

## NORTHWEST SCORE: AN INVALUABLE RESOURCE FOR YOUR BUSINESS

Northwest Connecticut's Chamber of Commerce has a long-standing partnership with SCORE, the national volunteer organization that serves as a resource partner for the U.S. Small Business Administration.

SCORE (Service Corp of Retired Executives), founded in 1964, now has over 390 chapters in all 50 states, with more than 10,500 active members. Every year, these members help thousands of entrepreneurs start small businesses and achieve new levels of success in their existing businesses.

SCORE volunteers provide confidential business mentoring services. They lead seminars and workshops to help small business owners meet their goals and achieve success. They help expand outreach of SCORE through marketing and alliance building in their communities. They provide subject matter expertise by industries and professional skills.

The Northwest Connecticut Chapter is comprised of a vital group of mentors who are active and retired business men and women. They are available at the Chamber office twice a month by appointment.

SCORE is always seeking individuals to become involved as a volunteer. Volunteering at SCORE is a way for you to give back to your community, connect with fellow business owners, and pass on your knowledge and expertise to the next generation of entrepreneurs in your community.

Northwest Connecticut SCORE has been offering an assortment of small business workshops in partnership with the Chamber. This month, two workshops will be presented:

- *Business Model Canvas* on February 6th from 5:30-7:30 p.m., and
- *What is Your Exit Strategy* on February 13th from 8:30-10:30 a.m.

Reservations for each can be made on the Chamber's website at [nwctchamberofcommerce.org/calendar](http://nwctchamberofcommerce.org/calendar). There is a \$25 per person fee for the workshops.

If you would like more information on becoming a volunteer, or would like to set up an appointment with a mentor, please call the Chamber at 860-482-6586.

### Community Representatives Report

The Community Representatives section of this newsletter is available on-line. Please visit our web page at [nwctchamberofcommerce.org/business-resources/regional-happenings/](http://nwctchamberofcommerce.org/business-resources/regional-happenings/) to view the February Community Representatives report.

If you notice your town is not featured and you would like information on serving as a Community Representative, please contact the Chamber office at 860-482-6586.

## THE GREAT GIVEAWAY BUSINESS SHOWCASE



The second annual Great Giveaway Business Showcase will be held on May 17th from 5-8 p.m. at Chatterley's Banquet Facility in Torrington.

We are now taking reservations for sponsors and vendors. Don't miss out on this fantastic marketing opportunity for your business. Details can be found on page 5 of this newsletter.

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



We have resolved to support you and motivate you to do something you've always wanted to do but somehow just didn't fit it into your schedule.

Help us create our 2018 Legislative Agenda... Plan Connecticut's future! The Government Relations Committee is preparing the agenda with the approval of the Chamber's Board of Directors. It will include making structural changes in the state budget; supporting the vitality of health services and manufacturing; collaborating with Northwestern Connecticut College; emphasizing workforce investment; and creating policies to make Connecticut a desirable place to do business.

Utilize the workforce investment resources... There is funding available for apprenticeships, hiring and training of employees. Take advantage of our School to Career, Manufacturers' Coalition and Health Council for the most up to date information to help your business grow.

Read to children... Your spirits will soar when you volunteer for our 27<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Annual Read Aloud sponsored by the Community Foundation of Northwest Connecticut. Put Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> on your calendar and join hundreds of special readers who spend an hour demonstrating the importance of reading to elementary school children throughout the Northwest corner.

Market your business... Contact us immediately to secure your participation in the 2018 May 17<sup>th</sup> Chamber Great Giveaway Business Expo at Chatterley's Banquet Facility. Not only will this exposure allow you to expand your customer base, it will provide you an evening of opportunity to welcome hundreds of visitors who can learn about your products or services.

Smile more... Let's be sure we enjoy what we are doing!

The Chamber recently welcomed Luz "Lucy" Woszczyzna, a student at Northwestern Connecticut Community College, to the Chamber. Originally from Colombia, Lucy is enrolled in a workforce training program to enhance and update her job skills for today's workforce. She will be assisting the Chamber staff in the office and will be with us through early spring. Please stop by and say hello.

