

LARGE ENOUGH TO SERVE YOU
SMALL ENOUGH TO CARE

Hoffman Estates

CHAMBER of Commerce and Industry

NEWSLETTER

March 2010



More For Less in 2010

That is the slogan for this year's Business on Course, the Chamber's annual golf outing. Chairman Craig Bernacki and his committee have slashed the price for both golf and sponsorships. The outing will be held Wednesday, May 26 at Poplar Creek Country Club. Golf at the awarding-winning Park District location includes a boxed lunch, GPS golf cart, drink tickets and raffle tickets. Returning this year is our hole in one sponsor Muller's Woodfiled Acura with a grand prize of a 2010 Acura.

Sponsorships are a great way to promote your business to the leaders in the business committee. Sponsors will receive a custom made sign with your company logo, listing on the Chamber web-site with a link to your company web site, company listing in the program, entry into a special Early Bird raffle for great prizes, a table, two chairs, and two lunch tickets on the course.

Take advantage of more for less in 2010. Visit our web site to register online for the event or call the Chamber office with any questions. Sponsorships are available to fit any budget, including our event benefactor. Call now to get your name in front of hundreds of people. The sooner you sign up the more people you can reach.

Wednesday May 26, 2010 • Start time 12:30 p.m. Shotgun
Cocktail Hour 5:30pm • Dinner Buffet 6:00p.m.

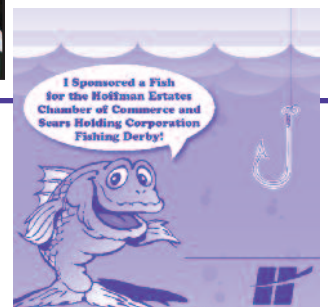


Save the Date for a Fabulous Day of Fishing with Friends & Family!

June 12, 2010 • Southridge Lake

Call today if you would like to be a Fishing Derby sponsor

Last year's event had 1,000 registered fisherman and their families



Member News

Romano's Macaroni Grill, (847) 882-6676, announces that its pizza dough, tomato puree, Bufala mozzarella and procedure for making pizza have all been certified *Authentic Neapolitan*. *Neapolitan pizza has been given the status of "guaranteed traditional speciality" in Italy*. Romano's Macaroni Grill is the first Italian Casual dining company to receive this certification, and will be the largest restaurant brand service authentic Neapolitan Pizza in the United States. Congratulations!

Bright Hope, (224) 520-6100, an international organization bringing hope to those living on less than \$1 a day, is conducting tours every Thursday evening at its headquarters in Hoffman Estates, Illinois. The tours will be held from February through April 2010 and are open to the public.

"In one hour, you'll get a clear picture of the poor and the struggles they face in their everyday lives," said Bright Hope President Craig Dyer. "From that point, it's a very easy step to become part of the solution. And you'll be amazed how little it takes to really impact one child – one family - even an entire community – for the better."

These tours will give people a vivid, up-close look at the everyday lives of those who are struggling to survive in underserved areas of the world and living through disasters such as the Haiti earthquake. The "Bright Hope Experience" will show how its partnerships with church leaders in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean and South America, who are delivering real hope and relief from poverty. To schedule a tour, call (224) 520-6100 or visit www.BrightHope.org.

First American Bank, (847) 586-2424, has partnered with the Hoffman Estates Chamber and Schaumburg Township to host a **Speed Networking and Food Drive** on March 17. Participants will meet one-on-one for 3-5 minutes to tell about your business and what you do before moving on to the next person. Bring your marketing materials and plenty of business cards. Those attending are asked to bring two non-perishable items for the Township's food pantry: Hamburger Helper, rice of any kind, hot

chocolate, toilet paper, Pasta Roni, juice, tuna, facial tissues, canned meats, tea, paper towels, or condiments (ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise). The event will take place from 5:30-7:00 p.m. at First American Bank, 395 W. Higgins Road in Hoffman Estates. Seating is limited. Call Sarah Shackelford at (847) 586-2439, or email SShackelford@FirstAmBank.com

The Arboretum of South Barrington, (847) 426-6200, is hosting "Uncorked from the Heart," a wine tasting and culinary extravaganza, on March 4 from 6:00-9:00 p.m. The evening begins at Pinstripes where a complimentary shuttle will transport you to six of the Arboretum's finest destinations. Guests will experience wines from around the world as well as delicious cuisine from participating restaurants. Cost is \$40 in advance; \$50 at the door. Visit www.ShopTheArboretumSB.com and click on "Uncorked" on the event page.

