

THE OAK LAWN NETWORKER

Brought to you by the Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce

Mission Statement:

“The Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce works to represent and advance the Oak Lawn business community, striving with constant integrity, fairness and cooperation to promote and improve the economic atmosphere, business climate and image of Oak Lawn.”

“Cross Countries” and Across the Community

In these troubling times a group of students from Oak Lawn Community High School’s “Cross Countries” organization decided to help support local Oak Lawn Businesses. They coordinated a relief effort called “Lock Down But Not Out” to benefit Oak Lawn Chamber Businesses and their employees. This student led and heartfelt initiative has kicked off a giving spirit throughout the Oak Lawn Community. Funds have been graciously matched up to \$6,000 by the Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce.

Four businesses have been selected via a blind lottery to receive up to \$3,000 with the majority being rewarded directly to employees of the selected business. While some businesses are closed, they are not closed out.

This partnership shows the resiliency of the Oak Lawn Community during these difficult times. Your generosity has gone a long way to help heal our community. Winners were selected in a Blind Lottery by the OLCCHS Students of the “Cross Countries” organization. The winners were: AB Renovations, Art Clay World USA, Lyla Jewelers and Style 95 Barber Shop.

Cross Countries is a student-led service group established in 2004 at Oak Lawn Community High School. The club has raised over \$225,000 to help fund local and global causes, including hospital construction overseas as well as homelessness and special needs awareness right here in our community.

A Big THANK YOU to the student of the “Cross Countries” Organization.

Executive Board:

President, Thomas Karountzos	Vice-President Olivia Shell
Vice President Tradgh Spillane	Treasure Victoria Serna
Secretary Ivan Zunig	Teacher Mr. Chris Reppa

July / August 2020

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President's Message



Hello Chamber Members,

It's hard to believe how much has changed since my last letter. Recent events have forced everyone out of their comfort zone, both personally and professionally. Let's embrace that! We mentioned a quote by Andrew Carnegie at the beginning of this year to help inspire us for 2020, and this quote may now hold even deeper meaning: "Teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision. The ability to direct individual accomplishments toward organizational objectives. It is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results." Together we can get through these tough times. We

have a wide variety of businesses that are willing and ready to help out others. Take this time to think outside the box, explore ways to make new connections, and take your business to the next level. Here are a few avenues you may want to consider:

Implement new marketing strategies. Since it is harder to get out of the house, our world has gone virtual. Does your business have online presence? Can you retail product from your website? Can you showcase how your business has taken new measures to keep patrons safe? If you answered no, then contact a fellow chamber member to help you out! Connect with these members via the website, or at a virtual meeting. Sometimes all it takes is a simple introduction. Also, don't forget that marketing opportunities exist via chamber email blasts. Lastly, one of our very own members is hosting a weekly Facebook Live interview free of charge for members. Check this newsletter for more information.

Attend chamber virtual meetings. This is our new way of networking! And it's effective! Many members have already made connections through last month's virtual luncheon. Our next virtual meeting is JULY 23rd. Look for an email to the sign up for the zoom meeting. Many of our committees, including the marketing and legislative committees, are also consistently having virtual meetings. Join these committees via the website, and prepare for a new way to effectively network in 2020!

Join the NEW Mentorship program. This initiative will launch towards the end of the year. Planning started over a year ago, and this program is structured to help both veteran and new businesses by collaborating on similar goals, sharing ways to leverage chamber membership, and SO much more. Look for emails regarding sign-up. If you'd like to join the committee, we encourage you to do so via the website. And of course, this program is included in your membership (AKA Free!).

Stay up to date on meetings and events, by checking your emails and the website. We are still trying to plan in-person events, like a social gathering at Stony Creek, which all hinge on the ever changing COVID-19 regulations.

Last but not least, LIKE US ON FaceBook! It will increase our social media presence and will allow people to see YOU!

Let's join forces this summer, and safely help each other out of these tough times. We are an amazingly strong chamber, and it's 100% because of people like you!

Sincerely,

Dr. Katie Narbone

2020 Oak Lawn Chamber President

2020 Officers and Directors

President

Dr. Katie Narbone (Premier Vision Care)

1st Vice President

Eileen Kerlin-Walsh (Kerlin-Walsh Law)

2nd Vice President

Jim Makina (Allegra Marketing * Print * Mail)

Treasurer

Phil Costello (Oak Lawn Park District)

Secretary

Jeff Reynolds (Nothing Bundt Cakes)

Immediate Past President

Don Murphy (American Family Insurance)

Term Expiring 12/31/20

George Cachares (Fyzical Therapy & Balance Center)

Mary Downing (Complete Vision Care)

Kathleen Farrell (Oak Lawn Bank & Trust)

Dr. David Finkelstein (Oak Lawn Foot & Ankle)

Ryan Lichter (Evergreen Park Web Solutions)

Jose Pareja (JP Architects Ltd.)

