

## ARE YOU GETTING OUR EMAILS?!? RECENT SERVER CHANGE COULD REQUIRE ACTION

We've heard from a number of our members that they have not been receiving our weekly upcoming events emails (which are sent on Tuesdays) or our Chamber Exchange member to member emails (which are sent on Thursdays). Some actually asked if we had stopped offering networking events! That is not the case! As the pages of this newsletter will show, we are just as active as we have been and are still offering a plethora of opportunities for your business.

If you are not receiving emails from us but always had, the problem could be that we recently changed our email servers. **First, make sure to check your Spam folder. If it's not there, have your IT department check to ensure our domain of nwchamberofcommerce.org is Whitelisted.** If this has been done and you are still not receiving our emails, please give us a call to let us know and we'll have our IT check things on our side.

If you've never received our emails, but would like to, simply email [anita@nwctchamberofcommerce.org](mailto:anita@nwctchamberofcommerce.org) and we'll get you added to the distribution list immediately. Finally, please note, we do not share the email distribution list.

## LEADS GROUPS CONTINUE TO GROW

In less than a year, the Chamber has successfully launched two Leads Groups. Due to popular demand, a third group will begin meeting this month!

The purpose is for members of each group to form alliances with one another to identify prospects and foster increased business; ultimately growing their customer base through a supportive network. At each meeting, members are allowed to share details on their business, provide testimonials/referrals to other group members, and each meeting concludes with a 15-20 minute focus on one member or a beneficial activity for the group.

Leads III, co-captained by new member Deirdre Tindall of Tind-All Creative Marketing, will meet at the Chamber on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month at noon. Enrollment is based on a "first-to-respond" basis due to the format permitting only one individual per industry. There are plenty of industry sectors available for representation in both the new group meeting on Fridays and Group II that meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at 8 a.m.

Co-captains of Leads I (meeting on the 2nd and 4th Mondays at noon) are John Seagrave of Barron Financial Group and Amber Chapman of Brandywine Living at Litchfield. Wednesday's Leads Group is co-captained by Carla DuBois of People's United Bank and Joseph Finke of Liberty Mutual.

Chamber members interested in participating are asked to contact Anita Rosa at [anita@nwctchamberofcommerce.org](mailto:anita@nwctchamberofcommerce.org) or 860-482-6586.



*Members of Leads Group I at the Chamber Annual Meeting (back row from left): John Seagrave, Barron Financial Group, Greg Tonan, Northwest Community Bank, Lisa Ferris, Brooker Memorial, Jacque Williams, Jacque Williams Entertainment, Brian Thompson, defend-id; and (front row) Michael Morse Jr., Pursue the Clues and Sarah Perrotti, Regency Real Estate.*

*From the Chamber  
President & CEO*  
**JOANN RYAN**



Your Chamber has a few new faces on its Board of Directors. At the Annual Meeting, held on April 12th, members elected the following new directors to a three year term:

- ◆ Christine Bascetta-Gath of Litchfield Bancorp
- ◆ Maria Gonzalez of New Opportunities, Inc.
- ◆ Erick Royer of Stepcraft, Inc.
- ◆ John Seagrave of Barron Financial Group, LLP

Welcome to the Board and thank you for volunteering to serve the Chamber! In addition to the new members, several directors agreed to serve an additional three year term. They were also elected at the Annual meeting:

- ◆ Robert Geiger, Town of Winchester
- ◆ Kathleen Katrenya, Torrington Savings Bank
- ◆ Antonio Ponte, Jr., Thomaston Savings Bank
- ◆ Michael Rooke, Ph.D., Northwestern Connecticut Community College
- ◆ Jacque Williams, Jacque Williams Entertainment

We appreciate their willingness to continue to serve the Chamber and its members.

Thank you to Winvian Farm for hosting our April 25th Board of Directors meeting. Shari Mahan and the rest of the staff of Winvian provided an absolutely beautiful start to the day with a delicious breakfast on the grounds of one of Northwest Connecticut's best kept secrets! Visit when you can!

