

Kayruv



קירוב

“Judaism for Today In a Warm and Caring Environment”

October 2016

Tishrei 5777

FROM THE RABBI



Dear Friends,

The most interesting and wonderful phase of the Jewish year is about to arrive. The best, most holiday-full month, a month filled with possibilities and meanings. I know, rabbis get really stressed excited at this

time of the year. Why?

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Rabbi's Message	Pg. 1
President's Message	Pg. 3
Schedule of High Holiday Services	Pg. 4
Looking Ahead	Pg. 5
In the Community	Pg. 5
Schedule of Services	Pg.10

Kayruv means “Welcoming.”

In part because there is nothing like seeing the community get together, and come back home to Torah, and sing together, and study together. But also because rabbis get the full deal: we get *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur* but we also get *Sukkot* and *Simchat Torah*. And if *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur* are deeply internal changing times, *Sukkot* is just the best outdoor time, and *Simchat Torah* the best dancing time. I'll let you in on the secrets of those two last holidays in a few weeks.

Let me tell you a story.

As a teenager, I had a friend with whom I'd discuss the meaning of life. Yes, that is the kind of thing that turned me on in my teens - I haven't changed that much.

My friend had a very simple request from God: if there is really a purpose in life, in my life, if I'm here to learn something, why can't we all be born with a clear letter of intention from God? Come on, half of the guessing would be over, you'd know exactly what to do, you'd do it, you'd be done.

Well, I answered, maybe God is not like our Math teacher and life is not a test where you get graded, the meaning lies in living life as it comes, just like you can never predict a soccer, a volleyball or a handball game. He was not convinced.

But my point was – and still is – that creating meaning is not supposed to be easy, and certainly not easily graded.

Meaning is not something that can be measured and weighed – and yet so much of our tradition seems to point that way. Similarly, success is not something that can be measured and weighed – and yet so much of our secular world seems to point that way too. There is a fixation with tests to the point that children are now “taught to the test” and not to enjoy learning or to be curious or be artistic.

In the less formal learning/teaching world we talk about benchmarks – about points that one should expect, as a general rule, kids will reach after x number of years of studying something. But no real educator expects the benchmarks to be the only things the kids know, because the benchmarks are not the sign of success in education. The sign of success for an educator is whether the students are engaged and interested, if they still have questions, if they are in love with the subject enough to want more and research outside the classroom, if, years later, – years! – they are still able to remember something about that class, even if it is just the passion of it.

The same applies to the hours we spend at services on the High Holy Days. The prayer book we have, our new *Machzor Lev Shalem*, is the product of an enormous effort to bring meaning to the time we will spend sitting and standing in our sanctuary by filling its pages with wonderful notes and poems beside the traditional Hebrew prayers. But it will remain only an effort if the reader does not engage. It won't be successful. And even if you decide (and are able) to read all the words in the *machzor*, both in Hebrew and in English, but you do not come out of the services changed somehow, moved to become better, moved to be more compassionate – you have, I'm afraid, mistaken religion for a reading and comprehension test.

At its very best, religion is true to its Latin root: *religare*, to connect again – to connect with the Transcendent in our lives, inside ourselves, inside the Other and inside the world. At its worst, religion is the domain of fear, harshness and endless judgment, of petty politics, exclusion and small-mindedness.

So when you come, engage. Engage with the questions our tradition asks over and over again: if you see yourself from a removed perspective – that is as if God, at this moment, is seen as a king or a judge – what does your life look like? Were you

truthful? Honest? Kind? Compassionate? What values do you say you embrace, and what values did you really embrace this past year? Where are you, in your life and in your dreams? How did you connect in the past year with your family, your friends, your significant other, yourself? How can you reconnect with the idea and the quest for meaning in your life?

Just sitting and standing in a synagogue makes you as Jewish as sitting and standing in a garage makes you a car. But, done intentionally, with awareness, it helps.

Warmly,
Rabbi Nelly Altenburger

RABBI'S OFFICE HOURS

Rabbi Altenburger invites you to meet with her and will be available any day except Wednesday and Shabbat. Please feel free to call or stop by.



WANTED!!!



