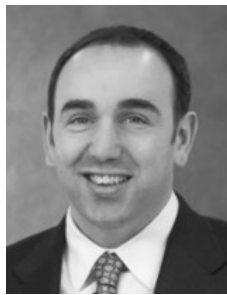


2018 ANNUAL MEETING & CHAMBER HALL OF FAME HONOREES REVEALED

The 117th Annual Meeting of the Chamber of Commerce of Northwest Connecticut, Inc. will take place on April 10th at 11:30 AM at Chatterley's Banquet Facility, 371 Pinewoods Road, Torrington.

This year's keynote speaker will be Jeffrey Flaks, President and Chief Operating Officer of Hartford Healthcare. Prior to his current position, Mr. Flaks served as President and CEO of Hartford Hospital, HHC's flagship tertiary care center. Before being named CEO, Mr. Flaks served as Hartford Hospital's COO, implementing a number of initiatives that resulted in greatly improved facilities and increased patient and employee satisfaction.



Daniel J. McIntyre, Senior Vice President of Hartford Healthcare and President, Northwest Region, Charlotte Hungerford Hospital will also speak and introduce Mr. Flaks. Dan has been with the hospital since 2001 serving as its President and Executive Director and has focused his efforts on strengthening the hospital's core businesses with an emphasis on quality care, premier technology, and patient safety.



The 2018 inductees into the Chamber Hall of Fame will be Larry Cassella, LARC, Frank H. Finch, Jr., Howd, Lavieri & Finch L.L.P., and John N. Lavieri, Sterling Engineering Corporation. All three gentlemen have given countless hours of their time to our Chamber and deserve our upmost praise as they retire from their longtime careers in this community.

All have served as dedicated members of the Chamber's Board of Directors during their careers. Both Mr. Finch and Mr. Lavieri were active members of the Chamber's capital campaigns in the 1980's and 1990's which made our current facility possible.

Mr. Finch was named Chamber Person of the Year in

1993. His law firm joined the Chamber in 1977 and has served as its council for decades. He has contributed his time, talent and energy to our organization for over 40 years.



Mr. Lavieri, Chamber Person of the Year for 1994, has been a voice for manufacturers since Sterling



Engineering joined the Chamber in 1977. He has served on the Chamber's Manufacturers' Coalition since its inception. John has also been an active member of the Chamber's Government Relations Committee.

Mr. Cassella, who was honored with LARC as the Quality of Life Award

Recipient at the Celebration of Success in 2009, has served also as a volunteer on the Chamber's Membership Committee. He partnered with us on the Bear Affair & Bearlieve-It-Or-Not public art projects and on a variety of grant proposals. Larry continues to be a reliable volunteer at many of our special events.



During the Business Meeting portion of the Annual Meeting, the Chamber membership will recognize a retiring member of the Board of Directors as well as elect the directors who have been nominated to serve a three-year term. The retiring member of the Board of Directors is Sabrina Beck, Altek Electronics, Inc. The individuals to be elected to the Board of Directors are: Sandy Evans, Whiting Mills; Brian Jones, Seitz LLC; and Vincent Laliberte, Pursue the Clues.

This year's Annual Meeting is sponsored by Geer Village, Northwest Regional Workforce Investment Board, Valerie Manor and Litchfield Woods Health Care Center.

Reservations are required for the luncheon. The cost is \$40 for Chamber members and \$50 for non-members. To

*From the Chamber
President & CEO*
JOANN RYAN



We've been listening to your concerns about business issues that face us all. I am going to list some that are repeated often and give you some ideas on how we are responding.

“Health care costs” – You will soon hear about the Connecticut Chamber Healthcare Coalition that is creating some unique approaches to affordable healthcare for businesses of all sizes.

“No jobs in this area” – You are invited to the Manufacturers' Coalition, the Healthcare Council and the School to Career meetings listed on the website and in our newsletter. The information shared will encourage you because there are job openings.

“What resources are available for training and hiring new employees?” Please call Pam on our staff to make an appointment to hear about the opportunities available through the Northwest Regional Workforce Investment Board.

“Too many business challenges from Connecticut to Washington” – Put the 2nd Thursday of every month on your calendar and become involved in the Government Relations Committee. Our legislative delegation attends and needs to hear your strong voices.

“Lack of traffic at my business.” You are encouraged to attend some of the Chamber events so that you can publicize your business. We are happy to sit with you with ideas to get people through your doors and introductions to those who can help.

“All I hear is bad news. Is there any good news?” Yes, good things are happening. This is not to say that we are without our challenges but we have to do a better job communicating the positives and there are many.

Thank you for your efforts because you are what will make the turnaround in our economy possible.



