

# Ins for 27th Leadership NB program



Leadership Northbrook class tours Bernhard Woodwork in Northbrook as president Mark Bernhard (far left) explains a project to participants. Inset: Participants are instructed for Neilman Marcus. PHOTOS SUBMITTED



Participants of Leadership Northbrook test themselves at the Teams Challenge course at Meadowhill Park in Northbrook.

lights, educational resources, safety services, recreational resources and community activities.

of the most popular sessions includes a teamwork exercise at the Northbrook Park Dis-

trict's Teams Challenge Course at Meadowhill Park, beginning with a series of outdoor activities, trust initiatives and team-building exercises, designed to assist in personal and professional development.

## Graduates praise Leadership Program

### STAFF REPORT

Making invaluable contacts, acquiring an appreciation for Northbrook's outstanding resources and gaining valuable information that can provide direct benefits in the workplace are just a few of the benefits of the Northbrook Chamber's Leadership program, according to recent participants.

Across the board, recent graduates expressed an appreciation for the diversity of the curriculum as well as the hands-on setting and the amount of information shared in such a short time period.

Leadership Northbrook helps participants appreciate all that the village has to offer.

"I can't speak highly enough about every single session of Leadership," said Bob Caldwell, of NorthShore FamilyCare. "After taking the class and appreciating what a great sense of community there is in Northbrook, I wish my home was here — not just my business!"

Longtime residents also find the class provides invaluable insight and access to important area businesses.

"Northbrook has been my home for 23 years and my workplace for 10, so it was interesting to learn more about some of the businesses that exist right in my own backyard, which I would have no other way of accessing but for Leadership Northbrook," said attorney Kris Ruben. "I was so impressed with the tour of Bernhard Woodwork, to observe the high-end fabrication they do for upscale stores like Tiffany's and Macy's in New York, as well as the wood-working for upscale homes on the lakefront in the North Shore. And it was terrific to get a look inside Highland Bakery and remarkable to learn that they supply the bread

for big names like Arby's and many other local restaurants and establishments.

"I highly advise participation in the program for anyone who either lives or works in Northbrook."

Leadership is also helpful to anyone new to the community or anyone interested in learning more about Northbrook and forming new relationships — all without a huge time commitment.

"Participating in Leadership Northbrook was a perfect jump start for me as a newcomer to the community," said Village Management Analyst Michael Strong. "In a matter of months, Leadership introduced me to several influential movers and shakers in Northbrook. The quality of the presentations and influential community members who volunteered their time to present to our group was impressive. For those who don't think they have the time to participate in Leadership Northbrook, they should understand that the program provides a platform that enables relationship building, which is an important investment in their success."

Participants also appreciate the opportunity to learn what goes on behind the scenes.

"I really got to understand more about the different businesses, and the community from an insider's perspective," said Tam Gilbert, Spectrum Training Services. "I also got to see the incredible teamwork and cooperation between the municipal government leaders, educators, life safety services, recreational and health and social services professionals in Northbrook. At the end, I truly fell in love with the community. My husband and I are now planning to move there!"

The class is open to anyone, whether a longtime Chamber member or a new employee at a business. Northbrook residency is

not required.

To register, call the Northbrook Chamber of Commerce office at (847) 498-5555 ext. 4.