

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.”

Benefits of Joining the Chamber

Networking Opportunities

Monthly Membership Luncheons: When you join, you are invited to attend your first luncheon for free, A \$20 value. The luncheons are great opportunities to network and get to know Chamber members.

Business After Hours (BAH): Chamber members host these early evening networking events as a means to showcase their business to the Chamber members and the community. (Approx. 2 a month)

Ribbon-cutting ceremonies: Are you new in town? Let us help spread the word about your Grand Opening and coordinate a ribbon-cutting ceremony to introduce you and your business to Village Officials, Chamber Members and the Oak Lawn community.

New & Prospective Member Breakfast: Held quarterly to meet new members. This is a morning networking opportunities for those who work late and cannot make it to the BAH.

Lunch & Learn Series: Held quarterly provides business owners and employees throughout the Chamber the opportunity to come together collectively to discuss a variety of topics that will promote business growth throughout all lines of business. The series will be an ongoing professional development tool.

Events

Installation Dinner: This is the kick off to the year with Chamber members, the Oak Lawn Business Community, and local Officials.

Health Fair: Held at the Oak Lawn Senior Center. Open to the public.

Small Business Clinic: Is an annual event, focused on helping small and mid-size companies take business to the next level!

The Chambers Golf Outing and Dinner: This is the Chambers largest fundraiser and the biggest marketing opportunities for its members.

Business Showcase: This is in conjunction with the Oak Lawn Community High School’s Craft Fair.

This is a great marketing opportunity.

Shop Oak Lawn Everyday/Small Business Saturday: This is in conjunction with the Oak Lawn Village Santa on the Green.

We also participate in many Village-sponsored events, including the Farmer’s Market, Fourth of July Parade, and Fall on the Green

Marketing Opportunities

New Innovated Website Presence: All members are listed for free on our website, www.oaklawnchamber.com.

Membership Directory: Your business information is listed categorically and alphabetically in the directory which is distributed annually to all members and made available to residents at various locations such as the Village Hall, Library, Park District locations, area hotels and motels, and local convention and visitor bureaus.

Discounted advertising opportunities: Take advantage of discount advertising in various publications, including the annual Membership Directory, Fire & Public Safety Coloring Book and The Networker (bi-monthly newsletter).

Metra Station/TV Ads: The Chamber office is located in the Oak Lawn Metra Station. As a member, you can provide brochures/info about your business inside the station. The Metra station has over 1000 commuters each day.

Business of the Week/email Blast: This program is designed to put YOU in the spotlight allows information about your business, upcoming events, specials, and more to be sent to nearly 1000 + email subscribers

Other Opportunities

General Committee: As a Chamber member you have the opportunity to join a Committee to have your voice and ideas heard. This is a great way to get involved with the Chamber and the community. The committees that you may join are: Ambassadors, Bonanza Raffle, Business Advisory, Golf Outing, Installation, Legislative, Marketing Committee, Mentor Program and Shop Oak Lawn.

September / October
2020

IN THIS ISSUE:

President’s Message	2 Page
Board Members	2 Page
Member Information	
New members.....	4 Page

Chamber Events

Lunch & Learn	5 Page
September Luncheon	6 Page
Business Showcase	7 Page
October Luncheon	8 Page
September/October Calendar.....	12 Page

The Networker is a publication
of the
Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce.

5120 Museum Drive
Oak Lawn, IL 60453
(708) 424-8300

Fax (708) 229-2236

www.oaklawnchamber.com
office@oaklawnchamber.com

President's Message



Good Day Friends!

Yes! It is a good day. Why? Well, by reading this newsletter, you are actively looking for ways to improve your business and meet your 2020 goals. I think we can all agree, that our goals have drastically changed for the remainder of the year. Some of us are just trying to stay afloat and make it to 2021, while others are capitalizing on recent changes. Regardless of your situation, now is a fantastic time to maximize your chamber membership. I know I've said this before, but in order for you to grow your business, you have to get outside of your comfort zone. Become more active for the sake of your business, and perhaps your

own sanity! You are not alone. With almost 400 Oak Lawn Chamber members, there are businesses that are in your situation, and even more businesses that are eager to work with you. But you have to get involved to meet these people!

Below is a list of actions you can take NOW, to get to where you want to be, by the end of the year.

Network at our next luncheon, in-person, at Wolf Wildlife park, on September 8th at Noon. It will be a great way to meet others and hear the latest from the board of directors. And fresh air is always good for the body.

Business ShowCase in conjunction with Oak Lawn Community High School's craft fair September 12 10AM-3PM

Search the Oak Lawn Chamber's website, at oaklawchamber.com. Here you will have access to all your fellow members' information, the event calendar, as well as information about various chamber committees. Reach out. Now is not the time to hesitate!

Join the Mentorship Program. Ready to launch in just a month or two, this program is looking for current members to assist, or mentor, new members in similar industries, during their first year. Lead by co-chairs, Eileen Kerlin-Walsh and Dr. Mike Riordan, this well-structured program will guide the mentors and mentees every step of the way!

Join the Advisory Council. Bernard Deir, of Midwest Business Consulting, has crafted an amazing program that will allow cohorts in like industries to have meaningful round-table discussions. Keypersons in various industries will facilitate these meetings (utilizing a developed program), and business strategies, amongst many other topics, will be discussed.

Check your email. Emails from the chamber office are not just regarding upcoming meetings and events, but many times includes important information that pertains to your business. With COVID rules constantly changing, there are emails with updates from various government entities, in addition to grant and funding opportunities.

