

Hoffman Estates

CHAMBER of Commerce and Industry

NEWSLETTER

February 2010

Ask Questions, Get Answers at Upcoming Mayor's Annual Update Breakfast

Wednesday, February 24

Sears Centre Club, Sears Centre Arena
5333 Prairie Stone Parkway, Hoffman Estates
Registration 7:30 AM

Presentation 8:00-9:30 AM

Questions taken following the presentation

Come out to the Mayor's Annual Update Breakfast for the latest news and information about what's happening in the Village! The event will be held at the Sears Centre Club inside the Sears Center Arena and will include a full hot breakfast buffet in a casual setting.

Some of the hot topics that will be addressed will include:

- The future of the Sears Centre Arena
- Barrington Road Full Interchange
- Funding Village projects via federal grants
- Commercial and Residential developments planned in Hoffman Estates for 2010 and beyond.

This event is a great opportunity to ask the Mayor questions and give feedback. Please contact the Chamber office and register now. Seating is limited.



HOT Deals

Have you taken advantage of the Hot Deals - The Chamber's Member to Member discount program?

As a Chamber Member you can add and update your discount offer by logging in to the Chamber Website at www.hechamber.com. We recommend that you update your offers regularly to keep them fresh and exciting to people shopping your business. A hard copy listing of current member to member discounts will be available in the Chamber office and will be available at all of our networking events. Please contact the office with any questions.

Add your member to member discounts to the web site today. It is FREE and it is easy to do. Remember to Shop Chamber Members First!!

2010 a Year of Great Things for the Hoffman Estates Chamber!



2009 was a successful year for the Hoffman Estates Chamber of Commerce. Strong focus was placed on our strategic plan and Executive Director, Cheri Sisson, effectively

executed our events enhancing the Chamber as a whole. We're excited for this upcoming year and have many great things planned for your business.

The Chamber has implemented a more efficient and environmentally friendly way of communicating with our members; utilizing an electronic newsletter rather than a printed version. This provides us the opportunity to reach more people at individual businesses while also being conscious of the environment around us. Please make sure to let our Executive Director Sisson know the email addresses for employees in your company who may benefit from receiving the electronic newsletter.

Networking and lead generation have never been more important to your business than in this tough economic time. Be sure to get the most out of your membership this year by getting your business more involved in the Hoffman Estates Chamber of Commerce.

Tony LaFrenere
Chairman of the Board

Member News

The Schaumburg Township District Library, (847) 985-4000, has once again been awarded a five star rating, making it among the top 10 libraries in its class nationwide, based on the Library Journal Index of Public Library Service released in November. The prestigious annual ranking of public libraries is based on the levels of service they provide, including library visits, circulation, program attendance and public internet computer use.

"There are a number of reasons for our success," said STDL Director Stephanie Sarnoff. "The community has provided strong support for the library from its very beginnings. The Library Board has a long-standing commitment to provide an attractive and comfortable environment with a wide variety of resources and services for people of all ages and interests. And of course, the staff is to be congratulated for their skill, creativity and positive customer service attitude."

The Little Gym of Hoffman Estates, (847) 496-5432, announces that the franchise has been ranked number one in the Children's Fitness category in Entrepreneur Magazine's Top Franchises List, otherwise known as Franchise 500. This is the fourth consecutive year the franchise company has earned this ranking.

"We are pleased to be recognized with our parent company as a leader in this category because it reinforces that parents are seeing the benefits of what we offer their children," said Bill Walenda of The Little Gym of Hoffman Estates. "And, while Hoffman Estates parents know The Little Gym as a great place for children, they should also know that our children's fitness and skill development concept is also receiving recognition on a national level."

DirectBuy of Hoffman Estates, (847) 885-3508, has earned an A+ from the Better Business Bureau based on its years in business and number of complaints received and resolved, as well as other service-oriented factors. DirectBuy of Hoffman Estates received 88 out of a possible 90 points. Congratulations!

Friendship Village, (847) 884-5050, announces that Steve Yenccheck has been appointed President & Chief Executive Officer of Senior Options/Friendship Village of Schaumburg. Steve is the fifth person to head Friendship Village of Schaumburg since it opened in 1977 and is the second to head parent company Friendship Senior Options since its inception in 2004. Steve has served the Friendship organization for 12 years as Chief Operating Officer and Senior Vice President. He succeeds Robert Alston who retired in January following 13 years of service.

The American Cancer Society, (847) 368-1166, encourages everyone to save the date for its Hoffman Estates Relay for Life on June 4-5 at the Prairie Stone Sports & Wellness Center. Go to www.relayforlifehoffman.com or contact Ryan Kuhn at (847) 368-1166 for details about teams or sponsorship.

