

Our 71st Anniversary Year (1939 - 2010)



**Maywood
Chamber of Commerce**

www.maywoodchamber.com

February 2010

Leaders . . . In the 21st Century

Volume XVI Issue VI

Mission: To promote economic growth and community development on behalf of its members through the forging of partnerships between citizens, local government, and businesses in a manner that fosters civic pride and a sense of community.

LOCAL EVENTS SCHEDULED TO CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY MONTH

The Village of Maywood and the Maywood Park District are sponsoring a "Celebration of African-American Pioneers in Maywood" on Saturday, February 13, 2010, 2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. at the Maywood Park District, 921 South 9th Avenue (at the corner of 9th Avenue and Madison Avenue). Guest speaker will be Reverend Reginald Ratliff. The event will include light refreshments, School District 89, Praise Dancers, School District 209, and the West Town Museum of Cultural History.

The Maywood Public Library, 121 South 5th Avenue, Maywood, has scheduled a Black History Expo with a special program on Saturday, February 13, 2010, 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. The Expo includes displays from vendors, community groups, local artists, and the West Town Museum of Cultural History. The theme of this year's Expo is "Economic Reciprocity: Black Economic Empowerment".

In addition to displays, the Library will feature local authors, a sampling of soul food, and entertainment, including a re-showing of the Smithsonian documentary, entitled "Soul of a People: Writing America's Story," which includes a discussion of the slave narratives, that were recorded during the Federal Writers Project of the late 1930's. For further information, please contact Carol Clover at (708) 343-1847, Extension 21.

The West Town Museum of Cultural History, 104 South 5th Avenue, Maywood, will host its annual observation of Black History Month on Saturday, February 27, 2010, at 1:00 p.m. The Program will feature a book discussion and signing of the new book, "Suburban Promised Land" by Stan West, Peggy Tuckbinka, Frank Lipo, and Yves Hughes, Jr. The book published by Soweto Press, reveals the true story of African – Americans living in Oak Park, Illinois from 1880-1980. In addition, there will be a memorial exhibit of the late Fred Hampton and the newly released book "The Assassination of Fred Hampton" by Jeffrey Haas.

Minutes from the Secretary

Minutes of the January 19, 2010, Maywood Chamber of Commerce General Meeting, hosted by AT&T, and held at the Maywood Public Library, 121 South 5th Avenue, Maywood, Illinois, at 12:00 Noon.

The meeting was called to order at 12:25 p.m. by Chairman Steven E. Fox.

Board Members Present: Sam Balark, Jason C. Ervin, Steven E. Fox, Jon Grigalunas, Jr., Audrey C. Jaycox, Carolyn Johnson, Marissa Martinez Gonzales, Stan D. Huntington, Virginia Olson, and Latoya Campbell-Stansbury.

Members Present: Enrique Arroyo, Brian Black, Janice Mitchell Bolling, Chief Cadagin, Chief Tim Currie, Toni Dorris, Readith Esther, Sharlene Estelle, David Flowers, Lennel Grace, Vicki Haas, Tom Kus, Trina Mangrum, Col. Robert McMahan, Viola Mims, Angela Moore, Georgette Nabhani, Joe E. Ponsetto, Linda Schueler, Gwendolyn Streeter-Walker, Loretta Robinson, Marvin Savage, Lori Sommers, Edwin H. Walker IV, John West, Donald L. Williams, Ivan Williams

Guests Present: Marc Blakeman, Dawood Burhani, Ray Coffey, Earleen Collins, Kenya Covey, Lashawn Ford, Burt Forsythe, Eric George, Sandra Hunter, Vivian Moore, David Parsons, Jan Pate, Burt Petkus, Lanya Satchell, Rita Steiskal, Ted Steiskal, Leo Tyo, Kim West, and Carl Williams.

Chairman Fox thanked everyone for coming, thanked Stan D. Huntington for making the Library available for the Chamber's meeting, and thanked AT&T for hosting the luncheon.

