

The Connection



Fall 2008

Corporate Sponsors 2008



The Simsbury Bank

Avon Chamber of Commerce Your Business Connection

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Avon, CT 06001

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Morning Business Network Connection

First Wednesday of the month, 8:30-9:30 a.m., Hosted by **Cosi**,
385 West Main Street (Route 44), Avon, Members – Free

- **Wednesday, October 1 • Wednesday, November 5**
- **Wednesday, December 3 • Wednesday, January 7, 2009**

Business After Hours

Typically the second Wednesday of the month, 5:00-7:00 p.m.
Members – Free, Non-Members – \$20

- **October 15** – Hosted by **Miller Foods** and **Oma's Pride**,
308 Arch Road, Avon
- **November 12** – *Get Ready for the Holidays*, Hosted by our Chamber
members at *The Shops at Avon Green*: **Anew You Skincare & Wellness
Center; Bangle and Clutch; Ensign-Bickford Realty;
J. McLaughlin; Klein & Babbitt; Korlates Fitness by Kris
Kory; Mariel The Shoe Bar; Over The Moon; and Venus Salon**
(list of hosts as of September 17, 2008). Seasonal Sounds provided by **The
Salvation Army Brass**. On the grounds of *The Shops at Avon Green*, 16
– 44 Ensign Drive, Avon
- **December 10** – *Annual Holiday Event/Toys for Tots Drive*, Hosted by
River Ridge at Avon and **A Dancer's Palette**, at River Ridge at
Avon, 101 Bickford Extension, Avon

Survive and Thrive Boot Camp – Session 2

The Value of Looking and Feeling Your Best, Presented by Marjorie Bowen,
Professional Fitness Trainer, **Fit To The Core** Training Studio. Hosted by
Cathy Fischer of Keller Williams Realty.

Tuesday, October 21, 3:30-5:30 p.m., Hartford Hospital Wellness Center at
Avon, 100 Simsbury Road, Suite 205 (2nd Floor), Avon, Members – Free

Survive and Thrive Boot Camp – Session 3

In Search of Balance, Work and Life..., Presented by Terri C. H. Culley, **Primacy
Professional Pathways International, LLC**. Hosted by **Huntington
Learning Center**.

Tuesday, November 18, 3:30-5:30 p.m., Hartford Hospital Wellness Center
at Avon, 100 Simsbury Road, Suite 205 (2nd Floor), Avon,
Members – Free

To register for events or receive additional information, contact the
Avon Chamber office at 675-4832 or at avonchamber@sbcglobal.net.

To see more events go to: www.avonchamber.com/events.asp

Avon Chamber Corporate Sponsorship Program

**The Avon Chamber of Commerce
and its Board of Directors
are delighted to introduce our
Corporate Sponsors.**



The Chamber also would like to take this opportunity to thank these businesses for being the first to participate in this new venture.

The Chamber's new Corporate Sponsorship Program provides a unique opportunity for those businesses seeking to receive exceptional visibility and exposure to our business and residential community.

Our new Corporate Sponsors have made a substantial commitment to support the

Chamber and, in turn, leverage their involvement as an integral part of their marketing and public relations programs.

In the coming months, look for these businesses and their logos on our Chamber's website, listed in our newsletter, phone directory, and prominently displayed at all Chamber meetings and events.

If your business is interested in becoming a Corporate Sponsor, please contact Lisa at the Chamber office.

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CHADAVON 0807

Welcome

new members

JULY, 2008

D2 Advisors, Inc., David Wrubel,
27 Millstone Drive, Avon, CT 06001,
673-1626, 673-4290, Real Estate Consultant

Eric Christensen Painting, Eric W. Christensen,
4 Nutmeg Court, Simsbury, CT 06070,
860-490-1215, Painting Contractor, Interior and
Exterior, ericwchristensen@comcast.net

Koster Family Chiropractic, Michael J. Koster,
124 Simsbury Road, Riverdale Farms Shopping,
Box 12E, Avon, CT 06001, 677-1100
677-1139, Chiropractor
drmichaelkoster@yahoo.com
www.kosterfamilychiropractic.com

