

SKOKIE RESTAURANT ROUND-UP

It's no secret that Skokie is well known for its restaurant scene, as the Village regularly ranks in the Top Ten Suburban Chicagoland communities for sales in dining and drinking establishments (Melaniphy Report, 2018). An abundance of national restaurant chains represented throughout Skokie's commercial corridors including Starbucks, Culver's, Panera, Chili's, Portillo's, Chik-Fil-A, Bonefish Grill, and more. Many dining establishments choose Skokie as their 'first to market' locale when expanding their presence in the region such as The Hampton Social, Roka Akor, Nando's Peri Peri, and Jollibee. Add to these offerings with the vast array of independent and ethnic top-rated eateries such as Kaufman's, Libertad, Elj's Place, Shallots Bistro, Pita Inn, and Tub-Tim-Thai, to name a few, and you have a recipe for a successful dining experience wherever you dine in Skokie! *(continued on page 8)*

EST. 2015
The HAMPTON SOCIAL



East Coast meets Westfield Old Orchard! **The Hampton Social** is the "First to the Northern Suburbs" offering for this popular Chicago-based eatery.



Great eats and beverages were plentiful while chasing down Fortnite opponents at the recent Illinois Science + Tech Park event at **Ignite Gaming Skokie** (8125 Skokie Blvd.).



MENU	
*Chile relleno	\$12.00
*Enchiladas de moles	\$12.00
*Taco Plate (Rice, Beans)	\$12.00
Huachuc	\$5.00
Sopecitos	\$6.00+
Gorditas	\$3.75
Avesadilla	\$4.00
Cemitas Poblanas	
Breaded Chicken	\$8.95
Asado (Steak)	\$9.95
Al pastor	\$9.95
Cubana	\$9.95
chipotle, Tomato, Lettuce	
Tortas	
(Your choice of meat)	
Rice, Beans, Guacamole	\$3.75
Fresh cheese, Lettuce, onion	
Tomato, Salsa	\$1.95
Tomato, Avocado	\$1.95
-Etc.	\$1.95

My Little Kitchen (4031 Dempster St.) recently opened to rave reviews! The new, independently owned restaurant offers breakfast, lunch, dinner, catering, daily specials and more!

AND THE SURVEY SAYS...



In July 2018, the Village conducted its triennial **National Citizen Survey** (NCS), to gauge resident opinions on Village programs, services and policies. This survey is administered and sent by the Colorado-based *National Research Center* to 1,600 randomly-selected Skokie residences and includes questions related to the business environment in Skokie, as a place to work, overall economic health of the community, shopping opportunities (usually highly rated!), employment opportunities, Downtown Skokie, and the overall quality of business and service establishments in the community. Key economic development factors noted in the survey include:

- 98% purchased goods and services in Skokie more than once a month.
- 92-94% rated the overall economic health of the Village as positive.
- 92% would recommend living/working in Skokie to someone who asked.
- 90-93% rated Village efforts to implement economic development initiatives to bring new businesses, create new jobs, and generate sales taxes as positive.
- 87-91% visited Downtown Skokie businesses more than once a month.
- 84% rated the overall quality of business and service establishments as positive.
- 83% rated Skokie as a positive place to work.

Federal Mogul - 150th Anniversary Celebration in 2018

In late 2018, the Village Board issued a proclamation for Federal Mogul, one of the Village's largest employers, commemorating the company on its 150th year anniversary.



Federal Mogul reps Gary Junenberg and Roger Scheid express their gratitude to Mayor Van Dusen.

Opening its 'First to Chicago's NorthShore' store in November, 2018, this distinctive Texas-based jewelry retailer is one of *Westfield Old Orchard's* latest gems.

Kendra Scott stores hosts over 10,000 fundraising and awareness events across the U.S. and donates over \$4.5 million annually to local and non-profit causes.





That sound you hear at the **Illinois Science + Technology Park** (ISTP) is construction on the exterior of the ISTP's newest office/lab structure at 8030 Lamon Ave. This long vacant building is receiving new investment by owner American Landmark Properties to ready the facility for potential new life science-based tenants.



Congratulations to **Skokie Ace Hardware** (5035 Dempster St.), the 2018 Skokie Business of the Year, which was selected from over 400 ballots representing over 45 different businesses! Runners-up winners were *Jane's Hallmark Shop* (9316 Skokie Blvd.), *Jerry's Quality Meats* (3706 Dempster St.) and *Marge's Flowers* (8038 Lincoln Ave.)!

