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*Chamber Travel Program*



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Reservations can also be made on the online booking engine:  
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The group booking code is: **VARITO**

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



The Value of Connecticut State Colleges & Universities

I recently had the privilege to testify at an important press conference in Hartford to urge the Governor, the Appropriations Committee and Legislators to support Connecticut State Colleges & Universities. The event included an impressive list of CSCU Presidents, led by Terrence Cheng, President of the system. I am using some of their material in this article to make you aware of the current situation.

It was an honor to represent the Board of Regents as Chair of the Board and the NW CT Chamber of Commerce as its President & CEO. Also noteworthy is that I served as an adjunct faculty member at Northwestern Connecticut and Naugatuck Valley Community Colleges for 10 years prior to joining the Chamber. I loved teaching at two such outstanding institutions because it strengthened my admiration and gratitude for the educators and business leaders who surround us.

Through our continuing involvement with exceptional collaborators such as the NW Regional Workforce Investment Board, it has become most apparent that educators and business leaders are working together with students and their families to prepare for the future. This includes not only the traditional students in school thinking about their future but also the non-traditional students working but realizing they must continue their education.

Connecticut State Colleges & Universities known as CSCU is the most important component of the workforce pipeline educating more than 85,000 students per year with the majority of graduates living and working in Connecticut. The programs in everything from manufacturing and information technology to nursing and allied health are critical toward filling in-demand jobs. Perhaps more important is the fact that CSCU provides a lifeline for students from all backgrounds to become better educated, more well-rounded and ultimately introduced to educational and workforce opportunities for themselves and their families.

Connecticut can boast about having one of the most well-educated, innovative and talented workforces in the nation. However, the proposed budget that recently passed the Appropriations Committee would have disastrous consequences for CSCU. We need your support to ensure that the appropriate funding is in place to continue providing the best education for Connecticut students.

Please call me for additional information and next steps.



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**Northwest Connecticut  
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**JoAnn Ryan**, President & CEO, joann@nwctchamberofcommerce.org  
**Karen Kuhl**, Director of Programs & Events  
karen@nwctchamberofcommerce.org  
**Pamela LaRosa**, Director One-Stop Workforce Operations,  
pam@nwctchamberofcommerce.org  
**Sharon Kunay**, Administrative Assistant,  
info@nwctchamberofcommerce.org  
**Norma Jean Sweet-Loverin**, Accounting,  
accounting@nwctchamberofcommerce.org  
**DJ Murphy**, Outside Sales Membership Representative,  
murphyboyzmarketing@gmail.com  
**Nancy DePecol**, Outside Sales Membership Representative,  
nancydepecol@yahoo.com

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Corporate Partner **NEWS**



Charlotte Hungerford Hospital Provides Life Saving AED to Community Kitchen



Pictured Above: John Capobianco (Left) and Fred Rosa (Right) present Lisa Hageman (Center) with a new Zoll AED

Charlotte Hungerford Hospital’s John Capobianco, Senior Vice President of the Northwest Region and Fred Rosa, EMS Manager recently delivered a new Zoll AED to Lisa Hageman, Director of the Community Kitchen of Torrington. This state-of-the-art AED provides visual and step-by-step audio prompts to help the user deliver potentially life-saving CPR.

“We are pleased to provide this life saving technology to our partners at the Community Kitchen in support of the essential services they offer each and every day,” said Capobianco.

The Community Kitchen serves men, women and children from all of Litchfield County over 142,000 meals per year. With the help of many volunteers who support the mission of this organization, people from all walks of life can find a hot meal, daily contact with others and a place that provides an opportunity for individuals to meet staff from area agencies and programs for assistance with the many needs they experience.

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*Chamber Member* **IN THE SPOTLIGHT**

## COMMUNITY HEALTH & WELLNESS CENTER: Over 20 Years Of Caring For The Community



Community Health & Wellness Center (CHWC) celebrated 20 years of dedicated service to the Northwest Corner of Connecticut in 2022—and is still growing strong!

It all started as a two-room clinic founded as part of Charlotte Hungerford Hospital on the campus of Brooker Memorial. But after four years, the hospital could no longer financially sustain the clinic.

