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# The Greater Norwich Area Chamber of Commerce

*As we pull together, we will accomplish great things for our members and for our community. Be part of the future; join the Greater Norwich Area Chamber of Commerce today!*

## BOARD of DIRECTORS

—■—  
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## CHAMBER STAFF

—■—  
Kim Michaud  
*Director of Operations*

Nancy Gray  
*Director of Membership Services*

## Chamber News from Chairman, Andy Messier

The Greater Norwich Area Chamber of Commerce continues to experience phenomenal growth. As new businesses, governmental agencies and concerned individuals join our ranks we thank them for their commitment to the region. Our Chamber is the voice of business in the Norwich region and we welcome your participation.

On September 20<sup>th</sup> “Wines and Roses”, the annual fundraiser to benefit the Tommy Toy Fund, will take place under the canopy at the Norwich Harbor. All of the proceeds from this event are used to purchase toys for needy children. Its success each year is due to the efforts of Nor-

wich Bulletin employees and Chamber volunteers who want to make a difference in our communities. If you haven't purchased tickets yet please contact the Chamber or another ticket outlet so you can join us. Please note that all of the wine and food is donated and patronizing the food establishments or submitting your wine purchase that evening will insure their ongoing participation.

Finally, I'd like to thank our Chamber volunteers that work tirelessly to make our events successful all year long. With your efforts and enthusiasm we will continue to accomplish great things.

## NEW—Referral Plan

The Membership Development & Marketing Committee have created a **Business Referral Plan** for our members to help grow our chamber. In appreciation for each referral that results in a new Chamber member you will be given two free admission tickets to use at any Business After Hours. Fax (887-9238), email (membership@norwichchamber.com) or call the office (887-1647) with your referrals.

### Business After Hours - October 17th

Our next **Business After Hours** will be held on Wednesday, October 17th, 5:30 to 7:30 pm, at the **Holiday Inn Norwich** located at 10 Laura Blvd. in Norwich. Join us to help celebrate the 1 year anniversary of the Holiday Inn Norwich. Beer, wine & hors d'oeuvres will be served. Don't forget those business cards for door prizes and networking! Call to make your reservation at 887-1647 or sign-up in the Members Area on the website: [www.norwichchamber.com](http://www.norwichchamber.com) or the Members Calendar.

### New Feature



Show your wise business connection by adding this "Proud to be a Member" logo to your website. It is located on the chamber website within the Member Area. Directions to load the logo are also available there.

*The Mission of the Greater Norwich Area Chamber of Commerce, Incorporated is to take a leadership role to support, promote, enhance and advance the general welfare and prosperity of the greater Norwich area so that its citizens, and its business and professional community, shall prosper. The organization shall give emphasis to the economic, civic, commercial, cultural and educational interests of the greater Norwich area to insure that the area is a desirable place in which to work, live, or visit.*

### Ribbon Cuttings

Are you a new business and a member with the Greater Norwich Area Chamber of Commerce? We'd like the opportunity to hold a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for you too. This is a great way to receive exposure for your new business. Town dignitaries and local newspaper reporters are always invited to attend. Contact Kim at 887-1647 for details and available dates.

### August Ribbon Cuttings



**RISE Engineering**—101 Water Street, Norwich  
August 9th



**Chinatown Foodcenter** — 475 Hamilton Ave., Norwich  
August 15th



**TT Nails** — 34 Town Street, Norwich  
August 28th

## Featured Member—Noni’s Finance, LLC

Noni’s Finance, LLC was opened by Cathy Rickes a Mortgage Broker in March of 2006. The new office was the former CorePlus Credit Union located at 40 Main Street in downtown Norwich. Cathy has worked in the mortgage brokerage business for many years on and off while taking care of her granddaughter, the sunshine is her life. The decision was simple that when the time was right, and the right location was found, she would open her own office.

“After working for others I wanted to control my clients’ bottom costs with honesty, fairness and integrity”. While others may be closing their doors, we are growing. We have a very dedicated team to give our clients the service they deserve. Having loyal

and knowledgeable staff is very important in this business.

We just welcomed Ron Tse to assist our clients in the Chinese community. His wife Linda, my assistant, speaks many languages including Spanish. We also have bi-lingual attorneys and realtors to work with our clients. Buying or refinancing is a very important decision in ones life. When you become our client, you become like family to us.

