

## SHOP LOCAL THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Admit it. You've done it. We all have. You're relaxing on a weekend, maybe you've got a cup of coffee in hand and are on your phone. You see a great idea for a holiday gift and in just a few clicks, you're done. You've made your purchase. The gift will be in your hand in a matter of days. No judgement here. We've done it too.

But this season, let's make a change. Let's commit to shopping local. To supporting the little guys. To actually getting in the car and going to the store and carrying your gift home. You'll feel good about it. You'll have made a difference. You shopped local.

Northwest Connecticut is lucky to have a large variety of shops that offer things for every member of your family, for every hobby and lifestyle. And you can get to any of the towns in our corner in less than an hour. If you need specific references, give us a call. While not *every* shop or store is a member of the Chamber, we'll be happy to refer you to both members and non-members if we can help you find a specific item. If you know there's a business in a certain town, but aren't sure of the name, their town hall can help too.

We have a group of members participating in our Membership Discount Program who offer some great gift ideas. We're going to highlight some that would make a perfect holiday treat, but please visit our website for a complete listing. Just mention you'd like the Chamber discount!

Shop local this holiday season. You'll be glad you did.

**Lily & Vine Floral Design:** 10% off your in store floral purchase (cannot be used toward out of area delivery). 405 Migeon Avenue, Torrington. 860-489-0400.

**Pro-Film:** 10% off any residential or commercial window film installation. 860-482-3345.

**Simsbury Inn:** 15% off dinner at Twigs Pub (excluding liquor). 379 Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury. 860-651-5700.

**Soundworks & Security:** 10% discount on an audio/video installation or 6 months free monitoring on a new security system monitored activation with a signed 3 year contract. 852 East Main Street, Torrington. 860-496-7041.

**Stadium System:** 10% off regularly priced items. Free pair of socks with Red Wing boot purchase. 297 Ashley Falls Road, Canaan. 860-824-4300.

**Toce Brothers:** 5% off Tuesdays. 143 East Main Street, Torrington. 860-496-2080.

**Warner Theatre:** 10% off all Warner Stage Company Productions. 68 Main Street, Torrington. 860-489-7180.

**Weigold Floor Covering:** Free binding on any in-stock remnant or free basic pad with any carpet remnant purchase. 148 East Albert Street, Torrington. 860-482-2492.

**White Flower Farm:** 10% off coupon. Visit [whiteflowerfarm.com](http://whiteflowerfarm.com) and use code WFFGIFT17 at checkout by 12/25/17. Not valid on gift certificates.

## Read Aloud Day: A Northwest Corner Tradition

We are seeking volunteers to spend two hours of their day sharing their love of reading with elementary school students. For the 27<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, our Chamber is excited to host Read Aloud Day on Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> (snow date- Feb.15) at elementary schools around the region.

After attending a short orientation and reviewing the book, a student will escort you to the classroom for your Read Aloud experience.

Participating schools include: Barkhamsted, Colebrook, Cornwall, Falls Village (Kellogg), Goshen, Hartland, Harwinton, Kent, Litchfield (Center & Intermediate), Morris, New Hartford (Ann Antolini, Bakerville, New Hartford Elementary), Norfolk (Botelle), North Canaan, Salisbury, Sharon, Torrington (East, Forbes, Southwest, St. Peter/St. Francis, Torrington, Vogel-Wetmore), Thomaston, Warren, Winsted (St. Anthony, Pearson).

We are looking for donations to help pay for the books, which are donated to the classrooms libraries. If you would like to make a donation, please make checks payable to NW CT Chamber Education Foundation, P.O.Box 59, Torrington, CT 06790.

To sign up to read, email [Lauren@nwctchamberofcommerce.org](mailto:Lauren@nwctchamberofcommerce.org) with your school, grade and teacher preference, if any. Please register with the Chamber, not the school. Placement in requested classrooms is made on a first-come, first-served basis.

Read Aloud is a program of the Northwest Connecticut Chamber Education Foundation.

## From the Chamber President & CEO JOANN RYAN



Last month, Governor Dannel P. Malloy announced my appointment as chairwoman of the Connecticut Employment and Training Commission (CETC). CETC provides workforce-related policy and planning guidance to the governor and the General Assembly and promotes coordination of the state's workforce-related investments, strategies and programs.

This appointment is a great honor. As a member of CETC and the Northwest Regional Workforce Investment Board for a number of years, I am proud to have the opportunity to lead this vital group of state business leaders and policymakers as we tackle complex workforce issues in this global economy. It is gratifying to serve with the business sector, government, labor, community-based, nonprofit partners and stakeholders whose overall mission is to support business growth, strengthen and grow the current workforce, and develop future talent to ensure Connecticut's vibrancy and competitiveness. I will keep you posted on our work and accomplishments.