Live Sound Studios, Zoe Vandermeer, 15 Riverview
Road, Gaylordsville, CT 06755/P.O. Box 44,
Gaylordsville, CT 06755, 860-354-1442,
Full Service Audio/Video Production Company,
info@livesoundstudios.com
www.livesoundstudios.com

The Hair Loft of Avon, Maura A. Fitzgerald,
136 Simsbury Road, Riverdale Farms Shopping,
Building 15, Avon, CT 06001, 674-9460,
658-7097, A Hip and Refreshing Full Service Salon
Experience, mfitzgerald@thehairloftofavon.com

William Raveis - Patsy Keene, Patsy Keene,
200 West Main Street, Avon, CT 06001/337
Southeast Road, New Hartford, CT 06057, 693-8048,
693-6304, Real Estate, patsykeene@earthlink.net

SEPTEMBER, 2008

Doody Calls, CT Pet Waste Removal, LLC,
Martha & Paul Stansel, 251 Woodford Avenue,
Plainville, CT 06062, 860-747-5344,
860-838-9029, Pet Waste Removal Service,
farmington@doodycalls.com, www.doodycalls.com

**Farmington Valley Orthodontic Association -
FVOA**, Dr. Phil DePasquale, Dr. Marshall Seidman,
Dr. Mark Clauss, 20 West Avon Road, Avon, CT
06001, 673-6105, 673-6111, Orthodontic Practice,
iwantbraces@yahoo.com, www.iwantbraces.com

Grubb & Ellis, Michael Van Dusen, 33 Scarborough
Drive, Avon, CT 06001, 866-972-1031, Independent
Contractor - Commercial Real Estate for 1031
Exchanges, michael.vandusen@grubb-ellis.com

Hop Meadow Country Club, Beth Georger,
85 Firetown Road, Simsbury, CT 06070, 658-7623,
651-0484, Full Service Country Club,
bgeorger@hopmeadowcc.net, www.hopmeadowcc.net

J. McLaughlin, Kristin R. Neugebauer,
36 West Main Street, Avon, CT 06001, 674-1178,
674-0109, Retail Outlet Store,
krosebauer@aol.com, www.jmclaughlin.com

Papacelle, David & Adam Pianka, 152 Simsbury
Road, Riverdale Farms Shopping, Avon, CT 06001,
860-637-0639, Restaurant, dpianka@comcast.net

The Avon Chamber would like to thank the following businesses for renewing their membership

Anew You Skincare & Wellness Center, LLC	Century 21 Clemens – Debbie Gilbert	Law Office of F. William O’Connor, LLC	The Ink Store
Acura of Avon	Companions & Homemakers, Inc.	Morgan Contracting, Inc.	The Ski Market
Aesthetic Medical Center	David F. Whitney, Consulting Engineer	Ninety Nine Restaurant & Pub	Valley Financial Group
Arden Courts of Avon	Edward Jones	Nutmeg Medical Group	Westminster School
AT&T	Harrison, Tarlov & Associates	Prudential C’T Realty – Rick Culver	This list represents renewals processed between June 1, 2008 and July 31, 2008
Avon Dental Group	Keller Williams Realty – Lori Macgowan	Reflexite Corporation	
Avon Old Farms Hotel	Landmark Financial Group, LLC	Riverdale Farms Shopping	
Cafe Louise, LLC		Robert Hensley & Associates	
Carmon Funeral Home & Family Center			

Check out the membership directory at: www.avonchamber.com/directory.asp

NEW BENEFIT FOR CHAMBER MEMBERS

Chamber One Health Insurance Now Available



The Chamber has developed a new program for individual health insurance with Aetna called **Chamber One**. Members may apply for **Chamber One** by calling the Chamber Insurance Trust at 1-800-953-4467 for a free quote or obtain a free quote and enroll online at www.ChamberOne.Norvax.com.

With **Chamber One**, members can visit nearly any doctor or hospital they choose, although out-of-pocket costs will be lower when members select a provider from Aetna’s wide national network of participating physicians, hospitals and dentists.

Additional features include no referrals required to see a specialist, no waiting period for preventive care and 100 percent coverage for childhood immunizations up to age 18.