Harper College, (847) 925-6701, is sponsoring "Entrepreneur's Quest 2010: Competing in a New Business Landscape," a 1-day emersion for small business owners, on April 24, 2010. This business conference event delivers small business owners the knowledge, and tools they need to succeed in a very competitive, changing, and complex business environment. This year's exciting entrepreneurial event will provide up to 250 local business owners with a choice to attend thirteen different informative and timely sessions. Keynote speech will be "A Kick in the Attitude!" by Sam Glenn.

You may attend as a participant or be an exhibitor at the event, gaining exposure to up to 250 small business owners, plus be able to attend the event! For information about Early Bird registration, exhibitor and sponsorship opportunities, contact Bonnie Richter at (847) 925-6570.

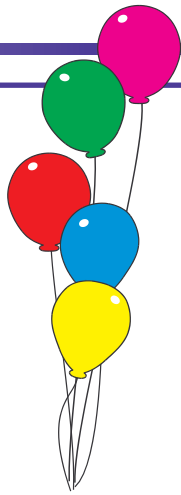


Chamber Welcomes Falafil Hut to Hoffman Estates! On February 6, owner George Marbena invited Chamber members to the grand opening of the Falafil Hut at 1027 W. Golf Road. Stop in and enjoy this superb mediterranean cuisine. Pictured above: Mayor McLeod, Village trustees, and Chamber members welcome George to the neighborhood and to the Chamber.

Up, Up and Away for the Tartan Parade!

Join the Chamber of Commerce as we come out to support the Tartan Day Parade on April 10. The Village this year will be featuring giant balloons similar to those used in the Macy's Day Thanksgiving Parade. Here is your chance to walk in the parade and be a balloon handler.

Please contact the Chamber office if you are interested.



Chamber's Annual Random Acts of Kindness Brings Valentines and Smiles to Seniors

The members of HECPAAA helped to sort the valentines and deliver them to 11 area nursing homes and senior centers. The Valentines were done as a art project by the children of School District 54. Thank you Donna Anderson for coordinating the project.

Our thanks goes out to Karen Arnet, the chair for this event, and Don Arnet, Beth Bartkowiak, Leigh Bartkowiak, and Stephanie Kosciak all from HECPAAA who distributed the Valentines. Thanks also to Mona Morrison for taking the great pictures and to Gloria Katz and her wonderful grandchildren who helped bring a smile to the residents of Alden Poplar Creek as they wished them Happy Valentines day.

We joined the party at Alden Poplar Creek as the Valentines Day King and Queen were crowned at their annual party.

Crowning the King are Gloria Katz, Chamber Membership Director, along with her grandson Mitchell Bartgen who attends Aldrin School. Looking on are Gloria's other grandchildren; (Front row) Ethan & Leah Bartgen, first graders at Aldrin School. Back row (l-r) Corey Tranchita, 9, and his brother Austin Tranchita, 7. Both live in Hoffman Estates and attend Armstrong School.



Happy Anniversary!!!!

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

D.M. Re & Associates *	19 years
Dover Straits *	19 years
Signs Now *	19 years
Jack Fehlandt *	19 years
Hampton Inn & Suites **	13 years
Hoffman Estates BP Amoco **	9 years
Document Retention Services	7 years
Geekz, Inc	6 years
Northwest Suburban Council, Boy Scouts	6 years
Rahl Jewelers	6 years
FedEx Office	5 years
Integrity Physical Therapy	5 years
St. Hubert Church	4 years
Mary Kay Cosmetics Chrissy Tighe	3 years
Algonquin Longhouse, Inc.	2 years
Chicagoland Transportation Solutions	2 years
The Anvil Club	2 years
State Rep. Fred Crespo	2 years
Al's CRM, Inc.	1 year
Burdick & Lee Photographers **	1 year
Dominick's	1 year
Facelogic Essential Skincare Spa	1 year
Horabik, Inc.	1 year
Van Galder Bus Company.	1 year

*Charter member

**Platinum member

Thanks

Special Thanks to Sign-A-Rama for the new Chamber event sign. We used it for the first time at the Mayor's Breakfast.

