

Season's Greetings & HAPPY 2020

Chamber members celebrated the holiday season at "The VEST Holiday Party" on Thursday, December 12 at Palos Country Club, 13100 Southwest Highway in Orland Park. Special thanks to Pat Pykett and her staff for providing delicious food, great service and a wonderful atmosphere. The room was abuzz with good conversation, great connections and raffle prizes announced every half hour. Attendees donated non-perishable food, a bounty of toys and cash to benefit the Orland Township Food Pantry. Prizes for the VEST dressed went to Danielle Clouston - Residences of Orland Park Crossing and Stacy Costalunga - Elements by the Odyssey.



TAKE NOTE



President's Message

Fellow Chamber Members -

I hope this, my last President's Message, finds you well after having a fun and safe Christmas and New Year. Obviously, the New Year always represents change but also provides for opportunity. 2020 is going to be a great year for OPACC. I have been fortunate to meet many of you this year, and am grateful for the leadership and teamwork of your Board of Directors. I can honestly say I believe this is the strongest group we have assembled, and I have been around for more years than I would like to count. THANK YOU ALL.

A few highlights of 2019 include:

- A successful financial year that stuck to the budget
- Recruiting and retaining a great Board of Directors
- The office working incredibly hard to keep everything organized while marketing our events and committees. I want to highlight how special Felicitas and her team are. Everything they do is first class.
- We have positioned OPACC in the community as true advocates for business and found ways to be even better partners with the Village. Mayor Keith and his team deserve a lot of credit for their commitment to the business community.
- We made news at our joint event with the Small Business Advocacy Council, and provided a format that tackled the pros and cons of Illinois' possible progressive income tax. Our partnership with the SBAC will last long into the future. I couldn't be happier with our growing relationship.
- All our major events were successful! Great work to all who volunteered and attended.
- There were many great ribbon cuttings, business after hours, and membership meetings which will lead to strong relationships and fruitful business partnerships.

In closing, I want to express how touched I have been by everyone's support to myself and the group as a whole. Being able to serve as President of such a great organization has been a personal highlight of my professional career. I look forward to the many great years ahead for the Chamber, wish you all success, and can't wait to continue to see you in the community.

Sincerely,

Mike Hardek
2019 OPACC President
First Secure Bank & Trust

2019 OPACC Leadership Team

Executive Director
Felicitas Cortez

Executive Board
Michael Hardek
President
First Secure Bank & Trust

Raymond Klosowski
President Elect
Mueller & Co., LLP

Joyce Bibeau
Vice President
Kerry Funeral Home

Panorea Bakutis
Treasurer
Pearson

Meghan Preston
Secretary
*Delaney, Delaney
& Voorn. Ltd.*

Renee Crews
Immediate Past President
Angels Among Us

Board of Directors
Christopher Bell
Side Six Media

Glen Borkowski
DreamMaker Bath & Kitchen

Michael A. Buck
*Law Offices of
Michael A. Buck*

Amy Coghill
Silver Lake Country Club

Adam Czerwinski
*Sidebar Insurance
Solutions, Inc.*

Bob Feldman
Nothing Bundt Cakes

Ramzi Hassan
Edwards Realty Company

April Koerber
Barrel Club

Kurt Lindemann
Morgan Stanley

Vivette Payne
Avery Payne Group

Monika Sestakauskaite
Republic Bank of Chicago

Kyle Treglown
*Keller Williams
Preferred Realty
Bodie - Treglown Team*

TAKE NOTE



Mayor's Message

2019 was a fantastic year for Orland Park and its business community.

It was great to see many of you at the Holiday Festival on December 1st. These are more than just seasonal celebrations, but celebrations of the community as a whole. Residents of, and visitors to Orland Park enjoyed the family-friendly festivities.

Thank you to the many local businesses that participated in our inaugural job fair on December 9. Your involvement in strengthening the community is commendable and greatly appreciated. Please pass along your feedback so that we can improve the event in the future.

