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



**RESOLUTIONS THE CHAMBER WILL HELP YOU KEEP!**

Lester Louis Brown, an American journalist said, "Shoot for the moon. Even if you miss it you will land among the stars." This seems most appropriate as we embark on this New Year, refreshed and raring to go, having made many a resolution. This year, the Chamber will help you keep the promises you made in the last few days.



Here are the Chamber's Top 8 that are meant to encourage you and motivate you to do something you've always wanted to do but somehow just didn't quite fit it into your schedule. These surely will maintain your spirit, enliven it as well and believe it or not, help your business grow and maybe even make you a star.

*Upgrade your business plan...* Your business plan is essential to your business success in 2022. Thank you to SCORE, the Service Corp of Retired Executives, for providing this resource at no charge.

*Review the soon to be 2022 legislative agenda...* Help us plan Connecticut's future! In our effort to accomplish this goal, the Government Relations Committee prepared this agenda with the approval of the Chamber's Board of Directors. The highlight: the importance of making structural changes in the state budget; support of the vitality of health services;

*(Continued on next page)*

collaboration with the Council of Governments and the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy; promotion of UCONN Torrington Campus and the Northwestern Connecticut College; emphasis on workforce investment; and creating policies to make Connecticut a desirable place to do business.

*Expand your mind...* Watch for our announcement of a series of workshops in collaboration with NW CT SCORE to assist with your business financial planning, marketing, recruitment and retention of a skilled employee base.

*Improve your body...* In an effort to address the number one business concern, the rising cost of health care, the Chamber Health Council vows to help us all stay healthy. True to our mission, we will continue to work with public officials to implement changes in legislation that address the issues around health care.

*Serve the community in a volunteer capacity...* In the true sense of commitment to improving the quality of life, a spirit so prevalent in this region, get involved with your favorite charities. In giving, we receive far more than we would ever expect.

*Market your business...* Contact us immediately to secure your participation as we schedule a webinar with Conquest Consulting to help build a greater presence throughout 2022. Not only will this exposure allow you to expand



your customer base, it will also give you the opportunity to introduce thousands of visitors to your business and service.

*Collaborate...* Together we can accomplish so much that individually might not be possible. We are fortunate that we are able to partner with vital organizations and businesses in the private and public sector that make our economic, educational, cultural and civic programs possible.

*Smile more...* Above all, do what you love and love what you do. We are determined to achieve our goals with much fun and laughter. Let's resolve to work together to make 2022 happy, healthy and peaceful. Happy New Year one and all!

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

## Upcoming

# CHAMBER MEETINGS & EVENTS

- Jan. 4 Small Business Council Meeting- – 8 AM
- Jan. 6 Membership Committee Meeting – 8 AM
- Jan. 7 Manufacturers' Coalition Meeting – 8 AM
- Jan. 10 Leads I – 12 Noon
- Jan. 11 Leads IV – 8 AM
- Jan. 12 Leads II – 8:30 AM
- Jan. 13 Government Relations Committee Meeting – 8 AM
- Jan. 13 Leads III – 12 Noon

- Jan. 17 Closed in Observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Jan. 18 CIT Meeting – 8 AM
- Jan. 19 Health Council Meeting – 8 AM
- Jan. 19 Leadership Northwest – 8:30-12 Noon
- Jan. 24 Leads I – 12 Noon
- Jan. 25 Business with Breakfast Hosted by 422 Main Street Airbnb – 8 AM
- Jan. 27 Board of Directors Meeting – 8 AM



## CT Paid Leave is here!

In just a few days — on January 1, 2022 — workers in Connecticut for the first time become eligible to receive paid leave benefits for qualifying personal or family health needs. The application portal opened on December 1, and workers across the state can now apply to receive benefits through the CT Paid Leave program beginning on January 1.

As this program is new to both businesses and workers in Connecticut, it is important for employers to understand the application process — and their responsibilities in the rollout of the CT Paid Leave program.

Workers are likely to have questions, and employers — small and large — need to be equipped to help answer those questions. But don't worry — CT Paid Leave is here to help by offering resources, support, and educational tools designed to help employers, administrators, and workers navigate the CT Paid Leave program.

