



WEST
SUBURBAN
CHAMBER
of
COMMERCE
& INDUSTRY



WSCCI News

July 2009

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EDITOR – BOB WARE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Attend “Breakfast with Your Legislators” on August 14

The Chamber invites you to attend a WSCCI Legislative Affairs Committee breakfast meeting on August 14. The breakfast will be held at the **La Grange Country Club** (620 South Brainard Avenue, La Grange).

AT&T, our sponsor for “Breakfast with Your Legislators”, encourages you to bring co-workers and guests to meet and listen to the State Senators and State Representatives from our area that represent your interests.

We are anticipating that Senators Christine Radogno, Dan Cronin, and Louis Viverito, as well as Representatives Bob Biggins, Jim Durkin, and Michael Zalewski will be in attendance. With so much occurring within the State of Illinois that affects small to large business, as well as our wallets, the opportunity to listen and talk to those that represent us is special.

The breakfast will be a delicious hot buffet (\$30). We will begin serving at 7:30 am. The gathering will end promptly at 9 am.

Please RSVP to the Chamber by calling 708-387-7550.

We look forward to seeing you on August 14 at La Grange Country Club.

Invent the Future @ Riverside Township Hall

You are invited to help Invent the Future with “Go to 2040” on July 16, 2009. There will be a meeting that starts at 6 pm and ends at 8 pm at the Riverside Township Hall (2nd floor). The hall is located at 27 Riverside Road, Riverside, IL 60546.

Why should you attend? **Another 2.8 million residents are expected in your region by 2040.** Should the rapid growth be contained and directed where the infrastructure and jobs already exist, or should it expand into the suburbs? To move people, should we put our dollars into roads or transit options or invest in both? And will it be possible to reduce energy consumption and still boost our region’s economy? Everything will be about trade-offs.

Plan on attending the two-hour open discussion forum, which is sponsored by Harris Bank and the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning. For more information, log on to www.goto2040.org

Business Activities Abound at the Chamber!

Sign up today for the following Chamber networking events! Please RSVP by return email to donna@westsuburbanchamber.org or call 708-387-7550.

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

Standard Bank & Trust

8601 West Ogden Avenue, Lyons, 60534

Thursday, July 16

5 - 7 p.m.

Free to attend – Bring guests and prospective members!

It's a great time to network and build new leads!

Enjoy complimentary hors d'ouerves, wine, beer, and soft drinks.

Email donna@westsuburbanchamber.org or call the Chamber at 708-387-7550.

LUNCH & LEADS

Magic Wok

23 W. Harris Avenue, La Grange, 60525

Wednesday, July 22

11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

\$20 per person

All attendees will have an opportunity to introduce themselves and their businesses. Plan to come, build leads, and enjoy lunch! Invite a guest or two.

Please RSVP to the Chamber at 708-387-7550 or email to

donna@westsuburbanchamber.org

NEW CHAMBER MEMBER BREAKFAST

**EVERYONE IS INVITED TO MEET OUR NEWEST CHAMBER MEMBERS AT THEIR
JULY 29th BREAKFAST!**

WSCCI, 9440 Joliet Road, Suite B, Hodgkins, 60525

Breakfast will be sponsored and served by Events by Tommy R's (630-323-1441).

Tommy R's is a total event planner that can provide full service, or pick-up and drop-off catering. They will provide your tables, chairs, linens, wait staff or bartender. They can cook breakfast, lunch or dinner to match any theme, style or taste. Go to

www.tommyrs.com for more info.

Wednesday, July 29

7:30 – 9 a.m.

\$10 per person

New 2009 members – Free!

(Complimentary attendance for 2009 new members who have not yet attended a breakfast.)

This is a great networking and socializing activity. Bring your marketing materials and lots of business cards!

Please RSVP donna@westsuburbanchamber.org or, call the Chamber at 708-387-7550.

Teachers' Breakfast August 18 Brookfield Zoo

The 44th Annual Welcome Breakfast, for New Teachers and New Administrators, will be held on August 18 at Brookfield Zoo Discovery Center, from 7:30 a.m. until 9 a.m. This WSCCI function is always a hit.

Help us welcome the new educators who will be joining our local school systems in the fall. Many of these teachers and administrators are new to the area and may be moving, looking for a new car, in need of financing, or interested in learning about the shops and restaurants in our communities. What a great opportunity to show your support for these professionals and introduce your business to them.

Dr. Dennis Kelly, retiring Superintendent of Lyons Township High School, is the special guest speaker. His dynamic speaking style and unique perspective on education will be of great interest to all attending.