Orland Park continues to be the location of choice for restaurants. We recently welcomed White Sheep, Texas de Brazil, and Cajun Boil to Orland Park and we look forward to Raising Cane's and Lazy Dog going into the former Toys R Us space located at 151st and LaGrange Road. Wu's Ramen will open just south of that location. Arby's will fill the spot vacated by Taco Bell on Harlem Avenue.

These will be additions to Orland Park's 155 restaurants, of which 70 are family owned. Orland Park is also home to 19 ice cream/dessert stores and 15 coffee shops. Sales at food establishments are up over 5% from 2018.

While retail may be suffering nationally, the village's retail horizon is looking bright with new additions strengthening our business community. We were pleased to welcome Von Maur to Orland Park. The store opened just before the 2019 holiday season in the former Carson's location at Orland Square Mall with a record breaking grand opening, larger than any other the retail giant has ever seen.

The process of bringing Von Maur to Orland Park was made possible by a collaborative partnership that included the efforts of the Village of Orland Park, School Districts 135 and 230, the Orland Fire Protection District, the Orland Park Public Library and Simon Properties.

We look forward to the 2020 groundbreaking for AMC Theaters at Orland Square Mall and the finalization of an agreement to redevelop the Triangle.

The fact that these businesses and developments chose Orland Park is a testament to the health of Orland Park's economy.

I want to thank all of our Orland Park businesses and look forward to another exciting and prosperous year for the Orland Park community!

Keith Pekau
Mayor, Village of Orland Park

2019 OPACC Leadership Team

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Vivette Payne
Avery Payne Group

Monika Sestakauskaite
Republic Bank of Chicago

Kyle Treglown
*Keller Williams
Preferred Realty
Bodie - Treglown Team*

We Appreciate our PREMIER MEMBERS

RIZZACARS.com

7 NEW CAR FRANCHISES



Orland Park | Mokena

MAXIM
maintenance

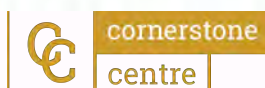
INSIDE
LOOKS
by debi Ross



GREAT FOOD BRINGS US TOGETHER



BURR RIDGE
VILLAGE CENTER



ORLAND PARK
CROSSING



*You are invited to attend a
Celebration
of the*

Orland Park Area
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Member Awards & Board Installation

*Join us as we welcome our new President &
the 2020 Board of Directors*

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 16TH 2020
5:30 PM TO 8:30 PM**

Elements by the Odyssey
**16235 S. LAGRANGE ROAD
ORLAND PARK**

**GOURMET BUFFET, 1 DRINK TICKET, CASH BAR
\$40 PER PERSON WITH REGISTRATION
\$300 RESERVED TABLE OF 8
RSVP ONLINE WWW.ORLANDPARKCHAMBER.ORG**



Orland Park Area CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Presidential Awards

MEMBER OF THE YEAR

Bob Feldman
Nothing Bundt Cakes

BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

Edwards
Realty Company

Chamber Awards

AMBASSADOR OF THE YEAR

Glen Borkowski
DreamMaker Bath & Kitchen

YOUNG PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR

Surprise
Announcement

2020 Board of Directors

PRESIDENT

Raymond Klosowski
Mueller & Co., LLP

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Joyce Bibeau
Kerry Funeral Home

VICE PRESIDENT

Panorea Bakutis
Pearson

TREASURER

Meghan Preston
*Delaney, Delaney &
Voorn, Ltd.*

SECRETARY

Adam Czerwinski
Sidebar Insurance

PAST PRESIDENT

Michael Hardek
First Secure Bank & Trust

Christopher Bell
Side Six Media, LLC

Roy Crews
Angels Among Us

Kurt Lindemann
Morgan Stanley

Glen Borkowski
*DreamMaker
Bath & Kitchen*

Bob Feldman
*Nothing
Bundt Cakes*

Monika Sestakaускаite
*Republic Bank
of Chicago*

Michael Buck
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*Edwards
Realty Company*