At the April meeting, the Chamber's officers were elected. Please join me in congratulating our new slate of officers:

- ◆ Chairman of the Board, Steve Zarrella, Northwest Community Bank
- ◆ Vice Chairman of the Board, Carolyn Morrison, Thomaston Savings Bank
- ◆ Treasurer, Lance Leifert, Conquest
- ◆ Secretary, Larry Cassella, Retired Professional



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JoAnn Ryan, President & CEO • joann@nwctchamberofcommerce.org  
Anita Rosa, VP Finance/Operations • anita@nwctchamberofcommerce.org

Lauren Zordan, VP Programs/Events  
lauren@nwctchamberofcommerce.org

Pamela LaRosa, Director One-Stop Workforce Operations  
pam@nwctchamberofcommerce.org

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*Welcome*  
**NEW MEMBERS**

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# Coming Up at NORTHWEST CONNECTICUT'S CHAMBER




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## WOW! Forum

This year's WOW! Forum will take place on Friday, October 4<sup>th</sup> at the Carole & Ray Neag Performing Arts Center at The Warner Theatre. The all-day professional women's conference will feature 6 incredible keynote speakers and some special surprise guests. The conference also includes breakfast, lunch, a chocolate and wine reception and silent auction.



NICOLE ZURAITIS

We are pleased to welcome Grammy® Nominated New York based vocalist and pianist Nicole Zuraitis to the 2019 WOW! Forum. Nicole blends clever songwriting skills, an effervescent presence and unparalleled vocals in a consummate package that has thrilled audiences across Manhattan and around the world.

She is the vocalist for the world famous Birdland Big Band and the Dan Pugach Nonet, the winner of the New York Coffee Music Project Songwriting Competition, ASCAP Herb Alpert Young Jazz Composers Award recipient and was a finalist in the Sarah Vaughan International Jazz Vocal Competition. Her 2017 Album HIVE MIND won Best Jazz Album in the International Music and Entertainment Awards and she was awarded the Johnny Mercer and People's Choice Award in the American Traditions Competition. Her world music folk band EVA toured internationally alongside folk legends Livingston Taylor, Melanie Safka and Tom Chapin. She has performed with The Omar Hakim Experience as a vocalist at the Iridium Jazz Club, Maz of Snarky Puppy, Don Braden, Rachel Z, Hagar Ben Ari, Dave Stryker, Antonio Sanchez, Cyrille Aimee and Bernard Purdie, Kung Fu and Elise Testone at the New Orleans Jazz Festival.

Nicole is a proud member of the Litchfield Jazz Camp faculty. Her love for jazz education has brought her to songwriting and jazz workshops worldwide, including Berklee College of Music, Williams College, Litchfield Jazz Camp, Australian Embassy, Burnt Hills High School Artist in Residence, Israel Embassy, SAM Academy in Chennai India and Miami Arts Charter School. Nicole holds residencies in New York City at both the 55 Bar and Birdland Jazz Club. Visit [www.nicoleZmusic.com](http://www.nicoleZmusic.com) for more information.

Another keynote speaker this year is entrepreneur, model, author, and blogger, Dian Griesel.

Over 1,000 public & private company executives, boards and individuals have hired Dian Griesel, Ph.D., President of Dian Griesel Int'l., a woman-owned small business, as their perception analyst and strategist. She writes a daily column as the Founder of Silver Disobedience® her blogging platform which has been featured in articles by AARP and Forbes, as well as SxSW. Via Silver Disobedience Inc., Dian consults with management, product & marketing teams who seek to better understand and appropriately target older audiences. Dian is also a model represented by



DIAN GRIESEL

Continued on page 6.


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\*Transactions include deposits made, deposit items, checks paid and ACH debits and credits. Over 500 transactions, 50¢ each.

# What's Been Happening at NORTHWEST CONNECTICUT'S CHAMBER

## Financial Reality Fair

Thank you to over 130 volunteers who made this year's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary Financial Reality Fair a huge success. Over 700 students from 14 different schools around Connecticut attended the fair on April 24<sup>th</sup> at Torrington High School.

Chamber member volunteers were joined by staff from Credit Unions across Connecticut to help students decide how to spend their monthly salaries on transportation, clothing, nightlife, housing, electronics, cell phones, furniture, etc. After purchasing all these items, the students met with a financial counselor who helped them add and subtract their budget worksheet to find out if they lived within their means.



The Financial Reality Fair, put on by the Credit Union League of Connecticut, is a unique opportunity for students to experience some of the financial challenges they will face when they start life on their own.

Thank you to the following companies who sponsored students to attend the fair: Academy of Medical Training; American Mural Project; Bicron Electronics Company; Brooks, Todd & McNeil Insurance; Conquest; Doyle's Medical Supply; Eastside Electric, Inc.; Maria Seymour Brooker Memorial; Northwest Hills Credit Union; Sterling Sintered Technologies, Inc.; Torrington Municipal & Teachers Federal Credit Union; Torrington Savings Bank; Union Savings Bank; and William P. Ryan DMD LLC.