Members of the NW CT and Burlington Chambers enjoyed the Business After Hours sponsored by the Burlington Chamber at West Wind Realty on March 15th.

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Anita Rosa, VP Finance/Operations •
anita@nwctchamberofcommerce.org

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

Pamela LaRosa, Director, One-Stop Workforce Operations

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING AT NORTHWEST CONNECTICUT'S CHAMBER

Young Professionals Organization

“On March 1st, our Young Professionals Organization Professional Development Committee hosted a seminar on networking called “Is Your Networking Working?” at Hanq’s in Torrington. Amber Wilder, Elevator Service Company, and Anthony Nanni, Northwestern Mutual, led the fun, interactive discussion on tips and tricks for successful networking. The group also participated in a speed networking exercise. Hanq’s provided delicious hors d’oeuvres for the event.



The Community Engagement Committee is working diligently on an Under 40 publication and awards dinner and collected nominations throughout the month of March of individuals who would be deserving of the honor. The criteria for nominees was that they must be 39 years or younger as of December 31, 2018 and must live or work in Northwest CT. Nominations of some very deserving young leaders doing amazing work in their career and/or community were collected and now a panel of local leaders will score the applicants and decide on the honorees. Honorees will be featured in a magazine publication and recognized at an awards dinner on July 26th at Chatterley’s Banquet Facility in Torrington. Please mark your calendars and join us for that wonderful evening.

Job Fair

Our 14th annual Job Fair was held on Thursday, March 22nd at Torrington City Hall Auditorium. This year, the event was completely sold out with 35 companies exhibiting. Hundreds of perspective employees from all over the region attended throughout the day.

We would like to thank our wonderful sponsors for making this event so successful: the City of Torrington, the Northwest Regional Workforce Investment Board, FM 97.3 WZBG, Connecticut Department of Labor, The Register Citizen, Republican-American, and ctjobs.com.

Business After Hours

Brooker Memorial hosted the March Business After Hours at their beautiful facility on Litchfield Street in Torrington. This year marks Brooker’s 100th Anniversary and the Business After Hours event was part of their celebration. Attendees viewed historical news clippings, learned about the history of Brooker Memorial and were treated to guided tours. Chatterley’s Banquet Facility catered the event and Conquest sponsored the beverages. Each food dated back to around the time the center opened. Executive Director Cathy Coyle thanked all who attended and greeted guests along with her staff.



Manufacturing Summit

Our Manufacturers’ Coalition hosted a Manufacturing Summit on March 28th at Torrington Country Club. The breakfast meeting focused on employment and training needs of our local manufacturers, a topic that is often brought up in our monthly Coalition meetings.

Guest speakers were Scott Jackson, Commission of Labor for the State of Connecticut, and Todd Berch, Director of Apprenticeship, Connecticut Department of Labor. Scott talked about the many programs through the State that offer training and financial support for hiring of new employees and the ease in applying for funding. Todd gave more information about the

See more of What's Been Happening on Page 7.

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COMING UP AT THE CHAMBER

The Great Giveaway Business Showcase

Tables are selling fast for our very popular 2nd annual event- The Great Giveaway Business Showcase! The event will take place on Thursday, May 10th from 5-8 PM at Chatterley’s Banquet Facility, 371 Pinewoods Road, Torrington.

Last year, the event drew hundreds of people throughout the evening. Each vendor had a giveaway at their booth which created tons of excitement and drew people over to their tables. This year, we’re asking once again that each vendor provide an exciting giveaway and we’ll raffle them off at the end of the event.

The event is free for the public and includes free parking, free food and a cash bar.

Table reservations include an 8’ skirted, covered table, 2 chairs and a company sign. The fee for Chamber members is \$200, non-members is \$300. Contact Lauren@nwctchamberofcommerce.org or call 860-482-6586 to reserve your table today.

Sponsorships are also available at varying levels- gold, silver and bronze. If you’re interested in sponsoring the event, contact the Chamber today.

We would like to thank the following companies who have already signed up to sponsor this year’s event: Torrington Savings Bank, H&R Block, Northwest Community Bank, Lowe’s Home Improvement, Community Health & Wellness Center, Keystone Place at Newbury Brook, and National Iron Bank.





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Monday, April 23rd at 8:00 a.m.

Hosted by
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229 East Litchfield Road, Litchfield

[RSVP online at nwctchamberofcommerce.org.](http://nwctchamberofcommerce.org)

Financial Reality Fair

We are still in need of more volunteers on April 25th for the 9th annual Financial Reality Fair. The Chamber is once again partnering with the Connecticut Credit Union League and Northwest Hills Credit Union to provide a hands-on budgeting experience to high school students. Participating students gain practical knowledge about personal financial management in a one day “real world” environment.