The plans offer locked-in rates that are guaranteed not to increase for 12 months from the plan’s effective date. Also, members can choose a Health Savings Account (HSA) compatible plan that pairs a high-deductible plan with a special account that lets members

pay for qualified medical expenses with tax-advantage funds.

Optional dental plans are available in most states and include 100 percent coverage for diagnostic and preventive services, such as cleanings, x-rays and oral exams.

All plans include special programs for guidance, answers, and discounts, including Aetna Navigator™, the total online source for health information and tools, along with a Personal Health Record that helps members view their medical history and add other information that’s important to them from one secure online location.

If you are interested in obtaining more information regarding **Chamber One**, please visit the Chamber’s website at www.avonchamber.com and click on *Membership Benefits* located on the left navigation bar.



Special Award

Avon Senior Center's *Brain Olympics* won an award in the category of Special Events at the *Connecticut Association of Senior Center Personnel Awards Ceremony* held earlier this summer. Kudos to Senior Center Coordinator, Jennifer Bennett, whose write-up of the event was chosen as a winner.

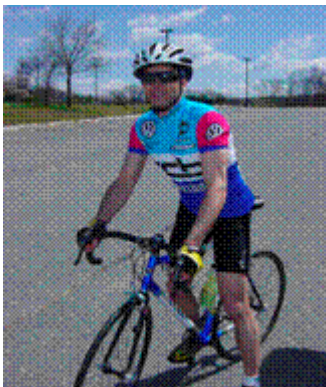
Fall Sale on Signs

BK Designworks, your local one-stop quick-print shop, is offering a great value on lawn signs. Between now and October 31, Buy 9, get 10th free! Need signage fast? Give us a call at **693-6342** for quick, full color, custom lawn signs, A-frames, banners & posters. Visit our website **www.bkdesignworks.com** for ways to promote your business, school, event or campaign. Stop by our shop on Route 44 at **200 Albany Turnpike, Canton**.

Best Caterer

Café Louise Catering was recently voted Number 1 "Best Caterer" by Hartford Magazine. Café Louise, West Hartford's premier full-service catering company, is celebrating its 16th anniversary. From intimate dinners to large events up to 500 guests, Café Louise addresses every detail for your special event. Café Louise also offers Heart Healthy weekly meals for those who want healthy food and are too busy to cook. Call Louise today at **860-561-0160**.

Fund Raiser Success



Dill, Joyce & Thresher Insurance hosted their annual *Wellness Festival & Non-Profit Bike Ride* on Saturday, June 28. Paul Mikkelson (pictured), President of DJT, recruited 230 riders and raised over \$900 for the Avon Chamber. Overall the event raised \$30,000 for DJT's non-profit clients. Thank you Paul!

Time to Get Fit

Fit to the Core, a private training studio, caters to busy executives by offering complete health and wellness program including time efficient workouts, motivation, accountability and nutrition coaching. The new *Executive Fitness Program* is a complete system and guarantees results in minimal time. A refreshing alternative – personalized fitness and nutrition programs in a private studio. For more information, call owner Marjorie Bowen (pictured) at **860-882-3277** or visit on the web at **www.FitToTheCoreByMargie.com**



Helping Needy Pets



Hartford Federal Credit Union presented a check for \$200 to *Our Companions Animal Sanctuary* to assist in their efforts to create homes for abused, neglected, and needy pets. The proceeds were generated by HFCU's employees "Plastic-For-Paws Drive" recycling redeemable bottles and cans. Pictured left to right: HFCU President/CEO Edward Danek, Jr., Our Companions CEO Susan Linker with Abbey, and HFCU's Farmington Valley Office Branch Manager Shamim Bhatti.



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Helping Against Pediatric Cancer

Hartford Federal Credit Union raised \$350 to benefit the *Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation* and the fight against pediatric cancer. The Alex's Lemonade Stands were recently held at all four HFCU locations. Pictured left to right are Farmington Valley Office employees, Camara Bando, Branch Manager Shamim Bhatti, and Ana Gabrielle.



