WOW! FORUM: THE BEAUTY OF BUSINESS

The theme for this year’s WOW! Forum is “The Beauty of Business” and our six incredible speakers are going to inspire us to live our best lives—mind, body and soul.

We are honored to have Linda McMahon, Administrator of the United States Small Business Administration as our first keynote speaker to open our day on October 6th. Linda will be kicking off her nationwide “Ignite Tour” at our WOW! Forum. As a member of President Trump’s cabinet, she advocates on behalf of the almost 29 million small businesses in America, which employ nearly half of all American workers and account for 56.8 million jobs.

An entrepreneur and business executive herself, McMahon is a co-founder and former chief executive officer of Women’s Leadership LIVE, LLC, a company that uses live events and ongoing relationships to educate and inspire women to launch and expand their own businesses, advance their careers toward executive roles, and pursue opportunities for leadership in public service.

Jahana Hayes, the 2016 National Teacher of the Year, grew up in a Waterbury housing project and became a teenage mother while still in high school. Surrounded by poverty, drugs and violence as a child, Jahana imagined other possibilities for her life with the help from educators. The influence of her own teachers taught her that a school’s job sometimes overlaps with the job of parents, and she wants her students to know there are no dead ends.

Hayes, Talent & Professional Development Supervisor for Waterbury Public Schools, was selected for the honor by the Council of Chief State School Officers. She was recognized by President Barack Obama at a White House ceremony and spent most of 2016 traveling the nation to represent educators and advocate on behalf of teachers.

After training in Milan alongside world-renown makeup artist Pat McGrath, Tim Quinn joined the Giorgio Armani Beauty team with the launch of the brand in September 2001. His myriad of experience as an artist includes work in TV, print and film.

Tim’s words of wisdom have graced the pages of Vogue, Harper’s Bazaar, W, Elle, Glamour, More, InStyle, Cosmopolitan, The New York Times, The Huffington Post, among others. Tim has been featured as one of the “25 Beauty Stars” in W magazine and won a Genius Award in Elle Magazine as a Genius Makeup Artist. He has worked backstage in New York, Milan, Rome, Paris, Hong Kong and Beijing as well as at several award shows including the Academy Awards and the Golden Globes. Tim has been featured numerous times on television programs such as the Today Show, Extra and El News.

At age 31, while in the process of a divorce with no child support, alimony or other source of income and only $2,000 to her name, Nancy Butler moved herself and her children 70 miles and started her own business. After building the business to $200 million in assets under management, Nancy sold her practice in January 2007.

For the last ten years, as the owner of “Above All Else, Success in Life and Business®”, Nancy is a national professional motivational speaker, award-winning author and business coach. She uses her business and financial knowledge to help business owners do a better job for their clients and improve their bottom line and helps individuals live more successful, fulfilling lives and realize their dreams.

Act Natural Health & Wellness was born of one woman’s passion to live a healthy life in today’s less than healthy world. In 2004, Pam Pinto began a nutrition consulting practice, often speaking to local groups and organizations and seeing clients in chiropractic offices, local pharmacies, and health spas.

Community need is one of the main reasons Pam has opened the doors of Act Natural Health & Wellness. As more and more people become interested and concerned about the foods they eat and its effects on long-term health, one of her main goals is to provide access to local, organic food through working with Connecticut Farmers.

In 1999, Phyllis Webb and her husband Dale joined the ranks of entrepreneurs. The couple launched a unique business, The Magic Fluke, redesigning and manufacturing ukuleles. Proud and passionate to be manufacturing here in the USA, their journey has been fulfilling, and exciting, but not without challenges.

They have diversified their product line to include the Firefly Banjo Ukulele, the Timber Bass, and Cricket Violin.

This year’s emcee, V Vanessa Williams, MS, PCC is the Founder and CEO of Leading Edge Consulting, LLC, a global executive coaching firm with offices in CT and FL. Vanessa has an

Continued on page 17.
While reading over 800 emails that were waiting for me after a few days at the Cape, this one from Manta Media caught my eye, “Strong Customer Connections.”

It reinforced the Chamber’s engagement and involvement in the community. “It’s an opportunity to shine, develop close connections, think about what’s best for the customer, make a big impact and work with those you can help.” One suggestion that is right on target: “Do something unexpected.”

Perfect! Here it is! We are “Over the Edge” with excitement for this wildly unusual event that will not only help Prime Time House, the Northwest Connecticut Arts Council and the Chamber’s Education Foundation, it will allow everyone to share in our commitment to ensure that Northwest Connecticut continues to be a thriving, healthy, robust community full of opportunities.

Take a deep breath, step up to the edge and rappel 111 feet down the tallest building in our region. It will be held at Torrington Towers on Saturday, September 16th. You still have time to earn a spot to go over the edge with us. If you would rather be an ally and promoter, you can make a donation. Call us for details to give online or send a check!

Another terrific community event is our collaboration with the Torrington Historical Society. Save Saturday, September 23rd for the Torrington House Tour showcasing homes that are significant historically, architecturally and aesthetically. You can also attend the Preview Party on Friday evening hosted by the famous artist and photographer, Gerald Incandela, at his studio on Center Street. He specializes in steel and cast iron and felt that Torrington was the perfect place for his art. This is something not to be missed as well as the six very special homes and a garden that is beautiful.

