NEW INVESTMENTS BRINGING INCREASED VITALITY TO DOWNTOWN SKOKIE

The Village of Skokie welcomes a variety of new mixed-use, residential and commercial investments into Downtown Skokie and surrounding areas.

The developers of the $65 million 8000 North project held their official groundbreaking in May. Construction of the 153 unit apartment tower, parking garage and commercial space will continue into early 2020.

Mixed-use development projects by Neri and Nea Maya Developments at 8122 and 8110 Lincoln Avenue, respectively, have also been approved, bringing 12 new upscale apartments and 17 live/work townhomes to the northern end of Downtown by early 2020. These developments have a combined total investment of over $10 million.

Varda & Company, LLC is investing over $4 million into seven beautiful new townhomes known as 8326 Elmwood Place, and Northfield Group, Ltd. is constructing a $12 million, 40-unit mixed-use project at 8017-8025 Skokie Boulevard. The multi-million dollar Streetscape residential project along Floral Avenue is now complete, resulting in 20 new homes. The project was named the third most expensive street in Skokie in 2018!

Ignite Gaming, 8111 Skokie Boulevard, will open its state-of-the-art video game center/e-sport/virtual tournament/café/bar in late 2018.

Fantus Paper Products, 4820 Searle Parkway, has invested more than $2 million and 30 new jobs into its facilities as part of the Walmart’s Made in the USA campaign.

Finally, several companies operating inside the Illinois Science + Technology Park (ISTP) have expanded into new wet lab and research space over the past year, including Vetter Development Services USA, Exicure, Charles River Laboratories and the Park’s incubator, Skokie Innovation Labs.

Questions or comments? Please contact us!
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Village of Skokie Economic Development Division
5127 Oakton Street, Skokie, Illinois 60077
847/933-8446
SKOKIE RANKS 5TH IN APPAREL AND ACCESSORIES SALES AMONG THE TOP 20 CHICAGOLAND SUBURBAN COMMUNITIES.
FROM LOCAL FASHION BOUTIQUES TO BIG-NAME DEPARTMENT STORES, SKOKIE RETAILERS GENERATED OVER $235 MILLION IN APPAREL AND ACCESSORIES SALES IN 2017.

SKOKIE RANKS 5TH IN CORE MARKETS RETAIL SALES AMONG THE TOP 23 CHICAGOLAND SUBURBAN COMMUNITIES.
IN 2017, WESTFIELD OLD ORCHARD CONTRIBUTED OVER $2.5 BILLION IN RETAIL SALES TO THE SKOKIE AND EVANSTON MARKETS.

SKOKIE RANKS 7TH IN TOTAL RETAIL SALES AMONG THE TOP 20 CHICAGOLAND SUBURBAN COMMUNITIES.
SKOKIE CLEARLY KNOWS HOW TO PROMOTE THE SHOP-TIL-YOU-DROP PRINCIPLE: IN 2017, THE VILLAGE GENERATED OVER $1.5 BILLION IN TOTAL RETAIL SALES.

SKOKIE RANKS 8TH IN EATING AND DRINKING SALES AMONG THE TOP 20 CHICAGOLAND SUBURBAN COMMUNITIES.
SKOKIE DINING ESTABLISHMENTS AND FOOD MARKETS GENERATED OVER $179 MILLION IN DINING AND DRINKING SALES IN 2017.

SKOKIE RANKS 8TH IN FURNITURE AND ELECTRONICS SALES AMONG THE TOP 20 CHICAGOLAND SUBURBAN COMMUNITIES.
WITH OVER $140 MILLION IN SALES, SKOKIE’S FURNITURE AND ELECTRONICS STORES ARE A HUGE PART OF WHAT HELPS THE VILLAGE TO THRIVE.

SOURCE: MELANIPHY AND ASSOCIATES RETAIL SALES AND REPORT, 2017
Did you know?

- Skokie-based AZEK Building Products’ high-performance, capped, polymer porch boards were recently chosen for the 2018 Coastal Living Idea House, which demonstrates “the best in architecture, building and decorating in one luxurious, awe-inspiring home”! The AZEK Company is a national leader in the development of premium, low-maintenance exterior building products.

- This past spring, Skokie-based Creative Promotional Products (CPP) helped Niles Township HS District 219 students to navigate product development ideas with “Shark Tank” assignments. A team of CPP professionals worked with students to create a video representing the story behind the product, product and logo design, brand name as well as pricing strategies. CPP then offered every student in the class a summer internship to pursue bringing the product to market and to explore other opportunities within the company. Well done, CPP!

- The Village has begun preparing for the 2020 U.S. Census by verifying Skokie’s master address list. Many state and federal programs are allocated based on Skokie’s official population. Census Day will be April 1, 2020, only a year and a half away. More details to come. Be Counted!

- In summer 2018, the Village conducted its triennial National Citizen Survey (NCS) to gauge resident opinions on Village programs, services and policies. Since 2003, the survey has been administered by the National Research Center to 1,600 randomly-selected Skokie residences and included questions related to the business environment in Skokie, as a place to work, overall economic health of the community, shopping opportunities, employment opportunities, Downtown Skokie, and overall quality of business and service establishments here. A summary of the 2018 NCS results will be provided in a future edition of NewSkokie. For past survey results, please visit www.skokie.org and click on “Citizen Surveys” in the A to Z Guide.