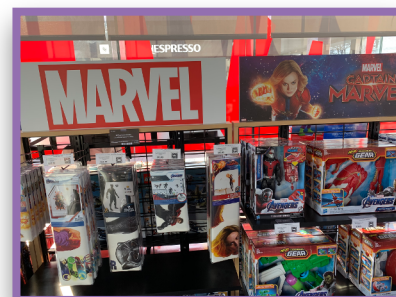


Target's first suburban Chicagoland small-format store (4955 Dempster St.) has been open for nearly two years and proudly serves Skokie with a specially curated and eclectic set of offerings specifically celebrating the community's diversity!

SKOKIE BIZ BITES

Did You Know?

The "First to Chicago's NorthShore" **Amazon 4-Star Pop-up** in the Cube at *Westfield Old Orchard* provides shoppers the opportunity to browse and touch a selection of the latest products available through Amazon.com. This store ranked as one of the highest in the nation in terms of visits and orders.



ISTP Update: *Life Science Leader* publication has awarded **Vetter Pharmaceutical**, a global operating Contract Development and Manufacturing Organization headquartered in Germany, the 2019 Leadership Award for quality, expertise, reliability, capabilities, compatibility and service. **LanzaTech**, a six-year old startup originating from New Zealand, was recently named one of the world's 50 most innovative companies discovering ways to use hungry microbes to transform carbon emissions into clean jet fuel. Finally, **Exicure**, the pioneer in gene regulatory and immunotherapeutic drugs, recently announced positive results for its patented AST-008, a molecule which could lead to better combination therapies for patients with cancer.

Thrillist, NAR rank Chicago's best suburbs for millennials

by Andrew Horvath | October 18, 2018



In October 2018, Skokie and Evanston were ranked together by *Thrillist* (in conjunction with the *National Association of Realtors* (NAR)) as two of Chicago's best suburbs that were found to be most appealing to the new generation of homebuyers, e.g., Millennials! Citing easy access to downtown Chicago as a primary attraction, the publication also mentioned each city's "own culture to experience".

ANNOUNCED JOBS IN SKOKIE

Source: Village of Skokie Economic Development and Building Departments (APRIL - DECEMBER 2018)

	Retail / Recreation 7037 Central Ave. 65 Jobs		Education 9448 Skokie Blvd. 45 Jobs
	Retail 4999 Old Orchard Ctr. 20 Jobs		e-commerce 8060 St. Louis Ave. 20 Jobs
	e-commerce 4852 Main St. 20 Jobs		Health Care 4711 Golf Rd. 20 Jobs
	Retail 4999 Old Orchard Ctr. 15 Jobs		Distribution 8060 St. Louis Ave. 15 Jobs
	Retail 3801 Oakton St. 15 Jobs		Service 7837 Gross Point Rd. 10 Jobs
	Child Care 3740 Oakton St. 12 Jobs		Research 8111 St. Louis Ave. 8 Jobs
	Retail 3750 Dempster St. 10 Jobs		Technology 4848 Main St. 8 Jobs
	Distribution 7241 St. Louis Ave. 8 Jobs		Education 4124 Dempster St. 8 Jobs
	Fitness 9412 Skokie Blvd. 8 Jobs		Restaurant 4999 Old Orchard Ctr. 5 Jobs

TOTAL NUMBER OF ANNOUNCED JOBS WITH LESS THAN 5 EMPLOYEES: 61



The *Skokie Economic Development Commission (EDC)* continues its ongoing business site visit program, calling upon small, medium, and large companies, and learning more from owners such as George Kafkis, CEO of **Kafko International Ltd.** (3555 Howard St.), a complete liquid packaging service provider, regarding their successes and challenges.



