



*Taking care
of business*

The organizational performance of the Chamber is vital to achieving our mission of being the:

- *Catalyst* for business growth
- *Convener* of leaders & influencers who get things done
- *Champion* for a stronger community



MEMBER CONNECTION

We made personal calls, sent emails and texts directly to our members to check-in & provide resources



CONNECTIONS & REFERRALS

We regularly connected businesses to the community through referrals, introductions and promotional E-blasts



COVID-19 RESOURCES

Digital resources, webinars & more available for ALL businesses & community organizations to help them overcome the challenges of the pandemic



RESTAURANT AND SHOP LOCAL FACEBOOK GROUPS

We created a robust Facebook community of 5.5K & growing to promote local restaurants and local businesses



VIRTUAL MEETINGS & PROGRAMS

50+ programs & meetings went virtual when in-person gatherings simply weren't an option.

We represent



460+ businesses

Representing more than 30 industries



40 new investors

in 2020

Grow with us!



@OrlandParkChamber



@orlandparkareachamber



708-349-2972



orlandparkchamber.org

TAKE NOTE



President's Message

Dear Fellow Chamber Members:

When we celebrated my installation as Board President in January 2020, the year was full of promise. Annual events were being planned, membership meetings were scheduled, ribbon cuttings would be attended and relationships would continue to grow amongst our group.

Little did we know that 2020 would take an unprecedented turn just a few months into the new year. The COVID19 pandemic would not only affect how the OPACC organization would operate, but how we would go about our everyday lives for months to come. Soon face to face meetings were replaced by infamous Zoom meetings, groups were no longer allowed to gather and working remotely would become commonplace. Like any business, OPACC relies on people. People who suddenly found themselves separated from their daily work place peers. People who still needed to get a job done and provide services to those who needed them but in a way that was never done before within our organization.

This year proved to be extremely challenging for the OPACC Board and staff. However, I am very proud of the innovation, willingness and adaptability both our organization and its members showed during this very difficult time. Still wanting to provide the necessary services we have always delivered to our members, we shifted monthly membership meetings, Board meetings and our annual Community Expo to a virtual format. Payroll Protection Plan (PPP) and CARES Act presentations were also made available to members virtually just to name a few. We soon would have to face the fact that our annual events with the exception of our golf outing would have to be postponed into 2021.

We also partnered with other organizations, industry experts and legislators to present much needed information including re-opening guidelines and opportunities for financial relief, as well as provide members a direct line of communication to ask specific questions and voice their concerns. Our social media channels ramped up this year to better serve our members by industry.

Despite the disruption that 2020 presented in our lives, it did not take away from the fact that I appreciated the support I received from everyone during my time as Board President. We all missed out on the conversations, exchange of ideas and comradery that was normally experienced at our business after hours events and other activities that would bring our members together. I feel we did a great job in trying to maintain relationships – although virtually – to keep our organization informed and empathetic to the challenges each individual and business experienced throughout the year.

Thank you for this opportunity of serving as your Board President and I wish the Chamber continued success.

Ray Klosowski
Mueller & Co., LLP
OPACC President

2020 OPACC Leadership Team

Felicitas Cortez
Executive Director

Executive Board
Raymond Klosowski
President
Mueller & Co., LLP

Joyce Bibeau
President Elect
Kerry Funeral Home

Panorea Bakutis
Vice President
Pearson

Meghan Preston
Treasurer
Delaney, Delaney
& Voorn. Ltd.

Adam Czerwinski
Secretary
Sidebar Insurance
Solutions, Inc.

