

**Subject:** Avon Chamber Events and Information NT April 2 2013  
**From:** Avon Chamber of Commerce <avonchamber@sbcglobal.net>  
**Date:** 4/2/2013 8:40 PM  
**To:** avonchamber@sbcglobal.net

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Just a reminder that you are receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in the Avon Chamber of Commerce. Please consider sharing this email with other area businesses that you feel might benefit from what the Avon Chamber has to offer. Thank you!

You may [unsubscribe](#) if you no longer wish to receive our emails.



Your Business Connection - Now in our 48th Year



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to a Friend

JOIN the AVON CHAMBER  
GROUP on



## Events and Information

April 2, 2013

Click on the link to check out our current

**Featured Member**  
**River Ridge at Avon**

GOT AN EVENT OR SPECIAL  
FOR

**WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH  
THE MEMBERS**

EMAIL -- 50 WORDS OR LESS -- TO  
[AvonChamber@sbcglobal.net](mailto:AvonChamber@sbcglobal.net)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

[April 3 - Morning Business  
Network Connection](#)

[April 10 - Business After  
Hours/9th Annual BRING-  
A-NON-MEMBER BUSINESS  
Event](#)



## Connecticut Business Day 2013

Many Thanks to the **thirteen** Chamber members that spent time at the Capitol representing our organization at **CT Business Day 2013** on Wednesday, March

[April 18 - Carmon Funeral Home & Family Center AND Avon Chamber of Commerce BLOOD DRIVE](#)

[May 1 - Morning Business Network Connection](#)

[May 2 - Combined Business After Hours](#)

[May 14 - Meet Your Healthcare Neighbors on Fisher Drive Networking Event](#)

[May 22 - 48TH ANNUAL MEETING and AWARDS LUNCHEON -- Early Bird Registration is NOW OPEN!](#)

For a complete listing of all  
**UPCOMING AVON CHAMBER  
EVENTS** [CLICK HERE](#)

## FEATURED MEMBER BENEFIT



**CHET  
Advisor  
529 Plan**

The **Avon Chamber of Commerce** has established a relationship with the **CHET Advisor 529 Plan**. Members and their employees are eligible to participate in this program at no cost - the up-front sales charge of up to 5.5% is waived for Chamber members. In addition, saving for your child's education in this CHET Advisor 529 Plan can reduce your state income tax burden, as the CHET Advisor 529 Plan includes a state income tax deduction for individual filers contributing up to \$5,000 and for those filing jointly contributing up to \$10,000. Start with as little as \$50.

6. Through their participation, not only did our legislative delegation receive a clear message of what our businesses need, but it resulted in the Avon Chamber being one of the largest delegations in attendance!!

Sylvia Colvin - **Keller Williams Realty**  
Janina Cummings - **Shear Artistry Day Spa & Salon**

Robin DiNicola - **Simsbury Bank**  
Capri Frank - **Miller Foods/Oma's Pride**  
Jim Gordon - **The Salvation Army**  
Wade Horsey - **Horsey & Company**  
Mort Katz, Esq. - **Law Office of Morton N. Katz**

Lori Macgowan - **William Raveis Real Estate**  
Camlyn Miller-Stevens - **Miller Foods/Oma's Pride**

Scott Nardoizzi - **Union Savings Bank**  
Ketil Osland - **Guaranty Federal Financial Corporation**

Elsa Petersen - **AAA Insurance**  
Bryan Short - **The Sewing Loft of Avon**

**Join With These Members and Be Part of the Picture in 2014!!** -- For more photos please

[CLICK HERE](#)



**MEMBER BENEFIT**  
**Get Your Membership  
Plaque(s) Today!!**



***Studies have shown that consumers are 63% more likely to buy goods and services from a business that is a member of a chamber of commerce . . .***

For more information  
please contact Chamber  
member

**Edward Jones-Peter  
Vignati** at **860.676.1442**

## 7th Annual Career Exploration Day

**Avon Chamber** and **Avon High School 7th Annual Career Exploration Day** is slated for **Thursday, May 23**. This fun and informative annual program provides primarily local sophomores and juniors with the opportunity to visit some of our member businesses and speak with those that work in fields in which they are interested.