*Welcome*  
**NEW MEMBERS**

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**ENJOY A TRIP TO PORTUGAL**

The Chamber is hosting a trip to Portugal November 2-10, 2018. Please join us for an informational session on Monday, February 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM at the Chamber Office, 333 Kennedy Drive, Torrington. A representative from Central Holidays will be on hand to give all the details of the trip and to answer any questions.

Travelers will enjoy 9 days and 7 night exploring Portugal's hidden treasures. Some of the highlights will be historic & colorful Lisbon, old-world neighborhoods of Alfama and Belem, UNESCO World Heritage Jeronimos Monastery & Belem Tower, a tradition Fado show, the historic towns of Sintra and Obidos, the world famous shrine of Fatima, picturesque fisherman's villages and charming coastal towns, and so much more.

The trip includes round trip airfare from JFK, 10 meals including 7 buffet breakfasts and 3 dinners, sightseeing, including a local guide and all entrance fees, a professional tour director, deluxe motor coaches and baggage handling and transfers.

The price per person is \$2749 if reserved by March 30, 2018. For more information, visit the Chamber's website to download the brochure- <http://nwctchamberofcommerce.org/events-programs/chamber-travel-program/>.



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

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

**Lauren Zordan**, VP Programs/Events  
[lauren@nwctchamberofcommerce.org](mailto:lauren@nwctchamberofcommerce.org)

**Pamela LaRosa**, Director, One-Stop Workforce Operations  
[pam@nwctchamberofcommerce.org](mailto:pam@nwctchamberofcommerce.org)

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

## Leadership Northwest

The January Leadership Northwest session focused on media and communications. The class started with group project work and each group presented their project idea to the class for feedback and suggestions. The groups are making a lot of progress and by next month they should start implementing their ideas.

Amy Jock, Brand Ambassador, Red Barn Consulting, LLC gave a presentation on how to write a press release and how to create a marketing timeline for their projects. As part of the class, each group will need to submit a press release about their project to the local papers for coverage. They will also need to take care of all the marketing for their projects and will need a detailed timeline to make sure everything is accomplished.

The class traveled to the Republican-American in Waterbury for a lunch session titled "The Making of a Story in a Changing Media Environment" presented by William Pape II, President; Anne Karolyi, Managing Editor; and Alec Johnson, Business Editor. Lunch was graciously provided by the Republican-American. The Waterbury Chamber's Leadership class was also in attendance for the session and following lunch the two groups did a speed networking exercise.

In the afternoon, Amy Jock taught the class about digital marketing and promotion and showed them how to best utilize Facebook and LinkedIn for promoting their projects.

The February session will focus on local small businesses.

## Working Cities Challenge

For over a year, a strong team of Chamber members and community representatives have been working together to apply for the Boston Federal Reserve's Working Cities Challenge Grant. On January 18th, the group presented to the Federal Reserve jury. The group, SPARC (Strategic Partners Action to Revitalize our Community), discovered a shared economic growth challenge—the loss of a younger workforce impacting multiple organizations in a distressed municipality with an aging population and a growing diverse community.

This issue is not uncommon across the state, but is unique in Torrington in that we are a "micropolitan"

community (one of the largest in the United States) with a population of 36,000 servicing 180,000 without state or federal resources. A campaign was developed to address the issue.

SPARC aims to develop/pilot a community-based Live-Learn-Work-Innovate Here Hub focusing on employment, training, support, job/career opportunities, entrepreneurship, and transportation. In addition, Torrington SPARCs Here will be a community-building campaign to increase opportunities for and encourage all residents to engage in collaborative efforts to improve policies and practices that influence key quality of life conditions. By the time this newsletter is in your hands, we will have heard if we have been awarded one of the \$475,000 grants being offered. Watch for updates.

