

	WEST SUBURBAN CHAMBER of COMMERCE & INDUSTRY	<h1>WSCCI News</h1>	
			<p>August 2009</p>
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<p>EDITOR – BOB WARE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR</p>			

*Welcome Our New Teachers and New Educators
Tuesday, August 18*

Reservation Deadline Friday, August 7

We need your support! You are encouraged to become a sponsor and make your reservations for the Chamber's 44th annual Welcome Breakfast for New Teachers and New Administrators from our districts. Why? It is great for our communities and it is good for business.

The breakfast will be held at the Brookfield Zoo Discovery Center, located at 3300 Golf Road. (The best way to enter is by going to RB High School and entering the Brookfield Zoo from the south.) The investment is \$30.00 to sponsor a teacher or administrator, or for you and your guests to attend.

These new teachers and new administrators are filling the open positions that were in our schools. They are going to be looking for homes, gardeners, insurance professionals, physicians, restaurants and so much more. **By attending, and hopefully being a sponsor at any level, you will be showing your support of these dedicated professionals.**

The Special Guest Speaker will be Dr. Dennis Kelly. He is the retiring Superintendent of Lyons Township High School. The focus of his talk will be on his reflections of his years in education and the outlook for the future. It will be a very informative speech.

We are very appreciative of our multiple sponsors. Our presenting sponsor, the "Teacher's Pet", is AT&T.

The Head of the Class sponsors are Adventist LaGrange Memorial Hospital, Community Bank of Western Springs, First National Bank of LaGrange, Frymark Floral Designs, Harris Bank, Huntington Learning Center, Inland Bank, Mulcahy, Pauritsch, Salvador & Company, National City Bank, UPS, Vulcan Materials Company, and West Central Municipal Conference/West Cook County Solid Waste Agency.

If you would like to donate a raffle item – everything will be appreciated.

Welcome Bags will be given to all new teachers and all new administrators. We hope you have given items for the bags. Please call the Chamber office (708-387-7550) and discuss your donations opportunities. Ask for Donna Hutchinson.

To sponsor teachers and administrators (some Chamber members have sponsored five or more) or to make reservations, please contact the West Suburban Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The number is 708-387-7550. Send your emails requesting more information to donna@wscci.org.

Please make your reservations and decisions by August 7th. This event is nearly always a sell-out. We hope to see you at the 44th annual Welcome Breakfast for our New Teachers and our New Administrators.

By sponsoring a teacher, it is a great way to pay-it-forward. (Haven't you always wanted to thank one of your teachers for helping you when you needed it the most?)

WSCCI Legislative Affairs Breakfast Friday, August 14

You are invited to attend the AT&T sponsored Legislative Affairs Breakfast that will be held at the LaGrange Country Club on August 14. State Senators Christine Radogno, Dan Cronin, and Louis Viverito, and State Representatives Bob Biggins, Jim Durkin, and Michael Zalewski have been invited.

Come and learn from those that have represented our interests in our Statehouse. Listen to them share insights on the process that necessitated a short-term state budget.

Ask your legislators about taxes, new programs, funding decisions, the potential of a 50% increase in income tax, and the overall financial situation of the State of Illinois. How will you, as a business person, be affected in the short- and long-term by decisions being made now and the next year?

The morning will begin at 7:30 a.m. with a delicious hot breakfast (\$30 per person). The Legislative Affairs Breakfast will end promptly at 9 a.m. The LaGrange Country Club is conveniently located at 620 South Brainard (between 55th and 47th Streets in LaGrange).

The Legislative Affairs Committee is very appreciative of the support of AT&T and their sponsorship of this event.

Please RSVP to the Chamber by calling 708-387-7550. **Guests, co-workers and non-chamber members are encouraged to attend.**

Goombay Bash on Navy Pier Saturday, August 8

The H Foundation wants to see you on the pier on August 8th at 5 pm. Why? They want to find a cure for cancer. Your dollars will go directly to research.