The Financial Reality Fair is a 4 hour (approximate time), hands on experience where students, after identifying their career choice and starting salaries, are provided a budget sheet requiring them to live within their monthly salary while paying for basics such as housing, utilities, transportation, clothing and food. Of course, there are many temptations for additional spending and students must learn to balance their wants and needs to live on their own. After they have



See more of Coming Up at the Chamber on Page 13.

Northwest CT Human Resource Association



Affiliate of the Society for Human Resource Management
Chartered in Torrington, CT

Are you a Human Resource Professional?

We are currently seeking NEW members to join NWCTHRA!

We are an affiliate of the Society for Human Resource Management. Whether you are new to the HR field or have many years of experience, we are a local starting point for networking, information, professional development and continued support of excellence in Human Resources.

The Northwest CT Human Resource Association's objectives are to help advance the HR profession and member development by:

- Promoting free exchange of information and experience between members, within the limits of state and federal laws.
- Planning and presenting programs and seminars that are relevant to and promote the human resources discipline.
- Stimulating members to seek continuing professional and personal development.



We invite you to visit our website for upcoming events! <https://nwcthra.shrm.org/>
&

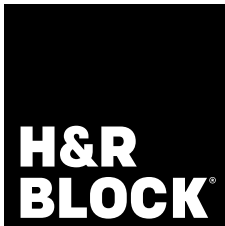
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WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

Continued from page 3.

Manufacturing Summit continued

Apprenticeship Program and the benefit to companies. Michael Stimson, CONNSTEP, Inc., one of the sponsors of the Summit, gave the crowd information about their business and the different consulting services they offer for manufacturers.

The event also included a panel focused on workforce training and hiring needs. Panelists were Cathy Awwad, Executive Director, Northwest Regional Workforce Investment Board; Michelle Caffè, Business Services Specialist, Connecticut Department of Labor; Matt Koehler, Plant Manager, BD; Alain Malcolm, Junior Buyer, Altek Electronic; and Larry Pomerleau, Manufacturing Department Head, Oliver Wolcott Technical School. The panel was moderated by Lance Boynton, Chair, Northwest CT Manufacturers' Coalition and Owner of Lean Six Sigma Consulting.

The Summit was sponsored by CONNSTEP, Inc. and Northwest Regional Workforce Investment Board.

Leadership Northwest

On March 14th, the Leadership Northwest class attended Connecticut Business Day at the Capital in Hartford sponsored by CBIA and the local Chambers of Commerce. Before the program started, the class was able to meet with our Chamber Lobbyist, Marshall Collins, and our local delegation including Representatives Jay Case, Brian Ohler, David Wilson, and Michelle Cook. The class had a chance to ask questions and learn more about the major bills affecting Connecticut right now including the installation of tolls on the highways and legalization of marijuana.

The class joined the other groups from Chambers of Commerce around Connecticut to hear from Governor Dannel Malloy about the fiscal state of Connecticut. He spoke about the business climate in the state and answered questions from business owners in attendance.

The two co-chairs of The Commission on Fiscal Stability and Economic Growth: Jim Smith, chairman and former CEO of Webster Bank, and Robert Patricelli, a retired health care executive, presented their recommendations for stabilizing state finances and promoting economic growth.

The Commission was tasked with conducting an exhaustive analysis of the state's fiscal situation and to propose a comprehensive package of recommendations to be deliberated and voted upon by the General Assembly this session, which they summarized in their presentation.

After Business Day, the group traveled to reSET in Hartford where they met with Katherine Emery, Founder and Board Chair and Hibba Meraay, Program Associate. reSET serves all entrepreneurs, but specializes in social enterprise-impact driven business with a double and sometimes triple bottom line. In addition to providing co-working space and accelerator and mentoring programs, they aim to inspire innovation and community collaboration, and to support entrepreneurs in creating market-based solutions to community challenges. Kate and Hibba led the group in a project where they had to think of a problem in the community, a solution to the problem, and then create a business around that solution.

Each year, the Leadership class is split in groups and tasked with completing a project that solves a need in the community. This year's projects are really coming along.

Group 1 is planning a Job Shadowing Day for Torrington High School students. Over 75 students will be heading out to area businesses on April 3rd for 2 and a half hours of job shadowing. Following their shadowing experience, the students and their hosts will attend a luncheon at Chatterley's Banquet Facility. The group also visited with the students on March 29th to give them some tips on making the most of their job shadowing experience.

Group 2 will be hosting a 5k fun run on Sunday, April 22nd at UCONN Torrington Campus at 10:30 AM. Funds raised from the run will be donated to the United Way's Campership Fund to provide camp scholarships to children in the region. The event will feature food, entertainment and a raffle. More information and registration can be found at <https://sprintforspring.eventbrite.com>.