There are several ways you can participate. Please join our growing list of major sponsors or become a participating sponsor of the new teachers and a new administrator. You may sponsor one or as many as you would like.

AT&T is our Presenting Sponsor.

Our "Head of the Class" sponsors are: Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital, Community Bank of Western Springs, First National Bank of La Grange, Harris Bank, Inland Bank, Mulcahy, Pauritsch, Salvador, & Co., National City Bank, UPS, Vulcan Materials Company, and West Central Municipal Conference/West Cook County Solid Waste Agency.

Show your support by sponsoring some of the new educators. (\$30 per teacher.) You can pick the school district if you would like. Your company name will be indicated on their name badge. Reserve some seats for yourself and your guests at the Breakfast. (\$30 per person or guest.) Since we sell out early every year, make your reservation and sponsorship decisions soon.

The deadline for RSVPs is August 7, 2009.

Please contact donna@westsuburbanchamber.org, or call the Chamber at 708-387-7550.

Chamber Welcomed Six New Members in June

Oak IT Solutions, Inc.

Oak IT Solutions keeps your valuable computer systems healthy and secure, while increasing efficiency and profitability through their automated IT Solutions.

According to Glen Kocek, "No matter if you need computer repair, maintenance, installation or have a project, automated Oak IT Solutions is the key that's simply the best - and costs less."

They provide you with a single source of professional expertise and resources you'll need to streamline system management and support functions at an affordable price. They use advanced processes, tools and methodologies to deliver superior services that match your needs – from routine automatic system maintenance through complete IT outsourcing – and always with a proactive goal of consistent computer health.

Oak IT Solutions will keep you informed by providing regular executive reports covering the overall health of your computer network and the results of their services. The quick-read graphical report that you will receive each month is an effective method to understand your computer system's health. To learn more about the capabilities of Oak IT Solutions, call (708) 354-2271 x 4002. Glenn's email address is gkocek@oakmsp.com and their website is www.oakmsp.com.

Law Office of Mary Ann Covone, P.C.

When you have a need for representation in such areas as wrongful death, catastrophic injuries, personal injury or medical malpractice – you should contact Mary Ann Covone. If you need an attorney to assist you with estate planning (wills & trusts), estate litigation, or probate and guardianship – Mary Ann Covone is a phone call away. With respect to your business, Mary Ann is experienced in business formation, and business disputes and litigation.

Mary Ann Covone, P.C., Attorney at Law, is a trial and transactional lawyer with 18 years of legal experience. She has served in both the public and private sectors. Wanting to be available when her clients need her, she limits her practice in order to have the necessary available time. Contact Mary Ann at (708) 246-4911 or email her at maryann@covonelaw.com. Her website is www.covonelaw.com.

Caribou Coffee Company

Kenya, La Minita, Daybreak and Guatemala are just four of the fresh coffees that are brewed at Caribou Coffee Company. If you want foam on the top, a few shots of added flavor, or perhaps skim milk – **they always make your cup just the way you like it.** States Melissa Cox, manager of the 300 North Lagrange Road location, "Discover why Roastmasters around the world rated Caribou Coffee #1."

At Caribou Coffee you can pick up a sampler of coffees for a practical or personal gift. You can purchase gift baskets and sets, as well as gift cards. They sell mugs and

tumblers, apparel, brewing equipment and coffee grinders. If tea is more your style, they have a large offering. Don't overlook their treats and mints, as well as their cold drinks, coolers, smoothies and snowdrifts.

For more information, call (708) 482-3157 or email Melissa and her staff at sm744@cariboucoffee.com. Remember: "Life is short. Stay awake for it!"

Mobile Uniforms, Inc.

When you are in need of professional apparel for your small or large business, Mobile Uniforms, Inc. is an excellent choice. They offer all lines of medical, industrial and professional clothing. In addition, they provide silk screening and embroidery so that unique touch will be noticed by all.

Another part of Mobile Uniforms, Inc. is their promotional products. Working with many suppliers, they can offer products to meet any need or most every budget. If you want engraving – they do that as well.

Contact Gerry Lane, Principal, for additional information. He may be reached at (708) 415-2516 or by email at mobileuniforms@aol.com. Their website is www.mobileuniforms.net.

Chuhak & Tecson, P.C

Founded in 1987, Chunak & Tecson, P.C., is a creative and growing full-service law firm. They represent the interests of clients that range from local establishments and family owned businesses to publicly owned corporations. With Chunak & Tecson, P.C., you will find a collaborative team of legal advisors who share a genuine interest in your success. Entrepreneurs themselves, their attorneys bring vision, enthusiasm and specific skills to their client relationships.

