# OAK LAWN NETWORKER MARCH/APRIL 2024 EDITION

Presented by 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."

### **Marketing Opportunities in 2024**

**Business After Hours - (Call for 2024 Schedule)** BAH's are after work networking events that provide the opportunity for Chamber Members and others to visit your business "after hours:" to learn more about your products and services while networking with fellow members.

Member in Spotlight - (Call for 2024 Schedule) 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 750+ registered email subscribers. Your email can include logo, photos, even links to your website! These blasts go out each Monday and spots are reserved in advance and taken on a first come, first-served basis. The cost to participate is \$30 a week.

**Metra Station Stacks** - 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 hundreds of commuters each day. This is free to all members.

Metra TV Ads—(Call for the 2024 Schedule) Advertise in the Metra Patriot station 24/7/365. Quarterly ads \$75 for members.

**NEW in MARCH! - (Call for the 2024 Schedule)** Luncheon Sponsorship opportunities available. One sponsor per luncheon for \$250. Sponsorship includes chance to present at luncheon plus a marketing table.

**Membership Directory** - Advertising available for 2025 Directory.

**Brand New Website** - All members are listed for free on our website. You can post videos, pictures and even blog! If you don't know how to use any of these free marketing tools, contact the Chamber Office. This is free to all members.

**Weekly Email Blasts**—Free to all members! If you have event information to share with our community, email it to the Chamber office and it will be shared for the weeks leading up to the date.

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

### March/April 2024

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

5120 Museum Drive

Oak Lawn, IL 60453

(708) 424-8300

REMEMBER
SHOP SMALL
& SHOP LOCAL!

### Welcome to our 2024 Directors!

### **2024 Officers & Directors**

President – Natasha Williams, Three20 Media

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Nick Gulino, JP Architects, Ltd.

Treasurer – Nicole Wetzell, NEW Marketing Solutions

Secretary – Susan Latocha, Advocate Health Center

Immediate Past President – Jeff Reynolds, Nothing Bundt Cakes

### Board of Directors, Term Expiring 12/31/24

Dr. Sandra Bury, Complete Vision Care
Shannon Dahlman, Grace Point Place
Joseph Eaton, Shark Shredding
Dr. Paul Enderle, OLHS District 123
Dr. David Finklestein, Oak Lawn Foot & Ankle
Dr. Mike Jacobsen, CHSD 218
Erin Molek, BEDS Plus Care
Steven Pappageorge, Moraine Valley Community College
Jill Stetson, SkinTrust
Mike Sutko, World Travel Mart
Justin Waters, Oak Lawn Park District
Michelle West, The Children's Museum Oak Lawn

### **Board of Directors, Term Expiring 12/31/25**

Dr. Shaheh Bagdasarian, CHSD 229
Karen Boll, Napleton Ford
Tammy Coleman, Hilton Chicago/Oak Lawn
David Dewar, Tax-Free Retirement Solutions
Elizabeth Lawler, OSF Healthcare
Ginger Morgan, Thompson Kuenster
Rob Reichardt, JDog Junk Removal
Daniel Stidham, Calvary Church
Sharon Vetsch, The QuickBooks Queen
Carol Williams, Oak Lawn Public Library
Linda Wong, Express Employment Professionals

### **Chamber Staff**

Anne M Fritz - Executive Director

Jennifer Villafan - Administrative Assistant

### Letter for the Oak Lawn Chamber President Natasha Miller Williams, Three20 Media



Hello, Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce Members, and Friends:

I'm thrilled to say hello as your 2024 President. Serving in this role is both an honor and a joy, and I can't wait to be part of the ongoing success and growth of our fantastic business community.

My husband, Jamel, and I own Three20 Media, a full-service media production company. Having called Oak Lawn home for the past 14 years and being chamber members for 7 years, our love for this community runs deep. As parents in the local school district, we're genuinely invested in the well-being and growth of the village of Oak Lawn.

I remember joining the chamber because of the outreach of a former member. I was so grateful for the invitation to the luncheon, where I met so many wonderful business owners. A year later, I was honored with an invitation to join the board of directors, providing a platform to contribute ideas for the advancement of our business community.

As we stand at the threshold of a promising year, I am reminded of the strength that lies in our collective efforts and shared aspirations. The Oak Lawn Chamber has a rich history of fostering collaboration, supporting local businesses, and driving economic prosperity, and I am committed to upholding and building upon these values. This year, our board has articulated priorities that fill me with pride as I share them with you —networking, community engagement, promotion & marketing, information and research, and member services. Concentrating our efforts in these areas will undoubtedly allow us to play a vital role in the success of all businesses, ensuring their reach to shoppers while preserving a profound sense of pride in our downtown.