Kyle Treglown
*Keller Williams
Preferred Realty
Bodie-Treglown Team*

Amy Coghill
Silver Lake Country Club

April Koerber
The Barrel Club

NEW YEAR, NEW LAWS

Presented by
The OPACC
Legislative Committee



Monthly Membership Meeting & Legislative Update

Wednesday, January 29, 7:45 to 9am

The Bridge Teen Center

15555 71st Court * Orland Park



Register at www.orlandparkchamber.org or call 708-349-2972

We're Growing...Welcome New Members

F45 Training

Lorraine Patel
15762 S. LaGrange Road
Orland Park, IL 60462
Phone: (630) 345-3695
orlandpark@f45training.com
www.f45training.com/
orlandpark
Fitness/Education & Training

Impact Physical Therapy/ Chicago Recovery Room

Tammy Stack
15441 S. 94th Avenue
Orland Park, IL 60462
Phone: (708) 981-3715
orlandpark@impactphysical
therapy.com
www.impactphysicaltherapy.
com
Physical Therapy

Lake View Plaza

Matthew Guglielmo
15854 S. LaGrange Road
Orland Park, IL 60462
Phone: (847) 220-6712
matt.guglielmo@washington
prime.com
http://washingtonprime.com/
map/profile.dT/lake-view-plaza/
Shopping Center

NovaCare Kids

Aileen Lysaught
14315 S. 108th Avenue
Orland Park, IL 60462
Phone: (708) 675-2100
alysaught@novacare.com
www.novacare.com
Physical Therapy

Orland Dental Care

Nicole Dean
14360 S. LaGrange Road Unit C
Orland Park, IL 60462
Phone: (708) 364-8900
nicole.opdental@gmail.com
www.orlanddentalcare.com
Dental Care/Orthodontist

Ozinga

Andy Escallier
19001 Old LaGrange Road
Mokena, IL 60448
Phone: (708) 326-4200
andyescallier@ozinga.com
www.ozinga.com
Construction

PLOWS Council on Aging

Jennifer Petterson
7808 W. College Drive 5th Floor
Palos Heights, IL 60463
Phone: (708) 361-0219
jpetterson@plows.org
www.plows.org
*Not for Profit - Service
Organization*

SWCCCASE Transition

Cara Brown
14535 John Humphrey Drive
Orland Park, IL 60462
Phone: (708) 873-1600
cjbrown@swcccase.org
www.swcccase.org/
Educational Organization

The Right Choice Home Care

Sharon Newman
Park Forest, IL 60466
Phone: (866) 799-5955
snewman@rightchoicehome
care.com
www.rightchoicehomecare.com
Senior Care/Personal Assistance

Thinfast M.D. Orland Park

Tonya Jackson
10755 Winterset Drive
Orland Park, IL 60467
Phone: (630) 865-6639
tonyathinfast@gmail.com
www.thinfastmd.com
Health & Beauty

Two Men and a Truck

Paul Brown
7420 Duvan Drive
Tinley Park, IL 60477
Phone: (708) 942-4178
paul.brown@twomen.com
www.twomenandatruck.com/
movers/il/chicago/orland-park
Moving & Storage

Correction from Nov-Dec 2019

The Flying Locksmiths, Chicago Southwest

David Southworth
5202 Washington Street Suite 3
Downers Grove, IL 60515
Phone: (630) 297-5542
david@lockandkeycommerce.
com
https://flyinglocksmiths.com/loc
ations/chicago-southwest/
Alarm Systems/Security

OPACC

Editor's Notes

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Orland Park Chamber

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Village of Orland Park

If you are interested in contributing
to the *Chambergram*, please
contact Bonnie Hollaway at
bonnie@orlandparkchamber.org

SAVE THESE DATES

You don't want to miss
these events!

January 16, 2020 - Member Awards & Board Installation

April 23, 2020 - OWN Luncheon

June 18, 2020 - Golf Outing

September 26, 2020 - Arts & Drafts

October 2020 - Community Expo

New Member Introductions



Lake View Plaza

Lake View Plaza is home to a wide variety of major retailers and dining options, including Best Buy, Petco, Bob's Discount Furniture, Golf Galaxy, Tuesday Mornings, Firehouse Subs, Buffalo Wild Wings, Gamestop, Carters, Shoe Carnival, JoAnn Fabrics, Sola Salon Studio, Bank of America, Sally Beauty, Oshkosh B'Gosh and many more. Come visit us at 15854 S. La Grange Road to enjoy all we have to offer.



