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*Wishes for July*

*This message created by Nancy Hardaway, an executive coach and leadership trainer, includes words of wisdom appropriate for July.*

*I have taken the privilege to paraphrase. The wishes are included below:*

More 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...  
For getting up above the clouds and seeing beyond the horizon.

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...  
And then resilience to keep on moving forward.

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

The 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...  
And understand, or really listen without having to speak.


Camaraderie and support, someone to lean on, someone to think with.  
For leading, is a lonely business because you go to places not seen before...  
And it's always a risk.

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 that when you look back, you have few regrets.

To go forward despite the challenges with vision and creativity.



JoAnn Ryan is President & CEO of the NW CT Chamber of Commerce. She can be reached by email: [joann@nwctchamberofcommerce.org](mailto:joann@nwctchamberofcommerce.org) or phone: 860-482-6586

# V I R T U A L O P P O R T U N I T I E S A C T U A L R E S O U R C E S



## Benefit from Information and Support Relevant to Local Businesses

- Workshops, Webinars
- Networking, Sales Leads
- Connections to American Job Center, Department of Labor and the NW Regional Workforce Investment Board
- Industry-Specific Peer Groups
- Communication, Access to Local, State and Federal Leaders
- Marketing Channels
- News Updates and Communications

**We want to know your needs so we can help.  
Contact JoAnn Ryan, President & CEO.**

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



333 Kennedy Drive, Suite R101  
PO Box 59, Torrington, CT 06790  
860-482-6586



*Cultivate fresh ideas now!*

*Upcoming*

# CHAMBER ZOOM EVENTS

- July 1st – WOW – 8:30AM
- July 2nd – Membership Services – 8AM
- July 3rd – Closed – Happy 4th of July
- July 7th – Small Business Council – 8AM
- July 7th – Small Business Development Center  
Elizabeth Paynter, Regional Director –  
Guest Speaker
- July 8th – Leads II – 8AM
- July 9th – Government Relations – 8AM –  
Steve McAllister, US Chamber
- July 9th – Leads III – 12 noon
- July 10th – Webinar – Mastering Your Day – Getting More  
Done in Less Time - Wilbur Pike, Learning  
Dynamics – 8AM
- July 10th – Manufacturer's Coalition – 8AM –  
Richard Pontelance, CareerPath and  
Colin Cooper, CT Manufacturing Leader
- July 13th – Leads I – 12 Noon
- July 15th – Insurance Committee – 8AM
- July 15th – Council of Governments, NW CT Economic  
Development Commissioner, Chamber –  
David Lehman, Commissioner of DECD –  
8AM
- July 16th – Webinar – Legal Issues in Re-Open  
Connecticut – Summa & Ryan
- July 22nd – Leads II – 8am
- July 23rd – Board of Directors – 8AM
- July 23rd – Leads III – 12 Noon
- July 24th – Webinar – Managing Your Remote Staff –  
Wilbur Pike, Learning Dynamics – 8AM
- July 27th – Leads I – 12 Noon
- July 28th – Business With Breakfast –  
Litchfield County Regional Fire School

# We've Got Business Banking

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Savings Bank**

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*Coming Up At*

# NORTHWEST CONNECTICUT'S CHAMBER WOW FORUM

Please watch for the latest information regarding the 2020 Wow Forum scheduled for Friday, October 2nd. We are reviewing options for that special day and will keep you up to date with some major surprises. It is our 16th annual professional development conference aimed at motivating and educating the hundreds of women who attend this day-long program each year. Together, we are advancing women's leadership across careers and cultures to share knowledge and ideas, to enrich each other's lives, to provide a network of support and to promote opportunities for women in leadership.

The event is not only educational, it is fun and exciting too. You will have the opportunity to network with other attendees and hopefully enjoy a continental breakfast and luncheon and end the day with a dessert reception and auction.

## Thank you to our outstanding WOW Advisory Board

*Chair-* Melissa Root, Litchfield Bancorp

*Vice-Chair-* Cathy Roscello, The Torrington Water Company

### *Board Members-*

Jade Athas, Berkshire Hathaway Home Services  
Sandra Conforti, Northwest Community Bank  
Sarah Dziedzic, Union Savings Bank  
Donna Ewers, DoubleTree by Hilton  
Lisa Ferris, Brooker Memorial  
Gina Galpin, CT Mutual Holding Company  
Jeanne Griffin, JTM Travel Services  
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Eileen Marriott, KidsPlay Children's Museum  
Katurah Muhl, Litchfield Bancorp  
Joyce Muse, Altek Electronics, Inc.  
Kerri Ouellette, Oak Benefit Solutions, LLC  
Christine Pescatore, TD Bank  
Valerie Royals, Northwestern CT Community College  
JoAnn Ryan, NW CT Chamber of Commerce  
Darlene Sullivan, AssuredPartners Northeast  
Samantha Wald, Elevator Service Co., Inc.  
Doreen Whitney, Union Savings Bank  
Debra Zavatkay, Ed.D., Northwestern CT Community College  
Lauren Zordan, Northwest CT Chamber of Commerce

