



BRIDGEVIEW CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
JANUARY E-NEWSLETTER

"The Chamber is the leading, non-profit organization dedicated to creating a climate where business can succeed."

A Message from the President



For most of us, each New Year brings a time of reflection, new hope, and goal setting. The same applies to the Chamber, and no doubt, most of our members as well. With the start of any new year, it is

customary to set goals and resolutions for yourself, as well as for your business or organization. Whether your resolution is professional development for your team, increasing your marketing reach, expanding your business, or making new connections, we're here to support you and advocate for you. We have so much more in store for you throughout 2023, but we can't do it alone. We will need your continued support, volunteerism, and encouragement over the next year.

Lara Al-Ali, President

Thank **RENEWING**

You! **MEMBERS**

December Renewing Memberships!
Thank you for your Membership!

- *BAIRD & WARNER, CELESTE LOPEZ*
- *AMIS INC.*
- *KRAVE RESTAURANT*
- *HANN FUNERAL HOME*
- *BRIDGEVIEW LIQUORS*
- *SUMMIT INSURANCE AGENCY*
- *ZEMAN HOMES & NEIGHBORHOOD*
- *PATIO RESTAURANT*

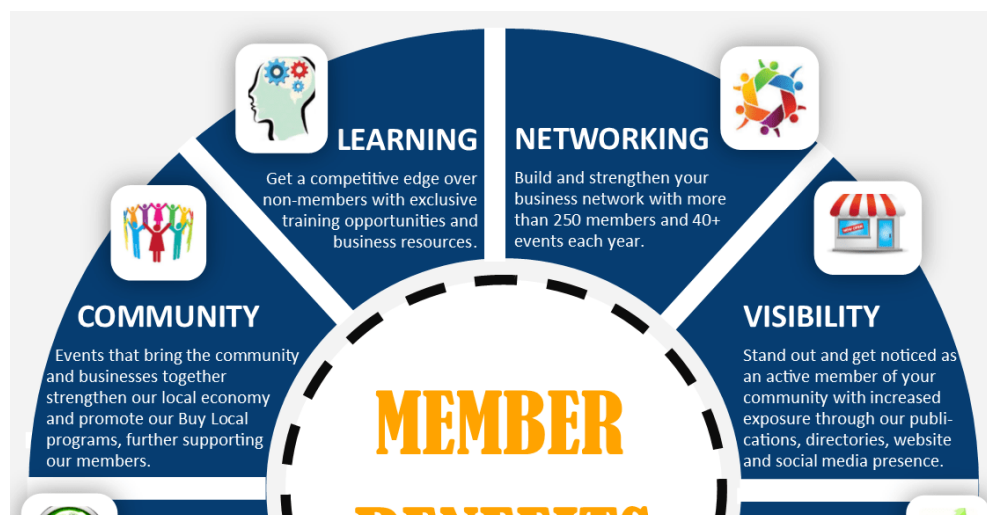


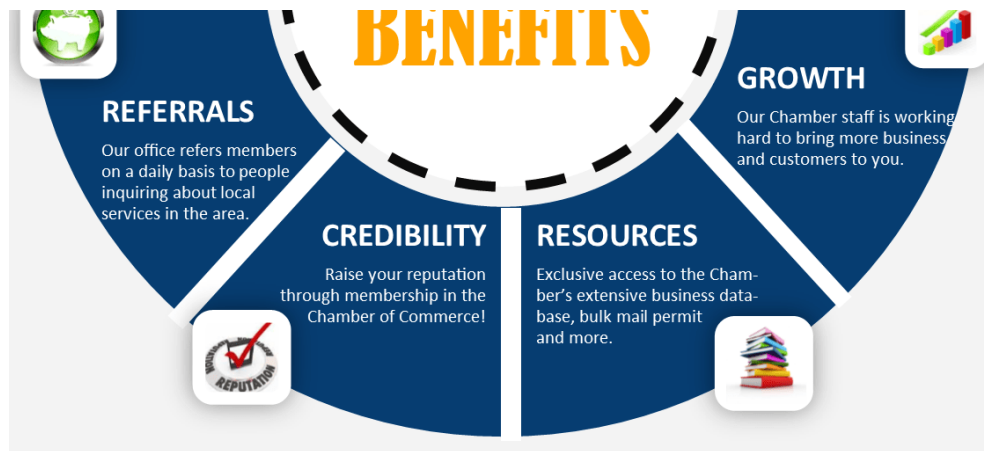
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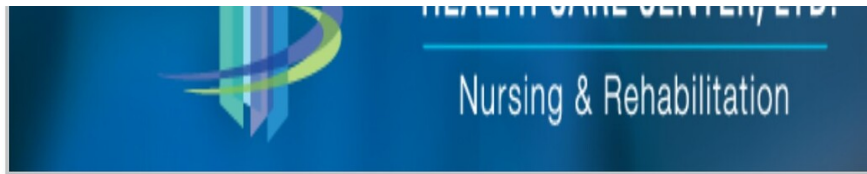


