

The Connection



January/February 2007

upcoming events

Corporate Sponsors 2007



The Simsbury Bank.

Avon Chamber of Commerce Your Business Connection

412 West Avon Road
Avon, CT 06001

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check out the web site:
www.avonchamber.com
avonchamber@sbcglobal.net

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January 3/February 7—*Morning Business Network Connection*, 8 a.m. - 9 a.m.
Hosted by Cosi, 385 West Main Street (Route 44). Members free.

January 5—Avon Chamber Nominating Committee 2007 meeting, 9 a.m. - 10 a.m. COCC, 135 Darling Drive, Avon Park South.

January 8/February 5—Government Affairs & Economic Development Committee meeting, 5 p.m. - 6 p.m. Chamber office.

January 10—Membership Committee meeting, 8 a.m. - 9 a.m. Miller Foods, 308 Arch Road, Avon.

January 10—*Business After Hours*, 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. **Hosted by The Perfect Workout**, 31 Ensign Drive, Avon Park North. Members free. \$20 non-members.

January 11/February 8—Communications Committee meeting, 1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Chamber office.

January 17/February 21—Education Committee meeting, 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Cosi, 385 West Main Street (Route 44).

January 17—Avon Chamber Board of Directors meeting, 4 p.m. Avon Old Farms Hotel.

January 18/February 15—Meetings & Events Committee meeting, 4 p.m. - 5 p.m. River Ridge at Avon, 101 Bickford Extension.

February 13—Avon Chamber Operating Committee meeting, 7:30 a.m. Chamber office.

February 13—*Business After Hours*, 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. **Hosted by The First National Bank of Litchfield**, 188 Albany Turnpike (Route 44), Canton. Members free. \$20 non-members.

February 14—Membership Committee meeting, 8 a.m. - 9 a.m. Sovereign Bank, 205 West Main Street (Route 44—next to Plaza 44), Avon.

February 27—*Third Annual Joint Business After Hours with the Avon, Canton, & Northwest Connecticut Chambers of Commerce and The New Hartford Business Council*, 5 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. **Hosted by The Warner Theatre**, 68 Main Street, Torrington. **Sponsored by Carmon Funeral Home & Family Center, Ebner Camps, Reminder Press, River Ridge at 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

New Avon Chamber Corporate Sponsorship Program

**The Avon Chamber of Commerce
and its Board of Directors
are delighted to introduce our new
Corporate Sponsors for 2007.**



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.



Sovereign Bank Avon East office located in Plaza 44.

Sovereign Bank is a \$90 billion full-service bank with several conveniently located banking offices in the Farmington Valley, including two offices in Avon in addition to offices in Canton, Simsbury and Unionville. The Bank offers an array of financial services and products, including retail banking, business and corporate banking, cash management, capital market products, wealth management and insurance services.

Whether you're starting a new business or looking to take an established business to the next level, Sovereign has a range of credit solutions to help you and your business. From lines of credit, commercial mortgages, term loans, equipment leasing and SBA loans, you'll find the right credit solution to fulfill your current and future business needs.

Our business credit decisions are made locally and quickly. Unlike some other financial institutions, there is no waiting for a specific day of the week or month for a loan committee to make a decision. Our Community Branch Managers are able to process business loan requests of up to \$500,000 through an abbreviated application process with a decision generally made within 48 hours. Business loan requests over \$500,000 are handled locally by Bob Davidson, who is based in our Avon East office located in Plaza 44.

For more information on Sovereign Bank, please call Bob Davidson, Vice President of Business Banking, at 860-674-1435.

