The Monthly Newsletter of



Your CHAMBER Matters

OUR MISSION To unite, improve, promote, and advocate for the business community in and around Morton Grove.

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Chamber Staff

Mark Pendergrass • Executive Director Claire Sherman • Assistant to the Director

Meet Niles Township Government

Our April 2008 Member of the Month

Congratulations to our April 2008 Member of the Month – Niles Township Government – 158 years and going strong!

America's oldest form of government, the Township, was created by the Illinois Constitution of 1848. The first Townships in Illinois were formed in 1849, and today 85 of Illinois'102 counties operate under the township system. Statewide, the 1,433 Townships serve more than 8 million people.

Township government in America dates back to the Pilgrims. They came to the New World in search of political freedom, and created the purest form of democracy – the Township.

Township government today operates under the same principle of democratic rule as it did 158 years ago. The first townships established the town meeting as the cornerstone of citizen participation, and today, Niles Township has a town meeting each April to allow citizens direct input into the governing process.

Niles Township continues to provide general and emergency assistance, computer classes, food distribution, a childcare center, and assessor's and clerk's offices, and also gives grants to a vast array of organizations that heal, enrich, and delight its residents.

Niles Township provides assistance through its financial support of Turning Point and Metropolitan Family Services, which offer mental health and counseling programs for adults and children.

In addition, Niles Township supports many organizations and programs providing services for people with disabilities. These include: Center for Enriched Living, Glenkirk, Presbyterian Homes (Great Opportunities), Maine-Niles Association of Special Recreation, Thresholds Transitions (formerly Niles Township Sheltered Workshop), Orchard Village, Resources for Community Living, Misericordia Home, Rimland Services, Shore Community Services, and Visions (formerly Blare House).



Standing from left: Assessor Scott Bagnall, Trustee Pramod C. Shah, Trustee Michael Lorge, Clerk Charles Levy and Trustee Herb Sweetow. Seated from the left: Trustee Marilyn Glazer, Supervisor Lee Tamraz and Collector Dina Modi.

The Township also supports human/health care services that are provided by: A Safe Place, Ark, BEHIV, Cancer Wellness Center, Response Center, Interfaith Housing, Suburban Primary Health Care (Access to Care), Midwest Palliative Care, Northwest CASA, Willpower and Wings.

Support also goes to cultural and community services: Centre East, Cavalcade of Music Foundation, Grassfield Writers, Morton Grove Days Parade, Skokie Community Chorus, Skokie 4th of July Parade, Skokie Sculpture Park, Skokie Valley Symphony, Indo-American Center, and New American Conversation Club.

Grants for seniors go to: Lincolnwood Subsidized Taxi Program, North Shore Senior Center and senior clubs in Skokie, Lincolnwood, Niles and Morton Grove.

Youth support services include: Camp Red Leaf, Children's Advocacy Center, Response Center, The Harbour, Links, Niles Township Community Childcare Center, and S.O.C.K.S.

Niles Township Government is grateful to a wonderfully generous community and will continue to touch and improve the lives of its residents.

Niles Township

5255 Main Street, Skokie, Illinois 60077-2160 847-673-9300 • 847-673-2981 Fax nilestwpgov@ameritech.net www.nilestownshipgov.org

Message from Chamber President, Dale Ashcraft

Dear Morton Grove Chamber of Commerce and Industry Members,

After being installed on January 31, I'm happy to report that your 2008 Board of Directors went into action, demonstrating a great deal of commitment for the activities, which will add value to MGCCI membership in 2008.

Essentially, these activities fall into two categories:

- To be a conduit for two-way communication between local businesses and government bodies, both as an advocate for businesses and for civic programs, which benefit businesses.
- To provide more opportunities for member businesses to establish new relationships and reach more prospective clients and customers.

The process has already started. Here are a few of the new initiatives for 2008:

The MGCCI is working closely with various Village departments to coordinate civic events with promotional opportunities for businesses. For example, this year's Morton Grove Days will include a Business-to-Consumer Expo for Chamber members.