Kayruv (bulletin writers and/or photographers

**Add your creative touch to CBI by joining
the Kayruv Staff.**

**It's a wonderful way of getting to know the
synagogue and its interesting members.**

**Call: Pat Goldman at 203-748-6859 or
CBI office 203-792-6161**

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Friends,

Rosh Hashanah may be a time of growth and change, but it sure can feel hectic. (Honestly, I don't know how Rabbi Altenburger keeps it together, she's amazing.) So this message may be uncharacteristically (and

mercifully) brief.

First, I am very pleased to announce that we have a number of new families joining us as members, and I'm sure all of you will join me in welcoming them and helping them feel at home at B'nai Israel. Please keep looking for opportunities to let new folks know about us (and our free tickets for the High Holy Days!).

I'd like to preemptively thank Sarah Namer and the ritual committee for the incredible dedication and effort they are putting into preparations for the High Holy Days, which always somehow, despite the complexity, come together beautifully.

Finally, I would like to expand the orbit of my gratitude a bit to encompass the wider community and thank Rabbi Stefan Tiwy of UJC for organizing a beautiful community Slichot service with other local rabbis and cantors—there's no better way to usher in the new year than building bridges with fellow Jews across denominational lines through song and prayer. And speaking of song, I would also like to thank the Association of Religious Communities of Danbury for organizing and the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Danbury for hosting one of the hundreds of Concerts Across America to End Gun Violence, with participation from our own congregants, including Isaac Ohring, Charles Cahn, and Glen Lebetkin. Woody Allen said that "showing up is 80% of life", and I think that that's true of activism as well. It's marvelous that we're showing up and contributing to the life of the Danbury community.

May the new year of 5777 inspire us to see new possibilities for positive change, growth and "showing up" in our own lives, in the life of B'nai Israel, and in every community of which we are a part.

Together with devotion, welcome and gratitude,

Kennis Koldewyn



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR BREAK FAST

We need your help to prepare for Break Fast. Help with shopping, cooking, setting up, clean up. Our break fast is always wonderful and enjoyed by all. Please email the office: cbi193clap@gmail.com or call 203-792-6161 leave a message and let us know how you can help!

DONATIONS NEEDED!



FOR OUR LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES!

This is CBI's ongoing project to help our local food pantries. Items most in need are dried/canned beans, canned fish, peanut butter, jelly, fruit juice, sugar, flour, personal care items such as soap and shampoo. (The pantries get cereal, canned veggies and rice from area supermarkets.)

CBI is a generous and caring community and as always, we thank you for your donations and support as they are truly appreciated.

HIGH HOLIDAY SCHEDULE



SUKKOT

October 16th

Candle lightning 5:53 P.M.

October 17th

Sukkot Day 1 services
begin at 9:30 A.M.

Candle lightning after 6:50 P.M.

October 18th

Sukkot Day 2 services
begin at 9:30 A.M.

Havdalah 6:50 P.M.



SHEMINI ATZERET **SIMCHAT TORAH**

October 23rd

Candle lightning at 5:42 P.M.

October 24th

Shemini Atzeret services
begin at 9:30 A.M.

Yizkor around 11:00 A.M.

Candle lighting for *Simchat Torah* after 6:41 P.M.

Simchat Torah evening services
begin at 7:00 P.M.

October 25th

Simchat Torah services
begin at 9:30 A.M.



ROSH HASHANAH 5777

October 2nd

Erev Rosh Hashanah

Candle lighting 6:15 P.M.

Evening services begin at 7:30 P.M.

October 3rd

Rosh Hashanah Day 1

Morning Services begin at 8:30 A.M.

Tashlich at 5:00 P.M.

Candle lightning after 7:12 P.M.

October 4th

Rosh Hashanah Day 2

Morning Services begin at 8:30 A.M.

Havdalah 7:11 P.M.



YOM KIPPUR

October 11th

Erev Yom Kippur

Fast and *Kol Nidre* Services

begin at 6:00 P.M.

October 12th

Yom Kippur services begin at 8:30 A.M.

Yizkor at around 11:00 A.M.

Study Session begins at 4:00 P.M.

Mincha and *Neilah* services

begin at 4:45 P.M.

Shofar 7:00 P.M.



Children Services at 10:15 A.M.
Storytelling for Tots at 10:15 A.M.
Babysitting - 9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.

