



NORTHBROOK CHAMBER of commerce & industry

BUSINESS NEWS & VIEWS

NORTHBROOKCHAMBER.ORG

BRINGING PEOPLE & BUSINESS TOGETHER

JULY 2019

Village Approves Northbrook Court Redevelopment Plan

Affordable Housing "Seed Money" Part of Proposal

The much-discussed transformation of the west end of Northbrook Court is expected to begin soon, following approval of the proposal by the Village Board. The process of reaching that consensus required a new emphasis on a broader public policy issue--affordable housing within the Village. The residential developer is providing \$750,000 for the Village to apply as it sees fit toward the creation of affordable housing.

The redevelopment plan includes the demolition of the existing Macy's store to make way for a five-story apartment building with 315 units, along with a 70,000 square foot supermarket, new retail and restaurant spaces, and a grand lawn for community use. Public comments were received urging the Board to require a percentage of the residential spaces to be designated as affordable housing, a sentiment that Trustee Jason Han had echoed in a May Board meeting. The Village currently has no comprehensive plan for affordable housing.

Responding to those comments, the developer of the residential project Ryan Companies offered to pay the Village \$750,000 to create an affordable housing fund to be used at the Trustees' discretion.

Northbrook Court Cont. to pg. 3

Connect with New Businesses and Trends at Expo

BUSINESS EXPO & AFTER HOURS

Monday, July 22, 5:00 p.m.

Hilton Chicago/Northbrook

Sponsored by



Experience a diverse array of products, services and innovations at the Annual Multi-Chamber Business Expo. Nearly 70 exhibitors from the Northbrook, Glenview and Deerfield Bannockburn Riverwoods (DBR) Chambers will be on hand with demonstrations and informative displays. Open to the public, the Expo attracts more than 400 visitors each year for the opportunity to connect with peers, learn about trends, and enjoy the delicious food and drinks provided by the Hilton Chicago/Northbrook.

Members return to the Expo each year for the fun, energetic atmosphere that promotes interaction. Attendees will have hands-on experiences with products, and get expert insights from business owners. The Expo creates synergies between complementary businesses and promotes



Hilton Chicago/Northbrook

connections to potential vendors.

"As a community bank, BankFinancial sees the Business Expo as a great opportunity to network and develop new relationships," says Gowri Chandrasekaran, BankFinancial. "It is a powerful platform to showcase our services, and establish ourselves as a business resource."

This year's event promises to be filled with engaging displays from newer Chamber members as well as veteran exhibitors. Trainers from Orangetheory Fitness will explain how their technology-

Business Expo Cont. to pg. 4

Celebrate Small Businesses During Independent Retailer Month

July 2019 is the ninth annual Independent Retailer Month, designed to highlight the positive social and economic aspects of independent businesses and to encourage consumers to support their local stores. According to the U.S. Small Business Administration, Illinois has approximately 1.2 million small businesses under 500 employees and almost 95,000 of those are retailers.

Despite the enormous pressures placed on them by online and big box retail, independent retailers continue to play vital roles in their communities as employers, taxpayers, and gathering places. What inspires Northbrook entrepreneurs to take on the challenges of running an independent retail operation?

Chris Bates, Art Post Gallery, enjoys the deep roots her business has grown in the community. In 1980, she purchased the original Art Post, a framing and art supply store

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Lynette Gilbert, Three Bags Full

next to Little Louie's with a small space for original art sales. The business evolved into a fine art gallery that offers framing as a service, now located at Willow Festival.

The nature of Chris's business relies on the store's physical presence in the community. While people may go online to buy prints or photographs, customers investing in large-scale art need to experience the work in person. Chris allows in-home viewings of pieces to ensure that the client is happy with their selections. Framing, delivery, and personal service are all elements supported by the brick-and-mortar store.

"We've maintained a very loyal customer base throughout the years," notes Chris. "We now serve three generations of clients who know us and trust us."