Thanks guys - it looks great!



Rave Reviews for Mayor's Breakfast

The Government Relations Committee of the Hoffman Estates Chamber of Commerce hosted the annual Mayor's Breakfast on February 24th at the Sears Centre Arena. Held in the Club area of the Arena, Levy Catering provided a delicious hot breakfast buffet that delighted the eye and the palette!

While enjoying the omelettes stations and fresh baked goods, attendees had the opportunity to hear the Mayor give updates on new developments within the Village and take questions from the audience. Of particular interest to all in attendance was the full exchange at Barrington and Higgins roads. Guests were encouraged to visit the Village www.hoffmanestates.org to sign the petition of support.

St. Alexius Medical Center has been granted trauma status since the expansion of their emergency services division; having the full exchange allows better access and could literally save lives with the time saved. McShane Developers were recognized for winning the prestigious NAIOP Award. Their dramatic marketing video showcasing the Huntington Woods development was premiered.

Special Thanks to Gary Klein from SoundQ Productions for providing the screen and audio equipment for the presentation.



The Primaries are Over— Now What?

Paul Green, the Director of the Institute for Politics and Arthur Rubloff Professor of Policy Studies at Roosevelt University and Political Analyst for WGN Radio, guest columnist for Crain's Chicago Business, and the author of several books and articles on Illinois and Chicago politics, will speak to members about gubernatorial candidates and how they will affect business and the economy.

Where: Stonegate Banquet & Conference Centre,
2401 W. Higgins Rd.,
Hoffman Estates

When: Wednesday, March 17

Time: Registration & Networking,
11:30 a.m.
Lunch and Program
Noon to 1:30 p.m.

Cost: \$25 for Participating
Chamber members;
\$35 Non-members and
at the door

Reservations & payment MUST be received at the Chamber office by March 10, 2010. Late registrations and walk-ins will pay \$35.

The event is co-sponsored by Biz6+ and Harris Bank.

Do You Have a Program You Would Like to Present?

The AM Business Connection committee has been reviewing requests from both speakers and attendees to get a great slate of programs for 2010. The presentations are usually limited to about 20 minutes. The topics of interest are varied. Please contact the Chamber office if you would like to be considered as a speaker or if you would like to hear about a particular topic. We appreciate your ideas and suggestions.

Is It a Semi-Trailer, a Floating Wall? No . . . It's the Super Sign on I-90!

by Gary Skoog, Hoffman Estates Director of Economic Development

If you have been out on I-90 west of Illinois Route 59 (Poplar Creek at 59/90) you must have seen the very large digital billboard. Although it has Cabela's name on it, the sign is a partnership between Cabela's and the Village of Hoffman Estates.

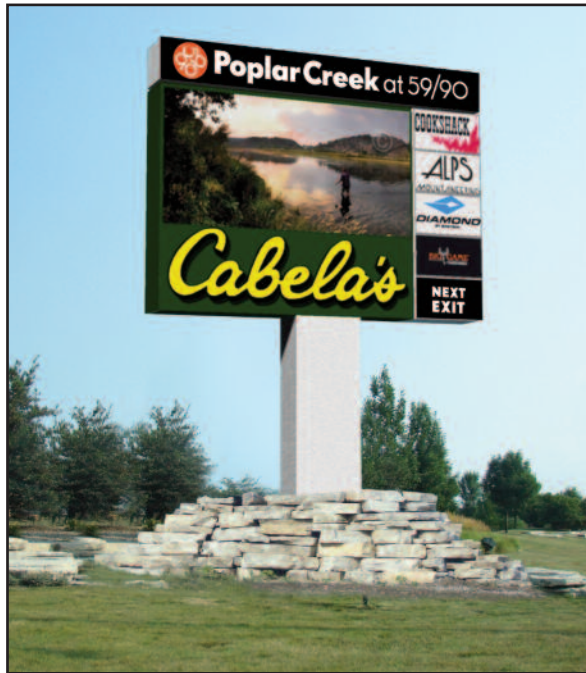
Cabela's indicated that since it has opened, customers continue to have trouble locating the store, thus the need for a large sign. The sign will include ads

promoting the emerging entertainment district, space available and Village sponsored events like the upcoming Tartan Day Parade (April 10th out on Prairie Stone Parkway) starting in late March or early April of this year.