LOOKING AHEAD

In *Bereishit*-Genesis 18, Abraham welcomes into the open sides of his tent, three strangers in a most generous way (They were there to announce that the aged Sarah would have a baby.) and the inspiration for this Biblical tale of welcoming was adopted a few years ago by the Jewish Outreach Institute in its rebranding as, "Big Tent Judaism".

At B'nai Israel, our "tent" may be small, but our aspirations are, dare I say it, HUGE. We have always "branded" ourselves as "warm and welcoming" (and I think, we are), but we now have an opportunity to expand those qualities by re-establishing our Outreach Committee, which I have offered to chair.

Outreach efforts include welcoming interfaith families and Jews by choice, unaffiliated Jews and non-Jews contemplating conversion, among others. And this welcoming effort needs to be shared by all of us in order for it to be authentic and effective. That means going out into the general community through special events, initiating programs at CBI that will interest and involve the above-mentioned folks and creating a warm, welcoming synagogue environment. (You need only to walk into the building to be welcomed by a designated "greeter" to recognize that the latter we do particularly well.) The challenge is.....to get people into the building!

Remember, there's a lot we already do that we should be proud of (no-fee High Holy Days tickets, free pre-school education, etc.), but while our efforts are welcoming and our interactions are warm, our membership numbers are still far too modest (hard to believe if you come to Shabbat services and see our comparatively highly disproportionate attendance).

I will be asking you to join me both on the new Outreach Committee and as participants in sharing the "*ruach*" (spirit) that makes our synagogue so special. Thank you.

Joel Levitt

IN THE COMMUNITY

"*Let There Be Peace on Earth*," introduced by CBI's own Glenn Lebetkin and sung hand in hand by a full house in a rather elliptical circle may have been the concluding song at the Danbury "Concert Across America to End Gun Violence," but it beautifully addressed the sung and spoken words that preceded it. The Sunday, September 26th program that our synagogue participated in was one of over 350 similar events nationwide. Held at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Danbury just down the road, the program featured, along with Glenn on piano, Isaac Ohring on violin and Charles Cahn on clarinet and as vocalist, with Sharilynn Kochman issuing a crisp clarion call via shofar, performers from several area religious institutions. It was sponsored by the Association of Religious Communities (ARC) and initiated by Rabbi Altenburger.

Featured speaker Tom Campbell, the volunteer president of the Greater Danbury Brady Campaign and a man who has personally experienced gun violence, spoke passionately and informatively about this plague that infects America. But this day was really about the music as much as the message. And the rabbi, Isaac, Sharilynn, Charlie and Glenn did B'nai Israel proud on a bright and beautiful day among the many who were willing to confront this dark and disturbing issue.

Joel Levitt



Joe Walkovich, Board President, ARC
Topic: "ENOUGH"



Charles Cahn and Isaac Ohring



Sharilynn Kochman



New Hope Baptist Church Dancer



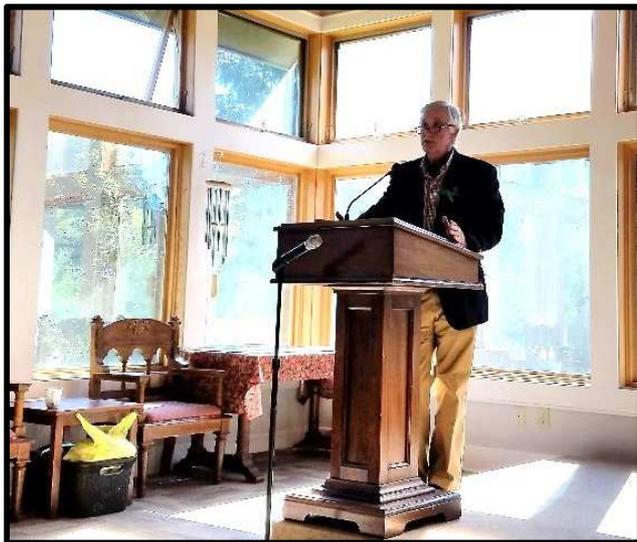
First Congregational Church of Danbury Choir



Nichola Maria, Poet



Cantor Penny Kessler and Rabbi Stefan Tiwy:
United Jewish Center



Speaker Tom Campbell,
President, Brady Campaign Danbury;
Board Director, Newtown Action Alliance and
Newtown Foundation