Email: RDavidso@sovereignbank.com
Web site: www.sovereignbank.com



Bob Davidson, Vice President of Business Banking,
Sovereign Bank

Welcome

new members

September 2006

Acura of Avon, Ted Vandereedt, Sandaura Brookes, Acura Dealership, P.O. Box 1129, 75 Albany Turnpike, Canton, CT 06019, 693-6981, Fax: 693-1537, sbrookes@acuraofavon.com www.acuraofavon.com

Arbonne International, Donna Pinckney, Skin Care and Nutrition, 9 Brownstone Drive, Avon, CT 06001, 916-4570, drpinckney@hotmail.com

Café Louise, LLC, Louise Albin, Full Service Catering, 1156 New Britain Avenue, West Hartford, CT 06110-2413, 561-0160, Fax: 693-6118, cafelouise@aol.com www.cafelouise.com

Candy Bouquet, Marcia Kielb/Jane Martin, Gift Shop, Candy Shop, Candy Bouquets, 9 Phelps Lane, Simsbury, CT 06070, 651-9866, Fax: 651-9866, candybouquet2730@sbcglobal.net, www.gocandybouquet.com

Madison Shop, LLC, Felix Sokolson, Men's Clothing, Formal Wear, Tailoring, 16 Ensign Drive, Avon, CT 06001, 676-9449, Fax: 676-1017, madisonshop@comcast.net

Over The Moon, Karin Leite, Children's Retail, 38 West Main Street, Avon, CT 06001, 676-9599, Fax: 676-9599, info@overthemoonbabystore.com, www.overthemoonbabystore.com

Seasons of the Farmington Valley, James Tully, Quarterly Magazine, P.O. Box 92, West Simsbury, CT 06092/6 Sharlin Drive, West Simsbury, CT 06092, 651-9939, Fax: 651-9939, jtully2000@sbcglobal.net, www.seasonsofthefarmingtonvalley.com

Spirit, Mind, & Body Wellness Link, Charlene St. Sauveur, Holistic Services and Classes, 300 Country Club Road, Avon, CT 06001, 675-9416, spiritualpath@earthlink.net, www.thespiritualhealing.com

Westminster School, Ken Mason, Independent School, Boarding and Day, Grades 9-12, P.O. Box 337, Simsbury, CT 06070/995 Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury, CT 06070, 408-6502, Fax: 408-5398, kmason@westminster-school.org, www.westminster-school.org


William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty-Lori Macgowan, Lori Macgowan, Real Estate-Residential and Commercial, 37 West Main Street, Avon CT 06001, 674-9400, Fax: 678-9292, lorimacgowan@comcast.net

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




Sue Budde
Independent Consultant
CM ID 37604183
2 Essex Court
Avon, CT 06001
Home: (860) 675-1016 • Cell: (860) 877-1324
sbudde97@comcast.net
www.mycmsite.com/suebudde

your life | your story | your way



Peter J. Vignati
Investment Representative

41 East Main Street
Avon, CT 06001
Bus. 860-676-1442
Fax 866-360-6514
email: peter.vignati@edwardjones.com
www.edwardjones.com



Serving Individual Investors Since 1871

Welcome

new members
November 2006

**A Dancer's Palette, LLC, Shelley A. Forker/
Ann E. Schwenzler**, Dance Studio For Both
Children and Adults, P.O. Box 566, Avon, CT
06001/29 West Main Street, Avon, CT 06001, Fax:
860-707-4198, info@adancerspalette.com,
www.adancerspalette.com

Bangle and Clutch, Nannette Bosh, Retail-
Women's Accessories, P.O. Box 647, South
Windsor, CT 06074/40 West Main Street, Avon,
CT 06001, 860-824-4233, bosh1@cox.net

Chip Janiszewski Enterprises, Chip Janiszewski,
Accounting Services, Financial Analysis,
115 Forge Drive, Avon, CT 06001, 673-4006,
chip@chipj.com

Citibank, Jonathan Taft, Michal Confati Jr.,
Retail Banking, 395 West Main Street, Avon, CT
06001, 678-3996, Fax: 674-6170,
jonathan.f.taft@citigroup.com

Focus Management Services, Scott H. Brown,
ACSW, Business Services Consulting-17 Years
of "Helping People in Business Succeed At
Success," 9 Washington Circle, Farmington, CT
06085-1362, 860-404-0076/860-985-3955 (cell),
Fax: 860-404-0076, focusmgt@comcast.net