As we continue to develop new tools and resources, we want your opinion! Click the link below to take our survey for businesses.

[CT Paid Leave Business Survey](#)



*CT Paid Leave has worked with small business owners across the state to help their employees — even if it's just one — manage the paid leave process, allowing them to focus on running and growing their businesses.*

## Corporate PARTNERS

### FREE VIRTUAL PROGRAM ON MANAGING MYELOMA CANCER OFFERED BY LEUKEMIA & LYMPHOMA SOCIETY AND HHC FOR JAN 19TH

Hartford, CT – The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society in local partnership with Hartford HealthCare and Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center will present a FREE virtual education program “Managing Your Myeloma - Complexities of decision making at the time of diagnosis with myeloma and subsequent relapses” on Wednesday, January 19th, 2022 from 5:30 to 7:00 PM(EST).

The online program will be presented by Dr. Madhavi Gorusu MD, MBA, Director of Medical Oncology, Hartford HealthCare, Charlotte Hungerford Hospital, and Dr. Saad Z. Usmani MD, MBA, FACP, Chief of Myeloma Service, Memorial Sloan Kettering, Cancer Center.

The program will be moderated by Dr. Madhavi Gorusu from Hartford HealthCare. She is also a speaker and will discuss the importance of collaboration between institutions to ensure the best quality of care. She works hard to provide her patients world class treatment locally. Dr. Gorusu also serves on the board of trustees for the Connecticut-Hudson Valley Region of LLS.

Dr. Usmani is a leader in his field for treating patients with multiple myeloma and other disorders affecting plasma cells. As a regular speaker at the American Society of Hematology annual meeting, he discusses the latest research and advancements in the field of multiple myeloma. Dr. Usmani is a proud partner with LLS and received the LLS Scholar in Clinical Research Award (2017-2022).

In addition to learning about managing myeloma, participants will learn about the resources available from The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

#### REGISTRATION INFORMATION

This program is for all patients and caregivers and PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.

Each person participating should register separately. Login and call-in information will be provided to all participants after registering.

For ONLINE REGISTRATION visit:

<https://na.eventscloud.com/managingmyeloma>

Optimal viewing for this program is on a computer or mobile device using the Zoom application. Audio only is

an option. Email required to register and participate in the program. If you do not have a valid email address and

need to register, or for more information or for assistance for people with disabilities please use the contact Melissa Darbandi, Patient 8c. Community Outreach Manager at 203.388.9178 or email [Melissa.Darbandi@LLS.org](mailto:Melissa.Darbandi@LLS.org).



### Corporate

## PARTNERS

Altek Electronics, Inc.  
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Daley Moving & Storage, Inc  
Dymax Corporation  
Eastside Electric, Inc.  
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Innovative Health Concepts  
Litchfield Bancorp  
National Iron Bank  
Northwest Community Bank  
Nuvance Health  
Sharon Hospital  
O&G Industries, Inc.  
The Register Citizen  
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Resource Development Associates  
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Thomaston Savings Bank  
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Union Savings Bank



# Patient Education



## Managing Your Myeloma

Complexities of decision making at the time of diagnosis with myeloma and subsequent relapses

We hope you can join us for this informative virtual program!

### SPEAKERS:



**Dr. Saad Z. Usmani MD, MBA, FACP**  
 Chief of Myeloma Service  
 Memorial Sloan Kettering  
 Cancer Center



**Dr. Madhavi Gorusu MD, MBA**  
 Director of Medical Oncology  
 Charlotte Hungerford Hospital  
 Hartford HealthCare

### PROGRAM:

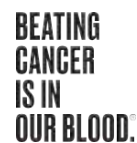
Please join LLS for a free virtual education program for patients and their families. Dr. Usmani is a leader in his field for treating patients with multiple myeloma and other disorders affecting plasma cells. As a regular speaker at the American Society of Hematology annual meeting, he discusses the latest research and advancements in the field of multiple myeloma. Dr. Usmani is a proud partner with LLS and received the LLS Scholar in Clinical Research Award (2017-2022).

