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## **NW CT CHAMBER AND NCCC TO HOST LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST JANUARY 31ST**

Northwest Connecticut's Chamber of Commerce and Northwestern Connecticut Community College (NCCC) have partnered to host a Legislative Breakfast on January 31st at the Draper Conference Center at NCCC. The event will begin at 7:30 a.m.

Invited guests will include State Senators Craig Miner, Kevin Witkos and Henri Martin and State Representatives Bill Simanski, Jay Case, Maria Horn, Michelle Cook, David Wilson, Arthur O'Neill and John Piscopo. Mike Rell of International Government Strategies, the Chamber's Lobbyist, will moderate the panel discussion.

Mark Ojakian, President of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities will also speak to attendees.

Chamber members are encouraged to attend and have their voices be heard by the individuals who represent them in Hartford prior to the beginning of the 2020 Legislative Session.

To make your reservation, please visit our website at [nwctchamberofcommerce.org/calendar](http://nwctchamberofcommerce.org/calendar) or call the Chamber at 860-482-6586.

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## **NWCT CHAMBER AMBASSADOR PROGRAM**

Northwest Connecticut Chamber of Commerce's Membership Committee is a group of dedicated individuals who assist the Chamber staff throughout the year. Under the Membership Committee umbrella, there are three distinct groups: Member Ambassadors, Hospitality and Marketing & Communications.

The Northwest CT Chamber Ambassador program seeks to support the efforts and initiatives of the chamber's full-time staff and those recommended by the membership committee. The duties of an Ambassador includes: being an active and engaging participant at chamber events; connecting with new chamber members to foster relationships and act as a resource for chamber information/needs; assist in membership recruitment and retention efforts; and, promote the chamber mission to prospective and existing chamber members.



Serious business is conducted at our Leads Group meetings. Participants develop a strong business network and forge lasting relationships with their fellow members. Sometimes, however, you have to have a little fun. Leads I enjoyed a round of the Oven Mitt Gift Game at their December 9th meeting. They learned who were the most competitive of their group...and laughed a lot!



Chaired by Karen Kuhl of Geer Village Senior Community and John Seagrave of Barron Financial Group, the Ambassadors meet quarterly and are a key goodwill arm of the Chamber. Karen and John are currently seeking new members to join the group. The Ambassadors program offers Chamber members the opportunity to meet new contacts and share your personal Chamber experience with other business people.

The time commitment to be an active Ambassador is not excessive. Any member who would like to learn more about the time commitment and responsibilities of the Ambassador Program is encouraged to contact Anita Rosa at the Chamber office at 860-482-6586 or email [Anita@nwctchamberofcommerce.org](mailto:Anita@nwctchamberofcommerce.org).

We Wish You  
**Happy  
Holidays**  
and a Wonderful 2020!



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155 Hazard Avenue, Suite 12  
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South Windsor, CT 06074



## Premier MEMBERS

Brandywine Living at Litchfield ▪ Chatterley's Banquet Facility ▪ Commercial Sewing, Inc.  
 Eversource Energy ▪ Keystone Place at Newbury Brook ▪ Litchfield Woods Health Care Center  
 United Construction & Engineering, Inc. ▪ Valerie Manor ▪ Webster Bank

### From the Chamber President & CEO JOANN RYAN



This message created by Nancy Hardaway, an executive coach and leadership trainer, includes words of wisdom appropriate as we embark upon the New Year.

My wishes for you:

Time in your days not just for getting more done, but for thinking and listening to your own heartbeat and the heartbeats all around you

Courage to act or not to make tough decisions when necessary and empathy to understand the impact of those decisions on you and all you touch

Clarity of vision and creative thinking to see interconnections that could bring you opportunity, and possible solutions to see ways you can, rather than ways you can't

Skill and will to be present in this moment, in this place, to see the person or people before you and look into their eyes to hear what they say

Camaraderie and support, someone to lean on, because leading is a lonely business in places not seen before

Nights of rest and full sleep and vacations from technology

Slower days to set aside the heavy responsibilities of demanding more from yourself

A team of people to work with that share a common goal, can laugh and argue together and appreciate their differences and in the end get things done with you and without you

To live your year, your days at work and at home, in ways that nourish you and make a difference for others so when you look back, you have few regrets

My sincere wishes to all for a year of good health, happiness and success.