For Brian Millman, Shellé Jewelers, the family business is a way to connect with people

as they celebrate memorable occasions. As the third generation to carry on the company founded by Sheldon Millman in Chicago, Brian frequently sees clients who remember picking out their first pieces of jewelry with his father or grandfather. The Millmans relocated the business to Northbrook in 2008 after long periods in Chicago and Glencoe, taking advantage of the opportunity to purchase their own building. Northbrook also offered easy access to the highways, enabling Shellé Jewelers to maintain its longtime relationships with clients all over the North Shore, Chicago and beyond.

As an independent retailer, Brian makes personal service a top priority. "Shopping for jewelry can be very intimidating. I want every customer who comes in to feel completely welcome," says Brian. "I'm not in the jewelry business, I'm in the happiness business."

Lynette Gilbert, Three Bags Full, decided to pursue a long-deferred dream by opening her knitting store/studio 17 years ago. A skilled and enthusiastic knitter, her business has grown into a community-building experience for hobbyists who enjoy taking classes and discovering new products together. On a typical weekday morning, the store is busy with customers learning new techniques, while others knit and chat on sofas surrounded by yarn displays.

"When I started out, our first store was just two rooms in the old Quonset hut building on Walters," recalls Gilbert. "Over time we've built a very consistent community of people who come for workshops, knit nights, and events. People from all walks of life who never would have met become friends here."

Community Text Program Off to Great Start

One easy way to support all our local retailers and restaurants is the new **Live Shop Dine Northbrook** mobile text program. Launched in June, this partnership between the Chamber and the Village has over 60 businesses offering special promotions to a growing audience of 1,300 subscribers. If you haven't signed up yet, no need to miss out!

Text NBK to 55678 to receive deals right to your phone.

To participate as a vendor, contact Ron Goldblatt, ron@northshoreloyalty.com.



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Development Updates

Northbrook Suites Receives Zoning Relief

Village Trustees have loosened restrictions on street-level uses at the Northbrook Suites building at 1363 Shermer Road, next to the Metra parking lot. When originally built, zoning rules allowed only restaurant and retail operations to occupy the first floor, in hopes that such businesses would help extend the downtown shopping district farther west and attract new traffic. After the closure of three different restaurants in the space, the Plan Commission recommended giving the owner the ability to lease to an office tenant, with the condition that the permission will be reconsidered following termination of that tenant's lease. The Village Board approved that recommendation in June.

Cul-de-Sac Subdivision Proposed

An eight-home subdivision called Mission Shadows, proposed for property at 2420/2450 Landwehr Road, was given a preliminary review by the Village Board. The developer, Corley-Turk Properties, said in a written statement that "the site in question is an ideal location to fill the insatiable need for empty nester housing in Northbrook" and compared the project to the new Anets Woods subdivision. The proposal was referred to the Plan Commission.

Village Plan Commission Welcomes Two New Members

The Northbrook Plan Commission convened in June with two new members. Ihab Riad and Allen Morgen were appointed to fill seats vacated by Johannah Hebl, now a Village Trustee, and Norm Jacobs, whose term expired this spring. Incumbent Jeremy Melnick was re-appointed to a new term as well.

Allen Morgen and his family have been residents of Northbrook for over seven years. He owns a Morton Grove-based Farmers Insurance agency, specializing in business, auto, home and life insurance. A graduate of the 2018-19 Leadership Northbrook program, he is also a member of the Skokie Valley Rotary and Democrats of Northfield Township.

In a statement Morgen shared, "I am honored to have the opportunity to serve the Village as a member of the Plan Commission. I look forward to working with residents, my fellow members and the Village Board to continue to move Northbrook forward in a positive and vibrant direction."

A resident of Northbrook since 2012, Ihab Riad transitioned from a career in IT development to real estate, as the owner of a real estate firm, construction company,



Allen Morgen



Ihab Riad

and real estate investment companies. His record of community involvement includes the Northbrook District 30 School Board, the Economic Development Committee, Go Green Northbrook, and the Northbrook Caucus.

Riad notes, "I have a unique, multicultural background that will bring new perspectives and flexibility to the Plan Commission. I enjoy collaboration, identifying others' points of view and building better concepts together." He identifies improving downtown as one of his top priorities, looking for opportunities to make the area a lively, attractive destination for Northbrook residents and visitors.

Morgen and Melnick will serve through April 2023. Riad will complete Johannah Hebl's term, ending April 2021.