In 2007, MGCCI participated with other Illinois Chambers to block the Blagojevich business tax. We stay in contact with Bill Neuendorf, Community & Economic Development Director, regarding Village decisions, which impact Morton Grove businesses. One program, currently under development, will assist businesses with signage and storefront improvements.

The board's newly established Ambassador Program will further enhance the value of Chamber membership. Ambassadors will become mentors to members and prospective members, for the purposes of increasing attendance at Chamber functions, recruiting new members and providing a conduit between businesses and government.

Executive Director, Mark Pendergrass, has revamped our newsletter in order to provide more advertising space and reach more readers. While only members may advertise in this publication, circulation has been dramatically increased to include other businesses. As a result of these changes, the newsletter has become a more valuable advertising buy and a tool for recruiting new members.

The Community Guide will also feature a new format and increased circulation.

2008 has already seen an increase in membership and more multi-chamber networking events, with improved attendance. The result is more exposure for businesses, which participate in these events. Remember, people do business with people they know. Take advantage of your MGCCI membership and actively participate. You and your business will make new friends.

Best wishes, Dale Ashcraft

New 2008 Window Clings Out

Late last month, the Chamber office sent out ournew2008Membership Window Clings to all paidup members. If you've paid your dues but didn't receive your cling or if you'd like additional clings, please contact Mark or Claire at



the Chamber office – 847-965-0330. Please be sure to put your cling in your front door or window, so you customers know you're a Chamber members, reminding them to "Shop Chamber Members First."

Quote of the Month:

"Life can either be accepted or changed. If it is not accepted, it must be changed. If it cannot be changed, then it must be accepted." -Anonymous

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Welcome New Members!

Magazine Memories

Maybe you've driven by the place a million times on your way east or west down Dempster. Maybe you've always wondered just exactly what it was or what was inside but you never stopped to find out. You've told yourself "I need to get in there some

day and check it out."

Well, now is the time. Magazine Memories is a local treasure – unique to the Midwest, it's one of seven (I repeat: one of seven!) remaining vintage magazine stores in the entire U.S.A.

Chicago doesn't have a store like this, neither does New York, but we do. And it's been right under our collective nose, a Morton Grove gem, for over 18 years. With more than 100,000 magazines dating back to 1840 and over 40,000 posters, it's like a museum where you can actually buy the exhibits. Forget the Internet, if you're looking for back issues of Life, Time, Vogue, Sports, Mad, Motor Trend, Playboy, the Saturday Evening Post, Fortune, Esquire and so much more, then Magazine Memories probably has it on hand, right now.

If you're reading this, you may be wondering – why buy old magazines? One of the main reasons is for birthday or anniversary gifts - the day your mother was born or married, the day your dad went to the service for WWII, for Korea, for Vietnam, for the Gulf War - or the day he came home. Wonderfully warm memories come flooding back when people receive these gifts and see the old car ads, the old Coke ads or fashions of the day. Or maybe it was a political scandal that's ancient history now, but that marked a time in their lives.

The owner of Magazine Memories, Bob Katzman, started collecting magazines and old newspapers in 1963. He was 13 when he started, the day President Kennedy died, and for 45 years he's never stopped. His original store was in Chicago, but he needed more space so he moved to Morton Grove many years ago and has been here ever since. Bob runs Magazine Memories the old fashioned way. He engages his customers individually, assists each customer personally, and knows the exact location of every single item in his store by memory alone – no computer needed for Bob

Katzman.

We are very excited about Magazine Memories joining the Morton Grove Chamber, and we highly encourage you to give Magazine Memories a visit soon – for gifts for yourself,

your family, your loved ones, and those clients that seem to have everything. Special note about Magazine Memories: Bob's inventory are unknown TV and movie extras. Prop departments from local, national, and international television and film production companies call on Bob continually for his expertise and to find just the right poster or magazine for the scenes they're filming.

Most recently, the Chicago production team shooting Public Enemies, a movie about John Dillinger (and starring Johnny Depp), picked up a few things. That same week a movie company in Toronto called Bob seeking authentic 1928 to 1937 items to decorate the set of a new film on Amelia Earhart, the famed (and doomed) Avatrix, starring Hillary Swank.



