

Subject: Avon Chamber Events and Information NT February 4, 2014

From: Avon Chamber of Commerce <avonchamber@sbcglobal.net>

Date: 2/4/2014 3:52 PM

To: avonchamber@sbcglobal.net

CC:

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 fellow colleagues as well as 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 49th Year

UPCOMING EVENTS

[February 5 - Morning Business Network Connection - ****ALERT****](#)
This Event has been CANCELLED due to the Predicted Snow storm!

[February 12 - Business After Hours](#)

[February 25 - A.W.E. \(Avon Women Entrepreneurs\)](#)

[March 5 - Morning Business Network Connection](#)

[March 5 - Connecticut Business Day](#)

[March 12 - Business After Hours](#)

[March 18 - A.W.E. \(Avon Women Entrepreneurs\)](#)

[April 2 - Morning Business](#)



Events and Information

February 4, 2014



[Forward this issue](#)

JOIN the AVON CHAMBER GROUP on



LOST AND FOUND

If you lost a Set of Keys at our Holiday Event at River Ridge at Avon on Wednesday, December 11 please contact Lisa at the Chamber, describe them, and we will get them back to you.

Large/Small Business of the Year

It is time once again for us to seek nominations for the 2014 Large Business of the Year (50-plus employees) and Small Business of the Year (under 50 employees).

Network Connection

April 9 - Business After Hours/10th Annual BRING-A-NON-MEMBER BUSINESS EVENT

April 15 - A.W.E. (Avon Women Entrepreneurs)

ANNUAL MEETING & AWARDS LUNCHEON
Coming This May!

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

These honors are bestowed at our Annual Meeting & Awards Luncheon to be held in late May. If you know of a Chamber member business that you think should be nominated for this special recognition, please email [Lisa](#) at the Chamber and include the following:

- Your Name,
- the Name of Your Business,
- the Name of the Business You Are Nominating, and
- Using the Award Criteria (see below)** a Brief Summary of Why Your Nominee Is Ideal for the Award.

AWARD CRITERIA

Deadline For Nominations is Monday, February 17!

Click on the link to check out our current
Featured Member
River Ridge at Avon

FEATURED MEMBER BENEFIT



Avon

Chamber of Commerce LOCAL FIRST is coming soon! This is a unique and exciting program that is intended to encourage area residents to shop and use the services of Avon Chamber members by providing them with an easy way to find your place of business AND your website. Participation for Members is FREE! Please **CLICK ON THE LOCAL FIRST LOGO** and fill out the **LOCAL FIRST Form** so as to insure we have your correct web address.

FEATURED MEMBER BENEFIT



CHET
Advisor
529
Plan



Avon Chamber Day at **The Salvation Army** **Holiday Store**

Avon Chamber Day at **The Salvation Army Holiday Store** was on Monday, December 23. The Holiday Store collects non-perishable food; new, unwrapped toys; and monetary donations on behalf of those less fortunate in our greater community. **Avon Old Farms Hotel** has graciously provided a permanent home for the Store since its return to Avon in 2006. Each year since then, the **Avon Chamber of Commerce** and its members have supported these two Chamber members in this endeavor by generously volunteering one day to act as greeters for those donating and sorters of items donated.



Thank You to the following Chamber members that generously volunteered their time:

Beth Zweibel, **Avon Education Foundation**
Peg Mayer, **Howard L. Page & Co.**
Vic Bible, **IFFS Eldercare Consultants**

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.

For more information please contact Chamber member

Edward Jones-Peter Vignati at **860.676.1442**

GOT A DATE-SPECIFIC EVENT OR SPECIAL FOR WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH THE MEMBERS

EMAIL 50 WORDS OR LESS to: AvonChamber@sbcglobal.net



WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH THE MEMBERS

AVON EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Avon Education Foundation is seeking **Goods & Services from Area Businesses** for their *10th Anniversary Spring Gala Silent*

Kim Ciccarello, **Liberty Bank**
 Mark Campbell, **Prime Engineering Sales**
 Dr. Lori Snow, **Rainbow Adoptions International**
 Chip Janiszewski, **SendOutCards**
 Robin DiNicola, **Simsbury Bank**
 Nancy Ford, **The Goddard School**
 Ellen Cazzetta, **The Human Resource Consulting Group**
 Michael Mezheritskiy, **Visionary Private Wealth Management Group**
 Bill Peck, **William R. Peck, CPA**



MEMBER BENEFIT
Avon Chamber of Commerce

and



Avon Chamber and **Valpak** are teaming up again this Spring to bring you **Another Opportunity to Be Part Of** an

Avon Chamber Valpak Mailer!!

Our **Blue Envelope** will be mailed to parts of Avon, Canton, and Simsbury.