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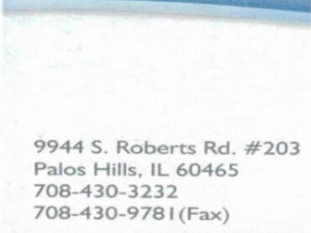
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HOLIDAY INN/CHICAGO MIDWAY AIRPORT**

Our board meets the second Tuesday of each month at noon. This meeting is open to our business members, email or call the office to reserve your seat.





Bridgeview School hosted a Food Drive in December. Students collected a few hundred pounds of food that was donated to Almost Home Chicago. Thank you all so much for all your efforts and contribution to the community, this was a great way to end 2022.

<https://www.almosthomechicago.org>



SCAN ME

Celebrating 2 Years! Serving Delicious Food in Bridgeview! Holy Buckets, 7331 W. 87th Street.



The Cook County Manufacturing Reinvented Grant Application Portal is now open!

Cook County Manufacturing Reinvented will provide more than 300 grants for a range of project types to support suburban Cook County manufacturers as they continue to rebound and rebuild from the COVID-19 pandemic. The County will reimburse awarded businesses between \$5,000-\$25,000 of eligible expenses upon completion of their project. Don't miss your chance to submit a project proposal and receive free customized business and training solutions to help you become more globally competitive and resilient.

Application Details

Qualified applicants must be a manufacturer in suburban Cook County, outside the city of Chicago boundary and less than 500 employees.

only on average secondary and less than 100 employees.

To receive reimbursement, manufacturer must complete and implement project. Upon verification of project completion by IMEC, Cook County will reimburse the business for eligible expenses.

This program will prioritize manufacturers located in historically excluded communities to ensure an equitable distribution of resources. Project awardees will be further prioritized based on business viability, potential economic impact, and total project investment.

More details on the application process are available at <https://www.imec.org/ccmr/>

9 New Laws into effect in Illinois in 2023

At the start of the new year, 195 laws go into effect, changing everything from reforming the criminal justice system to who can be a substitute teacher. Here are some of these laws.

Minimum Wage Increase The standard minimum wage for an Illinois worker is \$13 per hour, starting Jan. 2023. The exceptions include children under 18 who work less than 650 hours in a year, whose minimum wage is \$10.50, and tipped workers, whose minimum wage is \$7.80. There are also dollar increases scheduled for 2024 and 2025. The increases are a part of the 15 dollar minimum wage law signed into law by Governor Pritzker in 2019.

End of Gas Tax Freeze The Gas Tax is scheduled to increase every six months, but as a part of a tax rebate law for residents, the state froze the increase from July 1 to Dec. 31 of 2022. The tax, which mostly funds Rebuild Illinois projects, will be back at the pumps starting Jan. 1. There is also another increase scheduled for July 1, 2023.