Knowing there was a pressing need to provide access to healthcare to the region's underserved population, CHWC committed to its core mission: keeping communities healthy in a compassionate, high-quality, and patient-centered environment where the patient is always at the center of their care.

Toward this end it purchased a former neighborhood grocery store on 469 Migeon Avenue in Torrington and renovated a 10,000 sq. ft. stand-alone clinic. In 2009, CHWC was designated as a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC). The recipient of several prestigious awards from the Health Resources and Services Administration, it remains the only FQHC to offer comprehensive healthcare services in the region.

In 2014, CHWC expanded its Torrington facility, adding an additional 24,000 sq. ft. and in 2019, opened a second loca-

tion in a former IGA on Main Street in Winsted. "We joke about our history of renovating grocery markets," said Joanne Borduas, who has been CHWC's CEO since 2015, "but that's purely a coincidence! The fact that we're conveniently located in these communities is by design."

Not slowing down, in 2021 CHWC launched its Mobile Medical Services with B.E.T.T.Y.: a converted ambulance "**B**ringing **E**xceptional **T**reatment **T**o **Y**ou." And in 2022, CHWC expanded its school-based health clinics, serving all seven of the Torrington elementary and high schools.

Looking ahead, in March 2023 CHWC broke ground for a new facility in North Canaan, which will provide access to much-needed Medical and Behavioral Health services in the Tri-State corner.

CHWC accepts most insurances, including Medicare and HUSKY, and no one is ever turned away, regardless of their ability to pay. Its services include Integrated Medical Primary and Preventative Care for all ages, Behavioral Health, Dental, Chiropractic, Podiatry, Nutrition, Medically Assisted Treatment for addiction, Community Health Workers, and on-site Quest lab services. "Our motto is, 'Our Family Taking Care of Yours'", said Borduas, "We strive to be a caring, one-stop medical home where everyone is welcome."



# Member NEWS



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- Cook Funeral Home
- Eversource Energy
- Keystone Place at Newbury Brook
- Seitz, LLC
- Senior Advocate Services
- T&M Building Company, Inc.  
and Torrington Downtown Partners
- UCE Fine Builders
- Webster Bank

## Welcome New Members

- Aventurine Business Consulting  
[www.aventurineusa.com](http://www.aventurineusa.com)
- Castle Ridge Coaching  
[www.castleridgecoaching.com](http://www.castleridgecoaching.com)
- Northeast Organic Farming Assoc. of CT  
[www.ctnofa.org](http://www.ctnofa.org)
- Principal Financial  
[church.mark@principal.com](mailto:church.mark@principal.com)
- Pronto System Solutions  
[www.prontosystemsolutions.com](http://www.prontosystemsolutions.com)
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- Sullivan Real Estate, Inc.  
[www.sullivanreo.com](http://www.sullivanreo.com)
- The Winsted Citizen  
[www.winstedcitizen.org](http://www.winstedcitizen.org)
- Total Mortgage Services, LLC  
[www.totallitchfieldhills.com](http://www.totallitchfieldhills.com)

## SALISBURY BANK'S AIDAN GILLIGAN GRADUATES FROM THE CONNECTICUT SCHOOL OF FINANCE & MANAGEMENT



From left to right: Douglas Cahill (VP, Director of Human Resources), Aidan Gilligan (VP, Commercial Loan Officer), Richard Cantele Jr. (President and CEO), Salisbury Bank.

John Trott, SVP, Senior Commercial Loan Officer, Team Leader said, “We are incredibly proud of Aidan and his accomplishment. Each year, our management team selects deserving employees to enter this program. Aidan possesses the abilities and drive that made him the ideal candidate. The skills he has acquired at CSFM will aid his efforts to help our customers’ businesses grow and prosper, which brings value to the community, the bank, and makes his position more rewarding.”

Aidan holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business from Southern New Hampshire University. He joined the Bank in February of 2018 and has worked in the Bank’s commercial credit and commercial lending departments. Aidan’s most recent accomplishments include receiving the Connecticut Bankers Association (CBA) New Leader in Banking Award (2021) and graduating the Bank’s Leadership Development Program (2021).

