



**THANK YOU TO OUR
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Celebration of Success



Business Leader
Award
Sandy Evans



Community Leader
Award
Stephen Todd



Quality of Life Award
*Friendly Hands
Food Bank*

You are cordially invited to the

2022 Celebration of Success

Thursday, June 23, 2022, 5:00 p.m.
Five Points Arts Center, 855 University Drive, Torrington

The Chamber of Commerce of Northwest Connecticut, Inc. continues its tradition of recognizing individuals and organizations who have demonstrated exceptional and unselfish service to our Northwest Corner by presenting the Distinguished Leadership Awards.

\$50 per person. Includes heavy hors d'oeuvres, beer and wine.
RSVP is required by June 17.

CLICK HERE TO RSVP.

Sponsored by:



*From the Desk of Our
President & CEO*
JOANN RYAN



Cheers and Tears...

We live in the beautiful Litchfield Hills of Connecticut; our cities, towns and villages are focused on revitalization; the educational opportunities for our residents and employees are limitless with centers of higher learning in our back yard; the cultural opportunities are second to none; civic opportunities abound for those who are inclined to participate; and we are blessed with very special people who support our vibrant communities.

I have been teased about remaining so upbeat despite the challenges in this ever-changing global economy. My response is usually that if we do not like something, we should work to change it. As we all know, it is not quite so easy because we face issues daily. Thus, cheers and tears...

↑Cheers to the leaders and volunteers throughout our region for their efforts to beautify and re-vitalize our downtowns. It is only the beginning we hear! Congratulations to all involved.

↓Tears for those who complain and are negative in thought and action without considering a positive solution for the problem.

↑Cheers for those brilliant new members of our Chamber. We look forward to their participation and invite you to join us.

↓Tears for the entrepreneurs who are unaware of the value of meeting with one of our SCORE representatives. Here is an opportunity to share your business concerns with retired executives.

↑Cheers to the graduates of Northwestern CT Community College who received their diplomas at The Warner Theatre last week.

↓Tears for those who do not take advantage of the many programs our Chamber offers for your benefit. Consider the Small Business Advisory Committee, Leads Groups and Government Relations.

↑Cheers to the businesses and employees who contributed to the United Way campaign. This year in particular, their support is most appreciated.

↓Tears for those who do not support the business community in NW CT due to lack of awareness. We are working tirelessly to keep you better informed about the many opportunities.

Cheers to all for a Happy June!



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

We are happy to announce that the Chamber has officially moved to a new location:

NW CT Chamber of Commerce
59 Field Street, Suite 120
Torrington, CT 06790
860-482-6586

You will love it! We have some decorating to complete while still waiting for materials for the Board room. It's the details we are now working on: keys, signage, technology glitches, etc.

No worries... we are getting there and will be inviting you to an Open House in the near future.

In the meantime, feel free to stop in to say hello.

59 Field St., Suite 120, PO Box 59
Torrington, CT 06790
p 860.482.6586 • f 860-489-8851

JoAnn Ryan, President & CEO, joann@nwctchamberofcommerce.org
Lauren Zordan, VP Programs/Events, lauren@nwctchamberofcommerce.org
Pamela LaRosa, Director One-Stop Workforce Operations, pam@nwctchamberofcommerce.org
Sharon Kunay, Administrative Assistant, info@nwctchamberofcommerce.org

nwctchamberofcommerce.org
Like us on Facebook: facebook.com/nwctchamber

Corporate PARTNERS



June 5 – July 17

Tune in.
Tone up!

Get started at
WeGetFit.org

 Nuvance Health staff can earn
Vitive Health points for participation.

Win an Apple
AirPod Pro
and more...

Brought to you by:



Danbury Hospital, New Milford Hospital, Northern Dutchess Hospital,
Norwalk Hospital, Putnam Hospital, Sharon Hospital,
Vassar Brothers Medical Center

News and NOTES

STOCK THE SHELVES

Hunger is Everyone's Business



Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!

The Stock the Shelves Committee would like to thank the Northwest Connecticut Chamber of Commerce and its membership for the generous donations collected at the Chamber's Annual Meeting.