## Business with Breakfast

The January Business with Breakfast was held at the American Job Center (AJC), 59 Field Street, Torrington on January 24th. Attendees were well-educated on the wide array of programs and services the AJC offers. Pam LaRosa, Director of the One-Stop Workforce Operations welcomed members. Michelle Caffé, from the Connecticut Department of Labor's Business Services Unit, Steve Gray, Joe Diorio and Larry Divito of the Workforce Investment Board presented on the AJC services. Following the AJC overview, attendees provided a brief presentation on their own businesses and spent time networking one-on-one.

## Business After Hours

John & Teresa Sullivan, co-founding Director and Executive Director of the Connecticut Academy for the Arts (CAFTA) hosted the January 24th Business After Hours at their location at 100 Prospect Street, Torrington. CAFTA is a non-profit cultural arts organization dedicated to providing individuals of all ages a means to identify, explore and utilize their creative ideas and talents with excellence and high standards on a competitively global level.

Attendees were able to view artists' work, hear about the programs CAFTA offers and tour the facility while networking with fellow members.

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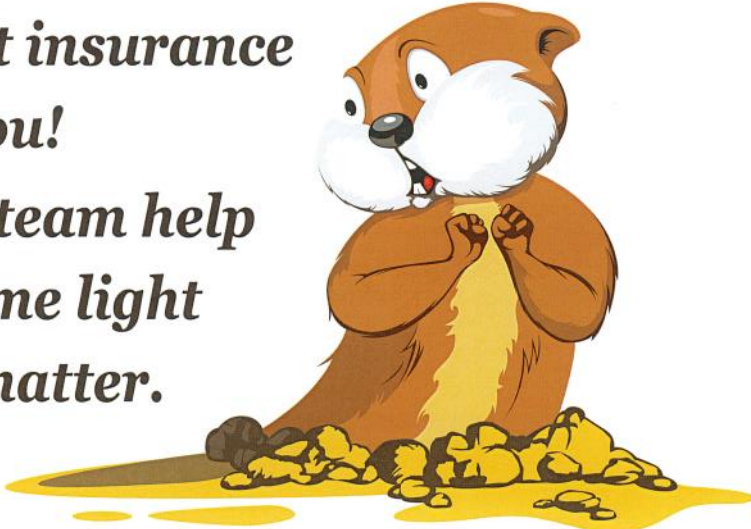
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## COMING UP AT THE CHAMBER

### Job Fair

Our 14<sup>th</sup> annual Job Fair will be held on Thursday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> from 10 AM-3 PM at Torrington City Hall Auditorium. We are currently looking for employers with job openings to exhibit at the event. All industries and businesses are welcome. Every year, the event is attended by hundreds of job seekers from all over the region. The fee to exhibit is \$100 for Chamber members and \$150 for non-members. Reservations include a 6' table and 2 chairs.

To reserve your table, complete the form online at <http://nwctchamberofcommerce.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Job-Fair-Flyer-for-Employers-2018.pdf> and email it to [Lauren@nwctchamberofcommerce.org](mailto:Lauren@nwctchamberofcommerce.org) or fax to 860-489-8851.

The Job Fair is sponsored by 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.




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*in the*  
SPOTLIGHT

Northwest Connecticut's Chamber invites you to stop by  
and see the delightful offerings of a local restaurant  
while you network with colleagues at

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Sponsored by



131 Water Street  
Torrington

**Monday, February 5th, 5:30-6:30 p.m.**

Cash bar.

[RSVP on-line at nwctchamberofcommerce.org/calendar.](http://nwctchamberofcommerce.org/calendar)

### Great Giveaway Business Showcase

Save the date for our very popular 2<sup>nd</sup> annual event- The Great Giveaway Business Showcase. The event will take place on Thursday, May 17<sup>th</sup> 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.

Booths will sell fast, so sign up today. 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](mailto: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.

*See more of Coming Up at the Chamber on Page 7.*



# Your business is our business.

## Flexible lending solutions through the Small Business Administration and the USDA.

Looking to start-up, buy-out, acquire or renovate? We're here to help you with whatever you need.