## Chamber Travel Program

Twenty-two people from Litchfield County and beyond, returned on April 16<sup>th</sup> from a 10-day trip to Greece sponsored by the Chamber and organized through Aventura World.

The group learned a lot about the Greek culture, their family life, and their relationship with the European Union in a Cultural Discovery Series facilitated by their guide throughout the week. They had a tour of Athens including the Panathenaic Stadium where the first

Olympic Games of modern times were held in 1896, the Temple of Olympian Zeus, Hadrian's Arch, the Parliament and the memorial to the Unknown Soldier, the Academy, the University, the National Library, and Constitution Square.

They visited the Acropolis, the architectural masterpiece-Parthenon, built in the 5<sup>th</sup> century B.C., and the Acropolis Museum which is home to an award-winning collection of artifacts from excavations of the Acropolis.

On day 4, the group went to Epidaurus to see a majestic amphitheater with its white limestone tiers rising over 65 feet above ground. Built in the 4<sup>th</sup> century B.C., the amphitheater seats 14,000 spectators. The same day, they enjoyed an olive oil tasting at a local farm.

A highlight of the trip was crossing the Corinth Canal, one of the 19<sup>th</sup> century's engineering masterpieces with history that starts as early as 602 B.C. They also visited Delphi, Greece's most breathtaking ancient site, home of the oracle of Apollo.

On day 7, the group took a drive to Olympia, where the first Olympic Games took place 2800 years ago. Olympia is also home to the ancient Sanctuary of Zeus- a vast expanse of well-preserved altars, temples, theaters, and marble statues.

The trip featured an optional tour to Santorini, which all travelers took. Santorini, one of the Greek islands, is



famous for its white washed houses with blue domes perched on the edge of a cliff. The group went to Pyrgos, the highest point of Santorini with panoramic views of the entire island. They visited a wine museum eight meters below ground in a natural cave and enjoyed a wine tasting of local wines. After a quick stop to a black sand beach, they ended their tip in Oia, a traditional settlement in the north of Santorini with incredible scenery and breathtaking views of the ocean below the cliffs. It was truly the trip of a lifetime!

*Continued on page 11.*

*Coming Up at*

## NORTHWEST CONNECTICUT'S CHAMBER

*Continued from Page 3.*

### **WOW! Forum** *Continued from Page 3.*

Wilhelmina NY, Icon Division & Aperture Talent. Her executive team co-manages her DGIcomm, which has core expertise in advising FDA, FTC, SEC, DoD and other regulated companies.

A certified clinical hypnotherapist (Union 472), a member of the American Counseling Association and a lifetime member of the International Association of Counselors and Therapists, Dian has developed a keen intuition and understanding of how written, verbal, visual and body language communication trigger opinions, actions and response. She is known for her thoughtful insights; ability to listen closely and impart candid, spot-on advice; as well as her willingness to create connections to her broad, well-established network of friends and business relationships.

Join us on October 4<sup>th</sup> to learn more about Nicole and Allison.

## **CHAMBER TRAVEL** *Announcing 2020 Trips*

### *Amalfi Coast & Rome- April 18-25*

It is little wonder that this country is one of the world's best-loved destinations and that two-thirds of the world's historical artistic heritage is in Italy. Whether it's culture, gastronomy, cutting-edge design, sybaritic pleasures or simply the art of dolce far niente, doing nothing and just soaking up the atmosphere, this is a country for lovers of all that is good in life. The Amalfi Coast's mixture of history and nature are yours to discover from the Cathedral of Amalfi, to the villas in Ravello and the numerous churches built during the historical period of Amalfi's Republic. From Galli's Isles in front of Positano to the Emerald Grotto, the Amalfi Coast will captivate you with its warmth and beauty. 8 days, 6 nights including hotels, meals, day trips and airfare from JFK for \$2899 (if booked before October 23<sup>rd</sup>).

### *Budapest, Vienna & Prague- November 2-10*

Dotted with hilltop fortresses, ornate cathedrals, and imperial palaces, Vienna, Budapest, and Prague will captivate you. Enjoy Bohemian castles, Hungarian thermal baths, and vintage Viennese coffeehouses on this splendid journey to three of Europe's most exquisite riverside capitals. Take in the ornate architecture and stately elegance of Vienna. Roam Budapest's wide boulevards and lounge along the banks of the Danube. Spend a few days getting to know each of these dynamic cities, and you'll discover their vivid World War II history, radical art movements, and unique local cultures. 9 days, 7 nights including hotels, meals, day trips, and airfare from JFK for \$2899 (if reserved before March 23, 2020).

