



WE'RE SAILING AHEAD

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HER SPIRIT WILL LIVE ON

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She was a lady like no other. A true leader in the business community she loved so well. She was the kind of person who never met a stranger.

It is with great sadness that I must tell you of the passing of our former Chamber President and later Executive Secretary, Florence Wahlberg. This lovely lady died in her sleep on Friday, January 9. She was just 2 months shy of her 95th birthday.

Florence not only was a power in the Chamber, she was also a part of the visionary group who worked to form the Town of Cedar Lake and also pursue plans to improve the water quality of the lake itself. She fought to bring municipal garbage service to the Town and began work to improve storm water issues.

In the years she served on the Cedar Lake Town Council, she used her wisdom to bring progressive thinking to the leaders. While she was a well-known Republican figure, party politics did not influence her when it came to a project to benefit the town. No one will ever say anything about her ethics, they were impeccable. All the projects she introduced while on the council were those that would improve the quality of life for residents. Cedar Lake was her community, the place she and her late husband Gus

raised their 4 children. She often said, to her, Cedar Lake was a gem that just needed a little polishing.

Florence always encouraged people to look into our wonderful history. She could tell great stories about Cedar Lake's past. The Lake of the Red Cedars Museum was a place she encouraged visitors to visit.

With the help of James Kubal and Robert Brannon, she put in endless hours to work out a plan to have the Chamber purchase the property that the Welcome Center is built on, then donate it to the town and secure a grant to build the building and improve the site. What a great improvement that made for the area here at the north end of the lake.

It is our plan in the next months to create a showcase of her wonderful photography right here in the Welcome Center. These will be pictures she left behind that identify the beauty of the lake as reflected in her eyes.

She was a wonderful person to work with. One who always told you what was on her mind, using honey instead of vinegar. She will be missed, but she has left behind wonderful memories.

NEW MEMBERS ON BOARD

We want to welcome our newest Chamber member, Chela's Cocina.

This delightful Mexican Restaurant, which will serve authentic Mexican recipes handed down through generations, opened Wednesday, Jan. 14 at 13328 Lincoln Plaza. It is adjacent to the Lincoln Plaza Beauty Salon. (See the ribbon cutting picture in the

Cedar Lake Journal).

The business is owned by Joanne Dickey, Noel Salinas and Tom Fetzko. You can reach them at 219 390-7482. Currently their hours will be 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week. Carry outs are welcome.

There is a wonderful story about the history of the restaurant. Noel's sister Chela opened the first restaurant in Highland in

1999 after gaining quite a reputation as a fine cook. Friends say Chela would greet all her customers personally and remembered everyone's name and favorite food. Sadly in March of 2008 she lost her battle with leukemia and her family hopes to celebrate her memory in this new restaurant.

Stop in and say hello and welcome them to our business community.

DATE CHANGED FOR CHAMBER GALA

We had announced in our last newsletter that the first Chamber Gala at the new Lighthouse Restaurant would be held in March. Because of a training program at the restaurant during that time, a new date has been set for **Saturday, April 25**.

Ticket information and hours are still being worked out as we put this newsletter together. We will have more information

for you next month.

We want to remind everyone to save the date and start planning to dance the night away. We have heard so much about the new restaurant and have had many calls with questions about its opening.

For your information, the restaurant is expected to open April 6.

GAS LEAK CREATES A PROBLEM AT THE CHAMBER

For the second year in a row, January has not proved to be a good month for the Welcome Center. On January 7, 2009 as a group of us took down the Christmas Decorations around the building, we noticed a serious gas smell outside coming from the meter area. After a call to NIPSCO we learned it was a gas leak. Because the property is a town park, Park Director Mary Joan Dickson was called and made aware of the problem. The cold weather initially delayed repairs according to NIPSCO and we are still waiting as we prepare this newsletter. Please call me at 374-6625 if you get a recording at the office.

JOIN US FOR A BUSINESS AFTER HOURS AND MEET A BUSINESS COACH

We would like to invite our members to attend a Business After Hours at the Great Oaks After 4 Club on Tuesday, February 10 from 6p.m. to 8p.m. and meet Business Coach Dean DeLisle of Forward Progress considered one of Chicagoland's premier Business Coaching and Consulting Company's.

DeLisle and his team offer business coaching and consulting services to business owners who will be making some hard decisions in this changing economy. They feel they have a fast track approach that is designed to quickly help a company launch their business, product or service.

One of our own business

members Center Chrysler Dodge and Jeep has been using their business approach and has noted great success to date.

Bring a guest and network with other Chamber members for this **free** evening.

In case anyone member would like to set up a table, we will have some set up. The cost would be \$10.00.

MARCH LUNCH WILL HAVE GUEST SPEAKER

Members and guests are invited to attend a luncheon on Wednesday, March 11 at noon to hear Pamela Pazera who is the Marketing Director of Wittenberg Village talk about their new plans. The luncheon will be at Harry O's Restaurant and we will order from the menu. Pam as

many of you remember is the former Executive Director of Habitat For Humanity who built a house here in Cedar Lake several years ago. She is a great speaker with lots of interesting facts. Call the office with your reservations.

**When you are
dissatisfied and
would like to go
back to your
youth ...
Just think of
Algebra**

SPENCER BISCUIT IS READY WITH YOUR COOKIE FAVORITES

We are glad to announce that Spencer Biscuit Co., our friendly neighborhood cookie store at 10733 W. 133rd Ave. has reopened.

Owner Kay Schreiber

was under the weather for several months but says she is feeling much better and will be back in the store Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 10a.m. to 1p.m. and

also Saturday morning from 9a.m. to 12noon.

Stop in and get a box of those great Maurice Lenell cookies and the other brands Kay has on hand.

**Cedar Lake
Chamber of Commerce**

**P.O. Box 101
Cedar Lake, IN 46303**



**WE'RE SAILING
AHEAD**

We're On The Web: www.cedarlakechamber.com

CEDAR LAKE YACHT SCHEDULES ACTIVITIES

Weather permitting, the Cedar Lake Yacht Club will hold their annual Sailboat Regatta on May 2 and 3. There will be 3 races on Saturday starting at 10a.m. and 2 on Sunday.

Many of you may remember the weather was difficult last year. Cold and rainy on Saturday, it was light air on Sunday making the weekend difficult for sailing.

This is always a wonderful event and one we always remind visitors about. It usually means a boost to our local economy from the many sailors that come for the event.

Yacht Club Secretary, Pat Kardos



wants to remind our members that her club will be offering free sailing lessons again this summer.

The lessons start June 14 at 10a.m. The lessons are free for adults and children and we hear are a great learning tool.

Call Pat at 663-4999.