Local Color Ventures, LLC, Pradeep Bajaj,
Direct Mail, Lists, Direct Marketing, Printing,
836 Hopmeadow Street, Unit 4B, Simsbury,
CT 06070, 651-1944, Fax: 651-1944,
pbajaj12@aol.com

Mr. Shower Door, Irvine Stanoff-Korcsmaros,
Shower Doors, Closet, Window Treatments,
21 East Main Street, Avon, CT 06001,
676-1410, Fax: 677-5869, www.mrshowerdoorne.com

**My New Wardrobe, Susan Macko/Lindsey
Carlisle**, Infant & Childrens Boutique; Specialty
Clothing NB-16, 136 Simsbury Road,
Building 11, Riverdale Farms, Avon, CT 06001,
678-7087, Fax: 693-2019, susanmacko@yahoo.com

Ooh LaLa Boutique, Tonya Flores, Clothing
Boutique, Small Assortment of Purses, Jewelry, Shoes
and Gifts, 51 East Main Street, Avon, CT 06001/2
Quincy Place, Avon, CT 06001,
404-7776 (h)/674-0798, flo0618@sbcglobal.net

Time Machine Express, Ali & Bob Whyte, After
School Enrichment Programs for Kids 8-12 Years
Old, 136 Simsbury Road, Building 16, Riverdale
Farms, Avon, CT 06001, 860-654-8922,
aliwhyte2@comcast.net,
www.timemachineexpress.com

**Touch of Class Consignment,
Nita L. MacCallum**, Womens Designer
Consigner Boutique, 524 Hopmeadow Street,
Simsbury, CT 06070, 651-8591,
nita_mac_callum@sbcglobal.net,
www.touchofclassconsignment.com

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



**When Your
Business
Needs A Home**

Avon Executive Offices
One Darling Drive Avon, CT 06001
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Furnished & Unfurnished Office Space
from 1 room to 2,450 sq. ft.

*Even a mistake may turn out to be
the one thing necessary to a
worthwhile achievement.*

Henry Ford, American Industrialist

Ebner Camps, Inc., Named Finalist for Family Business of the Year Award



Oscar “Buzz” Ebner, Jr. (l) and Kris Martin (r) are shown with their award



The Ebner Family: Back row (l-r): Kurt Ebner, Kristen Ebner, Liz Ebner, Kevin Ebner, Kris Martin Front row (l-r): Sherry Ebner, Oscar “Buzz” Ebner, Jr., Barbara Ebner

Ebner Camps, Inc., dba Camp Awosting – Morris, Camp Chinqueka – Litchfield, Boulder Ridge Day Camp and The Village at Boulder Ridge – Barkhamsted, was recently honored as a finalist at the 2006 Connecticut Family Business of the Year Awards. The celebration was held Nov. 16 at the University of Connecticut, Storrs. Nominated by the Avon Chamber of Commerce, Ebner Camps was one of nine family businesses recognized this year out of more than 1300 nominations.

The Connecticut Family Business of the Year Awards recognizes those family businesses that embody core family values and the best of American free enterprise. Winners are chosen by a panel of judges, with placements announced on the evening of the awards ceremony. Finalists are evaluated based on business success, positive family and business linkage, multi-generational family involvement, dynamic contributions to community and industry, and innovative business practices or strategies.

The Family Business of the Year Awards are sponsored annually by The University of Connecticut Family Business Program, which is dedicated to helping family businesses develop strategies and policies that will serve to perpetuate family ownership while making significant advances in functions related to business strategy, increased complexity, organizational structure, management practices, diligence and succession planning.

Ebner Camps was started by Oscar Ebner, Sr. Oscar Ebner, Sr., encouraged by a college professor, became involved with kids by taking a summer job at a camp in order to improve his odds of landing a teaching job. Eighteen years later, Oscar struck out on his own, convincing family and friends to help him finance his dream to own a camp. With their help, he purchased Camp Awosting, the nation’s oldest private boy’s camp in continuous operation, which was established in 1900.

