

*Infinite Opportunities  
Unlimited Success*

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## 2012 Chamber Milestone Anniversaries

Congratulations to the Buffalo Grove Area Chamber members celebrating milestone anniversaries during 2012. These members will be recognized at the January Installation Lunch.

### 40 Years

Buffalo Grove Animal Hospital  
Waste Management of Illinois

### 20 Years

Debra D. Feldman & Associates  
Kloepfer Insurance Services, Inc.  
Kraft Total Eye Care  
Arthur J. Rogers & Co.  
Rotary Club of Buffalo Grove  
The UPS Store

### 15 Years

B & B Services, Inc.  
Kessler, Orlean, Silver & Co., PC  
Lamb's Automotive, Inc.  
Midtown Athletic Club  
George Seaverns – RE/MAX Experts  
Wa-Pa-Ghetti's Pizza, Inc.

### 10 Years

Addolorata Villa  
The Arboretum Club  
Buca di Beppo  
Dame Financial Services  
Dorfler's Meat Market, Inc.  
Friends of the Parks Foundation  
Gordin Medical Center, PC  
The Green at Chevy Chase  
Lawn Doctor of Buffalo Grove/Lake Zurich  
William K. Monsen & Associates  
Penguino's Pizza  
Schwabens Athletic Club  
Kristi Smith Consulting  
Village Profile

### 5 Years

Deerfields Bakery  
Extra Space Storage  
Hoffmann Strings  
Horizon Funding Consultants  
Lakeside Plumbing, Inc.  
Triangle Computer Services, Inc.  
Nino's Pizzeria

*Thank you for your years of support to the  
Buffalo Grove Area Chamber of Commerce.*

NOTE:  
Change in date

**Lunch Meeting Tuesday, January 10th**

**Installation of 2012  
Chamber Board**

**Celebration of Member  
Milestone Anniversaries**

**Chamber Recognitions**

11:30 a.m. Informal Networking • Noon-1:30 pm Buffet Lunch & Program

\$20 Members • \$25 Non-members *Guests are always welcome.*

The Arboretum Club  
401 W. Half Day Road, Buffalo Grove

## Chamber Chatter

■ If representatives from Zimmermann's True Value Hardware had attended the After Hours at Fred Astaire Dance Studio on December 1st, they would have won \$725. The prize will be \$750 for the After Hours at Your Medicos on January 19th. Remember, you must attend to win. The drawing will be at approximately 6:15 p.m. Don't miss it.

### Special Thanks to—

- Fred Astaire Dance Studio for hosting the December After Hours
- Pioneer Press for exhibiting at the December Lunch meeting
- Blooming Grove Flowers and Gifts, Buca di Beppo, Culver's of Buffalo Grove and Local Directive for donating prizes for the December lunch meeting

## Installation & Celebration Lunch

The Chamber's Installation Lunch will be held on Tuesday, January 10th at The Arboretum Club, 401 W. Half Day Road in Buffalo Grove. Join us for the installation of the 2012 Chamber Board and the celebration of the 2012 Milestone Anniversaries of your fellow chamber members (see article on page 1). In addition, the Chamber Commitment Awards and the Ambassador of the Year awards will be presented. A reservation form follows the newsletter or register online at [www.buffalogrovechamber.org](http://www.buffalogrovechamber.org). Reservations requested by January 6th.

**Thursday, January 19th, 5-7pm**

### Business After Hours Your Medicos SC

1300 Busch Parkway, Buffalo Grove

Refreshments will be served.

Bring your business cards!



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12 times a year.

50½ Raupp Blvd.

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 7124,

Buffalo Grove, IL 60089

(847) 541-7799

Fax—(847) 541-7819

E-mail—[info@bgacc.org](mailto:info@bgacc.org)

[www.buffalogrovechamber.org](http://www.buffalogrovechamber.org)

### Executive Board

President: Scott Fishkin

*Scott R. Fishkin Insurance Services*

Executive VP: Larry Wankovsky

*Triple J Ventures*

Vice President: Dr. Gregg Stern

*Stern Chiropractic*

Secretary: Jan Obrand

*In Working Order*

Treasurer: David Weiner

*David M. Weiner & Associates, CPAs*

Past President: Marc Blumenthal

*Attorney at Law*

At-Large Directors:

Michael Abruzzini,

*Buffalo Grove Bank & Trust*

Dan Dame,

*Dame Financial Services*

### Directors

Vicki Baker

*Gifts of Distinction*

Beverly Bloom

*Bloomin' Books*

Nels Flatebo

*The Leaders' Forum*

Les Klein

*L.H. Klein & Associates*

Sid Rothenberg

*Reliable Information Technology, Inc.*

Alan Schenker, *Attorney at Law*

Lenna Scott

*The Wealshire/The Ponds*

Dr. Eric Smith

*Smith Back & Neck Pain Center*

Village Liason - Ghida Neukirch

*Deputy Village Manager*

Executive Director & Editor—

Lynne Schneider, A.C.E.