There will be a gourmet buffet, live music and dancing. In addition, there will be silent and live auctions, raffle prizes and a drawing for \$10,000. There will be valet parking for a really low price, a bus service from the LaGrange area if you don't want to drive into the city, and reduced price hotel rooms if you want to spend the night. All you need are tickets.

It is not too late to purchase tickets to enjoy all of the food and flavors of a Caribbean Festival. Towards the end of the evening there will be fireworks to add zest to the party. At the end of the festivities, you will leave with the knowledge that you did something wonderful in the fight to find a cure for cancer.

For more information and to buy tickets (just \$125 each), please go to www.gombaybash.com .

“Jerome and Julia” (Childs) At Courtright’s, Sunday, August 9

You are invited to attend a multi-star luncheon on Sunday, August 9 at Courtright’s Restaurant in Willow Springs. It will be a **celebration of fine food, excellent wines, and memories of Julia Child.**

Everything kicks off at 1:00 p.m. with a garden reception of canapés and Kir Royales. Next will be a three-course luncheon consisting of asparagus puffs and Triennes Viognier, petite lamb chops and Guigal Cotes du Rhone, and a “Floating Island” dessert. **All of the recipes come out of Julia Child’s cookbook.**

After lunch, there will be a discussion by Courtright’s Chef Bacle. William Courtright will cover the influence of Julia Child and add reflections on his unique opportunity to be the sommelier for Julia Child’s 90th birthday celebration. At 4:15 p.m., there will be a matinee showing of “Julie and Julia” at the Quarry Theater in Hodgkins.

Don’t miss this rare chance to enjoy a sumptuous meal with perfectly paired wines – followed by a spot-on discourse and movie about the woman that made French cooking simple. It will be worth every cent.

To make reservations – **this will be a sold-out affair** – please call 708-839-8000. Courtright’s Restaurant is located at 8989 Archer Avenue, Willow Springs. Their website is www.courtright.com.

Enjoy Breakfast with our Mayors and Presidents Monday, Sept. 14

The Legislative Affairs Committee wants to keep you informed. They have invited the Chamber’s nine community Mayors and Presidents to speak at breakfast on September 14th at the William Tell Holiday Inn (6201 Joliet Road- Countryside). The breakfast will begin at 7:30 and end promptly at 9 a.m.

Collectively, we have a dynamic business climate in the West Suburban Region. We also have many similar concerns. As a region, we are staying rather healthy economically (all things considered). Much of our local success has occurred because of the guidance and fortitude of our Mayors and Presidents, and the strength of our business communities.

It is said that when it comes to politics, most everything is local. We hope you will bring co-workers and guests to the Legislative Affairs Committee breakfast on Monday, September 14th and learn about local issues.

Please make your reservations by calling the Chamber at 708-387-7550. [The hot breakfast is \$30 each.]

***WSCCI Participates In
South/Southwest Chamber Business to Business Expo
Tuesday, September 15***

The West Suburban Chamber of Commerce, in conjunction with many chambers in the south and southwest area of Chicagoland, is putting on a Business-to-Business Expo on September 15. *If you are in need of additional customers or new clients – specifically on the southern side of your marketing region - this might be the one for you.*

The Expo Event will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Tinley Park Convention Center – located at Harlem Avenue and I-80. For-profit and non-profit organizations are invited to reserve a space as soon as possible, as each of the past years the Expo has been sold out.

Applicants should log on to www.BtoBExpo.com for additional information. Call 708-387-7550 and ask for Bob Ware to make reservations. The Business-to-Business Exposition creates an excellent opportunity for local businesses, specifically those who service or sell to other businesses in the southern regions of the Chicagoland area, to exhibit their products and services, network throughout the day, and attend seminars that help them succeed.

The event is a cooperative effort of local chambers of commerce throughout the Southland region. The members of the West Suburban Chamber of Commerce, as well as the membership of all local chamber in the Southland region, are invited to sign up. The region of Southland chambers encompasses chambers from the Indiana border to the City of Joliet and from I-55 to the community of Peotone.

