

The Connection



May/June 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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May 7/June 4 – Government Affairs & Economic Development Committee meeting, 5-6 p.m. Chamber office.

May 9 – Membership Committee meeting, 8-9 a.m. Countrywide Home Loans, 56 East Main Street (Route 44), Avon.

May 10/June 14 – Communications Committee meeting, 1:30-2:30 p.m. Chamber office.

May 16/June 20 – Education Committee meeting, 8:30-9:30a.m. Cusi, 385 West Main Street (Route 44).

May 17/June 21 – Meetings & Events Committee meeting, 4-5 p.m. River Ridge at Avon, 101 Bickford Extension.

May 23 – 42nd Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Golf Club of Avon, 160 Country Club Road, Avon. \$25 per person.

June 6 – *Morning Business Network Connection*, 8-9 a.m. Hosted by **Cosi**, 385 West Main Street (Route 44). Members free.

June 11 – *ID Theft Prevention & Survival for your business and your clients*, 8-10 a.m. Hosted by **Harrison, Tarlov & Associates**, at Avon Free Public Library, 281 Country Club Road, Avon. Members free.

June 12 – Avon Chamber Operating Committee meeting, 8:30 a.m. Chamber office.

June 13 – Membership Committee meeting, 8-9 a.m. New Era Telecommunications, 80 Darling Drive, Avon Park South.

June 13 – *Business After Hours*, 5-7 p.m. Hosted by **Nathan, Powers & Co./NPD Payroll and Stifel Nicolaus**, 200 Fisher Drive, Avon. Members free. \$20 non-members.

June 20 – Avon Chamber Board of Directors meeting, 4 p.m. Avon Old Farms Hotel.

June 27 – *Yappee Hour Networking*, for Chamber members and their canine companions, 4-6 p.m. Hosted by **Carmon Funeral Home & Family Center**, 301 Country Club Road, Avon. Members free.

Mark Your Calendars

Avon Chamber of Commerce 42nd Annual Meeting

Wednesday, May 23 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
Golf Club of Avon

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 Simsbury Bank

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.

Member profile

The Ink Store (formerly Inkjetwarehouse of Avon)



Describe Your Business:

Before graduating from Simsbury High in 2001 I worked at Bob's in retail, part time. College was not an option for me, but I wanted to apply myself and be successful. My parents helped me fulfill my dream of owning and running a retail store. My parents have a wholesale import business for printer cartridges in Canton called Inkjetwarehouse. My business is called "The Ink Store". It is a factory direct outlet for printer cartridges and is located near Canton transfer station and the soccer fields at 106 Powder Mill Rd.

What Makes Your Business Unique:

Our concept is simple: Any Inkjet, Laser toner or Ribbon cartridge that you can buy in the bigbox office supplies store on Route 44 you can buy for less at my store.

What Is Your Philosophy On How To Be Successful:

1. Listen to what your customers need
2. Know your products, so you can help your customer
3. Keep your overhead low and pass on the savings.
4. Be friendly, professional and honest.

How Has Being A Member Of The Chamber Helped Your Business:

I love meeting new people and I go to every meeting I can. I found my accountant, printer, insurance agents and lawyer at these meetings and they all became my customers too. The Chamber is my #1 marketing tool.

The Ink Store was chosen at the March 2007 *Business After Hours* hosted by Farmington Valley Arts Center.