Director of Member Services—

Mark Groves

Graphics by: Evan Hill Design, Inc.

Photos by: Mike Molloy, Mark Groves

& Lynne Schneider

## Chamber Scholarship



Since 2004, the Buffalo Grove Area Chamber of Commerce has awarded over \$13,000 in scholarships through the Ronald J. Jonas Memorial Scholarship Fund. The Chamber funds the scholarship program through a 50/50 raffle held at our membership meetings and After Hours events, a special opportunity to donate at membership renewal time and through the generous donations of Chamber members or their companies. When a donation is received, the donation is recognized in the Chamber's newsletter and the students receiving the scholarships are also notified of the companies that generously donated.

This month we thank **Bill Balling from the Rotary Club** and **Sid Rothenberg from Reliable Information Technology** for donating their winnings back to the scholarship fund.

Scholarship applications will be available on our website—[www.buffalogrovechamber.org](http://www.buffalogrovechamber.org)—on January 3. Completed applications are due back to the office by March 31, 2012.

Remember, your participation either as a raffle participant or a scholarship fund donor will be greatly appreciated by the deserving recipients.

### Help Us Boost the Scholarship Fund!

The January Installation Lunch will also be a fundraiser for the scholarship fund. We are looking for raffle and auction prizes...gift certificates, gift baskets, sporting event or theater tickets, overnight stays, etc. Prizes should be worth a minimum of \$10. All donors will be recognized at the lunch and in the Chamber's newsletter. Help us continue to give scholarships. Call the Chamber office for additional information.

## Chamber *Ambassadors*

The Chamber Board and staff wishes to thank and recognize those Chamber members that served as Ambassadors during 2012. Your service and dedication to the Chamber is greatly appreciated.

Vicki Baker—*Gifts of Distinction (Ambassador Chair)*

Michael Abruzzini—*Buffalo Grove Bank & Trust*

Beverly Bloom—*Bloomin' Books*

Dan Dame—*Dame Financial Group*

Marc Fargotstein—*Triangle Computer Services*

Sharon Feld—*Plum Grove*

Scott Fishkin—*Scott R. Fishkin Insurance Services*

Nels Flatebo—*The Leaders' Forum*

Les Klein—*LH Klein & Associates*

Arnie Martin—*Arnold Martin Music*

Denise Netzel—*Tend 2 Corp.*

Irwin Mishoulam, DDS—*Waterford Pointe Dental Associates*

Ghida Neukirch—*Village of Buffalo Grove*

Sid Rothenberg—*Reliable Information Technology*

Cathy Schwartz—*Temple Chai*

Lenna Scott—*The Wealshire/The Ponds*

Dr. Gregg Stern—*Stern Chiropractic*

Larry Wankovsky—*Triple J Ventures*

### Chamber Website

## SPONSOR OF THE MONTH

only  
**\$100**

Promote your business as the Website Sponsor of the Month.

As Sponsor of the Month, your logo will be displayed on the homepage of the chamber's website for one month. (Choice of month is on a first-come basis.) The Sponsor of the Month fee is \$100. You provide the logo. Check out the Current Sponsor of the Month - Artistic Digital Services - on the chamber's website [www.buffalogrovechamber.org](http://www.buffalogrovechamber.org). Call the chamber office at 847-541-7799 to reserve your space or if you have any questions.