*See More "Coming Up" on page 9*

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# Corporate Partner SHOUT OUTS

## TORRINGTON SAVINGS BANK

Torrington Savings Bank is pleased to announce the addition of David M. Onofrio as Vice President, Commercial Loan Officer, to their management team. Mr. Onofrio comes to Torrington Savings with over 20 years Commercial Loan experience, most recently with Farmington Bank/Peoples United Bank, where he was a Vice President Commercial Loan Officer. He has also held positions at Eagle Bank/Webster Bank and Bristol Savings Bank.



Mr. Onofrio is a graduate of Western New England University, Springfield, MA where he earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Finance.



Torrington Savings Bank has announced the appointment of Steven Temkin to its Board of Trustees.

Mr. Temkin is the Chief Executive Officer of T & M Building Co., Inc., a homebuilding company headquartered in Torrington, Connecticut, which was co-founded by his late father

Abraham Temkin. He is also a member of Torrington Downtown Partners, LLC, an entity that owns, renovates and leases spaces in downtown Torrington. Temkin serves as the Treasurer and a Trustee of the Torrington Library, a member of the Board of Directors of the Torrington Historical Society and the Legislative Chairman of the Home Builders Association of Northwest Connecticut.

Edwin G. Booth, Jr., Chairman of the Board of Trustees, said, "Steven's strong business background and dedication to the community make him a wonderful addition to our Board. Our Trustees and Management team look forward to working with Steven to help achieve the Bank's financial and community goals."

"I am excited to play a role at an institution that has been a part of Torrington for over 150 years. I look forward to seeing the Bank evolve as it serves the interests of today's community." Mr. Temkin has stated.

## LITCHFIELD BANCORP

Litchfield Bancorp is proud to announce that they were selected as one of 18 community banks and credit unions throughout New England as a Community Hero by American Business Media, publisher of *Banking New England* and *Centerpoint* magazines. Litchfield Bancorp was chosen for going above and beyond to help aid the community.



In the category of economic development, Litchfield Bancorp was selected and was awarded gold standing for their Community Cash Mobs at the Awards Gala held March 28th at The Armory at MGM Springfield. These Cash Mobs are held monthly to help increase different business' brand awareness and create potential repeat business by supplying employees with a stipend to spend at selected local businesses. Litchfield Bancorp employees "mob" the business of the month with sales and promote the activity on social media to bank customers and followers alike.

On April 24, 2019 James P. O'Leary was honored as he retired from Litchfield Bancorp's Board of Directors after 28 years. At a dinner held at Tavern off the Green in the Litchfield Inn, Mr. O'Leary was presented with a plaque of appreciation from Litchfield Bancorp, as well as a citation from the State of Connecticut acknowledging that while on the Board of Directors, his leadership helped Litchfield Bancorp continue his legacy of providing quality banking opportunities and commend his commitment and dedication to the communities it serves.





## 9th Annual Litchfield Hills Beer & Wine Fest At Ski Sundown

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Designated Driver tickets available \$15

Live music by Root Six

Food available for purchase

Must be 21 to attend

No Pets Allowed



**Tickets available online at [skisundown.com](http://skisundown.com)**

For more information: 860-489-1328 ext. 113

Email: [lferris@brookermemorial.org](mailto:lferris@brookermemorial.org)



Coming Up at NW CT'S CHAMBER *Continued from page 6.*



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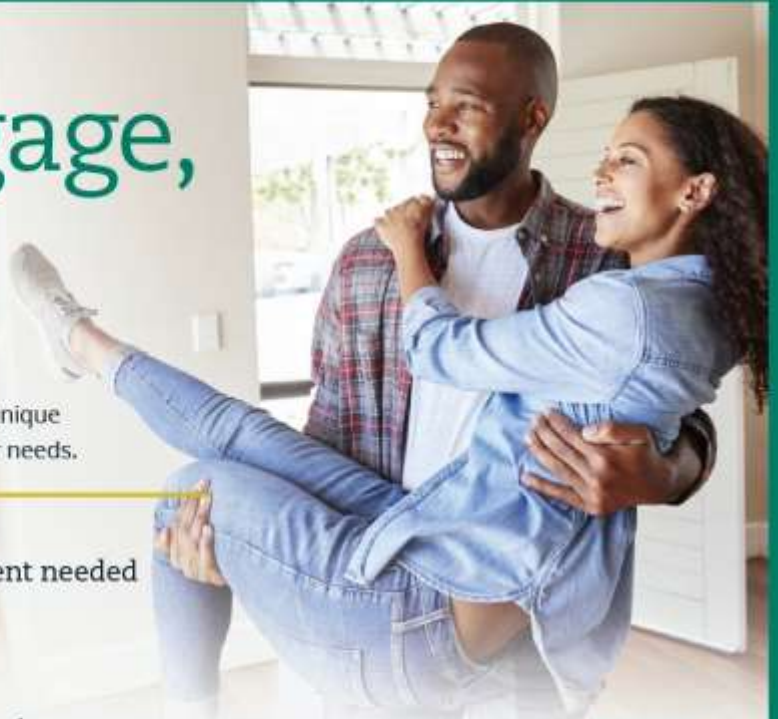