President/CEO Edwin H. Walker IV gave the invocation, following which he invited guests to commence lunch.

Donald Williams moved, Audrey Jaycox seconded, and the Minutes of the previous meeting were approved unanimously, as presented. Audrey Jaycox moved, Viola Mims seconded, and the financial report, as presented, was approved unanimously.

Chairman Steven E. Fox introduced the host for the luncheon, Sam Balark of AT&T. Sam Balark introduced Lashawn Ford, Earleen Collins, Village of Maywood staff and trustees, and Bellwood Chamber members, before introducing AT&T Vice President for External Affairs, Marc Blakeman, as the speaker for the meeting.

Marc Blakeman reviewed the history of AT&T, and specifically, wireless technology, as well as the future of wireless technology.

Edwin H. Walker IV reminded everyone that the next meeting will again be on a Tuesday, February 16, 2010 due to Presidents Day, and asked all to consider Tuesdays as a regular meeting day.

Commissioner Earleen Collins announced a \$3.5-million Foreclosure Remediation Program that is about to be launched.

For lack of further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria Haas
Secretary Pro Tem

CHAMBER LEADERSHIP

Chairman: **Steven E. Fox** (B.C. 11)(B)
1st Suburban National Bank

Immediate Past Chairman: **Jesse L. Howard, Jr.**
(B.C. 11)(B)
Howard Properties, Inc.

1st Vice Chairman: **Audrey C. Jaycox** (B.C. 10)(I)
Individual Member

2nd Vice Chairman: **Latoya Campbell-Stansbury**
Park National Bank (B.C10)(B)

President/CEO: **Edwin H. Walker IV**
Individual Member

Executive Secretary/
Treasurer: **Kathleen I. Carani** (B.C. 11)(I)
Individual Member

Class of 2010

Director: **Rev. Jacques A. Conway** (NFP)
Neighborhood United Methodist Church

Director: **Joshua Day** (B)
Cintas Corporation

Director: **Johnny E. Diggs** (B)
Grafin, Inc.

Director: **Patrick J. Durkin** (NFP)
Westlake Hospital

Director: **Jason C. Ervin** (Gvt)
Village Manager

Director: **Marissa Gonzalez** (B)
Banco Popular

Director: **Carolyn Johnson** (I)
Individual Member

Director: **Sean T. McCarthy** (B)
Nicor Gas

Director: **Viola Mims** (B)
Vintage Realtors

Class of 2011:

Director: **Fabiola Amezcua** (B)
ComEd

Director: **Sam Balark** (B)
AT&T

Director: **Jon Grigalunas, Jr.** (NFP)
Triton College

Director: **Stan D. Huntington** (NFP)
Maywood Public Library

Director: **Donald A. Offermann** (B)
Forest Park National Bank

Director: **Virginia Olson** (B)
Happy Hounds & Cats

Director: **James E. Whitehead** (NFP)
Loyola University Health System

Director: **Karen A. Yarbrough** (B)
Hathaway Insurance Agency

Chaplain: **Rev. Jacques A. Conway**
Individual Member

RECORD CROWD ATTENDS FIRST CHAMBER GENERAL MEETING OF THE NEW YEAR

A record crowd of fifty-six people attended the first Chamber General Meeting of the new year at the Maywood Public Library, 121 South 5th Avenue, Maywood, on Tuesday, January 19, 2010. Hosted by AT&T, with space provided by the Maywood Public Library, the assembly enjoyed a delicious luncheon, prepared by Buona Beef, 7025 W. North Avenue, Oak Park, Illinois.

Host Sam Balark, External Relations, AT&T and member of the Maywood Chamber Board, introduced Keynote Speaker, Marc D. Blakeman, Regional Vice President, External Affairs, AT&T, Inc., who gave an informative and interesting presentation on "Wireless Technology-Changing Your World". Mr. Blakeman traced the history and development of AT&T and focused especially on the rapid expansion of wireless technology and its by-products.