Selina Derungs, Owner
106 Powder Mill Rd.
Canton, CT 06019
860-284-9417
860-674-0483
selinad@theinkstore.com
www.theinkstore.com

*"Good humor is a tonic for mind and body. It is the best
antidote for anxiety and depression. It is a business asset.
It attracts and keeps friends. It lightens human burdens. It
is the direct route to serenity and contentment."*

Grenville Kleiser
1868-1953, Author

Edward Jones[®]

Peter J. Vignati
Investment Representative

41 East Main Street
Avon, CT 06001
Bus. 860-676-1442
Fax 866-360-6514
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your life | your story | your way

Welcome

new members
March, 2007

**Aloha Tanning of Avon, Grace Tibball/
Scott Tibball**, 51 East Main Street, Avon, CT
06001, 676-8267, Tanning Salon, Hand Bags,
Luggage, Travel Items, alohatanning@gmail.com

Avon Little League, Steve Howard,
President, P.O. Box 441, Avon, CT 06001,
Non-Profit, www.avonlittleleague.org

**Coldwell Banker - Nancy Scapellati,
Nancy Scapellati**, 39 Briar Hill Road, Avon, CT
06001, 673-1802, Real Estate,
nancy.scapellati@cbmoves.com,
www.nancyscapellati.com

Fitness Together, Eric Urbanowicz,
300 Country Club Road, Avon, CT 06001,
673-3993, 673-3231, Personal Training,
ericurbanowicz@fitnesstogether.com,
www.fitnesstogether.com

Mihaly Portrait Design, Kevin Mihaly, 27
Coachman's Run, Avon, CT 06001/Farmington
Valley Arts Center, 25 Arts Center Lane, Avon,
CT 06001, 679-0214, Portrait Photography,
kevin@mihalyportraitdesign.com,
www.mihalyportraitdesign.com

**Mountain Physical Therapy and Sports
Medicine, Denise Kidd/Samir Doshi/Bart
Giustina**, 31A Ensign Drive, Avon, CT 06001,
674-1569, 674-8031, Physical Therapy Practice

**Samuel O. Chester, LLC, Samuel O. Chester/
Barbra Chester**, 195 West Main Street, Suite 18,
P.O. Box 411, Avon, CT 06001, 284-9681,
674-0729, Legal Services for Businesses and
Individuals, schester@sbcglobal.net,

**St. Germain Investment Management, Denis
Horrigan/Paul Valickus**,
100 Pearl Street, Hartford, CT 06103, 727-9530,
727-9269, Professional Investment Management for
Individuals and Families for More Than 80 Years,
dhorrigan@stgermaininvestments.com,
www.stgermaininvestments.com

**The Hartford Business Journal, Matthew
Davis/Gail Lebert/Roberta Mancuso**, 15
Lewis Street, Suite 400, Hartford, CT 06103,
236-9998 ext. 23, 860-570-2493, Subscriber
Based B2B Publication with a Readership of
Affluent and Educated Business Decision Makers,
mdavis@hbjournal.com, www.hbjournal.com

The InnerSpace, Kathryn Coyle, Zoey Trap,
31C Ensign Drive, Avon, CT 06001, 674-1561,
674-1561, Pilates, Yoga and Movement Studio,
info@theinnerspace.net, www.theinnerspace.net

**Ward Kilduff Mortgage, Greg Ward/Jason
Kilduff**, 146 Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury,
CT 06089, 658-7100, 860-648-8570, Mortgage
Company, www.wardkilduff.com

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

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

Avon Properties / Bailey, LLC	Eastern Rehabilitation Network	Max A Mia	Walmart Store #2899
Peter M. Bakker Agency, Inc.	Farmington Savings Bank – Country Club Road branch	MW Financial Group	We Care Computers
Capitol Region Federal Credit Union	Farmington Valley Arts Center	New England Capital Planners	WSI Internet Consulting & Education
Carmen Anthony Fishhouse	Harris-Reed Travel Service	Research Services, LLC	Membership Renewals – This list represents renewals processed be- tween February 7, 2007 and March 31, 2007
Continental Security Systems	Healthsouth	Richter & Cegan, Inc.	
DataBridge Systems, LLC	Healthtrax Fitness	Sabia & Hartley, LLC	
	Logo Concepts, LLC	Selborne, LLC	
		State Farm Insurance	
		The Perfect Workout	