Northbrook Court Cont. from pg. 1

They argued that the Northbrook Court project would not be feasible without market-level rents throughout the property, and suggested that the payment could be used as "seed money" to develop a community-wide plan. The money would be paid in three installments, beginning with the issuance of the apartments' certificate of occupancy.

Prior to voting on June 11, the Board announced that it will institute new procedures in Committee of the Whole meetings to address topics of major importance. President Sandy Frum stated that affordable housing policy would be at the top of that list.

The resolutions in favor of the project were approved by a 5-2 vote. Trustees Han and Heather Ross voted no, reiterating their desire to see affordable units as part of the project.



Northbrook Summer Events Connect Community

Summer is finally in full swing, and Northbrook's community calendar is overflowing with activities. Many offer opportunities for businesses to get involved, while supporting a more vibrant community. Here's an overview of major events:

Northbrook Farmers Market

Wednesdays, 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., through October 9

Every Wednesday morning, dozens of small farmers and artisan food producers will set up shop at the corner of Meadow and Cherry, creating a bustling marketplace for residents of Northbrook and surrounding communities. Managed by the all-volunteer Northbrook Farmers Market Association, the weekly market seeks "to educate residents on the benefits of buying locally, eating healthy, and living green, as well as supporting local farming families and entrepreneurs," according to their website.

Additionally, the Market supports a wide range of other community organizations. "To

date approximately 58,000 pounds of fresh food has been collected from our vendors and donated to the Northfield Township Food Pantry," says Market Association Director Dale Duda. "Also, we partner with other local organizations, such as the Chamber, to help them further their goals." Learn more at NorthbrookFarmersMarket.org.

Tuesdays in the Park - Summer Concerts July 2, 9, 16 and 23

Lawn chairs and blankets will dominate Village Green Park on Tuesday evenings for the Park District's popular concert series. These family-friendly events start with kid-oriented performers or community talents at 6:30 p.m., followed by all-ages bands at 7:15. All free of charge, the programs attract audiences from all over Northbrook



and surrounding communities.

Concert-goers can discover local restaurants by taking advantage of special Tuesday Night discounts. Options range from a free order of fries at Little Louie's to a special \$30 Park Picnic Box from Francesca's North, along with specials at Lou Malnati's, Marcello's, Trattoria Oliverii, Sunset Foods, and other downtown destinations. For a schedule of performances and restaurant offers, visit NBParks.org.

Summer Events Cont. to pg. 6

Business Expo Cont. from pg. 1

tracked workout produces real results. Northbrook officials will be on hand to facilitate Northbrook Notify registration and answer questions about Village services. Discover the services available at Rover's Place, including the extra steps they take to keep pets healthy and happy. Exhibits from Street Level Studios will showcase their capabilities in website development, video and content production. Representatives from Chicago's North Shore Convention and Visitors Bureau will share suggestions about summer events and dining.

Several booths will attract a crowd with enticing food samples. Guests will enjoy tasty mini-meatballs and lemon cookies from Maggiano's while learning about their catering options. Mission Hills Country Club will share signature appetizers, along with photos and ideas for special occasions at their elegant venue.

To RSVP, return the events insert in this newsletter or call the Chamber at (847)513-6361.

A partial list of exhibitors includes:

- 22nd Century Media
- Align Wellness Center
- AlphaGraphics

- ARC Homecare and Nursing Professionals
- Avidor
- BankFinancial
- BasketWorks
- BATH FITTER
- Chaos Tamers Professional Organizing
- Chicago Mind Solutions
- Chicago's North Shore Convention & Visitors Bureau
- Chiro One Wellness Center
- Chicago Jewish Funerals
- City Barbeque
- Covenant Village of Northbrook
- Delta by Marriott Chicago North Shore Suites
- Dream Image Press, LLC
- Elisco Design Architects LLC
- First Bank of Highland Park
- First Choice Coffee Service
- Gail's Brownies
- Good Therapy
- Hilton Chicago/Northbrook
- Home Instead Senior Care
- HTML Global
- Joe's Plumbing
- LGL Business Solutions / Screening Edge
- Maggiano's
- Matthew Jaggard, State Farm Insurance Agent
- Mission Hills Country Club
- Monster Tree Service