Group 3 is organizing a collection day of gently used or new furnishings including furniture, kitchen wares, sheets, towels, etc. for individuals transitioning from a homeless shelter into housing. The collection day is planned for May 5th and the location is TBD.

Please consider supporting our Leadership team projects!



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SHOUT OUTS

Litchfield Bancorp

Litchfield Bancorp has announced the appointment of Laura Berendsohn as Assistant Vice President and Branch Manager of its Washington Depot Office as of January 2018.

"We are thrilled to have Laura helping us to grow our Washington office and work with members of that community," said Thomas J. Villanova, President and Chief Executive Officer of Litchfield Bancorp.

Laura Berendsohn is a graduate from Western Connecticut State University and holds a BA in psychology. Laura plans to continue her studies at the Connecticut School of Finance and Management where she has already completed her first year. Laura is a current ambassador for the Washington Business Association and a volunteer with the New Milford High School football team. Aside from her love of football, Laura enjoys volleyball, hiking and scuba diving and is in the process of getting her scuba diving recertification. Laura resides in New Milford with her husband and three sons.

The bank has also launched community Cash Mob events. Each month a business will be "mobbed" by Litchfield Bancorp employees as a way to support local businesses by shopping local. The kick-off was held on March 24th at Hidden Valley Eatery in Washington Depot.

"The Cash Mobs are part of our community outreach and Locally Owned, Locally Grown campaign," says Tom Villanova, President of Litchfield Bancorp. "We deeply understand that the core of our communities is based in small and family owned businesses, and it's our job as community leaders to support them. Our goal is to help our local businesses expand their brand awareness by bringing new patrons into their doors and to help them increase revenue as well."

A cash mob is a group of people spending money together at a local business. Cash mobs create a fun and interactive way for an organization to support the local businesses in the community. Litchfield Bancorp will host a cash mob once a month in one of the local towns that it serves. The date, time and place will be announced at least 2 weeks in advance, encouraging the public to join.



Torrington Savings Bank

Torrington Savings Bank is pleased to announce the addition of Rita Myers as Vice President of Direct Banking to their management team. Ms. Myers comes to Torrington Savings with over 20 years of banking experience, most recently from Bankers' Bank Northeast, where she was the Senior Vice President of Operations and BSA Officer. Prior to that role, she served as Senior Vice President of Operations and IT at Naugatuck Valley Savings and Loan. She has also held positions at Centerbank, formerly located in Waterbury, CT.

Ms. Myers is a graduate of Post University in Waterbury, CT where she earned her Bachelor of Science degree. Additional achievements include graduating from the Connecticut School of Finance and Management and National Check Payments Professional Certification.

John E. Janco, President & CEO of Torrington Savings Bank stated, "We are very pleased to have Rita join our management team. Her background in Operations, Information Technology, and Cash Management Services will be very beneficial for the new initiatives underway for Torrington Savings Bank."



O&G Industries, Inc.

O&G Industries, Inc. will hold a "Touch a Truck" event on May 12th from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at 900 South Main Street in Torrington. The event will benefit KidsPlay Children's Museum, with proceeds from the \$2 suggested donation for admission helping to fund a new construction exhibit.

In addition to over 20 pieces of equipment to explore, activities will include face painting, sand art, food trucks and more. Parking will be offsite with busing provided courtesy of All Star Transportation. For information on participating, contact sethduke@ogind.com



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MEMBER NEWS

Torrington High School

The Torrington High School Drama Club will present the production of "In the Heights" in May 2018. The school system does not have excess money to support the show. In order to assist the students in the performing arts program, a Go Fund Me campaign has been established for businesses and individuals to make a contribution to the students' production. Companies are also welcome to mail checks to Danielle M. Colosimo Abucewicz, Director of Choral Music at Torrington High School, 50 Major Besse Drive, Torrington, CT 06790. To contribute online, please visit https://www.gofundme.com/this-musical?pc=em_db_co2876_v1&rcid=accf7b4e23464819acd0a3597473cdcd.

Harwinton Lions Club

The Harwinton Lions Club will present the 2nd Annual Family Food Truck Festival on Saturday, June 3rd from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Harwinton Town Hall Complex, 100 Bentley Drive, Harwinton. The event will feature music, kids' activities, local vendors, a traveling magic show, carnival games and more. Admission and parking are free. For more information, visit their Facebook page or email harwintonlionsfoodtruck@gmail.com.