# 2011 Year End Report

*Wonder what YOUR Chamber did during 2011?  
Here's everything you ever wanted to know...and then some!*



- 10 monthly meetings—featuring speakers or entertainment
- 13 Business After Hours (5 events were multi-chamber)
- 3 Seminars/Workshops
- 1st Annual Heart of Buffalo Grove Awards (8 awards)
- Networking Extravaganza—13 Chambers participated
- North Shore Women's Conference (multi-chamber)
- 24th Annual Golf Outing
- 1st Annual Mini-Golf Outing
- Lawn Chair Lyrics sponsorship
- Annual Charity Softball Game
- Buffalo Grove Days Participation—Beer Garden, Food Tent, Business Fair & Parade Float
- Business-to-Business Expo
- Biz 6 Plus—4 multi-chamber events
- BG Networkers—24 meetings
- Chamber Basic Training—4 sessions
- 6 Young Professionals events
- 3 Mega-Connect events
- 6 miscellaneous joint-chamber events
- 3 Chamber member open houses
- 12 Active Committees
- 12 editions of Chamber newsletter—Around Town
- 36 articles in the Buffalo Grove Countryside and the Daily Herald presenting new members and showcasing Chamber members in specific businesses
- Publication of a Community Guide, Lifestyle Magazine, Village Street Map and Food & Fun Guide
- Gold Member (Double Your Dues) Program—39 participants
- Hot Deals—Member-to-Member Discount Program
- Chamber Scholarship Program
- Mini-Expo opportunities
- Business Bytes – Chamber member-to-member email-blast
- Chamber Website with member listings & website links
- Chamber Bucks & Free Lunch for new member sponsors
- Mixer Money—No winner (maybe 2012!)
- Lunch Money—No winners
- Bring a New Member Raffle Program
- Notary Service & Export Certification for members
- Community involvement—Buffalo Grove Chaplaincy Program donation, community outreach—local food pantries & other programs and business/education partnerships.
- Active membership & representation of area businesses in the Illinois State Chamber, Illinois Retail Merchants Association (IRMA), Illinois Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives (IACCE), North Suburban Chamber of Commerce Executives (NSCCE) & Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce.

*You could have attended nearly 100 opportunities to network with businesses in Buffalo Grove and the surrounding communities. We hope you took advantage of these opportunities for your business!*



## MEMBERSHIP INVESTMENT

Your 2012 Membership Investment packets have been mailed. We thank you for your continued support of the Chamber. We know that this has been a challenging year for business in general and for that reason, the chamber board has decided not to increase your membership investment. Remember that a chamber membership gives you a network of businesses to interact with and many educational, promotional and networking opportunities

Please note that inside your packet will be information on Gold Membership, Chamber Committee sign-up, 2012 Sponsorship sign-up, Hot Deals sign-up and an opportunity to donate to the Chamber's Scholarship Fund which is available to Chamber Members only. Please make sure that you complete all the information on the invoice and return with any other pertinent forms when you send your payment.

Please note—**According to the IRS, dues MAY NOT be deducted as a charitable expense but MAY be deducted as a business expense.**

If you have any questions, please call the Chamber Office at (847) 541-7799.

### ■ New Members

Welcome these new members:

Debbie Benjamin  
Buffalo Grove Theaters  
Buffalo Grove

David Schwabe  
The Schwabe Group –  
Coldwell Banker  
Arlington Heights

Donna Rydz  
Stonebridge Village Apartments  
Arlington Heights

### ■ After Hours 2012

The Buffalo Grove Area Chamber has begun to fill in its After Hours schedule for 2012. After Hours events allow our members to network in a casual setting with no meeting structure. Sponsors open their business to members and provide food and drink to those that attend. We also encourage 2 or 3 small business to share a sponsorship. You would need to provide the location and refreshments for the event. If you are interested in holding a Before or After Hours event, please contact the Chamber Office at (847) 541-7799.

### ■ Promote Your Business!

At each Membership Meeting, the Chamber will hold a business card raffle for a give-a-way donated by a Chamber member. We are looking for gift items or certificates for this give-away. Those who contribute will be given recognition at the luncheon and will receive a special thank you in the Chamber's newsletter, *Around Town*. **If you have any item you would like to contribute, please call the Chamber Office at (847) 541-7799.**

**Hot Deals**

## Member-to-Member Discount Program

*Have you taken advantage of the Hot Deals – the Chamber's Member-to-Member discount program?*

**As a Discount Provider**—make sure that your staff is aware of the discount that you are offering to Buffalo Grove Area Chamber members.

**As a Chamber Member**—make sure that you take advantage of this program provided by the Chamber. Utilize the goods and services of Buffalo Grove Area Chamber members. It's 'good business' to support your fellow chamber members.

Hot Deals can be found on the chamber's website—[www.buffalogrovechamber.org](http://www.buffalogrovechamber.org). Click on the Hot Deals button. All participating members are listed.