This program will be moderated by Dr. Madhavi Gorusu from Hartford HealthCare. She will discuss the importance of collaboration between institutions to ensure the best quality of care. She works hard to provide her patients world class treatment locally. Dr. Gorusu also serves on the board of trustees for the Connecticut-Hudson Valley Region of LLS.

In addition to learning about managing myeloma, participants will learn about the resources available from The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

### VIRTUAL/ONLINE AND PHONE EDUCATION PROGRAM

Optimal viewing for this program is on a computer or mobile device using the Zoom application. Audio only is an option. Email required to register and participate in the program. If you do not have a valid email address, please call the staff person listed on the sidebar to register.



The mission of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) is to cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma, and improve the quality of life of patients and their families. Find out more at [www.LLS.org](http://www.LLS.org).

**WEDNESDAY**  
**January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022**  
 5:30PM – 7:00PM (EST)

### REGISTRATION INFORMATION

This is a **FREE virtual program** for all patients and caregivers. Each person participating should register separately. Login and call-in information will be provided to all participants after registering.

### PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.



SCAN QR CODE: 1. Open your camera.  
 2. Hover over image.  
 3. Click on the message directing you to the registration website.

### ONLINE REGISTRATION:

<https://na.eventscloud.com/managingmyeloma>

**Melissa Darbandi,**  
 Patient & Community Outreach Manager  
 203.388.9178 | [Melissa.Darbandi@LLS.org](mailto:Melissa.Darbandi@LLS.org)

For more information or for assistance for people with disabilities please use the contact information above.

In local partnership with



Memorial Sloan Kettering  
 Cancer Center



## Corporate PARTNERS

**5 HHC COVID-19 TESTING CLINICS OFFERED AT COE PARK TORRINGTON**



Torrington, CT – Hartford HealthCare and Charlotte Hungerford Hospital have scheduled 5 appointment-only clinics offering COVID-19 testing at Coe Park Civic Center, 101 Litchfield Street, Torrington open to members of the public.

The clinics will be open from 11:30am - 6:30pm on the following dates:

- Friday, Jan 14
- Sunday Jan 16

Appointments are required. No walk-ins accepted at this time.

To pre-register go to [www.mychartplus.org](http://www.mychartplus.org) to schedule an appointment. You will receive a confirmation and instructions.



For the most up to date COVID-19 vaccination and testing, visit [www.HartfordHealthCare.org/vaccine](http://www.HartfordHealthCare.org/vaccine).

Contact: Tim LeBouthillier: 860-496-6544  
 Tim.leBouthillier@hhchealth.org

## Chamber MEMBERS

### NCCC OFFERS QUICKBOOKS BOOKKEEPING COURSE

Winsted, CT – The Office of Workforce Development at Northwestern Connecticut Community College will offer *QuickBooks Bookkeeping* training on Tuesdays and Thursdays, February 15 through March 24, 2022, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

This hands-on course will introduce students to entry level



bookkeeping principles and procedures. Students will examine case studies from the text and identify ways to streamline bookkeeping activities. In addition to the text, practical examples will be examined to better understand bookkeeping and its application in small and large companies. QuickBooks will be incorporated to further help students achieve bookkeeping software knowledge.

*Prerequisite:* basic clerical skills, computer competency, high

school level reading and math skills. This class will offer an industry recognized credential of Intuit QuickBooks Certified User.

Classes will be held online through Live/Remote Online. The cost for the program is \$950.

For more information or to register for this program, please contact Laura McCarthy, Program Coordinator, at either 860-738-6351 or [lmcarthy@nwc.edu](mailto:lmcarthy@nwc.edu).



# Chamber MEMBERS



## Announcing our Spring 2022 Real Estate class!

The Center for Workforce Development at Northwestern Connecticut Community College is offering Real Estate Principles and Practices on Mondays and Wednesdays, 6:30 to 9:30p.m., February 7 through April 25, 2022. The cost for the program is \$495 and does not include the cost of the textbooks.

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



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



Classes will be held on campus in the Art & Science Building, 209 Holabird Avenue, Winsted, Room 201. All attendees, including those vaccinated, will be required to wear a mask while in any campus building for the duration of their time on campus.