- North Suburban YMCA
- Northbrook Bank & Trust Company
- Northbrook Inn Memory Care Community
- Northbrook Public Library
- NorthShore Loyalty
- NorthShore Sleep Medicine
- Opportunity Secure Data Destruction
- Orangetheory Fitness
- Renewal By Andersen
- Rover's Place
- Sacred
- SCORE
- Senior Helpers
- ShelfGenie
- Street Level Studio
- The Dolins Group
- United Services by Permaco, Inc.
- Village of Northbrook
- Whitehall of Deerfield

Exhibit Space Almost Sold Out!

Take advantage of this opportunity to showcase your product and services. The exhibit package includes a skirted table for displays, promotional postcards to send to prospective clients, and signage at the event. For pricing and space reservations, call Katie Walther at (847)513-6003.

Lewis Floor & Home will sponsor the 10th Annual Northbrook Farmers Market “Summer Stock” event on Wednesday, July 10, in support of the Northfield Township Food Pantry. Market patrons are asked to donate paper towels, toilet paper, laundry detergent, dish soap, women’s personal hygiene products, and other dry goods.

Reds Garden Center invites families to experience butterflies up close during their Butterfly Festival, July 12-14. Highlights include an interactive habitat, displays of butterfly-friendly plants, educational workshops, and children’s activities.

Illinois Bone & Joint Institute will present a free seminar on Wednesday, July 17 at Glenview Terrace on OrthoHealth, an individualized program of movement, nutrition, and stress and sleep management to help individuals decrease joint pain, move more efficiently and lose weight. Learn more at IBJI.com.

Oakton Community College has opened a new anniversary exhibition, “Oakton Celebrates 50 Years (1969-2019)” presenting the history of the college in documents, photos and videos as well as the Koehline Museum’s vast array of displays and collections. The exhibition runs through September 19.

The **Chicago Botanic Garden** received a \$10 million gift from the Negaunee Foundation to underwrite conservation science research and action programs to address critical local and national environmental problems. It is the largest grant in the Garden’s history to be dedicated to programming and research.

Shirley Ryan AbilityLab, in partnership with the University of Michigan, has designed a new open-source, artificially intelligent prosthetic leg now available to the scientific community. The leg’s free-to-copy design and programming will accelerate scientific advances by uniting research efforts across the field of bionics.

Justin Breen, **BrEpic** won a Golden Trumpet Award in Media Relations from the Publicity Club of Chicago. BrEpic was

Life Time Athletic welcomed the Chamber for a poolside Business After Hours that showcased their resort-style wellness facility. Left to right: Life Time’s Kadir Oz, JP Pavlo, Chamber President Tensley Garris, Tim Kersten, Sarah Ayyad, Armando Sacluti, and Luis Hurtado.



recognized for a campaign on behalf of a financial planning business that appeared in numerous Chicago and national media publications.

Bob Caldwell, **Hallmark Homecare**, Francie Stavish, **Francie Stavish & Associates LLC**, and Jan Steiner, **Senior Transitions Concierge**, recently spoke on a panel at Roosevelt University in Schaumburg, discussing topics raised by Atul Gawande’s book *Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End*.

Don Meinheit, **Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc.**, was awarded the 2019 John F. Parmer Award by the Structural Engineers Association of Illinois. The honor recognizes outstanding lifelong contributions in the field of structural engineering.

Bernard Weinger JCC presents “Humans of Tel Aviv,” an exhibit by famed Israeli photographer Erez Kaganovitz. The display is open to the public through May 2020.

The **Rotary Club of Northbrook** recently awarded 40 grants to community organizations in May, for a total of \$40,000. Recipients included the **Northfield Township Food Pantry, Youth Services of Glenview/Northbrook, Josselyn Center, Center for Enriched Living, Hunger Resource Network, and TotalLink2 Community.**

UL has acquired kVA, a consulting company that advises automotive developers and

suppliers on the safety of autonomous vehicles and electrification of automotive systems. The deal fortifies UL’s expertise in autonomous vehicle testing and certification and offers greater access to its global customers.