Oscar, along with his wife, Virginia, operated the camp. In 1955, they established Camp Chinqueka, a resident girl’s only camp to complement Camp Awosting. As their operations doubled, they invited their three adult children, Buzz, Robert and Barbara to bring their unique talents into the business.

Over the next three decades the camps saw tremendous growth and incorporated more options for campers, including shorter terms and new activities such as motorized activities, video filming, adventure programs, mountain biking and ceramics. The Ebners, now with the 3rd generation involved as well as Buzz’s wife, Sherry, turned to investing in real estate to offset the winter lull – including laundromat operations, a storage business, rental buildings and apartments. They recently added a banquet facility in Barkhamsted that serves as a wedding and corporate outing center, and in 2004 launched Boulder Ridge Day Camp.

New Web Site

Candy Bouquet has launched its new web site www.GoCandyBouquet.com. Leave your custom business or personal gift making/giving tasks to Jane and Marcia. New products include locally made fresh-roasted coffee beans or ground coffee, custom-made jewelry, soy candles and soy room fresheners and chocolate pops, business cards and much more!

Candy Bouquet is located at:
9 Phelps Lane in Simsbury.

Call them at **860-651-9866 (YUMM)** or visit them on the web at www.GoCandyBouquet.com

Special Group Discount

Dave Bauer, Sales Associate with **Canton Insurance Center**, reminds all Avon Chamber of Commerce members and their employees that they can take advantage of a special group discount in which you can save at least 10%—and up to 30%—off your home & auto insurance.

For more information, contact Dave at **860-284-5844** or toll free at **866-244-2734** or email him at david.bauer@arbella.com

Deirdre Summa joins the staff of the Cornelia de Lange Syndrome Foundation

Deirdre Summa, MSW, joined the staff of the Cornelia de Lange Syndrome (CdLS) Foundation as a family service coordinator. In this role, Ms. Summa provides information and personal support to families and caregivers of individuals with CdLS. Cornelia de Lange Syndrome is a little-known genetic disorder that occurs in about 1 in 10,000 births. Founded in 1981, the Cornelia de Lange Syndrome Foundation is a national family support organization that exists to ensure early and accurate diagnosis of CdLS, promote research into the causes and manifestations of the syndrome, and help people with a diagnosis of CdLS make informed decisions throughout their lifetime.

For more information, call **800-753-2357** or go to www.cdlsusa.org.

E-mail your business news to avonchamber@sbcglobal.net or fax it to 675.0469. The deadline for the March/April issue is February 9.

50 to 75 word limit

Farmington Valley Arts Center announces its Second Annual SweetheART Auction fundraiser

Friday, Feb. 9, 2007, from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. at Avon Old Farms Hotel

This year's theme is "Get A Bed" and it promises to be a fun and art-filled evening. Nine one-of-a-kind headboards, designed and painted by Connecticut artists, will be auctioned off. In addition, other items will be available during the live and silent auctions, including a \$700 luxury queen-bedding package and overnight stay for two at Avon Old Farms Hotel.

For information and tickets call **860-678-1867**.

Gold Award

Marriott Residence Inn-Avon recently received the Gold Award. The hotel was recognized by Marriott for outstanding Guest Satisfaction and Quality for the first half of 2006.

55 Simsbury Road, Avon, CT 06001
860-678-1666, 860-678-1665 (fax),

We've Moved!

The Perfect Workout—Personal Training and Sports Medicine has expanded its operations and moved to 31 Ensign Drive in Avon Park North, just past the Avon Police Station. Five years ago Matt St Thomas, owner and local Avon resident, opened **The Perfect Workout**. It was the first one-on-one personal training center of its kind in the Farmington Valley. It also was the first to combine sports medicine rehabilitation and personal training, teaming up with a number of local physicians and often being used as an alternative to physical therapy.

