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JEFFERSON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PARK

IMPORTANT DATES

November 13 8:30 AM	General Membership Meeting Copernicus Foundation
November 15 1:00 PM	Board Meeting Copernicus Foundation
December 11	No General Meeting
December 18 11:30 - 1:30 PM	Holiday Luncheon Copernicus Foundation
December 25	Merry Christmas!
January 1	Happy New Year!
January 8 8:30 AM	General Membership Meeting

BOARD MEETING

The next Board of Directors Meeting will be Thursday, **November 15th at 1:00 p.m.** at the Copernicus Foundation 2nd floor meeting room. Board Members, please contact the Chamber Office if you are unable to attend.

Officers:

Brian Nadig
President
Nadig Newspapers

Thomas Byrne
Vice President
Byrne Realty Group, LLC

Michael J Swinford
Treasurer
Parkway Bank

Susan Bouzide
Secretary
West Side Mentally Retarded
Children's Aid

Carol Gawron
Executive Director

Tackling the Homeless Problem

Brian Nadig, Chamber President

In the past few months, the chamber has received numerous complaints about homeless persons living in our or near our business district at Milwaukee and Lawrence avenues. Groups of homeless individuals have been found cooking in the park or hanging their laundry on a parking lot guardrail. These are not the images which we want our customers to see.

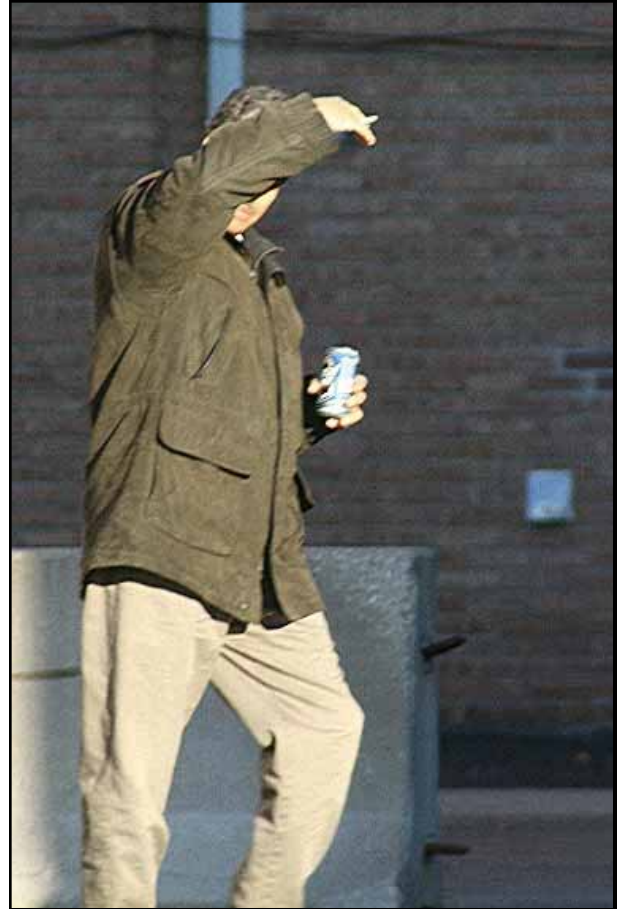
Some of the most common areas where the homeless congregate are behind the post office, in the park, next to the Masonic temple and in front of the library. Business owners also have found individuals sleeping behind or in the front their buildings. And, about a year ago, a homeless man was found stabbed to death inside a vehicle parked across from the police station. The chamber has invited several city officials to our Nov. meeting at 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 13, at Copernicus, 5216 W. Lawrence, to discuss these issues. (Continued on page 2)



Homeless -

Finding solutions will be difficult. The 16th District Police have taken several initiatives to help the area's homeless, but it's a difficult task. Many of the homeless do not want to live in shelters because of the rules which must be followed there, and the police cannot arrest someone for sitting on public property unless they are breaking the law, such as drinking alcohol at the time. The city Department of Human Services will come out to the park and offer services to the homeless, and in some occasions the police will refer an individual for a psychiatric evaluation at an area hospital, but in many cases the individual returns to our business district after spending a short time in a hospital, jail or a shelter.