## SPEAKERS

**Karen Sands**, Nationally renowned speaker and author

**Ann Temkin**, Curator of Painting and Sculpture at The Museum of Modern Art

**Brooke Goff**, Attorney, Owner of only female run personal injury law firm in Connecticut

**Cathy Takacs-Witkop**, Retired Colonel from the U. A. Air Force, Associate Dean for Medical Education at the F. Edward Hebert School of Medicine

**Linda Belt**, Comedian

**Judy McElhone**, President & Executive Director of Five Points Gallery

**Lesa Vanotti**, President & CEO of The Torrington Savings Bank

**Molly Kellogg**, Chairwoman, President & CEO of Hubbard Hall, Inc.

## 2020 WOW! FORUM SCHEDULE

Theme: *~Schedule is subject to change at any time~*

- 8:00 Registration & Continental Breakfast
- 8:30 Welcoming Remarks
- 9:00 Karen Sands
- 9:40 Ann Temkin
- 10:20 Break
- 10:40 Brooke Goff
- 11:20 Cathy Takacs-Witkop
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:00 Linda Belt
- 1:40 Panel Featuring: Judy McElhone, Lesa Vanotti, Molly Kellogg
- 2:40 Closing Remarks
- 3:00 Dessert & Wine Reception with Auction
- 4:00 End

# NORTHWEST CONNECTICUT'S CHAMBER WOW FORUM

## SPONSORS

### PREMIER

TD Bank

### SPEAKER PARTNER

Northwest Regionals Workforce Investment Board  
Chamber Insurance Trust  
The Warner Theatre  
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### LUNCHEON HOSTS

Charlotte Hungerford Hospital  
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### RECEPTION HOSTS

Torrington Savings Bank  
Union Savings Bank  
Northwest Community Bank  
Republican-American

### FRIENDS OF WOW!

Hatfield & Co. Jewelers  
The Lakeville Journal

### SUPPORTERS OF WOW!

Winvian Farm

## SCHOLARSHIPS

Each year, the WOW Forum provides 4 adult women, who would not be able to do so through their own financial means, the opportunity to advance their professional development by attending this year's conference.

Scholarship applications must be received by September 11th. Award recipients will be notified via email no later than September 18th.

**Brooker Pediatric Dental Center** in Torrington is seeking a Full-time certified dental assistant to join our team. Saturdays a must. Looking for the right candidate who is energetic, self-motivated, a team player and has at least 1-year dental assisting experience.

### RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Greet and interact with patients in a friendly and empathetic manner
- Coordinate patient flow
- Assist the doctor during a variety of treatment procedures
- Set up and breakdown the operatory post treatment, sterilize instruments
- Take accurate digital dental X-rays including panoramic
- Provide patient education, pre- and post-operative instructions
- Provide the highest level of care to our patients

### Minimum Education and Skills:

- Candidate must be DANB certified in radiation and infection control CPR Certified
- Detail oriented and possess excellent interpersonal communication skills
- Excellent organizational skills to effectively handle multiple tasks
- Self-motivated with the ability to exceed patient expectations
- Experience with Eaglesoft preferred.



157 Litchfield Street, Torrington, CT 06790

*Corporate***PARTNERS****SHARON HOSPITAL UPDATES VISITATION POLICY****Sharon Hospital welcomes back more visitors**

SHARON, CONN. — June 23, 2020 — Sharon Hospital, part of Nuvance Health, has updated its visitation policy to bring back more visitors. The hospital can expand visitation following safety guidelines because the campus and the region are observing a decrease in the rate of new COVID-19 infections.

“Restrictions will be lifted in a phased approach over the next several weeks to ensure high levels of safety and security for staff, patients and the community,” said hospital president Dr. Mark Hirko.

**Allowable visitors:**

Effective Wednesday, June 24, the hospital will begin the first phase of visitation: One visitor per surgical patient is permitted in the outpatient surgical and procedural areas of the hospital at time of discharge.

People age 18 and older are allowed to visit if they meet specific requirements.

**Requirements for approved visitation include:**

- A visitor may drop off a patient at the hospital but must wait outdoors for the duration of their procedure.
- A single visitor per patient is allowed inside the facility only upon discharge to receive post-care instructions from their physician. This applies to the operating room, ambulatory care unit and interventional radiology.
- Visitors must arrive wearing a medical face mask. Masks with a valve, or a bandana, scarf, or any other type of face covering are not permitted.
- Visitors must pass screening for COVID-19 risk factors.
- Visitors need to show a government-issued photo ID (examples: driver's license, passport) to check-in. Their visit will be recorded for contact tracing purposes if necessary.
- The duration of a daily visit is limited to two hours.

Exceptions apply for patients under age 21, maternity patients, and for those with extenuating circumstances.

**Entrance and Visitation Hours**

Monday through Friday, the Main Lobby is open from 5:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Patients can enter the hospital through the emergency department after 4:30 p.m.

Visitation hours are 5:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Visiting times for outpatient surgical and procedural areas may vary based on procedure scheduling.

**No Visitation:**

Sharon Hospital's top priority is the health and safety of all patients, staff and visitors. That's why no visitors are permitted for patients with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 who are receiving high flow oxygen, are on Bi-PAP or CPAP, or are unable to tolerate wearing a mask. No visitors are allowed for non-medical purposes such as going to the cafeteria.

“Over the next few weeks, we will be phasing in visitation to inpatient care areas and the emergency department,” Hirko said.