WATCH THIS SPACE FOR MORE DETAILS

Thank you to the following Chamber members that were part of the FIRST **Avon Chamber Valpak Mailer**:

- **Avon Executive Offices**
- **Benefits Plus**
- **Dunstan Jewelers Ltd.**
- **Fitness On The Run**
- **Healthtrax Fitness**
- **Marriott Residence Inn-Avon**
- **Miller Foods/Oma's Pride**
- **Premier Energy**
- **River Ridge at Avon**
- **Shear Artistry Day Spa & Salon**
- **The Salvation Army**
- **TravelVision**
- **Visionary Private Wealth Management Group**

and Live Auctions and Dinner Dance slated for Saturday, March 29. If you are interested in making a donation visit www.AvonEdFoundation.org for instructions on how to donate.

BERTUCCI'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT

Between now and Wednesday, February 12, **Bertucci's Italian Restaurant** is giving you a chance to **Win a Bertucci's Valentine's Dinner For Two**. Enter your email at the restaurant for a chance to win Dinner for Two Friday or Saturday night Valentine's Day Weekend. Winner will be notified by email. Excludes alcohol and gratuity. **Bertucci's Italian Restaurant** is located at **380 West Main Street/Route 44, Avon Marketplace, Avon**

MICHAELS JEWELERS

On Friday, February 14, from 10 AM-8 PM, **Michaels Jewelers** is having an **Exclusive Trunk show Event featuring Mi Moneda**. Chic, unique and versatile interchangeable jewelry now recently available in the United States. Handcrafted quality and fashion-forward designs starting at just \$25. Be one of the first to see the new Spring/Summer 2014 Collection! In addition, enter to win a Moneda of your choice. **Michaels Jewelers** is located at **380 West Main Street/Route 44, Avon Marketplace, Avon**

TASTE BY SPELLBOUND

This Thursday, February 6, from 5-6 PM, **Taste by Spellbound** is holding a **Creative Cake Decorating Night**. Decorate a 6-inch tiered layer-cake masterpiece with your special someone. Reservations Required by Tuesday, February 4. Cost is \$30/decorating duo. Cake and Frosting will be provided. For

- **Waste Material Trucking**
- **William Raveis Real Estate - Lori Macgowan**

Avon Chamber of Commerce AND My Hometown Map

The Map has been mailed and is available at various locations throughout the community. Need additional Maps -- the Chamber has some available.

Click on the Map to View it Online as well as Links to All Our Participating Member Advertisers that **Put Their Businesses on the Map**

- Allstate Insurance - Jennifer Johnson
- Andrighetti & Sons

reservations call **860.284.0000**

THE GRIST MILL RESTAURANT

This February **The Grist Mill Restaurant** is offering several **Dining Specials** including: Buy One Lunch Entree Get One Free and Two For One Dinner Special Monday-Wednesday. Coupons are available on their website and must be presented to your server prior to ordering. Limit one coupon per party/per table. Dine-in only. To get your coupons visit www.TheGristMill.net

VILLAGE GATE OF FARMINGTON

This Friday, February 7, at 2 PM, **Village Gate of Farmington** is holding a **Lunch & Learn: Heart Health** February is Heart Health Month and Village Gate extends an invitation for you to learn some tips on how to take care of your most vital organ. All visitors that attend the seminar are invited to join them for a heart healthy lunch at 12:30 p.m. Space is limited. **RSVP by calling 860.676.8626** **Village Gate of Farmington** is located at **88 Scott Swamp Road, Farmington**

VILLAGE GATE OF FARMINGTON

On Saturday, February 8, at 2 PM, **Village Gate of Farmington** is holding a **Chocolate Extravaganza** What would the month of love be without chocolate? Help them create chocolate treats and enjoy the world's favorite sweet in its many forms. Space is limited. **RSVP by calling 860.676.8626** **Village Gate of Farmington** is located at **88 Scott Swamp Road, Farmington**

VILLAGE GATE OF

- 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
- E.N.E Realty Associates
- Farmington Valley Academy Montessori
- Farmington Woods Golf Club
- Huntington Learning Center
- Jolie Boutique Consignment
- Jung & Associates
- Keller Williams Realty - Sylvia Colvin
- Law Office of Brian S. Karpe
- Miller Foods/Oma's Pride
- Patient Advocate For You
- River Ridge at Avon
- Sayward Companies
- Shear Artistry Day Spa & Salon
- Simsbury Bank
- Spargo Construction
- Talcott Mountain Academy
- The Zoo Health Club
- TravelVision
- Waste Material Trucking
- William Raveis Real Estate - Lori Macgowan

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 . . .

