



# Hospitality HERALD

Fall 2011

## Proposed Food Safety Code for Peoria County

The Health Department has worked in conjunction with the Food Safety Workgroup to develop a new Food Safety Code for Peoria County. The Code has been approved by the Board of Health and will be voted on by the County Board at the October County Board meeting.

The revisions will greatly affect many of the establishments currently licensed by the Health Department. Some of the Changes are as follows:

- The Following Licenses will no longer exist or be an option for renewal in 2012: Farmers' market, seasonal fixed food service establishment, seasonal temporary food service establishment, weekend food service establishment, weekend retail food establishment, and additional facilities (both indoor and outdoor).
- There will be four licenses annual, seasonal, sidewalk and street food vendor, and temporary.
- The definition of a mobile unit has been changed. Mobile units will be required to meet the requirements of the Food code and will be able to apply for an annual or seasonal license.
- Sidewalk and street food vendors are new. This license is designed to license the vendors such as the pushcarts in downtown.
- Any annual facility that closes for 30 days without notifying the Department will have its license suspended (This will not include schools. The Department is aware that they close at different times and that will be considered their notice to the Department).
- All Licenses will expire no later than December 31 of each year.
- Establishments that operate without a valid license will be assessed a penalty fee.
- A variance process has been added to handle special circumstances that will not affect food safety, such as outdoor cooking.

A complete copy of the proposed changes can be found at the Health Department home page: [peoriacountyhealth.org/pchd](http://peoriacountyhealth.org/pchd). Click on the Draft Food Code link on the right side of the page to find the code.

After the Code is adopted by the County Board it will become effective January 1, 2012. The new license categories will take affect with the 2012 license renewal notices sent in late 2011. The Department is planning to host meetings for establishment licensees to discuss the changes, and how they will affect your establishment in more detail. Please watch the Health Department website for date and times of meetings.

2116 N. Sheridan Rd. • Peoria, Illinois • 61604 • PH: 309/679-6161  
FAX: 309/679-6174 • TDD: 800/526-0844 (hearing impaired only) • [www.pcchd.org](http://www.pcchd.org)

### Food Safety Workgroup

In March of this year, the Peoria City/County Health Department's Food Safety Workgroup held its inaugural meeting. The Workgroup was designed to ensure food establishments have the opportunity to provide comments on polices, programs, and ordinance amendments which may be put into effect by the Health Department. There are eleven members on the Workgroup from a variety of food establishments including restaurants, schools, and hospitals. Members serve on a voluntary basis and have terms ranging from one year to three years. So far, the members have provided valuable feedback and comments on the new Food Safety Code, fee changes, enforcement procedures, and various other topics. If you are interested in serving as a member of the Food Safety Workgroup, contact our office at (309)679-6161 for an application.

## 2011 Heart of Illinois Hospitality Association & Peoria Area Sports Commission Golf Outing

The 15th Annual HOIHA/PACVB Four-Player Golf Scramble took place on September 15th at the Quail Meadows Golf Course. On a gorgeous day, 56 golfers came out to support the association and visitors bureau. A wonderful time was had by all who attended!

The Peoria Metro New Car Dealers Association once again signed on as Major Event Sponsor for the seventh year in a row. Gravity Payment Systems showed their support again this year by signing on as a Junior Event Sponsor. Brewer's Distributing generously sponsored the reception beverage and all the signage for the event. Pepsi Americas continued their support as a beverage sponsor.

This year we had a total of twenty seven hole sponsors. The promotional signs dotted the greens at Quail Meadows included; Adams Outdoor Advertising, Advanced Media Partners, Barrack's Hospitality Group, Bob Lindsay Acura, Bob Lindsay Honda, Brewer's Distributing, Double A's, EastSide Centre, Embassy Suites, Excel Decorators, IESA, IHSA, Jillian's Sports Grille, Lariat Steakhouse, Mangold Ford, Mercedes Restaurants, Mike Miller Auto Park, Peoria Flag & Decorating, Pepsi Americas, Ray Dennison Chevrolet, Sam Leman Chrysler Jeep Dodge, Scherer Mazda, Stoney Creek Inn, Uftring Weston Chevrolet Cadillac, Walz Label & Mailing Systems and Weaver Ridge Golf Club.

Everyone enjoyed a delicious dinner at the Awards Banquet after a fun afternoon of golf. The Awards Banquet along with door prizes immediately followed the dinner. Two committee co-chairs, Bob Marx



and Steve Reed, announced the following award winners. In Third place with a score of 65 was won by the team of Scott Dahl, Matt Nash, Steve Reed, and Jeff McLinden. The Second place team with a score of 64 was won by the WeaverRidge Golf Club team. First place finishing with a score of 62 was the IESA Team. Congrats to all of the winners! Prizes were also given out for Longest Drive: Chase Slover, Longest Putt: Ben Mitzelfelt and Closest to the Pin: Scott Dahl.