If you have seen the sign you might have noticed the marquee communicating a name for the area, "Poplar Creek at 59/90". The name genesis had two major elements. Prairie Stone's southern edge is large, well over 40 acres (not including the wetlands) with wide open spaces. The Village and stakeholders realize this is a destination for customers arriving in cars from Rockford to Chicago to Naperville to Wisconsin. The thought was that offering coordinates would help pinpoint the location. Illinois Highway 59 and Interstate Highway 90 (59/90) were those coordinates. Secondly, a long standing entertainment icon in the Chicago area was the Poplar Creek Music Theatre (check out Wikipedia for Poplar Creek). It was located on the present Chicago Northwest Marriott hotel property on Hoffman Boulevard. Anybody over 30 will likely know precisely where the venue is located with pleasant entertainment memories. Poplar Creek has positive name equity and coupled with the 59/90 intersection, a name was born.

Now the Village will be working with the Sears Centre Arena, Cabela's, adjacent shopping centers, retailers and restaurants to utilize the logo, Poplar Creek at 59/90 and byline "The Entertainment Crossroads" to help brand the area as a destination for music, sports, family shows (entertainment), shopping (Poplar Creek Crossing, the Arboretum) and dining (too many eateries to list).

Additional venues have been and are on the drawing board in this turbulent economy. Stay tuned.



Tartan Day to Feature Celebration of Nations

In a unique twist on celebrating the various cultures that make up the vibrant tapestry of Hoffman Estates, the village is planning its second annual Tartan Day Parade for Saturday, April 10. While the Tartan Day Parade name suggests a Scottish celebration, the event is actually an opportunity to showcase ethnicities from around the world. The only parade of its kind in the Midwest, the April 10 event will feature large inflatable parade balloons (similar to the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade), ethnic musical groups, marching bands from around the country, and floats made by local groups.

"We love the concept for this event because we live in a diverse society, and this event celebrates that diversity," said Mayor William D. McLeod. "The more we learn about other cultures and experiences, the more unified we can be both as a local and global community."

The parade will kick off at 10:00 a.m., and will wind down Prairie Stone Parkway in the western part of Hoffman Estates. It will finish at the Virginia Mary Hayter Village Green, 5510 Prairie Stone Parkway, where the outdoor amphitheater will be alive with performance groups and food vendors from different cultural backgrounds. The Sears Centre Arena will also feature British/Scottish car clubs, clan family gatherings and an International Beer Festival. Later in the evening, families are invited to attend the Heartland International Tattoo Music and Dance Festival. The Tattoo is a celebration of pageantry, dance and music, and it begins at 7:00 p.m. in the Sears Centre Arena. To purchase tickets to the Tattoo, visit www.heartlandtattoo.org.

There is still space available for parade participants and volunteers. For more information, contact Linda Scheck by phone at (847) 781-2664, or by email at linda.scheck@hoffmanestates.org, or call (847) 882-9100.

Green Money: Looking for a business line of credit, investment counselor, accountant, home mortgage, or other financial service?

Check out what's available from these Chamber members!

