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JEFFERSON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PARK

IMPORTANT DATES

Jan 8 8:30 AM	General Membership Business Meeting at Gale Street Inn
Jan 17 1:00 PM	Board of Directors Meeting Copernicus Foundation
Feb 12 8:30 AM	General Membership Business Meeting at Gale Street Inn

HOLIDAY PARTY THANK-YOU'S

A big "thank you" to the Copernicus Foundation for letting us hold our Holiday Lunch in their beautifully decorated lobby. They did all the set up and take down for us. It was a great time and great food which was catered by the Gale Street Inn.



We would like to thank everyone who brought knitted items (and cash) to our "Holiday Luncheon" which we delivered to the 16th District Police Station for the "Battered Women and Children Program". There had to be over 100 items in the bags that we delivered to them and they were most grateful for everything.

Our last "thank you" goes to Dave Pietrowski who once again was able to get 4 train sets donated to the chamber from "Mike's Train House" in Columbia, Maryland.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

JANUARY MEETING

Our first meeting of the New Year will be held at 8:30 a.m., at the **GALE STREET INN**, 4914 N. Milwaukee, Avenue.

Our guest speaker will be Mr. Jim Peterson, Partnership Development Manager for Education to Careers from the Chicago Public School System. To start the "New Year" why not try to bring a neighboring business associate that is not yet a chamber member!

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE FOR 2008

Our Membership drive for 2008 will begin this month and continue till March 1st, 2008.

All members will be receiving a letter and invoice covering your renewal dues and if you have an ad in the Directory and/or Newsletter that will also be included in your invoice. If you should have any questions regarding your invoice please do not hesitate to contact the chamber office. Deadline for inclusion in the 2008/2009 Membership Directory and Community Guide is March 1st, 2008.

Please encourage your colleagues to consider joining the Chamber. Our membership is strong, but we can always use additional business contacts for our members to become familiar with. If you know a business that might be interested in becoming a member, call the chamber office with their contact information so we can send them the necessary information for membership.

MTH has given the chamber 3 or 4 train sets over the past several years for us to give away. One train set was won by chamber member Tom Sullivan (Insure Savings Core) at the Holiday Luncheon and the other 3 were won by local residents responding to our ad in the Nadig Newspapers.

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OLR Offers Health Programs

Our Lady of the Resurrection Medical Center, 5645 W. Addison, offers the following health programs. Registration required by calling 877-RES-INFO (877-737-4636).

Jan. 11 Healthy Aging Program

Jan. 15 Addiction Education Program

Jan. 24 Arthritis Support Group

Every Monday Families Anonymous (drug or alcohol abuse concerns)

Call for information about arthritis and diabetes support groups, and living a healthier lifestyle cardiopulmonary program.

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Coloring Contest Winners

Thank you to Michael Swinford of Parkway Bank for hosting the winners of the Chamber's Christmas Coloring Contest. Each winner also received \$10 in cash from the chamber. Parkway Bank provided cookies and juice for the children and their parents.

Reminder

2008 Membership fees are due no later than March 1st to be included in Membership Directory. Thank you for your prompt response.

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ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES FOR 2008

The following advertising opportunities are available in the chamber's monthly newsletter:

1. Newsletter Sponsorship

Help out the chamber with the costs associated with producing the Newsletter. Choose a month and your business will be featured as our "Business of the Month". **Sponsorship is**

\$85.00/month

2. Business Card Advertisements

Promote your business with your business card for an entire year (March 1st through

February 29th, 2008). That's 12 monthly issues of the chamber newsletter for a one time fee. Twelve times to have your business card visible to potential clients. Space is limited to 18 and will be on a first come first serve basis. **Sponsorship is \$100/12 issues**

3. Business Advertisements

A full page, 8 1/2" x 11", flyer will be included in the monthly newsletter. You design it and we will print it on white or colored paper to be included in the newsletter. With no label, postage or folding, you'll have more time to run your business while we get the word out for you. **Sponsorship is \$60/month (If you supply the insert the cost is \$50/month)**



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MILWAUKEE AVENUE STREET IMPROVEMENTS

By Brian Nadig

Construction on the Milwaukee Avenue improvement project is scheduled to start in Jefferson Park by May and in Portage Park up to a year later. The project is designed to improve traffic flow and provide streetscape elements along an approximately 12-mile stretch of Milwaukee between Gale Street on the north and Grand Avenue on the south. Plans had called for the construction to start by 2006.

City Department of Transportation spokesman Brian Steele said that the total cost of the planned improvements on Milwaukee between Gale and Montrose Avenue is about \$8 million. The city plans to conduct a second round of bidding for the construction in Jefferson Park after none of the initial applicants was awarded a contract. The construction will include street resurfacing, sidewalk repairs and replacement where needed, sewer improvements between Montrose and Windsor Avenue, and the installation of upgraded traffic signals with energy-efficient bulbs at Montrose, Sunnyside Avenue, Lawrence Avenue, Ainslie Street and Higgins Avenue. Steele said that the project also will include the installation of decorative items, including new lampposts, along Milwaukee.

Efforts will be made to limit driving and parking lane closures during the construction and in some instances lanes may reopen in the evening when crews are not working, Steele said. The construction is estimated to last about one year, he said.

Work on the Portage Park portion of the project, which will occur on Milwaukee between Montrose and Kilpatrick Avenue, is expected to start next fall or in early 2009, Steele said. Planning for the project is complicated due to the unusual configuration of the Six Corners intersection at Milwaukee, Cicero Avenue and Irving Park Road, where lane closings will add to the area's traffic congestion, Steele said.

In the Six Corners district, the improvements will go beyond Milwaukee to include portions of Cicero and Irving Park Road. The installation of a landscaped median in the 4000 block of Cicero and several types of community identifiers, including sidewalk medallions, are planned.

SNOW REMOVAL NOTICE

All Chicago businesses and commercial property owners are required, under Municipal Code, to remove snow and ice from sidewalks abutting their property or business (Section 4-4-310 and 320). Business owners should clear a path of at least 5 feet in width. It is also important to remember that a sidewalk free of snow and ice **IS A PRO-VISION OF YOUR BUSINESS LICENSE** (SECTION 4-4-320 AND 10-8-180). If you should fail to do so and someone reports you, there could be fines for every day that snow or ice is left on the sidewalk.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Congratulations to our 16th District Police Officers for their efforts in fighting crime. Pictured with captain Ed Lenti are tactical lieutenant Joseph Schober, tactical officer Robert Arnolts and tactical officer Russ Baclus.

Honored for their efforts in an investigation which led to the arrests of eight alleged gang members and the recovery of a quantity of cocaine, marijuana and six guns. Thank you for your service to the Jefferson Park Community.



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