*Promise yourself to be so strong  
that nothing can disturb your peace of mind,  
To speak of health, happiness, and prosperity  
to every person that you meet.*

*To make all your friends aware of the special qualities within them.  
To look at the sunny side of every thing and let your optimism work to  
make your dreams come true.*

*To think, work for, and expect only the best.  
To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others,  
as you are about your own.*

*To forget past mistakes and press on towards a greater future.*

*To wear a cheerful countenance at all times,  
as a smile radiates warmth and love.*

*To give so much time to the improvement of yourself  
that you have no time left to criticize others.*

*To be too wise for worry, too tolerant for anger,  
and too courageous for fear.*

*To Be Happy.*

*Anonymous*

This is my hope for the Chamber and the extraordinary people who surround us: our generous Corporate Partners, the dedicated Executive Committee and Board of Directors; strong committee chairs, loyal and hard working volunteers, a most professional staff, you, our steadfast members and many new collaborators throughout northwest Connecticut.

The Chamber looks forward to working with you with renewed enthusiasm and optimism resolving to make 2018 healthy, happy and worthwhile. Thank you for the opportunity to continue to lead this outstanding organization.

## Welcome NEW MEMBERS

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860-496-0245 • [laqcpa.com](http://laqcpa.com)

### SUZANNE MCKITIS-PERILLO, VOICE ACTOR

*Voice Actor*

Suzanne McKitis-Perillo

112 Ratlum Road • Barkhamsted

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## CAN YOU USE \$50?

*Any member who brings in a new member to the Chamber receives a \$50 Visa or MasterCard gift card. Who can't use a little extra holiday cash?*



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**JoAnn Ryan**, President & CEO • [joann@nwctchamberofcommerce.org](mailto:joann@nwctchamberofcommerce.org)

**Anita Rosa**, VP Finance/Operations • [anita@nwctchamberofcommerce.org](mailto:anita@nwctchamberofcommerce.org)

**Lauren Zordan**, VP Programs/Events

[lauren@nwctchamberofcommerce.org](mailto:lauren@nwctchamberofcommerce.org)

**Pamela LaRosa**, Director, One-Stop Workforce Operations

[pam@nwctchamberofcommerce.org](mailto:pam@nwctchamberofcommerce.org)

# WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING AT NORTHWEST CONNECTICUT'S CHAMBER

## Young Professionals Organization

Our Young Professionals Organization had a restructuring lunch meeting on November 17<sup>th</sup>. YPO Sponsor, Lance Leifert, Conquest, moderated the discussion. It was decided that the group would revert back to its' original structure with a chair, vice-chair and three subcommittees. The subcommittees will be networking/social events, community involvement, and professional development.



We're currently looking for Young Professionals ages 21-39 to serve on our subcommittees. If you or someone you know is interested, please email Lauren Zordan at [lauren@nwctchamberofcommerce.org](mailto:lauren@nwctchamberofcommerce.org).

The mission of the Young Professionals Organization is to attract and retain young professionals throughout Northwest Connecticut by networking, community involvement and professional development.

## Manufacture Your Future

For the fifth year in a row, our Manufacturers' Coalition held a Manufacture Your Future event at Oliver Wolcott Technical High School. The event was held in conjunction with their annual Open House for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and their families.

Thirteen companies exhibited at the event including: Arconic, BD, CT Center for Advanced Technology, Dymax, Fairchild Auto-Mated Parts, Hubbell, Metallon, Naugatuck Valley Community College, Northwest Regional Workforce Investment Board, Northwestern CT Community College, RBC Bearings, and Smaller Manufacturers Association/Women in Manufacturing CT.

Over 600 8<sup>th</sup> graders and their families attended the event, which ran from 6-8 PM. Exhibitors were able to market the manufacturing industry to the students and their families, initiate a conversation about manufacturing as a possible career path, and educate the students and their parents about the abundance of excellent job opportunities in manufacturing.

The event was free for exhibitors and was paid for by a grant from Northwest Regional Workforce Investment Board.

## Membership Survey

Recently, we sent out a short, 4-question survey to our membership via email. If you could please take 2 minutes to complete the survey, it will greatly help us better serve you, our members. Your responses to the survey will be kept completely anonymous.

We will use the ideas and suggestions given to plan our 2018 calendar of offerings. Our goal is to provide social and professional development events and programs that will help your business grow. If you have any general feedback for us, please email us at [info@nwctchamberofcommerce.org](mailto:info@nwctchamberofcommerce.org).