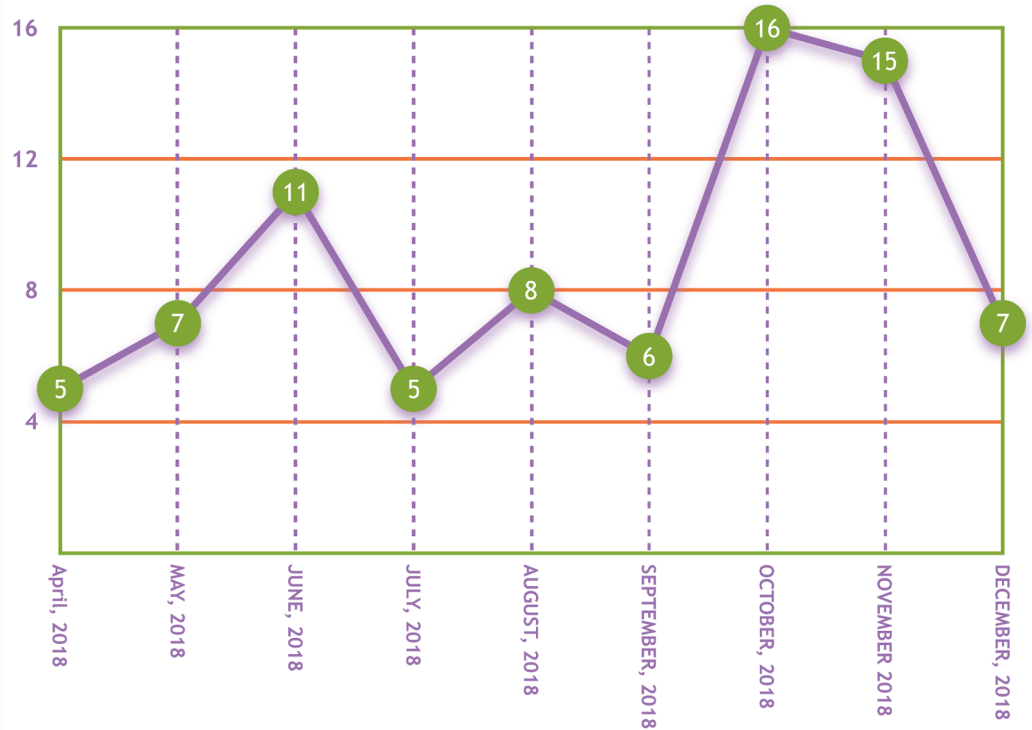
A new apprenticeship/training course is being offered at **Oakton Community College** in conjunction with the *International Trade Association of Greater Chicago* and the *German American Chamber of Commerce*. The program helps high-tech manufacturers and companies address the growing skills gap and worker shortage.



Are you looking for the most current information about all aspects of living, visiting, working, shopping, and the myriad of cultural aspects of Skokie? Be sure to follow **ThinkSkokie.com**

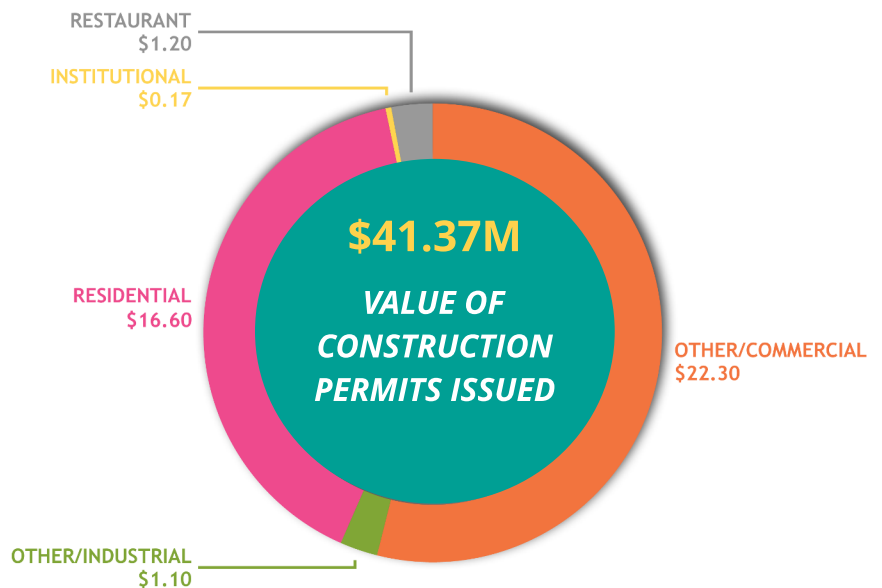
CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY PERMITS (CO / #)