Nuvance Health will continue to reevaluate the visitation policy as conditions evolve. Please visit [nuvancehealth.org/coronavirus](https://nuvancehealth.org/coronavirus) for the latest updates about COVID-19 or find Sharon Hospital on social media @SharonHospital.

*Corporate***PARTNERS****SHARON HOSPITAL RESUMES SUSPENDED SERVICES, APPOINTMENTS REQUIRED**

SHARON, CONN. — June 2, 2020 — Beginning Wednesday, June 3, hospital services previously suspended due to COVID-19 will resume on an appointment-only basis at Sharon Hospital. This includes radiology, laboratory, cardiology, rehabilitation and wound care services. “Our operational reboot takes a strict but very necessary approach to uphold a safe environment for patient care,” said Dr. Mark Hirko, hospital president. “We want everyone to feel confident when visiting us for routine care, tests or elective procedures. Do not put your health on hold due to fears about COVID-19.”

**What to know about Sharon Hospital's reopening during COVID-19:****Two Active Entry Points:**

- **Main entrance:** Open Monday through Friday from 5:45 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
- **Emergency department:** Open seven days a week from 5:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. After 11 p.m., patients can access the emergency department at the adjacent ambulance bay entrance.

**Arrival Screenings**

- A scheduled appointment (for all services) is required to enter the hospital; no walk-ins.
- Individuals who arrive without a scheduled appointment will receive a Scheduling Card with phone numbers to coordinate a future visit. The card also includes the number to preregister for your appointment prior to arriving at the hospital.
- Everyone who enters the building will have their temperature checked and be asked several screening questions related to COVID-19.
- Anyone transporting a patient to the hospital must remain in their vehicle at all times.

**General Safety**

- Anyone entering the hospital is required to wear a face covering.
- The hospital still has a no-visitation policy.

“We continue to monitor the progression and impact of COVID-19 in our region and are prepared to adjust patient care and facility policies as necessary,” Hirko said.

**For questions, please call the hospital's main line at (860) 364-4000 (TTY: 800-842-9710).**


**Outpatient Scheduling  
Phone Numbers**

All outpatient visits require an appointment. To schedule an appointment, please call one of the numbers listed below.

Radiology: (845) 790-8855, Option #1  
 Laboratory: (845) 790-8855, Option #1  
 Cardiology: (860) 364-4237  
 Rehab Services: (860) 364-4065  
 Wound Care Center: (860) 364-4515

**Outpatient Preregistration  
Phone Number**

Save time by preregistering for your appointment prior to arriving.  
 Preregistration: (860) 364-4090

**On-Site Physician Offices**

Please contact your physician's office to make an appointment

*Corporate***PARTNERS****CHARLOTTE HUNGERFORD HOSPITAL REVISES VISITOR POLICY**

TORRINGTON, CT — As part of its ongoing efforts to provide a safe and accessible healthcare environment, Charlotte Hungerford Hospital has updated its visitor hours to Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and weekends 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. effective Wednesday, June 17, 2020. One visitor is allowed per patient at a time for a one-hour visit and people escorting surgical patients may wait in visitor lounge.

Visitors must be age 16 or older and pass a temperature and symptom screening before entering the Hospital. Visitors must also wear face masks. If you are sick, please do not visit, and contact your doctor.

For more information on COVID-19, visit our website [www.hartfordhealthcare.org/coronavirus](http://www.hartfordhealthcare.org/coronavirus), Text COVID19 to 31996 for text alerts, or call our COVID-19 hotline at 860.972.8100 or toll free 833.621.0600.

**CONTACT:**

Tim LeBouthillier, 860-496-6544

Brian Mattiello, 860.496.6789

**FUELCELL BACK IN BUSINESS IN TORRINGTON**

Kurt Moffett Republican-American – June 22, 2020

TORRINGTON — Business is again looking up for FuelCell Energy.

After a three-month government-induced economic shutdown, FuelCell is reporting that it has resumed manufacturing at its Torrington facility plant at 539 Technology Park Drive.



*Workers at FuelCell Energy check out a fuel cell at its Torrington facility in September. Danbury-based FuelCell Energy had its workers return to work after its plants were shut down due to COVID-19.*

The Danbury-based firm designs, manufactures, operates and services fuel cell power plants.

FuelCell also received a \$6.5 million federal loan to help it and its customers. The loan ensures the company has enough cash flow to pay its bills and continue a variety of projects until it can rebuild its reserves again.

The company had temporarily suspended manufacturing activities on March 18, in light of the COVID-19 outbreak as a proactive and voluntary measure to secure the safety of the company's employees and the communities in which its employees live.

All team members affected by the temporary shutdown have remained employed by the company and have received full pay and benefits for the duration of the temporary shutdown.