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# What's Been Happening at NORTHWEST CONNECTICUT'S CHAMBER

Continued from page 5.

## Leadership Northwest

The topic of the April 17<sup>th</sup> Leadership session was Arts, Culture & Education. The mission was to learn effective listening skills and gain exposure to the arts, culture and educational opportunities in the region.

Deene Morris, owner of Inspire Leadership, LLC, lead the group in a morning seminar on Generous Listening Skills. The class did an exercise where they split up into groups and one person told a story while the others were listening for different things like facts and emotions. It was a great lesson on improving your listening skills.

After lunch, the group headed to Northwestern CT Community College to hear more about the higher education system in Connecticut and specifically what Northwestern has to offer its students in our region. Speakers included President Michael Rooke; Dean of Academic and Student Affairs, Dave Ferreira; Coordinator Workforce Development, Jane Williams; and Credit-free Allied Health Coordinator, Center for Workforce Development, Heather Cappabianca.

After a short walk, the class had a behind-the-scenes tour of American Mural Project, the future home of the largest mural in the world, led by Executive Director Amy Wynn. They also visited Whiting Mills right next door and had a tour with General Manager Sandy Evans.



The Leadership teams are wrapping up their projects this month before they graduate in June. The Mental Health Awareness Fair, "Wellness in the Park", will be held on Monday, May 13<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-8:00 PM at Coe Park in Torrington. The fair is open to the public

and will feature vendors, food trucks, yoga, Zumba, art therapy, live music and a Speak Out. Funds raised from the

event will be donated to McCall Center for Behavioral Health: Veteran's Services. Thank you to the companies who generously sponsored the event.

The Little Free Libraries are currently being built and will soon be installed at all the elementary schools in Torrington. The team collected and stamped hundreds of books that will be placed into the libraries for people to "take a book, and leave a book", which is the purpose of the Little Free Libraries. Thank you to companies who sponsored a library.

The class' May session will be a class retreat at Camp Jewell that will feature team building exercises and personal growth activities, as well as team bonding. The class will graduate on June 19<sup>th</sup> with a dinner reception and a presentation of their group projects.

Thank you Northwest Regional Workforce Investment Board for sponsoring this year's Leadership program.

## Junior Leadership NW

On April 22<sup>nd</sup>, the class met for their last session of the year. The topic was Arts, Culture & Education. The first stop was to The Warner Theatre to meet with Lesley Budny, Marketing Director, and Isabel Carrington, Director of Education. The group had a tour of the main theater, Carole & Ray Neag Performing Arts Center and the Center for Arts Education. They learned about the history of the theater, the events and shows they put on, and the classes and facility they offer the public.



Afterward, the class walked across the street to KidsPlay Children's Museum where they met with Executive Director Eileen Marriott. Eileen explained the purpose of the museum and its impact on downtown Torrington and the region. The class also had a tour of the museum and got to create an art project in the Maker's Space.

The class will graduate on May 20<sup>th</sup> at a dinner reception at Marino's Restaurant in Torrington. Thank you to Torrington Savings Bank for sponsoring the Junior Leadership Northwest program.

Corporate Partner **SHOUT OUTS**

Continued from page 7.

In addition to serving on LBC's Board of Directors, Mr. O'Leary has served on many other boards, among them, 15 years on the Connecticut Mutual Holding Company, 12 years as Goshen's First Selectman, 9 years on the Northwest Connecticut Community Foundation and for the past 45 years, continues to serve as a member of the Goshen Fire Company.

"In honor of Jim's dedication, commitment and service, a \$1,000 donation from our recently established Litchfield Bancorp Directors Advised Fund will be made to an organization of his choosing. This donation in Jim's name will be the inaugural donation from this enduring fund," Mr. Villanova, President & CEO of Litchfield Bancorp said during the presentation.