The new facility includes group classes (cycling, yoga, pilates), as well as a membership area where clients can exercise on their own. The Perfect Workout has doubled their equipment and increased the weight training and cardiovascular area more than 50 percent. Matt is committed to keeping the same private environment clients have enjoyed over the past 5 years. His vision is to offer individuals the services larger clubs offer without the crowd; that is why it is limiting membership to 150 total members.

For more information on classes, membership, personal training or exercise rehabilitation, please call **860-409-9125** or visit them on the web at www.theperfectworkout.org.

Need Donations to Help Orphans

Rainbow Adoptions International is a licensed, non-profit child-placing agency providing a full range of adoption services for families residing in Connecticut. In addition, they have an active infant and toddler adoption program through Guatemala that is open to parents living anywhere in the United States. Currently, the agency is in need of the following donations to be used in two Guatemala orphanages that they support:

- cloth diapers,
- plastic pants (to cover cloth diapers),
- disposable diapers (sizes newborn - size 4),
- diaper ointment,
- baby shampoo,
- baby powder,
- crib blankets,
- crib sheets,
- blanket sleeper pajamas (baby and toddler sizes),
- onesie t-shirts (baby and toddler sizes),
- finger-paints,
- puzzles,
- colorful stickers, and
- any arts & crafts supplies.

Rainbow Adoptions International is located at 29 West Main Street, Suite 101, Avon, CT 06001 and can be reached by calling **860-677-0032** or by email at rainbow03@sbcglobal.net

First Litchfield Leasing Corporation— a new leasing subsidiary

The First National Bank of Litchfield recently announced the formation of a new leasing subsidiary operating under the name **First Litchfield Leasing Corporation**, which is located at 1057 Torrington Street, Torrington, at the Bank's Hilltop branch, which opened Nov. 6, 2006.

First Litchfield Leasing offers middle-market equipment leases (\$75,000 to \$500,000) to the commercial markets of Connecticut and Massachusetts, as well as to the existing commercial accounts and small business clients of the Bank. Glenn R. Mason, a 30-year veteran in the management of middle-market equipment leasing/financing, serves as President. Linda Parady joins Mason in the leadership of First Litchfield Leasing, serving as Vice President.

One of the oldest nationally chartered banks in the country, **The First National Bank of Litchfield** has served the communities of Northwestern Connecticut since 1814. It is currently operating full-service banking

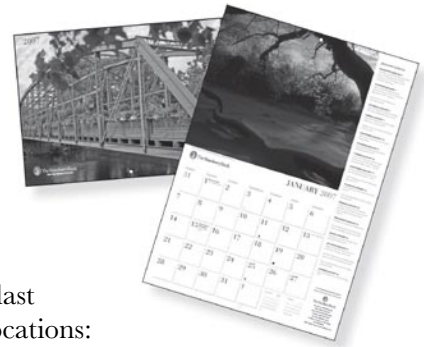
offices in Canton, Goshen, Litchfield, Marble Dale, New Milford, Roxbury, Torrington and Washington. The Bank provides consumer, commercial and retail investment and insurance products and services, as well as equipment leasing, and a trust and wealth management division that offers asset management and estate settlement services to individuals, non-profit and commercial customers.

Free Calendar

The Simsbury Bank's 2007

calendar, featuring full color photos of local vistas and landmarks plus community event listings, is now available.

The calendars are free to the public while supplies last at the following branch locations:



Avon, 27 Dale Road
Bloomfield, 864 Cottage Grove Road
Canton, 250 Albany Turnpike
Granby, 11 Hartford Avenue
Simsbury, 981 Hopmeadow Street

Please visit the Bank's website at www.simsburybank.com, or call **860-658-2265** for hours and directions.

Eliot Weissberg Honored

Eliot Weissberg of **The Investors Center** recently achieved membership in Raymond James Financial Services' 2007 Leaders Council, in recognition of providing outstanding guidance and service to the investing public and exemplary professional growth. Leaders Council honors are presented to those financial advisors who demonstrate an extraordinary level of commitment to clients through personal service and professional integrity. Weissberg, who joined Raymond James in 1999, has more than 25 years of financial and investment experience. He offers a comprehensive range of financial planning and investment services for individuals and businesses.