Mike Riordan (Oak Lawn Community High School)

Nael Shalabi (Republic Bank)

Tatiana Stantier (Jason's Deli)

Mike Sutko (World Travel Mart)

Term Expiring 12/31/21

Mike Abdallah (Style 95 Barber Shop)

Joe Cwiklinski (Century 21 Affiliated Pro Team)

Bernard Deir (Midwest Business Consulting)

David A. Dewar (Tax-Free Retirement Solutions)

Greg Greiman (Hayes Local Marketing)

James Huelsman (Christ Medical Center)

Tom Javorcic (Oak Lawn Public Library)

Jeremy Marek (Marek Lawn & Landscape, Inc)

Ginger Morgan (Thompson & Kuenster F.H.)

Charlie Shirk (Hilton Chicago / Oak Lawn)

Sharon Vetsch (The Quick Book Pro Advisor)

Natasha Williams (Three 20 Media)

Chamber Staff

Julie Miller - Executive Director

Jennifer Villafan - Administrative Assistant

Your Chamber at a Glance

- **Ambassador Meetings**
- **Business After Hours**
- **Luncheon**
- **Lunch & Learn**
- **Multi Business After Hours**

Please check the calendar on page 13 or the Chamber website for time and location. All events are posted on our website: www.oaklawnchamber.com

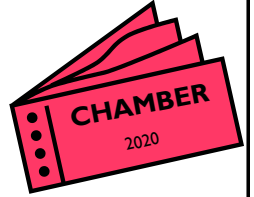
Follow The Chamber!



www.oaklawnchamber.com

2020 Bonanza Raffle on Sale!

Each ticket price is \$10 and four winners are picked each month: one \$100 winner, one \$50 winner and two \$25 winners.



**Buy now! 40 chances to win
with each ticket!**

Congratulations to the winners

March

\$25 Bob Paesic
\$25 James Hagburg
\$50 MMBS & Associates
\$100 Jim Narbone

April

\$25 Kimberly Korosa
\$25 Bob Kuenster, Thompson & Kuenster F.H.
\$50 Linday DeVries, A.E.R.O. Special Education
\$100 Frank Merle, CPA, Oak Lawn Tax Service

May

\$25 Mike Sutko, World Travel Mart
\$25 Jim Buschbach, World Travel Mart
\$50 Tom Fox, Fox's Restaurant & Pub
\$100 Susa Callan, Jackson Hewitt

June

\$25 Andy Rees, ProvenIT
\$25 Janel Bochiniski, G&H Auto Parts
\$50 Tom Fox, Fox's Restaurant & Pub
\$100 Grassano's Pizza

Member In the Spotlight Program Several Spots Still Available for 2020

Member in the Spotlight program is designed to put **YOU** in the spotlight. This program allows information about your business, upcoming events, specials, and more... to be sent to nearly 1000+ registered email subscribers. You can even include logo, photos, and a links to your website!

These blasts go out each Monday. There is still spots available for the remainder of 2020. They are taken in advance on a first come, first-served basis. The cost to participate is \$25 a week.

If you are interested in one of these Monday Blasts, please contact the Chamber office for a schedule.

708-424-8300 or office@oaklawnchamber.com

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

Constellation Energy

Lisa Maguire
Palos Hills, IL
(708) 712-5057
www.constellation.com

Elite Benefits

Butch Zemar
Evergreen Park, IL 60805
(708) 535-3006
www.elitebenefits.net

Home Instead Senior Care

Dar Dahleen
12416 S. Harlem Ave., Suite 100
Palos Heights, IL 60463
708-671-2648
www.homestead.com/340/

Paychex HR Services & Technology

Jack Dvorak
18430 W. Creek Dr.
Tinley Park, IL 60477
(708) 921-9794
www.paychex.com

TC Pub

Joe Barry
9700 S Cicero Ave
Oak Lawn, IL 60453
708-425-4252
www.bigjoesbackyardbbq.com/

Total Life Changes

Theresa Perez
Oak Lawn, IL 60453
708-252-6486
retail.totallifechanges.com/35225971

United Vein Centers

Jasleen Sangha
4700 W. 95th St., Ste. # 303
Oak Lawn, IL 60453
708-298-8807
www.unitedveincenter.com

Yasha Sterling Management Agency, LLC

Yasha Sterling
1440 W. Taylor St.
Chicago, IL 60607
(708) 600-7797



www.ysmagency.com

CHICAGO CHATS

The Oak Lawn Chamber has a new program called Chicago Chats. Below is a description of what the program is about. If you are interested in participating in this program, contact the Chamber office - office@oaklawnchamber.com

We go live on Chicagoland Chats with Facebook Live Monday through Friday during the lunch hour. We plan 12 pm -1 pm in case we have technical glitches. We keep the video around 30 mins. Once the live feed is completed, the link for the video is sharable and can be used inside of Facebook or outside (LinkedIn, etc). Our main objective is to give back to the community at large by spotlighting businesses to share their experiences through COVID and shed light on what they are doing to keep their customers/employees/products safe. The focus currently is around COVID and how businesses are working through it. Eventually we will open it up to more of a spotlight interview. At this point and our plans going forward is not to charge anyone for this. This has allowed us to create a good following in weeks vs. months or years.

