

Sponsored in cooperation with the City of Chicago Department of Community Development.

IMPORTANT DATES

Wed., Nov. 11– 11 AM
VFW Plaque Dedication

Thurs., Nov. 12—8 AM
General Membership Meeting at Gale Street Inn

Thurs., Nov. 26—Happy Thanksgiving Day

Thurs., Dec. 10—Holiday Luncheon—11:30 am—1:00 pm at Copernicus



JEFFERSON
CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE PARK



NOVEMBER GENERAL MEMBERSHIP BUSINESS MEETING

We will be holding a November General Membership Business Meeting at **8:00 a.m. on Thursday, November 12** at the Gale Street Inn, 4914 N Milwaukee Ave.



Coffee and breakfast goodies will be served and free parking is available in the TCF Bank parking lot. Our guest speaker will be the new Commander of the 16th District Police Station, Commander David McNaughton, who will bring us up to date on the state of Jefferson Park. Please come and join us and meet our new Commander.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!

Mark your calendar now for our Annual Holiday Luncheon to be held on Thursday, December 10, 2009 at the Copernicus Foundation, 5216 W Lawrence Avenue from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm.

We will, once again, be collecting knitted items such as hats, scarves, gloves, to be given to the Battered Women and Childrens Program at the 16th District Police Station.

The children of St. Pascal's Grammar School will help us start the holiday season with Christmas Carols.

Watch for more info in the December Newsletter.



WELCOME NEW MEMBER

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Jefferson Park Chamber of Commerce

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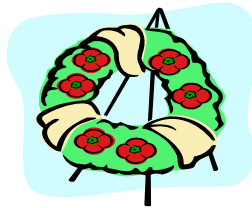
Honorary Board Members

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SMALL BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT FUND (SBIF) AVAILABLE

There is almost \$500,000 in matching grand money available for commercial property owners in the Jefferson Park TIF District which can be used for signs, new bathrooms, windows, air conditioning units, new roofs, tuckpointing, facade improvements and much more. Please tell a non-member neighboring business about this program. If you are interested in learning how you can qualify for this program, please contact Mr. John Paulun, SBIF Program Director at (312) 360-3300 or : jpaulun@somercor.com



VETERAN'S DAY DEDICATION

On Veteran's Day the Indian Portage VFW Post 3592 will dedicate a new plaque on the Veteran's Monument at Higgins & Milwaukee Avenue. The plaque pays tribute to those service men and women who have lost their lives fighting tyranny and terrorism since 1973.

The event will take place on Wednesday, November 11, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. Hope to see many of you there for this special dedication to our fallen service men and women who gave their lives for the freedom we enjoy today.

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75th Anniversary Installation Dinner and Show



Well the celebration is over and everyone had a great time. The food was terrific and the entertainment superb.

Pictured from left to right from top to bottom are our newly installed Officers and Directors: Larry Fisher, Jeff Merritt, Dr. Cory Chen, Nick Black, Ralph Carstensen, Dr. Cesar Lau, Letecia Puttrich, Alderman Patrick J.. Levar, Stanly Kuczynski, Laura Hahn, Thomas Byrne and Brian Nadig.

Our “Chamber Members of the Year” are Gus and Shanna Karamaniolas from Fischman Liquors. Beautification Awards were given to Parkway Bank & Trust Company and to Delko Construction Company,

We want to give special thanks to Hoyne Savings Bank and Nadig Newspapers for their sponsorships of \$250 each toward the dinner. We also want to thank Alderman Patrick J. Levar for installing our officers and directors. The Alderman also presented the chamber with a “Resolution adapted by the City Council of the City of Chicago, Illinois” congratulating the chamber on their 75th Anniversary. The “Resolution” showed that the Mayor and members of the City of Chicago City Council declared that Sunday, October 25, 2009 to be Jefferson Park Chamber of Commerce Day throughout the City of Chicago,

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**Commissioner Outlines Housing & Commercial
Building Improvement Programs; Jeff Park Postal Store To Remain Open**

A crowd of 50 people at the Jefferson Park Chamber's Oct. 14 meeting at the Gale Street Inn heard officials outline programs aimed at helping struggling homeowners and businesses looking to renovate their properties, while the Postal Service announced that the Jefferson Park Postal Store will remain open.

The city Department of Community Development is urging residents to take advantage of the Homeownership Preservation Initiative at the first sign that they may have a problem paying their mortgage.

"All you have to do is call 311, and they're going to get you to a housing counselor," Chicago Department of Community Development Acting Commissioner Chris Raguso said of the Homeownership Preservation Initiative.

The initiative plays a key role in preserving the city's neighborhoods because in many instances the strength of a community is its rows of family-occupied homes, Raguso said. "What I love about this area is that it has such a strong housing stock," she said of the Northwest Side. "We have such wonderful character up here, (and) we're in such a solid middle-class community here."

The initiative is a partnership between the City of Chicago, the Neighborhood Housing Services of Chicago and several key lending and investment institutions which do business in the city. The program seeks to preserve ownership through a variety of mitigation efforts, including loan workouts, refinancing, loan modifications, repayment plans and the issuance of small loans to help bring a family current on their mortgage payments.

Raguso also encouraged commercial property owners in the Jefferson Park and Portage Park tax increment financing districts to take advantage of the Small Business Improvement Fund Program. The approximate boundaries of the TIF districts are Milwaukee Avenue from Byron Street on the south and Northwest Highway on the north and portions of Lawrence Avenue and Irving Park Road between Long Avenue on the west and a railroad viaduct on the east.

"It's up to a \$150,000 matching grant, and it does not have to be repaid," Raguso said. The grant can be used for several rehab projects, including façade & roof improvements.

Also at the meeting, U.S. Postal Service North Area Manager Richard Osborne announced that there are no plans to close the Jefferson Park Postal Store, 5401 W. Lawrence Ave., and the Edgebrook Postal Store, 5424 W. Devon Ave. He said that those locations were never intended to be put on a list of locations which the postal service is reviewing for possible closure.

Both locations appeared on a list of possible closures which the postal service leased in August. In September, the postal service released a new list, which did not include the Jefferson Park and Edgebrook locations.

Osborne said that the postal service is looking into a several cost-reducing measures, including the possible elimination of Saturday mail delivery. A five-day delivery week would save the postal service more than \$3 billion annually, he said.

Jefferson Park
Chamber of Commerce

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