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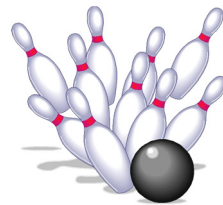
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HAMDEN REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE May 2017 Business Exchange

Business Profile: GardenHouse Floral & Home

GardenHouse Floral + Home is an exciting new business in the heart of Hamden. With a unique and fresh take on the classic flower and gift shop, GardenHouse is a must see for anyone looking for interior or exterior home and office beautification. Formerly known as Lucian's Green House and Florist, GardenHouse has truly undergone an amazing transformation from top to bottom. New owner Anita Marcati has truly brought her creative and artistic vision to life in the retail market. With over 20 years as an artist, art teacher and interior designer Anita has accomplished a complete renovation and redesign of the old space which has been totally reimagined within just 4 months! While creating staggeringly beautiful floral and interior designs Anita still brings an authentic and approachable vibe to the new shop. This personal touch and willingness to go the extra mile for clients is what ultimately sets Anita apart from the competition.

With its iconic neon florist sign in the window, this little gem built in the early 1920's now has the look and feel of walking into a GardenHouse. Their mission statement is "transforming interiors into comfortable and inviting spaces that blend elements of the natural and modern world in a fresh and creative way."

Anita's approach is to take

inspiration from nature, be it garden statuary, architectural treasures, plants and of course flowers and incorporate them all for a shopping experience. When you come into the shop you will feel inspired to bring natural elements into your everyday life. More customers are coming in to shop for plants, flowers and gifts for not only their home but for their work space as well. Anita and her staff are also experts in how to implement these pieces and ideas. GardenHouse also provides interior design services and consultations for your home, office, or any event.

GardenHouse's floral experts have over 30 years in the industry and provide award winning flower arrangements, bouquets and plants for weddings, funerals, events, holidays, offices and business functions. They take pride in offering fresh flowers. That means ordering the best fresh products and taking great personal care with stock so to that they can provide long lasting beautiful flowers for any budget. You can also find unique items



including gift and gourmet fruit baskets, jewelry, art, pottery, candles, greeting cards, and much more in the new GardenHouse.

GardenHouse is already making a notable impact across CT with their impressive storefront, work and design skills. Within just 4 months of opening people have already been taking notice, GardenHouse has even been chosen to be featured on news channel 8's "Cruisin' Connecticut" with Ryan Kristafer. The episode will air the week of April 24th focusing on Anita and her unique and creative vision that has inspired this new take on the old flower shop experience.

Stop in at 2468 Whitney Ave for your next occasion or for flowers and gifts for that special someone. Hours are Monday through Friday, 9am to 5pm and Saturday from 10am to 3pm. You can also visit our website at gardenhousect.com and follow GardenHouse on instagram at [gardenhouse2468](https://www.instagram.com/gardenhouse2468) and [facebook.com/gardenhousect](https://www.facebook.com/gardenhousect) or call 203-248-6970

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The Madras Open

Monday, June 12, 2017
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Presented by:



APRIL 2017 Business After Hours Royalty Wine Making Group



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The Madras Open - Golf & Tennis Charity Tournament

Get ready for the Madras Open Golf & Tennis Charity Tournament presented by **Toyota of Wallingford** on **June 12th** at the **Farms Country Club**. For five years, the Chamber has been raising fund for Make-A-Wish Connecticut and one of the most popular raffles has been the auctioning of a Madras Jacket started by Morning Host of AM1220 WQUN, Ray Andrews. This year, we have themed our event to

incorporate all things "Madras" and will once again raise funds for children to grant more wishes! Looking forward to all the great outfits! Prizes will be awarded for best foursome and individuals. Please see the registration information inside the mailing.



Put together a foursome for a great day golf. Not a golfer? Try our Tennis Challenge presented by Rumanoff's Fine Jewelry. Dinner tickets are also available to join us for the cocktail reception which includes the live and silent auction items to support a local Make A Wish family.

EXPO 2017 - Connecting Businesses to the Community



QU Women's Head Coach Trish Fabbri with AM1220 WQUN



Save A Suit with Don Camerata from D'Cam



The Animal Haven showcasing beautiful puppies for adoption



Expo Vendor: Bankwell



SARAH Employees working helping KC's Closet



Gil Simmons from News 8 Broadcasting Live!



Expo Vendor: Beecher & Bennett Funeral Services



Members of the Chamber Board

Best Bites & Brew Contest Presented by: Partyka Chevrolet Mazda Isuzu Truck

The 4th **Annual Best Bites Brew and Dessert Too** Event will take place Thursday, May 24th from 5:30-8:00pm. Join us for this HUGE food lovers extravaganza! One of the most popular events of the year will once again be held at CFC Arena...a great space to accommodate more breweries and restaurants and cool cars from Partyka Chevrolet! Who will be the winner this year? What will Julie



at JJ's Italian Kitchen make this time, will they win again? Wonder what Kelly at Kelly's Cone Connection has up her sleeve...will she win too? Come for the networking but stay for the FOOD! We are excited to have with us Brian Smith and Pam Landry from AM1220 WQUN Don't miss this great event!

Sample and vote for the BEST from the following participants to date...more to come!