For additional information, please contact Eliot Weissberg at **The Investors Center**
70 East Main Street, P.O. Box 1447
Avon, CT 06001
860-677-8808

Seasons of the Farmington Valley Debuts



Wednesday, October 18, marked the launch of a new, quarterly lifestyle magazine entitled **Seasons of the Farmington Valley**. From left to right, Jim Tully, Publisher of **Seasons of the Farmington Valley**, and Avon Chamber members Gayle Moraski and Rick Smith of Northwest Community Bank, two of the members present to celebrate the first edition of the magazine and to show support for Jim, who is one of the Chamber's newest members. Copies of **Seasons of the Farmington Valley** are mailed quarterly to residents of the Farmington Valley and also are available at the Avon Chamber office.

I live a day at a time. Each day I look for a kernel of excitement. In the morning, I say: 'What is my exciting thing for today?' Then, I do the day. Don't ask me about tomorrow.

Barbara Jordan, Lawyer,
Educator and Politician

The Shops at Avon Green

Bangle & Clutch - Over The Moon - Country Curtains
J McLaughlin – The Madison Shop – Mr. Parks Tailor

Swain
RETAIL LEASING, INC.
(860) 651-4244

ENSIGN-BICKFORD REALTY CORPORATION
Ensign Bickford Realty Corporation – managing agent
(860) 843-2001

Your 1/4 page vertical ad (3.5" x 4.75") can be seen here for the whole year for only \$375.00 or \$225.00 for 6 months. See page 15 for details.

E-mail your business news to avonchamber@sbcglobal.net or fax it to 675.0469. The deadline for the March/April issue is February 9.
50 to 75 word limit

FINANCIAL FOCUS

Opening a Small Business? Don't Sacrifice Your Financial Security

by Peter Vignati, Edward Jones

Last year, more than 670,000 businesses opened their doors, according to the U.S. Small Business Administration. In fact, hundreds of thousands of people set up their own shops every year. If you're considering joining these ranks, you've got a lot to be excited about. You also may be prepared to make large sacrifices to help your business succeed. But there's one sacrifice you don't have to make: your financial security.

Unfortunately, many business owners pour their life savings into making their new ventures succeed — and that's probably a big mistake. When you start a business, you take on a degree of risk, but you don't need to jeopardize all your plans for the future.

Before you launch your business, follow these basic guidelines:

- **Build an emergency fund.** Make sure you keep at least six months of living expenses available in some type of liquid account — one that is completely separate from your business accounts. If you need to pay for a major car repair, buy an expensive appliance or cover a major medical bill, you'll want to be prepared. And if you can't pay for these items, your business will likely suffer.
- **Review your insurance coverage.** Do you have enough life insurance to pay off your home and educate your children if anything happens to you? If not, you'll want to upgrade your coverage. You also might want to add a mortgage protection benefit to your life insurance policy, so that you can afford your mortgage if you become disabled and can't run your business for a while. Disability insurance may also be valuable, though you'll need to shop around for a reasonably priced policy, as this coverage can be expensive.
- **Set up a retirement plan.** If you worked in a large company before striking out on your own, you might have contributed to a 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan. But now that you're the business owner, you'll have to set up your own retirement plan. Fortunately, good plans are available. For example, if your business has no employees except you and your spouse, you can choose a SEP IRA, an owner-only 401(k) or an owner-only defined benefit plan. If you plan to hire employees, you might want to explore a SIMPLE IRA or a Safe Harbor 401(k). These plans have both advantages and limitations. To find the one that's right for you, meet with a financial professional who is experienced in helping small-business owners.
- **Choose the correct ownership structure.** As a small-business person, you could be a sole proprietor, form a partnership or set up what's known as an S corporation. The ownership structure you choose can have a big effect on some important issues, such as whether your health insurance premiums are tax-deductible. Consequently, you may want to consult with your tax adviser before making this decision.