Unfortunately the blighted condition of Lawrence (the empty lots, just to the east of Milwaukee) does little to help the situation, and the CTA Terminal makes it easier for the homeless to get to our community, especially from O'Hare Airport, where the city does not want them hanging out. If we had a redeveloped, vibrant shopping district, there would be fewer places for the homeless to hide. However, there is no current proposal for those vacant lots. In the meantime, the chamber hopes that the human services department, which operated an office in Jeff Park for several decades, will consider re-opening an office here and start providing us with more help in dealing with the homeless. Alderman Patrick Levar has expressed a similar concern that the department needs to re-open an office in Jeff Park. Levar has told the chamber that he will be working closely with the police and with representatives of the human services department to help improve the situation.



Board of Directors

Nicholas Black

Mega Realty, Inc.

Susan Bouzide

West Side Mentally Retarded Children's Aid

Stephanie Brown

Lawrence Funeral Home

Ralph Carstensen

Hoyne Savings Bank

Dr. Cory Chen

Resurrection Health Care

Alice Dungey

DeVry University

Karen Deal

LaSalle Bank

Lary Fisher

HeatMasters Inc.

Gus Karamaniolas

Fischman Liquors

Patrick J. Levar

Alderman 45th Ward

Wanda Majcher

Copernicus Foundation

Charlie Mayer

Home Inspections by 8 Winds

Michael Pontarelli

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**Join us for the
Holiday Luncheon.**
(Details on page 4)

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).

- Nov. 1 Stroke and Vascular Screenings (to register for this screening only call Life Line Screenings at 1-800-779-6353)
- Nov. 6 Diabetes Support Group
- Nov. 6 Managing Your Diabetes Lecture
- Nov. 6 & 20 Addiction Education Program
- Nov. 7 Cataract and Glaucoma Screening
- Nov. 9 Cholesterol Screening
- Nov. 9 Healthy Aging Program
- Nov. 22 Arthritis Support Group

Living a Healthier Lifestyle (Program to help cardiac patients live a healthier lifestyle. To learn more, call Cardiac Rehabilitation Department at 773-794-8420)

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HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

Mark your calendar NOW for next month's ANNUAL HOLIDAY LUNCHEON on TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18TH (Please note the change in date from our normal 2nd Tuesday of the month meeting - there will be no December 11th meeting). This year the luncheon will be held in the beautifully decorated lobby of the Copernicus Foundation, 5216 W. Lawrence Avenue. The festivities will begin at 11:30 am and will be catered by the Gale Street Inn.



Tentative menu is as follows: Salad, followed by London Broil, Salmon or Chicken Breast, Roasted Vegetables, and dessert. A cash bar will also be available. We will be entertained by a local school chorus group. We are asking that you, once again, bring a knitted item such as a hat, gloves, mittens, scarf, etc. for the Battered Women's Program which will be delivered by the 16th District Police Station. The cost of the luncheon will be \$20 per person. Please make your reservation by Friday, December 14th so we will know how many to plan for the luncheon.

COMMUNITY SURVEY

The Jefferson Park Chamber of Commerce is planning to conduct a community survey regarding the status of our business district. We're hoping to get 1) input on the type of stores and developments that residents want for our area and 2) the pros and cons of the shopping district. We would like your help in formulating the questions which should be included on the survey.

The chamber is planning on a list of about 15 multiple-choice or yes/no questions with additional space for special comments. Please e-mail your recommended questions to carol@jeffersonpark.net or fax them to 773-736-3508.



Message from the President

Brian Nadig

The recent closing of the Ace Hardware, 4813-17 N. Milwaukee Ave., illustrates the many challenges facing this business district. The opening of Ace represented one of the most significant retail events in our community in several decades.



However, its closing -- after being in business for only 7 months -- is one of our most disappointing. The need for some sort of an appropriate retail-residential development on Lawrence has never

been more evident, as the foot traffic generated by such a project would be beneficial to the existing merchants in the area.

(continued on page 8)





BEFORE ↓

Organized, cleaned and ready for your business.

The chamber office recently had an extreme makeover. New file cabinets were installed with a workstation countertop. All electronic equipment, copiers, and printers were grouped for convenience.

New members will be welcomed by Carol's smiling face instead of tip-toeing through the welcome bags, golf event prizes and remnants from Jeff Fest.

Special thanks go out to Michael Swinford, Parkway Bank, George Bousies, GMB Cleaning Systems and Carol Gawron, Chamber Executive Director .



AFTER →



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INSTALLATION DINNER AND AWARDS



Pictured left, **Business Leader of the Year Award** presented to Michael J Swinford of Parkway Bank. Larry Fisher from Heatmasters, Inc. was presented with the Chamber Service Award. Special recognition was given to Executive Director, Carol Gawron for 14 years of service at the Jefferson Park Chamber of Commerce.