It’s going to be a great fall! Join us!
WHAT’S BEEN HAPPENING AT NORTHWEST CONNECTICUT’S CHAMBER

Chamber Health Council

The Chamber Health Council met at Geer Village on August 1st. The keynote speakers were Dr. Jesse Cohen, a Hospitalist focusing on Telemedicine at Sharon Hospital and Tina Hogan of the Alzheimer’s Association. The next Health Council meeting will take place on October 17th at Sharon Hospital.

Business After Hours

Stadium System, located at 297 Ashley Falls Road in Canaan was host to the Business After Hours event on August 9th. Their store was open for shopping during the evening (if you haven’t seen it yet, stop by and check out their wide assortment of sportswear, equipment, shoes, boots, clothing and more).

Attendees enjoyed networking with Northwest CT Chamber members as well as some members from the Tri State Chamber of Commerce. John Petraroia of Property Partners Real Estate was the lucky winner of a gift certificate to the store. In addition, the Canaan Farmers’ Market was being held outside and many local treats were available for sample and purchase.

Join us on Wednesday, September 13th for our next Business After Hours hosted by Wheels of Time, 54 Barlow Street, Canaan and co-sponsored by People’s United Bank.

Restaurant in the Spotlight

Infinity Hall Bistro opened its doors to the Chamber on August 7th as host of Restaurant in the Spotlight.

Restaurant in the Spotlight is a monthly networking event which highlights the unique offerings of our restaurant community. Typically held during the first week of the month, the event runs from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. and offers members the chance to stop in after work for a brief networking session and to sample complimentary hors d’oeuvres from the host restaurant or bar.

The next Restaurant in the Spotlight will be held September 11th at the Interlaken Inn in Lakeville.
FREE Member-to-Member Workshop
Continental Breakfast Provided

POLITICS, THE ECONOMY, AND YOU!
Today’s news is dominated by politics, and the economy always matters. Join us to learn how both can impact your portfolio.

Wednesday, September 27 • 8:00am - 9:00am
Northwest Connecticut Chamber of Commerce (Board Room)
333 Kennedy Drive, Torrington, CT 06790

RSVP ONLINE AT: nwctchamberofcommerce.org/calendar

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COMING UP AT THE CHAMBER

OVER THE EDGE NW CT: Come out and show your support

Over the Edge Northwest Connecticut will take place on Saturday, September 16th at the Torrington Towers, 110 Prospect Street, Torrington beginning at 9 a.m. While not all of us are as courageous as the 44 individuals signed up to rappel down the side of the building, they can use all of the support we can give! Plan to stop by and cheer on your favorite edger, enjoy food, beverages & music and be a part of this exciting community event.

Take a moment to support your favorite edger by donating on their fundraising page. Edgers are still welcome to sign up to participate. Visit https://otecwe.com/nwconnecticut to sponsor an edger, and for details and registration information. Volunteers are also needed the day of the event. Please call the Chamber if you are able to help - 860-482-6586.

SCORE WORKSHOP: Accounting for the non-Accountant

Accounting provides us with a picture of the overall financial health and sustainability of our businesses. A savvy business owner must have a basic understanding of accounting in order to make the best decisions for the health and prosperity of their business. This seminar discusses what happens behind the scene when you enter a transaction into QuickBooks and what the final results actually mean. You will learn the basic vocabulary accountants use and how to understand your financial statement.

Learn about the role of accounting in all forms of business (large & small), basic accounting concepts, accrual vs. cash basis accounting, receivables and inventories, liability and equity, various uses of accounting information and more. Presented by Kristin Roberts of The Roberts Tax Group and sponsored by Northwest Connecticut SCORE, the Chamber and The Roberts Tax Group, this workshop will take place October 23rd from 8 to 10 a.m. at the Chamber. The workshop fee is $25. Registration is required. Visit nwctchamberofcommerce.org/calendar to register.

MEMBER-TO-MEMBER WORKSHOPS: Sharing Knowledge

Three members will be sharing their knowledge in their particular area of expertise at Member to Member Workshops in September. Each will be held at the Chamber office. Registrations can be made online at nwctchamberofcommerce.org/calendar.

Barron Financial Group will present Politics, The Economy, And You! on September 27th from 8 to 9 a.m. Today’s news is dominated by politics, and the economy always matters. Join them to learn how both can impact your portfolio. A continental breakfast will be provided. There is no charge to attend.

Fresh Perspectives is presenting their leadership series, The Secrets of Successful Leaders. 70% of American workers are disengaged with their jobs, costing business owners upwards of $3,000 per employee per year. Could your bottom line, your organization’s success, and your hard work be suffering from this? If you think they might, come learn how to reengage your people (or yourself) and become the inspiring, successful leader that you can be. This three-part series will begin September 19th from 9 a.m. to noon with “Inspiring Commitment - Reinvigorate disconnected team members and create a collaborative culture.” Session 2, “Managing Priorities - Stay focused, calm, and on top of your most essential tasks” will be held on October 17th. Session 3, “Conquering Conflict - Turn difficult situations into opportunities to move your team forward” will be held on November 21st. Each workshop is $50 per person.

Red Barn Consulting is presenting the Rock Star Business Summit on September 13th from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Who should go? Business owners who aren’t hitting their revenue goals and can’t figure out why. Team leaders or managers who need to move a product or motivate a team. Entrepreneurs who have a great idea...yet don’t know the first thing about running a business. What will you learn? How to build a great culture that’s efficient and effective. How top companies create and manage a marketing strategy that works. How top dogs are using Social Selling to bring in the big bucks! The summit is $49 per person.

