

In This Issue

Banner Program

Milwaukee Ave Expo

Free Workshops

Banner Program Update

We are starting to work on the second



wave of Chamber banners.

There is still time to order yours for the second round of banners that will be hitting the lightpoles! Colorful sturdy canvas banners liven up the commercial corridor and are a great way to advertise your business and highlight your support for the Chamber.

Pole reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Banners are \$325 each including installation and one year of maintenance. The ongoing maintenance fee is \$50 per banner per year.

Milwaukee Avenue Community Expo--Coming March 29!

Dear Chamber Members,

At the invitation of 1st Ward Alderman Manny Flores, Chamber staff has, since last fall, been participating as part of a task force working to produce a vision and plan for the future development of the Milwaukee Avenue Corridor, from Western Avenue to California Avenue.

It became apparent during this effort that a promotional event, aimed at the community bounded by Fullerton, Western, Armitage and California Avenues, would be helpful in bringing together residents, local organizations, institutions and businesses in the area. At the request of the task force, the Chamber of Commerce has therefore agreed to sponsor the first **Milwaukee Avenue Community Expo**.

The Expo will be held at the Congress Theater, from 10am to 3pm, on Saturday, March 29. Theater owner Eddie Carranza is generously donating use of the Congress for the event that afternoon, and has agreed to see that musical entertainment is provided. Invitations to participate are being sent to the local public and parochial schools, to local community organizations and churches, to elected officials and city agencies.

Expo will offer entertainment, food, fun, and information too! We expect to publicize the event heavily in the target area, and with the help of the community groups participating, we should get a good turnout. Our plan is to set up tables in the lobby of the Congress, where they'll be ready for you to put up a display, give a demonstration, pass out flyers or favors. Get the names of prospects! If you operate a restaurant, give out samples of your best. In

10% off orders of 3 or more banners!

To participate in the Lightpole Banner Program,

call the Chamber office at (773) 489-3222

or [click here to send email](#)

The Lightpole Banner Program is offered to members of the Logan Square Chamber of Commerce ONLY.

other words, *showcase your business* to your neighbors and potential customers.

Best of all, there is **no cost to you to participate!**

Interested in joining us at **Expo**? **Contact me at the Chamber office by Friday, March 7.** We'll reserve your table, and get your name on our publicity materials!

See you at the **Expo!**

Paul Levin, Executive Director

Free Business Workshops

Here are the March Free Business workshops offered by the City of Chicago Department of Business Affairs.

Wednesday, March 5

3:00 pm to 4:30 pm

Preparing for Your Business Inspection

Did you know that most businesses need to pass inspections before obtaining a City business licenses? Inspectors from various city departments will share important information you need to know to help you prepare for your business inspection. Know the do's and don'ts, ask questions and get answers pertaining to your next inspection.

City of Chicago Inspecting Departments: Representatives from various city departments such as Department of Buildings, Department of Business Affairs & Licensing, Chicago Department of Public Health, and the Department of Zoning have unique expertise and experience dealing with business inspections.

Friday, March 7

9:30 am to 11:00 am

Legal Tips to Run an Effective Business

This intensive "business boot camp" will focus on counseling business owners through some of the most pressing legal issues they face as their business grows. Business owners will learn the dynamics of their organizational entity, laying the foundation for a profitable business structure, capitalizing on intangible assets in their business and effectively negotiating contracts to achieve a favorable outcome. A must attend workshop.

Lema Khorshid - Ms. Khorshid is a managing partner at Fuxsa Bucaro & Khorshid

LLC where she handles legal matters for small to mid-sized businesses in Chicago and New York. Prior to joining Fuksa Bucaro and Khorshid, LLC, she provided marketing and public relations consulting services to companies in the fashion, entertainment and hospitality industries for 6 years.