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

First -- Our **MEMBERSHIP PLAQUES** are available 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**

FARMINGTON

On Sunday, February 9, at 12:30 PM, **Village Gate of Farmington** is hosting **Armchair Travel Club: Italy** Classic Italian dishes paired with the musical stylings of Marcello Sparagna? Now that's amore! Travel to one of the world's most romantic countries without packing a bag or spending hours in security lines. Lunch will be served at 12:30 p.m., followed by entertainment at 2 p.m. Space is limited. **RSVP by calling 860.676.8626** **Village Gate of Farmington** is located at **88 Scott Swamp Road, Farmington**

VILLAGE GATE OF FARMINGTON

On Friday, February 14, at 2 PM, **Village Gate of Farmington** is hosting **Love Songs** Let Village Gate be your sweetheart this Valentine's Day. Come alone or bring a friend or loved one to hear Keir White perform your favorite love songs. Space is limited. **RSVP by calling 860.676.8626** **Village Gate of Farmington** is located at **88 Scott Swamp Road, Farmington**



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

Foundation, Digital Design Chick, E.N.E. Realty Associates, Ink 13, Keller Williams Realty-The Zambellos, Miller Foods, Mind My Life, Molly Maid of Farmington, 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

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



Join Us for our February 2014 Morning Business Network Connection

****ALERT** This Event is
CANCELLED**

Due to the predicted Snowstorm!
See you on Wednesday, March 5 for our
next regularly-scheduled **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.



insurance plans from



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

aetna SM **Small Group Health Insurance for Chamber Members**

Aetna is 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](#)

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

February's Presenter is:
Janina Cummings of



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!!!

February 2014 Morning Business Network Connection

hosted by: **COSI**

385 West Main Street/Route 44, Avon
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5
8:30 AM to 9:30 AM

Members - Free, First-Time Guests - Free



Join Us for our February 2014 Business After Hours NEXT WEDNESDAY!

With Valentine's Day just around the corner, our February **Business After Hours** is all about the love. **HealthTrax Fitness & Wellness** will show us all how easy it is to 'love' the way we look by improving our overall health and well-being utilizing their unique programs and facilities. **HealthTrax Fitness & Wellness** offers Fitness Classes, Wellness Programs, Physical and Aquatic Rehabilitation, a Partnership with Hartford Hospital and Other Medical Services, and so much more. We think you will really 'warm up' to



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.

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)

this great networking opportunity.

If you would Like to Offer A Drawing Item at this event please contact [Lisa](#) at the **Avon Chamber**

If you would Like to Be A Host or Co-Host of a future Business After Hours Please contact [Lisa](#) at the **Avon Chamber**

February 2014 Business After Hours
hosted by: **HealthTrax Fitness & Wellness**

100 Simsbury Road, Avon
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12
5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

REGISTRATION REQUIRED by **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10**

Members - FREE; Non-Members - \$20



Join Us in February 2014 for **A.W.E (Avon Women Entrepreneurs)**

The Avon Chamber's newest Group -- **A.W.E. (Avon Women Entrepreneurs)** offers the A.W.E.-some women of our Chamber an opportunity to engage with one another and discuss issues that are unique and of particular interest to them. Each month the group meets for an hour at a different participant's place of business. Everyone has a chance to Introduce themselves and their business, followed by a 10-minute Presentation by our Host. We conclude by opening the meeting up to explore topics of importance in the lives of our professional women. Presently, this is a MEMBERS ONLY group; though a guest policy is under consideration and will be announced at a future date.

February 2014 A.W.E. (Avon Women Entrepreneurs)
at: **Progressive Animal Wellness (PAW)**

70 East Main Street/Route 44, Avon
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

basis.

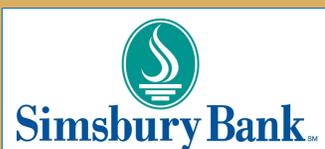
For more information click on this link:

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

THANK YOU TO OUR CORPORATE SPONSORS



Office and Medical Space



Remember



8:30 AM to 9:30 AM

This is a **MEMBERS ONLY** Group

CHAMBER EDUCATION PROGRAMS

[CLICK HERE](#) To See the Programs We Offer



On Friday, November 1, the **Peter M. Bakker Agency** and **Pullman & Comley, LLC**



hosted and presented respectively **What Does the Affordable Care Act Really Mean for My Business** Members had the opportunity to listen to attorney Sharon Freilich discuss various aspects of the Affordable Care Act and the impact each has on small businesses and their employees.

Look for This Program again in Spring 2014



Our September **Talk to the Town-Doing Business in Avon** program gave members of the Avon Chamber the opportunity to hear from and speak with key town officials that are the primary

contacts for businesses in Avon. Special Thanks to Brandon Robertson - Avon Town Manager, Steve Kushner - Director of Planning and Community Development/Zoning Enforcement Officer, and Harry DerAsadourian - Town Assessor.

Look for This Program again in March 2014



Tuesday, September 17, saw the return of our popular computer training classes. Starting us off for the year was instructor

Bruce Shein of **Avon Executive Offices** with **Microsoft Excel 2010 for Business-Creating a Good Worksheet and Tips for Beginners to Intermediate Users**



Special thanks to **Farmington Woods Golf Club** for hosting this class.

Look for this program again in June 2014

**Free Medication Lists
Made for You, as well as
Review of Medications
and Discussion of
Chronic Disease
Management Options**



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: **Patient Advocate For You** * 30 Tower Lane * Avon Park South *
Avon, CT 06001 * 860.703.1575 * sharon@ptadvocate4u.com *
www.PTAdvocate4u.com



Try it FREE today.

This email was sent to avonchamber@sbcglobal.net by avonchamber@sbcglobal.net | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

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