Great appetizers, dinner and drinks were enjoyed at Colletti's Restaurant. Choral entertainment was provided by Resurrection High School. A silent auction and split the pot were also part of the fun.

For all you that missed the dinner, there was no shortage on entertainment!



INSTALLATION OF THE 2008 CHAMBER BOARD & OFFICERS



Pictured from left to right (front row) Tom Byrne, Byrne Realty Group, LLC (Vice President), Michael J. Swinford, Parkway Bank (Treasurer), Carol Gawron (Executive Director), Letecia M. Puttrich, L&J Services, Shaklee Distributors (Chairman of the Board), Brian Nadig, Nadig Newspapers, (President) (second row) Larry Fisher, Heatmasters, Inc, Michael Pontarelli, Pontarelli & Company, Stephanie Brown, Lawrence Funeral Home, Nicholas Black, Mega Realty, Inc, Karen Deal, LaSalle Bank, Gus Karamaniolas, Fischman Liquors, Alice Dungy, DeVry University, Dr Cory Chen, Resurrection Health Care, Susan Bouzide, WSMCA-Austin Special (Secretary), Charlie Mayer, Home Inspections by 8 Winds, Ald. Patrick J. Levar, 45th Ward.

Not pictured, Ralph Carstensen, Hoyne Savings Bank, Wanda Majcher, Copernicus Foundation, Kevin Walsh, Accu-Comp Appraisal.

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Split the Pot Winner



Larry Fisher
HEATMASTERS, INC

Holiday Newspaper Ad

The Jefferson Park Chamber of Commerce is planning to run a holiday advertising page in the Dec. 19 and 26 issues of the Nadig Newspapers' Northwest Side Press, whose circulation is 33,000. This promotion is designed as both an important fundraiser for the chamber and will give individual members a chance to promote their own business. Members can purchase space on the page as follows: \$65 for a business-card size ad (2 inches tall by 3.25 inches wide), \$125 for a double-spaced ad (4 inches by 3.25 inches wide) and \$245 for a larger ad (4 inches by 6.5 inches wide).

Ad copy can be faxed to Brian Nadig at 773-286-8151 or e-mailed to nadignewspapers@aol.com (pdf files are preferred). Please make checks payable to the Jefferson Park Chamber of Commerce and mail your check to the chamber at 4849 N. Milwaukee Ave., Suite 305, Chicago, IL 60630. Ads are available on a first-come basis, and the same ad must run both weeks. The above prices are the total cost for both weeks.

Please call Brian at 773-286-6100 to reserve your space.



Celebrating 14 Years of Service



Congratulations to Carol Gawron on her anniversary with the Jefferson Park Chamber of Commerce. Brian Nadig (Nadig Newspapers), Larry Fisher (HeatMasters, Inc), Tom Byrne (Byrne Realty Group), and Michael Swinford (Parkway Bank) accompanied Carol for a special celebration lunch.

Carol - Thank you for all you do!

Happy Thanksgiving
from the Jefferson Park
Chamber of Commerce.



SUDOKU CHALLENGE *(Easy)*

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Message -

Alderman Patrick Levar announced at our recent installation dinner that he plans to convene a special committee of concerned citizens to work on a plan for Lawrence. He also recently said that he has asked the city Department of Planning and Development to increase its efforts to attract popular retailers to neighborhood shopping districts like Jefferson Park. He said that chain stores often focus their attention on the downtown area, and he hopes that the city will give them some incentives to branch out to smaller retail areas. In addition the chamber is looking forward to working with the planning department. Under the new terms of the chamber's agreement with the city, the chamber will be required to arrange a meeting with a developer and the planning department in an effort to help revitalize the area. The chamber will use this meeting to bring attention to Lawrence Avenue. Recent efforts by the chamber to reach out to the planning department regarding redevelopment issues have not been successful and hopefully this meeting will turn the corner. As I have said earlier, the chamber wants to move the dialogue on the area's redevelopment forward in a positive direction.



The challenges facing our business district will not be solved overnight and probably not for at least a couple of more years, but let's hope that by this time next year we will all see some progress in the matter.

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Please join us in 2008 with your membership to one of Chicago’s most active chamber associations.

Membership Renewals are being mailed out on December 1, 2007. Don’t delay, “Get Involved . . . Make a Difference”!

Look for information on our 2008 Membership Drive in the December Newsletter.



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SUDOKU ANSWER KEY

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7	2	6	4	3	5	8	1	9
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8	5	9	2	6	7	4	3	1

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