A typical video will have over 100 views by the time the live feed is over. Within a few days most of the videos will have 400-800 views. Some of the videos have received more views, over 1000, if we have more people share the content. Each week we have over 3,000 engagements with people on Facebook, and that number keeps growing.

Our relationship with OPCC is one day a week is their day to spotlight a chamber member. In return, we ask the chamber to share our content when they see a new video posted. They have also been there for us when we have a no-show or someone that cancels the last min to find another chamber member to spotlight. This would be the same opportunity for OLCC. We can figure out a day of the week for OL and that's their day going forward. We just kindly ask that your members share the content when they see it.

Check out these interviews:

Don Murphy <https://youtu.be/igAsn7bZSZA>

Mia Francesca's https://youtu.be/w9v_XbBBYq8

FARMERS' MARKET



Business of the Week at the Oak Lawn Farmers' Market

The Oak Lawn Farmers' Market runs from June 3rd - October 14th. The market is located at Cook Ave. and Dumke Drive, off of 95th St., outside the Oak Lawn Public Library.

Again this year, the Chamber will offer a spot for a member per week to be our featured at the Chamber's table. Spots will be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis. **Reservations is now open.** The cost to reserve the spot will be \$25.00. (The market is open rain or shine, so the fee is non-refundable.)

NOTE: The business must provide their own table and chairs. They are welcome to bring a tent. The Chamber has a tent available for use (at no charge) however, the business is responsible for transport, set-up and take down of the tent.

For more information, contact the Chamber office. (708) 424-8300 or office@oaklawchamber.com

LUNCH & LEARN

Oak Lawn Chamber
“LUNCH & LEARN” EVENT
Thursday, July 23rd
Oak Lawn Library
Lower Level
9427 S. Raymond Ave.
11:30 AM



**Don't forget to
bring your lunch.**

[Click Here to RSVP](#)

Photo Gallery

March Luncheon



Please Join Us for our August Networking Breakfast



Wednesday, May 20th
8:00 AM
Oak Lawn, IL 60453



Chamber Ambassadors



Virtual Member Networking Breakfast

This will be a great opportunity for you to get reconnected with your fellow chamber members.

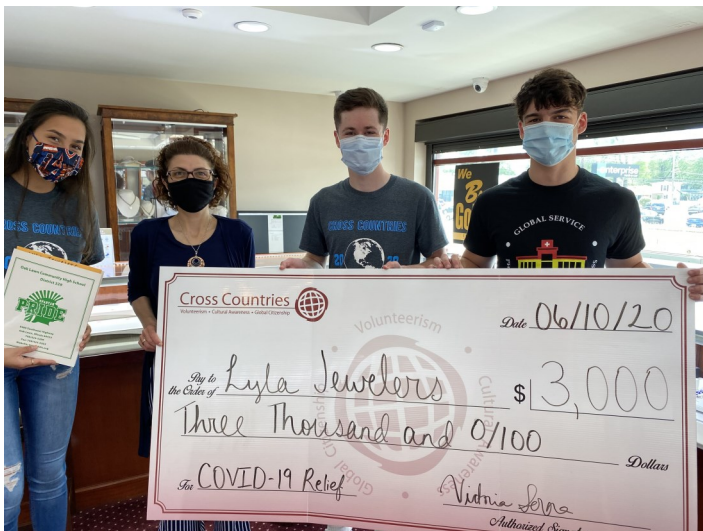
Prepare your breakfast and join us via Zoom to participate in an online networking event to learn more about the Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce's activities during these times. There will be a link to register in our weekly blasts, starting May 1st.

There will be Zoom breakout rooms moderated by your chamber leadership. They will be offering you an opportunity to share how you and your business are fairing during this time. We also want to use it as an opportunity to ask how the chamber can help you get back to business. We look forward to connecting online with you for this event!

Click here to register.

Photo Gallery

OLCHS "Cross Countries" Blind Lottery Winners



News You Can Use

Village of Oak Lawn Reopening Second Stage - June 29, 2020

With the State of Illinois moving into Phase 4 on Friday, June 26, 2020, the Village reopening will move to the second stage of our reopening plan effective June 29, 2020.

