

# Our 79th Anniversary Year (1939 –2018)



## Maywood Chamber of Commerce

[www.maywood-il-mcc.com](http://www.maywood-il-mcc.com)

March 2018 Leaders . . . In the 21st Century Volume XXIV Issue III

The MCC is a partnership among businesses, individuals and governments to support, promote and grow businesses in Maywood, through advocacy, education, information and networking.

### **WALTHER CHRISTIAN ACADEMY, A CHAMBER LEGACY MEMBER, TO HOST OUR MARCH GENERAL MEETING**

Walther Christian Academy, formerly known as Walther Lutheran High School, will host our Chamber March General Meeting on Wednesday, 21 March 2018 at 5:30 p.m. at 900 Chicago Avenue in Melrose Park., in the 2nd Floor Library. Parking is available in the parking lot in the front of the main building.

Walther Lutheran High School, founded in 1954, is one of the leading educational institutions in Proviso Township. Approximately 50% of Walther students live in Proviso Township, with close to 20% living in Maywood.

The Walther Middle School, which first opened for the 2017-2018 school year as part of the newly organized Walther Christian Academy, serves students in 6th through 8th grade. The Middle School has a focused STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) curriculum, which provides numerous opportunities for hands-on learning. Middle School faculty encourage and prepare students to continue in these subjects when they enter Walther High School.

At the high school level, Walther offers strong academics, a full range of sports teams, and a variety of clubs and activities, including band, choir, and drama. High achieving juniors and seniors may take classes at Concordia University Chicago for dual credit.

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Close to 100% of Walther seniors continue on to college. Walther's college-bound students receive significant financial and scholarship aid awards. Reena Murphy, Maywood, was one of the \$1,000 scholarship winners at the 1917 Chamber Awards Banquet.

Walther Elementary Lutheran Academy operated at St. John's Lutheran Church, 305 Circle Avenue in Forest Park during the 2007-2008 prior to moving to St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 1025 West Lake Street in 2014. After operating at St. Paul's during 2014-2017, the elementary school was closed because of a lack of enrollment.

Walther is a community of Christians, who support each other and who provide service to those in need. Each Walther student is required to complete 15 hours of service annually.

## **ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS!**

**Renewal invoices for 2018 dues were mailed on 31 January 2018. Please pay your dues no later than 15 March 2018.**

**If you have not received an invoice, please contact President/CEO Walker at (708) 345-7077.**

### **CHAMBER LEADERSHIP**

Chairman: Thomas J. Engoren  
Seaway Supply Co.  
(B.C. 18)(B)

Past Acting Chairman: & Honorary Member:  
Stan D. Huntington (NFP)

Vice Chairman— Eric Dean  
Cintas, Inc. (B)

President/CEO: Edwin H. Walker IV  
Individual Member

Treasurer: Kathleen I. Carani

#### Class of 2018:

Director: Adiel Abelar (B)  
First Midwest Bank

Director: Albertine Alexander (I)

Director: Marta E. Alvarado, Ph.D. (B)  
Westlake Hospital

Director: Dawood I. Burhani (B)  
Jamali Kopy Kat Printing, Inc.

Director: Thomas J. Engoren (B)  
Seaway Supply Co.

Director: Audrey C. Jaycox (I)

Director: Viola Mims (B)  
Vintage Realtors

Director: Willie Norfleet, Jr. (Govt)  
Village Manager

#### Class of 2019:

Director: Eric Dean (B)  
Cintas, Inc.

Director: Cory L. Foster (B)  
ComEd

Director: Jennifer L. Koehler (NFP)  
Loyola University Health System

Director: Dan Perkins (I)  
Individual

Director: Amanda A. Turner, Ph.D., MSW  
(NFP) Triton College

Director: Karen A. Yarbrough (B)  
Hathaway Insurance Agency

**CHAMBER CONTINUES ITS HIGHLIGHTING OF ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT AT ITS FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING,  
AT CINTAS CORPORATION ON 21 FEBRUARY 18**

Village Business Development Coordinator, Angela D. Smith, was the Guest Speaker for the February Chamber General Meeting at Cintas Corporation/Maywood on Wednesday 21 February 2018, beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Eric Dean, General Manager of the Cintas/Maywood facility, Vice Chairman of the Chamber Board and Member of the Maywood Economic Development Commission, welcomed all to the meeting and invited those present to introduce themselves and to sign the sign-in sheet.

Following her introduction, the presenter, Angela D. Smith, reviewed the various investments taking place in Maywood, including the following:

National Cycle, 80 year old business in Maywood, is creating a 28,000 square foot expansion due to President Trump's initiative to bring business back to U.S. companies.