Charlie Schott, Joanne Davidson, and
Nancy Hershatter: Unitarian Universalist
Congregation of Danbury



Contact: Antonietta Hallet - [203-267-3177](tel:203-267-3177)

Finding the New Normal: Life After Loss Bereavement Group for Adults October 6th - November 10th

(SOUTHURY, CT) A free, six-week group for any adult who is coping with the death of a parent, spouse, sibling, other family member or friend starts on Thursday, October 6th from 3:30 – 4:45 P.M. at the Jewish Federation of Western Connecticut, 444 Main St. North in Southbury. Led by Jenny Casey, LCSW of Regional Hospice and Home Care, this non-denominational, bereavement support group will continue meeting on Thursday afternoons through November 10th. The group is supportive in nature, providing a safe environment for sharing with others who have also been touched by loss.

The size of the group is limited and registration is required. To register, call [203-702-9152](tel:203-702-9152) or email jdnicola@regionalhospicect.org.

Friends of Fiber Arts Meeting Oct 10 & Nov 21 in Southbury

(SOUTHURY) The Jewish Federation Friends of Fiber Arts, a group open to all who are interested in fiber arts or craft, will meet on Monday, October 10th & November 21st, from 1:00 – 3:00 P.M. at The Jewish Federation of Western Connecticut, 444 Main St. North in Southbury. Anyone who is interested in the fiber arts is welcome to attend. Knitters, spinners, weavers, crocheters, felters, quilters and needlepoint enthusiasts often participate, and anyone who enjoys creating things from yarn or fabric is welcome to come. Participants should bring their own projects to work on, with some informal help and/or teaching provided. There is a \$2 donation.

To register for this program, call [203-267-3177](tel:203-267-3177) or email rsvp@jfed.net.

Alzheimer’s and Related Dementias Support Group Meeting October 13th and November 10th

(SOUTHURY) A monthly support group for friends and family of people with Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias takes place on the second Thursday of each month at 10:30 am at the Jewish Federation of Western Connecticut, 444 Main Street North. The next 2 meetings are scheduled October 13 & November 10. There is no charge for this open and on-going group, whose purpose is to provide emotional, educational and social support for caregivers through regularly scheduled meetings. The meetings help participants develop methods and skills to solve problems. The groups encourage caregivers to maintain their own personal, physical and emotional health, as well as optimally care for the person with dementia. Patty Gibbs, a volunteer with the Alzheimer’s Association, facilitates the group. It is not necessary to register in advance.

Hanefesh USY Opening Event

When?
October 16, 2016
1 PM - 3 PM

Where?
Sports Center of CT
(see address below)

What?
Arcade, Mini Golf,
Paintball Shooting
Gallery, Fun Bowl,
and more!

Cost?
\$24 Per Person

Transportation for West
Hartford, Springfield and
Northampton will be arranged.

RSVP by Tues. 10/10
Please RSVP online
at www.tinyurl.com/hanefesh1617

Any questions? Contact Jason at jason@hanefesh.org or 609-651-0891.

Sports Center of Connecticut 784 River Rd, Shelton, CT 06484

What's Happening at the JCC in Sherman

Family & Group Portraits

By Michelle Morgenstern Photography
October 8th - 10th and 15th & 16th - 2:00 PM -
4:00 PM - 30 Minute sessions \$50 - with a signed
photo release form. Pre-paid reservations
by October 6th.

Dinner Theater - The Canterville Ghost

Saturday, October 15th 7:30 PM, \$40 per person
Pre-Paid Reservations by October 12th.

Energy Sources: Past & Present House Tour

Sunday October 16th at 1:00 PM
Space is limited, Please RSVP by October 15th
Free - suggested donation for this Program.

Movie & Dessert

Friday, October 14th at 7:30 PM
"The Woman in Gold" - \$10 per person - Please
RSVP before event.

Adult Workshops

Story Starters: For Fiction & Non-Fiction Writers

Taught By: Priscilla Whitley
Mondays 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM 5-Week Series
October 17th – November 14th
Non-members: \$90 / Members: \$75, Limit 10
You want to tell a story. Maybe it's the story of your
family's history? Or is it your own journey you're
longing to write? Have you come up with a fictional
tale you want to pursue? Where do you begin? This
course will help you sort out the memories, the
characters, the plots. Participants will write in class
to a series of writing prompts designed to trigger
meaningful anecdotes to get you started as well as
stimulate your own creativity.