Through your contributions, we were able to distribute an additional **780 lbs.** of food, as well as essential living necessities, to the region's food banks and soup kitchens! Our gratitude is immeasurable.

If your company is interested in running an in-house food drive, please reach out to any one of the Stock the Shelves committee members. We would be happy to provide you with all of the details! Thank you again.

Lisa Ferris, Jeff Geddes, Anita Rosa, John Seagrave & Lauren Zordan
 Stock the Shelves Committee
stocktheshelvesnwct@gmail.com

Monetary donations can be made to the Northwest CT Community Foundation Stock the Shelves Fund by visiting northwestcf.org and clicking "Give to a Fund."

11th Annual Litchfield Hills Brewfest at Ski Sundown!
 126 Rattlum Rd, New Hartford, CT
Buy your tickets at skisundown.com and litchfieldhillsbrewfest.com.
 \$30 per person in advance
 \$35 per person at the door
 \$20 for designated driver
 *Must be 21 to attend; no children/pets allowed
Live music and food trucks! For more information: Call 860-489-1328 (ext 113) or email lferris@brookermemorial.org

Saturday, June 11th, 1:00pm-5:00pm
To Benefit: St. Maron Church, Brooker Memorial, & STRIDE Adaptive Sports
Sponsoring Store: Nejaime's Fine Wine & Spirits
Presented By:  **Torrington Savings Bank**

Get your tickets before they sell out for this popular event!

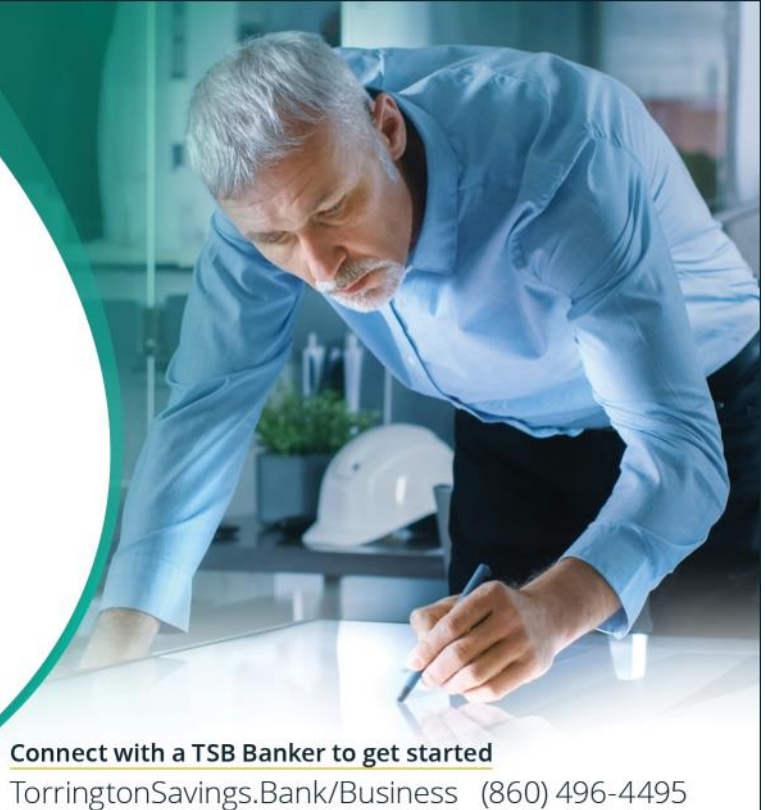
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Succeed at Every Level.

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TorringtonSavings.Bank/Business (860) 496-4495

Chamber **NEWS**

You are cordially invited to join the
Class of 2022



*Celebrate this year's class, their many accomplishments,
and the completion of their yearlong group projects at*

**Leadership Northwest
Graduation**

Wednesday, June 15, 2022

**5:00 p.m. Cocktails
5:30 p.m. Dinner & Program**

Torrington Country Club
250 Torrington Road, Goshen

Master of Ceremonies
Paul McLaughlin, Northwest Community Bank
Leadership Northwest Chairman

Guest Keynote Speaker

Lesa Vanotti, Torrington Savings Bank

Commencement Address

Team Project Reports

2022 Class Members are complimentary
Alumni & Guests: \$40 per person



RSVP by June 8th to lauren@nwctchamberofcommerce.org.