Progressive Roofing will acquire village-owned 1312-1318 St. Charles Road in a tax reactivation project, to include the construction of a building.

316 Randolph St. (former Baptist Retirement Home) is held by Centrust Bank. IHDA has approved the developer for moving forward and the bank is working towards transferring the property to the developer.

800-820 South 5th Avenue—Interfaith Housing Project for first floor retail/upper floors residential has been approved by the Village of Maywood and the Zoning Board.

Angela mentioned two key development sites—1st & Lake and east side of 1st & Ohio. No more detail was forthcoming since the Village Council has not approved anything.

Maywood Market. The Village has restored electricity to the property and cleaned it up. The Village's tax rate has been a problem thus far.

Angela discussed the Enterprise Zone, pointing out that Maywood was one of the first communities to receive such status and has been a single community Enterprise Zone since 1992. The zone status expires in 2018 and the State has made clear that single community Enterprise Zones will not be renewed. For that reason, Maywood is included in the proposed new West Cook Regional Enterprise Zone, along with Broadview, Bellwood, and Melrose Park. Enterprise Zones bring state funds to development projects such as Cintas, through income tax credits, machinery tax credits and a number of other devices.

Angela stated that Maywood's focus is to provide a comprehensive approach to business expansion/relocation—a streamlined process that includes fast track permitting, expedited process, access to work force training resources and employees.

Next, Michael Busse of Interfaith Housing Development Corporation gave his presentation. IHDC is 25 years old and in that time has built 16 affordable housing projects, with 900 units. Most of them are in Chicago; the closest is in Oak Park at Madison and Grove Streets, with 50 apartments and the Sugar Beet Co-op as the first floor retail tenant.

The Maywood development is affordable housing, income restricted to 60% or less of the area median income; rents are set by the State of Illinois. Maywood wants and the developer agrees on an on-site manager, who will reside in the building. The 72 units will include 32 studios, 16 1-bedrooms, and 16 2-bedrooms, and 8 3-bedrooms.

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Tenants will be screened thoroughly (he did not describe that process). Michael Dawson of the Zoning Commission said that the developers had indicated at a Zoning Hearing that applicants must have an 800 or better credit score!

Chris Parker asked for an example of a more comparable setting than Oak Park and Sankofa House in North Lawndale, which was built to target youth (18-23 years old). However, this is low income housing and has no parking.

Victoria Haas reminded Mr. Busse that last August at a public meeting in Council Chambers, the Developer offered to put together a tour of the Oak Park building for all interested, as well as to meet with community members in the future for the purpose of community input and addressing community concerns. At the developer's and the Mayor's request, a sign-up sheet for both such events was circulated, but neither has occurred yet. Mrs. Haas also suggested a roof top outdoor space for tenants, which would create privacy from street-level traffic.

Chamber members attending included: Albertine Alexander, Dorothy Brown, Tanya Butler, Phyllis Clifton, Eric Dean, Readith Ester, Sandra Gates, Victoria Haas, Catherine Hegarty, Christopher Parker, Edwenna Perkins, Laura Rogers, Richard Sims, Angela D. Smith, Jose Villa, and Wayne Wenzel.

The Chamber Newsletter is published by the Maywood Chamber of Commerce monthly, except July and August.

Letters to the editor should be addressed to:  
P.O. Box 172, Maywood, IL 60153

Editor-in-Chief: Edwin H. Walker IV

**The Maywood Chamber of Commerce  
Box 172  
Maywood, Illinois 60153**

## CHAMBER 2018 CALENDAR

- |                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| March 13<br>(Tuesday)   | Board of Directors<br>4 pm Maywood Public Library<br>(Board Room)<br>121 S. 5th Avenue, Maywood                   |
| March 21<br>(Wednesday) | General Meeting<br>5:30 p.m. Walther Christian Academy<br>(2nd Floor Library)<br>900 Chicago Avenue, Melrose Park |
| April 10<br>(Tuesday)   | Board of Directors<br>4 pm Maywood Public Library<br>(Board Room)<br>121 S. 5th Avenue, Maywood                   |
| April 18<br>(Wednesday) | General Meeting<br>TBA  |

**POSTMASTER: DO NOT FORWARD**



Maywood Fine Arts and  
Stairway of the Stars present:

# Swan Lake Snow White

March 23rd at 10am and March 24th at 7pm

Trinity High School Auditorium

7574 Division St, River Forest, IL

Tickets \$15 - Seniors \$10 - Children \$5

[www.MaywoodFineArts.org](http://www.MaywoodFineArts.org) (708)681-2788