Place of Peace: Meditation & Journaling

Class Taught by Shannon Marzella
Wednesdays 7:15 PM - 8:15 PM - 6-week
Series October 19th - November 23rd
\$90 Non-members / \$75 Members, Limit 10
In this 6 week series, you will learn how to reach a
place of stillness and peace through guided
meditation and visualization. Meditation has many
health benefits and can help you become more
peaceful and present in your life. After meditating,
we will take some time to journal about any images,
thoughts, or feelings that came up. By the end of
the series, you will have learned how to incorporate
meditation into your daily life.

Fall Gardening Series

Taught By: Master Gardener, Michele MacKinnon
3 Dates: Saturday, October 1st - Sunday, October
23rd - Sunday, November 6th: 1:30 - 3:00 PM
Full Series - \$75 members / \$90 Non-members -
1 Class - \$29 members / \$35 non-members

Fall for a Cool-Season Vegetable Garden – October 1st

Extend the vegetable growing season into fall or all
winter long. Learn which cool-season vegetables
can be planted now and methods to keep them
growing. Fall garden cleanup will also be
discussed. Participants receive a vegetable
seedling to plant at home. No gardening
experience required. Limit 15 students.

Be Dazzled By Spring Bulbs Planted Now October 23rd

Bulbs dazzle us each spring with their vast range
of colors and long period of bloom. Learn the tried-
and-true practices for planting common bulbs in the
fall, plus discover some lesser-known varieties that
bloom after the spring show has finished.
Participants will plant a bulb container to enjoy next
spring. Non-refundable \$25 materials fee applies.
Limit 20 students.

Gardening to Attract Birds Year-Round November 6th

Would you enjoy having more feathered friends
and other wildlife in your garden? Learn which
plants attract birds, bees and butterflies and the
special benefits of using native plants. Gain tips for
careful fall garden cleanup that preserves natural
food sources for the winter. Also, learn what to do
in the colder months to nourish and protect our
local bird species. Participants receive a helpful
resource sheet for plant shopping and further
reading. School-age children must have a parent
attend

Pre-paid registration required for all adult
workshops.

www.jccinsherman.org / [860-355-8050](tel:860-355-8050)
info@jccinsherman.org

SCHEDULE OF SHABBAT SERVICES

☆ **Shabbat, 28 Elul, October 1, Nitzavim:** Choose life! How do we do that? *Haftarah:* Isaiah 61:10-63:9

☆ **Shabbat, 6 Tishrei, October 8, Vayelekh:** Moshe prepares himself and the people for his death. *Haftarah* Hosea 14:2-10, Micah 7:18-20)

☆ **Shabbat, 13 Tishrei, October 15, Ha'azinu:** Come and listen to one of the most beautiful poems in all *Tanakh* (Bible). *Haftarah:* 2 Sam. 22:1-51

☆ **Shabbat, 20 Tishrei, October 22, Exod. 33:12-34:26, Maftir** is Numbers 29:26-31. *Haftarah:* Ezek. 38:18-39:16

☆ **Shabbat, 27 Tishrei, October 29, Bereshit: Bereshit:** The meaning of being created in the image of God. *Haftarah:* Isaiah 42:5-43:10

☆ **Shabbat, 4 Heshvan, November 5, Noah: Noah:** God destroys the world by flood and renews humanity through Noah. *Haftarah:* Isaiah 54:1-55:5

☆ **Shabbat, 11 Heshvan, November 12, Lekh lekha:** Abraham and Sarah are called by God to set out for Canaan and become a people. *Haftarah:* Isaiah 40:27-41:16

CANDLE LIGHTING

Oct. 2	<i>Erev Rosh Hashanah</i>	6:15 P.M.
Oct. 3	<i>Rosh Hashanah Day 1 after</i>	7:12 P.M.
Oct. 7		6:06 P.M.
Oct. 14		5:54 P.M.
Oct. 16	<i>Erev Sukkot</i>	5:53 P.M.
Oct. 17	<i>Sukkot Day 1 after</i>	6:50 P.M.
Oct. 21		5:44 P.M.
Oct. 23	<i>Shemini Atzeret</i>	5:42 P.M.
Oct. 24	<i>Simchat Torah after</i>	6:41 P.M.
Oct. 28		5:34 P.M.
Nov. 4		5:26 P.M.
Nov. 11		4:18 P.M.