## Welcome NEW MEMBERS

### CHARTER OAK HOME CARE

Home Health Care • 860-489-4151 • charteroakhomework.com  
 Conant Schoenly  
 179 Water Street • Torrington

### COWORKER HUB

Shared Working Space • 972-814-7762 • coworkerhub.com  
 Rachel Keyser  
 27 Linda Court • Naugatuck

### DWORKEN, HILLMAN, LAMORTE & STERCZALA LLP

Accountants • 203-929-3535 • dhls.com  
 Samantha Kijonka  
 4 Corporate Drive, Suite 488 • Shelton

### ENERGY FITNESS FACTORY

Fitness Center • 860-496-9100 • energytorrington.com  
 Robert Rovezzi  
 59 Field Street • Torrington

### THE POSSUM QUEEN FOUNDATION

Non-Profit Organization • 860-417-9747  
 possumqueenfoundation.org  
 John Bongiorno  
 P.O. Box 1507 • Litchfield



333 Kennedy Dr., Ste. R101, PO Box 59  
 Torrington, CT 06790  
 p 860.482.6586 • f 860-489-8851

JoAnn Ryan, President & CEO, joann@nwctchamberofcommerce.org  
 Anita Rosa, VP Finance/Operations, anita@nwctchamberofcommerce.org  
 Lauren Zordan, VP Programs/Events,  
 lauren@nwctchamberofcommerce.org  
 Pamela LaRosa, Director One-Stop Workforce Operations,  
 pam@nwctchamberofcommerce.org  
 Sharon Kunay, Receptionist • info@nwctchamberofcommerce.org

nwctchamberofcommerce.org  
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**Charlotte Hungerford Hospital**

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**Quality Healthcare Services at CHH**

**Behavioral Health**

540 Litchfield Street, Torrington.....(860) 496-6350

**Blood Drawing Services**

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

**Cardiac Rehabilitation Services**

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

**Center For Cancer Care**

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

**Center For Healthy Aging**

540 Litchfield Street, Torrington.....(860) 496-6240

**Emergency Services**

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

**Foot Center**

540 Litchfield Street, Torrington.....(860) 496-6723

**Lions Low Vision Center**

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

**Mammography Services**

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

**MRI /Advanced Medical Imaging**

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

**Radiology / X-ray Services**

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

**HHC Rehabilitation Network**

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

**Sleep Center**

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

**Wound Care & Hyperbaric Medicine**

7 Felicity Lane, Torrington .....(860) 489-0418



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

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**SHOUT OUTS**

**CHARLOTTE HUNGERFORD HOSPITAL**

Northwest Building Healthier Communities Fund, established by Hartford HealthCare (HHC) and Charlotte Hungerford Hospital (CHH), with grants administered by the Northwest Connecticut Community Foundation, has awarded the largest grant in its history totaling \$1,196,750 to the towns of Torrington and Winsted to support economic development strategies designed to attract new businesses, promote job growth, and enhance community well-being.

Announced at a special year-in-review press conference, the grants will be distributed to town administrators over a three-year period. The towns worked together on a comprehensive joint proposal that addresses their similar needs and challenges, and a desire to work collaboratively to create effective economic growth in Northwest Connecticut.



The Mayors explain that the grant proposal is not calling for a branding and imaging study but promoting their communities beyond the use of traditional marketing strategies. The strategies will consist of concrete, proven initiatives to change misconceptions, develop useful communications and online resources, and engage community members and start-ups with personal assistance.