80 ISSUED BY THE VILLAGE BETWEEN APRIL-DECEMBER, 2018



CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY PERMITS (CO / \$)

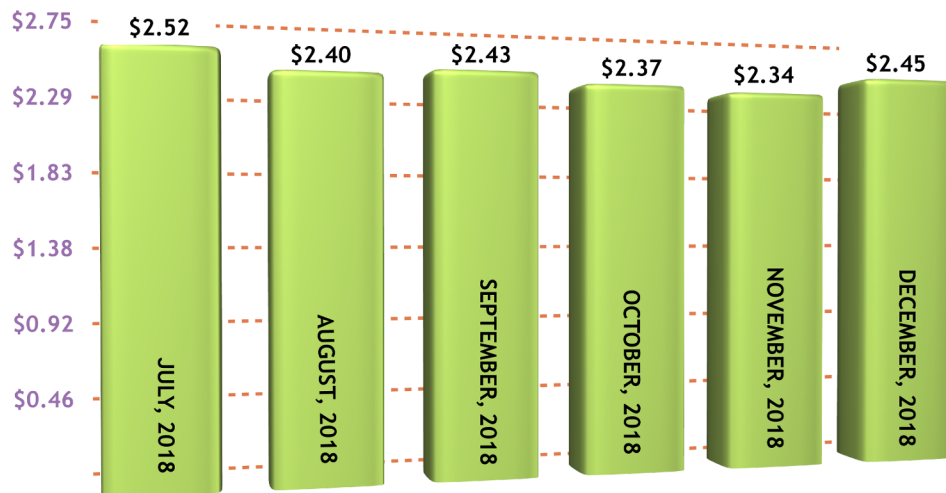
VALUE OF PERMITS ISSUED / CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY BY SECTOR BETWEEN APRIL-DECEMBER, 2018



Source: Village of Skokie Community Development Division

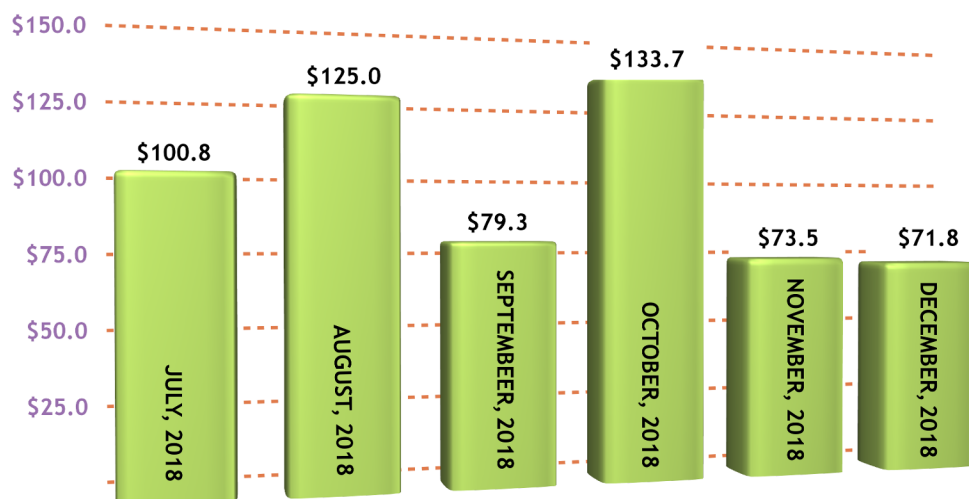
SALES TAX RECEIPTS (\$ MILLIONS)

SOURCE: VILLAGE OF SKOKIE FINANCE DEPT. - INCLUDES STATE OF ILLINOIS 1% AND VILLAGE HOME RULE 1%



REAL ESTATE TRANSFER TAX RECEIPTS (\$ THOUSANDS)

SOURCE: VILLAGE OF SKOKIE FINANCE DEPT.



GRAND OPENINGS!



Skokie welcomes **MightyNest** as the premier website for consumers to obtain advice, research, and purchase natural, organic, and non-toxic products. Rapidly growing **MightyNest** recently relocated to 8044 St. Louis Ave. in Skokie from Evanston.



