

**September
2009**



Chamber Notes

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Chamber Spotlight

In 1976 Dennis Hilgers, opened up Hilgers Hardware offering a variety of services, since then it has gone through some changes. On September 1, 1999 Charlie Guerrero and Eric Dietel took over to what is now known as Home Solutions.

We have two stores, located in Norwood at 520 Faxon Road and Glencoe at 1124 Hennepin Ave. offering hardware, appliances, cabinets, electronics and mattresses. We also offer a variety of services: window and screen repair, appliance repair, electronic repair, and satellite repair and installation, small engine tune up and blade sharpening.

We are happy to be part of the Norwood Young America community and look forward to serving you for years to come.

Feel free to call us at 952-467-2404 or 320-864-5161 with any questions you may have.

Home Solutions

President's Corner

Jeff Hebeisen

Chamber Opportunities and Changes

I always have enjoyed the structure that September brings. Don't get me wrong –I love summer, but it seems that “back to school” time of year brings back a schedule that we do get accustomed to and even thrive on. (And this coming from a guy who no longer has kids in school).

Your Chamber is also back at it – continuing our local promotion and thinking ahead to the next year as well. You will note we are having elections of board members in October – a change from the past years. As part of our Bylaw review and change of last year, we are moving elections to the October meeting. The term of office will remain January through December, but this early election lets that “new board” hit the road running come January. We have been seeking nominees for the 2 seats coming available – if you have an interest please contact any of our board members.

I also want to report to our members a new staffing concept we are trying. As you know, we have operated with an executive director the past several years. Because we are small and working under a limited budget, this position has experienced a lot of turnover and the subsequent regrouping each time we make a change. In lieu of this position, we are going to try contracting for secretarial / support help. This is a concept I personally came up with several years ago, and have proposed to the board a few times over the past year or so. These services will be contracted with Citizens Insurance Services – a local business which is owned and operated by me, your current president. I want to be right up front with this. We hope to work with this concept to best serve our membership, and dedicate more of our financial resources to promotions and other work of the Chamber. There is no perfect structure, and while there are many advantages of this arrangement, there are concerns that I am already conscious of. If there are questions or concerns of the membership, I am receptive to visiting with any of you on this. My goal as a chamber member and your president is to work for the common good and advancement of our business community! (Continued on Page 2)

President's Corner Continued....

Going forward – we have much opportunity for our business community – and our Chamber is only as good of a tool as you work with it and use it. (A hammer is a great tool, but still needs a person to swing it). We need your input and participation. Watch for coming opportunities with your Norwood Young America Chamber of Commerce.

City Update

CHECK OUT THE CITY'S NEW WEB SITES

The City of Norwood Young America would like to introduce two new Web sites. The City recently updated its Web site to be more user-friendly and to include more important and valuable information to local residents and business owners. Residents can access City Council meeting packets, information about building permits and licenses, as well as view pictures of the community's many parks and park buildings. The City's Web site address remains the same, www.cityofnya.com.

The City would also like to invite businesses to check out the new economic development Web site – www.expand2nya.com. This new site is specifically designed to help businesses locate, grow and expand in Norwood Young America. The site really targets site selectors and real estate brokers. There is information on available land and buildings, including the Tacoma West Industrial Park. Local businesses should also find the site helpful, because it includes a ton of information on local, state and federal resources.

One feature of the new economic development Web site is a section called "Success Stories." This section provides an opportunity for local businesses to provide testimonials explaining why they chose to locate and to do business in Norwood Young America. If your business would like to participate in this section, please contact Economic Development Coordinator Christie Rock at (952) 467-1993, or email her at crock@cityofnya.com. Also, if you have land for sale, or a building for sale or lease that is not currently listed on the new Web site, please let Christie know and she will update the site.

Chamber Board Members & Contact Information

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Check us out at
www.nyachamber.org

Opportunity:

In the middle of every difficulty lies opportunity.

Albert Einstein

Opportunity is missed by most because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work.

Thomas Alva Edison

The pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity. The optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty.

Winston Churchill

When one door of happiness closes, another opens; but often we look so long at the closed door that we do not see the one which has been opened for us.

Helen Keller

Upcoming Events – Mark your Calendars!

Next Meetings

September 16th:

**12:00 General Membership Meeting @ Central High School
Program-School Update by Superintendent Brian Corlett**

October 21st:

12:00 General Meeting/Annual Elections @ Pizza Ranch

November (To Be Determined): Chamber Board Retreat