**NUVANCE - SHARON HOSPITAL**

Nuvance Health recently announced the appointment of Dr. Mark Hirko as President of Sharon Hospital. Dr. Hirko has been with Health Quest Medical Practice since 2017 as associates vice president of surgical services, women's health and medical specialties through the parent organization's facilities: Sharon Hospital, Northern Dutchess Hospital, Putnam Hospital Center and Vassar Brothers Medical Center. He collaborated with senior and physician leadership to enhance care across the system and helped develop undergraduate and post-graduate medical and surgical education programs.



*Coming Up at*

# NORTHWEST CONNECTICUT'S CHAMBER




**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, January 28th, 8:00 a.m.**  
Snow Date: Wednesday, January 29th

Hosted by  
**ST. JOHN PAUL THE GREAT  
ACADEMY**  
360 Prospect Street, Torrington

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

## READ ALOUD

The Northwest Connecticut Chamber Education Foundation and Y Literacy Volunteers are proud to present the 29<sup>th</sup> annual Read Aloud Day on Wednesday, February 12<sup>th</sup> (snow date- Feb.13). This year, the sign-up information for readers has changed, so please read carefully.

We are seeking volunteers to spend two hours of their day sharing their love of reading with elementary school students around the region. After attending a short orientation and reviewing the book, a student will escort you to the classroom for your Read Aloud experience.

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

If you would like to read, please register with the Northwest CT YMCA, not the school. Send your name, address, email, phone number, school, grade and teacher preference, if any, to Dorothy Brisco at [RSVP@nwcty.org](mailto:RSVP@nwcty.org). Placement in requested classrooms is made on a first-come, first-served basis. For questions, call Dorothy Brisco at 860-489-3133 x109.

Read Aloud is a program of the Northwest Connecticut Chamber Education Foundation, in partnership with the Y Literacy Volunteers and is sponsored by the Draper Foundation Fund, a fund of the Northwest Connecticut Community Foundation.

## JOB FAIR

Our 16<sup>th</sup> annual Job Fair will be held on Thursday, March 26<sup>th</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 [nwctchamberofcommerce.org/events-programs/job-fair/](http://nwctchamberofcommerce.org/events-programs/job-fair/) 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.



## Really golden moments at Northwest Community Bank



Gayle Moraski, VP, Branch Administrator, has retired. Now she has more time to spend with her beloved Golden Retrievers, Summer Wish and Cabot Marie. After an awesome 45-year career at Northwest Community Bank (*yes, she started right after kindergarten*) we will miss Gayle.

Thank you, Gayle. We wish you all the best.

Solidea Pitruzzello has been working with Gayle for a while, and is the bank's new VP, Retail Banking. It's a golden opportunity for us at Northwest Community Bank – bringing Dea's 18 years of experience into our bank and community.

Though already part of the team, welcome again, Dea!



Winsted Main Office 860-379-7561 | New Hartford 860-693-8397 | Torrington 860-482-3423

Winsted Northwestern Regional High School #7 Academic Branch

Avon 860-677-2809 | Granby 860-653-7228

[www.nwcommunitybank.com](http://www.nwcommunitybank.com)



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*Coming Up at*

# NORTHWEST CONNECTICUT'S CHAMBER

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## SEXUAL HARASSMENT PREVENTION TRAINING

Connecticut's Time's Up Act Requires: employers to provide all existing employees with two hours of training by October 1, 2020, employers to provide two hours of training and education to new employees hired on or after October 1, 2019 within six months of their start date, employers to provide two hours of training and education to all existing supervisory employees by October 1, 2020 or within six months to new supervisory employees, employers to provide periodic training not less than every ten years.

The Chamber is now hosting Sexual Harassment Prevention Trainings to fulfill these requirements. So far two dates have been scheduled, January 29<sup>th</sup> and March 10<sup>th</sup>, both from 8-10 am.