Annual Fall Wellness Festival

Hartford Hospital Avon Wellness Center, 100 Simsbury Road, Avon, is holding its *Annual Fall Wellness Festival* on Saturday, November 1, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. This event is open to the general public free of charge. Free screenings include: prostate cancer blood test by **Hartford Hospital Avon Cancer Center**, oral cancer screenings from **Avon Wellness Center Dental Associates**, balance screenings from **Eastern Rehabilitation Network**, body fat analysis with Athelus at **Healthtrax Fitness and Wellness Center**, and body composition analysis and blood pressure screenings from **Whole Health Associates**. Free food, healthcare products and activities will also be available throughout the day. Call **(860)284-1190** for further information.

Healthy Food for Your Pets

Miller Foods home of **Oma's Pride**, The Premier All Natural Raw Diet for Dogs and Cats, has developed a new line, *O'Paws: Freeze Dried Foods and Treats*. These products, just like our others, have no additives or preservatives, just all natural products for your dogs and cats. Check us out on the web **www.omaspride.com** or stop by the Store in **Avon @ 310 Arch Road**.

New Name

Nathan, Powers & Co., LLP has changed its name to **Nathan Accounting Group**.

Free Kid's Meal

When the Boston Red Sox Win, You Win! Visit **Ninety Nine Restaurant & Pub** in Avon the day after the Boston Red Sox win and you will receive a *free kid's meal* with the purchase of an adult meal. **Ninety Nine Restaurant & Pub** is located at **315 West Main Street** (Route 44), **Avon**.

Free Lunch

Attention business lunch aficionados: **Ninety Nine Restaurant & Pub** in Avon has a *Lunch Club*. Present your Lunch Club Card any day from 11:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Get five stamps and your sixth lunch is free. One stamp per visit/per person. Minimum \$5 purchase. For your free Lunch Club Card visit **Ninety Nine Restaurant & Pub**, **315 West Main Street** (Route 44), **Avon** or call **677-2699**.



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E-mail your business news to avonchamber@sbcglobal.net or fax it to 675.0469. The deadline for the next issue is October 15

50 to 75 word limit

Award Winning Food

Stonewall Kitchen, nationally recognized specialty food manufacturer, was awarded two top honors for their products by the National Association for the Specialty Food Trade, a not-for-profit business trade association established in 1952 to foster trade, commerce and interest in the specialty food industry. **Stonewall Kitchen's** *Balsamic Fig Dressing* won a gold medal for Outstanding Salad Dressing of the year. *Barefoot Contessa Lemon Curd* also won gold for Outstanding Jam, Preserve or Honey or Nut Butter.

Check Out This New Web Site

The Donaldson Group announced the re-launch of The Bushnell Center for the Performing Arts' award-winning Internet venue, www.bushnell.org. The latest generation of the website features a fresh new look, 3-D video tours of its art deco interiors, a comprehensive group sales and subscriber area, and an active community blog. **The Donaldson Group** is a nationally recognized leader in image communications. Capabilities include corporate and brand identity, communications, packaging and eMedia.

New Vice President

Bruce Noe has joined **The Simsbury Bank** as Vice President - Senior Mortgage and Consumer Lending Officer. Mr. Noe spent much of his career at American Savings Bank, where he had been Senior Vice President in the residential mortgage area. He also has worked with Farmington Savings Bank as Vice President of Loan Origination and The Milford Bank as Senior Vice President, Senior Retail Lending Officer.

Everything Old is New Again



On July 29 **Walmart** held a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the grand opening of its newly redesigned Avon store. Store manager Leslie Cook (pictured) did the honors.

Edward Jones

Peter J. Vignati
Investment Representative

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Avon Chamber of Commerce and South Windsor Chamber of Commerce

Combined Business After Hours

Hosted by **Willow Brook Golf Course, South Windsor**



(l-r) Avon Chamber Board Member John Carmon of **Carmon Funeral Home & Family Center** chats with South Windsor Chamber member Peter DeMallie of Design Professionals, Inc.