By following the above suggestions, you should be able to focus more intently on those tasks that can help you grow your business. So before you jump, plan ahead. You'll be glad you did.

For more information, contact:
Peter Vignati, Edward Jones
41 East Main Street
Avon, CT 06001
peter.vignati@edwardjones.com
860-676-1442

Have Info to Share?

We encourage our members to submit educational articles about your profession. We are looking for articles that provide useful information for business owners about 500 to 700 words long

E-mail your article to: avonchamber@sbcglobal.net.

Turkey Dinner

hosted by Miller Foods
and Oma's Pride



(l-r): Ken and Jean Foisie of **TravelVision** welcome new member Susan Macko of **My New Wardrobe** at the *October 2006 Business After Hours* hosted by **Miller Foods and Oma's Pride**.

October 2006
Business After Hours



(l-r): Venerable Chamber members 'Charming' Carl Candels of **Carl Candels & Associates** and Bernadette Mayer of **Mayer Communications** share a laugh at the *October Business After Hours*.

Networking with the Chamber

The Chamber thanks the following businesses for their generous donations to the drawings at the *October 11 Business After Hours* held at Miller Foods, hosted by **Miller Foods** and **Oma's Pride**, where everyone enjoyed their Turkey Dinner:

Candy Bouquet

A Candy Bouquet

Logo Concepts

Planner

Magda & Associates

Glass Paperweight

Miller Foods

Three (3) Gift Certificates for a Turkey

Oma's Pride

Two (2) \$25 Gift Certificates



Margi Hensley (l) of **Robert Hensley & Associates** enjoys an entertaining moment with the Chamber's talented magician Richard Matt of **Have Wand Will Travel**.

Get Ready for the Holidays

November 2006 Business After Hours

hosted by
**Café Louise Catering; Peter Vignati,
Investment Representative, Edward Jones; and Seasons Hallmark Shop**



(r): Chamber President Ron Evans of **People Management International** shares a laugh with Leslie Chaput (l) of **RE/Max Premier, Realtors** and Ketil Osland (c) of **Countrywide Home Loans** at the *November 2006 Business After Hours*.



(l-r): New member Rosalie Doherty of **The Traveling Vineyard**, Bernadette Mayer of **Mayer Communications**, and Dotty Magda of **Magda & Associates** braved a stormy evening to enjoy the festive atmosphere of the *November Business After Hours*.

Networking with the Chamber

The Chamber thanks the following businesses for their generous donations to the drawings at the *November 8 Business After Hours, Get Ready For The Holidays*, hosted by **Café Louise Catering; Peter Vignati, Investment Representative, Edward Jones; and Seasons Hallmark Shop:**

Stephen Cadieux, CPA

Complimentary 2006 Tax Preparation & Recommendations

Peter Vignati of Edward Jones

Gift Card to Max Restaurants

Magda & Associates

Glass Paperweight

Seasons Hallmark Shop

George Strait Holiday Disc

Café Louise Catering

Wrapped Finger Desserts (Given to Every Attendee)

Seasons Hallmark Shop

Boxed Holiday Pins (Given to Every Attendee)



Stephen Cadieux of **Stephen E. Cadieux, CPA** (l) talks with Dick Christensen (r) of **Seasons Hallmark Shop**, one of the hosts and the site of the *November Business After Hours*.

Annual Holiday Event

hosted by River Ridge at Avon

December 2006 Business After Hours

Marine's
"Toys For Tots" Drive



(l-r): Avi Smith-Rapaport of **We Care Computers**, Charlie Mayer of **Data 2000**, and Peg Mayer and Rick Farina of **Howard L. Page & Co.** share a laugh during the Chamber's Annual Holiday Event.



Flo Stahl of **Avon Resume** (c) along with Ken (l) and Jean (r) Foisie of **TravelVision** take a moment to enjoy the gingerbread house that was on display at the *December Business After Hours* hosted by River Ridge at Avon.