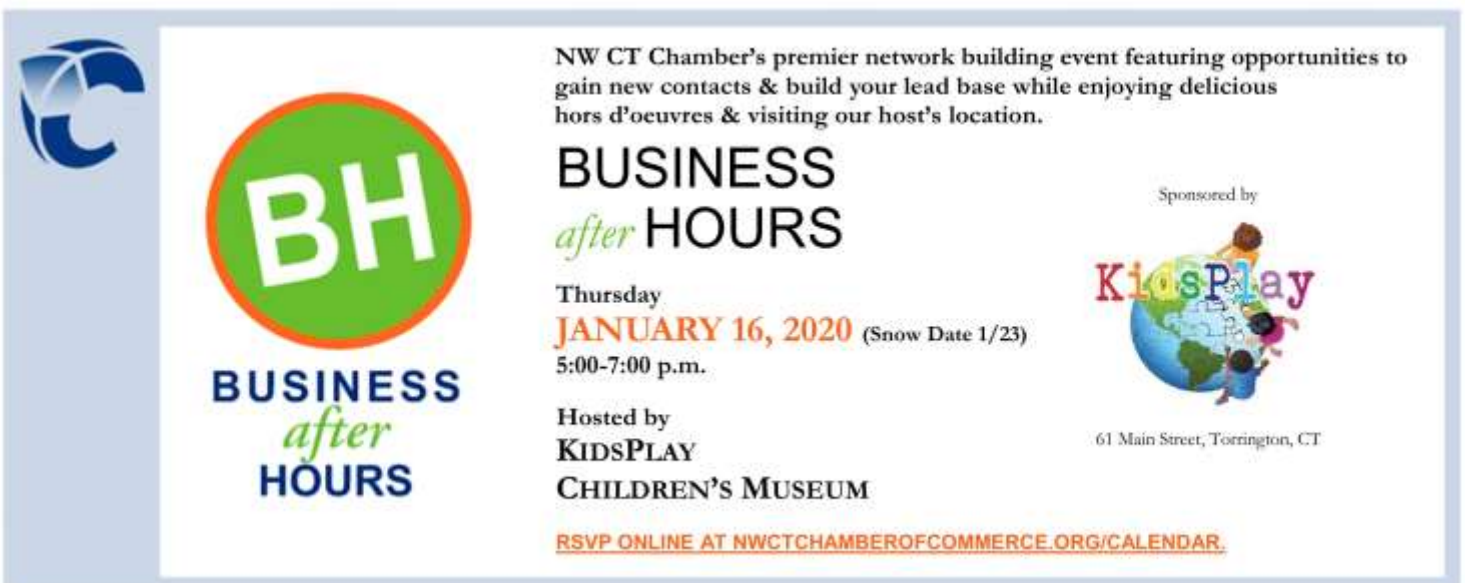
This Sexual Harassment In the Workplace seminar will cover all aspects of the new statutory requirements for employers, including, information about what has changed, what new obligations exist for employers and where employers can find additional resources to ensure compliance. The presentation and discussion will also focus on understanding the spectrum of workplace conduct that constitutes sexual harassment, best practices in appropriately addressing sexual harassment and, in understanding the legal implications employers should be aware of when dealing with harassment issues in the workplace.

This seminar will satisfy Connecticut's two (2) hour sexual harassment training requirement and is being provided by Secor, Cassidy & McPartland, P.C. Only 40 spots available at each class. The cost is \$50/person to attend. Sign up your employees online at [nwctchamberofcommerce.org](http://nwctchamberofcommerce.org) or by calling the Chamber at 860-482-6586.

## WOW! FORUM ADVISORY COMMITTEE *Recruiting New Members*

Each year, the WOW! Forum Advisory Committee works hard to plan the event, taking place this year on October 2<sup>nd</sup>. The committee is always looking for new members. If you've enjoyed the WOW! Forum women's conference in the past, and would like to be a part of the planning process, contact [Lauren@nwctchamberofcommerce.org](mailto:Lauren@nwctchamberofcommerce.org) for more information.

The committee will meet from February-November on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of every month at 8:30 AM at the Chamber Office. The committee helps select the theme, choose the speakers, giveaway, lunch, decorations, and gets the auction items. They also volunteer to help the day of the event. This is a great way to network with other women in the area and have a voice in planning the WOW! Forum.



