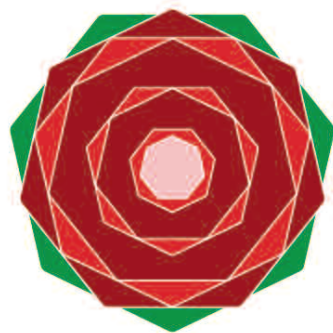




MELROSE PARK
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
& COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

New Chamber Members and Renewals

The Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development (MPCCCD) welcomed five new businesses as members to the chamber in June and July 2026, and has over 225 current members. Please help us welcome and thank Buffalo Wild Wings Go; Midwest Auto Body Shop Inc.; Sommerville Plating Company; Video and Sound Services, Inc.; and the village of Hillside on their membership and partnership with the MPCCCD.

We also want to give special thanks to the eight businesses that renewed memberships during this period 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 local businesses, they are Best Packaging, Inc.; Grifols Biomat USA, Inc.; Kerry Incorporated; Little Achievers Child Care; Scudiero's Italian Bakery & Deli; Smile Success Dental Centre; Special T Unlimited, and Wiscon Corp./Caputo Cheese.

The Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development now has over 225 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 lbazbaz@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.

Connecting Businesses to Businesses and Other Resources! How to Maximize Your Social Security Benefits

On June 23, the Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development partnered with chamber member Corrigan Financial Services and hosted a seminar to help educate attendees on how to maximize their Social Security benefits and to understand options and programs available to them with their financial planning for retirement.

The presentation was facilitated by Michael Corrigan, president of Corrigan Financial Services, and participants were provided with workbooks to help them in preparing their personal plan to maximize their benefits and to help everyone understand the current rules/laws regarding Social Security benefits, as well as pending changes.

To get a free copy of the workbook used for this session, visit <https://corriganfs.com/useful-guides/> and select *Optimizing Social Security in Today's World*.

Corrigan Financial offers programs and services to assist with personal financial planning and programs for business owners, as well as employee benefit programs. For more information, visit <https://corriganfs.com> or call (708) 482-3800.



Food Safety and Sanitation – ServSafe

On June 24, the Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development (MPCCCD) partnered with Triton College to offer a food safety course titled

ServSafe: Food Safety and Sanitation. This course was a full day of training that was facilitated by Chef Ernie Davis, who is a certified instructor of food safety followed by a two-hour Food Manager Certification Examination.



According to Laura Fisher, director of Corporate Partnerships and Academic Outreach at Triton College, this was the first time that she has worked with the ServSafe Certification Program where 100% of the participants (15) were able to successfully pass the certification test on their first attempt.

The MPCCCD was able to offer this program tuition free to participants through a safety grant that was received from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Development.

The chamber would like to thank all the partnerships and support that enabled this program to happen, and a special thanks goes to the business owners that make employee training a priority to ensure they meet the needs of their customers and our community.

Your Safety – Our Priority Seminar

On Aug. 4, the MPCCCD partnered with the Melrose Park Police Department to discuss new and existing technologies to help businesses reduce risk to crimes and to

improve/expedite response times, as well improve access to information to investigate crimes after they have occurred. This seminar was facilitated by Lt. Sam Chiappetta of the Melrose Park Police Department, who has been working closely with the chamber, the village of Melrose Park and local businesses to help them safely enable access to selected cameras at their business to the Police Department and their Real-Time Crime Center to begin to gather information before police arrive.



During the presentation, Lt. Chiappetta provided a real-time demonstration of how the Police Department was able to monitor a test emergency call to the parking lot of Winston Plaza and view cameras in their parking lots and perimeter of the shopping center so officers are able to immediately monitor the area and also deploy their drone to the area, and identify and monitor suspects until police could arrive on the scene.



Lt. Chiappetta also explained the benefit of access to this information after a crime has occurred in the investigative stage and how it significantly reduces officer hours needed for tracking down witnesses, conducting interviews and gathering information that was likely already captured on video, which puts officers back on the road and in our neighborhoods and business districts to deter criminal and nuisance activity.

For more information or to schedule a free assessment and recommendations on security and risk management for your business, contact Lt. Sam Chiappetta at (708) 344-8409.

