



# the voice

express

A PUBLICATION OF THE EVERGREEN PARK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Serving the Evergreen Park Business Community For Nearly Sixty Years

August, 2010 Bulletin

## Networking Events Planned For Autumn

The long hot and humid summer now draws to a close and we look forward to cooler temperatures, kids back in school and, hopefully, a jump-start on a better season for businesses.

As always, the Chamber is grateful for the support of its members and looks forward to a fall season of networking and community events to help you, the business owner, keep your business front and center.

On **Thursday, September 23**, our friends at Archer Bank will host a Business After Hours event, in their Evergreen Park office (3259 W. 95th) from 5:30pm to 8:00pm. Complete with refreshments, this is an excellent opportunity to drop in, make some contacts, distribute your business card and let other members know about you and your business. A flyer is enclosed here to serve as a reminder about that event.

Plans are being made for a Chamber of Commerce Luncheon in the fall with a very special guest speaker. The date and the venue will be released soon, so you will be getting further information about this event shortly, in the mail and on our website, [www.evergreenparkchamber.org](http://www.evergreenparkchamber.org).

In November, a big community event gets bigger. For the last few years, the EPCC has teamed with the Evergreen Park High School PTSA to hold a Chamber Business Expo within the school's Art and Craft Fair. This year, the Evergreen Park Community Expo (now renamed) will include chamber member business tables, the Art and Craft vendors, as well as a major concentration of interactive health, wellness and exercise areas. Now you can come to the Music Boosters Pancake Breakfast that morning, then work it off at the Expo.

The event takes place on **Saturday, November 6**, at the High School, and as usual, exhibit space is available to Chamber members at a very nominal \$50 fee. An application will be mailed soon.

Our Annual Harvest Dinner will take place on **Friday night, November 12** in the Butler Room of Saint Xavier University. This is the night of our Chamber Officer Elections and presentation of the Business Person of the Year Award. This is always a wonderful night of dining and networking.

## *Evergreen Park High School is "Keeping The Green in Evergreen"*

Dr. Beth Hart, Superintendent of the High School (and a Director of the Evergreen Park Chamber of Commerce), listened intently to the concerns of an Evergreen Park business owner who was frustrated with the taxes, and in particular, how much money in the tax bill was going to EP's school system. . the high school as well as the grammar schools (approximately 75%).

While the Chamber certainly cannot change the tax laws, we can provide a forum for EP chamber members/business owners to voice their concerns. . .and then determine in what ways we CAN help.

Being very aware of the tax burden on the community's businesses, Dr. Hart and the chamber agreed that one of our main purposes is to make the community aware of the tax dollars being spent on public education. . .and to further encourage the community to shop Evergreen Park businesses as a way of saying thank you to those businesses.

Evergreen Park High School has taken an active role in this commitment, as are MANY of our chamber members.

First, the High School opened its auditorium when the Chamber hosted a Real Estate Seminar presented by members of Brendan Houlihan's office at the Cook County Board of Review last April.

Secondly, Dr. Hart has reviewed where money is being spent within the high school for widespread things like sports uniforms, food items, etc., and has gotten the school to redirect those purchases to be made from Evergreen Park businesses.

This is something that all of us should share. This is the reason why the Chamber goes into the grammar schools every fall and sponsors the "Keep The Green In Evergreen" Poster Contest.

As Chamber President Tom Ollenburger stated, "It is a very tough year, and it is phenomenally important for the residential and business community to keep those tax dollars spent in Evergreen Park. In doing so, it is a way of thanking those businesses for the financial support that they provide to our village and its services "



The Evergreen Park Chamber of Commerce "Green Team" will work with members to Go Green.

**GOALS:**

- To provide ways that businesses can become more environmentally sustainable by reducing waste and increasing energy efficiency.
- To connect businesses already implementing green business practices with others who need advice and/or assistance.

**SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES:**

- reduce waste by increasing the efficiency of your product and service deliveries;
- purchase products that minimize environmental impact (toxins, pollutants, hazardous materials) at work and in the community;
- purchase products with recycled content, are durable and long-lasting, conserve energy, and use wood from sustainably harvested forests (look for the FSC logo);
- purchase remanufactured products such as laser toner cartridges;
- businesses or their vendors should use the minimum packaging necessary for product protection;
- print and photocopy on both sides of paper;
- replace inefficient lighting with energy-efficient equipment;
- members should support electronics recycling when discarding or replacing computers, monitors, printers, etc.; and
- consider green choices when remodeling: countertops, flooring, low VOC paint, etc., sources are available to reuse discarded materials.

Perhaps you have additional suggestions, or you may need more details as to how to implement the above. I would love to hear from you. Email me at your convenience, or give me a call if you prefer.

By working together, we can make a difference.

Helen Cuprisin, Chair, Green Team  
708-715-3546 (cell)  
hcuprisin@sbcglobal.net



Who says it's too early  
to start thinking about the  
*Harvest Dinner?*

**Friday, November 12**  
**Butler Room at**  
**Saint Xavier University**  
**6:30 p.m.**

Hope you will plan on joining us for  
networking, cocktails and a  
delicious dinner, as we elect our  
officers for 2011  
and present our annual  
Business Person of the Year Award.

If you have news or an  
item of note about your business,  
please forward that  
information to the chamber!

(708) 423-1118

email:  
epchamber@sbcglobal.net

## What's Happening In The Village?

*Upcoming Events of Note*

### Village of Evergreen Park. . .

#### 4th Annual Hot Rod/Classic Car Show

October 1, 3pm - 10pm

Yukich Field, 89th & Kedzie Ave.

Food, Beer Garden,

Live Entertainment by Sean & Charlie

Lots of cool cars!

Free admission for spectators.

Sponsorship opportunities available,  
call (708) 229-8219

### Evergreen Park Public Library

#### Save the Date! Author Sara Paretsky

Sunday, September 12, 2010 1:00pm

Sara Paretsky revolutionized the mystery world in 1982 when she introduced her Chicago-based detective V.I. Warshawski, a female investigator who uses her wits as well as her fists. Local color abounds, including traffic on the Stevenson Expressway, and the perennial travails of the Cubs. Hailed by critics and readers, her first novel *Indemnity Only* was followed by twelve more best-selling Warshawski novels.

*Seating is limited. Register in person and pick up a color coded index card for placement in the signing line.*

**Contact :** Circulation Desk (708) 422-8522

The Evergreen Park Recreation Department's Fall and Winter pamphlet will be mailed out soon. In-person registration starts Tuesday, September 14, from 9:00 am to 8:00 pm. The book will be available on-line at: [www.evergreenpark-ill.com](http://www.evergreenpark-ill.com)