## Leadership Northwest

The Leadership class had their second full day session on Wednesday, November 15<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of the session was to expose attendees to some of the many social service organizations in Northwest Connecticut and to gain a better understanding of their purpose and who they serve.



The first stop of the day was to the Winsted Y Emergency Homeless Shelter. The Y's six rooms, with a combined 17 available beds, offers a short-term respite for families, couples and individuals suffering through

*See more of What's Been Happening on page 13.*

## Great Rates & Personalized Service.

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## COMING UP AT THE CHAMBER



### HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

*Please join us for our*  
**2017 Holiday Celebration**  
**Wednesday, December 6th**  
 5:00-8:00 p.m.

*Hosted by*  
**Infinity Hall**  
 20 Greenwoods Road West, Norfolk

*Please remember to bring a monetary donation  
 for our collection to support area food banks.*

RSVP online at [nwctchamberofcommerce.org/calendar](http://nwctchamberofcommerce.org/calendar)  
 or call 860-482-6586.

## SCORE WORKSHOPS:

### Your Business Plan's Missing Link-Cybersecurity

Is your business prepared in the event of a cybersecurity breach? Now is the time to take stock of your cybersecurity health, including the importance of securing information through best cybersecurity practices; identifying your risk and the types of cyber threats; and learning best practices for guarding against cyber threats. Edward Davis, President of Systems Support Group, Inc. will present the workshop on January 16th at the Chamber from 8:30-10:30 a.m. The fee is \$25 per person. Register by calling 860-482-6586 or online at [nwctchamberofcommerce.org/calendar](http://nwctchamberofcommerce.org/calendar).

### Marketing in the Digital Era

Are your marketing efforts successful in growing your small business? Find out what topics and concepts you should consider when creating an effective small business marketing plan—market analysis, business differentiation, brand development, promotional options, internet and social media, etc. Seth Duke, Marketing Director of O&G Industries, a member of SCORE and a Certified Business Mentor will present the workshop on January 26th from 8:30-10:30 a.m. at the Chamber. The fee is \$25 per person. Register by calling 860-482-6586 or online at [nwctchamberofcommerce.org/calendar](http://nwctchamberofcommerce.org/calendar).

## READ ALOUD DAY

Save the date for the 2018 Read Aloud Day on Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>. For the 27<sup>th</sup> year, we're asking volunteers from the community to take two hours of their day to read to students in our local elementary schools. If you would like to read, email [Lauren@nwctchamberofcommerce.org](mailto:Lauren@nwctchamberofcommerce.org) with your school and teacher/grade preference, if any.



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## BUSINESS *after* HOURS



20 East Main Street, Downtown Torrington

**Thursday, December 14th, 5:00-7:00 p.m.**

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Tom is an announcer, emcee & entertainer at Lime Rock Park ([www.limerock.com](http://www.limerock.com))  
for the "IMSA WeatherTech/Continental Tire SportsCar Challenge," July 21 & 22;  
& "Historic Festival 35," Aug 31 to Sept 4, featuring authentic vintage car racing.

## COMING UP AT THE CHAMBER Continued from page 5.

### HEALTH COUNCIL & MANUFACTURERS' COALITION

The Chamber's Health Council and Manufacturers' Coalition, peer groups for individuals who work in and with the health care and manufacturing fields, will meet on Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 8 a.m. at the Chamber office, 333 Kennedy Drive, Torrington. Victor Incerti of CMHA and Maria Coutant-Skinner of McCall Center for Behavioral Health brought an important issue to our attention which will be the focus of the meeting:

*As health care providers committed to providing high quality, compassionate care in a rural area, we often struggle with recruiting and retaining competent young professionals. Working collaboratively with other health care providers may afford all of us opportunities to market the northwest corner to this demographic. As an area that has been adept at working across traditional organizational boundaries, we are eager to explore this creative endeavor together.*

Please RSVP on-line at [nwctchamberofcommerce.org/calendar](http://nwctchamberofcommerce.org/calendar) or call the Chamber at 860-482-6586.





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Chamber members, bring your brochures and business cards along with any leads you would like to share.

**Tuesday, January 23rd at 8:00 a.m.**

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## TOMMY MARTIN FUNDRAISER

The Burlington Chamber of Commerce and the Burlington Lions Club invite you to a Pasta Dinner fundraiser to benefit Tommy Martin. Tommy, a member of the Burlington Chamber Board of Directors, was severely injured this fall in an accident.

The Pasta Dinner will be held on Saturday, December 16th at the Burlington Men's Club, 44 Covey Road, Burlington. Serving times are 2-4 p.m., 4-6 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. Tickets are \$15 for adults, 12 & under \$10, 2 & under free with a family max of \$50. Attendees are encouraged to purchase tickets in advance, however, walk-ins are welcome. The event will feature a cash bar and raffles. For tickets and information, please call Rob Cook at 860-965-6269, Colleen at 860-916-7732 or Peter at 860-673-1953.