Support Avon Dollars for Scholars

Steve McGuff, Director of Global Manufacturing for **Reflexite Corporation** and President of Avon Dollars for Scholars reminds everyone that time remains to make a donation to this year's "Dollars for Scholars" fundraising drive. May 25 is the deadline for donors of \$300 or more who would like to have a scholarship presented in the name of their choice. Contribution checks must be made payable to "Avon Dollars for Scholars" and should be mailed to:

"Avon Dollars for Scholars"
c/o Farmington Savings Bank
296 Country Club Road
Avon, CT 06001

**For more information call
Steve McGuff at (860) 676-7172**

Hot Tip

Have you ever needed free and easy access to the back issues of the *Wall Street Journal*, *New York Times* or *Washington Post* to do research on a company, person or an event? Your library card is your ticket to these and other premier newspapers and business journals online. Just visit www.avonctlibrary.info and select Information Databases or call the **Avon Library Reference Department** at 673-9712 for assistance.

Congratulation CT Sportswear

Congratulations to Bill Brown of **CT Sportswear**, who was named American Youth Football's National Compliance Director. Bill will work with the regional directors and national office to ensure compliance for regional and national competition. Bill has 30 years of professional management experience and nearly 15 years of involvement in youth athletics. He is heavily involved in youth football in our community.



Fit, Fun and Fundraising

On Saturday, June 23, **Dill, Joyce & Thresher Insurance (DJT)** will host their annual Bike Ride & Wellness Festival at 19 Ensign Drive, Avon. Paul Mikkelson, President of DJT, coordinates this event with two goals – raising money and getting as many people as possible on bikes as part of a healthier lifestyle. Last year DJT raised over \$30,000 for their local non-profit client organizations. Ride a bike for fun or go to the Wellness Festival, which includes health screenings, massages, face painting, moon bounce, food, music and more. For more information visit www.djtins.com

The Shops at Avon Green

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J McLaughlin – The Madison Shop – Mr. Parks Tailor

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fax | 860.674.9888
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sbeach@sovereignbank.com

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 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**.

Music, Music, Music

The next concert in the **Nutmeg Symphony Orchestra** subscription series is Friday, May 18, at 7:30 p.m. at Trinity Episcopal Church, Torrington. The program, entitled Romantic Journeys, will include the music of Massenet and Sibelius. Single tickets are \$22/adult, \$10/student. For further information please visit www.nutmegsymphony.org

Success leads to Expansion

Following the success of its first year at its new location on Route 44, **Over the Moon** continues to expand with the launch of its website www.overthemoonkidz.com They now offer their adorably cute clothes, shoes and gifts to all 50 states. Please visit them on the web at www.overthemoonkidz.com

Get the BIG Picutre

Avon's **Signs Direct, Inc.**'s capacity for producing wide format, full color graphics has expanded due to its recent purchase of a Mimaki Printer. A picture is worth a thousand words. How many words can you fit on your vehicle without losing the visual impact? Imagine having a full color moving billboard advertising your products and services 24/7. Visit **Signs Direct** and see the difference! Full color banners, posters, graphics & more. **192 West Main Street** (Route 44), **676-9677** (p).

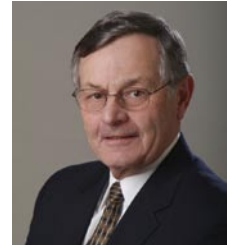


Art, Wine and Food

The Investors Center, Inc. of Avon will feature the photography of David Lahey, a wine tasting by Super Cellar of Avon, and the food of Chives Catering of Avon on Wednesday, June 6, from 6 to 8 p.m. Admission to the event is free to the public. To attend, call Kathi Boratko at (860) 677-8808 or e-mail kathib@theinvestorscenter.com **The Investors Center, Inc.** is a financial & insurance services company.

New Director Elected

The Simsbury Bank & Trust Company, a subsidiary of SBT Bancorp, Inc., announces that Rodney R. Reynolds of North Granby has been unanimously elected a director of the Bank. Mr. Reynolds brings the Bank extensive business and financial experience, as well as dedication to community service. Mr. Reynolds has had a long and successful career in manufacturing, real estate development, financial services, philanthropy and working with people with special needs.