Salisbury Bank is pleased to announce that Aidan Gilligan, Vice President, Commercial Loan Officer has graduated from the Connecticut School of Finance & Management (CSFM), an intensive two-year bank management training program sponsored by the Connecticut Bankers Association. The program provides an opportunity for bank management personnel and other key employees of Connecticut’s banking industry to obtain additional knowledge and skills as well as a more comprehensive understanding of financial services.

*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 175 years and offers a full range of consumer and business banking products and services as well as trust and investment services.*

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5th Annual  
**Tasteful  
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Wednesday | May 17, 2023 | 5-7:30 pm  
Five Points Art Center | 855 University Drive, Torrington, CT



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## Member NEWS

### CJR AWARDED \$140,000 CHEFA GRANT TO IMPROVE HEALTH EQUITY

The Connecticut Junior Republic (CJR) is one of six organizations to receive a grant from the Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority (CHEFA) to address healthcare disparities across Connecticut. The \$140,000 CHEFA grant will be expended over two years and will help CJR increase access to psychiatric services for children and families. CJR's behavioral and mental health services are provided at five Wellness Center clinics, located in four of Connecticut's eight counties, and through school-based services, currently provided in 21 schools in Litchfield, Hartford and New Haven Counties.

CHEFA grant funds will assist CJR in hiring an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) to increase psychiatric care and oversight for children and families who have the most intensive needs and the least ability to access services. The APRN will join a growing staff of clinicians and psychiatrists, including Medical Director Rizwan Parvez, M.D., and CJR's Director of Behavioral Health, Jennifer Grant, LCSW.

This new position will also provide enhanced psychiatric supervision for CJR's Wellness Center clinicians. The additional training and oversight of clinicians will ensure that the young people and families treated through CJR's clinics and school-based behavioral health services have more direct access to psychiatric care.

The CHEFA grant is anticipated to benefit 1,500 children, youth and family members over two years. The Wellness Center is CJR's fastest-growing program, with clinics in Danbury, Litchfield, New Britain, Torrington and Waterbury. CJR also provides behavioral health services in a growing number of elementary, middle and high schools by special arrangement. In its most recently completed fiscal year, the Wellness Center served 860 young people and families – an increase of 33% over the prior year.

"CJR is aware of the intense competition for grants awarded through CHEFA's Targeted Grant Program and our organization is deeply honored to have been selected to receive a grant of this magnitude to improve services for the young people and families who are served through our behavioral health programs," stated CJR President and CEO, Daniel Rezende. "The need for mental health services transcends socio-economic status although the barriers to treatment may be different," he said. "These barriers may be financial, geographic, transportation-related, familial, or cultural, and any combination can make access to care especially difficult. CJR has a strong commitment to eliminating barriers to services and has a long history raising funds and piloting programs that increase health equity and access to treatment for high need and vulnerable children – some as young as two years of age – and their families," he noted.

CHEFA Executive Director Jeanette W. Weldon stated, "CHEFA is proud to make this significant commitment to address healthcare disparities throughout Connecticut. Each of our six grants will provide the recipients with between \$118,000 - \$250,000 to support important programming that will make great strides towards ensuring all Connecticut residents have access to the care they need and deserve."

According to Betty Sugerman Weintraub, CHEFA Manager for Grant Programs and Philanthropic Outreach, the six grant awards focus on supporting the elimination of healthcare disparities in Connecticut. The grant awards include increased access to mental health services for children, increasing culturally diverse community health workers and breastfeeding lactation experts, and providing access to equitable care for traditionally marginalized communities. "Access to equitable health care is a human right, and should not be determined by the color of your skin or your zip code," she said.



From Left: Dr. Peter Lisi, Chair, CHEFA Board of Directors; Betty Sugerman Weintraub, Manager of Grant Programs and Philanthropic Outreach, CHEFA; Daniel W. Rezende, President and CEO, CJR; and Jeanette W. Weldon, Executive Director, CHEFA.