Curves in Hoffman Estates, (847) 241-5550, or (847) 252-7555, joined with other Curves facilities throughout the world in January in a company-wide campaign called Stronger + Together, an international movement to make one million women healthier in 2010. The heart of the program lives online at www.Curves.com/StrongerTogether, where women can find useful information about the new campaign, register for the campaign to join the cause, share their personal stories about how they were able to start a healthier lifestyle, and find a myriad of useful tools, such as easy-to-send emails designed for women to send messages of inspiration to loved ones and the option to create a personal profile to promote their story on the Web site. The program is designed to challenge women to take charge of their lives – live better, longer, and healthier.



Elegance Galore Opens It's Doors! One of our newest Chamber Members held a ribbon cutting on December 5 to introduce her beautiful new store – **Elegance Galore Bridal Boutique**, located at 1015 N Roselle Road, (Higgins and Roselle Road behind Burger King). Stop out to say hello to Yasmeen and welcome her to the Chamber. Elegance Galore was referred to the Chamber by Sarah Shackelford from First American Bank. Sarah received a big Thank You for the Chamber and a check for \$25.00.

Join Us in Welcoming Our Newest Chamber Members!

Communications

COMCAST

1500 McConnor Pkwy.
Schaumburg, IL 60173
847-585-6731 Fax: 847-585-6747
Ms. Karen Dale
www.business.comcast.com
Telecommunications

Entertainment/ Party Planning

SOUND Q PRODUCTIONS

845 W. Lakeside Plaza
Hoffman Estates, IL 60169
847-310-8000 Fax: 847-310-8282
Mr. Gary Klein
www.soundqproductions.com
DJ sound and entertainment
services for all occasions

Financial Services

C A BANC RATE

126 S. Northwest Hwy.
Barrington, IL 60010
847-304-1050 Fax: 847-304-1264
Ms. Christine Angelakos
Referral: Sheila Schwartz &
John Haniotes, Hoffman Estates
Community Bank

Meal Preparation

DINNER BY DESIGN

612 East Golf Rd.
Schaumburg, IL 6073
847-843-8463
Ms. Lonnie Belknap
www.dinnerbydesignkitchenil.com
Meal prep kitchen

Physical Therapy

ATI PHYSICAL THERAPY

256 W. Schaumburg Rd.
Schaumburg, IL 60194
847-519-3485 Fax: 847-519-3614
Fleurette Elia
www.atipt.com
Physical Therapy company

Restaurants

FALAFIL HUT

1027 W. Golf Rd.
Hoffman Estates, IL 60169
847-519-3656
Mr. George Marbina
Carry out restaurant. Mediterranean
cuisine.

T.G.I. FRIDAYS

1795 Barrington Rd.
Hoffman Estates, IL 60169
847-843-9930 Fax: 847-843-9925
Mr. Troy Astin
www.tgifridays.com
Casual restaurant setting serving a
wide selection of pasta, appetizers,
salads, pasta dishes and entrees.

Signs & Graphics

DIVINE SIGNS & GRAPHICS

735 Estes Avenue
Schaumburg, IL 60193
847-534-9220 Fax: 847-534-9221
Mr. Jeff Miller
www.divinesignsinc.com
Full service sign & graphics; company
essentially limitless in the types of
signs & graphics we can produce.

Specialty Retail

ELEGANCE GALORE BRIDAL BOUTIQUE

1015 N. Roselle
Hoffman Estates, IL 60169
224-353-6090
Ms. Yasmee Ali
www.elegancegalore.com
Swarovski, crystallized jewelry,
pashminas & gifts.

Sports Arena/League

CHICAGO SLAUGHTER

1055 W. Golf
Hoffman Estates, IL 60169
847-310-3190 Fax: 847-310-3199
Mr. Jon Zaley
www.chicagoslaughter.com
Fast – paced pro indoor football puts
YOU in all the action!
Referral: Linda Sheck, Village of
Hoffman Estates.

Happy Anniversary!!!!

Please join us in recognizing the following organizations and individuals celebrating the anniversary of their Chamber membership during February.