Sponsors and raffle prizes are also welcome. Please contact the individuals listed above to contribute. Thank you.



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## Corporate Partner SHOUT OUTS

### CT Mutual Holding Company



Maura A. Malo has been promoted to Senior Vice President of Connecticut Mutual Holding Company.

Maura joined Litchfield Bancorp in 2003 as an Auditor with ten years of experience as an examiner with the FDIC. Maura was promoted to Chief Risk Officer in 2009, and in 2016 she restructured the Audit

Department. Recent department restructuring has brought Compliance and Security under Maura's purview. Stephen Reilly, President and CEO of Connecticut Mutual Holding Company states, "With this promotion, the board and senior management recognize Maura's accomplishments, and the knowledge and guidance she contributes to our organization."

Maura holds a BS in Business Administration from Western New England College and an MBA from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. She graduated from the National School of Banking in 2006. She is a recipient of the CBA New Leaders in Banking Award and a committee member of the CBA Women in Banking conference.

Maura serves as a Girl Scout leader for two troops, Treasurer of the Wamogo Girl Scout Service Unit, Treasurer of Five Points Gallery, and Secretary of the Oliver Wolcott Library. She resides in Litchfield with her husband, Steve, and daughters, Molly and Colleen.

Taylor Loomis has been promoted to Assistant Treasurer at Connecticut Mutual Holiday Company. He oversees the eBanking Department.



With ten years of banking experience, Taylor joined CMHC Operations Team in 2016 and was promoted to eBanking Coordinator in June 2017. He holds a BS and Secondary Education Certification and taught eighth grade English before resuming his banking career. In October 2017 he completed his MBA from Post University.

*Established in 2001, Connecticut Mutual Holding Company consists of three separate and independent banks: Litchfield Bancorp, Northwest Community Bank, and the Collinsville Savings Society. It was formed to preserve the unique qualities of the member banks and their ability to better meet the needs of their communities.*

### Charlotte Hungerford Hospital

The state Office of Health Care Access has approved the affiliation of Charlotte Hungerford Hospital (CHH) and Hartford HealthCare (HHC), allowing the two organizations to move forward with finalizing their partnership.

Now that the Certificate of Need application has been approved, the two organizations must approve a final agreement, after which both parties will begin a 120-day strategic planning process to outline the priorities and plans for the affiliation. The two organizations will also outline the organizational goals that will form the basis for the transition and future operations.

When finalized, CHH would become a member of Hartford HealthCare, which includes Hartford Hospital, Backus Hospital, The Hospital of Central Connecticut, MidState Medical Center, Natchaug Hospital, Windham Hospital and a wide spectrum of additional urgent care, outpatient care, a primary care network, health centers, rehabilitation, senior services, LIFE STAR, homecare, surgery centers, the state's largest Behavioral Health Network and other health services.

"With the next step of our affiliation in place, a timely and thoughtful transformation of our health services will begin so that access to care is secure for the people of northwest Connecticut and the future of that care is a strategic blending of CHH's historic sense of place and purpose with the financial, clinical, and operational acumen that come with being part of a larger health system," said Dan McIntyre, president and executive director at CHH.

"We are delighted to have reached this important milestone and look forward to this affiliation with Charlotte Hungerford," said Elliot Joseph, HHC's Chief executive officer. "Bringing our vision of being most trusted for personalized coordinated care to the residents of Northwestern Connecticut — in partnership with Charlotte Hungerford — is a true win for everyone, especially the local community.

Building a true system of care across the continuum requires these types of new relationships."

The affiliation will enable both organizations to share the knowledge and expertise of their staffs and physicians and give patients easier access to a wider range of services, technology and treatments.



We take this opportunity to wish you a happy holiday season and a new year of health, happiness, and prosperity. Thank you for allowing us to serve you in 2017.



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# Member News

## Barron Financial Group, LLP

'Tis the season for giving and the team at Barron Financial Group believes the best way to show appreciation to their clients is by giving back to the community.

In lieu of client gifts this year, Barron Financial Group will be donating \$25 in the name of each Portfolio Management household they work with to the Northwest Connecticut Community Foundation (NCCF). The NCCF focuses on enriching the quality of life for residents of their 20 town service areas in Connecticut's Northwest corner.

"The NCCF is a great organization with an important mission" says Jim Thibault, Managing Partner of Barron Financial Group. "We are happy to help support the work the NCCF does every day."