CHEFA is a quasi-public organization that provides access to tax-exempt financing, grants and other financial assistance to educational institutions, healthcare providers, childcare providers and other qualifying 501(c)(3) organizations. CHEFA has issued over \$23.7 billion in bonds since 1965, and awarded more than \$45.5 million in grants since 2002. CHEFA is a self-supporting entity, receiving no state funds or taxpayer dollars.

Founded in 1904, CJR provides residential and community-based care, treatment, family support, education and behavioral and mental health services for young people so they may thrive and

become productive and fulfilled members of their homes, schools and communities. The organization's combined programs serve nearly 1,700 boys and girls annually at program sites throughout Connecticut and in a growing number of public schools.

CJR is a private charitable organization and its programs are accredited by the Council on Accreditation (COA) and the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC). CJR is supported by gifts from individuals, businesses, foundations and organizations, and through service contracts funded by the Judicial Branch Court Support Services Division (JBCSSD), the Connecticut Department of Children and Families (DCF), the Connecticut Department of Social Services (DSS), by Connecticut's public schools, and through other income earned for services provided.

For more information, please contact Hedy Barton, Director of Development and Public Relations (860) 567-9423, extension 1252; or by email: [hbarton@ciryouth.org](mailto:hbarton@ciryouth.org).



Chamber **NEWS**

## Annual Meeting and Chamber Hall of Fame



From Left: Terence Cheng (CSCU), Carol Crain (Primerica Financial Services & Hall of Fame Honoree), Dr. Michael Rooke (NCCC), JoAnn Ryan (NW Chamber), Jeff Pugliese (Eversource), Paul McLaughlin (NW Community Bank & Hall of Fame Honoree), Scott Dolch (CT Restaurant Association)

Our Annual Meeting and Chamber Hall of Fame Induction was held on Thursday, April 6th at the Torrington Country Club in Goshen this year. The luncheon was fabulous in this delightful venue.

Chairman of our Board, Jacque Williams, was our Master of Ceremonies. The Nominating Committee Report given by Committee Chair, Christina Emery, was followed by the Election of Directors:

**Michael Rooke, PhD**, *Northwestern CT Community College*

**Stephen Ivain**, *Chorus Angelicus*

**George Logan**, *Aquarion Water Company*

We thanked Retiring Board Members for their service:

**Alan Colavecchio**, *Colavecchio Design*

**Kathleen Katrenya**, *Torrington Savings Bank*

**John Seagrave**, *Barron Financial Group*

**Richard Whitbeck**, *Innovative Health Concepts*

The invocation was given by Chamber member, Reverend G. Scott Cady, *St. Paul's Lutheran Church*, and was followed by a fabulous luncheon.

Our two Keynote Speakers were introduced by JoAnn Ryan.

**Scott Dolch**, *President & CEO, CT Restaurant Association*  
**Jeff Pugliese**, *Director of Community Relations, Eversource Energy*

Scott talked about great restaurants in the state of Connecticut and how the pandemic affected them. He noted that 97% of all CT restaurants are small business owners and he encouraged everyone to continue to support them.

Jeff Pugliese talked about the state of the economy, including the electric rates. He also recommended that people visit [www.energizect.com](http://www.energizect.com) to compare supplier rates.

JoAnn Ryan then delivered the President & CEO's Report.

The Hall of Fame Induction followed, welcoming honorees for their self-less service to our Chamber:

**Carol Crain**, *Primerica Financial Services*  
 Introduced by *Bob Collins*

**Paul McLaughlin**, *Northwest Community Bank*  
 Introduced by *Brian Mattiello*

**Congratulations and Thank You**  
**Carol Crain and Paul McLaughlin !!!**



Chamber NEWS



**BUSINESS  
after  
HOURS**

NW CT Chamber's premier network building event featuring opportunities to gain new contacts & build your lead base while enjoying delicious hors d'oeuvres & visiting our host's location.

**BUSINESS  
after HOURS**

Thursday  
**MAY 18, 2023**  
5:00-7:00 p.m.