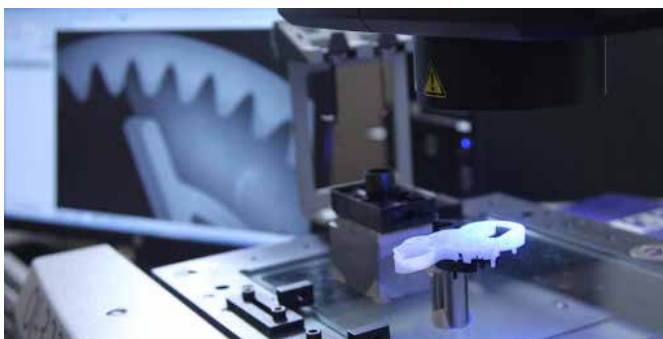
*Premier Member***IN THE SPOTLIGHT****SEITZ LLC — FROM PROMISE TO PRODUCT**

Seitz LLC is a 70-year-old manufacturing business in Torrington that molds plastic parts and makes assemblies for life-saving medical and healthcare equipment for more than a dozen medical customers in Connecticut and throughout the world. Our largest customer is the market leader of infusion pumps used in hospitals to precisely deliver medicine into IV bags. We make about 80 parts that go into each pump system. A growth market for us is laparoscopic/robotic surgical devices; we are working with all of the top OEMs on new products for them. We also make components and assemblies for ATMs, all the smoothie machines at Dunkin' Donuts and McDonalds, Margarita machines, and even some high-end household appliances.



Seitz employs about 125 associates on 3 shifts, running 24 hours a day. In addition to molding and assembling parts, we also do product design, design and build molds, and do extensive inspection of our products to our customers' rigorous requirements. A unique aspect of Seitz in the world of injection molding is that we also have a wholly owned facility in Changzhou, China. This was started in 2000 as a result of several Chamber-sponsored learning/relationship-development trips!

As an "Essential Manufacturer", the COVID-19 crisis pushed our entire team to think of how we could give back to the community during this time of need. Seitz LLC has been donating lunches to not only help our local restaurants, but more importantly to give back to those groups that are on the front lines every day; EMT's, hospital staff, and food banks. Carbone's grinders were delivered to the Torrington Soup Kitchen along with a cash donation. With school closures and job disruptions, more people are turning to food banks to feed their families. As Torrington Soup Kitchen does not receive any Federal or State funding and are struggling through this pandemic, they were extremely grateful for the donation as well as the lunches for the dedicated volunteers who support the program every day. In addition, 200 Lunches were delivered to Charlotte Hungerford Hospital, and a cash contribution was given to Torrington FISH (Friends in Service to Humanity). Seitz's employees are proud to be part of the Torrington's heritage and community and will continue to provide as much support as possible through these difficult times.

*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  
 Seitz LLC  
 Systems Support Group, Inc.  
 T&M Building Company, Inc.  
 and Torrington Downtown Partners  
 United Construction & Engineering, Inc.  
 Valerie Manor  
 Webster Bank

## Chamber MEMBERS

### NCCC RECEIVES \$15,000 GRANT FOR STUDENTS AFFECTED BY COVID-19

Winsted, CT — June 3, 2020

Northwestern Connecticut Community College is pleased to announce the award of a \$15,000 grant from the Northwest Connecticut Community Foundation, the Covid-19 Rapid Response Fund and the Neighbor to Neighbor Fund of the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation. The grant funds will be used to support and aid students who have been, and continue to be, affected by the Covid-19 pandemic.

“We are grateful to receive these funds at this time when more of our students are in financial crisis,” said NCCC President Dr. Michael Rooke. “Our students struggle in the best of times. This pandemic has intensified financial need for our students, most of whom work one or more jobs, primarily in the retail or restaurant sector. Many have been out of work the last several months and are struggling to survive on limited resources.”

The funds will be distributed through the NCCC Student Emergency Fund, which was created in 2016 through NCCC Foundation funding, grant funding, and private donations. The NCCC Emergency Fund works to assist



students with immediate financial needs based on the student's specific need and individual circumstances. The grant funds from the *Northwest Connecticut Community Foundation*, the *Covid-19 Rapid Response Fund* and the *Neighbor to Neighbor Fund of the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation* is expected to help approximately 30 students in a variety of ways, which may include supplying grocery cards or assisting with monthly living expenses that may include technology expenses needed for online study due to pandemic closures.

The Northwest Connecticut Community Foundation Inc. was founded in 1969 and services 20 towns in the Connecticut northwest corner. The Covid-19 Rapid Resource Fund was created in partnership with the Taconic Berkshire Foundation in March to help non-profits who provide basic needs to the community. The Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation was established in 1987 and serves four counties in three states including Litchfield County. Their Neighbor to Neighbor fund program provides emergency grants for critical needs to individuals in crisis in the community.

“By providing these funds,” said Rooke, “this grant will allow students the ability to continue their education and provide a better future for themselves, their families, and their communities.”



### SALISBURY BANK AND TRUST COMPANY ANNOUNCES EMPLOYEE PROMOTIONS

Lakeville, CT – Salisbury Bank and Trust Company, is pleased to announce the promotion of two employees.

**Linda King has been promoted to Assistant Vice President, Human Resources.** Linda has been with the Bank for 33 years, the past 16 years in her current role as HR Specialist. She has earned the distinction of Employee of the Quarter three times and received the first Employee of the Year award in 2013. Linda is active in the community and currently serves as President of Canaan Child Care Center and is a member of the Canaan Railroad Days committee.



**Kiersten Higgins has been promoted to Assistant Vice President, Trust Operations Supervisor.** She has been with the bank for 12 years, serving as Trust Operations Supervisor for the past 7 years. Kiersten has also served as Security Administrator and Facilities Administrator. She has been instrumental in developing processes and procedures to enhance Trust operations and is a subject matter expert on the Trust accounting system.

