

THE OAK LAWN

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.”

2021 Better Days Ahead

To say that 2020 was a challenging year would be an understatement. The emergence of the Coronavirus changed our lives personally, financially and professionally. Closed businesses, closed schools, closed places of worship, working from home, or not working at all were all to be our “new normal”.

We’ve had to learn new skills such as navigating video-chatting and virtual classrooms. Elbow bumps and “air high-fives” became the new way of shaking hands. Terms such as social distancing and curbside pick-up are part of our permanent vocabulary now. I don’t think many of us thought that this pandemic would go on until the end of 2020, yet here we are. Hopefully, 2021 will bring in better days for all of you!

It was in this new and uncertain environment that I tossed my hat in the ring for the job of Executive Director of the Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce. When I first met Julie Miller, who has held the title for the last 13 years, I thought to myself “now that is a interesting job!” So when Julie told me she was retiring to enjoy some well earned rest and relaxation, I took the leap and applied for the position.

I was born and raised in the south suburbs of Chicago. I attended college in Colorado and worked as an Environmental Engineer for many years. I was also a Stay-at-Home mom for some time. My family and I have lived in Oak Lawn now for over 20 years. Our four children attended preschool at Trinity Lutheran, grade school and middle school in District 123 and high school at OLCCHS. They have played softball, t-ball, swam competitively, been in the scouts and enjoyed multiple Oak Lawn Park District activities throughout the years. I myself have spent many hours volunteering in the community in different roles for a variety of organizations. I can honestly and sincerely say that my family and I are deeply embedded in the Oak Lawn community.

I look forward to creating lasting relationships in the business community and cannot wait to see what the future holds for the Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce!

Anne M Fritz
Executive Director
Oak Lawn Chamber Executive Director

JANUARY/FEBRUARY

2021

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5120 Museum Drive
Oak Lawn, IL 60453

President's Message



Happy New Year!

Positive vibes for 2021 coming from your Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce! We are as organized as ever and have a solid board of directors for this upcoming year. We rounded out 2020 with steady membership numbers despite the pandemic, which can be attributed to the forward progress of this great group. As I have mentioned all year long, now is the perfect time to become more involved. Most of the meetings are virtual and will take just a little of your time, meanwhile gaining you many networking possibilities. Look for information in your emails, as well as on the website, regarding our newly formed Business Advisory Council and Mentorship Committee. We are also looking for new members for the marketing committee as previous chairpersons have taken on executive leadership positions. In addition, we will continue to have monthly luncheons and quarterly presentations from our Ambassador committee. There are many opportunities for you to grow your business in 2021!

The office is transitioning well with our new executive director, Anne Fritz, meanwhile Julie Miller (the previous executive director) will be nearby in her new accounting role. Jennifer Villafan, a past-president, will remain our assistant to the executive director. Our incoming president, Eileen Kerlin-Walsh, is ready to begin her work with the chamber and will continue to implement the strategic plan. I enjoyed my work as your chamber president and am honored to have led such a talented and dedicated group of people. I am looking forward to my Immediate Past-President role, and will remain committed to the chamber and this community in which I live.

A new year means new ideas for you and your business. Get involved. Make the most of your chamber membership. Again, Happy New Year, and thank you for a wonderful year as your president!

Sincerely,
Dr. Katie Narbone
2020 Chamber President

2021 Officers and Directors

President

Eileen Kerlin-Walsh (Kerlin-Walsh Law)

1st Vice President

Jim Makina (Allegra Marketing * Print * Mail)

2nd Vice President

Phil Costello (Oak Lawn Park District)

Treasurer

Jeff Reynolds (Nothing Bundt Cakes)

Secretary

Natasha Williams (Three20 Media)

Immediate Past President

Dr. Katie Narbone (Premier Vision Care)

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)

Term Expiring 12/31/22

George Cachares (Fyzical Therapy & Balance Center)

Mary Downing (Complete Vision Care)

Paul Enderle (Oak Lawn Hometown School District 123)

Kathleen Farrell (Oak Lawn Bank & Trust)

Dr. David Finkelstein (Oak Lawn Foot & Ankle)

Dr. Casey Hogan (Advance Eye Care Professionals, P.C.)

Ryan Lichter (Evergreen Park Web Solutions)

Mike Riordan (Oak Lawn Community High School)

Aaron Schiappa (ADP)

Nael Shalabi (Republic Bank)

Jill Stetson (Skin Trust)

Mike Sutko (World Travel Mart)

Chamber Staff

Anne M Fritz - Executive Director

Jennifer Villafan - Administrative Assistant

Your Chamber at a Glance

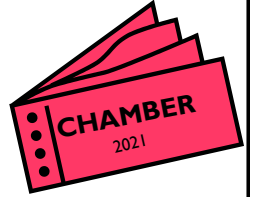
- **Ambassador Meetings**
- **Business After Hours**
- **Business Showcase**
- **Luncheon**
- **Lunch & Learn**
- **New & Prospective Member Breakfasts**

Please check the calendar on page 8 for 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! 8 chances to win
with each ticket!**

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR WINNERS!