Join us to learn about available SBA and USDA financing programs in Northwest Connecticut.

### Guest Speakers:

**Gina D'Ambruoso**

*VP Business Development, SBA Division, TD Bank*

**David A. Brown**

*Business Programs Specialist, Rural Development  
United States Department of Agriculture*

February 14, 2018

(Snow Date – February 28, 2018)

8:00am – 9:30am

Northwest CT Chamber Office,

222 Kennedy Drive, Suite R101, Torrington, CT

Sponsored by TD Bank.

Continental Breakfast will be provided.



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

### Free Mental Health First Aid Training

The Chamber is pleased to be partnering with Mental Health Connecticut to offer a Free Mental Health First Aid Training course on February 7th from 8 am to 5 pm at the Chamber office. This is your opportunity to understand mental illness, support timely intervention and save a life. Mental Health First Aid is an 8-hour 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 in crisis and connect the person with help. First Aiders do not take on the role of professionals - they do not diagnose or provide any counseling or therapy. Instead, the program offers tools and answers questions like "what do I do" and "where can someone find help?" To register, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/friday-february-9-2018-800am-500pm-torrington-ct-registration-41253050986>.



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

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 viewing your host's merchandise.

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



NW CT Community College, Shirley Draper Conference Center  
At the Learning Resource Center, Route 44 & Park Place, Winsted

**Thursday, February 22, 5:00-7:00 p.m.**

[RSVP on-line at nwctchamberofcommerce.org/calendar.](http://nwctchamberofcommerce.org/calendar)

### Financial Reality Fair

Save the date of April 25<sup>th</sup> for the 9<sup>th</sup> 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 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](mailto:Lauren@nwctchamberofcommerce.org) or call 860-482-6586.




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# Corporate Partner SHOUT OUTS

## Sharon Hospital

Sharon Hospital has been recognized by The Joint Commission, the leading accreditor of healthcare organizations in the U.S., as one of the 480 hospitals in the nation selected as a 2017 Pioneers in Quality Data Contributor for its use of electronic clinical quality measures (eCQM) data reporting to improve quality of care and outcomes for its patients.

Most hospitals had been manually collecting information from patient records to measure healthcare quality. Through eCQMs, hospitals can electronically collect and transmit information on the quality of care their patients receive. The data can then be analyzed to measure and improve care processes, performance and outcomes.

## Litchfield Bancorp

Litchfield Bancorp recently announced the promotion of Paul McLaughlin to Executive Vice President. Paul began his career at the bank more than 25 years ago and is an avid member of the community of Northwest Connecticut.



“I am pleased to announce the promotion of Paul to EVP, approved by the Litchfield Bancorp Board last week,” President and Chief Executive Officer, Thomas J. Villanova said in announcing McLaughlin’s promotion. Mr. Villanova continued to say, “Paul is a leader in the community, a leader in our organization and a leader in the Connecticut Mutual Holding Company.”

In addition, Litchfield Bancorp’s Jennifer Ives-Groebel, Vice President and Senior Mortgage Lender, was named a “New Leader in Banking” by the Connecticut Bankers Association and Connecticut Banking Magazine. Jennifer has been with the bank since 1994. She covers both Torrington and Litchfield offices.



In regard to Jennifer Ives-Groebel being selected as a “New Leader in Banking,” Thomas Villanova stated, “Jennifer is an influential pillar within the banking industry and we are delighted with her growth and development through her years at Litchfield Bancorp.”

## Thomaston Savings Bank

Todd Burton, VP/Retail Banking and CRA Officer at Thomaston Savings Bank has been selected as a “New Leader in Banking” by the Connecticut Bankers Association and Connecticut Banking Magazine. Mr. Burton joined the bank in 2011 as Assistant Vice President Regional Branch Manager/New Business



Development Officer. He was responsible for effective management of production, customer service, coaching and the development of branch staff while prospecting and developing new and existing commercial relationships.