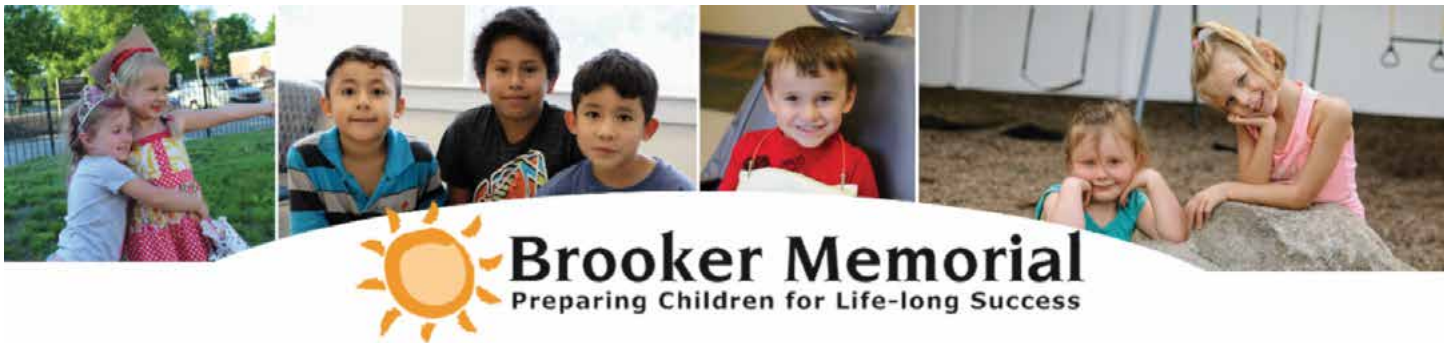
*Salisbury Bank is a full-service community bank headquartered in Lakeville, Connecticut, and presently operates full service branches in Canaan, Lakeville, Salisbury, and Sharon, Connecticut; Great Barrington, Sheffield and South Egremont, Massachusetts; as well as Dover Plains, Fishkill, Millerton, New Paltz, Newburgh, Poughkeepsie, and Red Oaks Mill, New York. The Bank has been serving families and businesses for over 170 years and offers a full range of consumer and business banking products and services as well as trust and investment services.*

## Chamber MEMBERS

### SUPPORT BROOKER MEMORIAL THROUGH THE NORTHWEST CORNER GIVES: COVID-19 RAPID RESPONSE FUND

As we begin to open our doors again at Brooker Memorial, we are happy to say we have weathered the storm. Our walls are filled with laughter and smiles once again. Brooker Memorial sustained a significant loss of revenue with less than 25% of our children attending childcare and providing only emergency visits in dental. Brooker is excited to have been selected to receive a grant from the Northwest Connecticut Community Foundation to help with operational needs. We received \$10,000 and the COVID-19 Rapid Response Fund requires Brooker to raise \$5,000 through the Foundation's Northwest Corner Gives campaign. Donations made through Northwest Corner Gives will be matched dollar for dollar by the Foundation. To learn more about donating to Brooker Memorial through Northwest Corner Gives and how your donation will be used, click the link below.

We are grateful for your support! [Click Here To Donate](#)



### *Spread Love, Not Germs* Thoughtfully Moving in New Residents.

*Atria*  
SENIOR LIVING

As states around the country open back up for business, we are in lockstep with our regulators to relax the strict quarantine of our residents in every thoughtful way we can. This not only improves the quality of our residents' lives but helps us prudently welcome new residents to satisfy pent-up demand for senior living.

We talk with families every day about their pressing care needs and the recent fears associated with congregate living due to COVID-19. To help address these concerns, we feel it is important to reiterate everything that's already been done – and what we will continue to do – to inform new family and friends that Atria has taken every precaution and has strict protocols in place to help protect both staff and residents.

**SAFER MOVE-INS.** We have apartments available today, so residents can move in as soon as they are ready. Limits on new move-ins, quarantine rules and daily screening protocols are just a few of the increased precautions we have in place to create the safest possible environment for residents and staff.

#### WORRY-FREE CARE.

All community staff have been tested – and will continue to be tested – for the coronavirus and will continue wearing protective masks and clothing in accordance with COVID-19

precautions. We'll continue to take every measure available to create the safest possible environment for new residents.

**REDUCING RISKS WITH TELEMEDICINE.** Residents can receive most routine health care without the risks associated with visits to outside facilities, thanks to the tools (smart TVs, BP monitors, pulse oximeters, etc.) and partnerships we've established with telehealth providers and local physicians.

With all of the necessary PPE, trained staff and a quarantine process in place to safely welcome new residents, we remain strong in our commitment to helping families get through this difficult time and are extremely thankful to have partners like you to help.



## Chamber MEMBERS

### KITTY QUARTERS, INC.

In 2014, Kitty Quarters, Inc was founded by Roberta (Bobbie) Chamalian, owner and president. The quest to find a town that would allow a shelter was daunting with many towns that had no zoning provision for a shelter or would only allow one in an industrial zone. In 2017, at an afterhours chamber event, Bobbie met with City Planner Marty Conner of Torrington who heard her story. "I think we can help" he told Bobbie. "Call me". That turned the tide.