- The Village applauds and greatly appreciates the following local businesses celebrating significant anniversaries in Skokie: Alden Estates (36 years); American Vacuum Co. (40 years); Bassing Roofing and Sheet Metal (55 years); Block Steel (56 years); Doubletree Hilton Hotel (54 years); Holiday Inn North Shore (54 years); Kafko, Inc. (40 years); Marge’s Flowers (68.5 years); Martin Nissan (35 years); Kaufmann’s Deli (40 years); Oakton Community College-Ray Hartstein Campus (38 years); Pita Inn (36 years); Print Xpress (31 years); Schaeffer’s Liquors (75 years); Skokie Ace Hardware (90 years); and T.A. Cummings Insurance (40 years)!

Oakton Community College partnered with North Shore Community Bank & Trust to help small business owners. The second annual small business resource fair was held in May at the college’s Skokie campus, 7701 N. Lincoln Avenue. Village of Skokie staff and local vendors such as SpeedPro Imaging participated in the event.

Skokie’s newest Vietnamese restaurant, Pho Phu Linh, 4741 Main Street, continues to add to the Village’s eclectic range of ethnic eateries. New owner Kevin Deep opened this past spring just in time for patrons to enjoy authentic Asian fare within the beautifully updated interior or outside on the patio!

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The Village’s Storefront Enhancement Program allows existing businesses in need of interior/exterior rehab assistance to achieve their renovation goals. America’s Custom Home Builders, 4451-53 Oakton Street, designed and completed their fresh and beautiful new façade just in time for summer.

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Diana’s Bridal, 4646 Oakton Street, is a chic, full-service by-appointment-only Downtown Skokie boutique selling exquisite dresses and accessories for brides, bridesmaids and flower girls. For interesting wedding tips and fun ideas, check out Diana’s Diary at http://www.dianasbridalboutique.com/blog.

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## ANNOUNCED JOBS IN SKOKIE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Jobs</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Charles River Labs</td>
<td>8025 Lamon Avenue</td>
<td>85</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gersten Center for Behavioral Health</td>
<td>9933 Lawler Avenue</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Data Research, Inc.</td>
<td>4711 Golf Road</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chicago Cognitive Behavioral Treatment Center</td>
<td>4711 Golf Road, #520</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pho Phu Linh</td>
<td>4741 Main Street</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rack Attack Chicago</td>
<td>3750 Dempster Street</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sip 22 Coffee Lounge</td>
<td>4905 Old Orchard Shopping Center</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pressed Latino Sandwich Shop &amp; Cafe</td>
<td>4845 Oakton Street</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chocolate Moonshine Co.</td>
<td>4999 Old Orchard Shopping Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>CMX Market Cinemas &amp; CineBistro</td>
<td>4999 Old Orchard Shopping Center</td>
<td>50</td>
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<td>RubinBrown LLP</td>
<td>4709 Golf Road</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Swap Motors</td>
<td>4852 Main Street</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bria Health Services</td>
<td>5151 Church Street</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peloton Cycle</td>
<td>4905 Old Orchard Shopping Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Uberlube</td>
<td>7316 Ridgeway Avenue</td>
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<td>Tacos Gingi Skokie</td>
<td>5128 Dempster Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>TeaRex Bubble Tea Cafe</td>
<td>5237 Golf Road</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chicagoland Air Duct</td>
<td>8170 McCormick Boulevard, Suite 225</td>
<td>6</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL NUMBER OF SMALL BUSINESS OPENINGS WITH LESS THAN 10 EMPLOYEES: 47**
The spring grand opening of “First to Chicagoland” Altitude Trampoline Park at Village Crossing brings 40,000 square feet of exciting attractions such as Trapeze, Wipeout and Bouldering Rockwall. Similar to its flagship location in Fort Worth, Texas, this facility also features Foam Pit, Dodgeball, Battle Beam and Dunk Lanes for parties, events, athletic teams, and more!

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Another “First to Market” for Skokie will be the highly anticipated early 2019 opening of The Hampton Social at Westfield Old Orchard in the former Z Gallerie space. Originally founded in Chicago's River North neighborhood, this lifestyle concept and restaurant hotspot evokes the best of East Coast living.

Mayor Van Dusen and Skokie Chamber officials welcomed another “First to the Midwest” store, Rack Attack, which held its grand opening at 3800 Dempster Street this summer. This Canadian-owned company is “North America’s premier retailer of vehicle rack solutions.”
Construction is underway along Skokie Boulevard this fall and into 2019. The former Shell gas station at 9300 Skokie Boulevard will soon become the Village's second Wendy's fast-food restaurant and a new Waterway Gas and Water Company is slated to replace the former Pizer Funeral Home, 9200 Skokie Boulevard.

The Downtown Skokie Alliance celebrated its one year anniversary this past spring and continues to support local restaurants, shops and services along Lincoln Avenue and Oakton Street with events and activities throughout the year. Find out more at www.downtownskokie.org.

Making it easier to extend your visit to the 2018 Make It Better magazine's “Best Suburban Mall,” Westfield Old Orchard, is FunDay, the new boutique, drop-off play space and activity center for kids ages 3-12 years old. Owner Bela Lopes has created an inviting space where kids can engage in fun, creative and stimulating activities while you shop! Next to Soul Cycle and Banana Republic.

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