**Thank You to the following Members that have signed up to be a Mentor:**

- Avon Old Farms Hotel
- Avon Senior Center
- Avon Wellness Center Dental Associates
- Fitness Together Avon
- IFFS Eldercare Consultants
- Law Office of Morton N. Katz
- Marriott Residence Inn-Avon
- Nathan Accounting Group
- Patient Advocate For You
- PayHub
- Rainbow Adoptions International
- River Ridge at Avon
- Sayward Companies
- SendOutCards
- Shear Artistry Day Spa & Salon
- TCBY Avon Marketplace
- Valley Sports Center
- Valpak of Greater Hartford

For more information please  
visit the  
**Career Exploration Day**  
**page**

Now there are TWO great ways for you to show the community that you are a proud member of the Avon Chamber.

First -- Our **NEW MEMBERSHIP PLAQUES** have arrived and are ready for you to display at your place of business, trade shows, special events, etc. . . You can hang them on a wall or stand them on a counter. Please make sure to pick yours up today and display it prominently.

Second -- Join with fellow Chamber members **Ace Marketing and Sales, Avon Education Foundation, Digital Design Chick, E.N.E. Realty Associates, Keller Williams Realty-The Zambrellos, Progressive Animal Wellness (PAW)** and the numerous others that are displaying our **VIRTUAL MEMBERSHIP PLAQUE** on their websites. Just like our membership plaque can be displayed at your place of business, the Virtual Membership Plaque is designed to be displayed on your website, facebook page, etc

### **Here's How to Get Your Plaques**

**NEW MEMBERSHIP PLAQUES** Will be available at every Chamber event or you may contact the Chamber office and make arrangements to pick yours up.

**VIRTUAL MEMBERSHIP PLAQUES** Are available in JPG format and can be obtained by contacting the Chamber office. Additionally, the Chamber will provide you with HTML code to link your virtual plaque back to the page where your business listing appears in the Chamber's Online Membership Directory.

*Plaque Artwork generously donated by*  
**BONNER & COMPANY Creative**  
**Communications**

**Watch for Delivery in April 2013 of the**

**Avon Chamber of Commerce**  
**AND**  
**My Hometown Map**

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## WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH THE MEMBERS

### AVON EDUCATION FOUNDATION

The **Avon Education Foundation** is holding its 2013 **No-Show Gala** an eBay auction open to the public, from April 1-7. All funds raised from the auction will go directly toward grants that support innovation and creativity in public education in Avon for learners of ALL ages. For more details visit

[www.AvonEdFoundation.org](http://www.AvonEdFoundation.org)

### FARMINGTON VALLEY ARTS CENTER

On Friday, April 12, from 6-7 PM, the **Farmington Valley Arts Center** will be holding an **Artist Reception** in its Drezner Visitors' Gallery for an exhibit of Encaustic Paintings by Gregory Wright. Wright's works explore the connectivity that exists among the cosmos, the terrestrial, and the cellular through sinuous shapes and bimorphic motifs of celestial, aquatic and microscopic influences **Farmington Valley Arts Center** is located at **25 Arts Center Lane, Avon**

### FARMINGTON VALLEY VISITORS ASSOCIATION

On Friday, April 5, from 7-10:30 PM, at Farmington Gardens, the **Farmington Valley Visitors Association** is holding its **2nd Annual Dinner Theater Evening** featuring *For Better & For Worse*, *The Mob's Italian Wedding* Tickets are \$75/person and include appetizers, dinner, dessert and entertainment. For more information or tickets - check/cash sales - call **860.676.8878** or visit [www.FVVA.com](http://www.FVVA.com)

