

# Garfield Ridge Chamber of Commerce

## Connections

EST.



1959



2nd Quarter May 2022



Keep an eye out!

The Chamber of Commerce is revamping our website. We are making improvements so it is more user friendly & will give you quick access to all of the valuable information such as our calendar, volunteer & sponsorship opportunities & our community directory.

There will also be a vote to determine the Chamber's possible new name. Please be on the lookout for more details so you can be involved.

We are working on getting a space dedicated to the Chamber and our community. More details will be released soon!

### 2022 Graduation Banner: Deadline to order is May 8th

Honor your graduate with a banner to be hung on street poles located on Archer Ave or 63rd St. After the season is over, we will have all banners available for pick up so that you can keep them forever! Open to any class level or school, regardless of area, but placement will be available in specific areas, we will do our best to honor the placement request made during ordering. \$125 per banner. Order online at [garfieldridgecc.com](http://garfieldridgecc.com)



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## Benefits of joining the chamber

1. Business Promotions & Publicity!
2. Acquire Customer Referrals & Networking Opportunities!
3. Business Education & Advocacy!

If you would like to join the chamber or see more benefits of joining, scan the QR Code or go to our website:  
[www.garfieldridgecc.com](http://www.garfieldridgecc.com)



# Street Scaping Coming to Archer Ave

The Chamber has been working with Alderman Tabares. She has allocated \$250,000.00 to spruce up our neighborhood. These funds will be used to replace existing light poles, garbage cans and benches on Archer Avenue, from Harlem Avenue west through Narragansett.

The updates will break ground in the upcoming weeks. They will add a patriotic flare to one of our main thoroughfares and bring branding and marketing opportunities for Garfield Ridge. Keep an eye out for these new additions that will surely brighten our streets.

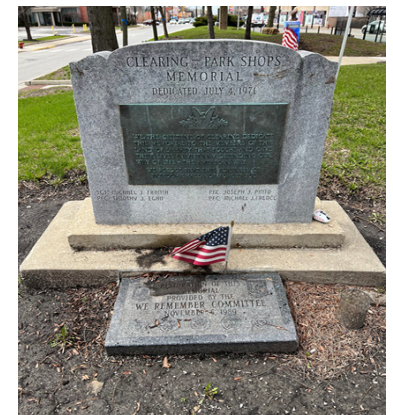
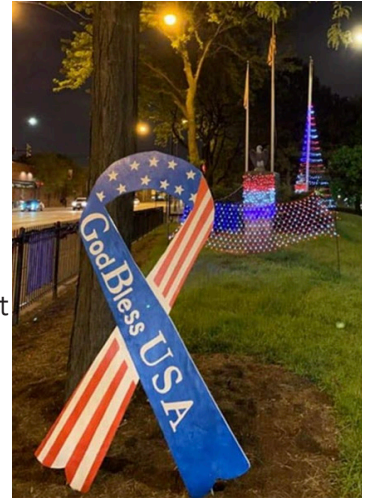
## *Strengthening Businesses & Communities*

### Veterans Triangle

Archer Avenue intersects Narragansett Avenue and 55th Street. The result is a triangular piece of land that has been used for a variety of purposes over the years and known by many as simply "the Triangle." If you go back far enough this piece of land was known as the "Turn O' The Road," because at this point Archer ceases to run diagonally as it merges with 55th to run due west. When the Sanitary and Ship Canal was being built in the 1890s, it was said that workers often gathered at this spot and held Sulky Races, horse races with a cart and person in the back.