After looking at a number of buildings available for purchase, the facility at 1188 New Litchfield Street was purchased. A massive renovation project then ensued. We opened on April 28, 2018. Two days later we had our inspection by the State and received license number 2! Since then Kitty Quarters has taken in and found forever homes for more than 70 cats. Not one has been returned.



identify people who might be good candidates? Of course, if you are interested that would be wonderful but I'm not trying to put a strong arm on you. But you know a lot of people and come in contact with a lot of people which is why we are reaching out to you.

The board would meet quarterly. Right now, I have a Zoom license so meetings would be by Zoom until such



We are staffed by a small group of dedicated volunteers ranging in age from very early teens to 80+ years young. Now it's time to grow the organization and this is where we need your help.

Bobbie had decided to expand the board of directors which is currently 3. We need board members who have expertise in fund raising, operations, management and general growth of a non-profit organization. Of course, people with shelter management experience are very welcomed too. We need a new vice president and secretary plus board members who can not only provide ideas but chair teams to make them happen.

The challenge is how to find candidates, and this is where we are reaching out to you for help. Can you help us

time that in person meetings are safe. We would want a board member who can bring expertise to the table and who knows others who can help. We aren't looking for people with ideas but rather for people with ideas who can then make it happen either by doing or recruiting others who can do.

Kitty Quarters is located at 1188 New Litchfield Street, Torrington, CT. Visitation by appointment only. Call 860-482-2888. We are on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/kittyquartersct/](https://www.facebook.com/kittyquartersct/) and our web page [www.kittyquarters.org](http://www.kittyquarters.org)

Email Bobbie at [kittyquarters@comcast.org](mailto:kittyquarters@comcast.org)

## Chamber MEMBERS

### From the desk of George:

Dear friends of Arethusa

Yet another month, a procrastinated newsletter...so sorry but Tony and I opened our new West Hartford store this last week and it has been quite wonderfully insane. It's at 975 Farmington Ave, right next to bar taco and it seems to be the perfect location.

It's a brand-new concept for Arethusa as it's a combination of the bantam dairy store and the cafe/bakery, a mano...a sort of one stop destination for almost all we do. We're now doing overnight baking here in bantam and come around 4:30 a.m. We're driving a spankin' new van into West

**Arethusa  
Farm**  
Litchfield, CT

Hartford with all our goodies each and every day.... seven days a week...the town has been so welcoming to us and the crowds, COVID notwithstanding, have been a marvel. A big part of choosing West Hartford was that when I table hop, in my fashion, at Al Tavolo during dinner service on weekends, we always have a steady stream of folks from that area...Avon, Farmington, etc. We had hoped it would make sense and, although, we only have a week under our belts...we're more than pleased. The next time you're in the area, stop by for a cappuccino or a cone and please let me know what you think. So, I'm headed in the West Hartford direction this afternoon to join Tony, who's working there almost every day, to make sure that it's done in the best way of representing Arethusa, and our dear Litchfield home.

See you soon and all my very best,

GIII

## News and NOTES

### Round of Applause to...

**Dr. Matt Blondin** and **Attorney Audrey Blondin** for completing their studies at the University of Connecticut Health Center and receiving their Master of Public Health degrees.

**Arethusa** for their expansion into West Hartford. You can be sure it will be another highlight for George and Tony and their colleagues.

**Meg Capen**, Musical Therapist, for bringing music to people who might otherwise be isolated. She has shared her gift of song and music with residents at Atria, Keystone, LARC, Wolcott Hall, Easter Seals and a rendition at one of our Leads Meeting.

**Lisa Ferris** for Outstanding Service to the Brooker Memorial Pediatric Dental Care. **Charlene Lee** for Outstanding Service to the Brooker Memorial Early Learning & Child Care Center.

In honor of their **50th Anniversary**, please join the **DiLullo Family** at **The Venetian Restaurant** to celebrate this milestone.

Visit at any time from July 15th through July 25th during the hours of 5pm to 9:30pm. Extra treats and a complimentary gift will enhance your outstanding dining experience. *Reservations are encouraged.* Take out is also available.



## News and NOTES

### WHAT IS IMPORTANT IN THE REALM OF THINGS...

There is no doubt that the effects of COVID-19 remain unfathomable. My heart goes out to those who are grieving, the heroes putting themselves in harm's way, the businesses struggling to survive, and everyone dealing as best they can with the trauma and disruption. How does one deal with this?

The message in Susan and Todd Montgomery's book "What Really Matters Now..." seems appropriate. "Savor life because life is fragile and life is precious... an uncomplicated and obvious piece of advice but one which, in this time of uncertainty, is sometimes hard to embrace... Focus your lives on what really matters and you'll be OK."

Eighteen years into the Chamber world, I never imagined the pain and suffering we are witnessing within the lives of our families, friends and colleagues as well as the trials and tribulations the business community, throughout all service lines, faces in continuing operations. In dealing with this, we must remind ourselves what is important in the realm of things.

What really matters...holding on to the memories despite extreme sadness and focusing on the future. The Chamber is focusing on sharing resources, supporting the business community, employers, and employees alike, visualizing what is yet to be and planning for a brighter tomorrow.