Hosted by:  
M&T BANK  
@ SAWYER'S RESTAURANT & BAR  
79 Center Street, Torrington

Hosted by:

**M&T Bank**

Business Card Door Prize Drawing:

50-inch Toshiba flat screen TV  
And other sundry items

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



**BUSINESS  
with  
BREAKFAST**

Join us at our morning roundtable discussion

**BUSINESS with BREAKFAST**

Enjoy easy networking over a light breakfast. Each attendee will then give a 30-second "commercial" for their business followed by a brief presentation by our host.

Tuesday, May 23, **9:00 a.m.**

Hosted by



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Read Aloud Day  
**POSTPONED**  
Until February 2024

Unfortunately, due to circumstances beyond our control, we need to **postpone the Read Aloud Program for this year**. A timeframe conflict has made it difficult for us to complete the coordination of the program in a timely fashion. We look forward to having the program up and running again in February 2024. We apologize for any inconvenience that this may have caused, and we thank you for your ongoing support of our Chamber!

# Connecticut Business Day




There were 18 Connecticut Chambers represented at Connecticut Business Day that was held on April 4th this year at the Bushnell Performing Arts Center in Hartford. Over 400 business leaders, legislators, and state officials were in attendance. Among them were U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal, Connecticut Senator Lisa Seminara and our Chamber's Lobbyist, Mike Rell (*International Government Strategies*).

Following a networking breakfast buffet in the Belding 2nd Floor Lobby, the group gathered in the Autorino Great Hall for the presentation. Opening remarks were

from Cindy Bombard (*President & CEO, Central Connecticut Chambers of Commerce*), Chris DiPentima (*President & CEO, CBLA*), and Emily Wiper (*New England Vice President & General Manager, AT&T*).

**Key Takeaway:** Chris DiPentima urged everyone to focus on the worker shortage crisis which is the key challenge facing our state's economy. He said that we need to consider whether or not our programs and policies will add jobs or grow the population since this mindset will grow our economy in Connecticut if everyone works together.

## Interested in hosting a Business with Breakfast?



Join us at our morning roundtable discussion

### BUSINESS *with* BREAKFAST

Enjoy easy networking over a light breakfast. Each attendee will then give a 30-second "commercial" for their business followed by a brief presentation by our host.

**Tuesday, Month Date, 8:00 a.m.**

Hosted by

YOUR LOGO

 Your Company Name  
Your Address

Your company name, address, and logo could be listed here.



Send us an email to schedule a date: [info@nwctchamberofcommerce.org](mailto:info@nwctchamberofcommerce.org)  
 Or Call: 860-482-6586.



## Chamber NEWS



### Business with Breakfast At Merritt Clarke's Store

Who knew that such a lovely store existed in the Northwest Corner of Connecticut?!!! With gorgeous blue skies in the picturesque town of Bantam, Chamber members had another surprise awaiting them. The original peddler truck that led to the birth of the clothing store was brought out for everyone to see. After our breakfast treat and all of the introductions, we gathered at the truck for a photo opp.

This year, Merritt Clarke's Store is celebrating 100 Years in Business. What started out as only Work Clothes for Men, has expanded to include a more casual line for men and now also women's clothing, leather goods, and more.

We thank the owners, Yvonne Gilyard and Dave Reynolds, for their warm hospitality.



### Happy Anniversary Stock the Shelves!!!

Stock the Shelves celebrated their 1st Anniversary on April 19th at Five Points Arts Center, 855 University Drive in Torrington. A food sculpture (Pictured Left) was created from the food collected that evening. As of 2023, this has become their new location; a small room at the Center has been transformed into a storage room for the collection of pantry staples.

Stats For The 1st Year:

- 8.5 Tons of Food Collected
- 50 Collections
- 12 Special Events
- \$19,300 in Grants Disbursed to 12 Local Food Pantries

Stock the shelves is an initiative started by a group of community business-people and residents who have become friends through their volunteer activities and want to help address the ongoing food and essential living insecurity in the region.

Many factors are contributing to the increase in need in the communities of Northwest CT. Food banks and soup kitchens struggle to provide the basics to our neighbors. They need our assistance, and we're asking our fellow community members to step up with us!