Local chambers of commerce of the Business-To-Business Expo 09 are many. They include Alsip, Blue Island, Bridgeview, Crestwood, Frankfort, Homewood Area, Lemont, Lockport, Matteson Area, New Lenox, Oak Lawn, Orland Park Area, South Holland Business Association, Tinley Park and the West Suburban Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The event is sponsored by COMCAST, The Business Ledger, SouthtownStar, and Next Media, which includes 1340 WJOL, 98.3 WCCQ and 96.7 STAR. Sponsorship and donation opportunities are available by visiting the website, or contact Bob Ware at WSCCI (708-387-7550).

Exhibiting chamber member businesses will pay \$195 for space, breakfast, lunch, and an exhibitor-only reception, registering through their local chambers.

If you would like to attend the event for on-the-floor networking - it is free with a business card. Visitors are encouraged to make a reservation now for the seated lunch, which will detail how the Olympics in Chicago will benefit the Southland area, for \$25.

If you want more customers in the southern side of the greater Chicagoland area, this is a great exposition to be a part of. Register soon! That way you will have a place in the exposition, a place setting at the luncheon, and an opportunity to learn while you earn. Go to www.BtoBExpo.com for all the details.

Chamber Welcomes Five New Members in July

Township of Lyons - Russ Hartigan

Russ Hartigan, Supervisor of the Township of Lyons, joined the Chamber during the month of July. Russ, who became Supervisor after Pat Rogers stepped down to become Judge of the Circuit Court, has performed the duties as supervisor for approximately nine months. Prior to becoming Supervisor, he was a Trustee of the township.

Hartigan's "day job" is that of a practicing attorney with the firm Hartigan and O'Connor. He concentrates his practice in civil, municipal and insurance defense related litigation. He represents various municipal pools and insurance companies. His legal focus is on civil rights, employment matters, professional liability, personal injury and general trial matters. He has tried over sixty trials.

To contact him about matters concerning the Township of Lyons, please call 708-482-8300 or email him at lyonstwp@hotmail.com.

JSV COMMUNICATIONS

JSV Communications is a strategic communications firm that specializes in public relations, marketing and issues management. To that end, JSV Communications can help your business develop the tools needed to raise your profile, market your services or build public awareness for issues that are important to you.

Jeff Valenzuela, principal and project director with the company, brings more than ten years of communications experience in the business, government, and not-for-profit sectors. **His firm's practice covers such areas as: Public Relations Management and Consulting, Issue and Campaign Management, Message Development, Coalition Building, Crisis Communications, and Media Relations.** To learn more, contact Jeff at 708-305-6418 or email him at jeff.valenzuela@me.com.

SMART TECHNOLOGIES

SMART Technologies has renewed its ISO registration and received ISO 9001:2008 certification, and international benchmark of quality management in manufacturing. This registration signifies that SMART's quality management system adheres to the rigorous standards outlined by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), the largest developer and publisher of international standards in the world.

SMART Technologies makes the preferred choice for interactive whiteboard purchasers in the United States. In the first five months of 2009, they sold nearly 65,000 SMART BOARD interactive whiteboards in the US alone. Last year they sold over 160,000 interactive whiteboards. **And who buys these boards? Schools – Lots of schools all over America and around the world.**

Rae Raffin is the education technology expert at the Chamber. If you would like to ask a question or learn more, call her at 312-351-3680 or go to SMART Technologies website at www.smarttech.com.

ANDREA DONOVAN SENIOR LIVING ADVISORS

Since most of us will live well into "old age", there will be a need to ask an expert about the senior living communities in the area. Andrea Donovan, of Andrea Donovan Senior Living Advisors, is that expert. She assists seniors and their families with finding alternative living options. She has toured and evaluated over 200 senior communities in the Chicago-Metro area.