Underlining AT&T's investment in Illinois, he pointed to its employment of over 19,000 people in Illinois as well as its investment of 3.3-billion in the Illinois economy between 2006 and 2008. AT&T operates 73 retail stores throughout Illinois, nationally more retail locations than Target, Lowe's and Sears.

Concluding with a "call to arms", Mr. Blakeman issued a warning concerning the protection of consumer benefits of the wireless market from unnecessary taxes and regulations, imposed by "big brother" federal government.

Let us hope that the attendance at our opening General Meeting is a happy harbinger for the year 2010. Thanks go especially to the Village of Maywood, fifteen of whose staff and elected officials were present, including many department heads (Police, Fire, Finance, Public Works, Community Development) and Village Manager. Also present were the President of the Bellwood Chamber of Commerce, Carol Williams, along with several Chamber members, First District Commissioner Earleen D. Collins and 8th District State Representative LaShawn Ford.

**Help us to expand our membership by promptly renewing your membership
and signing up a new member.**

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Law Office of Georgette Nabhani
Georgette Nabhani
77 West Washington Blvd., Suite 100
Chicago, Illinois 60602
(312) 726-6175
Fax: (312) 278-0091

MAYWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY TO HOST FEBRUARY CHAMBER GENERAL MEETING

Stan D. Huntington, Library Director and Chamber Board member, welcomes all members and guests to the February General Meeting of the Maywood Chamber of Commerce on **Tuesday, February 16, 2010**, 12:00 noon, at the Maywood Public Library, 121 South 5th Avenue, Room 201 (Carnegie Bldg.), Maywood. Lunch will be served promptly at 12:00 noon and the meeting will conclude at 1:00 p.m.

Guest speaker for the meeting will be Lennel Grace, Director, Community Relations, Rock of Ages Baptist Church, whose topic will be the recently announced Rock of Ages Baptist Church/Robert Morris University Scholarship Program for current seniors attending Proviso high schools. Five full scholarships for attendance at Robert Morris University will be awarded.

The Program will be administered by the Vision of Restoration, Inc., whose Executive Director is Yvette Ford-Lovely. Vision of Restoration, Inc. and the Rock of Ages Baptist Church are members of the Maywood Chamber of Commerce.

The charge for the event is \$10.00 for members and \$15.00 for non-members. Please note the change in the meeting date — **Tuesday, February 16, 2010** instead of Monday, February 15, 2010 because of the Presidents' Day holiday on Monday, February 15, 2010.

**COME AND BRING A FRIEND,
ESPECIALLY A NEW POTENTIAL NEW MEMBER.**

The Chamber Newsletter is published by the Maywood Chamber of Commerce monthly, except July and August.

Letters to the Editor should be addressed to:
P.O. Box 172, Maywood, IL 60153

Editor-in-Chief: Edwin H. Walker IV

**The Maywood Chamber of Commerce
Box 172
Maywood, Illinois 60153**

POSTMASTER: DO NOT FORWARD

CHAMBER 2010 CALENDAR

- February 9 Board of Directors
4 pm Maywood Public Library
(Board Room)
121 S. 5th Avenue, Maywood
- February 16 Chamber General Meeting
Time: 12:00 Noon
Host: Maywood Public Library
Location: 121 South 5th Avenue, Maywood

**(NOTE: 3rd TUESDAY GENERAL MEETING DATE
BECAUSE OF HOLIDAY ON THE 15TH)**

- Mar. 9 Board of Directors
4 pm Maywood Public Library
(Board Room)
121 S. 5th Avenue, Maywood
- Mar. 16 Chamber General Meeting
12:00 Noon
Host: Park National Bank
Location: Maywood Public Library
Room 201 (Carnegie Bldg.),
121 S. 5th Avenue, Maywood