Later, part of the land was dedicated to Lech Walesa, the Polish labor leader, and dubbed the "Lech Walesa Triangle." More recently, part of the land has been dedicated to veterans and has taken on the moniker Veterans Park. Several historic cement posts that used to adorn Archer Avenue from 1910-1990s have been reused as bases for statues honoring our fallen heroes, a fitting and timely tribute. The Garfield Ridge Chamber of Commerce (GRCC), with the help of its members, have taken on the task of decorating the Veteran's triangle for the past couple of years. Thanks to Torrey Lewis, Al Cacciottolo, Ramona Piencak, Matt Tribuzio, Tom Fitzgerald and Joe Dunk under the direction of Dr. John Baietti, for helping with seasonal displays at Lech Walesa Memorial. There is a small landing area in the middle of the triangle to access the bus stop. The updates keep improving this focal point, year after year. You may also have noticed that Dr. Baietti & his team festively decorate this area every year for Independence Day, Halloween & Christmas. This spring & summer you will also see many beautiful flowers blooming here. This team was honored last year by the Neighborhood Watch as the best decorated light display.

The Chamber held a vote last year to move forward annually with the additions of bricks. Many of these bricks are donated by families to honor both past & present Veterans of our country. You can honor your Veteran by ordering bricks here: <https://www.bricksrus.com/donorsite/grcc>.





## Farmers Market

The Garfield Ridge Farmers Market returns! Starting in early June and running through late September, the market will return on Wednesdays from 3-7 PM! Many of your favorite vendors will be returning and we have some exciting new vendors joining the mix which we will announce soon! To keep up with all the updates, please make sure to follow the "Garfield Ridge Chamber Farmer's Market - Southwest Chicago" page on Facebook or GR\_farmersmarket on Instagram. This is a great opportunity for some publicity for your business & a chance to network with some new vendors.



We are always on the look out for more & more vendors to make this an even bigger event. If you have a contact for a vendor or food truck please reach out to us!

## PIZZA WARS

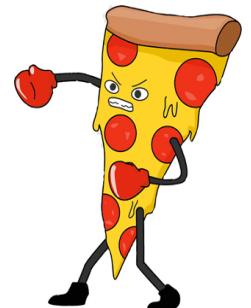
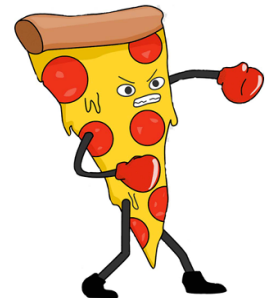
The Farmers Market will be hosting a brand new event this year!  
**PIZZA WARS!**

Each participating pizza business will hand out a bite of their hand made goods. Customers will then have the opportunity to taste & score the different slices! Winners will be determined based on our neighborhood votes. One winner from Archer Avenue will be chosen. One winner from 63rd Street will be chosen & one overall Garfield Ridge Grand Winner will be awarded! This will be a super fun new event & a chance to get a taste of all the awesome pizza from our neighborhood!

**The line up will include:** Danny's, Triano's, Obbie's, Villa Rose, Vince's, Cipriani's, Lena's, & Stunod's! Keep an eye out for even more pizzerias to be added!

Pizza owner's will man their own tent and donate bite size pizza tastings. The Chamber will sell tickets and hand out ballots. Tickets can also be purchased at individual locations prior to event. Keep an eye out on our website for specific dates in early June. The Farmers Market is always a prime time for business promotion & networking!

**Week 1 of Farmer's Market - War against Archer Ave**  
**Week 2 of Farmer's Market - War against 63rd St**  
**Week 3 of Farmer's Market - Final War**





## Lunch & Learn



Lunch and Learns will begin again starting this month. On May 18th, the Chamber invites all our business owners to join us for an opportunity to learn a plethora of information regarding different topics that will benefit your individual business. Each quarter, a different business will come out to explain their personal expertise.

This is a great opportunity to get out and learn some information regarding topics such as Accounting & Taxes, Marketing & Payroll tips. Along with this valuable information, this is also an opportunity to network with your community & enjoy a delicious lunch :-)

The Lunch & Learn is free to all members of the Chamber.

There is a \$10 Fee for non Chamber Members.

- Lunches will be held from 12:00- 2:00 pm.
- If there is a topic that is of interest to your business, or if you have a topic that you would like to present, please reach out to us via email at [garfieldridgecc@live.com](mailto:garfieldridgecc@live.com).