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

Thursday  
**JANUARY 16, 2020** (Snow Date 1/23)  
5:00-7:00 p.m.

Hosted by  
**KIDSPRAY**  
**CHILDREN'S MUSEUM**

Sponsored by  
**KidsPlay**

61 Main Street, Torrington, CT

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

*Coming Up at*

## NORTHWEST CONNECTICUT'S CHAMBER

*Continued from page 7.*

### **GREAT GIVEAWAY BUSINESS SHOWCASE**

Save the date for our very popular 4<sup>th</sup> annual event- The Great Giveaway Business Showcase. The event will take place on Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup> from 4-7 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 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.

### **CHAMBER TRAVEL: *Info Sessions for 2020 Trips***



**Amalfi Coast & Rome- April 18-25**  
**Info Session: January 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM at the Chamber Office**

It is little wonder that this country is one of the world's best-loved destinations and that two-thirds of the world's historical artistic heritage is in Italy. Whether it's culture, gastronomy, cutting-edge design, sybaritic pleasures or

simply the art of dolce far niente, doing nothing and just soaking up the atmosphere, this is a country for lovers of all that is good in life. The Amalfi Coast's mixture of history and nature are yours to discover from the Cathedral of Amalfi, to the villas in Ravello and the numerous churches built during the historical period of Amalfi's Republic. From Galli's Isles in front of Positano to the Emerald Grotto, the Amalfi Coast will captivate you with its warmth and beauty. 8 days, 6 nights including hotels, meals, day trips and airfare from JFK for \$2999. Join us on January 9th at 5:00 PM at the Chamber Office to learn more.

**Budapest, Vienna & Prague- NEW DATES- October 5-13**  
**Info Session: January 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM at the Chamber Office**

Dotted with hilltop fortresses, ornate cathedrals, and imperial palaces, Vienna, Budapest, and Prague will captivate you. Enjoy Bohemian castles, Hungarian thermal baths, and vintage Viennese coffeehouses on this splendid journey to three of Europe's most exquisite riverside capitals. Take in the ornate architecture and stately elegance of Vienna. Roam Budapest's wide boulevards and lounge



along the banks of the Danube. Spend a few days getting to know each of these dynamic cities, and you'll discover their vivid World War II history, radical art movements, and unique local cultures. 9 days, 7 nights including hotels, meals, day trips, and airfare from JFK for \$3,199 (if reserved before March 23, 2020). Join us on January 9th at 6:00 PM at the Chamber Office to learn more.

The Chamber trips are open to anyone, members and non-members. Transportation is provided from Torrington to JFK for all trips (for an additional fee). For more information, please call the Chamber at 860-482-6586 or email [Lauren@nwctchamberofcommerce.org](mailto:Lauren@nwctchamberofcommerce.org).



# Chamber Member NEWS

## COMCAST SPOTLIGHT IS NOW EFFECTV

Comcast Spotlight, the advertising sales division of Comcast Cable recently announced that it has rebranded as Effectv (*e-FEC-tiv*), emphasizing its commitment to delivering measurable results for its clients. This name change follows a notable evolution of the company over the past year, including the rollout of new data-driven TV advertising strategies, targeting and attribution products, cross-screen capabilities and a self-service buying platform for advertisers.

The rebrand follows the launch of a key product this year – Effectv’s *Ad Planner* – allowing small business owners and local advertisers the independence to plan, design and manage advertising campaigns with a few clicks of a mouse at an affordable price. TV Ad Planner makes TV advertising more accessible and offers an alternative buying path for advertisers who prefer to use self-service portals like those offered by digital media platforms. You can view the Ad Planner online at <https://adplanner.effectv.com/>.

By creating a self-service portal, small businesses whose barrier to entry into TV advertising was affordability can now build a schedule based on their budget. In addition to being able to buy their own TV campaign, they can also create a TV spot in less than 72 hours within the portal, making TV Ad Planner a one-stop shop for small business advertising. Visit [www.effectv.com](http://www.effectv.com) for full details.

## AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

The American Cancer Society’s Daffodil Days are coming March 23, 2020! Daffodil Days is an opportunity for everyone to join the American Cancer Society in saving lives, celebrating lives and leading the fight for a world without cancer. Dollars raised through Daffodil Days support groundbreaking research, patient services, and other lifesaving programs. Through the daffodil, the first flower of spring, this campaign brings a symbol of hope to cancer patients and those affected by the disease.

For a \$10 donation, receive one bunch of daffodils as a thank you. For a \$15 donation, receive one bunch of assorted tulips. For a \$15 donation, receive a potted mini-daffodil as a thank you. For a \$25 donation, instead of receiving flowers, you can support the Gift of Hope program where volunteers deliver daffodils to local hospitals.

To participate and/or coordinate for your business, contact Graham Kobs at [graham.kobs@cancer.org](mailto:graham.kobs@cancer.org) or 203-379-4884.

## NORTHWESTERN CONNECTICUT COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Northwestern Connecticut Community College (NCCC) has been placed by Nursing School Almanac in its recently released 2019 rankings, among the best Nursing Schools in New England.

NCCC’s Nursing Program has been rated #55 in the New England Region. Christopher McMillen, editor-in-chief of Nursing Schools Almanac, shared that they collected data on more than 3,000 institutions, and only 20% made the list of the best Nursing School in each geographic region.

**New Entrepreneurs & Experienced Business People**



**Wednesday, February 12 ★ 5 - 7 pm** (Snow date Feb 19)  
**Whiting Mills Studios, 210 Holabird Avenue, Winsted**

PARKING: 209 Holabird Avenue (NCCC Lot) Just walk across the street.  
 Startup sign will mark the door to enter.

<p><b>ENTREPRENEURS</b></p> <p>Do you have a new business concept?                  Do you know your next steps?                  Can you turn your goals into reality?</p> <p>Register to make a presentation about your business and ask for professional feedback and advice from seasoned business founders and mentors.</p>		<p><b>MENTORS</b></p> <p>Are you a mentor?                  Can you help a new business?                  Will you listen – then share your experience?</p> <p>Use your expertise in healthcare, technology, social services, engineering, finance, legal or other industry to support entrepreneurs and new businesses.</p>
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NORTHWEST STARTUP is free and open to the public.  
 Be part of this dynamic, energetic, collaborative evening (our fourth Northwest Startup!)  
 Register on <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/85698479459>  
 To learn about pitching your business, contact Jane Williams: [jwilliams@nwcc.edu](mailto:jwilliams@nwcc.edu) or 860-738-6444.

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About Northwest Startup

Northwest Startup is a support hub established to connect and guide new businesses in all stages of development from idea conception to global impact. Northwest Startup brings together skilled business and industry mentors who provide support and feedback to help founders and their startups reach their full potential.

Northwest Startup is presented by the Entrepreneurial Center of Northwest CT in partnership with SCORE, Northwest CT Chamber of Commerce and the Winchester Economic Development Commission.

## What's Been Happening AT THE CHAMBER

### MANUFACTURERS' COALITION



Colin Cooper, Connecticut's Chief of Manufacturing (center), addresses the Chamber's Government Relations Committee and Manufacturer's Coalition on December 13th. Dr. Michael Rooke from Northwestern Connecticut Community College is seated to his left and the Chamber's Lobbyist, Mike Rell, to his right.

The Manufacturers' Coalition meeting took place on December 13<sup>th</sup> at the Chamber. Over 50 manufacturers and educators from around the region joined us for an important legislative update from our local delegation. State Representatives Jay Case, Michelle Cook, and Maria Horn, along with State Senators Henri Martin, Craig Minor and Kevin Witkos were all in attendance. The Chamber's Lobbyist Mike Rell was also on hand to field questions from the attendees. The group was updated on legislation relating to manufacturing, both newly passed and upcoming this year. The guest speaker at the meeting was Connecticut's first Chief of Manufacturing Colin Cooper. Colin explained his new role and how he'll be working with manufacturers around the region.