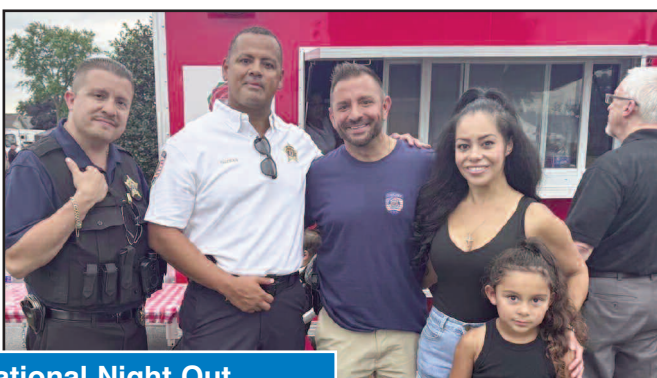
MELROSE PARK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Summer Fun and Community Connections

August and September have become big community event months for the Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development (MPCCCD). First up again this year was the National Night Out which was celebrated in Melrose Park on Aug. 12. This year's event was held at Bulger Park and although previous events have been well attended, the park atmosphere truly created a neighbors night out atmosphere and attendance was more than double prior years events. The chamber joined our first responders from the Melrose Park Police Department, Fire Department, Cook County Sheriff's Office, West Suburban Major Crimes Task Force, West Suburban Response Team, US Army and other local businesses to welcome the community and truly just have a good old neighborhood gathering.



Melrose Park's National Night Out



District 89's Back-to-School Picnic



On Saturday Aug. 15, the MPCCCD joined Maywood School District 89 for its annual Back-to-School Picnic and resource fair, as all families with students in District 89 schools prepared for the 2026-2027 school year that began on Thursday Aug. 20.

As the chamber has done the past five years, it held the Bike Raffle and this year we were able to provide bikes to 14 lucky students from schools in District 89. We want to thank D89 Superintendent Dr. Algeanna Griffin and the entire D89 team for allowing the chamber to participate in this year's District 89 Back-to-School Bash.

Upcoming Seminars and Networking Events

The MPCCCD primary functions are to connect businesses to resources and to connect businesses to business customers. These are accomplished through the regular monthly breakfast seminars, as well as the quarterly Chamber After Hours networking events.

Our upcoming events include – In September the chamber will be hosting a seminar and workshop with the Office of Minority Economic Empowerment from the Illinois Department of Commerce to help small- and mid-sized businesses better understand resources, programs and grants, etc., that are available to help them sustain and grow their business. Although the date has not been finalized, this is planned to take place the last two weeks in September. Information will

be sent via email and will also be on the Events calendar on the chamber website.

If you are not currently on the email list with the MPCCCD, please register for our newsletter at <https://mpcccd.org>.

In October, the chamber will be hosting our final Chamber After Hours networking event prior to the 2026 holiday season. Watch for details regarding this event and be sure to register early as these events generally fill up very quickly. Details on this event will be sent to all email addresses currently receiving newsletters and emails from the chamber, with early registration information sent to chamber members a few days in advance of general communication or posting to the website and social media.

Join Us at the Taste of Melrose Park for Bingo, Raffle and Fun!



The Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce will be hosting Bingo and for its fifth consecutive year at the Taste 2026! All Bingo games and the MPCCCD Raffle are 50/50 payouts with winners receiving 50% of the cash prizes and the other 50% will again be donated to the Our Lady of Mount Carmel Food Pantry. MPCCCD Executive Director Isaac Bazbaz said, "Hosting Bingo at the Taste is a great opportunity to connect with the community and make a difference by supporting the OLMC Food Pantry. Over the past four years, we were able to join Mayor Serpico and present checks totaling over \$25,000 to the pantry just ahead of the holiday season with the money raised during Bingo and the 50/50 Raffle!



Join us in the Gym (entrance is by the Peroni Garden) for some Bingo Fun Friday night from 5-9 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday from 1-8 p.m., for your chance to win a little \$\$\$ and help us make a difference in the community.

Bingo cards are \$2 each and 50/50 Raffle tickets are only \$5 each. Join us in the Gym for some 2026 Bingo Fun!

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.