Wednesday, March 12

3:00 pm to 4:30 pm

"La clave para un negocio exitoso"

The Key to a Successful Business

(Workshop will be conducted in Spanish)

¿Tiene una idea y quiere que esa idea se convierta en un negocio exitoso? Aprenda los primeros pasos para iniciar un negocio y el porque es importante desarrollar un plan de negocios antes de comenzar.

Do you have an idea? Do you want that idea to become a successful business? Learn the first steps before you open a small business and why it is important to have a business plan before you start.

Alejandra Fajardo - es entrenadora y consultora bilingüe para el Centro de Desarrollo Empresarial Femenino. Es directora de la Iniciativa Latina y coordinadora de la iniciativa de cuidado infantil para la comunidad hispano parlante.

Alejandra Fajardo - *Ms. Fajardo is a bilingual trainer and counselor for the Women's Business Development Center.*

She is the Latino Initiative Director and Coordinator of the Child Care Initiative in the Spanish speaking community.

Friday, March 14

9:30 am to 11:00 am

How to Finance Your Business

Can't get a loan? Get answers. Learn what banks are looking for to finance your business loan. Learn about small business loans, shortterm loans and pre-loan qualifications. Know the basics of loan preparation and what loans are the best fit for your future business endeavor.

Jon A. Mejdrich of Harris Bank - Mr. Mejdrich is an AVP Business Banker for Harris N A. He also has had successful career with Morgan Stanley, Advocate Health Care, APCO Systems, and Merrill Lynch.

Wednesday, March 19

3:00 pm to 4:30 pm

City Hall - 2nd Floor

Security Training Techniques and Best Practices for Security Personnel

Learn techniques designed to limit disruptive or disorderly behavior.

Talk about relevant legal issues related to the use of force by security personnel and best practices that relate to crowd control and identification procedures. Learn the background and training guidelines for security.

Dr. James F. Pastor, Ph.D., J.D. - Dr. Pastor is a Professor of Public Safety, Licensed Attorney & Real Estate Broker in Illinois, Author of two books: *Security Law & Methods* and *The Privatization of Police in America*.

Friday, March 21

9:30 am to 11:00 am

Website Considerations for Business Owners

Have you asked yourself, why should my business have a website? If you are looking to boost your business, keep up with customer demands and business competitors, then, don't miss this workshop.

Understand the objective of a website and the benefits it provides your business.

SCORE - Mr. Van Hecke is a volunteer consultant with Counselors to America's Small Business/SCORE, a non-profit organization focused on supporting small business growth. Van Hecke enjoyed a 25-year career with Andrew Corporation and presently runs his own investor training software company - Investment Enhancing Systems Inc.

Wednesday, March 26

1:00 pm to 4:30 pm

1:00 to 3:00 pm - How to Get Certified

3:15 to 4:30 pm - Doing Business with

The City of Chicago

Are you interested in doing business with or being a certified vendor with the City of Chicago? If you are, you don't want to miss this workshop. \Come learn about the different types of procurement opportunities as well as the City's contract monitoring and compliance standards.

Department of Procurement Services (DPS) - The City's DPS provides vendor support to 44 City Departments. Over \$2 billion of quality goods and services are procured annually. DPS is responsible for managing the Disadvantaged, Minority & Women Business Enterprise Program (D/M/WBE).

Friday, March 28

9:30 am to 11:00 am

Business Plan: A Roadmap to Grow Your Business

Learn the essentials of business plan writing to better market your business for lending opportunities. Come prepared to outline your concept and create your business plan.

Donna Rockin - Ms. Rockin is the Director of the JVS Chicago-Duman Micro Enterprise Center and Loan Fund and manages the Center's micro-loan portfolio. She is a former successful entrepreneur with an M.B.A. from Loyola University.

All FREE workshops are held at the DBA Office: 121 N. LaSalle St., City Hall - Room 805
Space is limited. Please reserve your attendance by calling (312) 744-5344

To learn more about DBA's workshops, visit our website at cityofchicago.org