Magazine Memories Bob Katzman 6006 Dempster Morton Grove, IL Toll-free 888-853-4949 www.magazinememories.com

Royal Maids

It's almost time for annual spring cleaning! And our new Morton Grove Chamber of Commerce and Industry member - Royal Maids - is ready to help you get and keep your house clean and in order.

Morton Grove resident Jose Cyriac has opened his Royal Maids business in a storefront in downtown Skokie. Royal Maids offers regular, residential cleaning, done between the hours of 8 a.m. through 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday.

Services are available on a weekly, biweekly, monthly, or special occasion basis. The uniformed Royal Maids gets the job done with their industrial cleaning supplies or if you prefer, with your cleaning supplies and they're quick too. They use teams of cleaners to clean homes more efficiently and in less time.

Royal Maids are licensed, bonded, and insured. Please call Jose at Royal Maids and give his business an opportunity to get your home sparkling clean.



Royal Maids ribbon cutting with Skokie Mayor Mr. van Dusen

Royal Maids Jose Cyriac 4901 Oakton Street Skokie, IL 60076 847-676-2300



NEWS?

If you would like

item featured in

your news or event

upcoming months,

please contact the

Chamber office at

office@mgcci.org.

847-965-0330

or via email:

Welcome New Members! - continued

Diversified Graphics

Diversified Graphics helps small to medium size businesses create a sophisticated image that attracts attention and brings better bottom line results. Owner Mike Looby has more than 29 years in the graphics and printing industry and has been located in the Niles and Morton Grove area for more than 20 years. He has provided graphics and printing services ranging from Fortune 500 companies to small businesses. Customers receive ad agency quality graphics and production services at very competitive prices. In 1998 one of Mike's clients won second place at the National Hardware show for packaging artwork (redesigned by Mike, of course).

As a printing broker, Mike describes himself as a printer without a press, which allows him

Your News & Events

District 219 Deca Award Winners to Compete at the International Competition in Atlanta, Georgia

Twenty-two District 219 DECA students are advancing to the International Career Development Conference (ICDC) in Atlanta, Georgia, based on the results of the state contest held March 6 -8 in Decatur. Overall, an impressive 44 students from Niles North and Niles West ranked in the top ten for different events, several students receiving top ten in more than one event.

Almost 1,000 students competed at the state conference in different events. The State Career Development Conference is where DECA students enter a higher level of competition, as they test their knowledge of economics, mathematics and marketing. They also need to know how to handle themselves in business situations. Some students participate in role-playing events and some students bring and present research and written projects they have worked on during the school year. A combination of written and presentation skills is the key to success in these events.

Photos By Jes Owner Jessica Gwozdz Gets First Magazine Cover Photo Published

Expectant mothers are some of photographer Jes Gwozdz's favorite subjects and some of her most frequent and best customers. Recently, one of her expectant mother photographs was chosen to be on the cover of the Spring 2008 "Expectant to provide clients with an unlimited range of services that include concept development, design, printing production and mailing services. Typical services Mike provides clients are logo and identity design, graphics design, artwork production, photography and writing copy. Typical products are stationary, business cards, sell sheets, catalogs, pocket folders, direct mail promotions, retail packaging and a full range of specialty capabilities and expertise that a typical printing business cannot provide.

Diversified Graphics Mike Looby 847-647-1988 847-647-1994 Fax diverseimage@earthlink.net

Mothers Guide to Chicago." This is a twice-yearly resource guide for new moms that is given out at hospitals and OB offices. Congratulations, Jes!

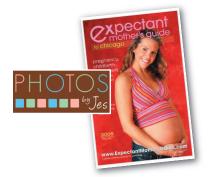
American Legion Post #134 Offering Full-Paid Scholarships to IL Boys State

The American Legion Premier Boys State of Illinois is a six day, all-expenses-paid educational adventure event sponsored by Legions Posts. The experience provides a condensed course in practical civics and politics, as well as fun and new friendships.

The event runs June 7-13, 2008, in Charleston, IL, at Eastern Illinois University. Boys that are between their junior and senior high school years will convene and become citizens of a "51st state." They will campaign, conduct elections, and set up city, county and state governments. They can also participate in different sports and a Boys State Band. Participants have always reported positively about their experience, and many of our nation's politicians have participated in Boys State across the U.S.

