



The Rotary Club of the Torrington and Winsted Areas

Rotary Matters!



Last Week's Program:

Kevin Sullivan introduced us to Nicole Milo who shared with us the compelling story of her profoundly autistic son, Caleb and her efforts to seek appropriate care for him. Further, her experiences in advocating for her son lead her to become an expert on the subject. She was appointed to the CT state task force charged with researching the needs of this population. That research lead directly to the passage in 2021 of HB5001, which is considered the most comprehensive law which established new mandates supporting individuals and their families who experience these types of disabilities.

As Caleb grew older, he faced his next challenge ... “aging out” of a system designed to support children with profound autism. Nicole shared with us the fact that at age 22, all of the hard-won benefits her advocacy and the changed law provided will be no longer available. For these young adults, the discontinuation of essentially all their support: residential intensive support programs, special schooling, funding for care-givers... means that these kids face the potential for regression. If their support can't be continued and they regress, and their behaviors become unmanageable, one of the potential outcomes is institutionalization or other such circumstances that no parent would wish for their child.

Consequently Nicole and other like minded individuals and parents have founded the House of Hope. The House of Hope is a local non-profit charity. Their mission is to serve the complex needs of individuals and their families, with profound autism, development and/or intellectual disabilities through Advocacy, Research, Spiritual Faith Supports, Parent/Family Supports, Residential and Vocational Planning.

House of Hope, Inc will provide a wrap around model through evidence-based therapies and programming across all settings and environments to help enable individuals and their families to have access to a continuum of care in order to gain more freedom to grow and achieve the best quality of life possible.

We thank Nicole for her time with us. It was a profound and very touching presentation. There wasn't a Rotarian there on Tuesday that wasn't affected and moved. Her PowerPoint is attached.



This Week's Program:

Donna Bielefield has secured for us this week's speaker:

Jessica Hayes, the Manager of the Torrington Recovery Community Center of the Connecticut Community for Addiction Recovery will be with us to explain the local Community Center to us and its mission, their location, services, groups, and outreach.

CCAR is a centralized resource in CT for all things recovery. Whether someone is contemplating a life in recovery, are new to recovery or are in long-term recovery, CCAR is here to help navigate the recovery community, by connecting recoverees with others in recovery and providing access to area support services.



As a Rotarian, there's no excuse not to be informed and included: Members can join in the meeting either by their direct attendance or by Zooming in. Feel free to participate either way... and know that if you don't participate, you won't fulfill your requirement to attend at least 60% of the meetings of the Rotary Club of the Torrington and Winsted Areas. Being busy is not an excuse to not attend ... Being busy has been an attribute of active, involved, impactful Rotarians from the Northwest corner for more than 100 years.

If you intend on joining via Zoom, please contact Matt ahead of time (mnpdc@outlook.com) so that you can get the link for the meeting and further instructions in that regard.

Scheduled Committee Meetings:

- Board meeting, Thursday, August 8, 2024, at 8am via Zoom. Board members will receive an email with the contact info.

Torrington/Winsted Rotary News and Reminders:

Note the two items below... but also know that we are in need of a speaker for next week, August 6th. If you have someone we can plug in, please reply to this email ASAP.

Five Points Arts Celebrates

VICTOR M. MUSCHELL, ESQ.

Saturday, August 10, 2024 6–8 PM



You are invited to a
Five Points Arts Center
Interior Courtyard event in
memory of **Victor Muschell**,
*a champion of the arts and
beloved member of the
community.*

The evening begins at
6 PM with individual
remarks, naming of the
**Victor Muschell
Courtyard Garden**
and a celebration of his
remarkable legacy.
*Light refreshments and
beverages will be served.*

**FREE AND
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Please RSVP by July 30
fivepointsarts.org/honoring-victor-muschell/

Donations always welcome

Five Points Arts Center, 855 University Drive, Torrington, CT



SUMMER PICNIC

August 16, 2024
5:30 p.m.