Learn More: [Stocktheshelvesnwct.org](https://stocktheshelvesnwct.org)



Chamber **NEWS**

# Outside Sales Membership Representatives



Nancy DePecol

We welcome Outside Sales Membership Representatives Nancy DePecol and DJ Murphy to our team.

While they are not members of our staff, they provide one on one engagement with the business community, showing them how membership with our Chamber can help them grow their businesses.

We thank Nancy and DJ for their efforts in enhancing our chamber membership and helping to make our community stronger.



Dennis (DJ) Murphy

# Leadership NW Visits Hartford for Government Day

Leadership NW attended Government Day in Hartford on Thursday, April 20th, where they enjoyed a visit to the Legislative Office Building and State

Capitol. The group was able to sit down and ask many questions of four State Legislators; Representative Jay Case, Senator Lisa Seminara, Senator Stephen

Harding, and Representative Mark Anderson. This was followed by a tour of both buildings, including an insider's tour from Representative Case.



From Left: Dan Santorso, Steven Reuther, Sami Sheeley, Kaitlyn Graboski, Wady Guadalupe, Representative Jay Case, Senator Lisa Seminara, Senator Stephen Harding, Representative Mark Anderson, Jenna Haley, Kariana Gotberg, Kristina Franklin, Ginny Perun, Bianca Sun



# Chamber NEWS

## Northwest / Central Chambers Leads Group Social



From Left: John Seagrave, Melissa Root, Dimitri Karouta, Jordan Sanford

Some of our Chamber members in Leads Group 1 are members of the Central CT Chambers, covering Burlington and Bristol. They decided to expand their networking reach by having a combined Leads Group Social in Burlington at Enclave Grille on Monday April 24th at 5:00 pm.

60 people were in the house at this great venue with amazing food and networking opportunities. The event was sponsored by Barron Financial Group, LLP.

## LEADS LEADS LEADS

The purpose of the Chamber Leads Groups is for members of each group to form alliances with one another to identify prospects and foster increased business; ultimately growing their customer base through a supportive network. Enrollment is based on a “first to respond” basis due to the format permitting only one individual per industry. At each Leads meeting, members are allowed to share details on their business, provide testimonials/referrals to other group members, and each meeting concludes with a 15-20 minute focus on one member or a beneficial activity for the group.

Leads Group 1 meets on the second and fourth Monday of the month at noon. The co-captains of the group are John Seagrave of Barron Financial Group and Lisa Ferris of Brooker Memorial.

### Leads Group 2 is Now Forming

Top ten most wanted member Classifications:

- |                           |                           |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Plumber                   | Doctor                    |
| Photographer/Videographer | Carpenter                 |
| Florist                   | Artist                    |
| Lawn Service              | Hair Dresser/Nails/Barber |
| Mechanic                  | Massage/PT                |

Leads Group 2 meets on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month at noon. The co-captains of the group are Tyson Chamberlin of Castle Ridge Coaching & Dennis (DJ) Murphy of Murphy Boyz Printing & Marketing.

If you would like information on participating in Leads, please email [JoAnn@nwctchamberofcommerce.org](mailto:JoAnn@nwctchamberofcommerce.org).

Ambassador  
of the  
Month

Jade Athas  
Realtor







## Congratulations Jade!!!

Our Member Ambassadors are a part of our Membership Committee. They work with the Chamber staff to welcome and acquaint new members to the organization. It is their role to reach out to an assigned member once a month and assure they are informed of upcoming events, are introduced to fellow members at the events, and have any questions they may have answered by the staff. In addition, the Ambassadors are in touch with renewing members in order to support member retention.

The Ambassador of the Month is chosen by the Ambassador Subcommittee for their outstanding service to our members.

Chamber NEWS

# Financial Reality Fair



Well over 400 students and volunteers participated in this year's Financial Reality Fair.

In partnership with the Credit Union League of Connecticut and Connecticut Credit Unions since 2009, the Chamber worked closely with Northwest Hills Credit Union to present a Financial Reality Fair for local high school juniors and seniors throughout the area.