To help transmit the pricnciples of democracy by encouraging active citizenship, American Legion Post #134 will fund the attendance and transportation for this event. Priority for this scholarship will be given to Morton Grove boys but is open to all boys in our local area. Applications and more detailed information is available from Americanism Chairman and former MGCCI VIP John Slater at 847-965-7323.







EVENT REGISTRATION & SPONSORSHIP SHEET *Please fax this page back to us 847-965-0330*

P

 4/2/08 - Biz Ed @ Morton Grove Public Lik 12 PM - 1:30 PM 6140 Lincoln Ave, Morton Grove Topic: Networking Made Easy Speaker: Terry Bass FREE 	1 6 7 5	 5/7/08 – Biz Ed @ Morton Grove Public Library 12 PM – 1:30 PM 6140 Lincoln Ave, Morton Grove Topic: Update Your Image: Façade Improvement Speaker: Bill Neuendorf FREE 			
 4/16/08 - Women's Power Lunch @ El Sol 11:45 AM – 1 PM 6000 Dempster St., Morton Grove \$10 members, \$15 non-members; women 4/30/08 – Joint Business After Hours w/Skokie, Nill 	only T F	5/14/08 - BIZ ED SPECIAL @ Morton Grove Public Library 6:45 PM – 8:15 PM 6140 Lincoln Ave, Morton Grove Topic: Are You Ready to Start a Business? Joint Program with Jewish Vocational Services, Chicago FREE			
Chambers @ Oakton Community College 5 PM – 7 PM 7701 N. Lincoln Ave., Skokie Rooms P103 & P104 FREE	e, Skokie Campus 🛛 5 1 6	5/21/08 - Women's Power Lunch @ El Sol Restaurant 11:45 AM – 1 PM 6000 Dempster St., Morton Grove \$10 members, \$15 non-members; women only			
 5/2/08 NORTHSHORE WOMEN'S CONFER @ Holiday Inn Skokie 10 AM – 3 PM 5300 Touhy, Skokie Admission and Sponosrhip varies 	ENCE N 7 9	 5/28/08 - Connect 8 Multi-Chamber Networking Breakfast @ Doubletree Hotel 7:30 AM - 9 AM 9599 skokie Blvd, Skokie \$10 members, \$15 non-members 			
Business & Consumer Resource April Wednesday Mornings – 8-9 May Wednesday Mornings – 8-9	AM - Niles Chamber, 8060 W. (Oakton, Niles, IL creation Center, 3000 Glenview Rd, Wilmette, IL			
EVENTS YES! Please sign me up for the ab SPONSORSHIP & NEWSLET YES! I want to: Advertise with an AD Advertise with an INSERT Sign up for MEMBERSHIP PLUS	TER SUBMISSION Sponsor BIZ ED Submit an ARTICLI	NS 6101 Capulina Ave • Morton Grove, IL 60053 Phone: 847-965-0330 • Fax: 847-965-0349 F-Mail: office@mgcci.org			
CONTACT INFORMATION:					
		osed 🔲 Money order 🔲 Cash at door			
Expiration Date	V# (3 digit code on b	back of credit card)			
		in event. If not, the fee will be billed to you. Thank you!			

CURRENT MEMBERS of the Morton Grove Chamber of Commerce and Industry

A Friend Electric A-Lectric Contracting LLC Action Party of Morton Grove Affordable DJ and Karaoke Service Aflac Insurance - Robyn Weinstein Alden Management Services All Smiles Family Dental Center Alyce Designs, Inc. Amcore Bank, N.A. American Cancer Society American Family Insurance American Legion Memorial Civic Center American Taxi Dispatch, Inc. Anthony Hofeld, Attorney at Law Art & Beyond Studio Arthur Murray Dance Center **Artistic Digital Services** Ask Lon! The Handyman Atlas Heating Service, Inc. Avon Products, Inc. Avon Representative - Elaine Powell Avon Representative - Susan Anderson Best Western of Morton Grove **Bethany Terrace Nursing Centre** Bob's Gift Baskets, Inc. **Bringer Inn Bugle Newspapers Cambridge Bank** Carl N. Graf Jr., Attorney at Law Carlson Wagonlit Morton Grove Travel **Cartridge World** Castle Motor Sales, Inc. Catered by Design Catering by Michael's **Central United Methodist Church** Century 21 Marino Real Estate **Chadons Resources** Charter One Bank Chateau Ritz China Chef