In January, we kicked off our year with a wonderful installation dinner and I extend my heartfelt thanks to our executive director, Anne Fritz, our gracious host, the Oak Lawn Hilton, and the entire planning committee for orchestrating such a wonderful event. A special acknowledgment is reserved for Pastor Daniel Stidham, recognized as our Outstanding Member of the year.

This year, I look forward to working closely with our dedicated board members, committee chairs, and I'm especially honored to be working with a wonderful Executive Board including: Jeff Reynolds of Nothing Bundt Cakes, Nick Gulino of JP Architects, Nicole Wetzell of NEW Consulting, and Sue Latocha of Advocate Health, along with our Chamber office executive director, Anne Fritz. We will strive to introduce new initiatives, strengthen existing partnerships, and create opportunities for networking and collaboration that benefit us all.

Your thoughts and ideas are of great value to us, and I encourage you to reach out with any questions or suggestions on how we can continue to elevate our powerful Chamber and contribute even more profoundly to the well-being of our community.

See you around the Village!

Warmly,

Natasha

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### Your Chamber at a Glance

- Business After Hours
- Member in the Spotlight
- Monthly Member Luncheons
- Quarterly Lunch & Learns
- Quarterly New & Prospective Member Breakfasts
- Ribbon Cuttings for New Members

Please check the calendar on page 16 for the Chamber website for time and location.

All events are posted on our website:

www.oaklawnchamber.com

### **2024 Bonanza Raffle** Tickets on Sale Now!

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



#### **Buy now!**

Winning tickets are placed back for even more chances the following month!

### **CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR WINNERS!**

### **January Winners**

\$100—Teresa Chramiec

\$50—Teresa Chramiec

\$25—Nader Zeidan

\$25—Rob Reichardt

### **February Winners**

\$100—Orville Davis

\$50—Dr. David Finkelstein

\$25—Karen Davis

\$25—Jimmy Buschbach

# When you support a small business, You are supporting a Dream! Thank you for shopping local!!

Welcome to our NEW Members!

#### **Cleanwell Building Maintenance**

John Barrett Chicago, IL 60655 (773) 779-8977 advantagecleanwell@gmail.com

#### Fresh

Lauren Schultz 2910 W. 36<sup>th</sup> Street Chicago, IL 60632 (773) 538-7892 info@myfreshlaundry.com www.myfreshlaundry.com

#### Rita's Italian Ice & Custard

Ahmed Masad
5136 W 95<sup>th</sup> Street
Oak Lawn, IL 60453
(708) 725-1375
ritasofoaklawn@gmail.com
www.ritasice.com/location/ritas-of-oak-lawn-il

## 2024 Installation Dinner Hilton Oak Lawn

### **2023 Outstanding Chamber Member**

Daniel Stidham Calvary Church













## BEDS Plus Care, Inc. Ribbon Cutting





D123 Community + Family Resource Network
Lunch & Learn

# February Chamber Member Luncheon Oak Lawn "State of the Village" Hilton Chicago Oak Lawn

#### **Welcome New Member!**

Flow Right Plumbers

708-388-9729

http://www.flowrightplumbers.com

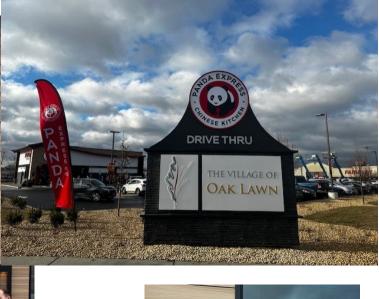






# **Panda Express** *Ribbon Cutting*









Panda Express
4801 W. 87th Street
Oak Lawn





# 1st Quarter New/Prospective Member Breakfast The Original Pancake House





## JDog Junk Removal & Hauling Business After Hours







### MARCH 7th 5-7pm



JDog invites you to join us in our business after hours!
A night of networking and socializing.
Food and alcoholic beverages provided by Taqueria El Perez.

For a \$50 donation to Sleep in Heavenly Peace, each donor will get 60 secs to promote their business.

Oak Lawn Train Station 5120 Museum Drive

**VETERAN OWNED \* VETERAN OPERATED** 

### **March Chamber Member Luncheon**

Oak Lawn Community High School

### Oak Lawn Chamber March Luncheon

Oak Lawn Community
High School
9400 Southwest Highway
Oak Lawn, IL 60453

Tuesday March 12
11:30AM Networking/Registration
12:00PM Lunch
\$25

Join us for our March monthly luncheon.

We will be acknowledging the

OLCHS artists whose illustrations

were used in the 2023

Fire & Safety coloring books.

