



Northwest Connecticut  
**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  
*Business Working Together*

# September Newsletter



Visit our Website

## September Calendar

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!**

Organization INK, Inc.

Northwest Connecticut SCORE

*From the Desk of Our  
President & CEO*  
**JoAnn Ryan**



## Hot Tips

Alas...Labor Day heralds the end of summer vacation; school is back in session; college students are returning to class; and business is back to the high-tech, fast-paced environment. At the Chamber, we're busy completing the preparation for a very productive 4th quarter and of course the 2025 Action Plan.

There are some hot tips worth repeating that relate to our perspective on business and seem appropriate for Labor Day.

### "Shake things up!"

I've often heard the comment "if you do what you always did, you'll get what you always got." So...do things differently, make some changes, try something new, take some risks, forget the status quo, don't coast and savor the day. You might want to join us for the Chamber's Annual Economic Summit on November 21st at The Torrington Country Club. We are working on some exciting guests that will surely interest you and encourage you with plans for 2025.

### "Decide what matters. Design around what matters. Do what matters."

Organize your business plans around what is relevant. The key is to deliver and achieve results rather than just talking, complaining and procrastinating. I often recall the words of Henry Ford who said that if you're going to find fault with something, be sure you have a possible solution in mind. We listen to the challenges of our business community and then develop possible solutions. In fact, the Small Business Advisory was created out of the need to bring small businesses together to determine what can be done to remove the obstacles standing in the way of one's success.

### "Sit in the front row."

Take an active part in the organizations to which you belong, get involved in the community, connect with other businesspeople and definitely join the Chamber. If you have not yet realized our efforts to promote economic growth while enhancing the quality of life in NW CT, then I need to talk to you. If indeed we are going to strengthen this region to attract and retain commerce, all of us must address the challenges we face in this tough economic time. The front row is the place to be!

### "The leader takes people places where they wouldn't go alone."

If you've never considered meeting with our SCORE volunteers, if you're unaware of Leadership NW or if you've not yet signed up for WOW! on October 4th, please join us as we embark on yet another worthwhile season.

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## Your Business Deserves More Than Just Any Bank

Turn to TSB for the financial solutions you need to take your business to the next level.

- Commercial loans with customized repayment terms
- Secure cash management and merchant services
- Convenient business checking accounts



Visit us online, contact a Business Banker, or stop by a branch to get started.



**Torrington Savings Bank**

® EQUAL HOUSE LENDER | MEMBER FDIC

**TorringtonSavings.Bank**  
**(860) 496-2152**

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# Bill Drury Workshop

## TEAM 2.0

### Effective Leadership for First Line Managers and Supervisors

(How to Build Engagement, Reduce Conflict and Increase Cooperation)

Nationally recognized management consultant, author and speaker, **Bill Drury**, will teach simple but powerful strategies to build employee engagement, teamwork, reduce employee conflict and increase cooperation. This workshop is for first line managers and supervisors who want to:

- Increase cooperation
- Energize your employees
- Rev up productivity
- Solve your worst workplace problems
- Listen effectively
- Resolve conflict



**Crystal Peak  
164 Torrington Rd, Winsted**

**Wednesday September 11, 2024**

**OR**

**Thursday September 12, 2024**

**8 AM—12 PM**

**Registration 7:30 AM**

[Refreshments will be served](#)

**Any leader, manager or supervisor in your company has the opportunity to build or destroy engagement ...**

#### [Registration Fee](#)

(by 9/5) \$169.00 each or \$129.00, 5 or more registered

(after 9/5) \$189.00 each or \$149.00, 5 or more registered

Non-Members are \$199.00 each

**RSVP Online at [NWCTCHAMBEROFCOMMERCE.ORG/CALENDAR](http://NWCTCHAMBEROFCOMMERCE.ORG/CALENDAR)**

## **CHOOSE ONE:**

[Register HERE for Sept. 11th](#)

[Register HERE for Sept. 12th](#)

# 20th Annual WOW! Forum



**Empower**

**Elevate**

**Enrich**

**Encourage**

## *“20 Years of Empowering Women”*

Together, we are advancing women's leadership across careers and cultures in order to share knowledge and ideas and to enrich each other's lives.