Chiropractic Arts Center City Truck Rental Classic Bowl Classic Design Awards Cole Taylor Bank Complete Travel and Cruises, Inc. Contour Landscaping, Inc. Costco Wholesale **Crossings at Morton Grove** Dean Giuntoli's Bookkeeping Services **Dempster Auto Service Dempster Eye Center Diversified Graphics** Edelheit & Edelheit, Ltd. **Edible Arrangements** Edward Jones Investments El Sol Restaurant Faust of Italy First Financial Credit Union **First Reverse Financial** Gail Kachoyeanos, Attorney at Law Gene A. Eich, Attorney at Law Gibbs Plumbing & Sewer Service, Inc. Giordano's of Morton Grove **Glen Morton Medical Center** Glenview United Methodist Church **Golf School District 67** Good Karma Construction **GPG & Associates** H & R Block Harris Bank HL Development Inc. Holiday Inn Chicago North Shore House of Rental Ira Silverstein, Illinois State Senator J & D Instant Signs, Inc. Jan Schakowsky, U.S. Congresswoman JC Licht, Co. JCare Home Medical Supplies Jerrold Goldberg Prostate Cancer Foundation Jerusalem Lutheran Church and School John Baethke & Son Plumbing, Inc. John Crane Inc. **K&G** Superstore Kropp Insurance Agency Larry Suffredin, Cook County Commissioner LaSalle Bank Leading Edge Automotive Leonard J. Brown Plumbing Inc. Leonardo and Company, LLC

LifeStorage Lily's & Boris's Beauty Salon Lin-Mar Motors Lou Lang - State Representative **Magazine Memories** Malko Electric Company Marge's Flowers & Gifts, Inc. Mary A. Lynch, CPA, CFP Mary Ressetar - Reverse Mortgage Specialist **MB** Financial Bank McDonald's of Morton Grove McGrath Acura of Morton Grove Merlin's 200,000 Mile Shop Metro Maintenance Service, Inc. **Metropolitan Family Services** Michael Harada, D.M.D. **Minuteman Press** Morton Grove Caucus Party Morton Grove Community Church Morton Grove Dental Associates Morton Grove Fire Department **Morton Grove Foundation** Morton Grove Historical Society Morton Grove Lions Club Morton Grove Moose Morton Grove Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Morton Grove Police Department Morton Grove Post Office Morton Grove Public Library Morton Grove Public Works Morton Grove School District 70 Morton Grove Supply Company Morton Grove Woman's Club Nano's Pizza Nature's Hand Car Wash New Age Dental Nicor Gas Niles Township Government Niles Township High School District 219 Niles Township Schools Credit Union North Shore Center of Dental Health Northwest Suburban Jewish Congregation Northwest Suburban United Way Nutri-Lawn **Oakton Community College** OceanAire, Inc. On Time Promotions, Inc. Original Concepts, Inc. **Orman Chiropractic** Parkway Bank & Trust

Photos by Jes Physicians at Morton Grove **Pioneer Press Newspapers** Prime Care Resource, Inc. **Procare Family Dental Produce World** Pure Air & Heating Co., Inc. Purple Oak, Inc **Rainbow Hospice** Reliable Appliances and Refrigeration Service, Inc. **Rivals Sports Bar & Grill** Ronald Weiss C.P.A. Chartered Rotary Club of Skokie Valley Roughneck Concrete Drilling & Sawing Co. **Roval Maids** Saab Exchange Schwarz Supply Source Sell It Here! Seven Brothers Restaurant Sewing Center Unlimited Shari Mack - Century 21 McMullen Realtor Sharper Dot Printing **SHORE Community Services** Sign-A-Rama Simkins Funeral Home Simpol Medical Equipment & Supplies, Inc. Sko-Die, Inc. **Skokie Valley Air Control** St. Martha Catholic Church Staples State Farm Insurance - Margaret Hagerty Agency State Farm Insurance - Matt Mitchell Agency Super 8 Motel Super Cup Coffee Shop Sure-Clean Carpet & Upholstery Cleaners Temple Judea Mizpah Teresa Hoffman Liston, Attorney at Law The Appraisal Company Trackside Tap **Travel Medicine Source** U.S. Cellular **United Graphics & Mailing Group** Univerpol, Inc. V & B Liquors Verlo Mattress of Skokie Village of Morton Grove Welter Plumbing, Inc. Wolf & Tennant World of Tees