In addition to directors and employees, his wife Barbara and two of his three daughters were able to attend. We wish Jim many more happy years with his family during retirement.



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# MEMBER NEWS

## Seitz LLC

Evan Berns, CEO of Seitz LLC, will be hosting two Quality of Leadership 1.0 courses this summer. Several local companies have expressed interest in additional QOL training and Seitz is inviting Chamber members to take advantage of the training opportunity.

The class, designed for high potential managers, project managers, engineering leads, process improvement leaders, manufacturing supervisors, HR/training manager and sales/marketing managers will focus on practical skills, is activity-based, team-oriented, inspirational and fun. Session I will take place June 18th & 19th and Session II will be held August 21st & 22nd. Both will be hosted at Seitz LLC, 212 Industrial Lane in Torrington. Tuition is \$395 per person and includes all course material, pre-work, QOL t-shirt and breakfast and lunch each day. Please register by contacting presenter Dr. Mike Bagley at [innobag@aol.com](mailto:innobag@aol.com) or 201-819-7053.

For those who have already completed the Quality of Leadership 1.0 course, look for the QOL 2.0 this fall.

## Survive the Drive

Survive the Drive will present "Behind the Wheel" a defensive driving clinic for individuals, parents and teens on June 28th from 8 a.m. to noon and 1-5 p.m. at Lime Rock Park, 60 White Hollow Road, Lakeville.

Students will learn from professional driving coaches. Topics to be covered include: crash avoidance maneuvers, skid recovery and emergency lane changes. A short presentation on distracted driving will also be held. Learning defensive driving techniques may one day save a life. Parents are encouraged to attend and share one of the most important and memorable experiences with their child.

The course cost is \$299 p.p. and is open to drivers 16 years or older (with learning permits acceptable). Students will be participating with their personal or family vehicle. Pre-registration is required as seats are limited. To register, call 860-806-3042, email [loriz@survivedrive.org](mailto:loriz@survivedrive.org) or visit the website [www.survivedrive.org](http://www.survivedrive.org).

## Torrington Lions Club

The Torrington Lions Club will hold their 13th Annual Car Show on Friday, May 31st on Main Street, Downtown Torrington. The rain date is June 7th. The event will be held from 5-9 p.m. Entry for participants is \$10 per vehicle; trophies will be awarded. Muscle cars, vintage and imports will be featured. Enjoy music, food and a 50/50 raffle.

## Geer Village Senior Community

The depictions of death in Hollywood are at times inconsistent with reality. Sharon Hospital's Palliative Care Committee has teamed up with Geer Village Senior Community to offer "Death and Dying in the Movies and Television" on May 30th at 6:30 p.m. at Geer's Community Center, 77 South Canaan Road, Canaan.

The evening will include a historical review of video clips that will evoke an insightful panel discussion on how our perceptions of life's final moments are shaped by what we see on the big screen. Registration is required by Thursday, May 23. To reserve your seat, call Dawn Whitten at 860-364-4424.

## St. John Paul the Great Parish

St. John Paul the Great's Parish School, St. Peter/St. Francis School in Torrington, will hold their annual golf tournament "Faith on the Fairway" on June 28th at Fairview Farm Golf Course in Harwinton.

Registrations are now being accepted. Golfers are \$130/ Foursome \$500. Dinner only registrations are also available for \$40 per person. On the day of the tournament, registration begins at 10 a.m. and golfing will begin with a shotgun start at 11 a.m.

Sponsorship opportunities are available for businesses and organizations in the region starting at \$150.

St. Peter/St. Francis School utilizes a multi-age model for students from Pre-Kindergarten through Junior High. The students are challenged academically and enlightened spiritually, while learning to respect and serve others in a nurturing environment based on the Roman Catholic Faith. Registrations for the 2019-2020 school year are now being accepted.

For more information about the 2019 Golf Tournament, school registration or school information in general, please call 860-489-4177 or visit [spsfschool.net](http://spsfschool.net).

## Brooker Memorial

Brooker Memorial invites Chamber members to the 8th Annual Beer Fest on Saturday, June 8th at Ski Sundown, 126 Ratlum Road in New Hartford. The event will take place from 1-5 p.m. Enjoy live music by Root Six. Food will be available for purchase. Tickets to the Beer Fest are \$25 in advance (available at [www.skisundown.com](http://www.skisundown.com)), \$30 at the door and \$15 for a designated driver ticket. No pets are allowed. Attendees must be 21 years or older. For more information, contact Lisa Ferris at 860-489-1328 x113 or email [lferris@brookermemorial.org](mailto:lferris@brookermemorial.org).

