



# Gladstone Park Chamber of Commerce NEWSLETTER

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[www.gladstonechamber.com](http://www.gladstonechamber.com)

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April 2009

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

- Mar 25** Board of Directors Meeting at **Associated Bank 8:15 a.m.**
- April 3** Membership Meeting at **Gladstone Chiropractic, 5316 N Milwaukee, 8:00 a.m.**
- April 7** **Cabinet Style Studio** Networking Event 5-7 p.m.
- April 8** Easter Bunny Visit
- April 22** Board of Directors Meeting
- May 1** Regular Membership Meeting

## April Meeting

Please join us at the Gladstone Park Chamber of Commerce General Meeting. April's meeting will take place Friday April 3rd at **Gladstone Chiropractic Group, 5316 N. Milwaukee Ave.** at 8:00 a.m. An opportunity to get to know your fellow chamber members! Enjoy coffee and pastries while attending an informative meeting and networking with members.

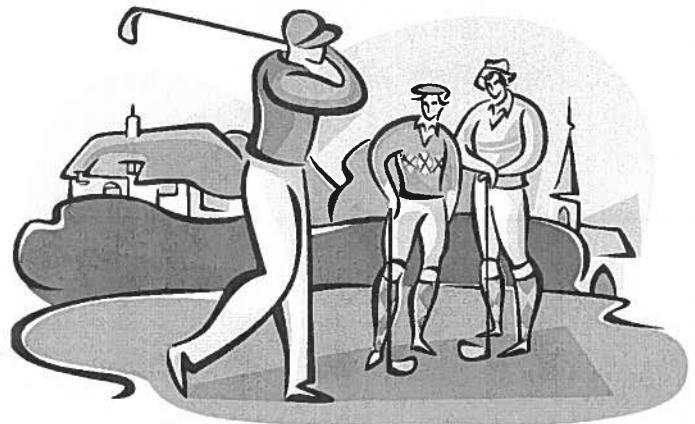
## EASTER BUNNY VISIT

On Wednesday April 8th, the Easter Bunny will be visiting **The Produce Center** at 5820 N Milwaukee Ave. from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. Children will receive a special treat from the bunny. Parents are encouraged to bring a camera for this very special event. The chamber will not be able to provide pictures with the Easter Bunny. Any chamber member who wishes to donate a treat for the children, please contact Gail (773) 775-8871.



## A FABULOUS NETWORKING EVENT

Make sure you stop by and visit with chamber members at the **Open House/Networking Event at Cabinet Style Studio, 5945 N Milwaukee Ave., April 7th from 5-7 p.m.** Our host Helen Stapper will be on hand for many interesting demonstrations. See enclosed flyer for more details.



**Save the Date!!!!**

## 10th Annual "Northwest Network Open"

The **Gladstone Park, Harwood Heights-Norridge, Jefferson Park, Portage Park and West Ridge Chamber of Commerce** will be co-hosting the Northwest Network Open Golf Outing at **Glenview Park Golf Club (800 Shermer Road, Glenview)**. Check-in and lunch will be at 11:00 a.m., with a shotgun start at 12:00 p.m. An open bar and buffet dinner will be served in the clubhouse following your round of golf.

The profits from this event are used for scholarship programs that each chamber of commerce offers local middle school and high school students.

Non-golfers can also participate by attending the networking dinner buffet which will begin at 5:00 p.m. (includes two hours of open bar). Sponsorship opportunities are also available. Please look for more information in future mailings and at the monthly GPCC meetings.

**Reminder!**

**SAVE THE DATE**

Thursday, September 17th, 2009  
5:30pm–9:00pm  
Irish American Heritage Center  
4626 N. Knox Avenue  
Admission: \$15.00

The king of networking events! This evening will include food from restaurants throughout the City of Chicago, one drink ticket (cash bar), a business card raffle, and more than 400 attendees. This event is being co-hosted by 20+ business organizations on the north and northwest sides of Chicago and nearby suburbs. There will also be representatives from city, county and state agencies to answer your questions and provide valuable information about programs for local businesses. Sponsorship and advertising opportunities are available.

**Legislative Corner ...**

The Governor presented his budget on 3/19, and there are many unanswered questions. The House kicked off its series of statewide hearings for the Capital Plan. Higher motor fuel tax, expanded gaming, added taxes, higher fees, introducing a tax on service businesses ... they're all on the table. Stay tuned for the fallout that the business community can expect to get. SB1331 and HB1081 both propose a new payroll tax on employers to pay for a large state-regulated expansion of healthcare. SB43 wants to expand prevailing wage to Enterprise Zones and TIFs which would have a negative impact on development in the city. HB3668 is an Illinois-only cap and trade program that is expansive and very costly to businesses. The personal income tax is proposed to increase to 4.5% from 3%, but it doesn't appear that real spending is being cut, especially the fact that "that third airport WILL be built in Peotone." Contact your elected officials and tell them that you have had enough and that you want to see real cuts in spending before they ask the taxpayer to bail them out of a situation that was created from years of poor business management and spending more than what was taken in.