Salisbury Bank

Salisbury Bank is pleased to share a few pieces of good news about their employees. Spring Burke, Vice President, Mortgage Advisor, has been named a Five Star Mortgage Professional in 2018. She will be featured in the March issue of Connecticut Magazine. Spring began her career in the banking industry at 15 through a work-study program for school. In 2001, she joined Canaan National Bank, which was acquired by Salisbury Bank in 2004. Spring has been a top performer in mortgage originations since 2010.

Salisbury Bank has also announced their 2017 employee awards. The "Employee of the Year" award recognizes one "Outstanding Employee" and celebrates their customer service, leadership, professionalism, enthusiasm, knowledge, and strong work ethic. The Employee of the Year must live Salisbury Bank's vision and core values. The 2017 award recipient is Stephen Klikowski. He began at the bank in 2015 as an IT Specialist and in the same year, he achieved the A+ Certification.

The "Rookie of the Year" Award recognizes an employee who has stepped up during their first year with the Bank. This year's recipient is finance specialist Michael Hogan. The "Volunteer of the Year" Award recognizes an

employee who consistently volunteers on behalf of the Bank throughout the year. For the third year in a row, Michele LaPlante of Trust Operations receives this award.

Finally, the "President's Award" (for which there is no specific criteria) was presented to the Finance Department of the Bank for the critical interaction it has with many people both inside and outside the bank. The team, led by Peter Albergo and Ronald Myers includes, Robert Lotz, Laura Bosio, Michael Hogan, Rory Goodman and Lynne Storti.

Northwestern CT Community College

Northwestern Connecticut Community College's (NCCC) Alpha Nu Epsilon Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) Honor Society has been recognized for its recruitment efforts in 2017. The chapter is among 363 chapters to be honored through the organization's REACH Program. The program was designed by the international honor society and is focused on Recognizing Excellence in Acceptance and Completion with Honors. The program encourages membership in the society by rewarding chapters who achieve or exceed 15% for their membership acceptance rate. NCCC's chapter, at 28.1%, is positioned among the top 25 chapters in the nation for acceptance rates.

The Student Senate of NCCC will sponsor *NORTHWESTERN COMM-CON*, a Cosplay, Sci-Fi and Fantasy Convention on April 19th from 4-8 p.m. on the campus in Winsted. The event will be free for students and staff (tickets must be obtained in advance from the Student Activities Office). Tickets are now available. There is a \$5 charge for members of the public to attend. Tickets may be purchased in advance or at the door.

Activities have been planned for two campus locations. At Founders Hall Auditorium, Super Deafy (thejms.com) will give a lecture on what it was like to develop his own superhero and produce/make a movie at 4 p.m. At 5:30 p.m., Matt Parkinson from Dragons Breath Forge of Wolcott, CT and winner of The History Channel's *Forged in Fire*, will speak about what it is like earning a living as a modern-day blade smith. Paranormal investigator Carl Johnson of *Ghost Hunters* will speak about his line of work at 7 p.m.

Activities at Greenwood Hall Gymnasium include: a backdrop from the Warner Theatre for photos with props/costumes; free sword fighting lessons by the Laurel City Fencing Society; video game stations; vendors; costume contest; caricature artist providing free drawings; and, a raffle.

For more information, please contact Andrew Wetmore, Director of Student Activities at 860-738-6344 or email awetmore@nwcc.edu.

Community Representatives March Report

Burlington– Janet Schwartz

- ◆ **Garden Club Meeting** on April 10th at 7 p.m. at The Elton Tavern. "Butterflies in my Backyard" with Victor DeMasi, a lepidopterist at Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History. Business meeting at 6:30 p.m. Open to the public.
- ◆ **Can & Bottle Drive** on April 14th from 8:30 a.m. to noon at the Congregational Church. Please securely bag and/or box cans and bottles (especially glass). Do not overload plastic bags with heavy glass. Securely boxed or mixed bags are fine. Only 5 cent CT redeemable cans/bottles, please.
- ◆ **Acoustic Night** at the Burlington Men's Club on Covey Road on April 27th from 7-11 p.m. featuring Jim Pellitier (café style atmosphere). Call Alan Savoca at 860-670-3153 for more information.
- ◆ **Library Grand Re-Opening** on April 29th from 12-3 p.m. Ribbon cutting will take place at 1 p.m. A reading by local author Rick Labadia and refreshments by the Bee's Knees at 2 p.m. Music by the Lewis Mills Fine Arts Department.
- ◆ **Annual Meeting & Live Birds of Prey** program at Session's Woods on April 29th. The event begins at 12:30 p.m. with the infamous Dessert Extravaganza Potluck, followed by a 10-minute business meeting at 1 p.m. The featured program will be presented by wildlife rehabilitators from A Place Called Hope, a facility dedicated to returning wild birds to the wild and teaching people how to protect and respect wildlife. Free and open to the public.