# What's Been Happening at NORTHWEST CONNECTICUT'S CHAMBER

Continued from page 11.

## Annual Meeting & Hall of Fame Luncheon

The 118<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Chamber of Commerce of Northwest Connecticut, Inc. was held on April 12<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 AM at Chatterley's Banquet Facility, 371 Pinewoods Road, Torrington.

This year's keynote speaker was The Honorable Ned Lamont, the 89<sup>th</sup> Governor of the State of Connecticut.



The 2019 inductees into the Chamber Hall of Fame were Karen Kuhl of Geer Village Senior Community and Paul Patch, Associate Member and retired from O&G Industries, Inc. Both have contributed countless hours of their time to our Chamber.

During the Business Meeting portion of the Annual Meeting, the Chamber membership recognized retiring members of the Board of Directors and elected the directors who have been nominated to serve a three-year term. The retiring members of the Board of Directors were Joyce Muse, Altek Electronics, Inc., Paul Samele, Jr., Chatterley's Banquet Facility, and Margret Warner, Litchfield Bancorp. The individuals elected to the Board of Directors were: Christine Bascetta-Gath, Litchfield Bancorp; Robert Geiger, Town of Winchester; Maria Gonzalez, New Opportunities, Inc.; Kathleen Katrenya, Torrington Savings Bank; Antonio Ponte, Jr., Thomaston Savings Bank; Michael Rooke, Ph.D., Northwestern Connecticut Community College; Erick Royer, Stepcraft, Inc.; John Seagrave, Barron Financial Group, LLC; and, Jacque Williams, Jacque Williams Entertainment.

Thank you to this year's Annual Meeting sponsors: O&G Industries, Inc., Geer Village Senior Community, Webster Bank, Litchfield Bancorp, Northwest Community Bank, Northwestern Connecticut Community College, Thomaston Savings Bank, and Torrington Savings Bank.

## Great Giveaway Business Showcase

The Chamber's 3rd Annual Great Giveaway Business Showcase was held on Thursday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at Chatterley's Banquet Facility in Torrington. Exhibitors and Chamber members enjoyed a private networking hour from 4-5 p.m. The event opened to the public at 5 p.m.



Over 50 exhibitors participated in the Showcase. Each of them offered an exciting door prize that was raffled off at their table. Prizes included a Kindle Fire, Nest Thermostat, Amazon Echo Dot, gift baskets, gift cards, and much, much more! The Chamber's door prize, a grill courtesy of Lowe's Home Improvement, was raffled as well. The event featured free food and a cash bar.

Thank you to our Gold Sponsors: Chamber Insurance Trust, Lime Rock Park, Lowe's Home Improvement, and Torrington Savings Bank; Silver Sponsors: FM 97.3 WZBG and Northwest Community Bank; and Bronze Sponsors: AFC Urgent Care, Bantam Wesson, Daley Moving & Storage, H&R Block, Keystone Place at Newbury Brook, Northwest Hills Credit Union, Northwestern CT Community College and SCORE. A special thanks to Northwest Regional Workforce Investment Board for their continued support and to the staff of Chatterley's Banquet Facility for their excellent service.



Thanks to Our

# RENEWING MEMBERS

The following Chamber members renewed their memberships during the period of March 23rd through May 6th. Thank you for your continued commitment to Northwest Connecticut's Chamber of Commerce. Companies listed in bold indicate a Corporate Partner. Milestone anniversaries are indicated in parentheses.