If you would like to participate in the program, contact the chamber office for a registration form at (847) 541-7799. All current Hot Deals will end on December 31, 2011 unless otherwise specified for an earlier 'end date'. If you did not renew your 2010 Hot Deal, it terminated on 12/31/10. Make sure to complete the 2011 form.

# GOLD Member profile



Richard Drazner  
R.J. Drazner & Associates  
Public Adjusters & Attorney

725 East Dundee Road, Suite 202,  
Arlington Heights 60004

Office (847) 255-0500  
Fax: (847) 255-0530  
Cell: (847) 208-3345

E-Mail: [rjdratz@rjdratzner.com](mailto:rjdratz@rjdratzner.com)  
Website: [www.rjdratzner.com](http://www.rjdratzner.com)

When the Property that you Own or Manage is Struck by Fire, Hurricane, Flood, Windstorm, Water Damage, Roof Collapse, Vandalism or Other Peril... call on R. J. Drazner & Associates.

We are licensed Public Adjusters who represent the Insured (property owner) for losses sustained to your home or business. We handle all aspects of your claim in order to maximize and expedite your insurance settlement, as well as to alleviate your burden of having to deal with the enormous and stressful task of handling your own claim. We evaluate your loss and damages, prepare all necessary claims and documentation, and negotiate your settlement with the insurance company. We can also coordinate the repairs or restoration to your property. You can expect a substantial increase in your insurance settlement when we represent you, compared to when you work directly with the insurance company. We represent YOU, the policyholder so "You Don't Get 'Burned' After Your Fire."

Rick Drazner is also an Attorney and Counselor at Law with a general law practice handling—personal injury, real estate closings, wills, incorporations, contracts and other legal matters.

Rick Drazner is a past President of the Buffalo Grove Area Chamber of Commerce for four years. He currently serves as President and Commissioner of the Buffalo Grove Park District, and as President of Congregation Beth Judea. Please call upon us to help with your insurance claims or legal needs.

## Attend Lunch and **WIN!**

Have you attended a membership meeting lately? If not, and even if you have, there are two new reasons to attend the meeting!

**Business Card Infomercial Raffle**—Place your business card in the Infomercial container when you come to the meeting. One lucky business card will be pulled and THAT person gets to give a 2-minute infomercial in front of the group.

**Lunch Money**—Similar to Mixer Money but with a little twist. \$50 of 'Lunch Money' will be available each month. A name will be pulled from the container with the names of every Buffalo Grove Area Chamber member. If you are at the meeting...you win some Lunch Money. If you are not there, the money goes back to the chamber's bank account. **NO ROLL-OVERS!** Don't miss out on your Lunch Money! **Kovitz Shifrin Nesbit would have won if they had attended the December meeting.** Don't miss out on *your* Lunch Money!

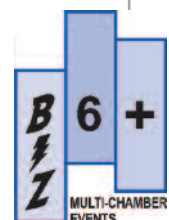
## Breakfast with Toni Preckwinkle

**Biz 6 Plus**

The Chambers of Biz 6 Plus will hold a breakfast with Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle on Wednesday, February 8th at the Cotillion Banquets, 360 Creekside Drive in Palatine. Registration and informal networking at 7:30 am. Breakfast and program at 8:00 am.

Ms. Preckwinkle will discuss taxes and the county budget. She will also take questions from the audience. This is a great way to hear about what affects your doing business in Cook County.

The cost of the event is \$20 for participating chamber members and \$50 for non-members. A hot breakfast buffet is included. Reservations must be received by February 2nd. A registration form follows this newsletter or can be accessed on our website—[www.buffalogrovehamber.org](http://www.buffalogrovehamber.org)





# 2012 Chamber Board

## Thanks for Your Service

A very special thank you to our Directors who are leaving the board—

### Alan Burack—Advocate Condell Medical Center

Alan resigned from the board in mid summer when he was promoted to his current position. Alan was a Board Director from 2001 through 2011 and served as Chair of the Marketing Committee. Alan will participate as time allows.

### Rick Drazner—RJ Drazner & Associates

Rick joined the Chamber in 1993 and served on the board from 1996 through 2011 as Chamber President, Treasurer and Chamber Director. He has also been active on many chamber committees. Rick will remain active with the chamber in addition to being President of the Buffalo Grove Park District Board of Commissioners and also President of his synagogue.