**5/18** - Small Business Accounting & Taxes

**7/20** - Real Estate & Insurance

**11/9** - Marketing & Advertising

Check out the website for registration & locations!

\* If you have a topic that you would like to share your expertise on, please email us at [garfieldridgecc@live.com](mailto:garfieldridgecc@live.com)

## Business Tip:

*Cash flow, **not profits**, is the lifeline of your business.*

When applying for loans and lines of credit, cash flow is the important part of the equation. Example....

Company XYZ has a total profit of \$48,000 for the year and a monthly mortgage/loan payment of \$36,000. The bank will take the total profit and loan payments and come up with a monthly average. In this example...  $\$48,000 / 12 \text{ months} = \$4,000$  in income &  $\$36,000 / 12 \text{ months} = \$3,000$  in debt service. The total cash flow per month would be \$4,000 minus \$3,000 leaving you with \$1,000 per month for any future debt servicing. If you were buying a piece of equipment that cost \$500 per month you would have the cash flow to cover the debt, however, if you were looking to purchase a building with a mortgage of \$2,000 you would not have enough cash flow to cover the debt. Understanding cash flow and how banks calculate is important for any expansion/growth of a business.

With the federal reserve increasing interest rates do not be surprised if banks start to squeeze a bit tighter on lending money. If you are considering expansion, buying equipment, or buying real estate I would talk to a banker sooner than later as there are amazing SBA products available due to the pandemic. SBA 7a & 504 loans are products that allow 10% down deposits with interest rates under 5%. There also are great traditional/conventional loan products available as well.

***\*\*Do not forget\*\****

- PPP Forgiveness application must be submitted and approved by SBA to avoid paying them back.
- SBA EIDL can STILL be requested for reconsideration or increase in the loan if you had applied once before 12/31/2021. Most people can log into the SBA portal and click the button "REQUEST INCREASE" or send an email to [pdcreconsideration@sba.gov](mailto:pdcreconsideration@sba.gov) requesting a reconsideration of the declined loan.

# Carnivals

## **St Daniel the Prophet- 75th Anniversary Celebration**

5300 S Natoma Ave, Chicago

Thursday- June 16 \* Friday- June 17th \* Saturday- June 18th \* Sunday June 19th

Jesse's Girl  
7pm

\*GRCC Fun Friday\*  
Hubie Ascroft & The  
Drive-7 pm

Stereotypes  
7pm

New Generation  
Polka 2-4pm

Infinity 7pm

## **St. Symphorosa Fest**

July 14\* July 15 \* July 16 \* July 17

Live Entertainment will include:  
16 Candles, Maggie Speaks &  
Boy Band Night

Follow here for future updates & details! <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1979044042276131/>

## Archer Cruise Night

The 5th Annual Archer Cruise Night Classic Car Show will be hosted by The Garfield Neighborhood Watch, co hosted by the Chamber, on Friday June 10th from 6 to 9 pm. This is always an exciting night for everyone in the family. Come check out the awesome classic cars that line Archer Ave in several parking lots from Nashville to Natoma. Its a great night to enjoy the weather and live music next to Lindy's with your whole family. There are several fabulous food trucks set up on Archer Ave from Nashville to Normandy. In the past, over 300 classic & hot rod cars have been present. There are many vendors that do give aways for the children. There are also many local vendors here doing adult give aways. The best part..... it's all FREE!! This is another awesome opportunity to sponsor and get your business some publicity. Save the date & check out our website for more details.



## Patriots Day Parade

This year the parade will be held on June 30, 2022. Did you know that this parade was started by Mr. Bill Lipinski in 1969. Since then the parade has grown leaps and bounds, but the original sentiment still stands. Thousands of people from our neighborhood and surrounding areas gather to celebrate Independence Day! The parade will kick off at 7 pm & travel west down archer, ending at Wentworth Park where your whole family can relish in free snacks provided by The Garfield Ridge Neighborhood Watch and enjoy a movie in the park on the big screen. This is also an opportunity for sponsorships & volunteering. We hope to see you there!