Chamber NEWS

Leadership Northwest



As our 2021-2022 Leadership Northwest class wraps up their yearlong program, the class had a teambuilding retreat at Camp Jewell in Colebrook on May 20th. The class participated in ropes courses, team building activities, canoeing and archery. The class will graduate on June 15th at Torrington Country Club and the reception will include presentations about their community projects. Congratulations to this year's class!

To attend the graduation, [CLICK HERE](#). (Alumni & Guests: \$40 per person; 2022 Class Members are complimentary)
DEADLINE to sign up: June 8th.



Photos: Courtesy of Lauren Zordan

The Great Giveaway
BUSINESS SHOWCASE



Thursday, July 14th - 4 to 7 p.m.

(4-5 p.m. Exhibitors Only Networking Reception)

at The Warner Theatre's Carole & Ray Neag Performing Arts Center, Torrington

GET IN FRONT OF **HUNDREDS** OF POTENTIAL CUSTOMERS!

THIS ONE NIGHT EVENT WILL BE HEAVILY PROMOTED IN ALL MEDIA!

DON'T MISS OUT!

MULTIPLE VENDOR **GIVEAWAYS** WILL CREATE EXCITEMENT AND DRAW TRAFFIC TO THE EVENT— AND TO YOUR BOOTH!

EXHIBITOR NETWORKING RECEPTION

FREE FOOD • CASH BAR

For questions, email Lauren@nwctchamberofcommerce.org

Business After Hours at Vera Roma Grille & Bar at Eastwoods Country Club on May 17th



(Photos: Courtesy of Jack Sheedy)



Salisbury Bank Continues its 2022 Community Shred 'Drive-Thru' Days

Community Shred "Drive-thru" Days will include a free shred event as part of the Bank's commitment to help in the fight against identity theft, and a food drive to support local food pantries in the area. These events will continue during the months of July through October at select branches throughout the tri-state area, and are open to all local residents and businesses. Each car will be limited to 4 bags or boxes (**paper only**).

Amy Raymond, Executive Vice President and Chief Retail Banking Officer stated, "With the increased importance of mitigating the risk of identity theft and fraud, our Shred Day events continue to help community members securely dispose of sensitive documents to aid in protecting themselves."

Community Shred "Drive-thru" Days are open to anyone at the locations listed below from 9 AM – 12 PM:

- Saturday, July 9th - Lakeville Branch, 5 Bissell Street, Lakeville, CT
- Saturday, September 10th - Millerton Branch, 87 Main Street, Millerton, NY
- Saturday, October 8th - Sheffield Branch, 640 North Main Street, Sheffield, MA
- Saturday, October 22nd - Lakeville Branch, 5 Bissell Street, Lakeville, CT

Please consider bringing a non-perishable food donation. Household necessities are also appreciated.

These services are brought to you by Salisbury Bank, as a way of enriching the communities it serves. All shredded paper will be recycled and all collected items will be donated directly to local food pantries.

For more information on protecting yourself against identity theft, visit [SalisburyBank.com/Personal/Customer-Security](https://www.salisburybank.com/Personal/Customer-Security).

Salisbury Bank is a full-service community bank headquartered in Lakeville, Connecticut.

A Big *Congratulations* to Brandywine Living of Litchfield!

Brandywine Living Ranks as "Best Senior Living" by U.S. News & World Report

"We are proud that our communities have been named Best Senior Living in Assisted Living and Memory Care by U.S. News & World Report," commented Brenda J. Bacon, President and CEO. "Our amazing team members, beautiful communities, and dedication to maintaining an active and full lifestyle are valued by our residents and their families. It is an honor to receive this national recognition."

News and **NOTES****Are you looking for ways to give back and make an impact in your community?****FOR THE LIFE OF YOUR BUSINESS*****Local small business owners need your help now more than ever!***

Ready to expand your network, and help make others dreams come true? **SCORE** is looking for volunteers with backgrounds and experiences as diverse as the small business owners they serve.