### Arnie Martin—Arnold Martin Music

Arnie has been a member of the chamber since 2003 and has served as Director of the Board from 2006 through 2011. Beside being our resident musician, Arnie has served as Chair of the Membership Committee and has been a member of several chamber committees. He will remain active with the chamber.

We also wish to thank **Marc Blumenthal** for his three years of service to the chamber as President. We appreciate all that you have done for the chamber. Enjoy your new job as Immediate Past President.

The Chamber Board would like to thank Past-President Dr. Eric Smith for Chairing the Nominating Committee and to Cathy Schwartz of Temple Chai and Evan Hill of Evan Hill Design for their hard work. We appreciate your time and effort.

## Congratulations to the 2012 Officers & Board of Directors!

President: Scott Fishkin  
*Scott R. Fishkin Insurance Services\*\**

Executive VP: Larry Wankovsky,  
*Triple J Ventures\*\**

Vice President: Dr. Gregg Stern  
*Stern Chiropractic\*\**

Secretary: Jan Obrand  
*In Working Order\*\**

Treasurer: David Weiner  
*David Weiner & Associates\*\**

Past President: Marc Blumenthal  
*Attorney at Law\*\**

At-Large Directors:  
Michael Abruzzini  
*Buffalo Grove Bank & Trust\**

Dan Dame,  
*Dame Financial Services*

## Directors:

Vicki Baker, *Gifts of Distinction*

Beverly Bloom, *Bloomin' Books\*\**

Nels Flatebo, *The Leaders' Forum\*\**

Les Klein, *L.H. Klein & Associates\**

Sid Rothenberg, *Reliable Information Technology*

Alan Schencker, *Attorney at Law*

Lenna Scott, *The Wealshire/The Ponds\*\**

Dr. Eric Smith, *Smith Back & Neck Pain Center*

Village Liaison—Ghida Neukirch,  
*Village of Buffalo Grove*

\*completing a 2-year term

\*\*elected to a 1-year term

# BUSINESS BYTES



Have you taken advantage of the member-to-member email blast? The Buffalo Grove Area Chamber provides a way for members to let other members know about upcoming sales, new products, awards and recognitions. This e-mail blast, *BGACC Business Bytes*, will be e-mailed to members on the 1st and the 15th of each month.

- News items must be 100 words or less.
- New items must be labeled 'For E-mail Blast'.
- News items must be e-mailed to [info@bgacc.org](mailto:info@bgacc.org).
- News items must be received by the 10th and the 26th of the month.
- Only e-mailed items will be accepted.
- All news items are subject to approval.

## MORE THAN A Free Lunch

Do you know a business that would benefit from chamber membership? Many new members are brought to the chamber through referrals by current members and in appreciation, the chamber has always given a free lunch and chamber bucks to the referring member.

This year you have the opportunity to get more than just a free lunch for your referral. During 2012, for **each** of your referrals that joins the chamber, not only will you get the free lunch, you also be entered into a raffle to win a prize valued at \$200. The drawing will be held at the Installation Lunch in January 2013. Remember, the more people you get to join, the more chances you have to win.

Call the Chamber Office at 847-541-7799 to give us the referral information or an application form can be downloaded from the website at [www.buffalogrovechamber.org](http://www.buffalogrovechamber.org). Make sure you remind them to say they heard about the chamber from you.



The Lake County Young Professionals will hold a Networking Event on Thursday, January 26th from 5:30-7:30 pm at Midtown Athletic Club, 2211 Waukegan Road in Bannockburn. This month will be a Cardio Tennis Event so bring your tennis shoes and your racket, if you have one. Hors D'oeuvres and one complimentary beverage will be provided. There is no charge but we ask that you make a donation to one of the Chamber's charitable organizations. (You choose!)

Young professionals (40 years of age and under) are invited to attend. Even though there is no charge for this event, we ask that you register so that we know how many are coming. Call for a reservation form or register on-line at [www.buffalogrovechamber.com](http://www.buffalogrovechamber.com).

Not a Young Professional? Please remember to tell young professionals that you know about these events.

