

# Southeastern Connecticut WOMEN'S NETWORK NEWS



Volume 32, Number 2, December 2018

## Upcoming Programs    **December 2018 Luncheon**

### January 16, 2019

#### ***Healing from the Inside — Dr. Kendra Becker***

Join Dr. Becker and learn how to heal your body from the inside, and begin your journey of healing and resilience, starting with your cells. Learn how food can be your medicine or your poison and that your genes do not define you, but certainly help guide the way of your healing.



### February 20, 2019

#### ***Networking Event***

Join us for a Fun and Exciting networking Event, details to come!

## **Spotlight Article**

### **Susan Baroni-Schaeffer — Holiday Light Fantasia**

– Holiday Light Fantasia, Connecticut's must-see family light show, is back for the 2018 holiday season! The Channel 3 Kids Camp staff, board, and volunteers have been working since early October at Goodwin Park clearing brush, replacing light bulbs, and checking the electrical system to make sure the displays are in working order. The more than 200 volunteers involved in this large light production work in the rain, cold, and snow to get this annual

## **2nd Annual Holiday Event**

**Join us** Wednesday, December 19, 11:30 am at Langley's Restaurant at Great Neck Country Club for our monthly luncheon meeting.

Be sure to join us for our 2nd Annual Holiday Event Luncheon!

**Instead of bringing gifts to swap, be prepared to purchase tickets for drawings. We will have member give-a-ways including:**

- Free annual membership!
- Luncheon gift certificates
- Holiday gift bag for all guests, and...
- Gift Basket Drawing: proceeds to benefit Safe Futures
- Chair Massage: Proceeds to go to Safe Futures.

*Wait ... there's more ...*

- **Ugly Sweater Competition!**  
1st and 2nd Winner Prizes!

If you would like to donate items to Safe Futures please consider their Holiday Wish List, [click here](#).

Would like to donate a gift basket? Please contact President, Kate Bellandese, [mskateabcco@outlook.com](mailto:mskateabcco@outlook.com) to find out how!



Network attendees should arrive at **Langley's Restaurant** in Waterford at 11:30 am for registration and networking, lunch at 12 noon. The public is welcome. **Reservations are required.**

**All attendees: please make your reservations** or cancellations for the Wednesday, **December 19** luncheon online 24/7 **by 12 midnight, Sunday, December 16.** [\*\*www.sectwomensnetwork.org/events\*\*](http://www.sectwomensnetwork.org/events)

Cash or checks for **\$25** made out to the Women's Network will be collected at the door. **Reservations after 12 midnight on Sunday will pay \$30. Reservation no-shows and late cancellations will be billed.**

fundraiser ready for opening night.

A beautiful collection of over one million lights is situated along a two-mile drive through Goodwin Park at 1130 Maple Avenue on the Hartford/Wethersfield, Connecticut line (conveniently off I-91). Whimsical holiday sights, familiar characters and local tributes shine bright in over 200 individual displays. The lighted

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# Member Benefits



The SECT Women's Network provides great value to its members!

**As a Network member you may:**

- **Attend and enjoy** a deliciously prepared lunch at monthly meetings in an uplifting atmosphere for a very reasonable luncheon fee.
- **Take advantage** of the dynamic speaker program at the monthly luncheons that provides valuable information, networking and entertainment.
- **Choose** to attend Network Mastermind Group meetings – be mentored and mentor others.
- **Display** marketing materials on the member marketing table at the monthly luncheons.
- **Enter** our monthly luncheon drawings to win free advertising.
- **Receive** our monthly newsletter.
- **Be listed** in the Network Directory and gain "Featured Member" exposure.
- **Increase** business with affordable advertising and marketing opportunities.
- **Connect** with others on a personal and business level and form mentoring relationships.
- **Gain** professional skills and leadership experience.
- **Give back** to the community through supporting Safe Futures with donations of food and gifts for use by residents of both the Genesis House Women's Shelter and Phoenix House transitional housing.
- **Support** our student scholarship program. The Network awards annual scholarships to students needing financial assistance to continue their education and has helped students from each of the three local public colleges/universities: The University of Connecticut at Avery Point, Three Rivers Community College, and Eastern Connecticut State University.
- **Get involved** by volunteering on a committee and help to create the Network of the future. The Network needs your talents.
- **Enjoy a Lifetime of Fantastic Friends, Fun and Fulfillment!** ■

## President's Message

### *Happy Holidays!*

On behalf of the Board of the Southeastern Connecticut Women's Network, I would like to extend **warm thoughts and best wishes to you**, our most valued fellow SECT Women's Network members. Your continued support and enthusiasm is what helps this organization thrive! Thanks to you we continue to enjoy a **dynamic** and **supportive** group of women and men **dedicated** to being the best we can be.