Barron Financial has made this annual client recognition donation to NCCF for the last 7 years, totaling over \$13,500 during that time. Last year's donation was over \$1,500 and the Barron team expects this year's donation to exceed \$2,000.

"Our community has supported us and helped us grow into a strong, vibrant firm. This is just one way we can give back to the community that supports us."

*Barron Financial Group, LLP is a registered investment adviser. Located in Torrington, Barron Financial offers independent financial advice and portfolio management services to individuals and business owners. For more information on Barron Financial Group, please contact them at (860) 489-0432 or visit online at [www.barronfinancialgroup.com](http://www.barronfinancialgroup.com).*

## Torrington Lions Club

Charlotte Hungerford Hospital's Diabetes Education Fund recently received a \$750 donation from The Torrington Lions Club to help fund programs and new state-of-the-art glucose monitoring technology for its Diabetes patients.

Proclaiming their motto "we serve!" Torrington Lions Club President Norm Nejaime, Secretary Phil Dzurnak, and Membership Chair Elaine Dzurnak visited the center and presented a check of \$750 to Dr. Egils Bogdanovics and Lois Pelletier, RN, CDE.

Celebrating 100 years of service, Lions have come together since 1917 for the benefit of the community. Today, they have 1.4 million members in 210 countries. The Torrington Lions Club was formed in 1925, where local members have been bringing their own unique passion and abilities for the betterment of mankind. Their annual fundraisers and community outreach include an Annual Golf Tournament, Main Street Car Show and Holiday Gift Fair.

## Branagan Communications Consultants

Barbara Branagan-Mitchell, the owner of Branagan Communications Consultants LLC (BCC), a public relations, publicity placement and marketing communications agency, has launched a publicity campaign to create awareness of the new CoWorker Hub at 900 Straits Turnpike in Middlebury by Naugatuck residents David and Rachel Keyser. CoWorker Hub is the first-of-its-kind in the region to offer a low-cost alternative to long-term leases w/furnished private offices, dedicated desk space, or flex desk spaces.

During 2017, Branagan-Mitchell has been celebrating 24 years of success as a solo entrepreneur helping companies and organizations build public awareness of their products and services by writing and placing publicity with news media via press releases, captioned photos and event listings. Branagan Communications Consultants services include writing and editing content for websites, newsletters, and marketing materials. For information, visit [www.branagancommunications.com](http://www.branagancommunications.com), call 860-210-0149, or email [barbara@branagancommunications.com](mailto:barbara@branagancommunications.com).

## Northwestern CT Community College

The Northwestern Connecticut Community College Art Department presents a student show titled *Process and Product* at the Nancy Marine Gallery of the Warner Theatre, Torrington through February 8, 2018. The show was curated by Karl Goulet and Krista Narciso, emerging artists from the Launchpad initiative at Five Points Gallery in Torrington.

"Northwestern Connecticut Community College is honored to be in an Educational Consortium with Five Points Gallery," declares Janet Nesteruk, Professor of Art at NCCC. "The gallery serves to extend and enrich our program in many ways. Coordinating with the Launchpad artists was another great opportunity for us. My sincere thanks go to Karl and Krista for their insight and professionalism, which gave birth to this wonderful show."

Judith McElhone, Founding Executive Director of Five Points Gallery, felt this was a wonderful chance to bring these communities together. Five Points Gallery and The Warner Theater have worked with NCCC in the past, but it was exciting to have these two talented Launchpad artists add to their experience as curators. They were both responsible for selecting the pieces and Karl organized the show.

For information on the courses offered at the Art Department of NCCC, please call 860-738-6384.

# Community Representatives Report

## Burlington - Janet Schwartz

- ♦ The annual Burlington Parks and Rec Carol sing will be held on December 6th at 7 p.m. on the town green.
- ♦ The Burlington Men's Club on Covey Road will hold an evening of acoustic music with Jim Pellitier on December 15th from 7-11 p.m. Cost is \$5 per person and is open to the public. Food and beverages will be available. Contact Alan Savoca at 860-670-3153 for information.
- ♦ Join the Lions Club and the Burlington Chamber of Commerce for a pasta dinner fundraiser for Tommy Martin. Serving times 2-4 pm, 4-6 pm, 6-8 pm. Adults \$15, 12 and under \$10, under 2 free. Buy tickets in advance or walk-ins welcome. For more information call Rob 860-965-6269, Colleen 860-916-7732, or Peter 860-673-1953.
- ♦ The Burlington Men's Club will hold a New Year's Day Breakfast on January 1st. Event is open to the public.
- ♦ The Burlington Community Fund will sponsor a panel discussion on the opioid crisis in the area on January 10th from 7-9 p.m. at Lewis Mills Auditorium. Panelists will include representatives from The Burlington Police, Burlington EMTs, The McCall Center, and others. A resource table will be available. There is no charge for attendance. Snow date will be January 17th.