## O&G Industries, Inc.

O&G Industries recently added three project managers to the company’s Building Group which provides general contracting, construction management, design/build and specialty sub-contracting services in educational, healthcare, industrial manufacturing, transportation, power and municipal markets.

Stuart Wiley joins O&G as a Project Manager with over 20 years of construction industry experience, including 15 years of project management experience for projects in education, healthcare, manufacturing and municipal markets. Stuart is an eight-year Combat Veteran.

Matt Belcher joins O&G as a Project Manager with over 20 years of construction industry experience, including 15 years of project management experience for projects in education, healthcare, and municipal markets. Matt received his Bachelor of Science in Industrial Technologies from Roger Williams University, where his focus was on Construction Science.

Roland Kekelia joins O&G as a Project Manager with over seven years of construction industry experience working on education and transportation projects. Roland received his Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Fairleigh Dickinson University and his Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering from the New Jersey Institute of Technology.



Stuart Wiley

Matt Belcher

Roland Kekelia

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# MEMBER NEWS

## Connecticut Business Systems

Jordan Johnson of Connecticut Business Systems (CBS) invites his fellow Chamber members to a Valentine's Day Technology Expo on February 14<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 100 Great Meadow Road, Wethersfield. CBS, a Xerox Company, will showcase their hardware and software solutions and demonstrate why they've been ranked one of the Top Places to Work in CT four years in a row by the Hartford Business Journal. Included in their display will be new office equipment, entry level production equipment, wide format/plotters, audio visual, SMART technology and software. Attendees will be entered into a raffle for a chance to win VIP tickets to the UCONN vs. Tulsa men's basketball game. To RSVP, contact Jordan at [jsjohnson@cbs-gisx.com](mailto:jsjohnson@cbs-gisx.com) or 203-295-1332. Let him know you heard about the expo through the NW CT Chamber.

## Northwestern CT Community College

The Center for Workforce Development at Northwestern Connecticut Community College is offering *Real Estate Principles and Practices*, which starts on February 13 and runs through May 1, 2018. Classes will meet from 6:35-9:35 p.m. This required course for real estate salesperson licensing provides clear explanation of modern real estate practices and a working knowledge of real estate in Connecticut. For more information, or to register, please contact Jane Williams, Workforce Development Coordinator, at [jwilliams@nwcc.edu](mailto:jwilliams@nwcc.edu) or call 860-738-6444.

## Salisbury Bank & Trust Company

Salisbury Bank and Trust Company is pleased to announce that Nicole Chase has recently joined the Bank as Assistant Vice President, Branch Manager of the Lakeville and Salisbury branches. Nicole joins Salisbury Bank with 18 years of banking experience. She most recently worked for Union Savings Bank as the Branch Manager in Marble Dale, CT.

## Prime Time House

Prime Time House, Inc. is pleased to announce it has hired Christina Emery as Executive Director to lead the agency in its mission to support adults living with mental illness in Northwest Connecticut.

Ms. Emery brings extensive leadership experience including non-profit, government, economic development and entrepreneurial enterprise to the position. Emery comes to Prime Time House from The Arc of Litchfield County (LARC), in Torrington where she served as secretary, vice president and president of the board before accepting the position of Director of Development in 2012.

She formerly served as a Selectman for the Town of Harwinton; as Interim Executive Director for the Torrington Development Corporation; and as Director of Economic Development for the City of Torrington. Emery has served her community in a variety of volunteer positions including board member for the Torrington Development Corporation, volunteer for the United Way of Northwest Connecticut, and a member of the Government Relations Committee for the NW CT Chamber of Commerce.

Emery earned a B.A. in Economics & Management from Simmons College and a Master's in Public Policy from Trinity College. She also attended the Washington Semester Program in Economic Policy at American University.

## Northwest Connecticut Arts Council

The Northwest Connecticut Arts Council will host an informal Welcome Night for new, renewing and prospective members of the Arts Council. The informational social gathering invites members and those interested in becoming members to drop by the Council offices at 40 Main Street, Torrington any time between 4:30 and 6:30 p.m. on February 1st and March 7th. Registration is not necessary, but is encouraged (via eventbrite).