Thank You to the Following Chamber Members that Put Their Business On the Map

- A Dancer's Palette
- Allstate Insurance
- Andrighetti & Sons
- Autumn Light Studio & Gallery
- Auto Club of Hartford-AAA
- Avon Education Foundation
- Avon Kempo & Aikido Academy
- Avon Old Farms Hotel
- Avon Veterans of Foreign Wars
- Carmon Funeral Home & Family Center
- Edward Jones-Peter Vignati
- Farmington Valley Academy Montessori
- Huntington Learning Center
- Jung & Associates
- Law Office of Brian S. Karpe
- Miller Foods
- River Ridge at Avon
- Shear Artistry Day Spa & Salon
- Simsbury Bank
- Spargo Construction
- Talcott Mountain Academy
- TravelVision
- Waste Material Trucking
- William Raveis Real Estate - Lori Macgowan

## Sorry That Your Business Is Not One of Them?

**Contact Jerry ASAP -- There May Be a Space Left for You!!**

**Jerry Saval, Advertising Sales Director, My Hometown Map, 1.800.649.6277 x102 or [jsaval@myhometownmap.com](mailto:jsaval@myhometownmap.com)**

- **We need Blood Donors and Promotional Grocery Bags for the **Carmon Funeral Home & Family Center** and **Avon Chamber of Commerce Blood Drive** slated for **Thursday, April 18**. If you would like to either schedule an appointment to donate blood or provide some bags, please contact **Lisa** at the Chamber**
- **Early Bird Registration is NOW OPEN** for our **48th Annual Meeting & Awards Luncheon** slated for

## NUTMEG SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

On Saturday, April 6, at 7:30 PM, at Trinity Episcopal Church, 220 Prospect Street, Torrington, the **Nutmeg Symphony Orchestra** will be holding a **Concert of French Woodwind Music of the 20th Century** featuring the Orchestra's principal Woodwinds. Tickets are \$20/Adults, \$10/Students. For more information or to purchase tickets visit [www.NutmegSymphony.org](http://www.NutmegSymphony.org)

## PATIENT ADVOCATE FOR YOU

On Tuesday, April 23, from 5:30-7 PM, **Patient Advocate For You** will be holding an **Open House** to celebrate the opening of their new office in Avon. Enjoy food, prizes and free raffle. For more information or to register contact Stacey at **860.703.1575**

## PROGRESSIVE ANIMAL WELLNESS

On Saturday, April 6, from 2-5 PM, **Progressive Animal Wellness** will be holding a **Mini Pet Expo** Supporting Connecticut Canine Search and Rescue, the event will feature Canine Massage, Behavioral Consultations, Grooming Guidance, Puppy Kissing Booth, green screen Photo Sessions, Freestyle Canine Dance demonstration, Reptile Demonstration, Education Stations, and a Teacup Auction. Gift Bags will be given to the first 50 people. Refreshments will be served. **Progressive Animal Wellness** is located at **70 East Main Street, Fairways Plaza, Avon**

## THE INVESTORS CENTER

On Saturday, April 13, from 8 AM-12 PM, at their 70 East Main Street office in Avon, **The Investors Center** will join Fidelity Investments in sponsoring a **Free Community Shredding Event** Shred-It will

**Wednesday, May 22. Register all the names of those attending from your business AND Pay in full by Monday April 22 and save \$5/person!!**

**Is Your Business Celebrating its 50th Anniversary in 2015?** If so, please contact Lisa at the Chamber



## Join Us For Our April 2013 Morning Business Network Connection TOMORROW!

Congratulations to all the members that came out on our special March morning date to network! This group is a consistent draw because it is more intimate than our larger Business After Hours and thus provides a great opportunity for one-on-one networking. All attendees have the chance to briefly introduce themselves and their business. So stop by, promote your business, and exchange ideas and referrals.



