

A Walk In The Parks

Newsletter

The Parks Chamber of Commerce



UP COMING EVENTS

New Member Orientation
February 7th



**Ribbon Cutting at
Westside Children's
Therapy**
February 5th



Singo Bingo
March 13th



From the Chairman

2024 has started out to be an excellent year for the Parks Chamber. We are getting lots of new members each of whom is looking to benefit from the interactions with other chamber members. Our Executive Director Duncan Geddes and the board continue to look for new ways to provide networking opportunities for our members. Please look at our website for more information about future events.

It is really a pleasure to be the Board President with such an outstanding board of volunteers. I absolutely love that Mayor's Johnson and Jury come to each and every one of our board meetings to provide information on the victories that each municipality has earned and to share what we can expect from Machesney Park and Loves Park in the near future.

I want to make sure you are aware of this year's golf outing. This year's event will be held on August 22nd at Forest Hills Country Club. It is always a sell out event so make sure to register just as soon as the event opens. More details to follow.

Finally, I want to thank all our members for making the Parks a better place to work, live and recreate!

Sincerely yours,
Michael K. Broski

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Five Guys



Sunmed Your CBD Store

RECENT RIBBON CUTTINGS!

Our Ribbon Cutting Services

The Parks Chamber can help produce [Ribbon-Cutting Ceremonies](#) in support of our members, and we're proud to provide the following services:

- We coordinate participation with Elected Officials to include the Mayors of Loves Park and Machesney Park, our County Board Chair, and our State Legislators.
- We invite the Parks Chamber [Board of Directors](#) and the [Young at Heart Queen and Princesses](#) to participate in the ceremonies.
- We help promote the event on The Parks Chamber [Calendar](#) and social media.
- We publish and send [Media Advisories](#) to Rockford Area media contacts and community leaders in advance of the events.
- We provide giant scissors and red ribbons for the ceremonies (custom-printed ribbons with your logo can be available for purchase).
- We create Agendas and Suggested Talking Points documents, which help you, elected officials, and other presenters prepare for the events.
- We serve as Emcee during the events, introducing and thanking participants while also congratulating our members on their accomplishments.
- We share Media Coverage and/or event Photos on The Parks Chamber social media.

From the Director

Almost a year ago when Tonya Lamia announced that she was leaving The Parks Chamber for a move south and Mike Broski and The Parks Chamber Board were kind enough to ask me to take over as the Executive Director, I told Loves Park Mayor Greg Jury that it would take me a year to figure things out. He said, "You'll have it down before then." Well it's been almost a year and sure enough, I'm still figuring things out!

With the help of our board, the results from our recent member survey and a lot of discussion with chamber members, sponsors and our small but enthusiastic team, a focus on fun, creative ways for our members to connect and network is coming together.

I'm looking forward to announcing some new, creative events at unique locations that will highlight some great businesses in The Parks.

I hope you enjoy our new newsletter. Please let me know if you have suggestions on content that you would be interested in seeing.

Look for the registration for our golf outing to be coming out in March. The event will be held Thursday, August 22 at Forest Hills Country Club.

We will also be hosting an end of the year dinner and awards banquet similar to what was done years ago. Details will be announced shortly.

Finally I'd like to thank Ann Kossman, Sandra Wolfe and Alyssa Thompson for all their help as we continue to move The Park Chamber forward!

Duncan Geddes

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The Parks Chamber welcomes the Consul General of Canada

On Friday, October 6th, The Parks Chamber welcomed the Consul General of Canada, Aaron Annable to Loves Park City Hall. The event was arranged by Representative John Cabello.

The Consul General represents Canada in Illinois, Missouri and Wisconsin and promotes trade, economic, political and cultural relations with Canada throughout this region. Highlights of the Consul General presentation included:

- Illinois exports \$23.8 billion in goods to Canada annually
- Illinois imports \$68.3 billion in goods from Canada annually
- Illinois District 16 exports \$2.4 billion in goods to Canada annually
- Illinois District 16 exports \$43 million in services to Canada annually



Helping with the 2023 Light up the Parks Parade



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Business Afterhours Events



Illinois Bank & Trust

Singo Bingo Nights!



Holiday Happy Hour



Victory Pickleball



DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO SHOULD BE A CHAMBER MEMBER?

Contact Ann Kossman, Director of Membership Development at
815-670-7112 or info@parkschamber.com

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Perfetti Van Melle USA
Angus Young Architects
V2 Marketing & Management
Lamar Advertising
Cord Construction
Northern Star Insurance Advisors
Mr. Goodwater
Quantum Design
Phoenix Contact

OUR MISSION

To Help Businesses Succeed with the Right, Tools, Connections and Resources

The Parks Chamber of Commerce is a public/private partnership that convenes business, nonprofit, elected, and municipal leaders to help attract people to live, visit, and invest in the City of Loves Park and Village of Machesney Park, Illinois.