Some, but definitely not all, of Chunak & Tecson's areas of representation are: asset protection, employee benefits law, estate and trust planning, wealth transfer, healthcare law, medical malpractice defense, and aviation airport construction and toxic tort litigation. Chunak & Tecson notes that they deliver solutions with the sophistication of a large firm while working with the precision, speed and personal involvement of a smaller firm.

To learn more about this Chamber member, please call Michael J. Gilmartin at (312) 855-4050 or email him at mgilmartin@chuhak.com. Their website is www.chuhak.com.

Infinity Signs & Graphics

Within the Chamber you have another great choice in the creation and production of banners, signage and printing. Located at 5350 East Avenue, City of Countryside, **Infinity Signs and Graphics specialize in outdoor and indoor signs and displays.** They can create outdoor electrical signs, channel letters, box signs and full-color LED message centers, too.

Experienced in professional graphic design services, Brian Lappin and Russ Nicoletti will create eye-catching banners, signs for golf, elections, home and property sales, as well as A-frame signs that might not blow away in the wind. If

you need custom displays for a retail setting or a trade show, menu boards and counter graphics of any sort, window lettering or vehicle graphics ... Infinity Signs and Graphics should be on your list to call for a quote.

Call the staff at Infinity Signs and Graphics. They can be reached at 708-352-1086 or via email at russ.infinity@yahoo.com. **Don't forget to ask about "fatheads" for your children.** They also make those.



**Route 66 Cadillac Show & Music Festival
"Welcome Home to our Troops"**

When? Saturday July 25th, 2009 (Rain or Shine)

What is this? The event is presented by Soldiers R U.S. 501 C 3 – nonprofit organization and Windy City Records. They are offering an opportunity for exhibitors and the general public to participate in a very special event. Partial proceeds from this event will go directly towards supporting either a Purple Heart recipient or a Widow of a Vet. Ideally, they would like to raise enough funds to do both.

How can you become involved? Become an Exhibitor in the **"Route 66 Cadillac Show & Music Festival"** that will be held in Countryside.

What are all of the facts and specifics? How much will it cost to become involved? To find out all of the details on a booth, the rules and the regulations, please contact Benjamin Moline / Event Director. He will send you an exhibitor application for the event. His phone number is 602-405-4675.

Exactly where will it be held? All of the activities will be held in the parking lot at the William Tell Holiday Inn on Saturday July 25th.

And what are the hours of the event? They are from 12 noon – 8 pm.

Remember, you will be supporting music in the Chicagoland area, as well as our Vets and spouses. It will be a day of fun. And, you will have a chance to meet and greet many new potential customers for your products and services.

The Chamber Golf Outing was terrific!

About 130 WSCCI members and guests played golf at the beautiful Gleneagles Country Club on June 22. Welcomed by presenting sponsor Vulcan Construction Materials, everyone found the Chamber member's course to be both challenging but friendly.

The weather cooperated with blue skies, a slight breeze and moderate temperatures. For golfers it was the type of weather you dream about but rarely enjoy.

The Chamber thanks our list of valued sponsors. They were:

Presenting Sponsor	Vulcan Construction Materials
Silver Sponsor	First National Bank of La Grange
Bronze Sponsor	Horton's of La Grange
Dinner Sponsor	Comcast
President's Reception Foundation	Greg DiDomenico, WSCCI President and Community Memorial
Breakfast Sponsor	Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital
Lunch Sponsors	Inland Bank and Marquette Associates, Inc.
Hole-In-One Contest	\$25,000 for a Hole-In-One Premier Construction and TrueSource Cabinets

Hole Sponsors

British Home Community, Burcor Properties, Edwin Hancock Engineering Company, Horizon Wealth Management, Keith Hill Edward Jones, Lyons & Pinner Electric Companies, Plymouth Place Senior Living, Prime Property Partners, Republic Bank, Robert Morris University, Starkey Chemical Process Company, Storandt-Pann-Margolis, Village of McCook, Village of Western Springs, Vulcan Material Company and West Central Municipal Conference/West Cook County Solid Waste Agency.

Thank you to the cart sponsors, raffle donors, and our hard-working volunteers, too.

We look forward to seeing everyone at next year's WSCCI golf outing. In the meantime, enjoy your summer and keep swinging for scratch golf.

2009-2010 WSCCI Community Guide Is Now Available

Your Chamber has printed about 29,000 copies of the Community Guide. It has information on all of the Chamber member communities, the membership as of the day we went to press, useful data on area attractions, churches, schools, and social agencies.