See more of Coming Up at the Chamber on page 7.
Torrington Savings Bank

Your Bank Since 1868

We put service before sales with great rates and personalized service.

Join us for

SHRED IT DAY

Saturday, September 30, 2017 from 9am – 12pm

North Branch - 635 Main Street, Torrington
Truck will be set up in St. Maron’s Church parking lot next door.

TORRINGTON MAIN • TORRINGTON NORTH • TORRINGFORD
BURLINGTON • FALLS VILLAGE • GOSHEN • NEW HARTFORD
Member Discount Program

We are redeveloping the Member Discount Program. We are building our list of special discounts provided by companies in the area. Help drive customers to your business...consider offering a special deal that will get people in the door! Suggestions...if you’re a landscaper, offer a 10% discount off the first month’s service. A retail store may offer $5 off a purchase of $50 or more. The possibilities are endless. Once the update is complete, we will be launching the new Member Discount Program to our members and their employees. You’ll see a new membership card to be distributed to all employees and updated discount offerings on our website. If you're interested in getting your company in on the excitement, call the Chamber today at 860-482-6586.

Northwest Connecticut’s Chamber of Commerce invites you to join us for a light lunch and learn about “PERSONAL PROPERTY 101”

LEARN at LUNCH

Presented by
Launa M. Goslee, CCMC, Tax Collector, City of Torrington
Donna L. Patchen, CCMA II, Assessor, City of Torrington

September 7, 2017 • Noon-1 PM
at the Chamber, 333 Kennedy Drive, Suite R101, Torrington
$10 per person (includes lunch).

RSVP for this and other events at nwctchamberofcommerce.org/calendar.
“Yes, free checking would be terrific for my business.”

CHECK INTO NORTHWEST 500! Get up to 500 transactions a month. No minimum balance. No maintenance fee. Free Bill Pay, too. Plus, it’s backed by efficient, local service. Northwest 500 is the business checking you’ve wanted. Now’s the time — contact us today.

Transactions include deposits made, deposit items, checks paid and ACH debits and credits. Over 500 transactions, 50¢ each.
COMING UP AT THE CHAMBER  Continued from page 7.

Northwest Connecticut Chamber's premier network building event featuring opportunities to gain new contacts and build your lead base while enjoying delicious hors d'oeuvres and a tour of our host's facility.

BUSINESS after HOURS

54 Barlow Street, Canaan

Wednesday, September 13th, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

RSVP online at nwoctchamberofcommerce.org/calendar

Grand Opening & Ribbon Cutting at Finnegans

Our Affiliate, the Burlington Chamber of Commerce, invites all members to join them for a special ribbon cutting ceremony and grand opening celebration at Finnegans Tavern on Friday, September 15th from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Finnegans, an upscale Irish tavern with excellent food and exceptional service, is located in the Burlington Commons at 292 Spielman Highway, Route 4, Burlington.

Membership Meeting

Their next membership meeting will take place on Thursday, October 19th at 12 Noon at the Elton Brown Tavern. For more information, please visit the Burlington Chamber of Commerce website at burlingtonctchamber.org.
Saturday
September 16th
Beginning at 9 AM

Torrington Towers
Prospect St. Torrington

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For more information, visit otecwe.com/nwconnecticut.
Building a Better Region

What does Leadership Northwest offer...

The Employers Gain:
- Employees with increased leadership, organizational and problem solving skills.
- A strengthened involvement in community affairs.
- New access to a network of community leaders and resources.
- Public recognition of their community involvement.
- Enhanced employee morale.

The Community Gains:
- A committed, knowledgeable group of people prepared to accept key positions on community boards.
- A broad-based pool of individuals sensitive to the diverse populations in the community.
- A group with a greater appreciation of the issues facing our community today and in the future.

Participants Receive:
- Experience with group dynamics and team leadership along with professional and personal growth.
- Understanding of leadership styles.
- Opportunities for contact with influential regional leaders.

Program schedule at a glance...

Orientation: September 20, Program Overview & Dinner
Session 1: October 18, Leadership Development & Team Building
Session 2: November 15, Social Service & Philanthropy
Session 3: December 13, Corporate Leadership Panel
Session 4: January 17, Media & Communications
Session 5: February 21, Connect with Local Businesses
Session 6: March 21, Government & Economic Development
Session 7: April 18, Arts, Culture & Education
Session 8: May 16, TBD
Session 9: June 20, Graduation Dinner

- Session topics and dates are subject to change -

Commitment Leadership NW participants are expected to attend all scheduled sessions in order to graduate. Times may vary but most sessions generally run from 8:30a.m - 4:00p.m. Participants in the program will require full support from their employer and acknowledgement of the time required away from their position. In addition, participants collaborate on a self-directed community-oriented team project.

Mission...
Leadership NW is designed to develop resourceful, motivated business leaders committed to making this region a better place to live and work.

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Breaking up is hard to do...

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THE SECRETS OF SUCCESSFUL LEADERS

A FRESH PERSPECTIVES LEADERSHIP SERIES

70% of American workers are disengaged with their jobs, costing business owners upwards of $3,000 per employee per year.

Could your bottom line, your organization’s success, and your hard work be suffering from this?

If you think they might, come learn how to reengage your people (or yourself!) and become the inspiring, successful leader that you can be.

Part 1: September 19
Inspiring Commitment
Reinvigorate disconnected team members and create a collaborative culture.

