Subject: Avon Chamber Events and Information NT February 18 2011 **From:** Avon Chamber of Commerce <avonchamber@sbcglobal.net>

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To: avonchamber@sbcglobal.net

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Your Business Connection - Now in its 46th Year



UPCOMING EVENTS

March 2 - Morning Business Network Connection

<u>March 9 - Business After</u> Hours

March 9 - Connecticut Business Day 2011

March 24 - CBIA 2011
Compensation and Benefits
Conference

April 5 - Business After Hours/7th Annual BRING-A-NON-MEMBER Business Event

April 6 - Morning Business Network Connection

April 13 - A Combined
Business After Hours with
Avon, Bloomfield, Newington,
Simsbury and West Hartford
Chambers of Commerce

April 28 - 5th Annual JOB
SHADOW DAY *** the 2011
Mentor Sign-Up Form is NOW
AVAILABLE - Click on the

Events and Information

February 18, 2011



Join Us For Our March

2011 -- Morning Business Network Connection

This group provides an excellent opportunity to network with other Chamber members and guests in a more intimate setting. All attendees have the chance to briefly introduce themselves and their business. So stop by, promote your business, and exchange ideas and referrals.

NEW -- At the conclusion of the networking portion of this event a different Avon Chamber member is featured and has the opportunity to offer a **3-Minute Presentation** A new member is chosen each month -- YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO BE CONSIDERED

March's Presenter is: **Sharon Werner** of **Medical Nutrition Therapy Association**

event link above and fill yours out TODAY!

ANNUAL MEETING - MAY 2011

For a listing of all UPCOMING AVON CHAMBER EVENTS CLICK HERE

FEATURED MEMBER BENEFIT

RECRUIT A NEW MEMBER PROGRAM

Our 7th Annual Bring-A-Non-Member Business Event is coming up on April 5. This means it is not only your opportunity to participate in a great networking event, but also to take advantage of this very special Member Benefit.

Did you know that by simply recruiting one new Avon Chamber member you can substantially reduce your own dues for a period of one year?

It's easy - simply sponsor a New Avon Chamber Member. Once their application is complete and their dues are paid in full, the next time you are billed you will see your own dues reduced by the amount of the new member's dues for the ensuing year.

There's no better time to look to recruit a new Avon Chamber member than in preparation for our annual **Bring-A-Non-Member Business Event.**

To learn more about this great new benefit click on the link <u>Avon</u>

<u>Chamber Recruit A New Member</u>

Program

Questions? call Lisa at the Chamber office.

To see ALL THE BENEFITS your Avon Chamber has to offer CLICK HERE





We are also collecting non-perishable food every month at this event to be given to the Avon Food Bank -- PLEASE CONSIDER BRINGING A DONATION

March 2011 Morning Business Network Connection hosted by: COSI

385 West Main Street/Route 44, Avon
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2
8:30 AM to 9:30 AM

Members - Free, First-Time Guests - Free





Want to get your Spring off to a healthy start but feeling a little intimidated by large health clubs or all the choices in home gyms? This month's host is the *perfect* solution. **The Perfect Workout** offers you personalized attention in an all-inclusive, state-of-the-art training facility; the first in the area to incorporate personal training, physical therapy, sports medicine and nutritional counseling. So sign up now and see all that Matt and his great staff have to offer.

March 2011 Business After Hours hosted by: The Perfect Workout

31 Ensign Drive, Avon **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9** 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

NUTMEG SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

On Saturday, February 26, 5:30-7:30 p.m., the Nutmeg Symphony Orchestra will be holding Spring from Winter event featuring a wine tasting, light hors d'oeuvres, live music and a silent auction. Hosted by La Vinotheque, Post Office Square, 206 Main Street, Farmington. Tickets are \$50/couple, \$30/single. For tickets or information call 860.677.9662 or 860.584.1055

RIVER RIDGE AT AVON

On Thursday, February 24, starting at 5:00 p.m., River Ridge at Avon will present the next in their Food for Thought series Healthy Eating For A Healthy Brain featuring Dr. Nancy B. Emerson Lombardo, Ph. D., President, HealthCare Insights, LLC. Appetizers will be served. Seating is limited. RSVP to 860.677.2155