The Coalition will not meet in January due to the holiday but will resume on February 7<sup>th</sup> with a meeting just for manufacturers focusing on Business to Business.

### LEADERSHIP NORTHWEST

The Leadership class met on December 18<sup>th</sup> for a full day of professional development. They started the morning working in their teams on their project idea. Advisors were on hand to help flush out ideas and come up with their first draft of a plan to execute their project over the next 6 months. Each group presented their project idea to a panel of advisors for feedback and concept approval.

Paul McLaughlin, Litchfield Bancorp, moderated a panel on Corporate Leadership that gave the class great insight to how excellent leaders are developed throughout their career. The panelists included local presidents and CEO's: Evan Berns, Seitz LLC; Lynn Gelormino, The Warner Theatre; John Janco, Torrington Savings Bank; Lance Leifert, Conquest; Susan Lubomski, Superintendent of Torrington Public Schools; and Susan Suhanovsky, Torrington Water Company. The panelists spoke about their career paths, their mentors, how they lead by example, and gave great advice to our class of upcoming leaders.



The class traveled to Wisdom House Retreat & Conference Center in Litchfield for a delicious lunch and their afternoon session. After a quick holiday gift exchange game, JoAnn Ryan moderated a panel on Board participation. One of our goals for the Leadership participants is that they will get more involved in our community and one day share their talents by serving on a board. The panelists included local business leaders who each serve on multiple board around the region including: Kim Brown, Torrington Savings Bank; Jeff Geddes, Torrington Savings Bank; Gayle Moraski, Northwest Community Bank; Vic Muschell, City of Torrington; and Teresa Spring, Webster Bank.

After the panel, Wisdom House's Executive Director Deb Kelly gave the class a tour of the facility. Wisdom House is an interfaith retreat and conference center presenting programs in spirituality, wellness, the arts, and ecology, and offering hospitality to academic, civic, nonprofit, and business organizations. It is a great location to host a meeting or event.

The January 15<sup>th</sup> session will focus on media and communications. The group will be traveling to the Republican-American to learn about the making of a story and writing an effective press release, which will be useful when it comes time to promote their group projects. The class will also be practicing their skills in public speaking.

Thank you to our sponsor Torrington Savings Bank and to Northwest Regional Workforce Investment Board for their support of the program.



Thanks to Our

# RENEWING MEMBERS

The following Chamber members renewed their memberships during the period of November 23rd through December 20th. Thank you for your continued commitment to Northwest Connecticut's Chamber of Commerce. Companies listed in bold indicate a Corporate Partner. Milestone anniversaries are indicated in parentheses.

- ◆ American Mural Project
- ◆ BantamWesson (10 Years)
- ◆ Borghesi Building & Engineering Co., Inc. (45 Years)
- ◆ Jill B. Brakeman, Law Office & Mediation Center
- ◆ Carmody, Torrance, Sadak & Hennessey, LLP
- ◆ Championship Turf Services
- ◆ Conquest (15 Years)
- ◆ Custom Furniture & Design
- ◆ Elyse Harney Real Estate (15 Years)
- ◆ Executive Glass, LLC
- ◆ Fairchild Auto-Mated Parts, Inc.
- ◆ Klebe Fuel Co., Inc.
- ◆ Litchfield County Board of Realtors
- ◆ H.R. Madeux Agency, Inc.
- ◆ McCall Center for Behavioral Health
- ◆ Christopher J. Morrison, Attorney at Law
- ◆ Northwest Connecticut Community Foundation
- ◆ Northwest Corner Dental Partners
- ◆ Red Barn Consulting, LLC
- ◆ Law Offices of William O. Riiska
- ◆ Jackie Scoville
- ◆ St. Francis Center for Occupational Health
- ◆ Thomas Custom Builders
- ◆ Toth Insurance Agency, LLC
- ◆ Travel Daly
- ◆ Vintech Management Services
- ◆ Weigold Floor Covering
- ◆ White Flower Farm
- ◆ Workshop, Inc.