The Right Choice Home Care

is an independently owned Illinois State Licensed Home Care company. Married 14 years, Owners Sharon and Johnathan Newman wanted to offer the best care possible, and be directly accessible to the families, or person seeking care. RCHC has been in business since 2015 and we service Will, Cook and DuPage counties. We use a combined 25 years of experience in Home and Health Care to develop an individual plan of care, that's solely based on the most important person: the person in our care at that moment! Our goals are to assist our clients with aging in place, which most times means a continued Home Living setting and the freedom to continue to enjoy life on whatever terms you are able. We work with several medical and rehab facilities to make sure upon their patients discharge they will have the necessary assistance needed to allow a loved one to receive the highest level of care, so the family can simply focus on being family. We have accreditation and certification as Dementia Care Practitioners and our staff is educated on the latest methods of providing care to clients with memory challenges. We are available 24 hours a day, and provide services from Companion to Post Surgical Care. Call today for a Free in-home consultation



NovaCare Kids

NovaCare Kids Pediatric Therapy in Orland Park provides Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapy as well as Applied Behavior Analysis to children aged birth to 21. Their highly trained clinical team will design a specialized plan of care that is just right for the child.

Through experience, advanced clinical training and clear communication with patients and their parents, their therapy team will assist children in achieving their highest potential for participation in school, activity and life.

NovaCare Kids is committed to providing an exceptional experience that promotes healing and development of motor, social and communication skills that enhance a child's participation in desired family, community and school activities. They apply the latest pediatric treatments in a play-based environment to ensure each child, from birth to 21, gets the care they need.

The Orland Park location is managed by Aileen Lysaught, MS.CCC-SLP. Aileen is a Speech Language Pathologist and feeding specialist with over ten years of experience in pediatrics. Aileen provides speech and language treatment and feeding intervention to patients with a variety of diagnoses. She also has specialized training in the areas of Apraxia of speech, infant and child feeding disorders and oromyofunctional therapy.

NovaCare Kids Pediatric Therapy is located at 14315 S. 108th Ave Suite 230 in Orland Park. The team is excited to serve the community of Orland Park and become more involved with the chamber! Please contact (708) 675-2100 with any questions or to schedule a complimentary screening today!



Ozinga

The Ozinga story started as a single horse-and- buggy operation. Ninety years later, the company is now a premier building materials provider, comprised of more than 75 operational facilities across five states, 2,000 coworkers... and they are still growing! With a culture driven by values, Ozinga strives to make long-term commitments to their coworkers, customers, and communities. The company is currently led by 4th generation family members who realize that passing the torch to the next generation is crucial to success. Each new generation is encouraged to test the boundaries of the construction industry, to take risks, and leave a positive impact on people, their families, and the community for generations to come. This is apparent in their innovation, their dedication to service, learning and entrepreneurship, and their commitment to making business decisions that align with the company's purpose to make a positive impact. Architects, Ltd. is a full-service architecture firm that specializes in and is passionate about residential design, commercial architecture and public sector planning / capital improvement projects. Located at 7250 College Drive, Palos Heights, IL 60463, we serve North and Central Illinois. We complete hundreds of projects per year and bring sound principles of design, resourcefulness, reliability, unmatched quality and enthusiasm to each project.

Do You Have A High School Senior Graduating in 2020?



The Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce will award three \$1000 educational scholarships to high school seniors whose parents are either the owner of or employed by a current Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce member business in good standing.

High school seniors who are employed by a current OPACC member business in good standing are also eligible to apply.

The member's dues must be current and verified by the Executive Director.

Applications & documentation must be returned to

the Orland Park Area Chamber or
emailed to fcortez@orlandparkchamber.org
on or before Friday, March 6.



Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce \$1000 College Scholarship Application - 2020

The Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce will award three \$1000 scholarships to high school seniors whose parents are either the owner of, or employed by, a current OPACC member business in good standing. High school seniors who are employed by a current OPACC member business in good standing are also eligible to apply. Fillable PDF applications and documentation must be returned to the Chamber office or emailed to fcortez@orlandparkchamber.org on or before **Friday, March 6, 2020**.