Hosted by Lewis S. Mills High School in Burlington this year, this is the largest Financial Reality Fair in Connecticut. In this hands-on learning exercise, students choose a career in which they are interested, and are given an app to download with worksheets that discuss such topics as expected salaries, the

housing market, credit and more. Students without phones are loaned a tablet with the app that is returned at the end of their session. They visit booths manned by Chamber volunteers, decide how as working adults they would spend money on such things as transportation, food, clothing, entertainment and more, then meet with financial advisors who review their spending choices and discuss how they could have made better selections.

The event receives rave reviews from students, and some schools have made it a requirement for graduation. Chamber members who sponsor student attendance receive special recognition at the fair.

**Northwest Connecticut CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  
Business Working Together

*Celebration of Success*

**SAVE THE DATE**

**2023 Celebration of Success**

**Thursday, June 22, 2023, 5:00 p.m.**

The Inn at Mt. Pleasant 505 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.

## Celebration of Success

Three individuals or organizations are honored at our annual Celebration of Success event. Bestowed are the Business Leader Award, the Quality of Life Award, and the Community Leader Award.

Honorees are nominated by Chamber membership and voted on by the Celebration of Success Committee. Depending on the award, criteria include the nominees' contribution to the business environment, community involvement, and commitment to the overall improvement in the quality of life in Northwest Connecticut.

Award winners will be announced soon!



## Committee Reports

### Government Relations Committee:

We had a great Government Relations Committee meeting and our numbers are growing. We had a Brownfield presentation given to us by Economic Development Director for the City of Torrington, Rista Malanca. We also had remarks from the

Mayor of Torrington, Elinor Carbone. I encourage you to invite your colleagues to attend our Government Relations Committee meetings. The information will prove to be invaluable.

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### Health Council:



## The Northwest Chamber Health Council

Our May Health Council meeting is schedule for [Wednesday 5/17/23 at 8:00 AM](#). This will be a hybrid meeting at the Chamber office but we will also offer Zoom access as usual. We encouraged you to attend in person if you can.

Our speaker for this meeting will be Aileen Meehan, Community Engagement Officer with the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation. Aileen will speak about the mission of the Foundation and how they strengthen communities across our shared service areas. Please join us as we work together to build a more productive Health Council for Chamber members.

[RSVP at koconnell@geercare.org](mailto:koconnell@geercare.org) or call [860-824-3868](tel:860-824-3868)



## Chamber NEWS

During the Pandemic, our Chamber had offered FREE advertising to help support our members. January 1st, we will reinstate our reduced ad pricing structure to enable us to better serve you.

# PROMOTE YOUR COMPANY WITH THE



## 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 PNG format to [info@nwctchamberofcommerce.org](mailto:info@nwctchamberofcommerce.org).

Cost:

Full page (7 1/2" w x 9 1/2" h) - ~~\$250~~ **\$125**

1/2 page horizontal (7 1/2" w x 4 1/2" h) - ~~\$150~~ **\$75**

1/2 page vertical (3 1/2" w x 9 1/2" h) - ~~\$150~~ **\$75**

1/4 page (3 1/2" w x 4 1/2" h) - ~~\$75~~ **\$50**

Business card (3 1/2" w x 2 1/4" h) - ~~\$50~~ **\$25**

**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](mailto: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 JoAnn Ryan at [joann@nwctchamberofcommerce.org](mailto:joann@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](mailto: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 JoAnn Ryan to schedule at [joann@nwctchamberofcommerce.org](mailto:joann@nwctchamberofcommerce.org).