Barrington Lakes Apts*	19 years
Management Accounting Services, Ltd.*	19 years
Village Profile.Com	15 years
Classic Party Rental/ Braun Event & Tent **	14 years
Brighton Gardens Assisted Living of HE **	11 years
State Rep. Suzie Bassi	8 years
Costco Wholesale	6 years
Active Foot & Ankle Center**	5 years
Lee Wayne Corporation	5 years
IDES/Worknet NCC	3 years
Aktiva, LLC**	1 year
Energy Conservation Resources	1 year
L'Eiffel Bistrot Creperie	1 year
Hyatt Place	1 year
Pinstripes	1 year
Sam's Club	1 year
Wellness Place	1 year

*Charter member

**Platinum member

Add Emergency Contact Information to Your Driver's License

The State of Illinois is offering a new service connected to your driver's license. You can click on the link below and add two emergency contacts to your license data. In case you are incapacitated in some way, your driver's license can be immediately scanned and emergency contacts retrieved so your loved ones can be contacted.

It only takes two minutes to complete. Early notification can make a big difference in an accident situation.

<http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/drivers/e.cd/home.html>



2009 Holiday Volunteer Recognition Luncheon

Thank you again to all of our volunteers and President Award winners who received certifications of appreciation at our annual Holiday Lunch. Also congratulations to Char Keane from Hoffman Estates Community Bank, the winner of our year end drawing for \$300.00 in Chamber Bucks!



Global Spectrum New Management Team At Sears Centre Arena

by Gary Skoog, Hoffman Estates Director of Economic Development

Yes, you have heard lots of Sears Centre Arena discussion in the press. It is difficult for the general public to know just what is happening. Although not operating on a long term contract,



Global Spectrum of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was selected by Hoffman Estates elected officials to manage the Sears Centre Arena and have begun doing so. A Request For Proposal process started with the wide end of a funnel and narrowed down to this company, which is owned by Comcast - Spectacor.

Global Spectrum and the Village do have a temporary "transitional" contract until a final document is completed and signed by both parties (probably some time in February 2010).

You may have heard on December 3, 2009, that Comcast intends to purchase NBC Universal and create a media colossus that will not only produce some of America's most popular entertainment, as well as control viewer access to it. This move has created waves from consumer groups to Washington lawmakers. If approved, it will bode well for the Sears Centre Arena and Hoffman Estates.

At any rate, Global Spectrum itself manages approximately 34 arenas, 26 convention centers, and 11 stadiums nationally and internationally. Many of the arenas are in the 10,000-11,000 seat capacity, which gives them great experience with a facility such as the Sears Centre Arena. In addition to experience, Global Spectrum will have much greater leverage with music concerts to family shows, with the ability to book acts at other Midwest facilities in Missouri, Iowa, and Kansas, as well as other states. The former management team was able to offer that kind of leverage to agents and acts.

Global Spectrum also brings a sister marketing company, Front Row Marketing (a ticketing company), New Era Tickets, and Ovations Food Services. These allied companies will be incorporated, as appropriate, to allow the beautiful Sears Centre Arena to live up to its true potential.

A new General Manager, Ben Gibbs, is already onsite, coming from a facility in Orlando, Florida. Although still in a transitional phase, marketing and sales people are already at the arena preparing for new scheduled events. Mr. Gibbs will introduce his team in a subsequent article and will likely be attending a Chamber event in the near future.

Nothing has changed in terms of buying tickets. One can access the Sears Centre Arena's website (searscentre.com) or Ticketmaster (www.ticketmaster.com).

Let's all get out, have some fun, and support our Sears Centre Arena!

What Every Employer Needs to Know

BIZ 6 is offering a seminar on Thursday February 25 at the Holiday Inn Express, 1550 E. Dundee Road in Palatine from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

We know that this economy is generating incredible risks for small businesses and threatening their survival. This program will provide the resources and information from the Illinois Department of Employment Security and the Illinois Small Business Development of Harper College. Bring your questions for the presenters. It is only \$10.00 to attend; \$25 after February 18 and for non-members.

There will be an opportunity for one-on-one Q & A with the speakers from 3:30-4:00 p.m. and after 5:00 p.m.

Topics will include:

- Business risks: Are you prepared? Do you have access to adequate cash in this economy?
- Strategies on how not to just survive but thrive.
- Illinois labor market information.
- Illinois skills match – how to use it to your benefit.
- Illinois skills match – how to use it to your benefit.
- Work opportunity tax credits
- Employing Illinois veterans
- "How to" guide to completing BIS form 32

Registration forms are available on the web site. Click on the February 25 event on the right hand side of the home page to get the form.

These groups reach out to others to help make our community strong

Consult these Chamber members for all your needs!