Investing in our Community

The Simsbury Bank & Trust Company announces that it will be a sponsor of the Annual Walk for Fidelco scheduled to take place on Saturday, May 19th at Wickham Park in Manchester. As New England's only guide dog school, the ever increasing demand for guide dogs has required Fidelco to steadily grow and expand to meet that challenge. The Bank is proud to be a part of such a worthwhile cause.

Stop by for Free Prizes

On Saturday, May 12, **AAA Avon** will hold a Member Appreciation Celebration from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at their 70 East Main Street (Route 44) offices. There will be door prize giveaways every half hour, membership specials, discounted travel savings, free insurance quotes and free onsite battery testing. For more information call **860-409-2800**.

Stepping up to the Microphone

Lewis Green, Founder and Chief Communications Officer of **L&G Business Solutions**, spoke before a full house of Management Consultants at the April 16 Dallas Fort Worth Chapter of International Management Consultants. The name of the presentation was "Secrets of Consulting To Small Companies: You Need to Know Small Business to Sell to Small Business". Lewis's fifth book, "Lead With Your Heart", is scheduled to be published this summer.

E-mail your business news to avonchamber@sbcglobal.net or fax it to 675.0469. The deadline for the July/August issue is June 8.

50 to 75 word limit

Art After Hours

hosted by Farmington Valley Arts Center, March 2007



(l-r): **Farmington Valley Arts Center** Board President Martha Crawford and former Acting Executive Director Susan Reinhart – our hosts for the evening – stand before one of the many pieces of artwork on display at the Center.



(l-r): Networking together are Board Member Susan Wolfe, Financial Advisor with **Morgan Stanley**, Darryl Denomme of **Juice Plus**, and Ellen Graham of **Avon Wellness Center Dental Associates**.



(l-r): Guest Sean Smith of Wachovia networks with Lisa Jacobi of **COCC**.



(l-r): Dr. Jerry Graham of **Avon Wellness Center Dental Associates** chats with Board Member and Past President Paul Mikkelson of **Dill, Joyce & Thresher Insurance**.

Networking with the Chamber

The Chamber thanks the following businesses for their generous donations to the drawings at the March 14 *Business After Hours*, hosted by **Farmington Valley Arts Center**:

Candy Bouquet – 4 Tickets to the Farmington Valley Symphony Orchestra's March 31 Concert at the University of Hartford

Logo Concepts – Briefcase



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3rd Annual Bring A Non-Member Business Event

hosted by **Ninety Nine Restaurant & Pub**

April 2007 *Business After Hours*

The Chamber's 3rd Annual Bring A Non Member Business Event, held on April 10 and hosted once again by the management and staff of **Ninety Nine Restaurant & Pub**, was a fantastic night for all.

This annual event, which is our Chamber's unique twist on the standard membership drive that most chambers of commerce undertake, encourages current members to take an active role in the recruiting of new members. What better way for a non-member business to get to know the Chamber than to be invited by a member to attend one of our networking events? Non-members see first-hand what an exciting and dynamic business advocacy organization the Chamber is.

Thanks to the efforts of many, attendance this year topped out at nearly 100 members and guests. The Chamber would like to give a special thank you to the following members who participated in this year's event by bringing a non-member business guest (and in some cases multiple guests):

- Avon Resume
 - Barbara H. Hance Associates
 - Chip Janiszewski Enterprises *
 - Citibank
 - Dill, Joyce & Thresher Insurance
 - Farmington Valley Visitors Association
 - Hartford Federal Credit Union *
 - Juice Plus – Holly Kingsford *
 - Keller Williams Realty – Al and Jane Zambrello
 - Logo Concepts
 - We Care Computers *
- *denotes multiple guests*

As a thank you to the members who work so diligently to make this event a success by bringing a non-member business, the Chamber again this year offered a special Prize Package – A Little Taste of Avon – which consisted of gift certificates to five area member restaurants. Congratulations to this year's winner – **Michelle Hagan** from **Citibank**.