## Canaan/N. Canaan - Karen Kuhl & Wendy Eichman

- ♦ The following program will be held at The Lodge at Geer Village, 77 South Canaan Road, Canaan. It is free and open to the public. Please RSVP to Deb Pelletier at 860-824-2625 or [dpelletier@geercares.org](mailto:dpelletier@geercares.org)
  - ◊ "Family Dynamics at Holiday Time...Or Anytime" will be presented by Dr. John Fitzgerald on December 13th at 2 p.m. Light refreshments will be served.
- ♦ Pack 22 Cub Scouts will hold a free Pancake Breakfast with Santa on December 2nd at NCES from 8-11 a.m. Bring an unwrapped gift for a senior citizen at Geer or Beckley House. Call Nikki at 860-671-0592 for info.
- ♦ The Canaan VFW Post 6851 will hold a Breakfast with Santa on December 10th from 8-11 a.m. Bring an unwrapped toy to be donated to Toys for Tots.
- ♦ Stadium System will be open on Sundays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Christmas Eve for all your shopping needs.

## Cornwall - Dianne Heiny

- ♦ Please visit the Cornwall website at [www.cornwallct.org](http://www.cornwallct.org) and/or visit the Town of Cornwall's or the Cornwall Chronicle's Facebook pages for more information.
- ♦ The Toll House Gallery in West Cornwall will continue to showcase the work of Donald Bracken, Lennart Swede Ahlstrom and Scott Zuckerman in addition to the newly added collection by Susan Rand through December. The paintings will be on display Monday-Friday from 9-5 and Saturdays 10-4. Private showings are available.

- ♦ Susan Hellmann's exhibit "Simply Cornwall Extended and Expanded" will continue at the Souterrain Gallery through December.
- ♦ The West Cornwall Holiday Stroll will take place on December 9th from 1-6 p.m. on Route 128 in West Cornwall.
- ♦ The UCC's Annual Christmas Pageant will take place on December 9th at 7:30 p.m. on Bolton Hill Road in Cornwall Village.
- ♦ The Cornwall Historical Society will hold an opening of their off-season exhibit "Cornwall in T-Shirts: because you can't go naked" on December 16th from 4-6 p.m.
- ♦ The North Cornwall Meeting House on Bolton Hill Road in Cornwall Village will hold Christmas Eve Services at 5 and 8 p.m.

## Falls Village - Wendy Eichman

- ♦ Rustling Wind Creamery, located at 148 Canaan Mountain Road in Falls Village, will be open daily through December 24th from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Shop their holiday open house featuring specialty food items, holiday gifts and gift baskets.

## Harwinton - Carol Kearns & Harry Schuh

- ♦ The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Harwinton Hometown Holiday Celebration on December 2 from 4-7 p.m. at the Harwinton Town Hall and Sports Complex.
- ♦ Harwinton Public Library will present the following programs:
  - ◊ 12 x 12 Art Exhibition runs through December 30th. Paintings, drawings, photographs, collages and designs by local artists - all available for purchase. Free admission, may be seen during regular library hours.
  - ◊ Holiday Open House and Craft Sale on December 2nd from 9:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. featuring homemade crafts and gifts, teacup auction and book cart sale.
  - ◊ Holiday Craft Sale through December 23rd during regular library hours. Handmade crafts and gifts donated by local residents. Book cart sale full of books for all ages.
- ♦ Harwinton Senior Center will host the following programs (call 860-689-1951 for info):
  - ◊ Senior Center Lunch Bunch at the Painted Pony Restaurant in Bethlehem on December 6th.
  - ◊ The Annual Christmas Lunch will be held at the Center on December 20th at Noon. Entertainment to follow. \$13 per person.
  - ◊ New Year's Lunch at the Center on January 3rd at Noon. \$10 per person.
- ♦ The Harwinton Historical Society will hold "Ulysses S. Grant" on December 3rd from 2-4 p.m. Free & open to the public.



# Community Representatives Report

## Litchfield - Edgar Auchincloss

- ◆ Be sure to put a visit to Litchfield at the top of your Holiday Shopping list. I'm pleased to report the opening of several new shops in the West Street corridor, both in the traditional retail block and also in the evolving new retail space in the newly renovated jail facility. Following the conclusion of a successful election season, Litchfield is poised to address the potential of a new Town Hall and additional affordable housing units, all of which are material enhancements to the community.