For more information or to register for this program, contact John Fiorello, Program Coordinator at either 860-738-6444 or [jfiorello@nwcc.edu](mailto:jfiorello@nwcc.edu) or visit <https://bit.ly/3F5ySI0>

**[REGISTER HERE](#)**



## Chamber MEMBERS

### NCCC CREATES A NEW TRAINING PROGRAM FOR MEDICAL LABORATORY ASSISTANTS TO FILL A COMMUNITY NEED

Winsted, CT – Charlotte Hungerford Hospital (CHH) and Hartford Healthcare have approached Northwestern Connecticut Community College (NCCC) to help fill a need for Medical Laboratory Assistants at all of their locations. NCCC has partnered with the current laboratory staff at CHH to create a Workforce Development program

that will prepare students to fill this role within the hospital.

Medical Laboratory Assistant Courses will begin on January 21, 2021; applications will be accepted starting January 3. For more information, please contact Erin Kennedy, Continuing Education and SNAP Employment & Training Program Coordinator, at [EKennedy@nwcc.edu](mailto:EKennedy@nwcc.edu).



## Premier MEMBERS

Brandywine Living at Litchfield  
Commercial Sewing, Inc.  
Cook Funeral Home  
Eversource Energy  
Keystone Place at Newbury Brook  
Litchfield Woods Health Care Center  
Seitz LLC

Systems Support Group  
T&M Building Company, Inc.  
and Torrington Downtown Partners  
UCE Fine Builders  
Valerie Manor  
Webster Bank

## News and NOTES

### TODAY'S HIRING BUSINESS CLIMATE

Recruiting and hiring manufacturing workers is more difficult than ever in today's economic climate. Not only are companies competing with other manufacturers, they're competing with other industries who are also seeking new employees, from entry-level to those more experienced.

This reality is compounded by the fact that manufacturing jobs are increasingly requiring potential candidates to possess a qualified skillset for many of the unfilled positions.

The skillsets needed can be somewhat offset by existing workers who can share valuable job knowledge and processes with incoming workers. But the clock is ticking as many older workers will increasingly be retiring over the next several years, making it imperative to tap into their accumulated experience prior to retirement.



Many people currently seeking employment, whether to change careers or having lost their job, don't find manufacturing an attractive employment option.

There is hope. An increasing number of manufacturers are making strides in their efforts to change the perception of  
*(Continued on next page)*



## News and NOTES

the industry to draw more workers of all ages to their ranks. A prevailing misconception about manufacturing is that it involves tedious work, at low pay, in dirty conditions. For the most part, nothing could be further from the truth.

To change this perception essentially requires a rebranding of the industry. Cohesive and consistent messaging must convey that a manufacturing career provides you with:

- Access to state-of-the-art, cutting-edge technology
- A fulfilling and captivating work environment
- Opportunities to learn and grow professionally
- A secure, stable, financial future

### Steps to Adapt

To remain competitive in an ever-changing workforce, manufacturers will need to adapt how they operate to encourage candidates to consider them for employment. Steps include:

- 1) Establishing a company culture that reflects values important to today's workers. This may include being socially and environmentally responsible, team-building outings, flexible work hours, mentoring opportunities, and systematic progress reviews.
- 2) Conveying the use of advanced technology at your manufacturing facility, and using social media as a platform to communicate what differentiates your company from the

competition and why manufacturing is a rewarding career choice. Demonstrate through online videos the positive ways that today's shop floor has changed.

3) Creating a work atmosphere that offers a structure for personal growth and advancement. Encourage employees to share ideas and make suggestions that may help the company. Show that you value their contributions and provide frequent feedback and ongoing communication.

4) Promoting the importance of continuous education and job training. Let them know you provide learning opportunities in order to further develop their job skills. Don't be afraid your people will leave if you invest in them. Because what happens if you don't and they stay?

The manufacturing workforce is more competitive than ever and it looks to be that way for the foreseeable future. If manufacturers can, collectively, position manufacturing as a career destination with valuable opportunities for personal growth and professional advancement, they will stand a fighting chance of securing their fair share of available workers.