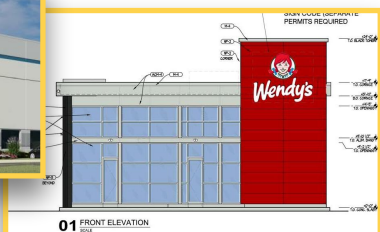
Earlier this year, Village and Skokie Chamber officials celebrated the grand opening of **MassVR** located in a portion of the former Lord & Taylor at *Westfield Old Orchard*. As the world's first free-roam, multi-arena, virtual reality Esport facility, **MassVR** is the ultimate active team-based experience!

COMING SOON!



In early May, **Boombox Beverage**, an innovative coffee brewery startup from The Hatchery in Chicago, is anticipated to begin production at its new and permanent home in Skokie at 7415 St. Louis Ave. **Boombox** will “serve as the manufacturing muscle to elite beverage brands, including cold brew coffee, to scale the non-alcoholic specialty market.” The Village’s approval of a 6b Cook County Property Class Reduction incentive for the building in late 2018 made this expansion and relocation to Skokie possible. It is anticipated that 15 new jobs will be created in the near future with further expansion as product lines grow.

Ready for spring 2019 delivery, the **Elmwood Collection** features 7 modern, luxurious townhomes. Located at the 8300 block of Elmwood Street, the project overlooks the Skokie Valley Trail and features views of Downtown Chicago. The project was developed by Skokie residents and the longtime owners and operators of *Swift Childcare (Varda and Company, LLC)*. As of the time of publication, only one unit remains for sale.



Construction season is well underway. Watch for numerous developments throughout the Village, some of which include the 16-unit Luxury on Lincoln Townhome Community (8100 Block of Floral Ave.); Skokie's second Wendy's Restaurant (Gross Point Rd. and Skokie Blvd.); the 42-unit mixed-use multi-family development at 8125 Skokie Blvd.; and a new 140,000 square foot state of the art industrial space at Howard St. and Linder Ave.

Skokie welcomes **Burn Boot Camp** to its new location at the Boulevard North Shore (9412 Skokie Blvd.). **Burn Boot Camp** is a boutique fitness establishment where women can learn far more than just healthy eating and exercise tips by operating on a five pillar philosophy to help clients achieve success: mindset, whole food nutrition, burst training and positive environment. Feel the Burn in Skokie!



Chinese delegates from Wuhan, Hubei, an important center for finance, transportation, information technology, and education, visited Skokie and the **Illinois Science + Technology Park** late last year as guests of the Chicagoland based *21st Century Institute*. Skokie has been a key partner with the Institute's activities, hosting numerous delegations from China since 2013.

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(continued from pg. 1)

Euro Echo Cafe (7919 Lincoln Ave.) hosts many live musical groups while guests can enjoy European pastries, coffees, and eclectic food offerings.



The Curragh Irish Pub Skokie (8266 Lincoln Ave.) is the celebration spot after the Skokie St. Patrick's Day Parade, which is a growing annual tradition!

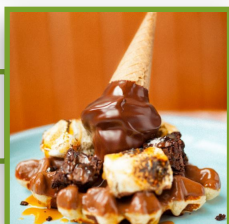


Makisu Sushi Lounge and Grill (7150 Carpenter Rd.) at Village Crossing recently celebrated their Re-Grand Opening with new ownership as well as an updated interior and menu.



MAKISU
SUSHI LOUNGE & GRILL

CACAO 70
SWEET HOUSE



The first U.S. location of Canadian-based **Cacao 70 Sweet House** recently opened at Westfield Old Orchard. This indulgent dining experience features chocolate drinks, desserts and all-day brunch.

EJ's Place (10027 Skokie Blvd.), one of Skokie's iconic steakhouses and supper clubs, continues to amaze and satisfy appetites throughout the region. Established in 1997, **EJ's Place** continuously ranks as one of the best restaurants by social and traditional media outlets.



SKOKIE'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TEAM IN ACTION

Skokie's Economic Development team continues to actively seek diverse businesses and economic opportunities for the Village. A key component of these efforts are invested in the Village's Economic Development Strategy. Numerous and diverse technology, entrepreneurial, retail, entertainment, development, and foreign direct investment opportunities are constantly being pursued locally, regionally, and internationally by the team.

NEW ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WEBSITE COMING SOON!

Watch for updates over the coming weeks for new and exciting business intelligence and demographic tools as well as real estate opportunities via the newly revamped Village of Skokie website and new economic and business development microsite!

SKOKIE

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