Member in Focus: City Truck Rental

We talked with owner Bill Ashby:

How long have you been in business? I have been in the rental business for 32 years. Three and half years with City Truck Rental.

What is the nature of your business? We rent 15 passenger vans and variety of trucks. We are a local and one way Budget Truck Dealer. We also offer commercial transport and have just added a packing service. We also offer a load and unloading labor services.

What is the favorite part of your job? I enjoy providing the best customer service.

What makes your business stand out in your industry? City Truck Rental stands out in the industry because of our experience and superior personal customer service. Our vehicles are clean and well maintained –and our prices are great. *Who is your best customer?* I believe that all of my customers are my best customers.

Do you have a motto or a mission statement? Our motto is: "We do more than just rent trucks"

Is there something that you'd like to say to your fellow chamber members? City Truck Rental appreciates the support through Chamber members and the Morton Grove community.

Hours of Operation Monday thru Friday 7am-5pm Saturday 7am-1pm Sunday 8am-12pm

City Truck Rental 6410 Chestnut Morton Grove IL 60053 847-663-1940 www.citytruckrentals.net





Chamber's Welcome Neighbor Program Offers Low Cost Method of Reaching New Neighbors

Be among the first businesses to grab the attention of new Morton Grove residents by participating in the Morton Grove Chamber of Commerce and Industry's Welcome Neighbor Program.

The MGCCI, with delivery support from the Village of Morton Grove, sends out a Welcome Neighbor package to all new Morton Grove residents. This package contains important village information, the Chamber Guide, and promotional goodies from our participating member businesses. This is a great way to welcome new neighbors to Morton Grove!

Additionally, program participants receive the names and addresses of all the new residents on a monthly basis, which can then be used for their own direct mail campaigns.

The cost of participation in this program is \$205.00 per year (which is a bargain, considering an ongoing mailing like this usually costs several hundreds of dollars), and the participant must provide 600 goodies (a brochure, a menu, a pen, or any small promotional item) to be included in the Welcome Neighbor package.

To participate in the Welcome Neighbor Program, please submit the flyer enclosed in this newsletter, or for more information please phone the Chamber office at 847-965-0330.



Perry Danos, D.D.S. 5700 Dempster, Morton Grove, IL 60053 847.965.6223 fax 847.967.5700 www.procaredental.com



6101 Capulina Ave Morton Grove, Illinois 60053

Phone: (847) 965-0330

Fax: (847) 965-0349

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Events at a Glance

4/2/08

Biz Ed: Networking Made Easy

4/16/08 Women's Power Lunch @ El Sol Restaurant

4/30/08 Multi-Chamber Business After Hours @ Oakton Community College

5/2/08 Northshore Women's Conference

5/7/08 Biz Ed: Improve Your Image

5/14/08 Biz Ed Special:

5/21/08 Women's Power Lunch @ El Sol Restaurant

Wednesday Mornings – 8-9 AM Business & Consumer Resources Networking Group



Business & Consumer Resources

Connecting businesspeople and the public with trusted service providers in Chicagoland. BCR members help each other grow their businesses by sharing advice, experiences and leads.

To learn more about BCR, contact Nick Katsoolias, BCR President **847-663-1650**

or Nick.Katsoolias@edwardjones.com

www.bcr-illinois.com

INSERTS ENCLOSED IN THIS ISSUE:

Chadons Resources' Networking Workshop

Business Update from State Rep. Coulson

2008-09 Community Guide Ad Rates