**Another Great Reason to Attend** -- 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

April's Presenter is:  
**Beth Georger** of



perform safe and secure shredding. Residents are invited to bring up to two (2) file boxes of personal and confidential items such as receipts and invoices. Paper clips, staples and file folders will go through the shredder. Do not bring CDs, three-ring binders, cardboard, film, x-ray films, hard drives, or laminated or plastic sheet covers. For additional information call **860.677.8808** or email [ellenw@TheInvestorsCenter.com](mailto:ellenw@TheInvestorsCenter.com)

**WILLIAM RAVEIS REAL ESTATE - LORI MACGOWAN**

On Saturday, April 6, from 11:30 AM-2 PM, at Avon Public Library, 281 Country Club Road, Avon, **The Dave Olson/Lori Macgowan Group at William Raveis Real Estate** are sponsoring a **Free Lunch & Learn Home Buying and Selling Seminar**. Hear from experts in the fields of Sellers, Buyers, Mortgages, Home Staging, Home Inspection, Legal, Insurance, and Debris Removal. RSVP by calling **860.507.6032**



**NEW Health Savings Accounts (HSAs)**

**Simsbury Bank** and the Chamber Insurance Trust have partnered to provide Chamber members with high quality **HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNTS (HSAs)**

These are premium interest accounts designed to complement the portfolio of HSA-compatible health insurance plans from



To learn about the **Simsbury Bank HSAs** please call **860.676.2265** or [CLICK HERE](#)



**We are also collecting non-perishable food every month at this event to be given to the Avon Food Bank**  
**PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR FOOD DONATION!!!**

**April 2013 Morning Business Network Connection**  
hosted by: **COSI**

385 West Main Street/Route 44, Avon  
**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3**  
8:30 AM to 9:30 AM

**Members - Free, First-Time Guests - Free**



**Join Us For Our April 2013 Business After Hours/ 9th Annual Bring-A-Non-Member Business Event**

This is it -- your annual opportunity to introduce a non-member business to your **Avon Chamber of Commerce** -- free of charge! However, unlike our other Business After Hours, only members that bring a non-member business guest to this event are eligible to enter the drawing for the fantastic prize package created especially for this occasion (valued at approximately \$700)



**And Remember** -- If your non-member business guest joins the Chamber the night of the event\*, not only does your guest get to enter the drawing for an identical prize package, but your dues will be reduced the next time you are billed by the amount of your guest's dues payment!  
*\*(to be eligible a non-member joining the Chamber must have a **completed membership application AND dues payment in-full** with them at the event)*

Help a non-member business get to know our Chamber community and the benefits it affords and, in turn, perhaps you will enjoy the benefit of reduced dues for one full year in the process!

**Thank You to our Prize Package participants:**  
**Battiston's of Avon**  
**Bikers Edge**  
**Chamberlin Kitchen & Bath**  
**Dine In Connecticut**  
**Jolie Boutique Consignment**

**aetna**<sup>SM</sup> **Small Group Health Insurance for Chamber Members**

Aetna is now offering Chamber members **SMALL GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE**. These plans include several consumer-directed, HSA-compatible options.

With any of the plans available, Chamber members will receive access to Aetna's industry-leading online tools, as well as other Aetna resources specifically designed for small businesses, including: the **Small Business Tax Credit Calculator** that quickly helps you determine if your company is eligible for a tax credit through the Affordable Care Act, along with the **Aetna Resource Connection** that gives participants access to discounts on a variety of services.

In addition, this insurance may be integrated with Aetna's new **Chamber Hospital Indemnity Plan**, an exclusive opportunity for Chamber members that provides a flat-dollar payment for a hospital stay plus a per diem payment for each day in the hospital.

To learn about these new health insurance options  
**Click on the AETNA LOGO above**



**BENEFITS FOR CHAMBER MEMBERS**

**Dental Chamber Dental Prime** and **Chamber Dental Complete** are competitive insurance programs with one of the largest dental PPO networks in Connecticut.