## Torrington - Lynn Gelormino

- ◆ The Christmas Village Toy Shower will take place on December 8 from 5-8 p.m. at the Coe Park Civic Center. Call WZBG at 860-567-3697 or stop in to make

a pledge. The event will include a variety of music provided by local talented artists, including the choir from THS, children's activity stations and light refreshments.

- ◆ The Christmas Village Parade will take place on December 10th. The parade begins at the Armory at 12:30 p.m. The opening ceremony at Christmas Village, 150 Church Street, will be at 1 p.m. Christmas Village will be open daily 1-8:30 p.m., closing on Christmas Eve at noon. Free and open to the public.
- ◆ Torrington Park & Rec Holiday Decorating Contest will be judged on December 12th between 6-9 p.m. Categories are Commercial Christmas Display and Residential Decorated Doorway, Nativity and Christmas Display. Call 860-489-2274 for an entry form.

*Continued on page 14.*

## WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING Continued from page 3.

difficult times. Housing Supervisor, Bruce Mochan, works with guests and helps them on the road to securing housing of their own. Johnny Burnham, Marketing Director and Bruce spoke to the group about the shelter and gave a tour. One of the residents from the shelter shared his very moving story with the class.

Following the Y, the group traveled to McCall Center for Behavioral Health where they met with Executive Director, Maria Coutant-Skinner. McCall is a private, non-profit, behavioral healthcare agency focused on recovery, prevention and community. But, more than that, they're a group of dedicated professionals who are passionate about helping the people of our community. The people they serve are at the heart of everything they do. Every program, service and decision they make is centered around them and their wellness. Maria gave some background about McCall, why it was founded, how it has grown, etc. and also talked about the opioid epidemic, how our region is being affected, and gave the group a tour of McCall's campus. A gentleman who was treated at McCall also talked about his experience there and how he's doing now that he's finishing treatment.

The group met up at Giesco Catering Company for lunch where they were given their team assignments and instructions for their group projects. The class had time to meet with their groups to formulate some project ideas.

After lunch, the class met with Michael Menard, Executive Director, Katherine Marchand-Beyer, Director of Community Support and Camp Moe, and Christina Emery, Director of Development at LARC's main campus in Torrington. The class learned about all the great things LARC and Camp Moe are doing for the community and had a tour of LARC's day program. LARC was founded by families 50 years ago to give loved ones with intellectual and developmental disabilities a better life. Today, approximately 570 adults and children throughout Litchfield County benefit from LARC's programs and services. LARC's Camp Moe program is an inclusive summer day camp where children of all abilities are empowered to explore and thrive.

The last stop of the day was to FISH/Friends in Service to Humanity of Northwest CT to meet with Executive Director, Deirdre DiCara. The mission of FISH NW CT is to provide the most basic of human needs- food, shelter and hope. Since opening its doors in 1972, FISH has evolved into the largest emergency homeless shelter in the NWCT corner, providing families, individuals and veterans a safe and secure haven, as well as serving the residents of area communities as a food pantry. Deirdre gave the group a tour of FISH's food pantry and homeless shelter and gave a synopsis of all the different events they have going on throughout the year.

*Note: The December session will take place on December 13<sup>th</sup> and there will be a Corporate Leadership Panel in the morning, a Leadership-focused activity with Peter Callahan, Fresh Perspectives at lunch, and a Board Participation Panel in the afternoon.*





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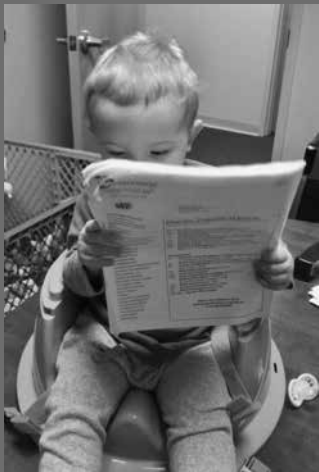
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**Community  
Representatives Report**

Continued from page 13.

**Winsted - Fran Delaney**

- ◆ Christmas on Main Street event was held on December 2nd, with a variety of activities downtown including horse drawn carriage rides and, of course, Santa.
- ◆ Whiting Mills Studios grand opening for Lill Curio Shop, vintage photography studio and gallery; featuring an eclectic mix of Victorian antiques and authentic Steampunk collectibles and vintage inspired hand crafted jewelry, artwork and prints took place on December 2nd & 3rd. Their annual Open Studios event was also held on the 2nd & 3rd featuring over 30 resident artists, photographers, craftspeople, businesses and specialty shops plus 15 guest artists. Whiting Mills features a wide variety of unique items perfect for holiday giving.
- ◆ December 9<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 12 noon, RR Model and Hobby Supply will sponsor a workshop on Autumn Scenery - Contact Roger at RR Hobby and Supply for more information.
- ◆ December 17<sup>th</sup> will be 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday at Whiting Mills 11am – 4pm
- ◆ The Farmer's Market continues its winter schedule on December 16th at the Gaylord-Tiffany playground building from 10:00am-1:00pm, featuring produce, baked good, meats and health and animal care products
- ◆ Mark your calendar for the annual Bubbles and Truffles Chocolate and Wine Tasting. This year's event will be held on February 9th with location and details to follow. See Friends of Main Street website [www.foms.org](http://www.foms.org) for updates and more information as it becomes available.