(l-r): Pictured are our hosts from

River Ridge at Avon:

Lisa Duncan, Director of Community Relations; Jeanne Eisenhaure, Executive Director and Chair of the Chamber's Meetings & Events Committee; and Pat Giordano, Director of Community Relations.



Networking with the Chamber

The Chamber thanks the following businesses for their generous donations to the drawings at the *December 6 Business After Hours Annual Holiday Event*/ Marine's "Toys For Tots" Drive, hosted by **River Ridge at Avon:**

Innovative Stone & Waterworks

Two (2) Gift Certificates for Christmas Trees

Magda & Associates

Glass Rooster

The First National Bank of Litchfield

Fleece Blanket

(l-r): Chamber members and long-time friends Barbara Thomas of **Imprint Newspapers** and Cal Miller-Stevens of **Miller Foods and Oma's Pride** are pictured here against the backdrop of the beautiful holiday decorations that adorned River Ridge at Avon.

“New Member Advocate of the Year” Award Tally Update

The following Chamber members have recruited new members since June 2006:

Cheryl England of the Marriott Residence Inn-Avon	2
Holly Kingsford of Juice Plus	2
Beth Markowski-Roop of Hartford Federal Credit Union	2
Scott Nardozzi of The First National Bank of Litchfield	2
Bruce Shein of Avon Executive Offices	2
John Bertell of Cove Creek Mortgage	1
Jennifer Cadieux of Realty Works	1
Jeff Campbell of Measure Twice	1
Ellen Cazzetta of Nathan, Powers & Co/NPD Payroll	1
Jean Foisie of TravelVision	1
Dave Gillard of MW Financial Group	1
Lori Macgowan of William Pitt Sotheby’s International Realty . . .	1
Kim McDonald of The Simsbury Bank	1

Ileen Roth of Avon Old Farms Hotel	1
Peter Vignati of Edward Jones	1

These members are eligible to compete for the “New Member Advocate of the Year” award. First given out at the 2006 Annual Meeting, the award was created to recognize on an ongoing basis those who play an active role each year in recruiting new members to the Chamber, while also providing 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 at their place of work, along with a brass plate inscribed with the winner(s) name(s) and place(s) of business that will be on display at the Chamber office.

Any Chamber member in good standing is eligible to compete for the award. 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.

You, too, can be among the members listed here who are helping our Chamber grow and become eligible to win this award. So get in on the fun! Look for the new tally in the next edition of the Chamber newsletter.

Your 1/2 page ad (7.25" x 4.25")
can be seen here for
the whole year for only \$1,000.00
or \$600.00 for 6 months.
See page 15 for details.

Newsletter Advertising Opportunities

The Connection newsletter will be published bi-monthly starting November 2006
All ads include a free hot link to your web site.

Best Value

Rates

Advertise for one year and get one month free!

When you pay for one year of advertising you are charged for only 5 issues.

1 Six Business card ads \$125.00
save \$25.00

2 Six ¼ and ⅓ page ads \$375.00
save \$75.00

3 Six ½ page ads \$1,000.00
save \$200.00

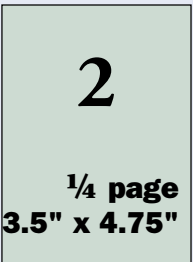
6 months

1 Three Business card ads \$75.00

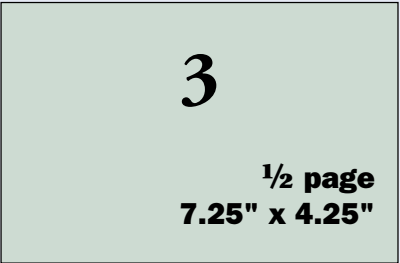
2 Three ¼ or ⅓ page ads \$225.00

3 Three ½ page ads \$600.00

**business card ad
3.5" x 2"**



**1/3 page
2.22" x 9.5"**



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
- Questions? Call 860.675.4832

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