

Subject: Avon Chamber Events and Information NT February 8 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



Join the Avon Chamber Group on



UPCOMING EVENTS

[February 9 - Business After Hours](#)

[March 2 - Morning Business Network Connection](#)

[March 9 - Business After 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 *** Look for the](#)

Events and Information

February 8, 2011



Join Us For Our February 2011 -- Business After Hours -- **Tomorrow!!**



Over a month of big snow has kept many of you out-of-the-mix. Don't let this lull in the winter weather pass you by. Shake off the icicles and come out tomorrow afternoon to interact with your fellow Chamber members at a really great networking event which features a February appropriate theme and some wonderful drawing items



Because of all the storms we are **extending the deadline for sign-ups until tomorrow morning 10 a.m.!** Tom and Ron are looking forward to seeing you!

Mentor Sign-Up Sheet Coming Soon!!

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 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**. Because for **ONE NIGHT ONLY** you have the opportunity to become eligible for this very valuable benefit **AND** you could also be eligible to participate in the drawing for our always fabulous **Prize Package!!** - participants for which are limited to those whose business guests join the Chamber that night!

To learn more about this great new benefit click on the link [Avon Chamber Recruit A New Member Program](#)

Questions? call Lisa at the Chamber office.

To see **ALL THE BENEFITS** your

February 2011 Business After Hours

hosted by: **People's United Bank State Farm Insurance - Ron Huston**
at **People's United Bank**
27 East Main Street
Old Avon Village, Avon
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9
5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

RESERVATION DEADLINE EXETENDED to
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 10:00 AM

Members - Free, Non-Members - \$20



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**



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](#)

Avon Chamber has to offer [CLICK HERE](#)



WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH THE MEMBERS

Valentine's Day is Next Monday -- Whether You're Planning a Quiet Dinner at Home or a Special Night on the Town -- Visit These Avon Chamber Member Restaurants and Purveyors of Fine Food for All Your Dining Plans for That Special Someone

- Bertucci's Italian Restaurant
- Cafe Louise
- Carmen Anthony Fishhouse
- Cosi
- Edible Arrangements
- FERME at Avon Old Farms Hotel
- Five Guys Burgers & Fries
- Max A Mia
- Miller Foods
- Stonewall Kitchen
- The Meat House
- The New England Pasta Company
- Toshi Japanese Restaurant

DUNSTAN JEWELERS LTD

This Thursday, February 10, from 4-7:30 p.m., **Dunstan Jewelers Ltd.** will be holding their annual **Men's Night** Receive 15-25% off all your Valentine's Day purchases, plus enjoy complimentary champagne and hors d'oeuvres. Located at **290 West Main Street/Route 44, Avon**

FARMINGTON VALLEY THANK YOU TO OUR CORPORATE SPONSORS

This Thursday, February 10, from 7-9 p.m., **Farmington Valley Arts**

ConnectiCare Valentines by Connecticut artists. Located at **25 Arts Center Lane, Avon** For more information call **860.678.1867**

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

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

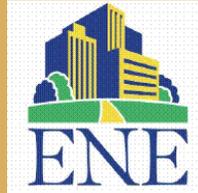
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9
7:30 AM to 12-Noon

REGISTRATION REQUIRED by THURSDAY, MARCH 3

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

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

In speaking with a number of members recently, it has come to light that our small businesses need support when it comes to things such as -- how to



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



Click on the Image Above to find out more

deal with vendors, what type of marketing is best, what to do about certain employee issues ... and so much more.

To this end the Chamber would like to see who is interested in being part of a kind of "support group" designed to help our small- to medium-sized businesses that only have themselves to rely on when trying to deal with some of these issues.

Group members would serve as resources 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 dissatisfaction 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 Walmart 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 purchase 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:

[Chamber Dental Prime and Chamber Dental Complete](#)

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



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



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