Accounting Services

Admin and Beyond, LLC	(800) 850-3907
Aktiva, LLC	(847) 687-2402
BIK & Co., LLP	(847) 358-1170
James F. Sexton & Assoc., Ltd., CPAs	(847) 605-0700
Management Accounting Services, Ltd.	(847) 428-5050
Porte Brown LLC	(847) 956-1040

Financial Planning/Organizing

C A Banc Rate	(847) 304-1050
Edward Jones Investments	(847) 963-8992
Harris Bank/Gannon Drive	(847) 885-0700
Harris Bank/Roselle Road	(847) 885-5858

Mortgages

Affiliated Financing Services, Ltd.	(847) 884-8686
American Fidelity Mortgage Services	(847) 404-0995
Charter National Bank and Trust Barrington Road	(847) 882-1000
Charter National Bank and Trust Higgins Road	(847) 882-1000
CitiBank - Hoffman Estates	(847) 645-3997
Harris Bank N.A. - South Barrington	(847) 765-5850
Harris Bank/Gannon Drive	(847) 885-0700
Harris Bank/Roselle Road	(847) 885-5858
Hoffman Estates Community Bank	(847) 963-9500
Milestone Mortgage	(847) 494-4068
Parkway Bank & Trust Co.	(847) 310-3800

Tax Service

James F. Sexton & Assoc., Ltd., CPAs	(847) 605-0700
Porte Brown LLC	(847) 956-1040

Banks/Financial Institutions

Affiliated Financing Services, Ltd.	(847) 884-8686
American Chartered Bank	(847) 551-8550
Brazelton Insurance Agency, Inc.	(847) 882-4800
Charter National Bank and Trust Barrington Road	(847) 882-1000
Charter National Bank and Trust Higgins Road	(847) 882-1000
CitiBank - Hoffman Estates	(847) 645-3997
First American Bank	(847) 586-2424
Interface Financial Group	(847) 463-3081
Harris Bank/Gannon Drive	(847) 885-0700
Harris Bank N. A./South Barrington	(847) 756-5850
Harris Bank N. A./Schaumburg	(847) 891-4340
Harris Bank/Roselle Road	(847) 885-5858
Harris Bank H.E./Algonquin Rd	(847) 756-5766
Hoffman Estates Community Bank	(847) 963-9500
Hoffman Estates Community Bank South	(847) 842-2633
Leaders Bank	(847) 278-3701
Parkway Bank & Trust Co.	(847) 310-3800

Investment/Financial Services

Brazelton Insurance Agency	(847) 882-4800
Charter National Bank and Trust Barrington Road	(847) 882-1000
Charter National Bank and Trust Higgins Road	(847) 882-1000
CitiBank - Hoffman Estates	(847) 645-3997
Harris Bank N.A. - South Barrington	(847) 765-5850
Harris Bank/Gannon Drive	(847) 885-0700
Harris Bank/Roselle Road	(847) 885-5858
Hoffman Estates Community Bank South	(847) 842-2633
Porte Brown LLC	(847) 956-1040

Clip & save

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Record Numbers Attend Chamber's February Networking Groups

Special Thanks to all of our February Hosts

Chicago Marriott NW	Chit N Chat
Brighton Gardens	Business After Hours
AM Business Connection	Romano's Macaroni Grill

Pictured to the right Trudy Schoening from **Golden Companion Dog Training**. Trudy was the winner of the \$100 spa basket provided by Brighton Gardens. The basket was presented by Lady a Brighton Garden resident. Don't miss out on our March networking events.



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: Ingrid Floria, Distributor, Seattle Sutton's Healthy Eating

Phone number: (224) 688-6846

How long in business: 4 months

Born in: Tacoma, Washington

Professional background: Degree in Music Education from Pacific Lutheran University; United Airlines flight attendant, 25 years

of sales in a variety of companies

I'd like you to know: We offer complete, freshly prepared meals with fresh fruit, salads and vegetables. Everything is included. There is a choice of two calorie-controlled portions, 1,200 and 2,000, that are nutritionally balanced with low fat, cholesterol, sugar, as well as sodium restricted and no trans fats. Our meal system is perfect for weight loss, health issues (such as diabetes, heart disease, etc.) or simply convenience. Enjoy 21 fresh meals (breakfast, lunch and dinner). We shop and prepare, you pick up or have it delivered and enjoy.

Interesting facts: Our meals are fresh, never frozen or dried, and are the best tasting of any plan. There are no contracts or sign up fees.

The best business advice I ever heard: Never stop learning.

The best business advice I could give: Your customers are first. Listen to them to find and address their needs.

My first job: Model/retail sales when I was 16 years old.

