

Our 70th Anniversary Year (1939 - 2009)



**Maywood
Chamber of Commerce**

www.maywoodchamber.com

January 2009

Leaders . . . In the 21st Century

Volume XV Issue V

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.

LORI SOMMERS NAMED NEW DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Lori Sommers, former Oak Park Assistant Planner, has been named as the new Maywood Community Development Director, filling a post, which has been vacant since early July 2008, following the resignation of Interim Director Wallace A. Douthwaite.

Sommers, a native of the Twin Cities area (Minneapolis & St. Paul), is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin/Stout with a Bachelor's of Arts degree in psychology and earned a Masters of Urban and Regional Planning degree from the University of Wisconsin/Milwaukee (UWM). She is presently working towards a Masters degree in Transport Engineering from the University of Wisconsin/Milwaukee (UWM). Her accreditations include Member, American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP), Certification by the Geographic Information Systems Program Institute (GISP) and Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design: Green Building Rating System (LEED AP).

The Village was also without a Community Development Director from August 2006, when Brian Sims resigned, until April 2007, when Wallace A. Douthwaite was named Interim Director. The post was vacant again from August 2008 to November 2008. (The new permanent Director, Lori Sommers, began her duties on 1 December 2008.) Consequently, the Village was without a permanent, full-time Community Development Director for over two years (August 2006-November 2008), during a period when strong, professional leadership was critical to the success of economic development in the Village.

The Chamber welcomes Ms. Sommers to this important position and looks forward to working with her in promoting economic development in our Village as well as improving the overall business climate.

**DESPITE SEVERE WINTER WEATHER,
SIXTY PEOPLE FROM THREE
NEIGHBORING CHAMBERS GATHERED FOR
A JOINT CHRISTMAS PARTY AT
BEST WESTERN HILLSIDE**

On Tuesday, December 9, 2008, sixty members of three neighboring Chambers of Commerce braved severe winter weather to gather for a joint Christmas Party at the Best Western Chicago Hillside, 4400 Frontage Road, Hillside.

Attendees included Steven E. Fox, Chairman of the Board, Maywood Chamber of Commerce and Assistant Vice President, First Suburban National Bank; Edwin H. Walker IV, President/CEO, Maywood Chamber of Commerce; Johanna Anderson, President, Bellwood Chamber of Commerce and Advanced Occupational Medical Specialists, Bellwood; and Paul A. Porter, President, Broadview Chamber of Commerce and MB Financial Bank, Broadview, as well as Bellwood Mayor Frank A. Pasquale and Broadview Mayor Henry Vicenik.

Following a reception hour and the Invocation, given by Rev. Jacques A. Conway, Chaplain, Maywood Chamber of Commerce, everyone enjoyed a festive buffet turkey dinner, complete with all the trimmings, including a wine toast during the meal. At the conclusion of dinner, each attendee was given the opportunity to introduce himself.

Sincere thanks are due to the Best Western Chicago Hillside for partially underwriting the cost of the event. Special appreciation also goes to Sales Manager Theresa Mathews (a native of Maywood) and Catering Manager John Quaites. Many compliments were received for the dinner, as well as suggestions for more joint meetings in the future.

WELCOME NEW MEMBER:

Dr. Amanda Turner, Associate Dean
Triton College
2000 5th Avenue
River Grove, IL 60171

708-456-0300 ext. 3593
aturner2@triton.edu

CHAMBER LEADERSHIP

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

Chairman: **Steven E. Fox** (B.C. 09)(B)
1st Suburban National Bank

Immediate Past Chairman: **Jesse L. Howard, Jr.**
(B.C. 09)(B)
Howard Properties, Inc.

1st Vice
Chairman:

2nd Vice **Audrey C. Jaycox** (B.C. 08)(I)
Chairman: Individual Member

Secretary/
Treasurer: **Kathleen I. Carani** (B.C. 08)(I)
Individual Member

Class of 2008

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

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

Director: **John Murphy** (B)
Cintas Corporation

Director: **James Yaccino** (B)
Mike's Suburban Collision
Shop, Inc.