## Pet Parade

The 4th Annual Pet Parade will be held on June 4th at Wentworth Park. This is a great time to bring your pets & humans out, show them off & check out some local vendors. There will be vaccines, rabies shots, tags, insurance, groomers & many other amenities available for your pet. This event will host a contest for the largest, smallest, best dressed & best trick of a pet! This is a great opportunity for your business to come out, sponsor a table or volunteer. Please reach out to [garfieldridgecc@live.com](mailto:garfieldridgecc@live.com) for more details.



## **Recap of Business of the Month 2022:**

- January - Wantuck Comfort Solutions
- February - Addiction Recovery Services John Sztyle
- March - Archer Chiropractic Clinic Dr. John Baietti, D.C.
- April - A.I.T. Business Services Barbara Cable
- May - La Michocana Gourmet- Alejandra Caballero



# Meet Mr. Lipinski

This month we would like to honor Mr. William Lipinski. Mr. Lipinski has been very influential in our neighborhood! From the time he came to our area, in the early 60's, he has been enhancing and enriching our community.

Mr. Lipinski saw that the area needed to be brought together. In 1969, he instated the first Patriot's Day Parade & Great Pumpkin Parade. His wish was for everyone in the neighborhood was to come together, get to know each other and celebrate. These two Archer Avenue Parades are still main highlights in our area to this day! Mr. Lipinski is also responsible for turning the Veterans Triangle, formerly known as the All American Eagle Triangle, into the fabulous focal point it is today.

Mr. Lipinski served in the House of Representatives for 22 years. During his time, he was responsible for the revitalization of Midway Airport and securing the money the CTA Orange Line.

These highlights are just a few things that Mr. Lipinski has done to enhance our community. We would personally like to extend our gratitude for everything he has done for area!

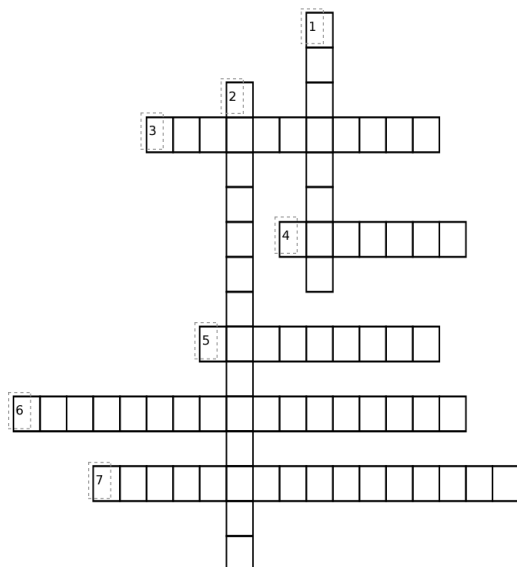


## Around Town:

**Mud Lake:** Did you know that Oak Park Avenue used to be a lake!? Tucked away just north of 51st street and west of Oak Park Avenue is a remnant of what was once called Mud Lake. Caused by the overflow of the Des Plaines River, Mud Lake was a seasonal lake that created a giant swamp! Most of Mud Lake has dried up over the years with the construction of the industrial buildings, but a little remnant still remains.



Garfield Ridge Chamber of Commerce  
News  
Crossword



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Down:

- The best place to hear the hottest tunes on Father's Day weekend
- The new location of the farmers market & Headquarters for the Chamber. 3 words.