If you would like some for your staff or to give to your customers, please contact us at the Chamber. Our number is (708) 387-7550. We will box them up for you when you come by. We will gladly deliver them to your place of business, as time permits.

We appreciate the many sponsors of the book. Through advertising, we were able to offset the cost of producing the book. Through constant distribution, many thousands will see those ads and frequent our sponsors' businesses.

Countryside Farmers Market Moved to La Grange Road

To be more convenient for everyone, the Chamber's Farmers Market in the City of Countryside has moved to the parking lot that is immediately south of Bally's. That puts it across the street from Home Depot in Countryside Plaza.

The Monday hours are still **from 8 am until 2 pm – rain or shine. For fresh produce, delicious meat, fresh baked goods and some great gifts, come by the market.** Talking to the vendors is part of the value of your purchases.

FYI: The Tuesday Farmers Market in La Grange Park (behind Panera Bread in the Village Market shopping center) runs from 8 am until 2 pm. The La Grange Farmers Market is always held on Thursdays from 7 am until 1 pm and is located next to the parking structure behind the Village Hall.

Should all legal residents buy health insurance?

By Tom Curry

National affairs writer

www.MSN.com

Both those Americans who can't afford to buy health insurance and those who have decided to get by without it will face the same order from congressional Democrats as they prepare legislation to overhaul health care: buy health insurance. And if they can't afford the coverage, taxpayers will help them pay for it.

The reform bills offered by both Senate and House Democrats would impose an individual mandate — a requirement that everyone obtain health insurance. Taxpayer-provided subsidies would go to lower-income Americans if they could not afford to purchase it.

The Senate health committee's draft bill would require all legal residents of the United States to have insurance and would penalize people who did not obtain insurance, except those with incomes below about \$16,250. The House Democrats' bill has a similar provision.

In the most recent Census estimate, published last August, nearly 46 million people, or about 15 percent of the population, were without health insurance in 2007.

That number has risen during the recession as people have been laid off and lost their employer-sponsored health coverage.

The national unemployment rate has risen from 5.6 percent in June of 2008 to 9.5 percent last month. A study done by the Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured estimates that for every one percentage point increase in the unemployment rate, there's a 0.59 percent increase in the percentage of uninsured adults.

A 10 percent unemployment rate would equate to 5.8 million additional people being uninsured, according to the Kaiser study.

One reason that the topic of the uninsured has loomed large in the current debate, economists say, is that enrolling the *healthy* uninsured can improve insurance risk pooling and may help control costs over time.

[For additional information, go to the following site:]

[Health debate: A little clarity, please - Jun. 19, 2009](#)

Jun 19, 2009 ... Vigorous **debate** is inevitable and necessary. After all, **health** care reform ... **Congress** will be in recess for five weeks starting in August. ...

www.fortunessmallbusiness.com/2009/.../health.../index.htm

Now Is The Time To Buy a Home or Refinance One!

[Jeff Reichel (708-288-4480), Mortgage Specialist from Marquette Bank, was asked about great rates and the availability of mortgage money. Here are his comments.]

"Mortgage bonds have had a strong few weeks, buoyed by a stronger than anticipated Treasury bond auctions. Why have our treasuries sold so well? It is because of the international tour-bus rally! Our President, VP, Treasury Secretary, and others have been busy overseas with China, Russia, etc looking for those government's commitments to purchase our treasuries. It is temporary but it works...we have put the squeeze on them before, but it can't last. When you have another \$2 trillion dollars worth of debt to issue in the next 5 months it just can't be absorbed at those low yields...we will have to pay higher yields to attract purchasers of our debt...no way around it.

But for now...enjoy these rates...they are temporary. So if you or anyone you know has been pondering a refinance or is looking to move forward on a purchase, now appears to be the time. Feel free to call or email me for a no obligation review of what options the market presents!

These were the rates at the beginning of July, 2009!

30/20 Year Fixed	5.250%	No Points
30/20 Year Fixed	5.000%	One Point
15/10 Year Fixed	5.000%	No Points
15/10 Year Fixed	4.625%	One Point
FHA 30 Year Fixed	5.000%	One Point
FHA 30 Year Fixed	5.375%	No Points

Jumbo Loan Pricing available via phone or email

Rates can vary based on several factors including credit score. The rates above are based on single family home, primary residence, escrows of taxes and ins., & \$160,000 loan amount. Rates are subject to change.

If you have questions, we strongly encourage you to call one of the financial institutions or realtors listed in your copy of the 2009-2010 Membership Directory. You can always to the Chamber website at www.westsuburbanchamber.org for additional information.