1) Applicant Name _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

2) Home Address _____
(Number and Street, Apt. #)

(City, State, Zip Code)

3) Telephone Number _____

4) High School _____

5) Anticipated Graduation Date _____ Cumulative G.P.A. _____

6) Parent or Student Employer _____

7) In chronological order, list your high school extracurricular activities and organizations.
Include elective offices held and other awards and honors received.

8) In chronological order, list and describe clubs, activities, service organizations, and/or civic groups with which you have participated outside of school.

- 9) List and describe all part-time or full-time employment positions held.

- 10) Have you volunteered at the Chamber office or Chamber event? Please list your Chamber-related volunteer history. _____

- 11) Where do you plan to continue your education?

- 12) Personal Narrative: Please attach a separate essay which describes your desire to pursue post high school education/training. What are your college plans or intended major? What, or whom, influenced your choice? Tell us how you plan to finance your education and whether or not you have received notification of other scholarships, grants or financial aid. What are your personal interests, hobbies or talents? Why should you be considered for this scholarship?

- 13) Teacher Recommendation: Along with this application, please submit a recommendation letter from a current or former teacher. This letter should describe your character, academic or leadership accomplishments as a student in their classroom.

- 14) Other Recommendation: Also submit a recommendation letter from one other adult leader (may also be a teacher) who has supervised you as an employee or volunteer. This letter should comment upon your character, maturity and work ethic.

Applicant Certification

I hereby certify that I have read and understand all the qualification criteria for the Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce Scholarship, that I am an eligible applicant under each of the listed criteria, and that all of the information given on this form is true and correct to be the best of my knowledge. I further certify that if I receive a scholarship award it will go towards the cost of my education and for no other purpose.

Applicant's Signature: _____

Date Submitted: _____

Counselor Certification

I certify that the above named applicant's class rank, GPA and anticipated graduation date are accurately reported.

Counselor's Signature: _____

Date Submitted: _____
Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce
8799 W. 151st Street
Orland Park, IL 60462
Phone: 708-349-2972
www.orlandparkchamber.org
fcortez@orlandparkchamber.org

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: Date Received _____ Membership Verification _____

VEST Holiday Party

Governors State
University



Shark Shredding, Inc

Salina's Pizza -
Catering - Rentals



Orland Dental Care



Residences of Orland Park Crossing



Dykstra Home Services



Elements by the Odyssey



Oak Forest
Executive Center

OPACC HAPPENINGS



Rosemary and Dan Konz, pictured above left, Young Living Essential Oils and LifeWave Independent Distributors, hosted a Multi-Chamber Business After Hours at the Tinley Park Business Lounge on November 14. Attendees learned about the benefits of essential oils and LifeWave products.

MAXIMIZE YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Join us at one of our upcoming Membership Orientations and learn to
MAXIMIZE YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

Executive Director Felicitas Cortez will present an overview of the
Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce - its history, structure and purpose.
Member Services Coordinator Bonnie Hollaway will present hands-on tips and tricks
for navigating the Chamber's website and Member Information Center.

These sessions are held on Friday from 9:30am to 10:30am
at the Chamber Office
8799 W. 151st Street, Orland Park

Please RSVP online at www.orlandparkchamber.org
January 24, 2020
March 20, 2020
May 15, 2020
July 17, 2020
September 11, 2020
November 13, 2020

OPACC HAPPENINGS



First American Bank, located at 14245 LaGrange Road in Orland Park, hosted the Chamber's Monthly Membership Meeting on November 20, 2019.