The **Book Bin** hosts a monthly adult fiction discussion group, open to the public. On Thursday, July 11, at 7:00 p.m., the group will discuss *The Ninth Hour* by Alice McDermott.

Kate Hall, Executive Director of the **Northbrook Public Library**, has co-authored *The Public Library Director’s Toolkit*, published by the American Library Association. The guide provides resources developed from the authors’ deep experience in library management.

Dr. Elana Ashley, **Dream Image Press**, was honored in the 2019 Mate E. Palmer Communications Contest sponsored by the Illinois Woman’s Press Association. Her book *Bullying and Prevention Strategies: Interview with Educator and Author Dr. Elana Ashley* received second place recognition in the Book Designed by Entrant category.

Costco Wholesale, Allstate, UPS, and Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital were among the top 100 employers in Illinois in a new Forbes survey, based on responses from over 50,000 workers nationwide at companies with over 500 employees.

Monthly Events

SOHO (Small Office/Home Office) Roundtable

Wednesday, July 10
11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.
Chamber Office

Members are invited to bring their lunch.

At this informal roundtable discussion, small business owners and entrepreneurs help each other problem solve and discuss relevant business concerns. Discussion is driven by participants, and often centers around best practices, the latest trends, marketing tips and technology.

First Friday Networking Breakfast

Friday, July 12 (*Note the date*)
7:00 - 9:00 a.m.

Chamber Office

\$12 members, \$20 guests payable at the door

Join over 120 members and guests for proven networking opportunities at the First Friday Networking breakfast. The structured breakfast includes time for informal networking, brief introductions and roundtable discussions that will give you solid business leads. *Guests MUST register 24 hours in advance.*

Women in Business Luncheon

Thursday, July 18
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Marriott Suites Deerfield

2 Parkway North, Deerfield

\$22 for members before July 15

\$27 for guests & members after July 15

Women of the Northbrook and DBR Chambers will welcome State Representative Bob Morgan, a leading voice in the Illinois General Assembly on marijuana policy, to speak on the evolution of cannabis legislation. Women are invited to build new connections at this informative networking event.

Special Business After Hours

Wednesday, July 31
5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Northbrook Days Beer Garden -Village Green Park

No charge to attend; \$20 guests

Meet at Village Green Park to mix and mingle with Chamber friends and members of the Civic Foundation while celebrating the opening night of Northbrook Days, a festival that has been a beloved community tradition for over 90 years. Enjoy festival favorites including hot dogs, brats, corn and funnel cakes and learn how funds raised by Northbrook Days support scholarships and local non-profits.

Summer Events Cont. from pg. 4

Fourth of July Parade and Festivities, Thursday, July 4

Northbrook is well known for its day-long celebration of Independence Day, starting with the early morning Liberty Loop 5K and pancake breakfast, and wrapping up with spectacular fireworks at night. The centerpiece of the afternoon is the Mile Long Parade that wends its way through downtown, filled with marching bands and colorful floats. This year, the Chamber will participate in the parade to share its commitment to making Northbrook a great place to work, live, shop and dine.

Downtown Sidewalk Sale, July 5 and 6; 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Continuing a festive atmosphere for the Fourth of July weekend, the shopping centers along Cherry Lane welcome guests for a two-day open air marketplace. The Sidewalk Sale is an all-ages event with 40 participating vendors including brick-and-mortar stores, local nonprofits, and pop-up booths. A lucky prize winner will receive a makeover on July 5 with services from Carolyn Lorraine Salon, apparel from Juniper and Payton Rose boutiques, and lunch from Little Louie's. Pony rides, kids activities, and music from Bach2Rock make the event very family-friendly. For detailed information, visit the Northbrook Sidewalk Sale Facebook page.

Northbrook Days, Wednesday, July 31 - Sunday, Aug. 4

A signature event going back more than 90 years, the Northbrook Days festival transforms the Village Green Park with carnival rides and games, a variety of food vendors, live music performances, and raffle drawings. This extravaganza is presented by the Northbrook Civic Foundation, which returns its proceeds to the community as scholarships and grants to local organizations. Nearly 30,000 attend the festival over the five days. Event sponsors gain great visibility while also providing support for Civic's charitable projects. For more information, visit NorthbrookDays.com

The Chamber will kick off the Northbrook Days Opening Night with a Business After Hours event in the Beer & Wine Garden on July 31. To RSVP, call (847) 513-6361.