November Winners

Eileen Kerlin Walsh—\$100

Katherine Narbone—\$50

Gail Egan—\$25

Richard Marshall—\$25

December Winners

Mike Prusak—\$100

Grassano's Pizza—\$50

Ron Patrick—\$25

Amy Valle—\$25

**Now is a great time to join the Chamber!
If you have a local business, reach out to us
to learn about the benefits of joining.**

There is no Average Chamber!



WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

Grant Harvest

Veronica Studnicka
P.O. Box 552
Oak Lawn, IL 60453
(504) 994-1522
vstudnicka1980@gmail.com

Silencer Athletics

Paul Amos
4038 W 111th Street
Oak Lawn, IL 60453
708-864-0990
teamsilencer@gmail.com
www.silencerathletics.com

Tacqueria El Perez

Sergio Perez
10317 S. Central Ave.
Oak Lawn, IL 60453
(708) 634-2224



Marketing Opportunitites for 2021

Member in Spotlight - Member in Spotlight is a program 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, even links to your website! These blast go out each Monday and spots are reserved in advance and taken on a first come, first-served basis. The cost to participate is \$25 a week.

TV Ads - Advertise on the Chamber TV located inside the metra station. Don't miss the opportunity to market to 1000+ commuters each day that's 365,000 potential customers each year. \$75 Quarterly \$250 Yearly

Website - All members are listed for free on our website. So don't forget to claim your page. This is free to all members. www.oaklawnchamber.com

Metra Station - 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. This is free to all members

Annual Golf Outing - This is the Chamber' largest fundraiser and the biggest marketing opportunity for its members. There are way to advertise your business by golfing, sponsorship, donating raffle prizes.

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.

Fire/Safety Coloring Book - For the past 41 years, the Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce has collaborated with the Oak Lawn Fire Department, on the production of the Fire Safety Coloring Book, the primary tool used to educate children about the dangers of fire and the importance of escape procedures and fire safety. Advertising starting at \$75

Please call the chamber office with any questions or if you wish to advertise with us. 708-424-8300

2021 "Member in the Spotlight"

Member in Spotlight 2021

Sign up today



Registration for 2021 Member in a Spotlight is now open. This is your chance to digitally promote your business to our members for only \$25. If you would like to sign up please contact the chamber office 708-424-8300 or office@oaklawnchamber.com
These spots fill up fast so call today!

[FOR MORE INFORMATION ON MEMBER IN THE SPOTLIGHT CLICK HERE.](#)

2021 Business After Hours

2021 Business After Hours

Sign up today



Are you interested in showcasing your business. Registration is now open for 2021 Business After Hours. If you are interested in hosting a Business After Hours contact the Chamber office 708-424-8300 or office@oaklawnchamber.com

[FOR MORE INFORMATION ON BUSINESS AFTER HOURS CLICK HERE.](#)

2021 "Member in the Spotlight"

Virtual Lunch & Learn

"The Pandemic Pivot; Necessary Mindset Changes to Approach 2021"

By: Mel Roberson

Mel Roberson is a four-time Amazon best selling author, accomplished actor, and dynamic speaker.

Wednesday, January 20th

11:30 AM

[Lunch & Learn Registration](#)

New & Prospective Member Breakfast

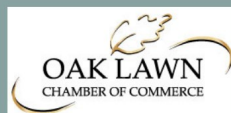


You're invited!

New and Prospective Member Virtual Breakfast



Wednesday
February 17th
8:00 AM



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. There will be Zoom breakout rooms moderated by our chamber leadership. They will be offering you an opportunity to share how you and your business are faring 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!

[NEW & PROSPECTIVE BREAKFAST REGISTRATION](#)

Happy 75th Anniversary to the Oak Lawn Chamber!!



February Luncheon



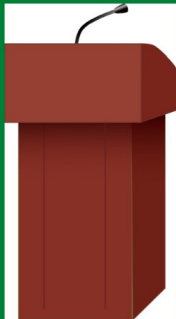
February Luncheon

& STATE OF THE VILLAGE ADDRESS

Tuesday, February 9th

12:00PM

Location: TBD



Guest Speaker
Village President
Dr. Sandra Bury



Follow The Chamber!



www.oaklawnchamber.com

January 2021

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

Monday, January 4th
Office Re-Opens

Saturday, January 16th
Virtual Installation Event

Wednesday, January 20th
Lunch & Learn
11:30 AM—1:00 PM

Wednesday, January 27th
Installation Event
6:00 PM

February 2021

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

Tuesday, February, 9th
Luncheon 11:30AM

Wednesday, February 17th
New & Prospective Breakfast
8:00 AM