



MELROSE PARK
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
& COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Annual Legislative Breakfast is Friday, June 28

The Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce Legislative Breakfast will be held Friday, June 28. This year's event will be in the Gym at Melrose Park Elementary School (located at 1715 W. Lake Street, Melrose Park), with registration and continental breakfast from 9:30-10:30 a.m., and the program will be from 10:30 a.m.-noon.

Our guest speakers again this year are Illinois Senate President Don Harmon and Illinois Speaker of the House Emanuel "Chris" Welch, who will be discussing current and upcoming legislative issues important to our business community and will take time for Q&A to hear and discuss concerns and recommendations from attendees.

Reserve your seat today at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/legislative-breakfast-tickets-907897765657> or call (708) 343-9500 with questions, or to get registered for this event!



Unlocking Opportunities: Connecting Businesses with Illinois Resources

The Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development hosted an informative workshop titled "Connecting Businesses to Illinois Resources" on May 21 at the Melrose Park Village Hall. The event attracted nearly 45 local businesses eager to learn about the wealth of resources available to them.

The workshop featured Sacella M. Smith, northeast regional manager at the Office of Regional Economic Development, Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity. Ms. Smith provided an in-depth presentation on various grants, funding opportunities, and developmental programs designed to bolster economic growth and support business success in Illinois.

"We are thrilled with the engagement and interest from our local businesses," said Isaac Bazbaz, executive director of the Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development. "The insights shared by Ms. Smith will undoubtedly equip our business community with the tools they need to thrive in today's competitive environment."

"The Connecting Businesses to Illinois Resources workshop is a prime example of the mayor's commitment to fostering economic development and supporting our local enterprises," remarked Dr. Doug Olson, director of Strategic Initiatives and Business Development for the mayor's office. "By connecting our businesses with these vital resources, Mayor Serpico and our Chamber of Commerce are paving the way for a stronger, more resilient Melrose Park."

To learn more about the Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development, visit our website at <https://mpcccd.org> or contact us at (708) 343-9500 to learn about future events and initiatives.



Learn More About the Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development!

If you are not getting emails from the MPCCCD about events, training or technical assistance offered for certifications, grant applications, etc., sign up for our newsletters at <https://mpcccd.org>. You can also follow the chamber on Facebook or LinkedIn to stay current on chamber activities!

To schedule an appointment to learn more about the chamber or to get information on membership, please reach out to Isaac Bazbaz, executive director, via email at ibazbaz@mpcccd.org or call (708) 343-9500 and he will schedule a time to meet with you.

Recent Grand Openings/Ribbon-Cutting Celebrations

MPCCCD Executive Director Isaac Bazbaz joined Mayor Ron Serpico and representatives from the village of Melrose Park for a few more ribbon-cutting celebrations the past couple months!

On May 6, La Piel Perfecta opened its second location in Melrose Park after 15 years at its location at 1272 Winston Plaza. The newest location is at 154 N. Broadway and they offer the full menu of laser cosmetic surgery services to meet the unique needs of each client.



La Piel Perfecta Ribbon-Cutting Celebration



On May 22, MPCCCD Executive Director Isaac Bazbaz joined Mayor Ron Serpico and Pollo Campero USA Managing Director & COO Luis Javier Rodas to celebrate the grand opening and ceremonial ribbon cutting, and open the doors to Pollo Campero Restaurant at 925 W. North Ave., Melrose Park.

Congratulations to the entire Pollo Campero team! Welcome to Melrose Park and thank you for choosing Melrose Park as the site for your 104th location in the U.S.



Pollo Campero Grand Opening Event



After-Hours Networking Event at Pan American Bank

The Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development, in collaboration with Pan American Bank, recently hosted a highly successful after-hours networking event at the bank's Melrose Park site. The event witnessed an impressive turnout, with more than 60 individuals from diverse businesses and organizations coming together to network and foster meaningful connections.



Isaac Bazbaz, executive director of the Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development, expressed "We are thrilled with the turnout and energy at our after-hours networking event hosted by Pan American Bank. It was a fantastic opportunity for our members and community partners to engage, exchange ideas and forge new relationships that will contribute to the growth and prosperity of Melrose Park."

Doug Olson, director of Strategic Initiatives and Business Development at the Melrose Park mayor's office, commended the collaborative effort between the Chamber of Commerce and Pan American Bank in organizing such a valuable networking opportunity. "The after-hours event provided a platform for networking, knowledge sharing and collaboration, all of which are essential for driving economic development and a thriving business environment."



