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JEFFERSON
CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE PARK

IMPORTANT

DATES

Tues. Feb. 9-7 PM
Community Meeting

Wed., Feb. 17—8:30
am - General Mem-
bership Business
Meeting at Gale
Street Inn

Tues., Mar. 9th-8:30
am General Mem-
bership Meeting at
Gale Street Inn



**FEBRUARY GENERAL
MEMBERSHIP
MEETING**

Our next General Membership Meeting will be held at 8:30 am on Wednesday, February 17th at the Gale Street Inn, Coffee, Coffee cake and fruit will be served.

Our first guest speaker will be Congressman Mike Quigley who will talk about issues affecting small businesses. Questions and answer period following his presentation. Following Congressman Quigley will be a “JEFF FEST” presentation by Gus and Shanna Karamaniolas from Fischman Liquors who are spearheading the Jeff Fest Committee. Please join us for this most informative meeting. Ask a neighboring business to join you.

MINIATURE INDOOR GOLF EVENT



Getting a little tired of winter and want to network and have some great fun at the same time? Well we’ve just solved that problem. The Jefferson Park Chamber along with the Albany Park (North River Commission), Belmont Central, Edison Park, Northwest Connection, Harwood Heights/Norridge, Portage Park and West Ridge Chambers of Commerce are co-sponsoring a “Glow-in-the Dark Indoor Miniature Golf Outing”. The event will be held on Thursday, March 11th from 5:30 pm to and will be held at the PUTTING EDGE FUN CENTER in Norridge, IL.

Besides the 18 holes of golf there’ll be food (consisting of Salad, Mostaciolli and Chicken Marsala) and a cash bar consisting of beer and wine. This is going to be a really great evening of fun and laughs and a great networking opportunity.

We’re waiting to get things finalized so watch your emails and the March Newsletter for complete details.

Jefferson Park Chamber of Commerce

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MEMBERSHIP DUES

Just a reminder that 2010 Membership dues are due by Monday, March 1st, 2010. Remember that if your dues are not in by that date, you will not be listed in the new 2010/2011 Membership Directory and Community Guide. Also remember that we do accept visa, MasterCard and Discover Card for payment. Just call the chamber office.

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 businesses (Section 4-4-310 and 320). Business owners should clear a path at least 5 feet in width. It is important to remember that a sidewalk is free of snow/ice is a provision of your business license (section 4-4-320 and 10-8-180). So please be kind to yourself and your customers and shovel.

LIBRARY NEWS

Saturday, February 13—2:00 p.m. Join historian and air pilot Nick Selig as he recounts Chicago's rich and colorful aviation history, co-sponsored by the Northwest Chicago Historical Society.

Tuesday, February 16—6:30 p.m. The Tuesday evening book discussion group will discuss *Unaccustomed Earth* by Jhumpa Lahiri. Call to reserve a copy.

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Jefferson Park Chamber of Commerce

The President's Message ...

The first half of 2010 will be a busy one for the Jefferson Park Chamber of Commerce.

In January, the chamber sponsored a successful business fair in conjunction with Our Lady of Victory School. Members who participated met face-to-face with hundreds of potential new customers. In addition, the chamber partnered with OLV to have student artwork on display in several vacant storefronts in the recently renovated two-story building at 5316 W. Lawrence Ave. The chamber also worked closely with the 16th Police District to help resolve recent concerns raised by residents.

Here's a brief summary of what to expect through the end of June. Please look for updates in the chamber newsletter:

- At least three multi-chamber networking/social/workshop events are planned. On March 11, there will be an indoor miniature golf outing and on April 16 several chambers will be hosting a fundraiser for a food pantry. Also in the works is an April 29 seminar at the Copernicus Center, 5216 W. Lawrence, in which the Illinois Small Business Development Center will outline free services and grants which are available to help companies during these tough economic times.
- There will be general membership meetings in February, March, April, May and June. Our first meeting will be held at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 17, at the Gale Street Inn, 4914 N. Milwaukee Ave. Congressman Mike Quigley will talk about issues affecting small businesses, and the Jeff Fest Committee will be outlining all of the plans for the 10th annual festival. All of the general meetings are open to members and non-members, so members are encouraged to bring a neighboring business owner, who is not a member, to one of these meetings, which are not only informative but are a great opportunity for networking.
- In May the chamber once again will be awarding three \$1,000 scholarships to graduating eighth graders. You will not want to miss the smiling faces of these fine students and their proud parents at the awards presentation.
- In June, the chamber not only will be hosting JEFF FEST and a BINGO fundraiser but will hopefully be unveiling its revamped Website and distributing the chamber's annual Membership Directory. Your membership includes a listing on the Website and in the directory. In addition, one set of mailing labels, with the names and addresses of our members, is available to all members annually.
- And, finally, don't forget to take advantage of the Small Business Improvement Fund, which offers grants to owners whose businesses are located in the Jefferson Tax Increment Financing District. Up to \$150,000 is available per business.

Whether your business is located in a storefront, an office or a home, I hope the chamber can be of service to you in 2010. Please call me at (773) 286-6100 if you have any recommendations for new chamber programs. It should be an exciting year, as a sign store, hair salon and café are among the area's new businesses.