Class of 2009:

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

Honorary Lifetime Director:
Hugh A. Muir (I)
Individual Member

CHAMBER MEMBERS PARTICIPATE IN ZONING REWRITE INTERVIEWS

Phase II of the Village Comprehensive Plan, the Zoning Rewrite, began on Tuesday, 11 December 2008 with the conduct of key person interviews with community stakeholders. The new Village Comprehensive Plan, unanimously approved by the Village Trustees on 15 April 2008, is the first update of the Comprehensive Plan since 1965, nearly a half century ago.

Camiros Consultants of Chicago are seeking to identify issues which citizens may have encountered with the current Zoning Code. Examples of input, which the consultants are soliciting, include: "Is the Ordinance easy to understand and use?" What are some of the major zoning issues in the Village?; What is your opinion about the Village's Administrative process? What are examples of "good" and "bad" residential and commercial development within the Village?

Chamber members participating in the first round of interviews included Chamber President/CEO Edwin H. Walker IV, Chamber Board member and Village Trustee Audrey C. Jaycox, Village Trustee Edweena Y. Perkins, and Chairman/CEO PLCCA, Bishop Dr. Claude Porter.

The second series of interviews will be conducted on Thursday, 22 January 2009 from 2:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers, 2nd Floor, 125 South 5th Avenue. Please contact Angela Moore-Smith at (708) 450-6351 to make a reservation for an interview.

OPERATION UPLIFT TO HOST 21ST ANNUAL DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. LUNCHEON

Operation Uplift will host its 21st Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Luncheon on Saturday, January 17, 2008, 12:00 noon-4:00 p.m., at the Diplomat West Banquet Hall, 641 West North Avenue (at Route 83) in Elmhurst, Illinois.

With the theme "The Dream Endures", the event will celebrate the excellence of Dr. King's legacy by recognizing hometown success stories and community service leaders. The 2008 Award recipients include: Best Buy, Winston Park Corporate "Thank you" Award, Dr. Queenella Miller, Ph.D., Village of North Riverside, Proviso High School NBA Trailblazer of 1969, Jim Brewer, and four youths will be named Vision "21" Community Leader.

The Keynote Speaker will be the Reverend Dr. Esther J. Mitchell, recently retired Co-Pastor of J.W. James Memorial AME Church, Maywood.

The Maywood Chamber of Commerce was the first recipient of the newly inaugurated Dr. Percy L. Julian Community Award during the 18th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. luncheon in January 2006.

Individual General Admission is \$60 and Corporate Admission is \$80. For tickets and further information, please call (708) 516-0628. Operation Uplift is the home of the West Town Museum of Cultural History.

CINTAS CORPORATION TO HOST JANUARY CHAMBER GENERAL MEETING

Maywood Chamber Board Member John Murphy, Manager, of the Cintas Maywood Plant, welcomes all members and guests to the January General Meeting of the Maywood Chamber of Commerce on TUESDAY, January 20, 2009, 12:00 Noon, at the Maywood Public Library, 121 South 5th Avenue (Room 201), Maywood. Luncheon will be served promptly at 12 noon and the meeting will conclude at 1:00 p.m.

Cintas Corporation, an industrial cleaning company, moved to Maywood in 2005. Its 70,000 square-foot facility, located on a portion of the former American Can Company property along St. Charles Road, has 110 employees, which includes residents of Maywood.

The Corporation, based in Cincinnati, Ohio, was established in 1929 as a uniform laundering business for clients that range from restaurants and retail to schools and hospitals. The Maywood Plant is unique in that it processes only floor mats, linen towels, and aprons and provides hygiene products for businesses.

Come and bring a friend, especially a potential 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**

CHAMBER 2009 CALENDAR

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|---------|---|
| Jan. 13 | Board of Directors
4pm , Maywood Public Library
(Board Room)
121 South 5th Avenue, Maywood |
| Jan. 20 | Chamber General Meeting
12:00 Noon
Host: Cintas Corporation
Maywood Public Library
121 S. 5th Avenue, Maywood |
| Feb. 10 | Board of Directors
4pm , Maywood Public Library
(Board Room)
121 South 5th Avenue, Maywood |
| Feb. 17 | Chamber General Meeting
12:00 Noon
Host: TBA |

**(NOTE: 3rd TUESDAY MEETING DATES
BECAUSE OF HOLIDAYS ON
19 JANUARY AND 16 FEBRUARY)**

POSTMASTER: DO NOT FORWARD