Across:

- When you will see over 300 hot rods. 2 words
- Honors your graduate on the street poles.
- Tasty event that is Archer VERSUS 63rd St. 2 words
- Began in 1969 by Mr. Lipinski. 3 words
- The location that honors our soldiers. 2 words

*\* All the answers can be found in this article! Or check out the website for the answers!*





# 2022 Calendar of Events

\*Graduation, Summer Banners and Veteran's Island Triangle Brick ordering open\*

## **May 3 - General Chamber Meeting**

Cinco De Mayo Parade?  
May 14 - Spring Sell-A-Bration  
May 18 - Lunch & Learn 12pm  
May 23 - Fun Friday  
May 30 - Memorial Day Dedication at the triangle  
 June 4 - Pet parade \* & \*\* 

## **June 7 - General Chamber Meeting**

June 8 - Farmers Market Opens \* & \*\*  
 June 10 - Archer Avenue Cruise Night Classic Car Show   
June 16 - 19 - St. Daniel the Prophet Summer Fest - 75th Anniversary  
 June 30 - Patriot's Day Parade. Movie in the Park to follow at Kennedy   
July 2 - Stars & Stripes 5k

## **July 12 - General Chamber Meeting (2nd Tuesday)**

July 14 - 17 - St. Symphorosa Carnival  
July 15 - Fun Friday  
July 20 - Lunch & Learn

## **August 2 - General Chamber Meeting & National Night Out Against Crime**





August 13 - Back to School Extravaganza \*  
August 19 - Fun Friday

## **September 6 - General Chamber Meeting**

September 10 - Fall Sell-A-Bration  
September 16 - Fun Friday  
September 23 - Chamber Golf Outing \*

\*\*Winter banners open, Labor Day event?\*



## **October 4 - General Chamber Meeting**

October 21 - Fun Friday  
 October 29 - Halloween Parade   
 October - TBD - 63rd Street Car Show 

## **November 7 - General Chamber Meeting**

November 9 - Lunch & Learn  
November 11 - Veteran's Day Dedication  
November 18 - Fun Friday  
November 19 - Cookie Walk \*

## **December 1 - General Chamber Meeting**

December 3 - Snack with Santa & Tree Lighting \*   
December 10 - Santa on the Firetruck Beat 811  
December 11 - Santa on the Firetruck Beat 812  
 December 16 - Dinner Dance Christmas Party \*

Check the website  
for upcoming  
events and current  
up to date details  
[www.garfieldridgecc.com](http://www.garfieldridgecc.com)



**\*Indicates Sponsorship Opportunities\***

**\*\*Indicates Volunteer Opportunities\*\***

If you have an upcoming special event you'd like to market on our events calendar, please make sure to share the details with us so we can help spread the word!  
Email us at [garfieldridgecc@live.com](mailto:garfieldridgecc@live.com)

## Up & Coming Midway Development

- Gordillas on 63rd looks ready to open soon! Pop in and enjoy some delicious gorditas, burritos & quesadillas!
- The Wintrust Center on 65th is officially open. It offers several types of sport teams & activities for children of all ages. There are rooms available for birthday parties, an arcade and laser tag! It also holds restaurants and bars. Lots of fun for everyone in your family, while staying local & in a safe environment.
- Bobby G's is building up! Did you see the new roof top?

## 2022 Business of the Month

### April

A.I.T. Business Services  
Barbara Cable  
5745 S. Harlem  
Chicago, IL 60638

### May

La Michoacana Gourmet  
Alejandra Caballero  
5857 S Archer Ave  
Chicago, IL 60638

### June

Jamie Auto Service  
Moises Jamie  
6010 S Archer Ave  
Chicago, IL 60638

## Come out & join our community

.....

*To keep our community involved & successful we need you! Throughout the year we have many sponsorship and volunteer opportunities around our neighborhood.*

*Volunteers are what make our events so successful. Volunteer opportunities are available YEAR ROUND.*

» Have your business represented in the Pet Parade June 4th & Patriots Day Parade June 30th «

» Join us for some fun at Red Barrel May 23 «

» Keep up to date with the hottest tips @ our Lunch & learn on May 18th @ 12pm «

» Grab a copy of the Member directory, to keep for yourself and share with your neighbor «

## Contact Us

[garfieldridgecc@live.com](mailto:garfieldridgecc@live.com)  
773-767-0014  
6554 W Archer Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60638

 <https://www.facebook.com/GarfieldRidgeChamber/>

 <https://www.instagram.com/garfieldridgecc/>

**BRACE YOURSELVES...**