I look forward to seeing you at the **2nd Annual Holiday Event!**

Have a safe and healthy holiday season and a very happy New Year!

Most Sincerely,

Kate Bellandese

President

### *Holiday Lights...from page 1*

animations celebrate not only Christmas, but also Hanukkah, New Year's and Three Kings Day. "Holiday Light Fantasia is our single largest fundraiser of the year and we are so excited to bring some holiday cheer to the community," said Denise K. Hornbecker, CEO of the Channel 3 Kids Camp. "There is no better way to kick off the season than to join us while supporting the camp's mission of providing year-round opportunities to children and families across the state," she continued.

This illuminated drive-through display opens on Thanksgiving Day and runs nightly through New Year's Day from 5 pm to 9 pm each Sunday through Thursday and 5pm to 10pm Fridays and Saturdays. At just \$15 per car, this holiday tradition is affordable family fun. In addition to the light show, children can visit Santa on Friday and Saturday evenings from 5 pm to 8 pm, free with show admission. For extra fun, find "Flurry" the dog hidden among the lights. Visit [www.holidaylightfantasia.org](http://www.holidaylightfantasia.org) and enter to win a new iPad!

Thursday, December 27th is military appreciation night when the nation's veterans and active service personnel will receive free admission when they show a valid military or veteran association issued ID.

Holiday Light Fantasia would not be possible without major sponsors including QSR Steel Corporation, Eversource, Bank of America, media partner WFSB Channel 3, Barber Utilities, The Whale 102.9, iHeart Radio, The Hartford Courant and many additional supporting sponsors from across Connecticut.

Holiday Light Fantasia not only shares seasonal cheer but helps welcome thousands of children from Connecticut to the Channel 3 Kids Camp. Ticket sales make it possible for children to attend camp regardless of economic, physical or developmental ability. For more information about the show, volunteering, a \$2 discount coupon or directions to Goodwin Park, visit [www.holidaylightfantasia.org](http://www.holidaylightfantasia.org) or call the Channel 3 Kids Camp at 860-742-CAMP(2267). ■



## New Members

**Lorrie Reid**, Groton Inn & Suites, 99 Gold Star Highway, Groton, CT 06340

Phone: 860-445-9784

Email: [lreid@grotoninn.com](mailto:lreid@grotoninn.com)

Website: [www.grotoninn.com](http://www.grotoninn.com)

Lorrie is the Catering Sales & Event Manager at the Groton Inn & Suites and excels in coordinating comprehensive events while providing a high level of customer service to a diverse clientele. Her strength is problem solving, especially during high stress situa-

tions, while maintaining the vision of a seamless event. Lorrie is proud of her creative talent with food, colors and themes. Over the past 30 years she has used her business management skills to provide leadership and strategic directions to promote team building and customer service relationship development. She has been at the Groton

Inn & Suites for 2 years. Prior to that Lorrie was part owner, second generation, of a family retail business which had been in business in Windham for 40 years.

**Amanda Sisley**, Block, Janney & Sisley, LLC, 138 Main Street, Norwich, CT 06360

Phone: 860-889-3855 x233

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## Mastermind Groups for Network Members

The concept of the Mastermind Group originated in the early 1900's in Napoleon Hill's book "Think and Grow

Rich." He defined the Mastermind principle as: "coordination of knowledge and effort by two or more people, who work toward a definite purpose in the spirit of harmony."

There is synergy of energy, commitment and excitement that participants bring to Mastermind, by supporting each other to achieve professional objectives, brainstorm ideas, and support each other with total honesty, respect and compassion. Mastermind participants act as catalysts for professional growth.

Participation in the Network Mastermind program is voluntary and free as part of your Network membership. It is an evolving program giving members an opportunity to connect and support each other more intimately in achieving personal and professional objectives.

Mastermind groups meet once a month. Pavé Group meets the second Monday of the month from 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. in Waterford. A second Mastermind group has formed and meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 7 a.m. in Gales Ferry.

Those interested in Mastermind are encouraged to visit a group meeting, an RSVP is required.

For more information or to visit the Monday evening Mastermind group, please contact Judy Ricketts-White [jwhite5506@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jwhite5506@sbcglobal.net).

For information or to visit the Wednesday morning group, contact Deb Tavernier [debt@putnambank.com](mailto:debt@putnambank.com).



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**New Members...from page 3**Email: [asisley@bjplawyers.com](mailto:asisley@bjplawyers.com)Website: [www.bjplawyers.com](http://www.bjplawyers.com)

Amanda graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of Connecticut and received her Juris Doctorate from Villanova University School of Law in 2005. Her current practice includes commercial litigation, zoning and municipal appeals, labor and employment disputes, construction disputes, contract negotiations and disputes, foreclosures, landlord-tenant disputes, collection actions, probate litigation and commercial and residential real estate. Amanda is a member of the New London County Bar Association. She is admitted and licensed to practice law in Connecticut and New York.