**In Remembrance of Marilyn**



In late February, the Gladstone Park Chamber of Commerce lost a very dear friend with the passing of Marilyn Bickel. When the Chamber was formed nearly 20 years ago, many of us met Marilyn for the first time when she began attending our monthly meetings. Marilyn, who was the chief of staff for Alderman Patrick Levar, quickly became a friend to many of us, assisting the Chamber in its dealings with the City of Chicago and volunteering for many of our functions. It did not matter whether a Chamber event was on a Sunday evening or on a weeknight, Marilyn was usually the first to arrive, volunteering to help wherever she was needed. Since her retirement, Marilyn and her husband Bill continued their support of the Chamber by attending our annual Golf Outing (Northwest Network Open), Police Recognition Awards and Arlington Racetrack outing as well as other events. Marilyn was a unique individual, and she will be remembered for her determination in fighting for what she believed and for her kindness, generosity and support to which she demonstrated to so many. She had an impact on the entire community, and she will be missed by all ....

**City of Chicago—Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection**

City Hall, 121 North LaSalle Street—Room 805

*The Chicago Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection offers FREE classes and workshops throughout the year aimed at helping local companies and organizations better succeed in today's challenging business environment. Space is limited so be sure to register for workshops by calling 312-744-5344. To learn more about these City of Chicago seminars please visit [www.cityofchicago.org/businessaffairs](http://www.cityofchicago.org/businessaffairs) for the April schedule.*

## **Welcome New Members !!!**

### **4 HERMANOS**

Eric Escobar  
5239 N. Central Ave.  
Chicago, Il 60630  
773-545-2294

### **AUTUMN GREEN AT WRIGHT CAMPUS**

Tiffany Kraese  
4239 N Oak Park Ave.  
Chicago, Il 60634  
773-202-3388

### **CANINE CORRAL INC.**

Nicole Carfora  
6460 N. Milwaukee Ave.  
Chicago, Il 60631  
773-775-1040

### **CHICAGO**

### **SWEET CONNECTION BAKERY**

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5569 N Northwest Highway  
Chicago, Il 60630  
773-283-4430

### **H. LIMESTONE INC.**

Laura Hahn  
5596 N Northwest Hwy  
Chicago, Il 60630  
773-763-9700

### **TOM & JERRY'S AUTO BODY**

Tom Sawa  
5644 N Northwest Highway  
Chicago, Il 60646  
773-775-6767

### **TROY REALTY LTD**

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## **Consumer Corner**

**\*\*\* CONSUMER ALERT \*\*\*\*\* CONSUMER ALERT \*\*\***

### **MADIGAN WARNS CONSUMERS TO BEWARE OF STIMULUS SCAMS**

Chicago—Attorney General Lisa Madigan today warned consumers to be on the look out for “stimulus scams” claiming to help consumers cash in on a piece of President Barack Obama’s stimulus plan.

“In a time when we are all watching our wallets, it is important consumers remain vigilant,” Madigan said. “No matter how authentic these solicitations may seem, they are more likely than not a scam. I strongly encourage consumers to contact my Consumer Fraud Hotline if they have any questions or concerns.”

Madigan also recently filed a complaint against a Frankfort, Il, advertising firm for allegedly airing deceptive commercials that falsely claim consumers wouldn’t pay sales tax on automobile purchases as part of President Obama’s stimulus package. Madigan said these types of scams are likely to rise throughout the state. She encouraged consumers to report any suspect programs or advertising to her Consumer Fraud Bureau.

In addition, the Attorney General cited recent federal reports of consumers receiving e-mails, some from supposed government agencies, asking for bank account or personal information so that the operators can allegedly deposit consumers’ share of the stimulus directly into their bank accounts. Instead, the con artists draw off the consumers’ accounts and disappear, leaving the consumer with nothing. Some e-mail scams don’t ask for information, but provide links to information about qualifying for funds. These links can result in the downloading of malicious software or spyware used to perpetrate identity theft.

“Unfortunately, scam artists will try to take advantage of people when they are most desperate for legitimate help,” Madigan said. “I urge consumers to be extremely cautious if they are approached by anyone claiming to have access to federal stimulus funding because it likely will be a scam.”

Consumers who believe they have been the victim of consumer fraud can download a complaint form at [www.IllinoisAttorneyGeneral.gov/consumers](http://www.IllinoisAttorneyGeneral.gov/consumers) or call the Attorney General’s Consumer Fraud Hotline at one of the following numbers:

Chicago 1-800-386-5438  
Springfield 1-800-243-0618  
Carbondale 1-800-243-0607  
Spanish-language Hotline: 1-866-310-8398

**Jesse Pinas**

Assistant Vice President Branch Manager

6210 N. Milwaukee Ave.

Chicago, IL 60646-3709

jpinas@libertybank.com

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Fax: 773.763.0686

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The Gladstone Park Chamber of Commerce wishes to thank the businesses below and on page 3 for supporting the publication of this newsletter. We encourage our readers to support them. For information on how your business can be listed in our newsletter, please call us (773/775-8871).

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