Cornwall – Dianne Heiny

Please visit our website at cornwallct.org, Facebook page and Cornwall Chronical's Facebook page for more info.

- ◆ **Cornwall Village Improvement Annual Meeting** will take place April 7th at 10 a.m. at the library.
- ◆ **Book Reading & Author Talk** "Brass Valley: The Fall of an American Industry" will take place April 7th at 4 p.m. at the Cornwall Library.
- ◆ **Community Contra Dance** on April 7th at 7 p.m. at Town Hall.
- ◆ **Indian Dinner Fundraiser** at United Congregational Church at 5 p.m. on April 7th.
- ◆ **Annual Norman Dorsen Lecture** at United Congregational Church on April 8th at 2 p.m.
- ◆ **"For the Birds" Exhibit** opening reception at the Historical Society on April 14th from 10-11 a.m.
- ◆ **Art at the Dump** will take place April 21st from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Deliver your artwork made from recycled materials between 8-10 a.m. For details, visit artatthedump.homestead.com.
- ◆ **Guided Earth Day Hike & Picnic Lunch** on April 22nd from 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at the Welles Preserve Trail on Town Street, 4/10 mile from Route 128. Bring your own lunch.

Harwinton – Carol Kearns & Harry Schuh

- ◆ **Recycling** Used oil/antifreeze on April 7th from 9-11 a.m. at the Harwinton Town Garage. Electronics, used

oil/anti-freeze, scrap metal and bulky waste on May 5th from 8 a.m. - noon at the Harwinton Town Garage.

◆ **Harwinton Public Library Programs:**

- ◇ "Following the Great Orange Apes" presentation on April 7th at 1 p.m. CT native Katherine Meier will provide an overview of orangutan geography & biology and describe the cutting-edge research being done on wild orangutans and why it is important. Ages 10 & up. Free. Call 860-485-9113 to register.
- ◇ "Companion Planting: Plants Working Together in Your Garden" presented by UConn Master Gardener John Vecchitto on April 28th at 10 a.m. Learn how to use flowers, vegetables, and herbs to create a beautiful, tasty garden with plants that help each other out. Register at 860-485-9113.
- ◆ **Harwinton Historical Society Program** "Sacred Sites in Harwinton - Cairns," presented by Bob DeFosses on April 28th from 2-4 p.m. at the Harwinton Library. Free and open to the public.
- ◆ **Tag Sale** to benefit Lewis S. Mills High School Project Graduation 2018 on April 28th from 8:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Harwinton Fairgrounds, 150 Locust Road, Harwinton. Call 860-307-0358 for more information.

Torrington – Lynn Gelormino

- ◆ **Safe Boating/Personal Watercraft Certification Course** on April 10, 12 & 17 from 6-9 p.m. at Coe Park Civic Center, 101 Litchfield St., Torrington. Attendance at all three sessions is required. Participants who successfully complete this course and pass the test qualify for a Safe Boating Certificate and a Certificate of Personal Watercraft Operation which allow an individual to operate any recreational vessel including a personal watercraft ("jet ski" type vessel) on Connecticut's waters; \$25 per person; . Upon successful completion of the course, participants will need to purchase the Safe Boating/Personal Watercraft Certificates through the State of Connecticut DEEP for an additional fee of \$50.00.
- ◆ **Tag Sale, Craft Fair & Antiques Appraisals** at the Sullivan Senior Center on April 14th from 8 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
- ◆ **OSHA Compliance Seminar** at the Warner Theatre on April 20th from 8-9:30 a.m. Presented by the Entrepreneurial Center of NW CT Community College. \$15 per person.
- ◆ **Capitol Steps** at the Warner Theatre on April 21st at 8 p.m. Tickets available at warnersite.org. A national institution for over 35 years, providing a unique blend of musical and political comedy and satire.
- ◆ **KidsPlay Spring Break** "Stay-Cation" April 16-20. Special events, crafts & guests all week.

Winsted/Winchester – Fran Delaney

- ◆ **Farmers' Market** will begin its spring schedule on April 28th and May 26th featuring produce, baked goods, meats, health and animal care products. Visit winstedfarmersmarket.org for specifics & updates.

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COMING UP AT THE CHAMBER Continued from page 5.

Financial Reality Fair continued

visited all the booths, students will balance their budget, and then sit down with a financial counselor to review their standing. The Fair is a unique opportunity for each student to experience some of the financial challenges they will face when they start life on their own.