What really matters...doing your job well. Hats off to you who keep plugging along despite the challenging economic times. We're in this together working tirelessly to turn things around. Please check the Chamber's website for

a calendar of webinars addressing the uncertainty of the future with ideas to prepare for this change.

What really matters...sharing life's treasures. We must share the beauty and opportunities of this region with all who are searching for a safer environment. The realization that the quality of life in our region is second to none will make a strong economic impact.

What really matters...giving back to the community. Thank you to the many individuals who continue to go above and beyond in support of those in need. The power of one smile, kind word or small act of caring helps develop confidence and hope that tomorrow is a new day.

What really matters...the spirit of collaboration that is evident in all circles where we see many examples of companies re-adjusting their entire operations to make products that promote healthy living at home and at work.

What really matters...making the most of the situation. Although it's hard to fathom, I marvel at how one can turn a bad experience into a good one. Time and time again we witness the strength of people in times of adversity and wonder how they survive.

What really matters...the small miracles and blessings to sustain you in tough times so that you can enjoy the daily pleasures in life. In the end, that's what matters!

**JoAnn Ryan is President & CEO of the NW CT Chamber of Commerce. You can reach her by email: [joann@nwctchamberofcommerce.org](mailto:joann@nwctchamberofcommerce.org) or phone: 860-482-6586**



## News and NOTES

### MOTIVATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

The Chamber is fortunate to collaborate with outstanding partners who share valuable information through newspaper articles and webinars. Below are the highlights from three of our friends and experts in their fields that sent material or presented via Zoom.

#### Steps necessary to survive from Joe Brennan, President & CEO of the Connecticut Business & Industry Association:

1. Try new approaches
2. Change the way you are thinking
3. Collaborate with the public and private sectors
4. Follow all safety measures
5. Work remotely if possible, even when open
6. Cut costs thoughtfully
7. Innovate
8. Survive

#### Maintain a Positive Outlook from a webinar with Wilbur Pike at Learning Dynamics

Understand stress whether it be physical, emotional, or behavioral

Cope with stress through action – change environment, interpretation, situation

Find releases for stress – exercise, reading, taking a ride, helping others, finding a new hobby, schedule weekly zoom calls with family and friends

Follow the Top Ten Techniques for Staying Positive:

1. Do good and feel good – support local, donate to food bank, surprise someone with a gift card, help others
2. Virtually connect - use zoom, facetime, new apps to stay calm, new technology
3. Exercise – walk each day
4. Be grateful for your own situation – family, health, finances, work, home, beautiful greenery, flowers, trees
5. Create family time – use new techniques through face time, conference calling, zoom, text, phone, game time
6. See the good in the world – sometimes hard with the media focus on COVID-19 but appreciate family, friends, and work

7. Block negativity – Avoid too much depressing news, find balance, do not respond to negativity for it spreads faster, further, and deeper through social networks
8. Limit social media – share the good, avoid the blame game, limit your intake, choose not to engage, post positivity
9. Practice mindfulness – through music, meditation, and prayer
10. Go easy on yourself – cry, laugh, ask for help, allow anger and frustration but let it go

#### Building A High-Performance Virtual Team with Bob Dickson at Dale Carnegie

Benefits – convenience, no commute, lower employer costs, no interruptions, reduced travel time, increased productivity

Challenges – Home life distractions, clarity of roles, team engagement, effective communication

Success factors to succeed:

1. Connection – build relationships, promote collaboration and participation, listen, promote social interaction, celebrate success
2. Confidence – ensure team understands vision and purpose, share successes and missteps, trust building, understand comfort levels and personalities, believe you will succeed
3. Communication – make it clear and concise, listen, convey positive messages, give constructive suggestions, use technology
4. Collaboration – trust, respect, show genuine interest, share information
5. Commitment – share values, set positive tone, pursue vision, make visible contributions, guide performance toward expectations, recognize efforts

Hope you have found at least three tips that help you in moving onward and upward. Please send them to me to confirm that all the above reinforce what you are doing to cope and thrive. Go to our website for the next webinars and meetings. You all are invited.

JoAnn Ryan is President & CEO of the NW CT Chamber of Commerce. You can reach her by email: [joann@nwctchamberofcommerce.org](mailto:joann@nwctchamberofcommerce.org) or phone: 860-482-6586

# COVID-19 Business Advising



**Are you looking to pivot your business?**

**Trying to determine product offering adjustments?**

**Wondering how to make customers feel safe?**

**Are you confident in the financial future of your business?**

***Connecticut Small Business Development Center is here to help!***

Connecticut Small Business Development Center is fully-staffed with experienced business advisors ready to help the state's small businesses navigate these unprecedented times. CTSBDC is a no-cost resource for small business owners who are looking to access expert advice on a variety of topics.

Our areas of expertise, among others, includes:

- Loan and grant application process
- Disaster preparedness & recovery
- Financial analysis
- Digital marketing
- E-commerce

For more information on no-cost advising from the CTSBDC please sign up for business advising at:

<https://ctsbdc.com/request-advising/>

Check out our upcoming webinars: <https://ctsbdc.com/category/training/>





## PLEASE JOIN US FOR STRATEGIC PLANNING CONVERSATIONS AND HELP US FILL YOUR INDUSTRY'S WORKFORCE NEEDS

We need your input to help the Northwest Regional Workforce Investment Board reimagine how to best serve the region's businesses and jobseekers.