Part 2: October 17
Managing Priorities
Stay focused, calm, and on top of your most essential tasks.

Part 3: November 21
Conquering Conflict
Turn difficult situations into opportunities to move your team forward.

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Tickets: $50/session

RSVP online at www.nwctchamberofcommerce.org

Presented by Peter Callahan, ACC, CPC
Member in the Spotlight

LARC: THE ARC OF LITCHFIELD

LARC Announces New Executive Director

The Arc of Litchfield County, Inc. (LARC) is pleased to announce that following a national search, it has hired Michael Menard as Executive Director to lead LARC in its quest to bring community to all within the greater Torrington area.

“The Board of LARC underwent an extensive search to find the most qualified individual. We were fortunate that so many truly outstanding candidates were interested in the position. It was unanimous, though, that there is no one more qualified and equipped to lead LARC in the years to come. Not only does Mike embrace our vision of ‘community for all’, he is a progressive leader who will be able to move LARC’s vision strategically forward while meeting any challenge head-on,” stated President of the Board, Kimberley Brown.

Menard brings significant experience having led large, complex and diverse divisions at the University of Connecticut, including running the UConn Torrington campus. During that time he forged collaborations and community partnerships with the municipal, non-profit and business communities. Menard also brings skills in facilities infrastructure, budget and finance, public safety, community outreach, government and community relations, personnel, staff recruitment and development, information technology, fundraising and donor relations.

“I feel it is a great privilege to join the team of dedicated men and women who comprise the LARC family. Through my work I have seen extraordinary passion, purpose-driven leaders and the satisfaction that comes from making a real difference in the lives of those in the community. Perhaps nowhere is that more apparent to me than through the people I have met at LARC. To be able to help LARC continue to build on its extraordinary reputation in the region and beyond truly is an honor.”

Menard has served in a variety of administrative positions at the University of Connecticut for the past twenty-two years. While at Hartford, he led a full and part-time staff of over 200 people and managed a $7 million operational budget. He earned a B.A. from Worcester State College, his Master’s Degree and later his Ph.D. from the University of Connecticut. He was part of the Design Team for the North Hartford Health and Wellbeing Collaborative, Board of Directors for the Hartford Consortium for Higher Education, Torrington Development Corporation and Northwest Connecticut Economic Development Corporation.

“LARC’s vision of community for all is one that resonates with me in a very special way,” remarked Menard. “I believe in connecting diverse groups of people and organizations with each other, helping them find common ground, and working collaboratively toward shared and mutually beneficial goals. My goal at LARC is to be a catalyst that will help move LARC ever closer to an inclusive community where differing abilities are celebrated.”

The Arc of Litchfield County (LARC), a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, was founded by families 50 years ago to support loved ones with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Guided by a vision of Community for All, LARC promotes individual empowerment, choice, respect, and dignity. On a daily basis, LARC serves 220 individuals throughout Northwest Connecticut. Services include residential group homes, in-home supports, transportation, day, and employment programs.

8th Annual Miles 4 Moe 2017 Harvest Fest 5K

The Miles 4 Moe, Harvest Fest 5K will take place on September 17th beginning at 8:30 a.m. at Camp Moe, 1145 Brandy Hill Road in Torrington. The event supports The Miles 4 Moe Foundation Fund which was established in memory of Emil “Moe” Renzullo, Jr., a very special boy who passed away from Leukemia in 2010. The foundation is dedicated to raising funds to benefit local children. While most of the monies raised goes to Moe’s beloved camp, Camp Moe, The Miles 4 Moe Foundation Fund reserves funds to give back to the community. This year, participants can run or walk the rolling hills course while enjoying the fall foliage and a picnic will be held for all! For more information or to register to participate, visit miles4moeorganization.org.
2017 TORRINGTON HOUSE TOUR
SEPTEMBER 23

TOUR THE INSIDE OF THESE BEAUTIFUL HOMES

TICKETS
$75
PREVIEW PARTY
SEPT 22 | 6-9PM

$30
SELF TOUR
SEPT 23 | 10-3PM

PURCHASE ONLINE
www.TorringtonHouseTour.org

OR IN-PERSON
NWCT Chamber of Commerce
333 Kennedy Drive
Torrington Historical Society
192 Main Street

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SHOUT OUTS

O&G Industries, Inc.

O&G Industries, Connecticut’s largest privately-held construction company, held its fourth annual Retiree Picnic on July 15th at the Pavilion at La Bella Vista in Waterbury, CT. Over 175 retirees gathered for the 2017 event, tallying over 2,750 years of service to the company.

Among those honored was Tony Damiano who retired in December 2016, after 54 years with O&G. Damiano oversaw production for O&G’s network of quarries. At the event, Damiano was presented with an engraved stone handpicked from one of the quarries he oversaw. The inscription stated: “Tony Damiano: Our deepest respect and gratitude for 54 years of loyal dedication and innovation. The Oneglia Family”. The stone will be placed in a garden at his Thomaston home.

O&G is Connecticut’s largest privately-held construction company, one of the country’s Top 400 Contractors and a Top 100 Green Building Contractor. Founded in 1923, they are a fourth generation family-owned company that provides construction services and products to clients throughout Connecticut and beyond.

Torrington Savings Bank

Joel Lemieux and Emily Whaley, both Torrington residents, are the recipients of the Torrington Savings Bank Scholarships for 2017. The program offers two graduating seniors in Torrington Savings Bank’s deposit area a 4-year $10,000 scholarship ($2,500 per year).