Lunch catered by Browns Chicken & Pasta Desserts catered by Las Cerezas- Oak Lawn

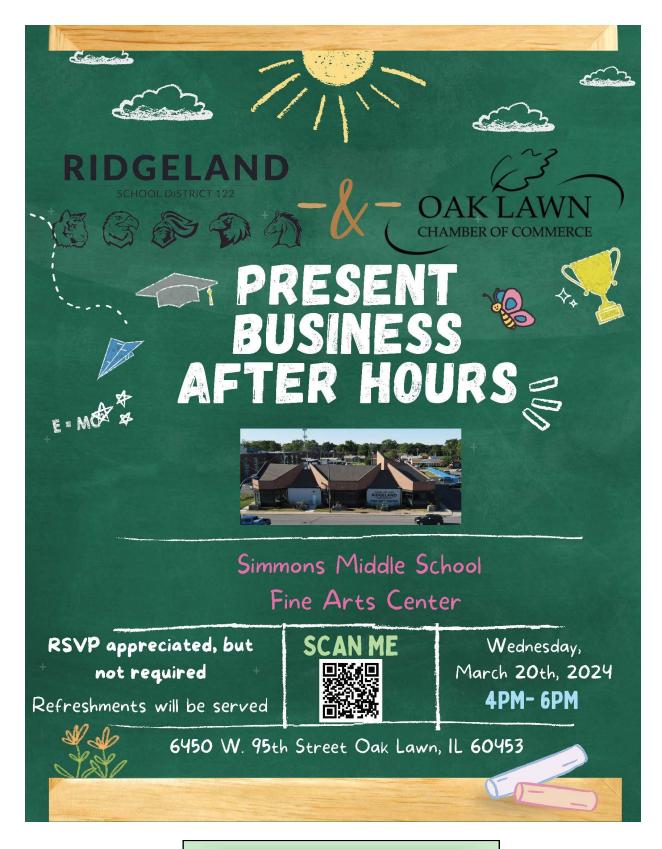
OLCHS Choir will be performing



Walk-ins are limited.
RSVP-Strongly Recommended
708-424-8300 or
www.oaklawnchamber.com



### Ridgeland School District 122 Business After Hours



### April Chamber Member Network Breakfast Hilton Oak Lawn

### OAK LAWN CHAMBER NETWORKING BREAKFAST

Join us for our networking breakfast.

Come network with other neighborhood business representatives. Anyone is welcome to attend.

TUESDAY, APRIL 9TH 8:30 REGISTRATION/ NETWORKING 9:00AM BREAKFAST \$25 HILTON OAK LAWN/CHICAGO 9333 S CICERO AVE OAK LAWN, IL 60453

WALK-INS ARE LIMITED.
RSVP-STRONGLY RECOMMENDED
708-424-8300 OR WWW.OAKLAWNCHAMBER.COM

OAK LAWN
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

### **2nd Quarter Lunch & Learn** *Al 101*



### Oak Lawn Chamber Lunch & Learn

**Navigating Al: Insights for Small Business Success** 

Jennifer will presenting on the following subjects:

Basic understanding of artificial intelligence (AI)

-What is ChatGPT and how it works

-Practical use cases

-ChatGPT for small business

Virtual April 17, 2024 11:30 AM Presented by: Jennnifer Zimnowski from Figyr Digitia

**Register Here** 







Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce 708-424-8300 www.oaklawnchamber.com

### **Health & Safety Expo**

Senior Center Oak Lawn

### **HEALTH & SAFETY EXPO**

April 24th, 2024

5220 W 105th St Oak Lawn, IL 60453 9:00AM-12:00PM

Over 40
health & safety
vendors will
be on-site!



Free Admission

Free Health Screenings

Free Raffles

Shredding event 9:30 - 11:30 am Sponsored by State Representative Kelly Burke & Senator Bill Cunningham



FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 708-424-8300 WWW.OAKLAWNCHAMBER.COM

### March 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 JDog Business After Hours	8	9
10	11	12 Chamber Member Luncheon	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Ridgeland Dist 122 Business After Hours	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

### **April 2024**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7		9 Chamber Member Breakfast	10	11	12	13
14	15		17 Lunch & Learn	18	19	20
21	22		24 Health & Safety Expo	25	26	27
28	29	30				



### Office Hours Monday—Thursday 9 am—3 pm

Thursday, March 7th, 5-7 pm JDog Business After Hours 5120 Museum Drive

Tuesday, March 12th, 11:30 am Chamber Member Luncheon 9400 Southwest Highway

Wednesday, March 20th, 4-6 pm Ridgeland District 122 Business After Hours 6450 W 95th Street

Tuesday, March 9th, 8:30 am Chamber Member Breakfast 9333 S. Cicero Ave.

Wednesday, April 17th, 11:30 am Lunch & Learn

Wednesday, March 24th 9 am—12 pm Health & Safety Expo 5220 W. 105th Street



### Follow The Chamber!







www.oaklawnchamber.com