Sunny Skies Shine on Chamber Golf Outing

Mother Nature smiled on the Chamber's Annual Golf Outing on June 14, giving over 150 participants a fun-filled day of friendly competition and socializing at Sportsman's Country Club. Despite gusty breezes, the bright sun kept the golfers feeling positive as they participated in a best ball scramble tournament with skills contests along the way. In the evening, golfers and other members gathered for a delicious awards dinner at Marcello's. Thanks to the contributions of our sponsors, volunteers, donors and participants, this successful event raised over \$30,000 to support the Chamber's programs and community service projects. (See photo page to the right.)

SAVE THE DATE Meal Packing Event - Thursday, August 29

For the eighth year, Chamber members will come together to help fight hunger in our community by assembling 30,000 pasta meals for distribution to food pantries and soup kitchens. This inspiring event is a great team-building experience, so start organizing your employees and friends to volunteer together! This year's meal packing will be completed in one two-hour shift beginning at 11:30 a.m.

Registration and additional information will be included in the August newsletter. The event is sponsored by the Chamber as a way for members to give back to the community. We are grateful to the Hilton Chicago/Northbrook for hosting. Mark your calendar and plan to join us as we make a difference for those in need.

Chamber members enjoyed a beautiful day and warm camaraderie at the Annual Golf Outing & Dinner. Special thanks to Brad Floden, Cobalt Photography, for capturing the event in pictures.



1. Jon Jay, Northbrook Rotary, won the Allstate putting contest and received a Swag Handsome One putter from Andrew Schmitt, Swag Golf™ Company. 2. The Outing's winning foursome: Bobby Schutz, Alan Karzen, Alan Karzen Restoration, John Jay, Northbrook Rotary, and Dick Hochschild, American Weathermakers. 3. Howard Schultz, North Suburban YMCA, winner of a long drive contest. 4. The UL foursome: Randy Haseman, Steve Margis, Bob Pence and Dave Schweitzer. 5. Larry Rosenthal, Unique Upholstery, Carpet & Rug Cleaning and Dmitry Faybysh, Bankcard Analytics. 6. Gail Eisenberg, 22nd Century Media and Kris Gorenberg, Ruben & Goldberg LLC. 7. Staff members from Buffalo Wild Wings greeted golfers at their hole. 8. AA Service Co. team members participated as golfers and beverage station sponsors. 9. Jason Kamman, Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS					JULY 2019
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
1	2	3	4 Chamber Office Closed in observance of the Independence Day	5 Chamber Office Closed	
8	9	10 Small Office/Home Office Roundtable 11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. Chamber Office	11 Chamber Board Mtg 7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Chamber Office	12 First Friday Networking Breakfast 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Chamber Office	
15	16	17	18 Women in Business Luncheon 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Marriott Suites Deerfield	19	
22 BUSINESS EXPO & AFTER HOURS Hilton Chicago Northbrook 5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	23	24	25	26	
29	30	31 Business After Hours Northbrook Days, Village Green Park 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	1 First Friday Networking Breakfast 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Chamber Office	2	



**SUMMER FUN
HOT DEALS**

- Athletico Center**
Save \$100 with 20-day camp pass
Valid through August 1.
 - Cobalt Photography**
25% off outdoor family photo shoot.
Valid through August 31.
 - Family-Safe Biking**
Free bike tours
Valid through August 31.
 - Goldfish Swim School**
Free trial class
Valid through August 31
 - High Five Sports Zone - Northbrook Court**
\$100 off one week or more of camp
Register by July 31
 - Life Time Athletic**
Chamber members receive 50% off the joiners fee
Valid through July 31
 - Noggin Builders**
Chamber members save \$25 on STEM camp for kids.
Valid through August 1.
 - UPS Store - Northbrook**
\$55 to ship summer camp gear
Valid through July 31
- Restrictions may apply. For more details & special offers go to northbrookchamber.org*