Cost: ~~\$300~~ **\$250**



# Chamber Space Rentals



Conference Room - Conference Style (seats up to 28)



Conference Room - Classroom Setup (seats 20-25)



Library - (Seats up to 6)



Reception Area - (Seats up to 8)

**Member Room Rates:** 8 am – 5 pm, \$35 for the 1<sup>st</sup> hour, \$20 per hour thereafter  
 5 pm – 10 pm, \$45 for the 1<sup>st</sup> hour, \$35 per hour thereafter

**Non Member Room Rates:** 8 am – 5 pm, \$80 for the 1<sup>st</sup> hour, \$55 per hour thereafter  
 5 pm – 10 pm, \$125 for the 1<sup>st</sup> hour, \$100 per hour thereafter

*After hours (5 pm – 10 pm) rates also apply to weekend use.  
 Corporate Partners of the Chamber may utilize the conference rooms at no charge.  
 Premier Members of the Chamber may utilize the conference rooms at half price.*

**Projector, Whiteboard, and Flip Chart are available at no additional charge**

News and NOTES

## EVERSOURCE

## First Thursdays Communities Webinar Series Presents... Energy Efficiency for New Construction

Through the end of this calendar year, join Eversource each first Thursday of the month to learn about our energy efficiency programs and offerings in Connecticut. These lunchtime webinars are an opportunity to learn directly from your desk.

This month, we will be joined by the Eversource new construction team who will walk attendees through an overview of energy efficiency for new construction and renovation projects, benefits, currently available offerings and

incentives. The team will also share details on recent projects and how the new construction process works from start to finish.

Why should you attend?

- You want to learn more about integrating energy efficiency into your new construction project plans
- You want to learn about programs that you can share with the residents and businesses in your community



[Register Here](#)

PROUD SPONSOR OF



### Energy Efficiency for New Construction

Thursday, May 4, 2023

Noon-1pm

Our next topic will be our Multifamily Initiative. Save the date for Thursday, June 1 from Noon-1pm to hear the latest on energy efficiency programs for your multifamily properties.

In case you missed it or would like to review the material again, our last webinar in this series, which was held on April 6, covered heat pumps. [Click here](#) to access the recording.

*Mark your calendars now for upcoming  
First Thursday webinars!*

**Thursday, June 1** – Multifamily Initiative

**Thursday, July 6** – Energy Efficiency for Municipalities

# Spring is in the air !!!







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

May 2 - Small Business Council - 8 AM  
May 3 - Wow Advisory Committee - 9 AM  
May 4 - Membership Committee - 8 AM  
May 5 - **DEADLINE** For Early Bird Special—Ireland Trip  
May 8 - Leads I - 12 PM  
May 10 - Leads II - 12 PM  
May 11 - Government Relations Committee - 8 AM  
May 17 - Leadership Northwest Session #8 - 8:30 AM  
(Class Retreat @ Ebner Camps)  
May 17 - Health Council (Guest Speaker Aileen Meehan from the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation) @ NW CT Chamber, 59 Field Street, Suite 120, Torrington, 8 AM

May 18 - Business After Hours—Sponsored & Hosted by M&T Bank @ **Sawyer's Restaurant & Bar**, 79 Center Street, Torrington, 5-7 PM (**Door Prize Drawing: 50-inch Toshiba flat screen TV & other sundry items**)  
May 22 - Leads I - 12 PM  
May 23 - Business with Breakfast **with Ribbon Cutting** @ A&B Homecare Solutions dba Northwest Home Care, 30 Peck Rd, Suite 2202, Torrington, **9-10 AM**  
May 24 - Leads II - 12 PM  
May 27 - Board of Directors Meeting - 8 AM

### *Save the Date*

**June 13 - Business After Hours @ The Gathering Place, Torrington, 5-7 PM**  
**June 21 - Leadership NW Graduation @ Torrington Country Club, Goshen, 5-8**  
**June 22 - Celebration of Success @ The Inn at Mt. Pleasant, Torrington 5-7 PM**  
**August 16 - Great Giveaway Business Showcase @ Torrington Armory, 4-7 PM**  
**August 22 - Business with Breakfast @ Cadco Ltd, Winsted, 8-9 AM**  
**October 6 - WOW! Forum, Warner Theatre, 82 Main Street, Torrington, 7:45 AM - 4:00 PM**  
**October 9-17 - Trip to Ireland **

## **Newsletter Submissions:**

Please send us your newsletter submissions by the 15th of the month. Beyond that date, we cannot guarantee that it will be in the following month's edition.

Thank you.