**Friday, October 4, 2024**

**The Warner Theatre**  
Carole & Ray Neag Performing Arts Center  
82 Main St. Torrington CT

**7:45 am - 4:00 pm \$120 per person**

**Presenters**

Brooke Goff

Kathy McAfee

Lynn Rapsilber

Maria Coutant Skinner

Nicole Zuraitis

**[www.wowforum.org](http://www.wowforum.org)**



Northwest Connecticut  
**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  
Business Working Together

[Click HERE to Register](#)

**Calling All Women Entrepreneurs, Business Owners, & Professionals!**

## **Rediscover, Reignite and Realize Your Purpose**

Bring Business Success by Leveraging Your Purpose

**Wisdom House Retreat and Conference Center**  
229 East Litchfield Road  
Litchfield, CT

Located in the serene surroundings of the Wisdom House Retreat and Conference Center in beautiful Litchfield, CT, you'll find the perfect setting to relax, reflect, and reconnect with your inner wisdom.

**Monday - October 14, 2024**

9 AM - 5 PM

*(Optional Pre-Workshop Add-on)*  
Guided Hike & Wine Tasting

**Sunday - October 13, 2024**

1 - 6 PM

[Rediscover, Reignite and Realize Your Purpose](#) is a unique opportunity to explore your passions, clarify your purpose, and create a roadmap for success.

Whether you are seeking career clarity, personal growth, or a deeper connection to your true calling, this retreat is designed to support you on your journey to fulfillment and success.

Come as a group, making this a women's empowerment weekend. Sharing this experience with your business partner, family/friends or colleagues can amplify the impact, providing mutual support, inspiration, and accountability.

[Register today!](#) Early Bird Special ends 9/14/24.

Questions? email [Jackie@CoachJackieRoss.com](mailto:Jackie@CoachJackieRoss.com).

Do not miss this chance to invest in yourself, unlock your potential, and design a life that truly lights you up!



**THANK YOU TO OUR  
PREMIER MEMBERS**

[Brandywine Living at Litchfield](#)

[Commercial Sewing, Inc.](#)

[Eversource Energy](#)

[Keystone Place at Newbury Brook](#)

[Senior Advocate Services](#)

[UCE Fine Builders](#)

[Webster Bank](#)



NW CT Chamber's premier network building event featuring opportunities to gain new contacts & build your lead base while enjoying delicious hors d'oeuvres & visiting our host's location.

**BUSINESS**  
*after*  
**HOURS**

Wednesday  
Date  
5:00-7:00 p.m.

Hosted by  
YOUR BUSINESS NAME

RSVP ONLINE AT [NWCTCHAMBEROFCOMMERCE.ORG/CALENDAR](http://NWCTCHAMBEROFCOMMERCE.ORG/CALENDAR)

Sponsored by

Your Logo

Your Company Address

## Interested in hosting a Business After Hours?



Your Business and logo could be listed here

Send us an email to schedule a date:  
[karen@nwctchamberofcommerce.org](mailto:karen@nwctchamberofcommerce.org)  
Or Call: 860-482-6586.



Join us at our morning roundtable discussion

**BUSINESS** *with* **BREAKFAST**

Enjoy easy networking over a light breakfast. Each attendee will then give a 30-second "commercial" for their business followed by a brief presentation by our host.

Tuesday, Month Date, 8:00 a.m.

Hosted by

YOUR LOGGO

Your Company Name


Your Address

## Interested in hosting a Business with Breakfast?



Your company name, address, and logo could be listed here.

Send us an email to schedule a date:  
[karen@nwctchamberofcommerce.org](mailto:karen@nwctchamberofcommerce.org)  
Or Call: 860-482-6586.



Name of Topic

Presented By: Your Company Name and logo

## Interested in Hosting a Learn at Lunch?

If you have an idea for a Learn at Lunch topic  
or  
If you are interested in hosting a Learn at Lunch

Email: [JoAnn@nwctchamberofcommerce.org](mailto:JoAnn@nwctchamberofcommerce.org)  
or [Karen@nwctchamberofcommerce.org](mailto:Karen@nwctchamberofcommerce.org)

# THANK YOU TO OUR FRIENDS OF THE CHAMBER

- [Aptyx](#)  
[Daley Moving & Storage, Inc.](#)  
[Jacque Williams Entertainment](#)  
[NBT Bank](#)  
[Sullivan Automotive](#)  
[T&M Building Company, Inc. and Torrington Downtown Partners](#)  
[THE ABNER](#)

# CT State Northwestern Offers Real Estate Principles & Practices Class

Tuesdays and Thursdays

Sept. 5th thru Nov. 21st

Greenwoods Hall, Room 309  
119 North Main St, Winsted

Program Cost: \$599 \*

\* Text Books Not Included

**For more information or to  
Register for this class visit**

[www.nwcc.edu/realestate](http://www.nwcc.edu/realestate)

This required course for real estate salesperson licensing provides a clear explanation of modern real estate practices and a working knowledge of real estate in Connecticut.