Thank you to our hosts (l-r) Anne King and Deb Apolczer of **Willow Brook Golf Course**



(l-r) Avon Chamber member Bud Pirrello of **Electrical Supplies and Equipment** along with South Windsor Chamber members Jamie Stafslie of Geeks on Call and Tom Fleury of Executive Management & Business Care



On June 25 more than 30 Avon Chamber members traveled to **Willow Brook Golf Course** in South Windsor to participate in the first combined *Business After Hours* with members of the South Windsor Chamber of Commerce

Business After Hours – June 2008

Hosted by **Hartford Federal Credit Union and Fitness Together**

Food provided by **Café Louise**



(l-r) Board Member Robin DiNicola and Jay Babcock of **The Simsbury Bank**, Pam Messier of **The Hartford Courant**, and Mike Donegan of **Avon Old Farms Hotel**



(l-r) Rob LaMere of **The First National Bank of Litchfield**, Membership Committee member Ellen Cazzetta of **NPD Payroll** and Darryl Denomme of **Juice Plus** – winner of **Fitness Together's** PUSH-UP CHALLENGE



Alan Stauch (c), with Membership Committee members Lori Macgowan (l) of **Keller Williams Realty** and Cheryl England (r) of the **Marriott Residence Inn-Avon**



(l-r) Event hosts Gary Veratti, Jr. of **Fitness Together**, Anna Gabrielle, Beth Markowski-Roop, Shamim Bhatti, Camara Bando of **Hartford Federal Credit Union**, and Louise Albin of **Café Louise**

Networking With the Chamber

The Chamber thanks the following businesses for their generous donations to the drawings at the June 2008 *Business After Hours* hosted by **Hartford Federal Credit Union and Fitness Together.**

Café Louise

Certificate for “To Die For” Chocolate Raspberry Torte

Fitness Together

Three (3) Personal Training Sessions

Hartford Federal Credit Union

Two (2) \$50 Exxon Gas Cards and Travel Alarm Clock

Magda & Associates

Glass Paperweight

The Hartford Courant

Golf Shirt and Hat

Network/Golf with the Chamber

Hosted by **Blue Fox Run Golf Course** - July 22, 2008

Each summer the Chamber offers some special networking opportunities designed to bring groups of members together who share a common interest.

This year for our dog owners and lovers, we offered *Yappee After Hours-Celebrate America*. And for our golfers, we held two *Network/Golf with the Chamber* events. We added a new twist to our *Network/Golf with the Chamber* events - giveaways.



(l-r) Board member and past president Paul Mikkelson of **Dill, Joyce & Thresher Insurance** and David Goldberg of **Nassau's** were among the first Chamber members to play the brand new 9 holes at **Blue Fox Run Golf Course**



(l-r) Chamber vice president Peter Vignati of **Edward Jones** and Michelle Hagan of **The First National Bank of Litchfield** are all set to play in the Chamber's *Network/Golf with the Chamber* event



(l-r) Enjoying this summer's *Network/Golf with the Chamber* are Phil Buyse of **Pakmail**, Margi Hensley of **Robert Hensley & Associates**, and Don Bonner of **Bonner & Company**

Avon Chiropractic Health Center Dr. Joanne A. Santiago, Chiropractic Physician

- Family Holistic Health Care
- Diplomatic Chiropractic Sports Physician
- Pain and Stress Care
- Acupuncture Treatment

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Networking With the Chamber

The Chamber thanks the following businesses for their generous donations to the drawings at the July & August 2008 *Network/Golf with the Chamber* hosted by **Blue Fox Run Golf Course**

ConnectiCare

Sharpie Ball Markers, Band Aid Holders

Edward Jones - Peter Vignati
Tees

Peak Promotions - Carol Banks
Bags, Pens, and Sticky Notes

Yappee After Hours – Celebrate America

Hosted by **Carmon Funeral Home & Family Center** – July 15, 2008



Peg Mayer of **Howard L. Page & Co.** with her faithful companion, Max, show off their patriotic spirit at this summer's *Yappee After Hours – Celebrate America*



Gracie Budde, owned and handled by member Sue Budde of **Creative Memories**, patiently awaits some attention from one of the many attendees

Kelley Babbitt
General Manager,
Klebe Fuel Company,
Winsted, CT



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Business After Hours—August 2008

Hosted by: **Stonewall Kitchen**



Our hosts (l-r): Liz Lucas, Manager of **Stonewall Kitchen Café** at their York, Maine facility, along with team members from the Avon store Key Holder Barb Koenig; Assistant Manger Joy Hancock; Manager Linda Sylvester; and Associate Sheila Tebecio.