For more information on recruiting or employee engagement information contact Carol Grosso – Regional Manager CONNSTEP. 860-929-8506.



Litchfield  
Community  
Center

### MOVIE MONDAYS

Enjoy a movie every Monday at The Litchfield Community Center at 1:00pm. Seating is limited, pre-registration is appreciated. Register online at [www.thecommunitycenter.org](http://www.thecommunitycenter.org) or call 860-567-8302

Dec. 20: The Last Letter from your Lover (TVMA)  
Dec. 27: Closed for the Holiday  
Jan 3: Bob Ross: Happy Accidents, Betrayal & Greed  
Jan. 10: Otherhood

Jan. 17: Agatha Christie's "Crooked House"  
Jan. 24: Closed for the Holiday  
Jan. 31: Misha and the Wolves

*(Continued on next page)*

## News and NOTES

### GONG MEDITATION WITH ROSE PETRUZZI

Rose returns to The Litchfield Community Center on Wednesday January 5 AND Wednesday February 9, 2022 from 6:30p-8:00p for her Gong Meditation session. Please bring anything you would like to be very comfortable while in the practice. Many benefits of Sound Meditation with the Gong, include, encouraging integrated healing of the body, mind, and spirit, and the more gong sessions a student attends, the better the results. Time: 6:30pm – 8:00pm. Cost: \$30.00 pp. Pre-registration and pre-payment is required.



### POST-HOLIDAY SHOPPING TRIP

Enjoy post-holiday shopping deals at the West Farms Mall and cross the street to enjoy even more deals on Tuesday January 11, 2022. The Litchfield Community Center will provide our van for transportation so seats are limited. The van departs at 10:00am and returns approximately 4:00pm. The Cost is \$10.00 pp and Pre-registration and pre-payment is required by visiting [www.thecommunitycenter.org](http://www.thecommunitycenter.org) or calling 860-567-8302

### INDOOR MINI GOLF & BOWLING (for adults)

Enjoy 18 holes mini golf, 2 games of bowling (shoes included) and a slice of pizza and coffee at Lessard Lane in Plainville on Tuesday February 1, 2022. The Litchfield Community Center van departs at 9:00am and returns approximately 2:00pm. The cost is \$20.00 and includes everything. Seats are limited so Pre-registration and pre-payment is required by visiting [www.thecommunitycenter.org](http://www.thecommunitycenter.org) or call 860-567-8302

### LOSS OF A CHILD GRIEF GROUP

Cynthia Vail, Licensed Professional Counselor, in collaboration with The Litchfield Community Center and Greenwoods Counseling and Referrals, will be offering a Loss Of Child Grief Group on Thursdays February 3 – March 10, 2022 from 6:30p-8:30p. This 6 week group is for between 5 and 12 parents who have suffered the loss of their child, irrespective of their child's at death or the cause of death. The purpose of this group is to help the parents feel less alone in their grief process by providing a safe place in which to express emotions, share stories, and learn new ways of problem-solving and coping through listening to the experience of others. This group is FREE but Pre-registration is required, space is limited. Visit [www.thecommunitycenter.org](http://www.thecommunitycenter.org) to register.

### "LEAD LIKE A PRO" AUTHOR/BOOK TALK

Dr. Matthew Raidbard, author of "Lead Like a Pro: Effective Leadership Styles for Athletic Coaches" will present a FREE lecture on Wednesday Feb. 16, 2022 at 7:00pm. He provides coaches, at all levels of sports, with tools to enhance their leadership practice and become more effective coaches. Pre-registration is appreciated. Visit [www.thecommunitycenter.org](http://www.thecommunitycenter.org) for more information and to register online.

### CODE WIZ FOR KIDS

Students develop computer programming skills along with invaluable approaches to critical thinking and problem solving in this Code Wiz class at The Litchfield Community Center. Class runs on Tuesday March 8 through April 12, 2022 with the times below for the appropriate age group: Ages 7-8: 4:30pm - 5:30pm / Ages 8-12: 5:30pm - 6:30pm / Ages 13+: 6:30pm - 7:30pm The cost is \$198.00 pp. Chromebooks provided to each student to use during the class. Pre-registration and pre-payment is required by visiting [www.thecommunitycenter.org](http://www.thecommunitycenter.org) or call The Litchfield Community Center at 860-567-8302.