# GOLD Members 2012

Kevin Geraghty	Algonquin Longhouse, Inc. NFP	847-660-1230
Jerzy Nagaj	BMO Harris Bank (BG-Half Day Rd.)	847-465-0202
Perry Lakhani	BMO Harris Bank (BG-McHenry Rd.)	847-465-1201
Barry Skolak	BMO Harris Bank (Wheeling)	847-870-2953
Debra Rybarczyk	BMO Harris Bank Call Center	888-483-5672
Michael Abruzzini	Buffalo Grove Bank & Trust	847-634-8400
Dan Dame	Dame Financial Services	847-541-7016
Dr. Vladimir Gordin	Gordin Medical Center, SC	847-243-2110
Evan Hill	Evan Hill Design, Inc.	847-478-8122
Jill Langlois	Illinois Bone & Joint Institute	847-998-5680
David Seleb & Chris Gibson	Indian Trails Public Library	847-459-4100
Chrissy Latzke	Little Italian Pizza & Pub	847-459-4900
Stu Cohen & Laura Rossow	Lou Malnati's Pizzeria	847-215-7100
Arnie Martin	Arnold Martin Music	847-478-9513
Sorin Ladan	Payment Processing Consultants	224-406-1608
Adriane Johnson	Populux XP, LLC	847-609-3071
Donna Rydz	Stonebridge Village Apartments	847-394-3434
Larry Glickman & Cathy Schwartz	Temple Chai	847-537-1771
David Becker	Wheeling Auto Center	847-259-3776

## Business After Hours— Fred Astaire Dance Studio



President Marc Blumenthal presents an Appreciation Plaque to Jaana Lillেমaji of Fred Astaire Dance Studio for hosting the December After Hours.

**Become a Gold Member Today.  
Call the Chamber Office at  
847-541-7799 for more information.**

## Chamber 'Basic Training'

If you are a new Buffalo Grove Area Chamber member, a prospective member, a new contact or a current chamber member, you are eligible to attend Chamber Basic Training. Our next training session will be held on Tuesday, January 17th from 8:00-9:30 a.m. at the Chamber Office, 50 1/2 Raupp Blvd. in Buffalo Grove. This is a great opportunity to learn about the Chamber's programs, events and membership benefits. Whether you need the complete regimen or just a 'brush-up' on your Chamber membership benefits, this session is for you. Continental Breakfast will be served. Please RSVP to the Chamber Office at (847) 541-7799. And remember...fatigues are not required.

## Ad Rates & Info

Advertise in the Chamber's *Around Town* newsletter. Your ad will be viewed worldwide on the Chamber's website-[www.buffalogrovechamber.org](http://www.buffalogrovechamber.org). Advertising rates are as follows:

	One Month	Three Months	Six Months	Full Year*
Business Card	\$40	\$35	\$30	\$300
1/4 Page	\$60	\$55	\$50	\$500
1/2 Page	\$105	\$95	\$85	\$1,000
Insert*	\$100			\$750
Sponsor	\$125			

\* Annual fee

\* You provide insert—currently 1,300. Must be 8½"x11".

**Please Note:** Prices are based on camera ready art supplied.

\* Ads received by the first of the month will be included in the following month's edition.

\* Inserts received by the 15th of the month will be included in the following month's edition. Inserts should be delivered to the Chamber Office.

If you are interested in advertising, please contact the Chamber office at (847) 541-7799.

## From the Village...



### Village of Buffalo Grove pursues Community Choice Aggregation of Electricity

For over a decade, large Illinois businesses have had the opportunity to seek competitive retail electric rates from competing energy suppliers. In 2010, the Illinois State legislature gave municipalities the ability to seek competitive pricing for the provision of electricity to residents and small businesses. As of May 31, 2011 nearly 40% of the electricity used by small businesses at Commonwealth Edison (those under 100 kW) was supplied by a competing electric supplier; this figure is an increase from 32% as of May 31, 2010 (Source: [www.saveonenergy.com](http://www.saveonenergy.com)).

In order to seek competitive prices for electrical services in one contract, the Village needs approval from registered voters through a referendum. The Buffalo Grove Village Board has placed the needed referendum regarding residential and business electrical services on the March 20, 2012 ballot. The referendum asks citizens if the Village should have the authority to seek competitive pricing bids for electrical services under a single contract that would include residents and small businesses. It is believed that by combining electrical service for all individual customers into a single bid, consumers will have lower electric bills and save money. The Village is partnering with six other municipalities through an inter-governmental agreement. The communities include Arlington Heights, Lincolnshire, Long Grove, Palatine, Vernon Hills, and Wheeling. Collectively, the communities have more than 260,000 residents. By pooling resources, the Village believes that we will be able to leverage greater benefits for the communities we serve.