An important component to a responsible financial lifestyle is saving. In the Financial Reality Fair experience, students are encouraged to save a minimum of 10% of their income, placing 3% in a long term retirement investment, and 8% in a shorter term investment. The Financial Counselors explore the importance of planning for future needs and preparing for future financial challenges through savings. The Fair will tempt students to spend their income on “fun”, and the Financial Counselors will bring the focus back to saving and thrift practices.

Chamber members volunteer to make this event possible. No experience is necessary. If you'd like to be involved, please email Lauren@nwctchamberofcommerce.org or call 860-482-6586.

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

BUSINESS *after* HOURS



BROOKDALE
SENIOR LIVING

376 Goshen Road, Torrington

Thursday, April 19, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

[RSVP online at nwctchamberofcommerce.org/calendar.](https://www.nwctchamberofcommerce.org/calendar)

Mental Health First Aid Training: Mental Health in the Workplace

Did you know that you are far more likely to interact with an employee having a mental health or substance use problem than one in need of CPR? 1 in 5 American adults has a mental illness. Mental illnesses are the leading cause of disability worldwide. 1 in 10 full-time employees has an addiction. 40% of employees with a mental illness take time off because of it - up to 10 days a year. More than 35% of managers feel they receive no formal support or resources to help employees. HR managers know the toll mental illness can take on the company. However, only 15% are training to recognize the problem and share support and resources.

Mental Health First Aid, “CPR for the mind” is an 8-hour certificate training to teach participants how to help someone who is developing a mental health problem or experiencing a mental health crisis. The evidence behind the program demonstrates that it helps trainees identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental illness and substance use disorder. Like CPR, Mental Health First Aid prepares participants to interact with a person who is struggling or in crisis, and connect the person with help.

The Chamber will be hosting Mental Health Connecticut on Friday, May 4th and Friday, May 11th from 8 a.m. to 12 noon for this free workshop presented by Valerie English Cooper. RSVP <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/friday-may-4-11-2018-800am-1200pm-torrington-ct-registration-41253050986>.

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CHH Blood Drawing Services

540 Litchfield Street, Torrington.....(860) 496-6620
115 Spencer Street, Winsted.....(860) 738-6658

CHH Cardiac Rehabilitation Services

780 Litchfield Street, Torrington.....(860) 496-9512
115 Spencer Street, Winsted.....(860) 738-6660

CHH Center For Cancer Care

200 Kennedy Drive, Torrington.....(860) 489-6718

CHH Emergency Services

540 Litchfield Street, Torrington.....(860) 496-6650
115 Spencer Street, Winsted.....(860) 738-6650

CHH Lions Low Vision Center

1151 East Main Street, Torrington.....(860) 496-0046

CHH Mammography Services

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

CHH Medical Walk-In

1598 East Main Street, Torrington.....(860) 489-8444

CHH Primary Care

220 Kennedy Drive, Torrington.....(860) 496-6884
76 Watertown Road, Thomaston.....(860) 880-8091

CHH Radiology / X-ray Services

540 Litchfield Street, Torrington.....(860) 496-6550
115 Spencer Street, Winsted.....(860) 738-6664

CHH Rehabilitation & Sports Medicine

538 Litchfield Street, Torrington.....(860) 496-6875
1151 East Main Street, Torrington.....(860) 496-0046

CHH Sleep Center

115 Spencer Street, Winsted.....(860) 738-6620

CHH Wound Care & Hyperbaric Medicine

7 Felicity Lane, Torrington(860) 489-0418

MRI /Advanced Medical Imaging

540 Litchfield Street, Torrington.....(860) 489-7314



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Thanks to Our Renewing Members

The following Chamber members renewed their memberships during the period of February 22nd through March 20th. Thank you for your continued commitment to Northwest Connecticut's Chamber of Commerce. Companies listed in bold indicate a Corporate Partner.

- ◆ **Arconic Engines**
- ◆ Alzheimer's Association
- ◆ B&L Commercial Cleaning
- ◆ **Charlotte Hungerford Hospital**
- ◆ Community Council of Northwest Connecticut
- ◆ Elaine Murphy at Shear Bliss of Burlington
- ◆ H&R Block Thomaston Office, Matthew Grabel
- ◆ Litchfield County Women's Network
- ◆ Marino's Restaurant
- ◆ Victor M. Muschell, LLC
- ◆ Music Mountain
- ◆ Newbury & O'Rourke, LLC
- ◆ Pursue the Clues
- ◆ Resource Development Associates, LLC
- ◆ Rougeot Electric, LLC
- ◆ Jackie Scoville
- ◆ Stateline Wine & Spirit
- ◆ Torrington Area Health District
- ◆ Torrington Dental Care
- ◆ Torrington Public Schools
- ◆ **Valerie Manor**
- ◆ VNS of Connecticut
- ◆ W.L. Gilbert Trust Corporation

Community Representatives March Report

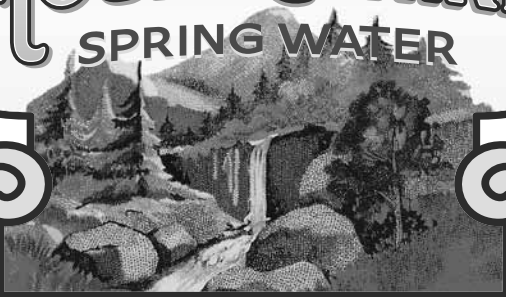
Continued from page 12.