Sincerely,

Brian Nadig, Chamber President

Nadig Newspapers, Publisher



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JEFF FEST NEWS

The Jefferson Park Chamber's 10th Annual JEFF FEST is less than 5 months away, set for Friday, Saturday and Sunday, June 25 to 27. For the first time, the festival will be held on the grounds of the Copernicus Cultural and Civic Center at Lawrence and Lipps avenues. The event will be a joint venture between the chamber and the Copernicus Foundation, which has decades of experience in running festivals and community events. The chamber and foundation also are receiving great support for the festival from Alderman Patrick Levar, Northwestern College, Mega Realty, the 45th Ward Street and Sanitation, office and the 16th Police District. The festival will feature two stages, one of which will be reserved exclusively for music and dance performances by local children and local up-and-coming bands. The other stage will be reserved for the main acts, whose performances – in the even of inclement weather --will be moved inside the beautifully restored 1,900-seat theater at the Copernicus Center.

JEFF FEST is designed not only as a fundraiser, but, more importantly, an event which brings the residents and businesses together as we celebrate and promote “Jefferson Park, which is home to great businesses, great families, great parks and great schools. JEFF FEST will offer our members an array of marketing, sponsorship and vendor opportunities. Sponsorships are available starting at only \$250, while vendor spaces (10' by 10') start at \$350, which includes a tent, a table and two chairs for the entire length of the festival. For food vendors, there are several booth sizes available, starting at \$800 for beverages and limited items and \$1,500 to \$2,000 for full meals (vendors keep 100 percent of their sales).

If you would like more information on sponsorships and vendor booths, please e-mail your inquiries to Jeff.Fest30@gmail.com or call Shanna at (773)-895-1225. Shanna and Gus from Fischman Liquors are spearheading the JEFF FEST COMMITTEE and will be happy to answer all of your questions. Information and applications can be e-mailed, mailed or faxed to you. In addition, details about the festival will soon be available, if not already, at jeffersonpark.net and on the Jeff Fest Facebook page. Updates also will be listed in future chamber newsletters. And please mark your calendar to attend the chamber's next general meeting in which the committee will make a presentation and have applications available. The meeting will start at 8:30 a.m. Wed., Feb. 17, at the Gale Street Inn, 4914 N. Milwaukee. Free parking is available in the TCF Bank lot. The meeting is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

“OLV School Beautifies Jeff Park”



The Jefferson Park Chamber is teaming up with local schools to beautify our business district. On Jan. 26, several art panels from students at Our Lady of Victory School were posted in the vacant storefronts at 5316 W. Lawrence Ave. Not only will this artwork help make our commercial district more inviting to customers but will hopefully draw more interest in the area's vacant storefronts from prospective tenants.

If you have a vacant storefront and would like to display art work, please call the chamber office (773)736-6697, and we will try to partner you with a local school. Thanks to Mega realty, Fischman Liquors and Nadig Newspapers for coordinating this project and hats off to the students at OLV for their wonderful drawings.

COMMUNITY MEETING

The Jefferson Park Chamber encourages its members to attend a Tuesday, Feb. 9, community meeting in which plans by the Copernicus Foundation to invest at least \$1 million into our shopping district will be discussed. The foundation, which operates the Copernicus Cultural and Civic Center at 5216 W. Lawrence Ave., is in negotiations to acquire a city-owned vacant lot at 4759 N. Laramie Ave. for the purposes of making it into a beautifully landscaped, approximately 20-space parking lot. The foundation needs the additional parking so that it can proceed with to plans to convert an industrial building at Lawrence and Avondale Avenues to offices for not-for-profit organizations and meeting space. During the daytime hours, the parking lot would be available for parking by customers at any area business!! The planned renovations for the building and the vacant lot will hopefully be a catalyst for other area improvements. The meeting will be held at 7 p.m. in the Community Room at the 16th District Police Station, 5151 N. Milwaukee Ave. (near Northwest Highway).

MULTI-CHAMBER NETWORKING WORKSHOP

Please mark your calendar for a multi-chamber networking workshop from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, April 29, at the Copernicus Center, 5216 W. Lawrence Ave. Guest speakers from the Illinois Small Business Development Center and the Small Business Improvement Fund will discuss services, many of which are free, and grants which are available to assist new and existing companies. Watch for more details next month.

BEAUBIEN SCHOOL WALK-A-THON

Beaubien School will be holding it's "4th Annual Walk-A-Thon" during the week of May 3rd through the 7th. The committee is soliciting donations of money and prizes from the community to help defray the cost of incentives and prizes for the kids. If you are interested in donating in any way, please contact Bonnie Pfeiffelman at 773-202-0176.

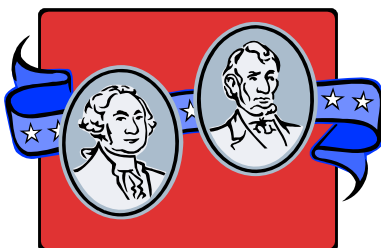
VALENTINE SPECIAL

The Gale Street Inn along with The Gift Theatre have a special Valentine treat for you. They are offering a dinner for two and two tickets to the John Cariani's romantic comedy, "*Almost Maine*" from February 4th through February 21st. Go to www.galestreet.com for complete details.



Happy Valentine's Day

Sunday, February 14th, 2010



President's Day

Monday, February 15th, 2010

Jefferson Park
Chamber of Commerce

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