

UP TO THE MINUTES..... News from the ABA.....March 2006

Ardmore Business Association P.O. Box 624

Ardmore, Pa. 19003

*Nancy Gold, President
Larry Gee, Vice President*

*Christine Vilardo, Secretary
Christopher J. Murray, Treasurer*

Dear ABA members and those who have yet to join,

We recognize it's been awhile since our last fax, but your ABA officers have been working hard with the township, the Ardmore Initiative & the Board of Commissioners on a variety of issues of importance to our entire business community. We have been meeting and doing prep work to help shape the MUST ordinance (read more about MUST below); we're now very close to its passing and ready to get back into gear. In the meantime, the ABA paid off the Holiday radio campaign bills, the holiday lighting, our "free" holiday meter parking invoice, and we're now focusing on our next ABA event (details below). This is an exciting time in Ardmore's history, and it appears that our revitalization has already begun. Your ABA is working hard for ALL of our Ardmore businesses, and the larger our base, the louder our voice. **If you've delayed in sending your 2006 dues, please mail ASAP to the ABA at the above address.**

2006 Membership Drive Update...Welcome to our new and returning businesses:

Our last memo included 30 returning ABA members... the following businesses have since joined our ABA member list: Steven Landman, DMD, Sovereign Bank, Main Line Life, Sneaky Pete's, Haws & Burke, Ardmore Floor Sanding, Carbochem Inc., Beneficial Savings Bank, J. Robert Morris, Lynn Scott Salon, Inc., The Philadelphia Nanny Network, Armen Chevrolet Oldsmobile Buick, Brownie's 23 East, Ardmore Animal Hospital, Party Land, Hayden Printing, Charles F. Ward Associates, Orndorf & Associates Inc., Christopher J. Murray CPA., The Mud Room, Mike Coughlan/State Farm Ins., Citizens Bank, Gregory FCA Communications, Dr. Larysa Bilyk P.C., Main Line Honda, Merion Art and Repro, Swain Australia Tours, Taglio Hair Design, Chadwick & McKinney Funeral Home, Junior League of Phila., Rossi Shoe Service, Browse Around Thrift Shop, Past Present Future, Mahoney Realty Group, Inc., Central City Toyota, Gregory FCA Communications, Ardmore Eye Care, Stocktrans, Inc., MFI Associates, Ltd., Primavera Pizza Kitchen, JC Custom Tailors, Inc., Main Line Chamber of Commerce, Farley Homes, The Republican Committee of Lower Merion and Narberth, Donna Mander Allstate Insurance, DanceSport, and Hunan Restaurant... **73 members to date, with members joining daily.And you?**

Current Fund Balance: \$4,279.00 as reported by Chris Murray, Treasurer, ABA

Ardmore on the move:

Just a reminder that Ardmore 2000 has a new name, **The Ardmore Initiative**, a new address, 56 East Lancaster (across from The Township Building), and a new Executive Director, Caroline Stritzinger. Stop in and welcome her to our town! She's already "hit the ground running" and is excited about being part of Ardmore's history-making growth.

MilkBoy Coffee is finally open. A long time coming, but worth the wait! Located at Lancaster and Cricket, it's a great looking space to hang out with your buddies. (And the chocolate croissants are wonderful!) Welcome!

The Zip's building (16 W. Lancaster) has been sold and the new buyer is betting on Ardmore's growth... and so are we!

West Coast Video is closing, as this building is also for sale. (Could be sold by the time you get this... our town is hot and properties move fast!)

A brand new Bryn Mawr Trust will soon be under construction at the Manhattan Bagel site, and could be completed by fall.

Looks like **Aqua Hut Dive & Travel** is planning to be here a while. They just purchased their building at 51 Rittenhouse Place.

Tim Mahoney's groundbreaking mixed/use condo, **The Cricket Club**, at Schaufele Plaza is looking good... When MUST passes, this project can be the start of smart growth in other areas of Ardmore as well.

Look for some **sprucing up of The Radio Shack Building**, as this has also changed hands.

Ardmore Infiniti will be expanding into the Talone Dry Cleaning space.

Watch for the May opening of the **Amazon Café**, next to Phila. Sports Club. The café will offer shakes, smoothies & healthy foods & snacks.

Smith and Childs is also getting ready for new space. They wanted to stay in Ardmore, but couldn't find a property. Thanks for your support over the years... we'll miss you! Their building has also been sold and will be getting a face lift.

Eileen Fisher and **Free People** have recently opened in Suburban Square. **Apple Computer** is under construction.

Congratulations to Donna Mander and David O'Sullivan on their engagement to be married. Donna owns the **Allstate Insurance Co.** at 326 W. Lancaster. David will be joining her in overseeing the commercial insurance department.

Meetings/News/Announcements

Spotlight on Ardmore! Fox 29's Good Day Philadelphia will be featuring several of Ardmore's unique businesses on its Hometowns of the Month show this Friday morning March 3. Be sure to check it out!

Midge McCauley, a consultant hired by the township to help rejuvenate Ardmore's retail presence, has just completed her Ardmore Retail Strategy and will present her findings at the **March 15 Township meeting, 8:00pm at Township Building**. Please feel free to attend to hear a vision of what Ardmore can become.

MUST meeting on Wednesday March 22 (6:30pm at Township Building) is the one to attend. This ordinance has been one of the reasons behind all the new growth in Ardmore. The MUST (Mixed Use Special Transit) ordinance has been under discussion for several years & the Board of Commissioners has worked hard to draft the ordinance with community input through a series of public hearings. In essence the ordinance will allow for variances to current building codes for properties within certain proximity to train stations. It will promote retail, office & residential use of both new & existing buildings & will enable new construction as well as renovations to existing buildings.

Save the Date- Tuesday April 4! Come meet Heidi Tirjan, the Ardmore Initiative's new Retail Coordinator and find out about our new vision for Ardmore's retail vitality.

Gearing up for golf- The Ardmore Initiative is actively working on this year's golf outing/ fundraiser, which will take place on **Monday Sept. 11** at the White Manor Country Club. Watch for more info soon on ways you can promote *your* business & help support this important event. We will make a donation to our local fire & police departments to commemorate this date. **Remember, every penny raised stays in Ardmore!**

It's Award time: Start looking for your **Main Line Life ballots** and vote for your favorite Ardmore stores. This is a pet project for the ABA and we always have lots of winners. Let's acknowledge our wonderful Ardmore businesses.

FYI: To opt out of receiving pre-screened credit card offers, call 1-888-567-8688

To receive future Ardmore updates and ABA minutes by e-mail, please provide your e-mail address below:

and fax back to 610-645-0662. Thank you!