Joel will be starting his college career at Northwestern Connecticut Community College where he plans to study computer engineering. Emily will be attending Gordon College in Wenham, MA, where she plans to major in English.

Charlotte Hungerford Hospital

Are you ready for a very special volunteer experience and enjoy one-on-one contact with people? If so, CHH has your spot! CHH is currently seeking Tender Loving Care (TLC) Program Volunteers. TLC Volunteers offer our patients the gift of a gentle hand and/or foot massage during their stay. The massages erase anxiety and pain through a few moments of personal connection. As a TLC Volunteer, you will participate in training to develop the techniques as well as quality patient communication and listening skills. Having completed a general Hospital orientation, physical and background check, your commitment is to a weekly shift of 2-3 hours.

If you would like to become part of the Volunteer Team, contact Volunteer Coordinator Shelli Rhoads at 860-496-6470 or srhoads@hungerford.org for more information.
ROCK STAR Business Summit

Finally, the secret sauce for success...

★ Only 40 Spots Available
★ A Team of Business Coaches
★ Thought Provoking Content
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★ Some Great Food
★ You Won’t Leave Empty Handed

Date: Wed. Sept. 13, 2017
Place: NW CT Chamber
Time: 8am-3pm
Investment: $49.00

Who should go?
Business owners who aren’t hitting their revenue goals and can’t figure out why.
Team leaders or managers who need to move a product or motivate a team.
Entrepreneurs who have a great idea... yet don’t know the first thing about running a business.
Any one - who wants to be a business rock star.

What you will learn:
How to build a great culture that’s efficient and effective!
How top companies create and manage a marketing strategy that works!
How top dogs are using Social Selling to bring in the big bucks!

Contact the NW CT Chamber to register
info@nwctchamberofcommerce.org or 860.482.6586
Member News

Act Natural Health & Wellness, LLC

Bring your talents to Act Natural Health & Wellness, LLC and become part of their Incubator Space!! They have a beautiful collaborative space located just across the street from their store and above Round N Round Antiques at 27 Water Street in downtown Torrington...where good things are happening!

Want to offer a yoga, Qigong or meditation class? Are you a massage therapist, reflexologist or reiki practitioner? Do you Zumba? Do you offer sound, mindfulness or energy healing?

Are you an artist or photographer looking for an amazing place with natural light? Want to teach a class or need rehearsal space? Incubator space is a great way to launch your micro business as you share the space with other micro businesses. How can you benefit from a shared space?

• You don’t have to worry about the monthly business expenses.
• You are your own boss.
• Networking among the collaborative.
• Marketing opportunities through Act Natural Health & Wellness.
• Participate in the Thrive on Thursday event every week.
• Become part of the outreach community through expos and wellness fairs.
• Be free to be who you are meant to be!

Want to learn more on how to become part of their TEAM (Together Everyone Achieves More)? Visit the collaborative space Facebook page Act Natural Energy Healing https://www.facebook.com/pg/anhwenergyhealing/photos/?ref=page_internal. "There are two great days in a person’s life - the day we are born and the day we discover why." - William Barclay

Property Partners Real Estate

Property Partners Real Estate is looking for real estate agents to join their team. Please call 860-482-4440 to set up an interview.

Branagan Communications Consultants

In August, Barbara Branagan-Mitchell, owner of Branagan Communications Consultants LLC (BCC), a public relations, publicity placement, marketing communications agency, launched a CT-NY-MA regional publicity placement campaign for the creators of the newly-released “The Little Brown Bear” series of children’s books and accompanying musical CDs. The two Washington Depot creators of Words to Music, LLC and the www.kreartivekids.com website, introduced their three “Little Brown Bear” adventure books written by internationally-acclaimed poet and author Susan Katz who reads aloud the stories on the CDs that are accompanied by the music of published pianist Sharon Ruchman. The collection sells for $19.99 in area stores including Silly Sprout in Litchfield and online at www.kreartivekids.com/shop.

During 2017, Branagan-Mitchell has been celebrating 24 years of entrepreneurial success helping small to medium-sized companies and organizations build public awareness of their products and services by writing and placing publicity with news media outlets statewide via press releases and captioned photos. Branagan Communications Consultants services include writing and editing of content for websites, newsletters, and marketing materials. To learn more, visit www.branagancommunications.com, or call Barbara directly at 860-210-0149, or email to barbara@branagancommunications.com.


In her corporate career, Vanessa was a Managing Director for Horton International, a retained global boutique executive search firm headquartered in West Hartford, CT. She also held senior level and C-suite positions leading high-powered executive global teams for Sun Life, Prudential, Mass Mutual, Aetna, and UConn Health.

This year’s conference will also feature a fashion show by the well-known women’s style experts, Chico’s!

The WOW! Forum will take place on October 6th at The Warner Theatre’s Carole & Ray Neag Performing Arts Center. Tickets to this all-day professional women’s conference include a free gift, free parking, breakfast, lunch, desert & wine reception, and a chance to win fabulous auction items.