### *Below is a list of our ongoing classes:*

Mondays & Wednesdays: YOGA FOR FITNESS & MINDFULNESS

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 am / \$15.00 / instructor: Wendy Larsen. Please bring your own mat.

*(Continued on next page)*

## News and NOTES

### Litchfield Community Center



Mondays: STITCH & CHAT

Open to all who love to knit, crochet, cross stitch, sew, embroider, etc. Bring your own project & share some time with others.

Time: 10:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. ~ FREE

Mondays: “TIPS” TYKES INDOOR PLAYGROUP & SOCIAL TIME Fun, indoor activity for your baby, toddler or preschooler and a chance to meet and socialize with local parents and caregivers. You can bring your own bike/trike/walker etc...there is plenty of room. Time: 10:30am – 11:30am. Cost: FREE and open to all.

Mondays: MAH JONGG FREE PLAY Spend the afternoon with fellow players and brush up on your skills playing the ancient, fascinating and challenging game of Mah Jongg. Time: 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm. Cost: FREE

Tuesdays: SILVER SNEAKERS CIRCUIT Classes are 45-60 minutes, are for all skill levels and use varied equipment. Benefits include increased cardiovascular and muscular endurance. Time: 8:45am – 9:45am. Cost: Bring your Member ID Card.

Questions? Visit [silversneakers.com](http://silversneakers.com) or call 1-888-423-4632

Tuesdays: COMMUNITY ARTIST’S GROUP Come join together with local people who love to draw and paint and anyone is welcome to participate regardless of their level of expertise. Time: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. There is no fee to join, but artists must bring their own paints, equipment and talent!

Tuesdays: BINGO Free admission, cards available for nominal fee. Time: 1:15 pm

Tuesdays and Thursdays: SCULPT AND TONE

A strength training class that includes stretching, abdominal work & muscle isolation for an awesome full body workout.

Instructor: Dean Roberts.

6:00p.m. – 7:00 p.m. / \$8.00 per class. Bring your own hand weights, mat or towel.

Wednesdays: TAI CHI with Marie.

Gentle Tai Chi with focus on flexibility, relaxation & balance – all ages welcome.

10:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. / Free. No experience necessary, dress in comfortable clothes.

Wednesday (1st & 3rd Wednesdays of each month): QUILTS THAT CARE

Quilts that Care is a dynamic group of volunteers that make and donate handmade quilts to cancer patients. You don't have to be a quilter to join us. For more info, please call Deb Van Steenberg at 860-782-1043 or email at [quiltsthatcare.deb@gmail.com](mailto:quiltsthatcare.deb@gmail.com)

Thursdays only: TABLE TENNIS

Come play in a great social environment and meet other enthusiasts.

10:45 a. m. FREE and open to the public. Bring your own equipment.

Please go to [www.thecommunitycenter.org](http://www.thecommunitycenter.org) for more information and a complete calendar of events and to register for any of our programs.

## Maintain this spirit...

During this busy season if you can catch your breath, it's a good idea to read a book that lifts one's spirit. One of my favorites by Barbara Milo Ohrbach is *All Things Are Possible Pass the Word*. A quote that catches my attention from our own Honorable Charles D. Gill is: "There are many wonderful things that will never be done if you do not do them."

His words ring true especially during this holiday season. The Chamber recognizes that this unusual period in which we live and work requires the involvement of all of you who work with both non-profit and for-profit organizations to make good things happen. Our hope is that this tradition of giving continues throughout the year and is reflective of your business success. In order to maintain this spirit, here are some Chamber ideas to encourage you to stay involved.

*Investigate the resources available to business...* watch for the Chamber's outreach campaign throughout 2022 geared toward the many small but mighty businesses located throughout northwest Connecticut.