In addition, for the first time this year, any guest that joined the Chamber that night was eligible to enter into a drawing for an identical Prize Package. Out of the 19 guests



(l-r): Al and Jane Zambrello of **Keller Williams Realty** enjoy the great atmosphere that is the hallmark of our host business. The Zambellos were among the 11 member businesses that participated in this year's event by bringing one or more non-member business guests. Thank You!

in attendance, five joined the Chamber. Congratulations to winner **James Troy from @ Insurance**.

Last but not least, the Chamber expresses its gratitude to the member businesses that served as Prize Package Sponsors; without whose generosity this event would not be the success that it is:

Carmen Anthony Fishhouse, Dakota, Max a Mia, Ninety Nine Restaurant & Pub, Toshi Japanese Restaurant



(l-r): Two of the Chamber's newest members who joined at this year's event, Peter Huizenga and Claudia Dunn of **Décor Advantage**, are welcomed by their sponsor and Chair of the Chamber's Membership Committee, Holly Kingsford of **Juice Plus** and Laura Hunt of **The Hunt Agency**.



(l-r): Fellow **Citibank** co-workers Brian Schroeder and Mike Conforti congratulate Michelle Hagan, winner of the Prize Package awarded to a member who brought a non-member business guest, and James Troy of **@ Insurance**, winner of the Prize Package given to a non-member guest who joined the Chamber during the event.

“New Member Advocate of the Year” Award Tally Update And The Winner Is?

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

Scott Nardozzi of
The First National Bank of Litchfield, 3
Ellen Cazzetta of
Nathan, Powers & Co/NPD Payroll, 2
Cheryl England of the
Marriott Residence Inn-Avon, 2
Holly Kingsford of **Juice Plus**, 2
Beth Markowski-Roop of
Hartford Federal Credit Union, 2
Bruce Shein of **Avon Executive Offices**, 2
Matt St. Thomas of **The Perfect Workout**, 2
John Bertell of **Cove Creek Mortgage**, 1
Jennifer Cadieux of **Realty Works**, 1
Jeff Campbell of **Measure Twice**, 1
Jean Foisie of **TravelIVision**, 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
David Munsey of **Specialty Wood Products**, 1
David Pena of **Workplace Innovations**, 1
Ileen Roth of **Avon Old Farms Hotel**, 1
Peter Vignati of **Edward Jones**, 1

But it’s not over yet ...

These members are eligible to compete for the **New Member Advocate of the Year** award. First given out at the 2006 Annual Meeting, this award was created to recognize those who play an active role each year 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 will be on display at the Chamber office.

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

To find out who this year’s winner will be, come to the Chamber’s 42nd Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon on Wednesday, May 23, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Golf Club of Avon. Tickets are \$25 per person. Reservations must be paid in full and received by no later than May 16.

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picardramsayh@raveisre.com

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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

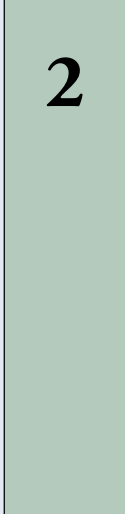
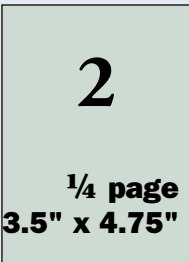
6 months

1 Three Business card ads \$75.00

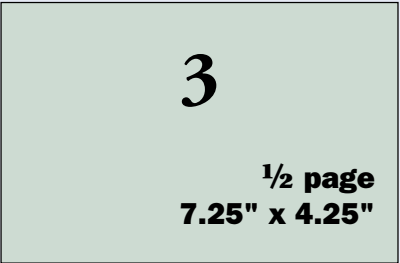
2 Three ¼ or ⅓ page ads \$225.00

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