Deciding on a housing option is very stressful for everyone concerned. For the family, reducing that stress allows them to concentrate on making a smoother transition for an elderly parent or family member. Using Andrea and her staff, the families do not need to visit dozens or hundreds of communities. They can focus their time on the family member and the senior's immediate needs.

To learn more about the services of Andrea Donovan Senior Living Advisors, please call 708-442-71741 or go to their website at www.adsla.biz.

ABC'S LAWN & PLOW, LLC

If your business is beautiful on the inside, many may never appreciate it if the outside is tired, dirty or covered in snow. If the front of your business is sharp, neat, spotless, and easily accessible – just think of the opportunities.

Owners Robert Wisnieski and Charles Romano, owners and operators of ABC's Lawn and Plow LLC, have many years of experience in the exterior maintenance business. If you need your grass cut or a tree planted – call them. If you have a dirty sidewalk or stained concrete – call them. If you want your snow removed before your customers arrive in your parking lot – call them. They have the equipment, truck and staff to get the job done.

You may reach them at 815-641-0252. For additional information, please go to their website at www.abcpLOW.com.

Chamber Thanks Events by Tommy R's

Tommy Romano, chef and proprietor of Events by Tommy R's, was the sponsor of the Ambassador's New Member Welcome Breakfast that was held in August. Served in the conference room of the Chamber, the Continental breakfast was enjoyed by approximately 30 new Chamber members, existing members, guests and staff.

Tommy R's has chosen to be the sponsor of future New Member Breakfasts. Thanks, Tommy, for your support and delicious catered food.

If you would like to call Tommy Romano, his number is 630-323-1441. For other Chamber caterers, go to www.wsccl.org or refer to your copy of the 2009-2010 Membership Directory.

Help Children with Dyslexia Walk Saturday, Sept. 19

There will be a 5 mile or less walk that will be held at the Illinois Masonic Children's Home, 441 South 9th Avenue, LaGrange. The walk officially kicks off at 9 a.m. September 19, 2009.

Kyle Urbashich, one of the recipients of the youth award recipients at the most recent WSCCI Awards Banquet, is assisting in raising money for children with dyslexia. He is specifically working with the 32nd Degree Masonic Learning Centers for Children, Inc.

Dyslexia cannot be cured but it can be overcome. The free-of-charge professional tutoring program gives children a chance to catch up and never fall behind. **With your support and raising money through your entrance fee, you will be helping those with dyslexia to read and write.** All it takes is that first step – your registration.

For additional information, please **call Don Esser** at 773-277-1600 (days) or at 708-364-0766 (evenings). You may register by logging on to www.dyslexiawalk.org.

[The Illinois Masonic Children's Home is a member of the West Suburban Chamber of Commerce.]

Western Springs Police Win Statewide Traffic Safety Awards

It is still possible to make a huge difference within a community even though your police department numbers fewer than 25 municipal sworn officers. That is the case in Western Springs. **Recently the Department was notified by the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police that they placed first in the "2008-2009 Illinois Traffic Safety Challenge." In addition, the Western Springs Police Department was also named "Rookie of the Year" and won the "Pedestrian/Bicycle Safety" award.**

The Illinois Traffic Safety Challenge is a statewide highway safety program that recognizes law enforcement agencies for their efforts in addressing traffic safety issues in their jurisdiction. All applications for the recognition are judged by a panel of highway safety professionals. Throughout the state, drunk drivers are removed from the road, individuals are slowing down, more people are clicking their seat belts, and even fewer drivers and passengers are being injured or killed in crashes.

Western Springs Police Chief Pamela Church noted, "On behalf of the Western Springs Police Department, I am truly honored to accept this prestigious recognition. I am very proud of our officers' traffic enforcement efforts in making this a safer community." She will officially accept the awards on August 12, 2009, at the Midwest Police and Security Expo at the Stephens Convention Center.

For more information, please contact Deputy Chief Brian J. Budds, at 708-246-8540.