## CORPORATE FITNESS PROGRAMS

Do the big corporate gyms offer a customized program for your small business?  
Definitely not, but we do.

**Energy Fitness Factory is the area leader in Corporate Fitness Programs.**

We will work with you to design an affordable health & wellness program for you and your workers. We offer personal training, small-group classes, a smoothie & nutrition bar, and massage therapy.



Energy Fitness is rated **The BEST Fitness Center in Northwest Connecticut.**

The BEST trainers. The BEST equipment. The BEST value.

And yes, we are locally owned and managed by your neighbors.

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## Corporate Partners

Altek Electronics, Inc.  
AssuredPartners Northeast  
AT&T  
BantamWesson Energy  
BD  
Borghesi Building & Engineering Co.  
Brooks, Todd & McNeil Insurance  
Charlotte Hungerford Hospital  
Conquest  
Cook Funeral Home  
Dymax Corporation  
Eastside Electric, Inc.  
FuelCell Energy, Inc.  
Litchfield Bancorp  
National Iron Bank  
Northwest Community Bank  
O&G Industries, Inc.  
The Register Citizen  
Republican-American  
Resource Development Associates  
Sharon Hospital  
TD Bank  
Thomaston Savings Bank  
Torrington Savings Bank  
Union Savings Bank

## Chamber Calendar of Events

All events listed below will be held at the Chamber offices at 333 Kennedy Drive, Torrington unless otherwise noted. Dates and locations are subject to change. Please visit our website for up to date details. Thank you.

### JANUARY 2020

- 7th - **Small Business Council** Meeting, 8 AM
- 8th - **Leads II** Meeting, 8 AM
- 9th - **Government Relations Committee** Meeting, 8 AM  
**Leads III** Meeting, 12 Noon  
**Travel Information Sessions** 5 PM The Amalfi Coast & Rome, 6 PM Budapest, Vienna & Prague
- 13th - **Leads I** Meeting, 12 Noon
- 15th - **Insurance Committee** Meeting, 8 AM  
**Leadership Northwest**
- 16th - **Business After Hours at KidsPlay Children's Museum**, 61 Main Street, Torrington, 5-7 PM (Snow Date January 23rd)
- 20th - **Chamber Closed in Observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day**
- 22nd - **Leads II** Meeting, 8 AM
- 23rd - **Board of Directors** Meeting, 8 AM  
**Leads III** Meeting, 12 Noon
- 27th - **Leads I** Meeting, 12 Noon
- 28th - **Business with Breakfast at St. John Paul the Great STREAM Academy**, 360 Prospect Street, Torrington, 8 AM (Snow Date January 29th)
- 29th - **Sexual Harassment Prevention Seminar**, 7:45 a.m. Limited seating. Reservations required.

### FEBRUARY 2020

- 4th - **Small Business Council** Meeting, 8 AM
- 6th - **Membership Committee** Meeting, 8 AM
- 7th - **Manufacturers' Coalition** Meeting at Altek Electronics, Inc., 89 Commercial Boulevard, Torrington, 8 AM
- 10th - **Leads I** Meeting, 12 Noon
- 12th - **Read Aloud Day**  
**Leads II** Meeting, 8 AM
- 13th - **Government Relations & Health Council** Combined Meeting, Location TBD, 8 AM  
**Leads III** Meeting, 12 Noon
- 17th - **Chamber Closed** in Observance of Presidents' Day
- 19th - **Insurance Committee** Meeting, 8 AM  
**Leadership Northwest**
- 24th - **Leads I** Meeting, 12 Noon
- 25th - **Business with Breakfast at the Chamber**, 8 AM
- 26th - **Leads II** Meeting, 8 AM
- 28th - **Board of Directors** Meeting, 8 AM  
**Leads III** Meeting, 12 Noon

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