**Kevin Edward Jewelers  
Orvis Avon  
Rosie's Laundry  
Studio Pura  
Union Savings Bank  
Waste Material Trucking**

**April 2013 Business After Hours/9th Annual Bring-A-Non-Member-Business Event**

hosted by: **Farmington Woods Golf Club**

43 Heritage Drive, Avon  
**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10**  
5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

**RESERVATION REQUIRED** by **MONDAY, APRIL 8**

**Members - Free, Non-Members - FREE!!**

**Want to Host a Business After Hours?**

If your business can accommodate a minimum of 90 members and guests then you are eligible to host a Chamber **Business After Hours** at your location. Current dates available are: January 14, 2015, January 13, 2016, February 10, 2016, March 9, 2016, and August 10, 2016

**Too Small to Host on Your Own?**

Consider being a co-host for an existing **Business After Hours**. The marketing benefits for your business are exactly the same as for the physical host and everyone shares in the planning  
**DATES ARE GOING FAST! -- Just ONE DATE Remains to Host in 2015!!**

If you are interested in hosting or co-hosting please contact Lisa at the Chamber



**Carmon Funeral Home & Family Center AND Avon Chamber of Commerce**

**Blood Drive**

Our Blood Drive is fast approaching and we need your help! There are THREE WAYS Chamber members can participate in this great community event:

**1) Schedule an Appointment to Donate Blood**

A Blood Drive does not work without Donors. Three years ago when we last held a Blood Drive we had over 50 viable pints! We would like to exceed that

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.

Vision **Blue View Vision** plans cover regular eye exams and include additional savings programs that allow members to save even after their annual benefits are used up. That is a 40% discount on unlimited extra pairs of eyeglasses, 15% on regular contacts, and 20% on many other items including sunglasses.

### Disability and Life

Coverage options include Group Term Life, Accidental Death and Dismemberment (AD&D), Dependent Life, Short-Term and Long-Term Disability -- Available on an employer-paid or employee-paid (voluntary) basis.

For more information click on this link:

[Chamber Dental, Vision, Disability and Life](#)

## **MORE CHAMBER INSURANCE PROGRAMS**

click on the images below for more information

**MEDICARE ADVANTAGE**

total this year, but we need your help in order to do that. Appointments are available every 15 minutes starting at 12-Noon, with the last appointments at 5 p.m.

### **UPDATE 4/2/13**

The **12 p.m. 12:15 p.m. 12:30 p.m. 12:45 p.m. 2 p.m. 4:45 p.m. and 5 p.m.** time slots are **FULL!!**

The **1 p.m.** time slot has One Availability Left

If you or someone you know would like to schedule an appointment please email

**AvonChamber@sbcglobal.net** and include the following: Your **Name**, Your **Telephone Number**, **Preferred Time of Your Appointment**, Whether You are a **New or Returning Donor**, If you are an Avon Chamber member - the **Name of Your Member Business**

**\*Of Special Note\*** **Sign up to be a Donor and help a fellow Avon Chamber member!!** The Carmon family has generously offered to make a donation to a non-profit member of the Chamber of each Donor's choosing for every pint donated!!

### **2) Participate in The Canteen ATTENTION Member Restaurants and Purveyors of Food**

The Canteen is a vital part of any Blood Drive and we would like to feature Your Food in ours! This is a unique opportunity to showcase one of your specialties as well as distribute your most current menu to our donors. If you would like to be a part of The Canteen please email

**AvonChamber@sbcglobal.net**

*As of this email the following Chamber members are participating in the Canteen:*

- Avon Old Farms Hotel-Seasons Restaurant**
- Carmon Funeral Home & Family Center** - Beverages
- COSI**
- Edible Arrangements Avon/West Hartford**
- Farmington Woods Golf Club**
- Max a Mia Ristorante**
- River Ridge at Avon** - Cookies
- TCBY Avon Marketplace** - Orange Sorbet
- Village Gate of Farmington**