The Golf Committee would like to thank Tom Wolff and the staff at Quail Meadows Golf Course. A special thanks to all of the event sponsors, hole sponsors and everyone who donated door prizes and who participated in this year's event. All of you helped to make it a fun & successful fundraiser for the Heart of Illinois Hospitality Association and the Peoria Area Convention & Visitors Bureau. Thank you, thank you!!!

Please join us for all of the fun next year at the 16th Annual HOIHA/PACVB Four-Player Golf Scramble.

## HOIHA HERALD PROMOTIONS/NEW EMPLOYEES

### PEORIA CIVIC CENTER:

This announcement includes an update of staff changes at the Peoria Civic Center. Debbie Ritschel has retired as General Manager. Jim Wetherington has been promoted from Assistant General Manager to General Manager. Dan Evans has been promoted from Event Manager to Event Services Manager.

The Peoria Civic Center welcomes the following new employees: Dan Aspell, Marketing Manager; Kristin Etherton, Event Manager; Bradley Crites, Sous Chef; Alex Meeker, PC Technician; Rachel Wadle, Public Relations Coordinator.

### THE HOTELS AT GRAND PRAIRIE:

The Hotels at Grand Prairie is excited to announce the addition of Andrea Hohstadt to the Sales Team. Andrea brings many years of sales experience in the Peoria Area to her new position. Lena Fike has been named General Manager of Holiday Inn Express & Suites - Morton. Her vast knowledge of the hospitality industry will benefit the Morton community and surrounding areas.

### EMBASSY SUITES:

Embassy Suites is proud to announce the hiring of our new Sales Manager, Cathy Molt. Cathy has arrived from Omaha Nebraska, has a highly successful sales background and takes care of our Wedding and Social Market.

Embassy Suites is proud to announce the recent promotion of Tammi Christensen. Tammi joined the sales team as our Executive Meeting Manager and is day one employee, from our extremely busy Banquet Department.

Embassy Suites East Peoria Conference Center was recently ranked the #8 Embassy Suites Hotel in the WORLD for quality, service and guest satisfaction for 2010. We take great pride in holding another spot in the top 10 in the WORLD year after year!

Embassy Suites will host a new Bridal event in January: The first annual Behind Every Bride Bridal Bash on Jan 20 and Jan 21. Contact Sara O'Shea for further information at sara@behindeverybride.com or (309) 713-6375.

# 2011 TASTE OF PEORIA

On August 10th, the community came out in full force to enjoy the beautiful evening with great food and fun live entertainment at the 2011 Taste of Peoria. The judges tempted their taste buds with all of the delicious treats at this year's Taste of Peoria.

The judges struggled to choose between their favorite dishes, but when all was said and done, and tasted, the awards were presented as follows:

## Best Appetizer :

- 1st Gracie's Sports Grille & Pizza - Bacon Wrapped Pig Wings
- 2nd Thanh Linh Vietnamese Restaurant- Chicken Egg Rolls
- 3rd Peking Restaurant - Crab Meat Rangoon

## Best Beverage:

- 1st Culver's East Peoria - Strawberry Cooler
- 2nd Java Jolt - Toffee Coffee Smoothie
- 3rd RetroAmerican Tap - Root Beer Float

## Best Casual Entree:

- 1st Haddad's Restaurant & Catering - Pork Chop
- 2nd Hickory River Smokehouse - Pulled Pork Slider
- 3rd Granite City Food & Brewery - Mini Reuben

## Best Entree:

- 1st Qdoba Mexican Grill - Chicken Burrito
- 2nd Famous Dave's BBQ - Ribs
- 3rd Butcher Block Steakhouse - Smoked BBQ Tips

## Best Dessert:

- 1st The Fresh Market - Strawberry Pillow
- 2nd Uncle Bob's Ice Cream - Praline Pecan Ice Cream
- 3rd Granite City Food & Brewery - Chocolate Cake

## Best of Show: Centerplate

HOIHA would like to congratulate Peoria Area Community Events (PACE) on another successful Taste of Peoria. We would also like to thank all of this year's judges including several members of the HOI Professional Chefs Association, the participating restaurants and everyone who came out and supported this outstanding event.



## Annual HOIHA Chiefs Outing

On Monday, August 8th, 102 HOIHA members were treated to a special discounted price for a Peoria Chiefs baseball game at the beautiful O'Brien Field. In spite of a rain delay, everyone enjoyed an exciting game. The Peoria Chiefs defeated the Cedar Rapids Kernels 8-2. We will continue to support the Peoria Chiefs next summer. GO CHIEFS!