Owen Wadhams might just be the youngest professional out there and we think he's one of the cutest too!

While helping out at the office of Vintech Management Services, Owen took a moment to make sure he didn't miss out on any of the Chamber news.

*Thanks to Our*

# Renewing Members

The following Chamber members renewed their memberships during the period of November 1st through November 28th. Thank you for your continued commitment to Northwest Connecticut's Chamber of Commerce. Companies listed in bold indicate a Corporate Partner.

- ◆ Alternative Employment, Inc.
- ◆ All-Star Transportation, LLC
- ◆ **Chatterley's Banquet Facility**
- ◆ Check It Off, LLC
- ◆ Comcast Business
- ◆ Custom Furniture & Design
- ◆ Devereux Glenholme School
- ◆ Law Offices of Robert F. Dwyer, Jr.
- ◆ Eastside Electric, Inc.
- ◆ Edward Jones Investments, Gary Nicksa & James Zeller
- ◆ Executive Glass, LLC
- ◆ Golden Insurance Group, LLC
- ◆ Klebe Fuel Co., Inc.
- ◆ Lily & Vine Floral Design
- ◆ Litchfield Hills Nursery
- ◆ McCall Center for Behavioral Health
- ◆ Meadow Street Commons-Winsted, LLC
- ◆ **Northwest Community Bank**
- ◆ Northwest Hills Dealerships
- ◆ Petrovits, Patrick, Smith & Co., LLC
- ◆ Prism Health Advocates, LLC
- ◆ Putnam Tennis & Recreation
- ◆ Regional School District #6
- ◆ Reynolds Carbide Die Co.
- ◆ Seitz LLC
- ◆ Spectracoat Metalizing, LLC
- ◆ Stadium System
- ◆ Systems Support Group, Inc.
- ◆ Torrington Lodge of Elks BPOE #372
- ◆ Town of Harwinton
- ◆ Travel Daly
- ◆ We Leap Coaching
- ◆ Winchester Industries, Inc.



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Sharon Hospital  
TD Bank  
Thomaston Savings Bank  
Torrington Savings Bank  
Toth Insurance Agency  
Turri-Masterson, Inc.  
Union Savings Bank  
Valerie Manor  
Webster Bank

## Chamber Calendar of Events

All events listed below will be held at the Chamber offices at 333 Kennedy Drive, Torrington unless otherwise noted.

### December 2017

- 13th - **Leadership Northwest**
- 14th - **Government Relations Committee** Meeting, 8 AM  
**Business After Hours** at Hatfield & Co., Jewelers, 20 East Main Street, Torrington, 5-7 PM  
**Brookdale Litchfield Hills Holiday Open House**, 376 Goshen Road, Torrington, 5-7 PM. RSVP to 860-489-8022.
- 15th - **Health Council** Meeting, 8 AM
- 20th - **Insurance Committee** Meeting, 8 AM
- 21st - **Board of Directors** Meeting, 8 AM
- 25th-29th - **Chamber Offices Closed**

### January 2018

- 1st - **Chamber Offices Closed** in observance of New Year's Day
- 4th - **Membership Committee** Meeting, 8 AM
- 5th - **Manufacturers' Coalition** Meeting, 8 AM
- 11th - **Government Relations Committee** Meeting, 8 AM
- 16th - **SCORE Workshop: "Your Business Plan's Missing Link - Cybersecurity"**, 8:30 AM
- 17th - **Insurance Committee** Meeting, 8 AM  
**Leadership Northwest**
- 23rd - **Business with Breakfast** at the American Job Center, 249 Thomaston Avenue, Waterbury, 8 AM
- 24th - **Business After Hours** at CAFTA, 100 Prospect Street, Torrington, 5-7 PM
- 25th - **Board of Directors** Meeting, 8 AM
- 26th - **SCORE Workshop: "Marketing in the Digital Era"**, 8:30 AM

**RSVP to the Chamber on-line at**  
**[nwctchamberofcommerce.org/calendar](http://nwctchamberofcommerce.org/calendar)**  
**or call 860-482-6586.**