OPACC President Michael Hardek welcomed Chamber members and introduced Nicki Biesiada, Branch Manager of First American Bank. Village of Orland Park President Keith Pekau presented a brief business update. The following new members in attendance were presented their official membership plaques:

Pictured above:

Sharon Newman - The Right Choice Home Care

Pictured below:

Tonya Jackson - ThinFast M.D. Orland Park

Pictured to the right:

OPACC Executive Director Felicitas Cortez, Kyle LeGrune, Nicki Biesiada and Alan Lane-Murcia of First American Bank and OPACC President Mike Hardek



OPACC BUSINESSES



On November 9, 2019, the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union celebrated the opening of their Orland Park location at 15108 S. LaGrange Road. OPACC Treasurer Panorea Bakutis presented the official Chamber plaque as Board President-Elect Raymond Koslowski, Board members Michael Buck and Glen Borkowski and Village of Orland Park Trustee Daniel Calandriello joined in support of this new business. Pictured below left: Bogdan Ogorek - Board of Director, Krzysztof Matyszczyk - Chairman, Bogdan Chmielewski - President/CEO, Malgorzata Gradzki - 1st Vice Chairwoman and Ryszard Bak - Treasurer.



OPACC BUSINESSES



URBAN AIR
ADVENTURE PARK



On November 22, 2019, Urban Air Adventure Park celebrated their Multi-Chamber Ribbon Cutting at their location at 19800 S. LaGrange Road in Mokena.
Family, friends and numerous Chamber members joined in the fun!
Pictured above right: OPACC Board Member Bob Feldman with Urban Air's Manager Kevin Dugal, Owner Heather Davis, her husband, Scott and their two children.

OPACC BUSINESSES



ThinFast M.D. Orland Park celebrated their ribbon cutting on December 5, 2019, at 10755 Winterset Drive in Orland Park. Tonya Jackson, Owner and Business Development Director, cut the ceremonial ribbon as Mayor Keith Pekau, Village Trustee Cynthia Katsenes, OPACC President Michael Hardek, OPACC President-Elect Raymond Klosowski and numerous Chamber members applauded the opening of her business.

OPACC BUSINESSES



NovaCare Kids, located at 14315 S. 108th Street in Orland Park, hosted their Ribbon Cutting on December 10, 2019. Aileen Lysaught, Center Manager and Speech & Language Pathologist, cut the ribbon as Orland Park Village Manager George Koczwara, Assistant Village Manager Gregg Summers, OPACC Board Members Kyle Treglown, Glen Borkowski, Amy Coghill and Kurt Lindemann and staff members looked on. Aileen was presented with the official Orland Park Chamber membership plaque by OPACC Board Member Amy Coghill.



Member Event



Executive Director Felicitas Cortez enjoyed a scrumptious meal on November 10 to celebrate Siam Marina's 5th and Asparagus Restaurant's 25th Anniversaries. Congratulations to Tammy and Sam Pham on their culinary accomplishments.

Member Event



On Monday, December 2, Darwin Furniture celebrated its 99th Anniversary by holding a drawing to giveaway up to \$180,000 in furniture prizes.

Celebrating First Responder Day, Darvin invited Orland Park Police Officer Kerry Kelly-Valan to pull more than 70 winning names.

Marty and Steve Darvin were joined by Darwin Furniture Manager Bob McGivney and Orland Park Police Chief Tim McCarthy.



Member Event



Heather Warthen, Chief Events Officer for 22nd Century Media, hosted the First Mistletoe Market on December 5 at Orland Crossing Shopping Center. This was the last event of the year in the Ladies Night Out series for 22nd Century Media.

Nearly 80 vendors offered unique products and services while Santa along with Mrs. Claus and their elf, helped create wonderful memories for those in attendance.

Sandburg Chamber Singers provided holiday music and Chef Michael McGreal carved beautiful ice sculptures.



Member Event



The Village of Orland Park and The Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce hosted a Job Fair on December 9 at the Orland Park Civic Center, 14750 S. Ravinia Avenue. Chamber Members in attendance looking to hire included:

Code Ninjas

Carl Sandburg High School

Marquette Bank

Berkot's Super Foods

Jondac Painting

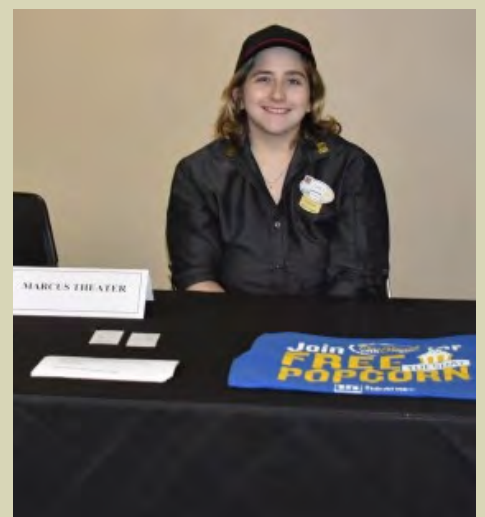
Mary Kay Cosmetics - Michele Haliburton

Marcus Theatres

Smith Crossing

Right At Home

Freddy's Frozen Custard & Steakburgers



YOUNG PROFESSIONALS



On November 13, 2019, the Young Professionals gathered at Buca di Beppo, located at 15350 S. 94th Avenue in Orland Park, for an informal networking evening. Nothing better than good food, good drinks and good friends!



Maximize Your Membership

Our final Member Orientation for 2019 was held on November 8 at the Chamber office. Those in attendance learned about the history, structure and purpose of the Chamber from Executive Director Felicitas Cortez. Tips and tricks for navigating the website and Member Information Center were presented by Member Services Coordinator Bonnie Hollaway. Join us at one of our upcoming 2020 sessions!



1/24/2020

3/20/2020

5/15/2020

7/17/2020

9/11/2020

11/13/2020

Resource Corner

5 KEY LESSONS for NEW MANAGERS

Submitted by: Heather Warthen, 22nd Century Media

It can be tough stepping into a management role for first-time managers. Not only are they responsible for a department, project or event, but the role often comes with managing people. Below are 5 key lessons for new managers.

1. Respect is earned

One of the common mistakes new managers sometimes make is establishing authority and demanding immediate respect from their staff. They want to make it clear that they are the boss, but rather than unite staff they push them away with wanting to establish dominance. Take a step back and rather than come in with the "I'm the boss" attitude, make an effort to get to know your staff. Find out who they are, what they like, what they don't like, challenges they have and successes they've enjoyed. A simple conversation can help break down walls and establishing open communication encourages respect.

2. Don't change everything

You're going to have a lot of new ideas, but a common mistake new managers make is immediately wanting to change everything. While some things probably do need a refresh, you need to rein in this desire to put new practices and processes in place the day you start your new role. Find out the "why" before you start implementing new ideas without understanding why it's done that way in the first place. People also tend to be adverse to change. By making smaller gradual changes it makes it a little bit easier for people to adjust and support your decisions.

3. Make it an open environment

New managers sometimes come in with an agenda of things they want to accomplish. They don't want to take the time to listen to new ideas ... especially ones that are not their own. Instead, you'll have more success by creating an open environment with staff. Encourage them to speak up and share new ideas. Transparency is often important, especially with a

a new manager, so if you help them understand the "why" behind what you are doing, they are more likely to be part of the buy-in. I have learned that by asking for their opinion – "What do you think?" – it empowers them to be part of the solution.

4. Be available, be present

The more involved and engaged you are with your team, the more motivated they will be to do a good job. I also believe in leading by example. Don't be afraid to get your hands dirty with them. I think it not only shows you're willing to pull your own weight but also makes you a little more respectable and human to employees. Go on a sales call with them. Help them with load-in for an event. When they want to talk to you, be an active listener. Put down the cell phone and turn your computer off. Showing them you can listen without distraction speaks volumes. More often than not, people just want to be heard.

5. Ask for feedback

This is incredibly hard for a new manager to do, but it's so important. Use it as an opportunity for you to not only grow in your management role but also as an opportunity to learn more about your employees and what they value in a manager. You'd also be surprised what employees see you do or not do. It's also important to not be the person who dodges questions or doesn't respond to emails. As a rule, I try to respond within 24 hours. If I don't know the answer, I'll at least email the person back and let them know I'm working on getting the answer or a solution to their problem.

Heather Warthen is Chief Events Officer and Chief Marketing Officer for 22nd Century Media, an award-winning media company specializing in hyperlocal content in Chicagoland. Hired as its first employee in 2005, she is a former award-winning journalist and photographer who now manages the planning, logistics, marketing and executing of more than a dozen community events and expos. She is also a past president of the Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce (2015).