(l-r) Sampling some of the fabulous food and drink are Al and Jane Zambrello of **Realty Executives**, along with Steve McGuff of **Reflexite Corporation**.



(l-r) Peter Rist of **WSI Internet Consulting & Education** networks with Nauman Mufti of **Ameriprise Financial**.



(l-r) Bianca Turcotte of **River Ridge at Avon**, enjoys the great weather outside on the patio along with Charles and Margaret Maynard of **Maynard's Bridal Corner**, and Michelle Voegtle of **Huntington Learning Center**.

Networking With the Chamber

The Chamber thanks the following businesses for their generous donation of giveaways for the August 20 *Business After Hours* hosted by **Stonewall Kitchen**.

Avon Products – Laura LeMay
Foot-Pampering Package

Complete Chiropractic Care, LLC
(Dr. Christina Bjorkland – (Guest)
Complimentary Health Care Pass

Magda & Associates
Glass Paperweight

Nyren's of New England
Floral Arrangement

Stonewall Kitchen
Gift Basket

The Ink Store
Two Reams Multipurpose Paper
(Navigator 24 lb.)

Winterberry – (Guest)
Hydrangea Bush

“New Member Advocate of the Year” 2008/2009

The Competition is Heating Up!

Now in its third year, this award is given out each year at the Chamber’s Annual Meeting in May to recognize those members who play an active role in recruiting new members to the Chamber, while also providing a little friendly competition in the process.

The award consists of a crystal vase inscribed with the name of the award, which the winner(s) may display proudly at their place of work, along with a brass plate inscribed with the winner(s) name(s) and place(s) of business that is displayed at the Chamber office.

Any Chamber member in good standing is eligible to compete. The recipient is chosen based upon the number of completed/paid-in-full membership applications received at the Chamber in which a member’s name is cited as being the sponsor. Qualified applications are those received starting in June immediately following the Annual Meeting to the beginning of May of the following year.

In order to see just how the competition is stacking up, each newsletter lists the names of the members

who have recruited new members during the preceding months, along with the total number of new members they have sponsored thus far.

You, too, can be among those listed here who are helping our Chamber grow, and be eligible to win this great award. It’s easy, fun, and a great way to grow your own business!

The Chamber gratefully acknowledges the following members who have sponsored new members since June of this year:

- Avon Dental Group 1**
- Marty Rotblatt of*
- Farmington Valley Arts Center 1**
- Dotty Magda of* **Magda & Associates 1**
- Ellen Cazzetta of* **NPD Payroll. 1**
- Paul Lumia of* **Nyren’s of New England. 1**
- Rick Culver of* **Prudential CT Realty. 1**
- Chip Janiszewski of* **SendOutCards 1**

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J McLaughlin – The Madison Shop – Mr. Parks Tailor

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 **save \$75.00**

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2 Three ¼ or ⅓ page ads \$225.00

3 Three ½ page ads \$600.00

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1

2
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2

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2.22" x 9.5"**

3
**½ page
7.25" x 4.25"**

Ad Submission Requirements

- We accept the following electronic formats for ads: tif, eps, pdf, or jpg. Word and Publisher files are NOT accepted.
- Send ads via e-mail to: avonchamber@sbcglobal.net
- Send business cards for a business card ad to the chamber office: 412 West Avon Road, Avon, CT 06001
- Make checks out to: Avon Chamber of Commerce 412 West Avon Road, Avon, CT 06001

Name: _____ E-mail: _____

Business: _____ Phone: _____ Web address: _____

Advertising Choice:	One year:	business card	¼ or ⅓ page	½ page
<i>Circle One</i>		\$125	\$375	\$1,000
	Six Months:	business card	¼ or ⅓ page	½ page
		\$75	\$225	\$600