Get involved. In addition to the aforementioned, committees meeting regularly include the Marketing/Membership Directory Committee, Financial/Budget Committee, Legislative Committee, and more! The Ambassador committee continually hosts very engaging speakers on a quarterly basis via their Lunch and Learn events. And Business After Hours are back! Lastly, have you scheduled your free Facebook Lunchtime live interview with our chamber friend, Butch Zemar?!

Let's not fear the rest of 2020. Let's not sit on the sidelines, bracing for what's to come. Instead, let's join forces, help each other up, and be too busy achieving our personal and professional goals to even notice!

Yours 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

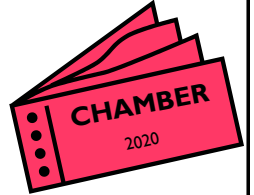
Your Chamber at a Glance

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

Please check the calendar on page 13 or the Chamber website for time and location. All events are posted on our website: www.oaklawchamber.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! 16 chances to win
with each ticket!**

Congratulations to the winners

July

\$25 ~ World Travel Mart

\$25 ~ Eileen Kerlin Walsh

\$50 ~ Sandy Sutko

\$100 ~ Tim Furmanek

August

\$25 ~ Kristinna Hart

\$25 ~ Tom Fox JR

\$50 ~ New Day Spa

\$100 ~ Marguerite McEnergy

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@oaklawchamber.com

Follow The Chamber!



www.oaklawchamber.com

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

I-800 Water Damage of South Side Chicago

Byron Wooten
12608 S. Kroll Dr.
Alsip, IL 60803
773-540-1921
www.1800waterdamage.com/southside-chicago/

Cardinal Liquor Barn / Jib Hot Dogs

Jim Shirazi
9630 Southwest Hwy.
Oak Lawn, IL 60453
708-499-0332
www.cardinalwineandspirits.com

HR Philosophy

Shanee Hunter
Oak Lawn, IL 60453
708-405-8448

NEW Consulting

Nicole Wetzell
Oak Lawn, IL 60453
708-743-4404
www.newconsultingfirm.com

Purple Mercury Co.

Melisa Hill
Oak Lawn, IL 60453
708-955-5688

Sylvan Learning Center

Dina Drakopolou
10338 S. Cicero Ave.
Oak Lawn, IL 60453
708-425-3114
www.sylvanlearning.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, we have **September 23rd & September 30th** available 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



Oak Lawn Farmers' Market Opening

Last date available September 16th

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. 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
October 21, 2020
11:30 AM**



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

September Luncheon



**OAK LAWN CHAMBER
SEPTEMBER
MONTHLY LUNCHEON
"PICNIC IN THE PARK"
UNDER THE PAVILION**

September 8, 2020

Wolf Wildlife Refuge
109th St & Laramie Ave
Oak Lawn, IL 60453
11:30 Registration
12:00 Lunch
\$20 Cost

Please don't forget to RSVP

FOR MORE DETAILS VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT
WWW.OAKLAWNCHAMBER.COM. CALL (708) 424-8300 OR
EMAIL AT OFFICE@OAKLAWNCHAMBER.COM



[Click here to register.](#)

Business Showcase

OLCHS &
OL CHAMBER

FREE
ADMISSION

FREE PARKING

HOLIDAY CRAFT SHOW
&
BUSINESS SHOWCASE

SEPTEMBER 12, 2020
10:00 AM- 3:00 PM
STUDENT PARKING LOT
AUSTIN & 95TH

**CRAFTERS AND
VENDORS TO SHOP FROM!**

**OAK LAWN
BUSINESS SHOWCASE**

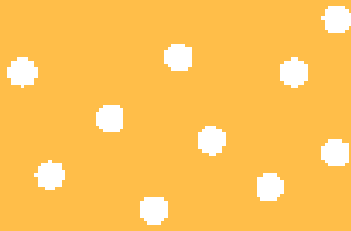
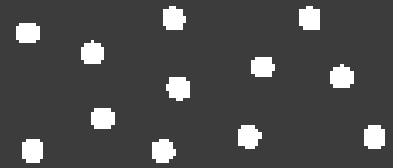
[Click here to register.](#)

October Luncheon

OCT 13

SAVE THE DATE

October Monthly
Luncheon



Location TBD
11:30 AM

Job Posting -Executive Director

The Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce (Chamber) is accepting applications for a key position on our Leadership Team. This position reports to the Board of Directors, directly supervises one part time administrator, and works collaboratively with Board committees to further the mission of the Chamber that operates under an \$80,000 budget.

Located in downtown Oak Lawn, the Chamber is a nonprofit organization that supports approximately 400 members, many of which are retailers and service organizations; including; the village, school districts, park district, library, and the larger business community. Approximately 70% of its members are small businesses.

The ideal candidate will possess the following qualifications:

Self-directed, self-driven, ability to work independently, and think strategically

Manage events and membership engagement with a dedicated focus on the Oak Lawn community

Proficiency with Microsoft Office Suite

Excellent verbal and written communication skills

September 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Labor Day/ Office Closed	8 Luncheon	9	10	11	12 Business Showcase
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Monday, September 7 Labor Day, office Closed

Tuesday, September 8 Luncheon 11:30 AM
Wolf Wildlife Park
 W 109th St & Laramie Ave.
 Oak Lawn, IL 60453

Saturday, September 12 Business Showcase 10:00AM-3:00PM
Oak Lawn Community High School
 Austin & 95th

October 2020

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

Monday, October 12th Columbus Day Chamber Closed

Tuesday, October 13th Luncheon 11:30AM

Wednesday, October 21st Lunch & Learn 11:30AM