SAFE-T Act The Safety, Accountability, Fairness, and Equity-Today Act, which was introduced by the Illinois Black Caucus as part of Black legislators' response to the murder of George Floyd, was passed by the Illinois Senate and House of Representatives on Jan. 13, 2021. The act abolishes Illinois' money bail system beginning Jan. 1, 2023. According to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, the cash bail system disproportionately impacts Black and brown communities and other underrepresented or impoverished groups, who can't afford bond. Many Illinois law enforcement agencies argued the act will embolden criminals, but Governor J.B. Pritzker recently signed an amendment that many law enforcement groups, including the Illinois Fraternal Order of Police and Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police, did not oppose. Sixty-two Illinois State's Attorneys have filed a lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of the SAFE-T Act and have filed lawsuits to overturn it before it goes into effect. The judge for the case said he hopes to announce his verdict on Dec. 28. Other parts of the SAFE-T Act going into effect include the ability to file complaints on police officers anonymously, and police officers will be only able to write citations for people committing Class B or C misdemeanors. Also in 2023, counties and municipalities with populations between 100,000 and 500,000 will need to start wearing body cameras in 2023. Law enforcement in smaller counties and municipalities will be required to wear them before 2025.

Smoke detectors with 10-year batteries Illinois home smoke alarms must be equipped with 10-year sealed batteries starting January 1. According to a 2017 law, smoke alarms that were installed in homes prior to January 1st can remain in place

until they are 10 years old. Homes built after 1988 that already have hardwired alarms or wireless integrated alarms are exempt from the new law.

Ban of discrimination on sources of income Part of the Illinois Human Rights Act was amended to prevent discrimination on real estate transactions for sources of income. Sources of income is defined in the law as “lawful manner by which an individual supports himself or herself and his or her dependents.” The ban was designed to prevent discrimination from governmental supplemental income like Social Security and public assistance programs.

More guaranteed time off for bereavement Illinois is expanding its definition of bereavement to include miscarriages, failed adoptions, and unsuccessful fertility procedures. It is also adding more relationships to deaths in the family to what is legally covered for bereavement, including spouses, siblings, grandparents and stepparents. The state guarantees employees have the right to at least 10 unpaid days off to properly grieve in these circumstances. “Workers who experience the death of a loved one or other kinds of loss such as a miscarriage or a failed adoption should be able to grieve without the fear of losing their job,” Illinois Department of Labor Acting Director Jane Flanagan said.

Equity in Health Act The Equity in Health Act will start providing scholarships and loan repayment programs to attract underrepresented groups in nursing and other health-related fields to work in Illinois. “Medical professionals’ implicit bias can be a huge barrier for patients of color, LGBTQ patients, and those from lower socioeconomic backgrounds,” Sen. Mattie Hunter (D-Chicago) said in June when it was signed into law. “This measure combats a lack of representation by providing scholarships for those who can help diversify the field.”

Schools teaching safe gun storage As part of their safety education, schools in 2023 are now instructed to include lessons on safe gun storage as a part of their safety education classes.

More substitute teachers To help alleviate the statewide teaching shortage, college students enrolled in an education-related field with at least 90 credits can start substitute teaching in the new year before they get their degree.

Full list of laws can be found at <https://ilga.gov/reports/Preview.asp?t=dir&k=31&ga=16&d=1/1/2023&d2=&h=Public%20Acts%20By%20Effective%20Date%20on%201/1/2023>



The advertisement features a central graphic with a white motor coach bus, a green die, and playing cards (Ace of Spades, Ace of Hearts, and Ace of Clubs) arranged around a central text box. The text box has a marquee-style border with yellow and red lights. The background shows the Four Winds Casino Resort at night.

**CASINO
BUS
TRIP**

FRIDAY, MARCH 17TH

LETS GO, to Four Winds Casino in New Buffalo, Michigan for a shamrock shaking day of winning! The Four winds casino has nearly 3,000 slot machines ranging from .01 to 100.00. Table players have a variety of games to choose from too. Your deluxe package includes motor coach transportation via the four winds shuttle, \$15 instant slot play and \$10 in food credit. If you have a players card please provide the number when registering.

ALL PLAYERS MUST BRING A VALID GOVERNMENT ISSUED ID TO THE CASINO TO RECEIVE THIS PACAKGE.

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Will return by 4:00p.m.

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