Around Town



TOWNSHIP TIDBITS

Submitted by Paul O'Grady, Orland Township Supervisor

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. I want to thank all the generous chamber members who donated to the Township's holiday program! Your kindness helped us spread holiday cheer throughout the Township by enabling us to provide holiday meal ingredients and gifts to nearly 150 families who are currently experiencing financial difficulties. We rely on the kindness and generosity of our community partners and residents to make this and many other programs successful, and as always, everyone came through, sharing their holiday spirit and helping to make the holidays a bit brighter for some of our neighbors in need.

Now that the holidays are over, Orland Township is preparing for the 3rd Annual Souper Bowl Challenge! Kick-off Super Bowl weekend with us and our soup cook-off.

Do you have a soup recipe that has been in your family for generations that everyone raves about? Is your restaurant known for one of its soups? Do you just love to cook and share your delicious soups with others? Put your soup up to the challenge at our annual soup cook-off. We have four quarters (categories) of competition, so whether you decide to participate as an individual, entering with your family's secret soup recipe, or showcase your restaurant's specialty soup, we have a spot for you. Don't cook? Join us for all the sampling! There are also sponsorship opportunities available to promote your business during the event, which was attended by nearly 300 residents last year.

The 3rd Annual Souper Bowl Challenge will be on Saturday, February 1, from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Township office, 14807 S. Ravinia Avenue. For more information visit the Township website, orlandtownship.org, or contact Lindsay Trost at (708) 403-4222 or by email at LindsayT@orlandtownship.org.

I want to wish all Chamber members and their families a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year!

GO DIGITAL & REACH THOUSANDS! Include your event or special offer flyer in our online Chambergram!

Full Page (8 1/2 x 11) Flyer - \$200.00 per issue
Make this part of your 2020 Marketing!

February Issue - Deadline January 17

March Issue - Deadline February 17

April Issue - Deadline March 17

May Issue - Deadline April 17

June Issue - Deadline May 18

July Issue - deadline June 19

August Issue - deadline July 17

September Issue - Deadline August 17

October Issue - Deadline September 17

November Issue - Deadline October 16

December Issue - Deadline November 17

Email your flyer to bonnie@orlandparkchamber.org

Upcoming Programs & Events

JANUARY 2020

Ambassador Club Meeting

Wednesday, January 8 8:15 am - 9:15 am

Chamber Office

8799 W. 151st Street, OP

Young Professionals Meet-Up

Wednesday, January 8 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Barraco's Pizza

18040 Wolf Road, OP

Legislative Committee Meeting

Thursday, January 9 8:00 am - 9:00 am

Chamber Office

8799 W. 151st Street, OP

F45 Training Ribbon Cutting

Saturday, January 11 10:30 am - 11:30 am

F45 Training

15762 S. LaGrange Road, OP

Ribbon Cutting at 10:45 am

OWN Committee Meeting

Tuesday, January 14 8:30 am - 9:30 am

Chamber Office

8799 W. 151st Street, OP

Arts & Drafts Committee Meeting

Tuesday, January 14 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

The Brass Tap

14225 95th Avenue, OP

Board Meeting

Wednesday, January 15 8:15 am - 9:15 am

Silver Lake Country Club

147100 S. 82nd Avenue, OP

Member Awards & Board Installation Gala

Thursday, January 16 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Elements by the Odyssey

16235 S. LaGrange Road, OP

\$40 per person \$300 Table of 8

Gourmet Buffet, 1 Drink Ticket, Cash Bar

Pre-Paid Event - Registration REQUIRED

Membership Orientation - Learn How to MAXIMIZE Your Membership

Friday, January 24 9:30 am - 10:30 am

Chamber Office

8799 W. 151st Street, OP

Marketing Committee Meeting

Tuesday, January 28, 8:00 am - 9:00 am

Chamber Office

8799 W. 151st Street, OP

Monthly Membership Meeting

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Wednesday, January 29 7:45 am - 9:00 am

The Bridge Teen Center

15555 S. 71st Court, OP