Recognized and approved by the State of Connecticut Real Estate Commission, this course meets the minimum 60-hour requirement outlined by the state. Property owners, buyers, sellers, and anyone interested in pursuing a career in real estate or operations will find this course beneficial and rewarding.

## **2024 State of Connecticut Neighborhood Assistance Act (NAA) Tax Credit Program**

*Is your business ready to participate in the 2024 State of Connecticut Neighborhood Assistance Act (NAA) Tax Credit Program? This program offers a valuable opportunity for eligible Connecticut businesses to support their communities while earning a tax credit of up to 100% for energy conservation projects or 60% for other approved initiatives.*

*Local organizations like KidsPlay Children's Museum, the Susan B. Anthony Project, and EdAdvance have already been approved at the municipal level and are awaiting state approval. Don't miss out on this opportunity to make a difference while benefiting your business!*

*Learn more on eligibility and how to participate:*

<https://portal.ct.gov/drs/credit-programs/neighborhood-assistance/neighborhood-assistance-act-tax-credit-program>





**BUSINESS**  
*with*  
**BREAKFAST**

Join us at our morning roundtable discussion

## **BUSINESS** *with* **BREAKFAST**

Enjoy easy networking over a light breakfast. Each attendee will then give a 30-second "commercial" for their business followed by a brief presentation by our host.

Tuesday, September 17, 8:00 a.m.

Hosted by

**CRAVINGS**  
*cafe & grill*

9 Migeon Ave, Torrington

[Click HERE to Register](#)



# Business After Hours

69 MAPLE AVE  
NORFOLK, CT 06058



Thursday, Sept 19, 2024  
5:00 - 7:00 PM



The Northwest Chamber of Commerce's premier network-building event for business owners features opportunities to gain new contacts & build your lead base while enjoying delicious drinks and hors d'oeuvres. Reservations required.  
[www.nwctchamberofcommerce.org/calendar](http://www.nwctchamberofcommerce.org/calendar)



**BUSINESS**  
*after*  
**HOURS**

Click [HERE](#) to Register

# September Open House events for Online Undergraduate and Graduate Degree Programs

Tuesday, September 24

5:30PM ET

Career-focused Undergraduate  
Degrees in all fields

Wednesday, September  
25

5:30PM ET

All Graduate Degree Programs  
and Certificates

Register for these Zoom events at : [www.CharterOak.edu/finishcollege](http://www.CharterOak.edu/finishcollege)



Young Professionals Organization

The NWCT Chamber Young Professionals Organization  
invites local young professionals, ages 21+  
to our next free networking event:

**Wednesday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, 5-7 PM**  
**The Mill House Kitchen & Bar**  
**367 Winsted Rd, Torrington, CT 06790**

Bring a coworker!

If possible, please RSVP at [nwctchamberofcommerce.org/calendar](http://nwctchamberofcommerce.org/calendar)

For more information, contact the Chamber at 860-482-6586 or [Info@nwctchamberofcommerce.org](mailto:Info@nwctchamberofcommerce.org)

Young Professionals Organization is sponsored by



Conquest

creativity. marketing. technology.

Click [HERE](#) to Register

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2024**

# job Fair!

**OPEN TO ALL BUSINESS SECTORS!**

**AMERICAN MURAL PROJECT  
90 WHITING STREET, WINSTED  
3 PM – 6 PM**

**SPONSORED BY:**

WINCHESTER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
CT STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE Northwestern  
NORTHWEST REGIONAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD  
NORTHWEST CONNECTICUT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
AMERICAN MURAL PROJECT  
TOWN OF WINCHESTER

SET-UP 2 PM • TABLES & CHAIRS PROVIDED

**\$50 PER COMPANY • BUSINESS REGISTRATION REQUIRED  
RSVP BY FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup> TO RESERVE YOUR TABLE**

Space is limited. Early registration guarantees your position & we can promote your participation.

Reserve space at [bit.ly/EDCJobFair2024](https://bit.ly/EDCJobFair2024)

QUESTIONS? Alan Colavecchio, 860.379.9893 or [alancolavecchio@gmail.com](mailto:alancolavecchio@gmail.com)

Checks payable to: TOWN OF WINCHESTER, with JOB FAIR on Memo line.  
Mail payment to: Terry Hall, Town of Winchester, 338 Main Street, Winsted, CT 06098



[Click HERE to Register](#)

## Past Events

# Torrington Housing Inflation and Cost of Living Roundtable with Senator Chris Murphy

@ NW CT Chamber  
Thursday, August 8, 2024



Senator Murphy addresses the crowd while Rep. Michelle Cook and Chamber Board Chairman, Jacque Williams look on.