To register for the WOW! Forum, visit wowforum.org.
QUALITY HEALTHCARE SERVICES

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115 Spencer Street, Winsted (860) 738-6658

CHH CARDIAC REHABILITATION SERVICES
780 Litchfield Street, Torrington (860) 496-9512
115 Spencer Street, Winsted (860) 738-6660

CHH CENTER FOR CANCER CARE
200 Kennedy Drive, Torrington (860) 489-6718

CHH EMERGENCY SERVICES
540 Litchfield Street, Torrington (860) 496-6650
115 Spencer Street, Winsted (860) 738-6650

CHH LIONS LOW VISION CENTER
1151 East Main Street, Torrington (860) 496-0046

CHH MAMMOGRAPHY SERVICES
220 Kennedy Drive, Torrington (860) 496-0826
115 Spencer Street, Winsted (860) 738-6665

CHH MEDICAL WALK-IN
1598 East Main Street, Torrington (860) 489-8444

CHH PRIMARY CARE
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76 Watertown Road, Thomaston (860) 880-8091

CHH RADIOLOGY / X-RAY SERVICES
540 Litchfield Street, Torrington (860) 496-6650
115 Spencer Street, Winsted (860) 738-6664

CHH REHABILITATION & SPORTS MEDICINE
538 Litchfield Street, Torrington (860) 496-6875
1151 East Main Street, Torrington (860) 496-0046

CHH SLEEP CENTER
115 Spencer Street, Winsted (860) 738-6620

CHH WOUND CARE & HYPERBARIC MEDICINE
7 Felicity Lane, Torrington (860) 489-0418

MRI /ADVANCED MEDICAL IMAGING
540 Litchfield Street, Torrington (860) 489-7314
Chamber Travel Program

Portugal Hidden Treasures
November 2-10, 2018

Nestled along the Iberian Peninsula’s Atlantic Coast, Portugal beckons with its sea-faring past, charming old towns, quaint coastal villages, and distinctive diversity.

Here you will experience everything from exquisite churches carved in "lace" to its endless olive groves, flowering almond trees, and sweet Port wines. Remnants of former civilizations are abundant from foreigners who conquered and were conquered here including Romans, Moors and Jews. Together, their influences inter-mix with attributes of countries linked by Portuguese exploration across the globe.

From the country’s diverse landscapes, coastal splendors, old world towns and vibrant cities to its delectable gastronomy, gracious people, and time-honored history, Portugal will indulge all of your senses.

An optional excursion to Obidos, Batalha, Fatima and Nazare as well as an optional trip extension to Santiago De Compostela are available.


South African Adventure & Safari
April 21-30, 2018

The Chamber is pleased to partner with Central Holidays West to offer a South African Adventure & Safari.

Excite your inner adventurer in South Africa! Set out from Johannesburg for a safari in Kruger National Park, one of Africa’s leading game sanctuaries that covers more than 7,700 square miles of land between the Crocodile River in the south and the Limpopo in the north. It also boasts the greatest species diversity in Africa with more than 140 resident mammal species, including the iconic Big Five (lion, elephant, leopard, buffalo and rhino). A 4x4 vehicle gives you nearly unlimited photo opportunities to snap pictures of zebra, wildebeest, giraffe, hippo, crocodile, wild dog and vast antelope herds.

Then explore the wine-producing region of the Cape Winelands, visit picturesque vineyard estates and sample some of the finest South African wines. Take a stroll through Stellenbosch, a charming vineyard village boasting splendidly preserved Cape Dutch and Georgian-Victorian architecture.

Next, discover scenic Cape Town. This once colonial settlement is one of the world’s most picturesque tourist destinations and most beautiful cities. Snug between hilly mountains and pristine white beaches, Cape Town is often called the cosmopolitan hub of Africa.

An information session will be held at the Chamber on September 18th at 6 p.m. For more details on this and other Chamber sponsored trips, please visit the Chamber’s Travel Program page at nwctchamberofcommerce.org/events-programs/
Community Representatives Report

Burlington - Janet Schwartz

- Tavern Day at Elton Tavern will be held on September 17th from 11 AM to 4 PM. Join the Historical Society for a celebration of colonial life. More details are available at burlington-history.org.
- The 8th Annual Burlington 5K Run/Walk (Whigville Edition) will be run on October 29th at 10 a.m. The race starts and ends at the Whigville Grange. Family (up to 4) $50, Individual $25, Student $15. Free t-shirts for the first 100 sign-ups. Prizes for best costume. For more information and to register, visit burlington5k.com. All proceeds will benefit the Burlington Community Fund.

Canaan/N. Canaan - Wendy Eichman

- The Canaan Farmers’ Market is at Stadium System, 297 Ashley Falls Road every Wednesday from 4-6 p.m. through September 20th.
- The following events will be held at The Lodge at Geer Village and are open to the public. Light refreshments will be served. RSVP to Deb Pelletier at 860-824-2625 or dpelletier@geercares.org.
  - The Western Connecticut Area Agency on Aging will present a demonstration on adaptive equipment in the Chapel on September 7th at 11 a.m. RSVP by 9/4.
  - Salisbury Bank will present a lecture on “Finance: Getting Ready for the Next Step in Life” in the Chapel on September 13th at 2 p.m. RSVP by 9/8.
  - Dr. Lisa Monaco will present a lecture on “The Brain Gut Connection” in the Hollenbeck Room on September 15th at 2 p.m. RSVP by 9/11.
  - Ted Doolittle, Healthcare Advocate, will present “CT Speaks Out” on September 28th at 7 p.m. in the Hollenbeck Room. He will explore what Connecticut residents need and want from their health insurance. RSVP by 9/25.
  - In October: a four-week caregiver course presented by the Alzheimer’s Association and Tiela Garnett’s “Hollywood Stories”.
- A clothing drive will be held on September 16th at North Canaan Elementary School, 90 Pease Street from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Clothes, accessories, books, records, DVDs, CDs. Sorry, no toys, appliances, baby strollers, etc. will be accepted.
- The Falls Village Truck Pull will be held September 24th at noon at 108 Route 63 in Falls Village. General admission $10, kids under 10 free. Enjoy truck pulls, vendors, food & lots of family fun! For details, visit shootoutproductionsinc.com. Proceeds to benefit the Falls Village Volunteer Fire Department.