- ◆ Academy of Medical Training, Inc.
- ◆ AFLAC, Kerri Ouellette
- ◆ Alzheimer's Association of Connecticut
- ◆ Steve Z. Ardussi, Your Personal Benefits Advisor
- ◆ AVI International, Inc.
- ◆ Brandywine Living at Litchfield
- ◆ Camp Jewell YMCA
- ◆ Celtic Consulting, LLC
- ◆ City of Torrington
- ◆ Commercial Sewing, Inc.
- ◆ Concentra Medical Centers
- ◆ Crabby Al's Seafood Restaurant & Bar
- ◆ Crane's Outdoor Power Equipment
- ◆ CT Snow & Ice Control Products
- ◆ Robin Denny & Associates Consulting, LLC
- ◆ Educated Canines Assisting with Disabilities
- ◆ Explorations Charter School
- ◆ Fiduciam Financial
- ◆ Friends of Main Street
- ◆ Geer Village Senior Community
- ◆ Hartford Dispensory
- ◆ Hatfield & Co., Jewelers
- ◆ Heart to Heart Home Care, LLC
- ◆ Dianne Heiny
- ◆ Hilljack Sugar Shack LLC
- ◆ Hunter Real Estate, LLC
- ◆ Interlaken Inn
- ◆ Kindercare Learning Center
- ◆ KOTA
- ◆ Land of Nod LLC Winery
- ◆ Laurelbrook Natural Resources
- ◆ Lean Six Sigma Consulting, LLC
- ◆ Ledgebrook Spirit Shop
- ◆ Lone Oak, Inc.
- ◆ Maletta Pfeiffer & Associates, LLC
- ◆ Michael F. Magistrali & Associates, LLC
- ◆ E.J. Murphy Realty
- ◆ Northwest Connecticut Arts Council
- ◆ Northwestern Connecticut YMCA
- ◆ Nutmeg Symphony Orchestra
- ◆ Oliver Wolcott Technical School
- ◆ PAC Group, LLC
- ◆ Paul Patch
- ◆ Payroll Ease, LLC
- ◆ William Perotti & Sons, Inc.
- ◆ Pursue the Clues
- ◆ Roma Pizzeria Restaurant
- ◆ Roraback & Roraback
- ◆ Shoff Darby Companies
- ◆ Salisbury Visiting Nurse Association
- ◆ Scoville Memorial Library (5 years)
- ◆ Simsbury Bank
- ◆ The Simsbury Inn
- ◆ Sterling Engineering, John N. Lavieri
- ◆ T&M Building Company, Inc.
- ◆ Technical Industries, Inc.
- ◆ Torrington Little League Softball
- ◆ Torrington Toastmasters
- ◆ Town of Barkhamsted
- ◆ Town of Colebrook
- ◆ Town of Warren
- ◆ Tru-Hitch, Inc.
- ◆ VNS of Connecticut
- ◆ Washington Supply Company
- ◆ Webster Bank
- ◆ Winners Torrington, Sportech Venues, Inc.

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Charlotte Hungerford Hospital  
Chatterley's Banquet Facility  
Commercial Sewing, Inc.  
Conquest  
Cook Funeral Home  
Dymax Corporation  
Eastside Electric, Inc.  
Eversource Energy  
FuelCell Energy, Inc.  
Keystone Place at Newbury Brook  
Litchfield Bancorp  
Litchfield Woods Health Care Center  
Northwest Community Bank  
O&G Industries, Inc.  
Pequot Health Care  
The Register Citizen  
Republican-American  
Sharon Hospital  
TD Bank  
Thomaston Savings Bank  
Torrington Savings Bank  
Union Savings Bank  
United Construction & Engineering, Inc.  
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. Dates and locations are subject to change. Please visit our website for up to date details. Thank you.

### MAY 2019

- 15th - **Insurance Committee Meeting**, 8 AM  
**Leadership Northwest**
- 23rd - **Board of Directors Meeting**, 8 AM
- 27th - **Chamber Offices Closed in Observance of Memorial Day**
- 28th - **Business with Breakfast at the Chamber**, 8 AM

### JUNE 2019

- 4th - **Small Business Council Meeting**, 8 AM
- 5th - **WOW! Forum Advisory Committee Meeting**, 4 PM
- 6th - **Membership Committee Meeting**, 8 AM
- 11th - **Business After Hours** at O&G Industries, 112 Wall Street, Torrington, 5-7 PM
- 13th - **Government Relations Committee Meeting**, 8 AM
- 19th - **Insurance Committee Meeting**, 8 AM  
**Health Council Meeting**, 8 AM  
**Leadership Northwest Graduation**, 5:30 PM
- 25th - **Business with Breakfast** at Valerie Manor, 1360 Torrington Street, Torrington, 8 AM
- 27th - **Board of Directors Meeting**, 8 AM  
**Celebration of Success Awards** at Chatterley's Banquet Facility, 371 Pinewoods Road, Torrington, 5:30 PM

### JULY 2019

- 2nd - **Small Business Council Meeting**, 8 AM
- 3rd - **WOW! Forum Advisory Committee Meeting**, 8 AM
- 4th - **Chamber Offices Closed in Observance of Independence Day**
- 11th - **Membership Committee Meeting**, 8 AM  
**Government Relations Committee Meeting**, 8 AM
- 17th - **Insurance Committee Meeting**, 8 AM
- 23rd - **Business After Hours** at Litchfield Bancorp, 294 West Street, Litchfield, 5-7 PM
- 30th - **Business with Breakfast**, 8 AM

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