## Celebrate Belonging @ Coe Memorial Park Civic Center Thursday, August 8, 2024



American Mural Project  
(AMP)



KidsPlay  
Children's Museum



McCall Behavioral  
Health Network

A Community Event Embracing Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

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**Local Business Book Club**  
@ The Curious Cat Bookshop  
Thursday, August 8, 2024



The book chosen for discussion was, "Marketing Made Simple",  
by Best-Selling Author, Donald Miller

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**Ribbon Cutting**  
@ Borla and Associates Real Estate  
284 Main Street, Torrington  
Wednesday, August 14, 2024



# Congratulations!

## Ribbon Cutting

@ The Gonzalez Property Group  
24 Water Street, Torrington  
Thursday, August 22, 2024





# Congratulations!

## Chamber Staff

**JoAnn Ryan**, President & CEO,  
joann@nwctchamberofcommerce.org

**Karen Kuhl**, Director of Programs & Events,  
karen@nwctchamberofcommerce.org

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

**Luis Sanchez**, Business Development Representative,  
luis@nwctchamberofcommerce.org

**Ali Mica**, Accounting Administrative Assistant,  
accounting@nwctchamberofcommerce.org

**Sharon Kunay**, Administrative Assistant,  
info@nwctchamberofcommerce.org

**DJ Murphy**, Outside Sales Membership Representative,  
murphyboyzmarketing@gmail.com

**Nancy DePecol**, Outside Sales Membership Representative,  
nancydepecol@yahoo.com

[nwctchamberofcommerce.org](http://nwctchamberofcommerce.org)



# Upcoming CHAMBER MEETINGS & EVENTS

**Sept. 3** - Small Business Council - 8 AM

**Sept. 4** - Wow Advisory Committee (Auction Basket Making) - 8:30-10:00 AM

**Sept. 9** - Leads I - 12 PM

**Sept. 10** - Insurance Committee - 8 AM

**Sept. 10** - Wow Advisory Committee (Auction Basket making) - 9 AM

**Sept. 11 or 12** - Bill Drury Leadership Workshops (Choose One) @ Crystal Peak, Winsted, Registration 7:30 AM, Sessions 8 AM -12 PM

**Sept. 12** - Government Relations Committee - 8 AM

**Sept. 17** - Business with Breakfast @ Cravings Cafe & Grill, Torrington, 8 AM

**Sept. 18** - Health Council [GUEST SPEAKERS: Art Mulligan and Sara Lynn Leavenworth, Senior Advocate Services] @ **NW CT Chamber**- 8 AM

**Sept. 19** - Membership Committee **Rescheduled Date** - 8 AM

**Sept. 19** - Business After Hours @ Manor House Inn, Norfolk, 5-7 PM

**Sept. 23** - Leads I - 12 PM

**Sept. 25** - Leads II - 12 PM @ Location TBA

**Sept. 25** - Young Professionals Networking Event @ The Mill House Kitchen & Bar, Torrington, 5-7 PM

**Sept. 26** - Board of Directors Meeting - 8 AM

For more Info, see our website calendar of events:

[www.nwctchamberofcommerce.org/calendar/](http://www.nwctchamberofcommerce.org/calendar/)

## SAVE THE DATE

**Oct. 4th** --- 20th Annual WOW! Forum at the Warner Theatre, Torrington, 7:45 AM - 4:00 PM

**Oct. 10th** --- Legislative Reception, Arts & Science Building Atrium of CT State Community College Northwestern, Winsted, 7:30-9:00 AM

**Oct. 10th** --- Business After Hours at Sullivan Automotive, Torrington, 5-7 PM

**Oct. 16th** --- Job Fair at City Hall Auditorium, Torrington, 10 AM - 2 PM

**Nov. 6th** --- Business After Hours at Healing Haven, Torrington, 5-7 PM

**Nov. 21st** --- Economic Summit [KEYNOTE SPEAKERS: Chris Davis, *CBIA*; Anthony M. Anthony, *Office of Tourism*; Paul Mounds, *Yale New Haven Health VP*] at Torrington Country Club, Goshen, 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

**Dec. 2nd - 20th (weekdays)** --- Hope for the Holidays

**Dec. 19th** --- Annual Holiday Celebration, Location To Be Announced, 5-8 PM



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