During Welcome Night, Council staff will be available to answer questions, demonstrate some of the website services, explain various programs, and to learn about each member's current activities and challenges.

The Northwest Connecticut Arts Council is supported in part by the DECD/Connecticut Office of the Arts, the Community Foundation of Northwest Connecticut, and the Connecticut Community Foundation. For more information about the Northwest Connecticut Arts Council, call 860-618-0075, email [info@artsnwct.org](mailto:info@artsnwct.org) or go to [www.artsnwct.org](http://www.artsnwct.org).

## Whiting Mills

Sandy Evans, manager of Whiting Mills and owner Paul Blachere, attended the 2017 Celebrate CT Annual Event, at the Bushnell Theatre, in Hartford, Connecticut. The Connecticut Economic Resource Center (CERC) and the Northwestern Hills Region presented Whiting Mills with an award for its contribution to the economic growth of the state. For the second time in two years, Whiting Mills was being recognized for excellence in the artist community and the state. In 2016, Yankee Magazine in their "Best of New England" – May/June 2016 Spotlight: Northwest Hills, declared Whiting Mills, BEST ARTISTS' COMMUNITY.

Sandy Evans is quoted as saying, "I am fully committed to our vision of expanding public awareness of the richness of the arts in the northwest corner of the state and of continuing to offer a variety of artists and craftspeople affordable studios at



# WELCOME WEDNESDAYS

**FEBRUARY 7<sup>TH</sup>, 14<sup>TH</sup>, 21<sup>ST</sup>,  
28<sup>TH</sup>  
9-11 A.M.**

**Come tour our school and see our students in action!**

January is also Catholic Schools Month! In addition to Welcome Wednesdays there is an Open House on Tuesday January 16<sup>th</sup> from 6 pm to 7:30 pm and on Sunday January 28<sup>th</sup> from 11 am to 1 pm.

**Visit our science  
and technology  
labs!**

**Watch our students  
in physical  
education class!**

**Visit each  
classroom from  
Pre-K to Junior  
High**

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program and  
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*Chamber Member*  
**IN THE  
 SPOTLIGHT**



**BROOKER MEMORIAL CELEBRATES 100 YEARS OF CARING**

**THANKFUL**

Sue Lalonde is grateful for the compassionate support and advocacy she and her son, Brian Maher, received from his teachers when he was enrolled in Brooker’s Child Care Center. Brian has gone on to be a world-class trap shooter and serves as a Tech Sergeant in the Air Force.

Gilda Fasciano Bongiovanni and her sister attended Brooker’s Day Nursery in 1938. Their mother had died and their father would bring them to Brooker on his way to work at Torrington Brass. Gilda recalls the loving care she received at Brooker.

Barbara Berti’s son Alex attended Brooker Child Care and he continues to be a patient in the pediatric dental center. Barbara is thankful for the support, advocacy and excellent care she and Alex receive from the staff.

**THROUGH THE YEARS**

Charles F. Brooker desired to create an institution that would be of great benefit to Torrington. He founded Brooker Memorial to honor his mother and her life-long devotion to the welfare of children. In 1918 he donated his family homestead, the property where Brooker continues to operate today, along with a generous sum to establish The Maria Seymour Brooker Memorial and its first programs: a residence for nurses, a day nursery, and a visiting nurse program. When Mr. Brooker died in 1926, he bequeathed additional money to establish an endowment to ensure Brooker’s long-term viability.



Our programs have changed over the years, but the ideal that good people will always respond in times of need has remained steady. A group of dedicated managers has continued to



oversee the organization. Brooker recognizes that a compassionate, high quality staff must be the foundation of every Brooker program.

**A NEW BUILDING TO HERALD THE CENTENNIAL**

In 2015, Brooker Memorial replaced its previous facility with the beautiful new Brooker building. This enhanced space made new service partnerships possible. Many community organizations now use Brooker’s program spaces for a variety of activities and support groups.