-Aunt Chilada's

-Eli's on Whitney-(Won 2014)
-Freskos
-JJ's Italian Kitchen-(Won 2016)
-Le Petit Gourmet
-Side Street Grille
-Harry's Sports Bar & Grille
-Ali Baba's Fusion-(Won 2015)
-Wood n Tap
-Kelly's Cone Connection-(Won 2016)
-Moon Rocks Gourmet Cookies
-The Cupcake Chick
-Sweet Sneider's Bake Shop
-Royalty Wine Making Group
-No Worries
-Thimble Island Brewery
-Black Hog Brewery
-Stony Creek Brewery-(Won 2016)

The Side Bar by Joseph McDonagh - A Frederick Oberlin

Who? Lieutenant A. Frederick Oberlin, the fellow who adorns the five stained glass windows in Hamden's Memorial Town Hall, that's who. Of all the historic figures that might have been portrayed there, for whatever reason, when it was built in 1924, it was Lt. Oberlin whom the Town Fathers (I don't know if there were any Town Mothers involved, though I doubt it) decided deserved the solitary honor.

In Rachel M. Hartley's *The History of Hamden, Connecticut, 1786-1959*, she describes Oberlin as Hamden's assistant town engineer, who in 1919 went to France to serve in the One Hundred Second Regiment. "He was cited for 'extraordinary heroism and sound judgment, when in absolute disregard of danger, he risked his life throughout the engagement. His conduct was marked by distinguished courage, resource, and gallantry.'" Oberlin was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, the Croix de Guerre (by

France), and received three additional citations. (By the way, among the Hamdenites who served in World War I was a Bernard Early, who is most notable for having served alongside Sergeant Alvin York. If you don't know who Alvin York was, then you've missed one of Gary Cooper's finest performances.)

Originally, Hamden planned to purchase the land to the east of Memorial Town Hall (the entire block between School, Dixwell, Washington, and Whitney), in order to erect a memorial to the Town's war heroes. But of course Hamden residents being what they were (and are), the purchase was turned down. Instead, the Town decided to include the memorial within the new Town Hall's rotunda.

The next reference to Oberlin in Hartley's book says that, in his role as assistant town engineer, Oberlin designed the Davis Street Bridge, which "after his death in 1938 was dedicated to him." Is that still the case? Because another bridge -- the

covered bridge near the Eli Whitney Museum -- bears a plaque that identifies *that* bridge as the A. Frederick Oberlin Bridge, "to commemorate the memory of...an eminent citizen and soldier."

In that same paragraph, Hartley explains, "honoring his outstanding war record, memorial stained glass windows were installed in the town hall rotunda." So those windows weren't original with the building. Those five stained glass windows include two panels commemorating Oberlin's war record, one noting his civil engineering occupation, and two simply commemorating him, including a line from Thomas Campbell's poem, "Hallowed Ground": "To live in the hearts we leave behind is not to die." Oberlin was only 47 when he died; no mention, anywhere, of the cause. It's too bad that we don't know more about him; to be so honored, so singly honored at the time suggests that he deserves our honor and respect as well.

Member & Community News:

Community News: Pop up Yoga in the Park to benefit the Hamden Food Bank. Will start Saturdays in May beginning on May 6th, at Villano Park, 260 Mill Rock Road, Hamden, 9-10am. Weather permitting. Please bring a non-perishable food item for donation. Class is taught by Lyn Baumgartner CYT, RYT. For info contact Lyn at lynhb8@yahoo.com or call 203-506-2821

Bankwell Named one of the "Top 100 Best-Performing Community Banks" nationwide - Bankwell was named one of the "Top 100 Best-Performing Community Banks" nationwide in 2016 in a report issued on March 21, 2017 by S&P Global Market Intelligence. Bankwell was the only Connecticut bank to make the Top 100 Community Bank listing. The ranking reflected certain financial metrics of community banks \$1 billion to \$10 billion in assets, including loan growth, net charge-offs as a percentage of average loans, efficiency ratio, pretax return on average tangible common equity and net interest

margin. Founded in 2002, Bankwell has grown to nine branches in Fairfield and New Haven Counties that serve the banking and lending needs of residents and businesses throughout Connecticut. The Bank reported assets of \$1.6 billion and record net income of \$12.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2016. Known for its private banking style, Bankwell is also a market leader in digital banking capabilities, having recently launched fingerprint and retina eye scan login, as well as an app that lets customers control the security and transactions of their debit card from their smartphone. Visit mybankwell.com.

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Annual Law Firm 500 Honorees List. The published list recognizes law firms that have achieved significant growth in revenues. Each nominee was evaluated by an outside accounting firm, and subjected to an identical review process. The award honorees are a beacon of light for the legal industry demonstrating innovation, operational excellence, and a commitment to client service. For more information about our firm visit wolfandshorelaw.com



D'Andrea and Pantera DMD PC - On April 7 & April 8 at the Floyd Little Center in New Haven, members of the D'Andrea & Pantera DMD PC team volunteered their time and talents at the CT Mission of Mercy. CTMOM is a non-profit organization that provides dental services to the underserved and uninsured population of Connecticut every year. Close to 2000 patients were seen.



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