MEDIA ADVISORY

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CUTTING UP CREDIT CARDS: THIRD ACT JOINS CCAG to PROTEST FOSSIL FUEL FUNDING BY BANKS – PART OF NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION

WHAT: Seniors and activists will hold rallies in West Hartford Center and in Norwalk, as part of a national day of action across the US to pressure the major banks to stop financing the expansion of the fossil fuel industry. Activists will cut up credit cards and deliver letters demanding an end to banks' contributions to climate disaster.

WHEN: 2 - 5 pm, Tuesday, March 21

WHERE: The northwest junction of Farmington Ave. and North Main Street in West Hartford Center, targeting the Bank of America and CHASE Bank at 515 West Ave, Norwalk, CT.

WHY: The rallies are among more than 90 events in more than half US states across the country. The day is being organized by <u>Third Act</u>, a new group of climate activists over the age of 60, with more than 50 local and national partners, working with the CT Citizen Action Group for the Hartford area action.

This national day of action against banks over climate change comes ahead of investor resolutions at their annual general meetings next month to pressure them to stop funding climate chaos.

The top four fossil fuel financing banks are JP Morgan Chase, Citi, Bank of America and Wells Fargo, <u>pumping over one quarter of the \$4.6 trillion</u> total financing for fossil fuels by the top 60 global banks between 2016 and 2021. Thousands of customers and potential customers have pledged to move their money out of these banks if the banks won't move their investments out of fossil fuels.

"In light of the recent upheavals in the banking sector and the greater concentration of deposits in the large Wall Street banks, more than ever we need to demand that these banks use their power and funds responsibly," said Pearl Granat, a Hartford Third Act Leader. "We will be cutting up our Bank of America and CHASE cards and demanding they stop contributing to climate change."

"Our weather is becoming more severe, and there is no time to lose," added Angel Serrano, a climate organizer with CCAG. "The banks must manage both financial risks and climate risks; indeed climate risks *are* financial risks. We need safe and secure banking on a safe planet."