**INTO THE FUTURE**

Brooker Memorial is proud to celebrate this milestone anniversary with our community! We are excited and well-positioned for continued success as our next one hundred years unfold.

**EVENTS AND CELEBRATIONS**

To commemorate our anniversary, Brooker will hold events throughout 2018. On March 8, we will host the Chamber’s Business after Hours. There will be an anniversary party for friends of Brooker on April 28. A community birthday party and family fun day is scheduled for June 30, and a free dental care day is set for October 8.

For program information or a tour and for the full listing of anniversary events, go to [brookermemorial.org](http://brookermemorial.org) or email Lisa Ferris at [lferris@brookermemorial.org](mailto:lferris@brookermemorial.org) or call 860-489-1328.



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



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*Thanks to Our*

## Renewing Members

The following Chamber members renewed their memberships during the period of December 14th through January 22nd. Thank you for your continued commitment to Northwest Connecticut's Chamber of Commerce. Companies listed in bold indicate a Corporate Partner.

- Adams, Samartino & Co., P.C.
- Aetna, Tracey Goulet
- All-Star Storage, LLC
- American Mural Project
- Andritz SHW, Inc.
- **AssuredPartners Northeast**
- **Bantam Wesson**
- Berkshire Forklift, Inc.
- Borla & Associates, Inc.
- **Borghesi Building & Engineering Co., Inc.**
- Boulder Ridge Day Camp & The Village at Boulder Ridge
- **Brooks, Todd & McNeil Insurance**
- Law Offices of Debra A. Brown
- C&G Heating & Air Conditioning, Inc.
- CAL Business Solutions, Inc.
- Gladys Cerruto
- CMHA Northwest Center for Family Service
- Colavecchio Design, Inc.
- Commercial Real Estate Group
- Barry Cone's Heating & A/C, Inc.
- Connecticut Academy for the Arts
- Connecticut Brownfield Land Bank, Inc.
- Connecticut Construction Industries Association, Inc.
- Connecticut GI
- Connecticut Junior Republic
- Connecticut Society of Santas
- CONNSTEP
- Cramer & Anderson
- Doyle's Medical Supply, LLC
- Duralite, Inc.
- Ebersol, McCormick, Reis & Steck, LLC
- EdAdvance
- Elyse Harney Real Estate
- Fairchild Auto-Mated Parts, Inc.
- Fresh Perspectives, LLC
- Gentile Campground, LLC
- Giordano Signs and Graphics
- Gleeson-Ryan Funeral Home
- Hart Building & Roofing Supplies
- HealthMarkets Insurance Agency
- Herrington's
- Howd, Lavieri & Finch
- Inspire Leadership, LLC
- Insurance Center of Torrington, Inc.
- Jacque Williams Entertainment
- King, King & Associates, CPAs, PC
- L.G. Landscaping Services, Inc.
- The Lakeville Journal Co.
- LARC
- Litchfield County Board of Realtors
- Litchfield County Commercial Realtors
- Litchfield Drapery & Blinds
- H.R. Madeux Agency, Inc.
- Michael F. Magistrali & Associates, LLC
- Mitchell Volvo of the Litchfield Hills
- Moore & Alvord Insurance
- Mount Claire Water
- Northwest Connecticut Community Foundation
- Northwest Hills Credit Union
- Northwestern Mutual, Harold & Rose Mandly
- Northwestern Mutual, John Morris
- **O&G Industries, Inc.**
- Pelletier Mechanical Services, LLC
- Prime Time House, Inc.
- Quality Lawn, Inc.
- Raynard & Peirce, Inc.
- Red Barn Consulting
- **The Register Citizen**
- Law Offices of William O. Riiska
- The Roberts Tax Group
- The Rotary Club of the Torrington & Winsted Areas
- St. Francis Center for Occupational Health
- Dr. Rachel Sampson
- **Sharon Hospital**
- SOC Construction, Inc.
- Sterling Sintered Technologies, Inc.
- Sullivan Insurance, LLC
- Summit Scaffold Services, LLC
- Superior Plus Energy Services, LLC
- Tavern Off the Green & Crystal Peak
- Taylor Rental
- Theroux, Nowell & Stoughton, LLC
- Torrington Historical Society
- Torrington Housing Authority
- **Torrington Savings Bank**
- Traver, IDC
- **Union Savings Bank**
- Venetian Restaurant
- The Village Wine Cellar
- Vinny's Restaurant & Pizzeria
- Wall, Wall & Fraunhofer, LLP
- Waterbury Symphony Orchestra
- White Horse Country Pub & Restaurant
- Wisdom House Retreat & Conference Center
- The Workman
- Workshop, Inc.