Not for Profit Organizations

Algonquin Longhouse, Inc.	(847) 660-1230	Hoffman Estates Professional Firefighters	(847) 710-2061
American Cancer Society	(847) 368-1166	Hospice of Northeastern Illinois, Inc.	(847) 381-5599
Bright Hope International	(847) 519-0012	Life Changers International Church	(847) 645-9100
Children's Advocacy Center	(847) 885-0100	Little City Foundation	(847) 221-7840
Clearbrook Center	(847) 991-4100	Northwest Sub. Council/Boy Scouts	(847) 824-6880
District 15 Educational Foundation	(847) 963-3238	Wellness Place	(847) 221-2400
Friendship Village	(847) 884-5420	Wings Resale	(847) 884-7411
Gigi's Playhouse	(847) 885-7529		
HECPAAA	(847) 517-3151		
Hoffman Estates Museum	(847) 882-3698		
Hoffman Estates Park Dist. Foundation	(847) 885-7500		
Hoffman Estates Police Benevolent Fund	(847) 781-2846		

Churches/Temples

Beth Tikvah Congregation	(847) 885-4545
Life Changers International Church	(847) 645-9100
Saint Hubert Church	(847) 885-7700

Food, Friends & Fun!

Many thanks to the Millrose Restaurant, Harris Bank and the Hilton Garden Inn for hosting our annual Holiday Business After Hours and to our members and friends who donated \$300.00 to the "Shop with a Cop program". The money was used to help some very deserving kids have a very Merry Christmas.



Clip & save



Clip & save



We'd Like You to Meet ...

Each issue of the Chamber newsletter includes an interview with two Chamber members whose names were selected at random. It's our way of helping our members become more acquainted and of saying "Thanks for being a part of the Hoffman Estates Chamber of Commerce." If you would like to be featured, please call the Chamber office.



Name: Yasmeen Ali, President, Elegance Galore Bridal Boutique

Phone number: (224) 353-6090

How long in business: 11 years

Born in: Pakistan

Professional background: I began working in real estate when I was 18 years old.

I'd like you to know: The store specializes in one of a kind items

reasonably priced. We make customized specialty clothing and jewelry for brides and brides maids. We carry a large selection of jewelry, hair accessories, special occasion purses and pashminas.

Interesting facts: We carry one-of-a-kind jewelry pieces. I choose quality over quantity. I want my customers always to come back to me.

The best business advice I ever heard: Always be firm and fair.

The best business advice I could give: Trust your instincts. Trusting my instincts has led me to 11 good years in business.

My first job: Working at Kohl's when I was 17 years old.

The way I plan to participate in the Chamber is: Participate in fundraising.

The last good movie I saw was: *Lord of the Rings*

The best advice my mother ever gave me: Use your common sense and instincts.

My idea of a great meal is: At Olive Garden.

Nobody knows I: Am a collector of dolls, coins, stamps and jewelry.

My prized childhood possession was: gold pendant.

My goal in life: Is to bring justice and fairness to all.

To me, a really good day is: Every day. Every day is a blessing.

If I won the lottery, I would: Build houses for poor people and create jobs.

If I've learned one thing in life, it's: Too much to write down.

The best time of my life: Is when I travel.

If I could drive any vehicle it would be: An Infiniti.

I have always wanted to: Open retail stores and travel worldwide!

Three words that describe me: Friendly, honest, fair

Name: Laura Mulay, Event Manager, Pinstripes

Phone number: (847) 844-4810

How long in business: 3 months

Born in: DuPage County

Educational background: Bachelor of Science in Tourism Management with minors in Photography, Psychology and Administration Management from Indiana University

I'd like you to know: Pinstripes features a distinctive entertainment and dining venue. Celebrate 'sophisticated fun' in our warm and inviting 45,000 square foot indoor/outdoor facility complete with 20 bowling lanes, 10 bocce courts, exceptional Italian-American bistro and wine cellar, outdoor patio and fireplace and beautifully appointed event and party rooms that can accommodate groups from 20-600.

Interesting facts: We have an outside fireplace that can be lit every night of the year. The bocce courts are authentic courts designed by a designer who was flown in from Italy.

The best business advice I ever heard: Try to do what you love.

The best business advice I could give: If you are passionate about what you sell you will be more likely to succeed.

My first job: Indiana Lakes Golf Resort cart attendant when I was 16 years old.

The way I plan to participate in the Chamber is:

Networking and to learn more about the businesses and people in the area. The best way to find out about a town is to talk to the people living in it.

My idea of a great meal is: Homemade soups and chili made from scratch (family recipes).

The best advice my mother gave me: Just keep a smile on your face.

Nobody knows I: Am a certified Scuba diver and it is one of my favorite activities.