YAHARZEITS

1 Tishrei, October 3, 2016

Howard Sanford (Lois Stein)

2 Tishrei, October 4, 2016

Yadvega Rabinowitz (Rochelle Hutchings)

10 Tishrei, October 12, 2016

Edythe Nackman (Joyce Shenker)

Carole Stein (Michael Stein)

14 Tishrei, October 16, 2016

Edward Hutchings (Rochelle Hutchings)

19 Tishrei, October 21, 2016

Yafa Boms (Abe Boms)

Yetta Bat Ya'acov (Martin Waltuch)

21 Tishrei, October 23, 2016

Louis S. Rosenberg (Alice Cahn)

23 Tishrei, October 25, 2016

Engeltje Smeer (Dina Essinger)

25 Tishrei, October 27, 2016

Rubin Maser (David Maser)

Barry Tabachnick (Rochelle Hutchings)

29 Tishrei, October 31, 2016

Rose Mendlovitz (Pat Goldman)

4 Cheshvan, November 5, 2016

Morris Mark (Paula Cook)

6 Cheshvan, November 7, 2016

Michael Frenkel (Evan Frenkel)

7 Cheshvan, November 8, 2016

Morris Horn (Roslyn Bank)

Aaron Shenker (Martin Shenker)

11 Cheshvan, November 12, 2016

Samuel Silverstein (Roslyn Friedman)

THANKS! THANKS!

For the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

☆ Lois and Michael Stein in memory of Shalom Lampell

☆ Gail and Abe Boms in memory of Shalom Lampell

For the General Fund

☆ Fran and Chris Kimball in memory of Dennis Adler; Shalom Lampell; good luck to Doreen Waver

☆ Paula J. Weiner in memory of Shalom Lampell

☆ Susan Cohen in memory of Shalom Lampell

☆ Pat and Alvin Goldman in loving memory of Shalom Lampell; good luck to Doreen Waver; *refuah shlema* to Barbara Weisblatt and Joe Golden; Bon Voyage to the Schenkers on their Eastern European tour

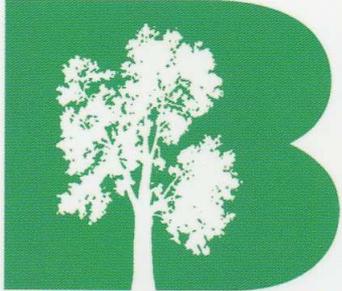
For Their Generous Kiddush

☆ Fran and Jeff Kass

☆ CBI in honor of Doreen Waver

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR FRIENDS IN THE COMMUNITY

These pages contain business cards of members of the Greater Danbury Community who have been instrumental and generous to us in the renovation of our building. We ask you to help show our thanks by supporting them whenever possible.



BARTS[®]
trees • stumps • stone

Matt Bartelme
14 Lakeview Drive
Danbury, CT 06811
203.240.1302
matt@barts.cc
BartsTreeService.com

WATERWORKS

60 BACKUS AVENUE DANBURY, CT 06810
TEL 203.546.6000 FAX 203.546.6001

BRIAN LaBARBERA THOMAS LaBARBERA
TOM'S ORNAMENTAL IRON WORKS
Est. 1953
WORKERS IN IRON



(203) 775-3030
CT. HIC. #521293



DESIGNERS OF
FINE RAILINGS-INTERIOR-EXTERIOR
SPIRAL STAIRS-DRIVEWAY GATES
626 FEDERAL ROAD, BROOKFIELD, CONNECTICUT 06804
www.TomsOrnamentalIron.Com TomsIronworks@aol.com

OWNED & OPERATED BY
Carmine Iapaluccio



Plumbing • Heating
Duct Cleaning • Air Conditioning

CARMINE IAPALUCCIO (203) 791-8089
92 Sandpit Rd., Danbury, CT Fax (203) 791-8587
LIC# 302912

DANBURY WINAIR
Winair[™]
COMPANY

RICK WOODS
OPERATIONS MANAGER

558 Federal Rd
Brookfield, CT. 06804
203-740-2152
Cell# 203-627-1353
Fax# 203-740-2441
rlwoods@winair.com
danburywinair.com