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Borghesi Building & Engineering Co.  
Brandywine Living of Litchfield  
Brooks, Todd & McNeil Insurance  
Charlotte Hungerford Hospital  
Chatterley's Banquet Facility  
Conquest  
Cook Funeral Home  
Dymax Corporation  
Eastside Electric, Inc.  
Eversource Energy  
Fuel Cell Energy  
Litchfield Bancorp  
Litchfield Woods Health Care Center  
Northwest Community Bank  
O&G Industries, Inc.  
People's United Bank  
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.

### February 2018

- 1st - **Legislative Reception** at EdAdvance, 355 Goshen Road, Litchfield, 8 AM
- 2nd - **Manufacturers' Coalition Meeting**, 8 AM
- 5th - **Restaurant in the Spotlight** at Hanq's, 131 Water Street, Torrington, 5:30-6:30 PM
- 6th - **SCORE Workshop: "Business Model Canvas"**, 5:30 PM
- 7th - **WOW! Forum Advisory Committee Meeting**, 8 AM
- 8th - **Government Relations Committee Meeting**, 8 AM
- 9th - **Mental Health First Aid Training**, 8 AM - 5 PM (see page 5)
- 13th - **SCORE Workshop: "What Is Your Exit Strategy?"**, 8:30 AM
- 14th - **Read Aloud Day**  
**Member to Member Workshop: "Flexible Lending Solutions Through the SBA & USDA"** sponsored by TD Bank, 8 AM
- 19th - **Chamber Offices Closed** in observance of Presidents' Day
- 21st - **Health Council Meeting** at Brookdale Litchfield Hills, 376 Goshen Road, Torrington, 8 AM  
**Insurance Committee Meeting**, 8 AM  
**Leadership Northwest**
- 22nd - **Board of Directors Meeting**, 8 AM  
**Business After Hours** at Northwestern Connecticut Community College, Draper Center, Park Place East, Winsted, 5-7 PM
- 26th - **Chamber Travel Program Portugal Info Session**, 5:30 PM

### March 2018

- 1st - **Membership Committee Meeting**, 8 AM
- 2nd - **Manufacturers' Coalition Meeting**, 8 AM
- 7th - **WOW! Forum Advisory Committee Meeting**, 8 AM  
**Burlington Chamber Business After Hours** at West Wind Realty, 278 Spielman Highway, Burlington, 5-7 PM
- 8th - **Government Relations Committee Meeting**, 8 AM  
**Business After Hours** at Brooker Memorial, 157 Litchfield Street, Torrington, 5-7 PM
- 14th - **Connecticut Business Day & Leadership Northwest**
- 21st - **Health Council Meeting**, 8 AM  
**Insurance Committee Meeting**, 8 AM
- 22nd - **Board of Directors Meeting**, 8 AM  
**Job Fair** at City Hall, 140 Main Street, Torrington, 10 AM - 3 PM
- 27th - **Business With Breakfast** at Brookdale Litchfield Hills, 376 Goshen Road, Torrington, 8 AM
- 30th - **Chamber Offices Closed** in observance of Good Friday.

### Save the Dates For These Major Chamber Events

- |   |                                   |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| April 25th - Financial Reality Fair     | September 15th - Torr. House Tour |
| May 17th - Great Giveaway Business Expo | October 5th - WOW! Forum          |
| June 27th - Celebration of Success      |                                   |

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