To me, a really good day is: Relax with my family and friends.

My prized childhood possession: A stuffed precious moments bunny.

I have always wanted to: Skydive.

If I've learned one thing in life, it's: Never let anyone tell you something can not be done.

The best time of my life: I lived in Japan and Australia working and studying for 3 and 5 months and it was a blast!

Three words that describe me: Determined, adventurous, warmhearted





2200 W. Higgins Road, Suite 201
Hoffman Estates, Illinois 60169
847-781-9100 FAX: 847-781-9172
Hours: Monday-Thursday -- 9:00 AM-3:00 PM
Friday - 9:00 AM-1:00 PM
Website: <http://www.hechamber.com>
E-mail: info@hechamber.com
Cheri Sisson, Executive Director

Board of Directors

- Tony LaFrene, Chair (847) 781-3634
Hoffman Estates Park District
- Karen Mills, Vice Chair (847) 885-1157
Barrington Square Improvement Assn
- Linda Scheck, Secretary (847) 781-2664
Village of Hoffman Estates
- Kathy Musial, Treasurer (847) 358-1170
Bik & Co., LLP
- Wanda Piccolo (847) 490-1443
B&F Technical Code Services, Inc.
- Melisa Cameron (847) 874-7016
AT&T
- Jim Norris (847) 882-9100
Village of Hoffman Estates
- Misty Redman (847) 286-1535
Sears Holdings Corp.
- Cynthia Alexander (847) 490-6969
St. Alexis Medical Center
- Dr. Robert Steinberg (847) 885-8806
Active Foot & Ankle Center
- Ginny Roncoli (847) 885-3366
Harris Bank
- Mayor Bill McLeod (847) 882-9100
Village of Hoffman Estates
- Jim Cook (847) 427-4380
Daily Herald
- John Haniotes (847) 842-9981
Hoffman Estates Community Bank
- Mike Hanson (847) 401-6049
Alliance for Affordable Health
- John Moser (847) 884-7000
The Stonegate Conf. & Banquet Ctr.
- Keith Evans (847) 248-2312
Key Financial Insurance
- George Moser, Dir. Emeritus (847) 882-1000
Charter National Bank and Trust
- Allen Gabe, Legal Counsel (847) 241-5000
Gabe • Calzaretta LLC
- Cheri Sisson, Executive Director (847) 781-9100
Hoffman Estates Chamber of Commerce

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Enter by March 1 to Win Chamber Scholarships

Thanks to the generosity of our Chamber members, the Chamber will again be offering three higher education scholarships this year; one for a graduating high school senior, one for a current college student, and one for a graduate student.



These scholarships are available to all Chamber members, all Chamber member employees, and the employee's immediate family members.

Scholarship applications are available on line at www.hechamber.com or at the Chamber office. All completed applications must be received in the Chamber office by 4:00 p.m. on Monday March 1 in order to be eligible.

Opportunity Knocking: Calendar of Upcoming Chamber Events

February

Tues., Feb. 2	AM Business Connection Committee	10:00 A.M.
Wed., Feb. 4	Fishing Derby Committee	8:00 A.M.
Mon., Feb. 8	Membership Committee	8:00 A.M.
Thurs., Feb. 11	The Exchange	7:30 A.M.
Thurs., Feb. 11	Chit & Chat/Chicago Marriott Northwest	11:30 A.M.
Mon., Feb. 15	Presidents Day/Chamber office closed	
Wed., Feb. 17	Business After Hours/Brighton Gardens	5:00 P.M.
Fri., Feb. 19	Government Relations Committee	12:00 noon
Mon., Feb. 22	Board of Directors	7:30 A.M.
Tues., Feb. 23	Golf Committee	7:30 A.M.
Tues., Feb. 23	A.M. Business Connection/Macaroni Grill	11:30 A.M.
Wed., Feb. 24	Mayor's Community Update Breakfast/ Sears Centre Club at Sears Centre Arena	8:00 A.M.
Thurs., Feb. 25	The Exchange	7:30 A.M.
Fri., Feb. 25	BIZ 6 Multi-Chamber Event/ Holiday Inn Express, Palatine	4:00 P.M.

Check the Chamber website for driving directions, locations or changes to the calendar.

There was great networking going on in January!

Special Thanks to our January hosts:
Pinstripes Chit N Chat
Comfort Inn Business After Hours
Romano's Macaroni Grill AM Business Connection

All three events were very well attended.

Don't miss out on your opportunities to connect with fellow Chamber members in February.



Our Mission Statement: "To effectively promote and advocate for the interests of the Hoffman Estates area business community."