The after-hours networking event at Pan American Bank facilitated meaningful interactions among business leaders, entrepreneurs and community stakeholders, showcasing the collective commitment to growth and success within Melrose Park's business ecosystem. Attendees had the chance to exchange insights, explore potential partnerships, and discover new opportunities for collaboration and business advancement.

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Upcoming Chamber Events

July 16 – Chamber After Hours Networking Event

The next chamber after-hours networking event will be at the Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce, located at 900 N. 25th Ave., July 16, 5:30- 7:30 p.m., be sure to bring several business cards to this networking event and be ready to connect with 50-75 business leaders and community leaders in and around Melrose Park!

Aug. 15 – Women and Minority Business Certification Workshop

If you are a women-, minority- or veteran-owned business you don't want to miss this workshop as representatives from the Women's Business Development Center (WBDC) will be on hand to provide information on how to get your business certified as a W/MBE business in Cook County and the state of Illinois.

Even if you don't see your business as one ready to do business with government entities, large companies that already do business with the state and federal government often are required to have a network of W/MBE businesses that are vendors or suppliers to enable them to maintain government contracts.

This workshop will be at the MPCCCD Office, located at 900 N. 25th Ave., Melrose Park, 8:30-10:30 a.m.

Sept. 24 – Digital Marketing Strategies for Small Businesses

Utilizing technology to stay connected to existing customers and to identify new customers continues to move and change faster than ever imagined. Join us to learn how to maximize your digital footprint and grow customer traffic and footsteps to your business.

New Chamber Members and Renewals

The Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development (MPCCCD) welcomed five new businesses as members in May and has over 200 members! Please help us welcome Grilols Biomat Plasma; Illinois Alarm Services; Mutual of Omaha; Old National Bank; and Pollo Campero on their membership and partnership with the MPCCCD.

We also want to give special thanks to the 10 businesses that renewed memberships in May and continue to participate in networking events, information sessions, and provide feedback and surveys to help the chamber connect them with the resources and solutions needed to support and fuel economic growth in our community! Please join us in thanking and supporting these businesses, they are Aseptic Control Products, Inc.; Concare, Inc.; D&A Services, LLC; G2 Construction Group; IHop; Lake Book Manufacturing, LLC; RLA Learning Center; The Joint Chiropractic; West 40 ISC; and the West Regional Enterprise Zone.

The Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development now has over 200 members and the list continues to grow each month. If you are not currently a member of the MPCCCD, please reach out to Isaac Bazbaz, executive director, via email at ibazbaz@mpcccd.org or call (708) 343-9500 and he will schedule a time to meet with you to discuss the benefits of partnering and working with our chamber.

For information about membership, please visit the chamber website Membership page at <https://mpcccd.org/benefits-dues/>.

Mayor Serpico Leads Infrastructure Renovations, Dedicates Newly Renovated Bridge in Melrose Park

On Saturday, May 18, Mayor Ron Serpico continued his commitment to enhancing the village's infrastructure with the completion and dedication of the newly renovated bridge at 19th and North Avenue. This bridge serves as a primary gateway to the center of the village, connecting seamlessly to the state highway of North Avenue.

The renovation project, overseen by Mayor Serpico's administration, involved significant upgrades to improve safety, accessibility and aesthetics. The bridge's revitalization aligns with the village's vision for modernizing key infrastructure to support economic growth and enhance the quality of life for residents and visitors.

"We are thrilled to dedicate the newly renovated bridge, which serves as a key link in our village's transportation network," said Mayor Serpico. "This project reflects our ongoing commitment to maintaining and improving vital infrastructure that plays a crucial role in connecting our community and supporting local businesses."

The bridge's strategic location on 19th Avenue, connecting directly to North Avenue, makes it a vital thoroughfare for commuters, residents and businesses alike. The completion of this renovation project marks a significant milestone in the ongoing efforts to enhance infrastructure across Melrose Park.



Shark Tank Star Visits MP!

The Melrose Park community was thrilled to recently welcome *Shark Tank*



star Daymond John to our vibrant town! Mayor Ron Serpico had the pleasure

of hosting Daymond for lunch at the legendary Tom's Steak House. It was an honor to host such a successful entrepreneur and business leader in Melrose Park. Here's to

more memorable moments and successful ventures!

Daymond made an impactful visit to Bellwood School District 88 with Superintendent Victoria Hansen Stockton to talk with local students and ignite their interests in business, money and savings!