ROTARY CLUB OF AVON-CANTON

On Saturday, February 26, from 7-10 p.m., at the Avon Community Center, the Rotary Club of Avon-Canton will host its 3rd annual Tastes-of-the-Valley Tropical Luau The event features food from area Valley restaurants, paired with more than thirty varieties of wine, along with beer samplings, cheese tastings, and desserts. Music provided by the New England Jazz Ensemble. All proceeds from the event will benefit the charitable efforts of Rotary International. To order tickets or for more information call 860.676.1261 or visit www.Tastes-of-the-Valley.com

STONEWALL KITCHEN

Today through Sunday, February 27, **Stonewall Kitchen** will be holding their annual **Winter Sale** Save an additional 25% off all sale items, and up to 70% off their Specialty Foods, Gifts and Home

RESERVATION REQUIRED by MONDAY, MARCH 7

Members - Free, Non-Members - \$20

Please Join Your Avon Chamber and Participate in Connecticut Business Day 2011

State legislators are working on measures that will greatly affect your business, your employees and your future. This is YOUR opportunity to speak up to change attitudes and direction in the legislature.

This half day, morning program gives you the opportunity to help educate and work with state legislators on issues that impact your business and Connecticut's economy.

Please attend with your **Avon Chamber** as we join forces with other business organizations from across Connecticut to help insure that key business issues are addressed during the upcoming legislative session

For more information or To Register CLICK HERE

Remember to select the interest session you would like to attend when registering

Connecticut Business Day 2011

at Legislative Office Building 300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford

> WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9 7:30 AM to 12-Noon

REGISTRATION REQUIRED by THURSDAY, MARCH 3

Connecticut Business Day is FREE OF CHARGE and sponsord by CBIA and the Connecticut Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives (CACCE)

The Chamber is Forming a NEW GROUP -- Who's In???

Since last week's e-blast a couple of you have expressed interest in participating in this group --

Decor. Located at 336 West Main Street/Route 44, Avon

THANK YOU TO OUR CORPORATE SPONSORS





Office and Medical Space





THE CHAMBER NOW OFFERS

MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PLANS

Have employees or retirees who are eligible for Medicare?

Call Chamber Insurance Trust to learn about Medicare Advantage plans offered by UnitedHealthcare.®

1-800-953-4467, TTY **1-203-795-9756** 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. local time, Monday – Friday





Call 1-800-953-4467 to find out more

PET INSURANCE

are there more of you out there???

The Chamber would like to see who is interested in being part of a new "support group" designed to help our small- to medium-sized businesses that only have themselves to rely on when trying to deal with such issues as getting paid by a client, dealing with difficult employees, developing inexpensive yet effective marketing plans, and much more...

Group members would serve as a sounding board for one another and offer tips, tricks, and tried solutions in dealing with problems that are inherent with running a small business.

Meeting date(s) and frequency, agenda and topics would be up to the participants. The Chamber will assist with securing a meeting place, publicizing the meetings, and participate as a facilitator.

If being a member of a group like this interests you please contact Lisa at the Chamber by Monday, March 7

Join Us For This SPECIAL PROGRAM -- CBIA 2011

Compensation and Benefits

Conference Employee Benefits, Pensions & Total Rewards in the Post-Healthcare Reform Era

Avon Chamber is a proud **Presenting Chamber Sponsor**

In the wake of the recent economic downturn are you facing

- Employee dissatifaction regarding pay freezes or small merit increases?
- Low employee morale or performance problems?
- Continually rising healthcare costs that cause confusion about how healthcare legislation affects your business?
- Challenges in complying with government regulations concerning retirement plans?
- Difficulty helping your employees prepare for retirement amidst economic uncertainty?
- Confusion or concern about the politics surrounding employer-based medical plans?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, then this year's conference is for you.

