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### **PRESS RELEASE**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **AVON CHAMBER WELCOMES NEW COMPANIES AT BRING-A-NON-MEMBER EVENT**



(left to right) Chamber President John Shea, Esq/Pullman & Comley; Brian Kelaher/Merrill Lynch-The Johnson Group; Janice England-Cirikovic/Cugino’s Restaurant of Farmington; Heather Beaghen/The Bees Knees Catering & Café; Ben Jordan/Photo Images Co.; Sarah Calatayud/Hulafrog; and Dr. Harnet McDermott/Avon Eye Care proudly holding their new membership plaques.

AVON – The Avon Chamber of Commerce inducted six new member companies at the annual “Bring-A-Non Member” night on April 13th at Farmington Woods Golf Club. The “new member” meeting is one of the highlights of the year and always attracts a large number of current members and their guests. Farmington Woods served as the host for the evening and provided wonderful hors d’oeuvres, plus a beautiful setting for the members and guests to meet and greet new business people.

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“New members are a life-line to all active and growing organizations and this meeting is always a key part of chamber activities throughout the year” said Lisa Bohman, Executive Director of the Chamber. “Our members enjoy the opportunity to meet new people and welcome other businesses to our dynamic Chamber located in the economic heart of the Farmington Valley.”

The newest members and their businesses are: Heather Beaghen/The Bees Knees Catering & Café; Sarah Calatayud/Hulafrog; Janice England-Cirikovic/Cugino’s Restaurant of Farmington; Ben Jordan/Photo Images Co.; Brian Kelaher/Merrill Lynch-The Johnson Group; and Dr. Harneet McDermott/Avon Eye Care.

A traditional part of the non-member meeting, which everyone eagerly looks forward to, is a raffle for two “prize packages.” One is for a new member and the second basket is for a sponsor of one of the new members. The baskets are filled with donated items from members and have an estimated value of over \$400.00. The new member winner was Heather Beaghen and the winner of the sponsors basket was Ryan Dumond of Ward Brokerage Associates.

Each package contained: a pair of designer sunglasses from Dr. Harneet McDermott; a gift certificate for a 7-8 lb. Turduckenease from Miller Foods (estimated at \$90,00); a gift certificate for a \$25.00 for tuition to an off summer session with Linda Kimball/Music Together Simsbury; a Ruby Ribbon gift certificate for \$40.00; a Season Pass for six haircuts (a \$125.00 value) at Sports Clips; a family four pack of passes to The New Children’s Museum (a \$59.00 value); a \$50.00 gift certificate to Truffles; and an Avon Chamber of Commerce/Local First hat (a “priceless” value.)

About the Chamber: The Avon Chamber of Commerce is a vibrant, innovative group of 350 businesses representing over 4000+ local jobs and fueling the Farmington Valley with millions of dollars in property taxes and economic impact. The diverse businesses range from high technology solutions providers to manufacturers who create precision components which are sold around the world. Avon Chamber members also include prestigious consulting firms, as well as owners of restaurants and lodging that meet the needs of our clients, friends and families. The Avon Chamber of Commerce is committed to facilitating the growth and success of all its members businesses, as well as the entire region. For additional information please see our web page at: [www.avonchamber.com](http://www.avonchamber.com)