**Alice Soscia**, Safe Futures, 16 Jay Street, New London, CT 06320

Phone: 860-447-0366 x220

Email: [asoscia@safefututresct.org](mailto:asoscia@safefututresct.org)

Alice joined Safe Futures in March of this year after nearly 12 years of fundraising at United Way of Southeastern Connecticut. Alice is a survivor of domestic violence and one of her children is a survivor of sexual assault. As a result her passion for Safe Futures

and its mission "to save lives, restore hope and change the future of those impacted by domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and trafficking in Southeastern CT" is personal and dear to her heart.

## Grow Your Business with Network Advertising

New advertising opportunities have opened up with the creation of our new website system!

Now members can take advantage of the **new economical rates** to help **"Grow Your Business!"**

**Rates have been cut in half** for newsletter ads and website ads. All ad rates listed are for one year.

**Newsletter advertising:** \$100 small ad and \$200 large ad.

**Website advertising:** \$275 small side ad or a bottom banner; \$550 for a large side ad.

**Package deals** will still be offered when purchasing multi media ads (i.e. newsletter & website) = 20% off.

All single ads and package deals must be prepaid.

**Members can login to view and/or purchase ads:** [www.sectwomensnetwork.org/events](http://www.sectwomensnetwork.org/events)  
Ads will be published after they are purchased.

## Looking for a new bank?

Contact Deb today!

**Deb Tavernier** Norwich Branch Manager  
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## \*Members Enter to Win Free Advertising

The drawing basket for free advertising will be placed at the registration table. Members only may place their business card in the basket for a chance to win free advertising. Attend a luncheon and enter to win!  
*Must be present to win.*

## November Drawings


Diane Matta won the cash. Susan Napiany's name was drawn for the Ha Ha lunch – and she was there to win a free lunch! Lisa Giordano won the *Spotlight* article and Kerry Garofano won the *Resident* article. Barbara Dennison won the Cameo Table to showcase *Atlantic Home Loans*, at the January 16th luncheon.

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## Call for 2019 Women's Nonprofit Event Information

If you are an employee or a member of a non-profit entity that benefits women, and wish to have a SECTWN presence at one or more of your events in 2019 we want to know. The Admin Committee is compiling a list of these events with the goal of identifying those which we intend to fund and open for Network attendance in 2019. The number of events selected will depend on the donation requirements and SECTWN budget. If interested, please send your list of events by December 4, 2018 to Nancy Motola at [ncmotola@pharmaregconnection.com](mailto:ncmotola@pharmaregconnection.com) and include information regarding donation requirements, date, venue, and a description of the event.



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## Safe Futures – Giving Basket

A purple basket will be available at the monthly luncheons to donate much-needed items for Safe Futures and their residents. Please donate cleaning supplies...or any item listed on their wish list. Click on link to view their entire wish list. <https://www.safeuturesct.org/giving/our-wish-list>

*Thank you for your generosity!*

## Featured Business at Cameo Table

Barbara Dennison will be showcasing *Atlantic Home Loans* at the January 16, 2018 luncheon. Please stop by the table to meet Barbara and learn more about the services she offers by contacting her at [bdennison@atlantichomeloans.com](mailto:bdennison@atlantichomeloans.com).



[Like us on Facebook](#)

## Join and Post to the Network's New Facebook Group Page

One fairly untapped member benefit is the Network Facebook Group page. We encourage you to share your business and personal news on the Network Group page. Members must post their event or information on the Network Facebook Group page themselves. If you have questions about how to post, contact Denise Howard, Publicity Chair [bestwellness4you@gmail.com](mailto:bestwellness4you@gmail.com).

*Email information to Judy to be included in the upcoming newsletter, [jwhite5506@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jwhite5506@sbcglobal.net).*

**Copy Deadline** is the 20th of the month to appear in the next month's issue. Email copy to Editor Judy Ricketts-White at [jwhite5506@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jwhite5506@sbcglobal.net). The SECT Women's Network reserves the right to edit copy submitted for inclusion in the newsletter.

## Network Board Meeting Friday, December 14

The next Network Board Meeting is Friday, November 14, 8 am, at Groton Inn & Suites, 99 Gold Star Highway. All members are welcome to attend.

*For more Network information and articles see our website: [www.sectwomensnetwork.org](http://www.sectwomensnetwork.org)*

**All Attendees:** make reservations online for the Wednesday, December 19, 2018 luncheon at Langley's Restaurant, Great Neck Country Club in Waterford, CT at [www.sectwomensnetwork.org/events](http://www.sectwomensnetwork.org/events) no later than 12 midnight, Sunday, December 16, Reservations are required.

Reservation no-shows and late cancellations will be billed.