Some may ask what a broker does. To sum it up we are able to provide very competitive rates and avoid charging you closing costs that are just not fair. With our resources we can find the right loan for you and that avoids your loss of an application fee and the disappointment of being turned down. We’ll suggest you apply at your local bank if your

situation would save you money and time. After all, they know you best and we want the best for you.

Noni’s also offers many investor loan programs and major commercial loans. Even if you have a unique situation, just call us and we will research your available resources. Everyday our lenders are changing due to the market, but given the fact that we constantly stay on top of the news we are able to bring our clients to the closing table.

We are soon opening a branch office in Vernon Connecticut, my home town. Also, we now offer home and auto insurance from insurers such as Progressive and Met Life among others.

Call or stop in to see how we can help you.

## Upcoming Event—Wine & Roses Festival

The Norwich Bulletin is under way planning the **Wine & Roses Festival**. This event helps fund toys purchased for the holiday season. This past year over 20,000 items were distributed to approximately 5,000 children in low-income households bringing smiles to many children’s faces.

The Wine & Roses Festival will be held **Thursday, September 20th** at the marina under the tent. With over 60 dozen roses donning the tent the wine dis-

tributors and area food service establishments provide samples to the ticket holders attending this premier celebration.

Join us, not only to support these very important fundraising efforts, but to celebrate the revival of Norwich. And what better place to celebrate, but on the magnificent waterfronts of Norwich?

Call now to reserve your Wine & Roses tickets...887-1647.

### Calendar Highlights

- Sept. 20 Wine & Roses Festival
- Oct. 17 Holiday Inn Norwich
- Nov. 8 AmericInn Lodge & Suites
- Dec. Surplus Unlimited

## Membership Appreciation

### Welcome to the Newest Members of the Greater Norwich Area Chamber of Commerce

**Artworks to Empower, Inc.**  
Marcelyn Dallis-Jones—889-2413

**LaStella Pizzeria, LLC**  
Jack Djambali – 887-5774

**Sun Turtle, LLC**  
Raymond Geer – 442-4775

**Aztec Sun Tanning, LLC**  
Jason Girard – 885-0875

**Lazizah Bakery**  
Iffat Salahi – 889-2542

**Three Rivers Young Marines**  
Com. Officer Robert Murphy -376-5404

**CCR**  
Josh Duhaime – 860-781-6715

**Norwich Social Dance Club**  
Debbie Odom – 237-5457

**Town of Preston**  
Bob Congdon—887-5581

**Chinatown Foodcenter**  
Thomas Quon – 887-8886

**Pachaug Aquarium & Reptiles Too**  
Tina Champman – 376-1887

**Variety Spot, LLC**  
Chris Herman – 859-5200

**Comfort Suites**  
Traci LaShomb – 892-9292

**Pre-Paid Legal Services, Inc.**  
Ryan Polimeni – 447-8110

**Wauregan Café & Deli**  
Alex Bekiaris – 886-9200

**Four Brothers Motorsports**  
Patrick Strain – 376-7433

**Senior Resources Agency on Aging**  
Joan Wessell – 887-3561

**Yantique**  
Mary Kay Kelleher – 204-0635

### Thank You to Recent Renewing Members

Achievement Unlimited

G. Schnip Construction, Inc.

Norwich Free Academy

BMTees, Inc.

Hart's Greenhouse & Florist, LLC

Optical Software Solutions

Chelsea Gardens Foundation

Lowe Carting & Recycling

Mary Reed

Chelsea Groton Savings Bank

Manuel Souza, Jr., CPA

Reminder Community Newspaper

Details Hair Salon

Marina at American Wharf

Salvation Army

Five Star Shop Rite Supermarkets

Nationwide Payment Solutions

Wrights Mill Farm



A **New Member Orientation** was held August 29th at the Chamber Office. If you were unable to attend another orientation will be held in approximately six weeks. This is an opportunity for new members to meet and network with Chamber Ambassadors and other new members, to learn more about how to take advantage of the benefits of Chamber membership, and to get answers to questions you might have about your membership.

### Until Next Month...

For more information on the many happenings here at The Greater Norwich Area Chamber of Commerce, check us out at:

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

We always welcome your involvement and suggestions, so please let me know if there is anything that we can do to help you. Call the Chamber at 887-1647. If you aren't yet a member, please consider joining our growing ranks. Dues are reasonable, and as our logo says:

*Pulling together we can accomplish great things!*

*Andy Messier, Chairman*