Purpose: The Northwest Regional Workforce Investment Board, which has oversight of the three American Job Centers located throughout the Northwest Connecticut Region in Waterbury, Torrington, and Danbury, is in the process of updating our strategic plan for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. In order to continuously improve this comprehensive strategy, we are seeking input from targeted industry sectors. The updates to the strategic plan will be guided by information shared during focus groups about skill needs, workforce trends, challenges, and how businesses are currently engaged.

Please join us for industry specific discussions that will be scheduled July 13th through July 21st, via Go To Meeting. Topics will include:

- **The skills/credentials your workers need**
- **Training you would like to see offered**
- **What has already been achieved through your engagement with the Northwest regional workforce system**
- **Areas that are lacking**

It is the charge of the Northwest Regional Workforce Investment Board (NRWIB) to develop and sustain an effective labor market system that facilitates economic development and business growth in our region. The NRWIB holds partnerships with local businesses, government, education, labor and human services agencies which all work together to provide the delivery of workforce development services.

Please send all RSVPs and questions to Pam LaRosa at [pam@nwctchamberofcommerce.org](mailto:pam@nwctchamberofcommerce.org) or by calling 860-482-6586 or 203-574-6971 ext 457. Once the RSVP is received, you will receive the appropriate Go To Meeting link.

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## “EMPLOYMENT ISSUES DURING THE COVID -19 PANDEMIC AND THE RECOVERY”

### Presented by Attorney Joe Summa

The operational and legal risks of cutbacks, layoffs, leaves, reduced schedules, and unemployment during the pandemic are now going to be even more complex as employers start to rebuild and recall employees consistent with operational needs, and the Payroll Protection Program (PPP) loan requirements and legal mandates.

The Seminar will provide legal guidance regarding all the above employment issues in the context of not only recently passed Family First Coronavirus Response Act, Executive Orders and Payroll Protection Program, but also the complex interrelationship with existing laws such as ADA, OSHA, FMLA, discrimination statutes and unemployment compensation.



**NORTHWEST REGIONAL  
WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD**  
FIRST JOB | NEXT JOB | BEST JOB

Joe Summa has a BA from Wesleyan University, a Master's Degree in Labor Law and Organizational Behavior from Cornell University and a Law Degree from the University of Connecticut. He has served as advisor and counselor to local companies, municipalities, and Fortune 500 corporations in all aspects of labor and employment law. He has served as Labor Counsel and/or Chief Negotiator with numerous municipalities and public sector employers including the State of Connecticut for over 40 years. He has also served as Counsel for Charter Revision Commissions in Waterbury in 2010 and 2014 and in the Town of Watertown in 2011.

Joe is frequent lecturer at universities and before business organizations on workplace issues, discrimination law, preventative labor relations and collective bargaining. He has maintained a consistent preeminent Martindale-Hubbe “AV” rating for over 35 consecutive years.

Prepared by the **U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

# GUIDE TO PPP LOAN FORGIVENESS



Under the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) created by the CARES Act, loans may be forgiven if borrowers use the proceeds to maintain their payrolls and pay other specified expenses.

Congress recently changed the rules regarding loan forgiveness. The Treasury Department and Small Business Administration are responsible for updating the application form and instructions for loan forgiveness. You can find the most up-to-date information [here](#).

PPP borrowers must apply for loan forgiveness with the lender that processed the loan. This guide is designed to help borrowers understand the process by which their loan forgiveness amount will be calculated and the overall approach of the loan forgiveness process.

THANK YOU TO OUR PRESENTING PARTNER

**FACEBOOK**

[Click here to read more](#)



## *Upcoming*

# CHAMBER ZOOM EVENTS

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| July 1st – WOW – 8:30AM   | July 13th – Leads I – 12 Noon  |
| July 2nd – Membership Services – 8AM  | July 15th – Insurance Committee – 8AM  |
| July 3rd – Closed – Happy 4th of July   | July 15th – Council of Governments, NW CT Economic<br>Development Commissioner, Chamber –<br>David Lehman, Commissioner of DECD –<br>8AM |
| July 7th – Small Business Council – 8AM   | July 16th – Webinar – Legal Issues in Re-Open<br>Connecticut – Summa & Ryan  |
| July 7th – Small Business Development Center<br>Elizabeth Paynter, Regional Director –<br>Guest Speaker                     | July 22nd – Leads II – 8am   |
| July 8th – Leads II – 8AM   | July 23rd – Board of Directors – 8AM   |
| July 9th – Government Relations – 8AM –<br>Steve McAllister, US Chamber   | July 23rd – Leads III – 12 Noon  |
| July 9th – Leads III – 12 noon  | July 24th – Webinar – Managing Your Remote Staff –<br>Wilbur Pike, Learning Dynamics – 8AM   |
| July 10th – Webinar – Mastering Your Day – Getting<br>More Done in Less Time - Wilbur Pike,<br>Learning Dynamics – 8AM      | July 27th – Leads I – 12 Noon  |
| July 10th – Manufacturer’s Coalition – 8AM –<br>Richard Pontelance, CareerPath and<br>Colin Cooper, CT Manufacturing Leader | July 28th – Business With Breakfast –<br>Litchfield County Regional Fire School  |