Cornwall - Dianne Heiny

- Please visit the Cornwall website at www.cornwallct.org and/or visit the Town of Cornwall’s Facebook page for more information.
- A Labor Day Weekend Art Sale will be held at the Cornwall Library on September 2nd from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- A Community Contra Dance will be held at Town Hall on September 2nd at 7 p.m.
- Both Farm Markets and the Cornwall Agricultural Fair will be on the Cornwall Town Green on September 9th. Farm markets run 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Fair runs 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- The Cornwall Association Newcomer’s Tea will be held at the Cornwall Library on September 9th from 3:30 to 5 p.m.
- Local Farm will host a Pot Luck Picnic and Bat Count on September 9th from 6:30-8:30 PM.
- The Board of Appeals will meet at Town Office on September 16th from 9-10 a.m.
- Local Farm will hold Fresh Farm Lasagna Building on September 16th from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- The First Annual Cornwall Clean-Up/Green-Up Day will take place on September 23rd from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- Local Farm will hold “Family Cow Workshop” on September 23rd from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and will host the Women’s Drumming Circle on the 23rd from 7-9 p.m.
- Enjoy “A Paperboy’s View Walking Tour” at the West Cornwall Post Office, Route 128, West Cornwall on September 30th.
**Community Representatives Report**

**Harwinton - Carol Kearns & Harry Schuh**
- The Harwinton Lions Club will hold a Blood Drive on September 2nd from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Town Hall, 100 Bentley Drive.
- The Harwinton Youth Sports Association’s 17th Annual Golf Classic will be held on September 14th at Fairview Farm Golf Course, 300 Hill Road. Contact 860-601-8199 or treasurer@harwintonsports.org for more information.
- Harwinton Public Library will present the following programs:
  - “Medicare Fraud and Scams” on September 15th at 10 a.m. Presented by Amanda Halle, Senior Medicare Patrol, Western CT Area Agency on Aging. Call 860-485-9113 to register.
  - Summer Book Sale on September 16th from 10 a.m. to noon. Children’s books $0.50, adult paperbacks $1.00, adult hardcovers $2.00.
- The Harwinton Historical Society will present the following programs which are free and open to the public:
  - “Abolitionist John Brown: Madman or Martyr” on September 17th from 2-4 p.m. at the Harwinton Library.
  - “I Smell Death Here: The Swine Flu Outbreak of 1918” on September 24th from 2-4 p.m. at the Harwinton Library.
- The 161st Annual Harwinton Fair will run October 6th through October 8th at the Harwinton Fairgrounds on Locust Road.

**Kent**
- Coming September 11th...Kent Volunteer Fire Department’s Golf Tournament will be held at Bull’s Bridge Golf Club in Kent. Registration & sponsorship information is available at kentfire.org/golf. For more information, email Scott at golf@kentfire.org.

**Torrington - Lynn Gelormino**
- Two new florists have opened on Main Street. Heaven Scent Floral Creations is located at 98 Main Street inside Ida’s Bridal Salon. The Honey Bee Florist and More is located at 42 Main Street.
- Torrington Schools will start on September 5th. Keep an eye out for kids running to buses and walking to/from school.
- The Warner Theatre welcomes the following artists for concerts in September (tickets available at warnertheatre.org):
  - Martina McBride on September 14th
  - Arlo Guthrie on September 16th
  - Stills and Collins on September 30th
- Torrington Parks & Recreation is sponsoring a trip to Foxwoods Casino on September 18th. The bus will depart from the downtown shopping plaza parking lot (near 99 Restaurant) at 8 a.m. Fee $25 per person. Call 860-489-2274 for reservations.
- Torrington Elderly Services is sponsoring a trip to the Big E Fair on Connecticut Day, September 20th. $53 per person includes transportation, admission to the Big E and driver gratuity. Reservations required, call 860-489-2211.
- The Torrington House Tour will be held September 23rd with a Preview Party on September 22nd. Tickets for the Preview Party are $75, Tour tickets are $30 in advance, $35 the day of. Tickets are available at the Chamber of Commerce and the Torrington Historical Society and online at torringtonhousetour.org. The tour includes a tour of six homes and a garden. Optional shuttle bus is available. Check in and buses are located at the Chamber beginning at 10 a.m. on the 23rd.
- CAFTA’s 7 Annual Wine Tasting and Art Sale will be held September 15th from 5:30-9 p.m. at 104 Main Street in Torrington (formerly Torrington Furniture). The event will offer a night of fun, good food, wine and music as well as an opportunity to purchase a masterpiece from CAFTA’s emerging young art students and teachers. 100% of the proceeds go to providing scholarships for all the FREE After School Art Programs that CAFTA offers throughout the school year. Tickets are $20 in advance, $25 at the door and can be purchased by emailing cafta.usa@gmail.com or calling 860-201-5706. For more information, visit www.cafta.info.

