

Good afternoon members,

Thank you to all of our members who contributed to our retail boxes. As of this writing, we have four remaining. The community embraced this 100% and going forward, we hope to continue.

Our State Representative, Dan Ugaste, has forwarded information on the Fair Business Treatment Act. This legislation proposes small businesses be given the same opportunities that larger, big box stores currently have. The Representatives have been strong advocates for small businesses in their communities, and believe there is a huge disparity in allowing large retail stores to sell items available at local small businesses—but preventing small businesses from opening. Please refer to the **attached** press release on this.

Information on the PPP Loan Forgiveness, Re-Opening and a new bill being presented is included below.

As we are on track to move into Phase 3, please drop us an email with updated information (hours, how are you able to service customers etc). We want our lists to be as updated as possible. Emails are below.

Restaurants – email Kelli (krogers@genevachamber.com)

Retail & Service – email Robyn (rchione@genevachamber.com)

As you know, Swedish Days 2020 is canceled, however we are working on some virtual alternatives. Our Social Media Coordinator Kristen, is creating a beautiful montage, but she needs your help. Today is the last day to send her your Swedish Days pictures. Your business, you in Swedish regalia, a favorite memory. Her contact info is kristenhollyevents@gmail.com.

Have a wonderful Memorial Day weekend and let's look forward to Phase 3!

*our office will be closed on Monday to commemorate Memorial Day

Sincerely,

Paula, Nancy, Kelli, Jeanne, Robyn and Laura
Your Geneva Chamber of Commerce

The Geneva Chamber of Commerce (GCOC) is providing these resources as a public service, but it is neither a legal interpretation nor a statement of Geneva Chamber of Commerce. Reference to any specific product or entity does not constitute an endorsement or recommendation by the GCOC. The views expressed by resources are their own and does not imply an endorsement of them or any entity they represent.

VIRTUAL NETWORKING (\$10)

Tables of Interest is Going Virtual

Hosted by Fox Valley Chambers

May 27 @ 11:30 am

Register [HERE](#) (Registration Required)

Social Media Tips & Tricks, Recycling, Wine & more. Please be logged on by 11:30 am. At 11:35 am directions on how Tables of Interest works will be given. There will be three rounds of networking, ending at 1 pm. \$10 fee for this virtual networking.

From U.S. Chamber

New Resources from the U.S. Chamber

Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) Loan Forgiveness Guide

Under the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), loans may be forgiven if borrowers use the funds to maintain their payrolls and pay other specified expenses. [Click here](#) to download this step-by-step guide to calculate your loan forgiveness amount, navigate record-keeping requirements, and determine repayment terms on amounts not forgiven.

Reopening Business Digital Resources Center

Last week, as part of the Path Forward initiative, the U.S. Chamber unveiled its [Reopening Business Digital Resources Center](#) to equip America's business community with the latest state guidelines, sector-specific guidance, small business advice, and other tools and resources as we look to reopen safely and keep employees and customers healthy and informed.

Now, the resources center also includes a [customizable workplace flyer](#) to help you and your members communicate the steps your company is taking to keep them safe and prevent the spread of COVID-19 to employees and customers.

Reopening Business Digital Resources Center Toolkit

In addition to the Reopening Business Digital Resources Center, and as you and your members face new questions and unprecedented new challenges, the U.S. Chamber has also created a comprehensive [toolkit](#) of key messages, example posts, and social media graphics for you to utilize while sharing the tools and resources with your local business communities and networks.

Small Business Reopening Playbook

[Click here](#) to view the U.S. Chamber's new [Small Business Reopening Playbook](#) which provides in-depth information and resources for you and your members as you plan and prepare to reopen and get back to work.

Considering that reopening strategies will largely depend on the state and business type, this guide has consolidated federal, state, and local guidelines, industry specific resources, insights and strategies from leading experts, and more.

Chamber Releases New Guide on PPP Loan Forgiveness

Under the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), loans may be forgiven if borrowers use the proceeds to maintain their payrolls and pay other specified expenses.

The Treasury Department and Small Business Administration recently released the application form and instructions for loan forgiveness. The forms, instructions, and worksheets can be downloaded [here](#).

The U.S. Chamber released a new [step-by-step guide](#) to calculate your loan forgiveness amount, navigate record-keeping requirements, and determine repayment terms on amounts not forgiven. For more relief and reopening resources and guidance, visit [here](#).