For more information or To Register



CLICK HERE

Registration for this event WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED THROUGH THE AVON CHAMBER WEB SITE -- To attend you must USE THE LINK PROVIDED AT THE BOTTOM OF THE CLICK-THROUGH SHOWN ABOVE

CBIA 2011 Compensation and Benefits Conference

at **The Crowne Plaza** 100 Berlin Road, Cromwell

THURSDAY, MARCH 24 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Information on New Chamber Insurance Programs

Free Pharmacy Discount Card for Chamber Members

In partnership with our fellow Chamber member **Walmart**, the Macaluso Group and the **Avon Chamber** are pleased to offer our Members, their Employees and Families

A FREE DISCOUNT PRESCRIPTION CARD

Create and Print your own Discount Card and take it, along with your prescription, to any Walmart or Sam's Club Pharmacy. Simply present our card to the pharmacist and they will obtain the appropriate information from you. Please note that if you use more than one pharmacy you will need to present the card at each location the first time you use it.

In addition to the Wamart retail locations, you are also entitled to take advantage of special rates available through Walmart Pharmacy Mail Services. If you are taking any type of maintenance medication you can purcahse a 90-day supply of these medications at less than customary retail prices and have the medication mailed directly to your home at no additional cost.

Sign Up for your FREE DISCOUNT PRESCRIPTION CARD in 3 EASY STEPS

- 1. Go to www.chamber-rx.com
- 2. Click **ADD EMPLOYEE** button, then select your **AVON CHAMBER**
- 3. Fill out your information and print your card

Affordable Dental Benefits for

Chamber Members

Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield is now offering Chamber members affordable **DENTAL BENEFITS** Available January 1, 2011, **Chamber Dental Prime** and **Chamber Dental Complete** are competitive insurance programs with one of the largest dental PPO networks in Connecticut. Three core plans are available -- VALUE Dental Plans that include coverage for basic services such as cleanings, x-rays, and fillings; CLASSIC Dental Plans that include coverage for basic services and most major services, all with high annual maximum benefit levels; ENHANCED Plans that offer the greatest level of coverage and include even higher annual maximum benefit levels and lower co-insurance amounts. In addition, VOLUNTARY Dental Plans are available that allow employers to offer dental coverage to their employees at no additional cost. For more information click on this link:

<u>Chamber Dental Prime and Chamber Dental</u> <u>Complete</u>

Coinsurance Plans to Reduce Premiums for Chamber Members



offers **NEW COINSURANCE**

PLANS to reduce premiums. Available October 1, 2010, these unique plans include upfront deductibles, coinsurance (50/50 shared costs after the deductible is reached), and, before the deductible is met, a \$30 co-payment for Primary Care Physician visits and \$0 cost sharing for some preventive services like annual physicals and immunizations. These plans also include prescription drug coverage and annual out-of-pocket maximums that limit the amount your employees may have to spend for out-of-pocket health care services. For more information call toll free **1-800-LOCAL-CC** (562-2522)

How Will National Health Care Reform Affect You and Your Small Business

ConnectiCare*

You know us by

and the **Avon Chamber** are reaching out to help our small business members understand how Health Care reform works and how it can benefit your business. Here are some of the important changes that may afect your business in the upcoming months:

- New Small Business Tax Credits for providing health insurance to employees are available starting in 2010. Even if you have not been able to afford health benefits in the past, the new tax credits may make that possible.
- **Certain Preventive Services** will be provided without cost-sharing for new plans started on or after September 23, 2010.
- **Dependents Under Age 26** may be insured under their parent's plan on or after September 23, 2010.

To utilize their tax credit calculator or for further information visit:

www.ConnectiCareHealthReform.com

Free Initial Consultation

This and many other offers are available to Avon Chamber members and their employees as part of our **ACBD** (**A**von **C**hamber **B**usiness **D**iscounts) **Program**. To take advantage you MUST HAVE AN ACBD CARD. Cards are available at all Chamber events or you may contact the Chamber office.

Offered by: Klein & Babbitt (Attorneys) * 36-B West Main Street/Route 44 * Avon, CT 06001 * 860.677.5885 * l.klein@kleinbabbitt.com





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Avon Chamber of Commerce | 412 West Avon Road | Avon | CT | 06001