Craig Starbird, Driver. Tuttle's Auto Sales has been in business for over 60 years and prides themselves on offering vehicle sales to lower income people and having special financing available. Tuttle's also stands behind their sales. Al says that Tuttle's is "*where friends meet*", there are almost always 80+ vehicles on the lot to purchase that come with a 30 day/1000-mile warranty.

Al was asked about some of the challenges and opportunities he sees in the community. His response was – "*we see people struggling with poverty, low-income struggling to pay rent and put food on the table, food insecurity is real and so is drug use*". Al concluded with – "*our community is mostly low crime, good country living, and has a good reputation for hard workers*".

When asked about becoming a CCC member, Al replied, "*some employees have been supporters of UWTVA and when talking about why they support, and learning more about what UWTVA does, I like what they stand for and how they help the community*".

Al lives in New Sharon with his companion, Mione. They enjoy spending time with family and friends, attending car shows in the summer and Al enjoys snowmobiling and ATVing in his spare time.