Over the past 56 years, **SCORE's Connecticut** network of business experts has helped guide entrepreneurs. Every day, volunteers help CT's small businesses start, grow and achieve new levels of success. These volunteers are the lifeblood and the reason for that success. Learn about the benefits of volunteering, and the types of volunteer opportunities. Volunteering is a way for you to give back, network with business experts, and share your knowledge.

SCORE offers many types of volunteering opportunities. Choose the opportunity that best suits your expertise, interests and availability:

- **Mentor:** Use your industry-based knowledge and expertise to help business owners who are looking for guidance
- **Subject Matter Expert:** Collaborate with experienced mentors to offer advice in your specific area of expertise
- **Workshop Presenter:** Educate through giving presentations on specific small business topics
- **Chapter Support:** Assist with marketing, finance, scheduling and other key support tasks
- **Diversity Leader:** Make **SCORE** services more accessible by local small business owners in underserved segments.

SCORE volunteers are successful business owners and executives with real-world experience in every sector. Some have worked at Fortune 500 companies. Others have built their own businesses from the ground up. And each one of them knows how good it feels to help others achieve their dreams. **SCORE** knows your time is valuable and you have a variety of skills to share. That's why they offer total flexibility when it comes to volunteering. Share your business knowledge as a lead mentor and work with clients. There's no way to quantify how good it feels to help others. Sharing business knowledge you've accrued over the years gives you an extra boost of pride and purpose. And you'll feel even better knowing you helped someone achieve success.

Share your expertise. Reach out to **SCORE Connecticut** today!

Become a SCORE Volunteer

Member NEWS

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

THE LITCHFIELD COMMUNITY CENTER
PRESENTS

Summer Sunset Concerts

FRIDAY, MAY 20
A HOOTENANNY
POTTERS FIELD
SAZERAC
WIRES & WOOD

SATURDAY, JUNE 18
EIGHT
TO THE
BAR

FRIDAY, AUGUST 12
THE
ALPACA
GNOMES

SATURDAY, SEPT. 10
CT
GRATEFUL
DEAD
ALL STARS

GREAT MUSIC & GREAT FUN

FOOD TRUCKS AND BEVERAGE VENDORS • BRING CHAIRS/BLANKETS
\$30 PER ADULT - \$10 PER CHILD 12 AND UNDER PER CONCERT
FOUR CONCERT PACKAGE: \$100 PER PERSON / \$40 CHILDREN
WWW.THECOMMUNITYCENTER.ORG • OR 860-567-8302
GATES OPEN AT 6:00, MUSIC STARTS AT 7:00



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Ready in minutes.
Just \$14.99 for 2 photos.
No appointment required.



June is Alzheimer's & Brain Awareness Month and Connecticut is going PURPLE.

This is the perfect opportunity to get involved with the Alzheimer's Association Connecticut Chapter and help spread awareness of the mission.

Join us on June 21 – The Longest Day as we...

GO PURPLE TO #ENDALZ

- PARTY Purple!**
Have your favorite restaurant create a drink, food item, or dessert that features purple.
- WEAR Purple!**
Dress in your best purple clothing or accessories. From a bow in your hair to purple pants — show us what you've got!
- SHINE Purple!**
Change the lights on your office building or home to purple. Join landmarks across the state as they shine a light on the darkness of Alzheimer's.

Make sure to snap a photo and share it by tagging us on social media! (@alzct)

Contact jettesman@alz.org for more information or to let us know you are going purple!

**ALZHEIMER'S
& BRAIN**
awareness month

alzheimer's association

Member NEWS

Northwest Startup Presents a Small Business Seminar Maker Event:

From Vector to Venture: How to turn your Designs into a Business

The Entrepreneurial Center at Northwestern Connecticut Community College is pleased to announce its next Small Business Seminar, a Maker Event: ***From Vector to Venture: How to turn your Designs into a Business***. The event, presented by the NCCC Entrepreneurial Center in partnership with Northwest Hills Council of Governments, Stepcraft, and S.C.O.R.E., will be held on June 14, 2022 from 5:30-8:30 pm at Stepcraft - 151 Field Street, Torrington CT 06790.