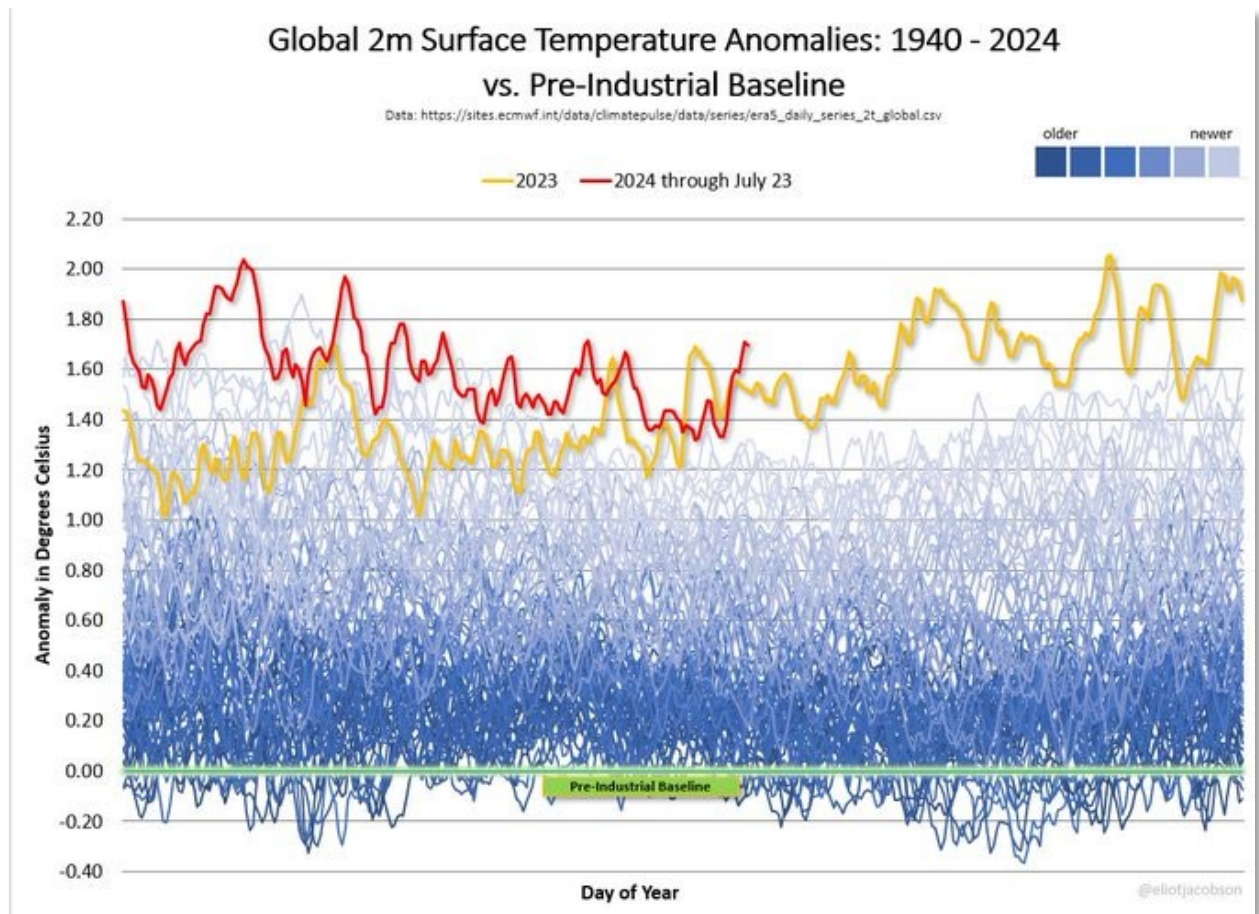
261 Woodchuck Lane
Harwinton CT 06791

**JOIN THE FUN AND BRING YOUR
FAVORITE SIDE OR DESSERT TO
SHARE!**

**SIGN-UP SHEETS WILL BE
AVAILABLE AT THE NEXT ROTARY
MEETING**

Or Text Brenda at 860-614-1371
Food, Lawn Games, Fire Pit & more!
BYOB and please bring a lawn chair.

For Your Edification:



Reference: <https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/access/monitoring/global-temperature-anomalies/grid>

Birthdays:

Sollitto, Frank.....02 July
Capobianco, John.....07 July
Gargiulo, John.....11 July
Lavieri, John.....12 July
Pagano, Matt.....24 July
Logan, John.....29 July
Todd, Gordon.....30 July

Club Anniversaries:

Ives-Groebel, Jennifer.....07/24/95.....29 years

Upcoming guest speaker responsibilities:

Donna T Bielefield30-Jul-24

Open6-Aug-24

Greg Brisco13-Aug-24

Lesley M Budny20-Aug-24

Gina M Burrows27-Aug-24

John Capobianco3-Sep-24

Larry Cassella..... 10-Sep-24

Starling W Childs II.....17-Sep-24

Tim Cook24-Sep-24

Maria Coutant Skinner1-Oct-24

If you've scrolled down this far, you're one of my favorite people! Please remember to watch this space weekly so that you can appropriately plan for when it's your time to provide the club with a program/speaker. All of us working together in this regard makes for more interesting meetings and a better, more informed club!

If your presenter will require the projector and the screen to be set up, please let Matt know ASAP. Also, please let your presenter know that if there's any concerns about the functionality of their presentation, an option is for them to email any presentation they may have to Matt ahead of time who can install their presentation on his laptop to minimize potential complications.

It is your responsibility to introduce your speaker.

Please inform the speaker of the following guidelines of The Rotary Club of the Torrington & Winsted Areas:

- They will have at most ½ hour to do their presentation. Including time for questions.
- It is not the policy of the Club to donate funds raised from the Sergeant-at-Arms presentation to the organization represented by the speaker on the day of the presentation.
- Further, an invitation to make a presentation to The Rotary Club of the Torrington & Winsted Areas does not suggest that the Club endorses the presenter's views - political or otherwise.
- The Rotary Club of the Torrington & Winsted Areas does not provide an honorarium or reimburse a speaker in any way and a presentation to the Club should not be made with an expectation of financial support.

Torrington/Winsted Rotary Links:

Website: <http://twrotary.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TWRotary/>

Rotary Web-Photo Albums: [Web Photo Albums](#)

“Be more kind than necessary, for everyone you will meet today is fighting some sort of battle.”

-K. Purcell

Respectfully submitted, your temporary scribe,

Matt Pagano

mnpsc@outlook.com