*Help us prepare the legislative agenda...* take a look in the spirit of collaboration and cooperation as the Government Relations Committee prepares the roadmap for 2022. The challenges are huge as we face

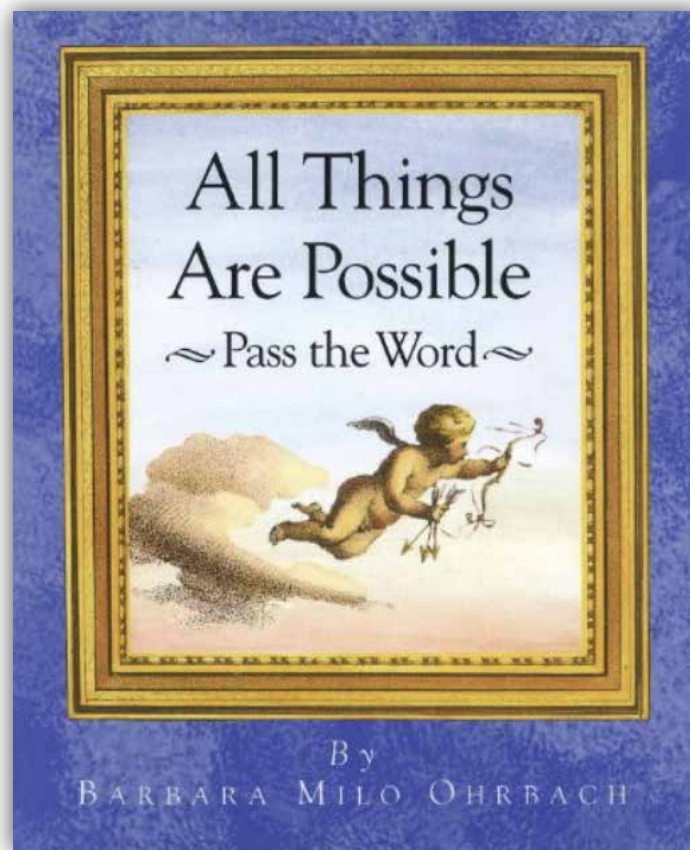
the high costs of doing business and will require unusual measures to find creative solutions that deal with a full recovery from the pandemic, the fiscal situation, job creation, energy, healthcare, education and taxes.

*SCORE...* in more ways that you can imagine by contacting us and setting up an appointment with one of our service corps of retired executives to assist you in updating and / or preparing your 2022 Business Plan. Resources abound if only you would invest in some valuable time with informed counselors.

*Have fun...* consider a Business After Hours, Business With Breakfast, a Webinar, or many of the other initiatives, you will definitely gather important information, make new contacts and friends all at the same time.

*Serve the community in a volunteer capacity...* in the true sense of commitment to improving the quality of life, get involved with the United Way, FISH, Friendly Hands, LARC, Cancer Society, or any one of your favorite charities. In giving, we receive far more than we would ever expect.

*Let's maintain this spirit...* together we'll make it through these demanding times.



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



## *Upcoming* **CHAMBER MEETINGS & EVENTS**

- |         |  |         |  |
|---------|--|---------|--|
| Jan. 4  | Small Business Council Meeting- – 8 AM           | Jan. 17 | Closed in Observance of<br>Martin Luther King Jr. Day              |
| Jan. 6  | Membership Committee Meeting – 8 AM              | Jan. 18 | CIT Meeting – 8 AM   |
| Jan. 7  | Manufacturers' Coalition Meeting – 8 AM          | Jan. 19 | Health Council Meeting – 8 AM                                      |
| Jan. 10 | Leads I – 12 Noon                                | Jan. 19 | Leadership Northwest – 8:30-12 Noon                                |
| Jan. 11 | Leads IV – 8 AM                                  | Jan. 24 | Leads I – 12 Noon  |
| Jan. 12 | Leads II – 8:30 AM                               | Jan. 25 | Business with Breakfast Hosted by<br>422 Main Street Airbnb – 8 AM |
| Jan. 13 | Government Relations Committee<br>Meeting – 8 AM | Jan. 27 | Board of Directors Meeting – 8 AM                                  |
| Jan. 13 | Leads III – 12 Noon                              |         |  |