This seminar will teach attendees how to take custom vectors (a type of line drawing) they've created and turn them into products they can sell in their own cottage business. Participants will learn about automatic tool changing, vacuum table components for clamp-free milling, and they'll learn how to create their own acrylic lighted sign with their custom vectors using V-Carve - a free-to-try 3D Computerized Numerical

Control (CNC) program. This free seminar will give attendees the training they need to start manufacturing their own products using any consumer-grade 3-axis CNC machine.

From Vector to Venture: How to turn your Designs into a Business, will be taught by Erick Royer, CEO of Stepcraft, a US made 3-axis CNC machine manufacturer based in Torrington, CT. Erick has decades of experience in the maker community, small business development, video and magazine publishing, and rapid prototyping.

For more information, or to register to attend this free Small Business Seminar Maker Event by Northwest Startup, please contact John Fiorello, Entrepreneurial Center Director, at 860-738-6444 or online at www.nwcc.edu/sbs



Business with Breakfast at Crumbs by Toast & Co. on May 24th



Christine and Mark Harding
Photo: Courtesy of Sharon Kunay



F2B: Lisa Ferris, Jacque Williams, Amy DiPippo, John Seagrave
Photo: Courtesy of DJ Murphy (Murphy Boyz Printing & Marketing)

News and **NOTES****Cybersecurity "POWER LUNCH"
Trends, Threats, and Resources
Tuesday, June 7th, 1-2pm**

Join the **Cybersecurity "POWER LUNCH" Webinar, Tuesday, June 7th, 1-2pm ET**, featuring William Tong, Attorney General for the State of Connecticut and the SBA Connecticut District Office.

In recent years, a surge of cyber-based attacks and data privacy issues have affected all corners and all aspects of our society – and businesses large and small have found themselves facing enormous and unpredictable challenges. Attorney General Tong and the Privacy Team of the Office of Attorney General are eager to conduct a robust discussion of the Office's cybersecurity enforcement work, navigating the complex legal and technological challenges, and answer questions on how businesses can best prepare to deal with these types of attacks.

Tuesday, June 7th

1 - 2pm

[Free Registration Here](#)

News and **NOTES**

The Women's Business Development Council is offering grants of up to \$10,000 to qualified women-owned small businesses in Connecticut

The Equity Match Grant Program is designed to help women-owned businesses grow! Grants between \$2,500 and \$10,000 will be awarded for clearly defined projects that will have a measurable impact on the business, its growth and profitability.

The grant funds cannot be used towards operating expenses (e.g. inventory, on-going marketing expenses, salaries), real estate improvements (e.g. construction costs), reimbursement for past purchases or debt repayment.

Applicants are required to provide a minimum 25% match (see below for more details).

THE GRANT APPLICATION IS NOW OPEN!
The deadline to apply is July 3, 2022

[Apply Here](#)

All COVID-19 EIDL Funds Have Been Exhausted

SBA is no longer processing COVID EIDL. The [COVID-19 EIDL portal](https://www.sba.gov/eidl) (covid19relief1.sba.gov, also known as the "RAPID portal") closed on May 16, 2022.

Borrowers should have download their loan documents from the portal prior to this date. SBA continues to offer other funding options for small businesses including [traditional SBA loans](#).



Manage your EIDL

Learn how to monitor the status of your COVID EIDL, including making payments <https://www.sba.gov/EIDL>.

News and **NOTES**

UNIVERSITY OF HARTFORD
ENTREPRENEURIAL CENTER
WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER



Business Matchmaker Series - June 16th

The Women's Business Center and Andrew Associates Invite You to a Special Supplier Matchmaking Event on June 16th.

Hear Representatives from Fortune 500 companies speak about their commitments to small and diverse businesses and learn how you can register to take advantage of upcoming sourcing opportunities.

Come meet, connect, and network with small, diverse, veteran, and woman-owned business leaders from a wide range of industries and sectors .