The way I plan to participate in the Chamber is: I'd like to help enhance and promote the growth of the Hoffman Estates Chamber in the business and residential communities.

The last good movie I saw was: *Avatar*

The best advice my mother ever gave me: Never be afraid to dream and go for it.

My idea of a great meal is: Steak and lobster.

My goal in life is: To continue to pursue all of my dreams.

Nobody knows I: Crave healthy chocolate.

My prized childhood possession was: A stuffed Leo the Lion.

The best time of my life: Right now.

If I could drive any vehicle, it would be: A Cadillac XLR.

To me, a really good day is: Singing and dancing with my husband, and being with family and friends.

I have always wanted to: Travel the world singing.

If I've learned one thing in life, it's: You get back in proportion to what you give.

Three words that describe me: Innovative, dedicated, fun

Name: Daniel E. Fogarty Jr., Vice President, McShane Development Company

Phone number: (847) 292-4300

How long in business: 15 years

Born in: Elmhurst, IL

Educational background: Bachelor of Science from Northern Illinois University (Major in Marketing, Minor in Economics); Masters of Business Administration from Illinois Benedictine University.

I'd like you to know: The McShane Companies is a national provider of real estate development and construction services. The McShane family of companies has been in business for over 25 years and boasts the development and/or construction of over 1,000 facilities across the country over the course of our history. At McShane, we pride ourselves on our reputation of professionalism and integrity represented by our extensive relationships ranging from Fortune 500 corporations to small private family-owned companies.

Interesting facts: The McShane Companies is unique within the real estate industry in that we are able to provide each point of service throughout the transaction cycle. As a developer, we purchase and entitle raw land sites. As a design/build contractor, we provide facility construction services from groundbreaking to ribbon-cutting. We also arrange both short- and long-term financing. In short, we can do it all and that allows for a seamless operation when we provide our full services to a client needing a real estate solution.

The best business advice I ever heard: "Listen more and talk less." The more you listen to your stakeholders, the better able you are to serve them.

The best business advice I could give: Be patient and don't make hasty decisions. Take the time to survey all of the facts and make decisions based upon sound and thorough reasoning.

My first job: A grocery bagger at Jewel when I was 16 years old.

The way I plan to participate in the Chamber is: To network with other members and to do my best to become more involved within the business and social community.

My idea of a great meal is: One with my wife and two young children.

The best advice my mother gave me: Always keep your word.

Nobody knows I: Am deathly afraid of heights.

To me, a really good day is: Success at the office and happiness at home.

My prized childhood possession: A baseball autographed by Ernie Banks.

Three words that describe me: Driven, organized, passionate





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
BK & 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. Alexius 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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Seattle Sutton Comes to Hoffman Estates

On February 1 the Chamber celebrated the grand opening of Seattle Sutton with new owner Ingrid Floria, Mayor McLeod, Village trustees, Chamber members and Seattle Sutton herself. Stop in at 2500 W Higgins Road to welcome Ingrid to the neighborhood and to the Chamber.



Opportunity Knocking: Calendar of Upcoming Chamber Events

March

- Mon., March 1 Chamber scholarship application deadline
- Tues., March 2 A.M. Business Connection Committee 10:00 A.M.
- Wed., March 3 Expo Committee 8:30 A.M.
- Thurs., March 4 Fishing Derby Committee 8:00 A.M.
- Mon., March 8 Membership Committee 8:00 A.M.
- Tues., March 9 New member reception/Millrose 11:30 A.M.
- Thurs., March 11 The Exchange 7:30 A.M.
- Thurs., March 11 Chit & Chat/Ti Amo 11:30 A.M.
- Wed., March 17 BIZ 6 luncheon/Stonegate 11:30 A.M.
- Wed., March 17 Business After Hours/First American Bank 5:00 P.M.
- Thurs., March 18 Marketing Committee 3:00 P.M.
- Fri., March 19 Government Relations Committee 12:00 noon
- Mon., March 22 Board of Directors 7:30 A.M.
- Tues., March 23 A.M. Business Connection/Macaroni Grill 11:30 A.M.
- Tues., March 23 Golf Committee 1:30 P.M.
- Thurs., March 25 The Exchange 7:30 A.M.

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

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