*The Winsted Farmers Market. Photo from winstedfarmersmarket.org.*
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When you’re ready to purchase or build the home of your dreams, we make the mortgage process easy. A great rate, approved quickly, with a local team who can provide insight into mortgage solutions that are built for this area.

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Thanks to Our

Renewing Members

The following Chamber members renewed their memberships during the period of July 26 through August 17. Thank you for your continued commitment to Northwest Connecticut’s Chamber of Commerce. Companies listed in bold indicate a Corporate Partner.

♦ A.N. Designs, Inc.
♦ Anthem Blue Cross & Blue Shield
♦ Arethusa Farm Dairy
♦ Ball Bushing Warehouse
♦ Canaan Child Care Center
♦ Elite Roofing
♦ Five Points Gallery
♦ Guaranteed Rate, Heath Ladona

♦ Northwest Connecticut Human Resource Association
♦ Northwest Conservation District
♦ Railroad Museum of New England, Inc.
♦ Sandra B. Roberts
♦ Susan B. Anthony Project, Inc.
♦ Tangent Industries, Inc.

♦ Torrington Beauty Academy
♦ Town of Hartland
♦ True Value of Litchfield
♦ Webster Bank
♦ WGH Family Estate & Liquidation Services

Community Representatives Report

Continued from page 21.

Warren

For additional information regarding the following Warren activities, please call 860-868-7881 ext. 113 or reference the town website at warrenct.org.

♦ Trips Offered by Park & Recreation:
  ◆ Trip to Point Jefferson, New York on September 14th. Board the Port Jeff Ferry in Bridgeport to enjoy a trip across Long Island Sound and spend the afternoon in the seaside village of Port Jefferson. This trip will be “do as you please” style. Be prepared for much walking, ambling and strolling while you enjoy the shoreline, quaint shops and delightful restaurants. Bus leaves the Warren Community Center at 8:30 a.m. Cost is $22 per person. Pack a water bottle and snack or two.
  ◆ Fall Spendlor Vermont Trip on October 1st. This trip will include a tour-hour train ride on the Green Mountain Railroad from Chester to Ludlow with a lunch stop at The Ravens Den Restaurant in Manchester and a visit to the Vermont Country Store. Cost is $125 per person and includes deluxe motor coach transportation, snacks, prizes, driver gratuity and Green Mountain Railroad ticket.

♦ Warren Parks & Recreation are sponsoring a “Picnic in The Woods” on September 21st at the Warren Woods Town Park. Tickets $15 per person. Call 860-868-7881 ext. 113 for details.

Winsted/Winchester - Fran Delaney

♦ The Farmers’ Market is held on Fridays at East End Park 3-6 PM through September 22nd. See www.foms.org for updates and watch Friends of Main Street weekly newsletter.
♦ Whiting Mill’s 3rd Sunday event will begin again in the fall. Visit whitingmills.com for more information.

If your community isn’t listed and you would be interested in becoming involved, please call the Chamber at 860-482-6586 to find out more about our Membership Committee and its Community Representatives.
Chamber Calendar of Events

All events listed below will be held at the Chamber offices at 333 Kennedy Drive, Torrington unless otherwise noted. RSVP online at nwctchamberofcommerce.org/calendar.

September 2017

7th  -  Membership Committee Meeting, 8 AM
11th -  Restaurant in the Spotlight, at the Interlaken Inn, 74 Interlaken Road, Lakeville, 5:30-6:30 PM
12th -  CPACE Green Bank Roundtable
13th -  Member to Member Workshop “Rock Star Business Summit” presented by Red Barn Consulting, 8 AM - 3 PM
14th -  Business After Hours at Wheels of Time, 54 Barlow Street, Canaan.
16th -  Over The Edge Northwest Connecticut at the Torrington Towers
18th -  South African Adventure & Safari Info Session, 6 PM
19th -  Member to Member Workshop “Fresh Perspectives Leadership Series: Part 1, Inspiring Commitment” presented by Peter Callahan of Fresh Perspectives, 9 AM - 12 Noon
20th -  Insurance Committee Meeting, 8 AM
22nd -  Torrington House Tour Preview Party & Tour
23rd -  Torrington House Tour
26th -  Business With Breakfast at Brandywine Living of Litchfield, 19 Constitution Way, Litchfield, 8 AM
27th -  Member to Member Workshop “Politics, The Economy and You!” presented by Barron Financial Group, 8-9 AM
28th -  Board of Directors Meeting, 8 AM

October 2017

2nd  -  Restaurant in the Spotlight location TBD, 5:30-6:30 PM
4th  -  WOW! Forum Advisory Committee Meeting, 8 AM
5th  -  Membership Committee Meeting, 8 AM
6th  -  WOW! Forum - info & registration available at wowforum.org
9th  -  Chamber Closed in observance of Columbus Day
12th -  Government Relations Committee Meeting, 8 AM
17th -  Chamber Health Council Meeting at Sharon Hospital, 8 AM
18th -  Insurance Committee Meeting, 8 AM
19th -  Leadership Northwest Class
23rd -  SCORE Workshop “Accounting for the non-Accountant” presented by Kristin Roberts of The Roberts Tax Group, 8-10 AM
24th -  Business with Breakfast at Toth Insurance Agency, 1151 East Main Street, Torrington, 8 AM
26th -  Board of Directors Meeting, 8 AM

Save The Date - Chamber Holiday Party December 6th at Infinity Hall, Norfolk.