**3) Put Something in the 'Thank You' Bag** It's always nice to say thank you when someone does something nice. To thank our Donors the Chamber would like to give 'Donor Thank You Bags' to everyone that fulfills a scheduled appointment. The 'Donor Thank You Bag' not only shows our



## PET INSURANCE



## THANK YOU TO OUR CORPORATE SPONSORS



Office and Medical Space



## Remember



appreciation for those that take the time to be a part of our Blood Drive, but provides you with a unique opportunity to market your business to our participants. If you would like to be a part of our 'Donor Thank You Bag' all you need to do is provide us with **95** items, coupons, special offers, etc. . . **by no later than FRIDAY, APRIL 12**

*As of this email the following Chamber members are participating in the 'Donor Thank You Bag':*

- **Arden Courts of Avon** - Note Pad
- **Avon Education Foundation** - Pencils
- **Avon Plumbing & Heating** - Bottle of Water
- **Battiston's of Avon** - Coupon
- **Farmington Bank** - Chip Clip
- **Farmington Woods Golf Club** - Tees
- **First Niagara** - Keychain Flashlight
- **Fitness Together Avon** - Donate blood and Receive a Pass for a Free Session
- **Headline Hair Designers West** - \$5 Beauty Bucks Coupon
- **Liberty Bank** - TBA
- **Oma's Pride** - O'Paw's Sample
- **PayHub** - Sunscreen
- **People's United Bank** - Coffee Mug
- **Rainbow Adoptions International** - Post-It Notes
- **Rosie's Laundry** - \$5 Coupon
- **Rotary Club of Avon-Canton** - TBA
- **Simsbury Bank** - Pizza Cutter
- **Spargo Construction** - Chocolates
- **Valley Sports Center** - TBA
- **Waste Material Trucking** - Hand Sanitizer
- **We Care Computers** - \$25 Gift Certificate Off First Hour of Service

### Carmon Funeral Home & Family Center AND Avon Chamber of Commerce Blood Drive

at: **Carmon Funeral Home & Family Center**

301 Country Club Road, Avon  
**THURSDAY, APRIL 18**  
12:00 PM to 5:00 PM

**Avon, Bloomfield, Burlington, Canton, Central Connecticut, Farmington, Plainville, Plymouth, Simsbury, West Hartford and Wolcott Chambers of Commerce**

**Invite You to Join Us For a**

# Combined Business After Hours

*Please Join Us*



**FOR AN EXCLUSIVE JOINT  
BUSINESS AFTER HOURS EVENT**

- Connect with NEW chamber members throughout the region
- Learn how you can improve technology in your office to be more efficient
- Enjoy great food, company and cocktails
- Win great prizes
- Don't forget your business cards!

**Thursday, May 2, 2013**

**Farmington Gardens**

999 Farmington Avenue, Farmington, CT 06032

**5:30 – 7:30p.m.**

HOSTED BY

**Comcast  
BUSINESS CLASS**

REGISTER BY 4.26.13  
at [www.comcast-event.com](http://www.comcast-event.com)

If you would like to donate a Raffle Item or for any other questions please contact: Cindy Scoville at [c.scoville@CentralCTChambers.org](mailto:c.scoville@CentralCTChambers.org)

## Combined Business After Hours Event

hosted by: **Comcast Business Class**

at: **Farmington Gardens**  
999 Farmington Avenue, Farmington  
**THURSDAY, MAY 2**  
5:30 PM to 7:30 PM

**RESERVATION REQUIRED** by **FRIDAY, APRIL 26**

**THIS IS A MEMBERS ONLY EVENT**

**15% Discount  
for Chamber  
Members**



This and many other offers are available to Avon Chamber members and their employees as part of our **ACBD (Avon Chamber Business Discounts) 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: **TCBY \* Avon Marketplace \* 530R Bushy Hill Road \* Simsbury, CT  
06070 \* 860.658.4520 \* [tcbyavon@att.net](mailto:tcbyavon@att.net) \* [www.TCBYct.com](http://www.TCBYct.com)**



*Try it FREE today.*

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