- All employees and visitors will be required to wear masks when entering any Village owned building and observe social distancing whenever possible.
- Public meetings and social events are limited to the lesser of 50 guests or 50% of overall room capacity.
- Masks are required and social distancing is observed whenever possible. This includes Board of Trustee meetings and all other public meetings.
- All Departments of Village Hall will be open, including the second floor and basement.

U S Small Business Administration

Assistance available to those whose businesses, homes or personal property were damaged in the recent civil unrest.

The assistance, from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is in the form of low-interest loans to help people repair, rebuild and recover. Importantly, these loans are available to **homeowners and renters, businesses and nonprofit organizations.**

I have also attached a flyer with information about how people can apply in the current COVID environment. If you could post that on your website and share via your social media channels, that would be a great help in getting the information to those who need it.

Finally, our public affairs personnel are available for news or public affairs interviews at this email and the phone number below.

Ayanna Green-Garrett
Public Affairs Specialist
Field Operations Center - East
U.S. Small Business Administration
101 Marietta St. NW, Suite 700
Atlanta, GA 30303
Office: (404) 331-0333
Fax: (202) 481-4480
ayanna.green-garrett@sba.gov

To this end SBA has opened a Virtual Disaster Loan Outreach Center (VDLOC) to help survivors apply online using the Electronic Loan Application (ELA) via the SBA's secure website at <https://disasterloanassistance.sba.gov/s/>

Small Business Majority

COVID-19 Updates: Navigating PPP and EIDL Funding for Illinois Small Business Owners.

Click link to watch the presentation.

<https://app.livestorm.co/small-business-majority/sbm-sba-covid19updates-june30-pppeidl/live?email=office%40oaklawchamber.com&key=7519&s=36f46d55-4445-46e4-8ccd-0c11822cdf40#/chat>

Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity Stay Informed, Stay Healthy, Stay Connected

Application Deadlines Approaching

Business Interruption Grants

Has your business experienced closures due to COVID-19? Apply by July 7th to the Business Interruption Grants (BIG) where \$60M is available for 3,500 businesses. Need assistance with BIG or other small business support or guidance?

One of our 42 Illinois Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs) centers are just a call away <https://bit.ly/2Uha0XL>.

Rebuild Distressed Communities Program

Have businesses in your community sustained property damage as a result of civil unrest?

The \$25 million Rebuild Distressed Communities program will reimburse the costs to repair structural damages, including repairs to storefronts and entrances, improving electrical systems, and restoring exterior work. Organizations interested in applying to administer Distressed Capital Program grants must apply by July 7th.

More information about eligibility and documentation required to apply can be found in the NOFO posted on [DCEO's website](#).

Additional Relief to Assist Communities with COVID-19 Emergency Response

Governor JB Pritzker recently announced The Local Coronavirus Urgent Remediation Emergency (Local CURE) Support Program, a plan by his administration to expedite a portion of Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) dollars designated for local governments by the federal CARES Act.

The State of Illinois will take steps to deploy \$250 million to local governments in the coming months. The additional state relief funds will help local governments secure

reimbursement on eligible costs associated with the emergency response to the COVID-19 crisis.

The funding will be disbursed by the state to communities seeking reimbursements for emergency costs beginning in July.
[Learn more.](#)

August Luncheon



OAK LAWN CHAMBER AUGUST LUNCHEON

AUGUST 11, 2020
MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW

Check out our website for updates,
www.oaklawnchamber.com call (708) 424-8300 or
email at office@oaklawnchamber.com

[Click here to Register](#)

SAVE THE DATE!

**BUSINESS AFTER HOURS
SOUTHSIDE PREGNANCY**



**AUGUST 26 2020
EVERGREEN PARK, IL**

Click here to register.



July 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
						
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 Lunch & Learn	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Saturday, July 4th
Village of Oak Lawn Parade
10:00 AM

Thursday, July 23rd
Virtual Lunch & Learn
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

The Oak Lawn Chamber values your membership and your opinion.

We are gathering information regarding our Membership Directory and a few programs we offer to better serve you our members.

[Take the Survey](#)

If you have any questions, please call the Chamber office 708-424-8300 or email of-
fice@oaklawnchamber.com

Tuesday, August 11th
Board Meeting 11:00 AM
Monthly Luncheon 12:00 PM

Wednesday, August 19th
Virtual Networking Breakfast
8:00 AM

Wednesday, August 26th
Business After Hours
Southside Pregnancy Center
3759 W. 95th St.
Evergreen Park, IL
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

August 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 Luncheon	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 Networking Breakfast	20	21	22
23	24	25	26 BAH	27	28	29