Winsted/Winchester

- ◆ **Whiting Mills Events:**
 - ◆ 3rd Sunday Open House on April 15th from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. This month's featured artist is Vicki Hancock of Out of Hand Pottery. Samples of her work are on display at People's United Bank and Stop & Shop.
 - ◆ Semi-annual Studio Event will be held April 18th & 29th from 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. with the Mill's talented artists, photographers, craftspeople, and 12 guest artists. See whitingmills.com for details.
 - ◆ Two students from Kindness in Motion, a group from Northwestern Regional High School that raises funds for charity, have created "Vessels of Kindness." They have created pottery pots filled with flowers that will be sold at the Studios on April 28th & 29th. All proceeds will go to St. Jude's Children's Hospital.
 - ◆ "Weather Your Gondola Car" on April 21st from 10 a.m. - 12 Noon. Bring your black, grey or oxide red Gondola car, any scale and learn to make dirty and used with weathering wash & chalks. Call 860-379-3383 for information.
- ◆ **Winsted Police News** Police Chief William Fitzgerald has announced that the police force will have an officer join the Statewide Narcotics Task Force to combat drug issues in Winsted and around the state. The officer will work undercover and will conduct investigations in other towns. In return, seven officers from the task force will be available to investigate drug cases in town. The town will also benefit financially by receiving a percentage of any property seizure forfeitures.
- ◆ **Pet Parade** The Rotary Club is sponsoring this year's 82nd Pet Parade on May 18th. Specifics will be forthcoming.
- ◆ **Laurel Festival** Coming up on June 8-10.

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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 are subject to change. Please visit our website for up to date details. Thank you.

April 2018

- 4th - **WOW! Forum** Advisory Committee Meeting, 8 AM
Restaurant in the Spotlight at Tavern Off the Green, 432 Bantam Road, Litchfield, 5:30 PM
- 5th - **Membership Committee** Meeting, 8 AM
- 6th - **Manufacturers' Coalition** Meeting, 12 Noon
- 10th - **Annual Meeting & Chamber Hall of Fame Luncheon** at Chatterley's Banquet Facility, 371 Pinewoods Road, Torrington, 11:30 AM
- 12th - **Government Relations Committee** Meeting, 8 AM
- 18th - **Health Council** Meeting at Brandywine Living of Litchfield, 19 Constitution Way, Litchfield, 8 AM
Insurance Committee Meeting, 8 AM
Leadership Northwest
- 19th - **Board of Directors** Meeting, 8 AM
Business After Hours at Brookdale Litchfield Hills, 376 Goshen Road, Torrington, 5-7 PM
- 23rd - **Business With Breakfast** at Wisdom House Retreat & Conference Center, 229 East Litchfield Road, Litchfield, 8 AM
- 25th - **Financial Reality Fair** at Torrington High School

May 2018

- 2nd - **WOW! Forum** Advisory Committee Meeting, 8 AM
- 3rd - **Membership Committee** Meeting, 8 AM
- 7th - **Restaurant in the Spotlight** at The Edison Grill, 178 Birge Park Road, Harwinton, 5:30 PM
- 10th - **Government Relations Committee** Meeting, 8 AM
Great Giveaway Business Showcase at Chatterley's Banquet Facility, 371 Pinewoods Road, Torrington, 5-8 PM
- 16th - **Health Council** Meeting, 8 AM
Insurance Committee Meeting, 8 AM
Leadership Northwest Class Trip
- 22nd - **Business With Breakfast** at Torrington Savings Bank, 260 Spielman Highway, Route 4, Burlington, 8 AM
- 24th - **Board of Directors** Meeting, 8 AM
- 28th - **Chamber Offices Closed** in observance of Memorial Day
- 30th - **Business After Hours** at Torrington Savings Bank, 235 Dibble Street, Torrington, 5-7 PM

Save the Dates For These Major Chamber Events

June 27th - Celebration of Success October 5th - WOW! Forum
September 15th - Torrington House Tour

RSVP on-line at nwctchamberofcommerce.org/calendar or call 860-482-6586.
or call 860-482-6586.