The referendum question on the March 20, 2012 election asks Buffalo Grove voters if the Village should have the authority to seek competitive pricing bids for electric services under a single contract. Specifically it asks:

*Shall the Village of Buffalo Grove have the authority to arrange for the supply of electricity for its residential and small commercial retail customers who have not opted out of such program?*

The other communities working with the Village of Buffalo Grove would likewise have a referendum on this subject matter on the March 20, 2012 election ballot.

The Village receives no financial benefit from the bidding process. The purpose of pursuing this initiative is to lower electricity costs for the benefit of businesses and residents. If the referendum is approved, the Village would issue a Request for Proposal from Illinois Commerce Commission certified wholesale electric suppliers to seek proposals for this initiative. If the resulting prices are lower than current prices from ComEd, the Village Board would accept the best bid. Each community working with Buffalo Grove would enter into their own contract for service. Since electric prices would be lower, residents and business electric bills would decrease. If individuals do not want to participate in the program, they don't have to change electric suppliers. Each electric customer would be contacted by the selected new electricity supplier. Any customer may opt out of the program and stay with their current electric supplier. If residents and small businesses already have a contract with an electric supplier other than ComEd, they could opt-in when their contract expires.

To learn more about this initiative, visit the Village's web site at [www.vbg.org](http://www.vbg.org), or contact the Office of the Village Manager at [electricityagg@vbg.org](mailto:electricityagg@vbg.org).

**For more information on any Village program or service, contact Ghida S. Neukirch, Deputy Village Manager at 847-459-2518 or [gneukirch@vbg.org](mailto:gneukirch@vbg.org)**

# January

# 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 BG Networkers 7:30-9am Chamber Office  Installation Luncheon 11:30am-1:30pm The Arboretum Club	11	12	13	14
15	16 Exec Board Meeting-Noon	17 Basic Training 8-9:30am Chamber Office	18	19 After Hours— Your Medicos SC 5-7pm	20	21
22	23 Full Board Meeting-Noon	24 BG Networkers 7:30-9am Chamber Office	25	26 Lake County Young Professionals Midtown Athletic Club – Bannockburn 5:30-7:30pm	27	28
29	30	31				

## Next Month...February 2012

Event	Location	Time
7 Member Lunch Meeting	The Arboretum Club – Formal Networking	11:30 am-1:30 pm
8 Biz 6 Plus – Breakfast with Toni Preckwinkle	The Cotillion Banquets	7:30-9:00 am
14 BG Networkers	Chamber Office	7:30-9:00 am
21 Business After Hours	Little Italian Pizza	5:00-7:00 pm
28 BG Networkers	Chamber Office	7:30-9:00 am







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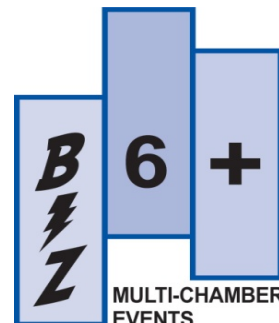
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Breakfast Program  
 Cook County Board President  
**Toni Preckwinkle**



**Wednesday, February 8, 2012**

**Registration/Networking: 7:30 a.m.**

**Breakfast/Program: 8:00 a.m.**

Program will allow time for a Q&A session

**\$20 members of participating Chambers, \$50 non-members**

limited seating, please RSVP by Wednesday, February 1

**The Cotillion Banquets**

360 S. Creekside Drive, Palatine, IL 60067

just west of Route 53/Northwest Highway intersection

*Participating Chambers: Arlington Heights, Buffalo Grove, Des Plaines, Hoffman Estates, Greater Lincolnshire, Mount Prospect, Palatine, Rolling Meadows, Wheeling/Prospect Heights*

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Company/Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Payment: \_\_\_\_\_ check payable to BGACC Charge Card: \_\_\_\_\_ VISA \_\_\_\_\_ MC \_\_\_\_\_ Discover \_\_\_\_\_ AmEx

Cardholder Name \_\_\_\_\_

Card No. \_\_\_\_\_ Exp \_\_\_\_\_ 3-digit V code \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Cardholder City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Buffalo Grove Area Chamber of Commerce  
[www.buffalogrovechamber.org](http://www.buffalogrovechamber.org) email—[info@bgacc.org](mailto:info@bgacc.org) 847-541-7799

**fax registration to 847-541-7819**

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