This Special Supplier Event will feature some of the Region's largest corporations, educational institutions, and government entities such as Sikorsky, CVS Health, UCONN, Webster Bank, United States Postal Service, CT Lottery, Vistra Energy, The Metropolitan District, and more.

Date: Thursday, June 16

Time: 12-2:30pm ET

RSVP: Mary McCarthy at mmccarthy@andrew.com or call 860.253.0000 x 143
Andrews Associates, 6 Pearson Way, Enfield CT.

Box lunch will be served.

Chamber NEWS

During the Pandemic, our Chamber offered FREE advertising to help support our members. Starting July 1st, we are reinstating our ad pricing structure to enable us to better serve you.

PROMOTE YOUR COMPANY WITH THE



Northwest Connecticut
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Business Working Together

DON'T WAIT TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THESE MEMBER ONLY BENEFITS!

CHAMBER NEWSLETTER

Display Advertisements are available to Chamber members. Deadline is the 15th of the month. Submit ad in JPEG or PDF format to info@nwctchamberofcommerce.org.

Cost:

Full page (7 1/2" w x 9 1/2" h) - \$250

1/2 page horizontal (7 1/2" w x 4 1/2" h) - \$150

1/2 page vertical (3 1/2" w x 9 1/2" h) - \$150

1/4 page (3 1/2" w x 4 1/2" h) - \$75

Business card (3 1/2" w x 2 1/4" h) - \$50

Member News and **Member in the Spotlights** may be submitted for inclusion in an upcoming newsletter and will be placed on a first-come, first-served basis. Bites should be approximately 100 words in length. Spotlights should be approximately 250 words in length and may include a logo or photo. Deadline is the 15th of the month. Email information to info@nwctchamberofcommerce.org.

Cost: Complimentary

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

Display Advertisements are available to Chamber members in the Annual Business & Membership Directory. Ads should be submitted by the 15th of February. Information and pricing are available by contacting Lauren Zordan at lauren@nwctchamberofcommerce.org.

CHAMBER EXCHANGE – MEMBER TO MEMBER E-MAIL BLAST ADS

The Chamber sends e-mail blasts to all members with special offers and advertisements. These e-mails are sent separately from the standard member e-mails and are specially identified as offers from members. Members are able to place one ad per month. Ads can be linked to a website or FaceBook page. The e-mail distribution list exceeds 1,500 individuals. Ads should be submitted in JPEG or PNG format and should be 7" wide x 3-5" high. The fee is \$50 per ad. To schedule your Chamber Exchange ad, contact JoAnn Ryan at 860-482-6586 or joann@nwctchamberofcommerce.org

MEMBER TO MEMBER

Present a **Member to Member Workshop** to fellow members and highlight the products and services of your business. Utilize the Chamber's conference room, obtain a set of mailing labels, receive a 1/2 page advertisement in the newsletter and an email to the membership promoting the workshop. Contact Lauren Zordan to schedule at lauren@nwctchamberofcommerce.org.

Cost: \$300



Upcoming **CHAMBER MEETINGS & EVENTS**

Jun 1 - WOW Advisory Committee - 9 AM
Jun 2 - Membership Committee - 8 AM
Jun 7 - Small Business Council - 8 AM
Jun 8 - Leads II - 8:30 AM
Jun 9 - Government Relations Committee - 8 AM
Jun 9 - Leads III - 12 PM
Jun 13 - Leads I - 12 PM
Jun 15 - Health Council - 8 AM

Jun 15 - Leadership Northwest Graduation, Torrington
Country Club, 250 Torrington Rd, Goshen, 5 PM
Jun 23 - Board of Directors Meeting- 8 AM
Jun 23 - Celebration of Success, Five Points Arts Center,
855, University Drive, Torrington, 5-8 PM
Jun 27 - Leads I - 12 PM
Jun 28 - Business with Breakfast, TBD - 8 AM

Save the Date

July 14 - Great Giveaway Business Showcase @ The Warner Theatre, 68 Main St, Torr.
October 7 - 18th Annual WOW! Forum @ The Warner Theatre, 68 Main Street, Torrington

Stay Tuned for more exciting events in 2022!