Chamber Joins Business Groups in Asking Congress for Temporary Liability Relief

Yesterday, the U.S. Chamber along with state chamber leaders across the country, asked Congress to provide businesses temporary liability relief that holds truly bad actors accountable but protects employers who follow public health guidance.

In the [letter](#), the groups “urge Congress to pass timely, temporary and targeted liability relief legislation to provide businesses a safe harbor from unwarranted lawsuits that, left unchecked, will endanger the fight against the pandemic and undermine the safe and orderly return to work for millions of Americans.”

“This is an unprecedented situation and despite employers’ best efforts to comply with public health guidance, many are concerned that they will be forced to defend themselves against a wave of lawsuits,” the letter continues. “Their concern is driven by the fact that each day brings news of more lawsuits that have already been filed.” Read the full text of the letter [here](#).

From U.S. Chamber (Political Affairs & Federation Relations)

It appears that the Senate, under the leadership of Senators Marco Rubio (R-FL), Ben Cardin (D-MD) and the Senate Small Business Committee, may take action to pass a bill that includes revisions to the Paycheck Protection Program that would extend the period in which small businesses can use the funds. We urge you to reach out to your Senators immediately to encourage them to add language that makes all nonprofits, including 501(c)(6) organizations, eligible for this critical financial relief.

Additionally, next week, the House of Representative is expected to consider the [Paycheck Protection Flexibility Act \(H.R. 6886\)](#). This bipartisan bill from Reps. Dean Phillips (D-MN) and Chip Roy (R-TX) modifies certain loan forgiveness requirements under the Paycheck Protection Program. For example, the bill eliminates the limitation on non-payroll expenses counting towards loan forgiveness and extends the 8-week window for eligible expenses. However, the bill does NOT address the existing restrictions affecting 501(c)(6) organizations and other nonprofits. We have reached out to the authors to ask them to include all non-profits. We have been told that it would be helpful if more members heard this request from their constituents. **Therefore, we urge you to contact your Senate and House Members today and ask them to make all nonprofit organizations, including 501(c)(6) organizations, eligible for the PPP in these bills.**

Thank you for your continued effort to help all nonprofits receive this much needed financial relief.

From Illinois Restaurant Association (IRA)

[ServSafe](#), the nation's leader in food safety training, has released ServSafe Reopening Guidance: COVID-19 Precautions, the third video to help restaurant and foodservice employees learn best practices to employ during the coronavirus outbreak. The course provides best practices for employees of a restaurant preparing to reopen a dining room following a state shutdown. The video is free of charge and available in English and Spanish.

The ServSafe Reopening Guidance: COVID-19 Precautions training video features:

- Knowing the symptoms of COVID-19
- Preventing the spread
- Recognizing actions to reduce employee and guest risk
- Keeping guests and employees safe
- Guidelines for face coverings, hand washing, hand sanitizer use, and food handling
- Guidelines for cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting
- Changes to maintain social distancing

[Register](#) to view the video on-demand here.

WEBINAR - Scaling UP Illinois Restaurant Operations: Financial Considerations

In every community throughout Illinois, restaurants represent a critical element of our social and economic well-being. We're all eager to see restaurants reopen and employees back to work.

Join us for a two-part webinar series addressing management issues and providing strategies for reopening safely and successfully being offered by the Illinois Restaurant Association and

University of Illinois Extension, in conjunction with University of Illinois College of Agriculture, Consumer and Environmental Sciences and the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition.

This first webinar in the series, focusing on Financial Considerations, will provide strategies on ordering, planning a cost-effective menu and pivoting your offerings in this new environment.

Date: Thursday, May 28 @ 10 am

[REGISTER HERE](#)

From SBDC at Waubonsee Community College

Just about everyone has questions about PPP loan forgiveness. If you are in that crowd, here's a [video](#) from Waubonsee SBDC advisor Jock Sommese and DeKalb Unites, featuring CPA Mark Kerman of Siepert & Co. in Sycamore covering the details of PPP forgiveness in language that is easy to understand.

In case you missed it, here is the SBA's [PPP Loan Forgiveness Application](#). This document includes a worksheet to calculate your PPP Loan usage, and information on how to calculate your FTE total.

I don't know that we're done with rule changes for PPP yet. Stay tuned - we'll keep you updated if anything new comes along.

The IL SBDC at Waubonsee is working remotely, and is available to answer your questions. Please contact us at (630) 906-4143 or email sbdc@waubonsee.edu. Please be patient. We will respond to your inquiry as quickly as possible.