Michael Hardek
Immediate Past President
First Secure Bank & Trust

Board of Directors
Glen Borkowski
DreamMaker Bath & Kitchen

Michael A. Buck
Law Offices of
Michael A. Buck

Amy Coghill
Silver Lake Country Club

Roy Crews
Angels Among Us

Bob Feldman
Nothing Bundt Cakes

Ramzi Hassan
Edwards Realty Company

April Koerber
Barrel Club

Kurt Lindemann
Morgan Stanley

Monika Sestakauskaitė
Peoples Bank

Kyle Treglown
Keller Williams
Preferred Realty
Bodie - Treglown Team

We Appreciate our PREMIER MEMBERS



MAXIM
maintenance



Vegan,
T'ease



GREAT FOOD BRINGS US TOGETHER



BURR RIDGE
VILLAGE CENTER



ORLAND PARK
CROSSING

We're Growing...Welcome New Member

BZ Heating & Air, Inc.
Robert Zaborniak
15313 S. 70th Court
Orland Park, IL 60462
Phone: (708) 912-9017
bzheatoffice@gmail.com
<http://bzheatair.com>
Heating & Air Conditioning



Community Expo - Holiday Edition Recap

Thank you to everyone who participated, explored, and supported the virtual Community EXPO. It may not have taken place in our usual in-person format, but the event remained as a great way to showcase the many businesses and organizations in our area. Did you take advantage of the long list of business specials, hot deals, and contests? The weekly gift card drawing and the final grand raffle drawing? We certainly hope so!

A special mention of gratitude goes to Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union, our Community EXPO presenting sponsor, as well as our other sponsors: Rizza Auto Group, Peoples Bank, Edwards Realty, Sterk Law Group, and our virtual exhibitors; Darvin Furniture, Fox's Pizza, Oak Forest Executive Center, Shark Shredding, Southland Your Times, AAA, BankFinancial, Bonefish Grill, Chicago Southland Convention & Visitors Bureau, Chicagoland Sanitizing & COVID Disinfecting, City BBQ, Fabulously Sweet Creations, Lake View Plaza, Little Milano's Wood Fired Pizza, Mary Kay Independent Consultant/Michelle Halliburton, Maxim Maintenance, McAllister's Deli, Minuteman Press, Nothing Bundt Cakes, Ozinga, PLOWS Council on Aging, SAS Aesthetic Institute, Siam Marina, The Barrel Club, The Simple Greek, Began Tease and Webbed Feet.

OPACC

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

NEW YEAR, NEW LAWS

Presented by
The OPACC
Legislative Committee



Monthly Membership Meeting & Legislative Update

Wednesday, January 27, 8:00am to 9:00am
Learn about new and upcoming laws for 2021 and
how they will affect your business

Register online at <https://business.orlandparkchamber.org/events/calendar/>



FREE MONEY!

Do You Have A High School Senior Graduating in 2021?



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.

Application and documentation must be returned to
the Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce

8799 W. 151st Street or
emailed to fcortez@orlandparkchamber.org
on or before **FRIDAY, APRIL 16.**

Application is available on our website, orlandparkchamber.org

Around Town



TOWNSHIP TIDBITS

Happy New Year from Orland Township!

Holiday Program

Thanks to our wonderful and generous community, the Orland Township Holiday Program was, once again, a huge success!

Due to pandemic shutdowns and job losses, there was an even greater need in 2020. And, with the support, donations and kindness of the Orland Township community, we were able to provide holiday meals, gift cards and a wide range of gifts for more than 200 families!

Thanks to an army of volunteers that consisted of students from Andrew and Sandburg high schools, Orland Fire Protection District firefighters and cadets, and many of our regular, dedicated volunteers, the Saturday distribution, which was held as a drive-thru, ran like a well-oiled machine. Special thanks to Orland Chamber Executive Director Felicitas Cortez who came out to help with the distribution and also provided a mountain of pizzas for everyone helping that day.

PPE and Cleaning Supply Distribution

Orland Township held a drive-thru in late December to distribute bags of cleaning and disinfecting supplies, along with masks and gloves, to residents. With the holidays approaching, we wanted to give our residents the means to be proactive in the fight against COVID-19.

Orland Township Vaccine Strike Force

The news of COVID-19 vaccines has been what we have all been waiting for. And, because our residents depend on us, Orland Township has formed a Strike Force with local officials to share information and be ready if called upon by the Illinois and/or Cook County departments of public health, to assist with distribution and administration of the vaccine.

The Strike Force consists of stakeholders that Orland Township has strong and productive relationships with, including local mayors, school superintendents, law enforcement and fire protection district chiefs, businesses, churches, nonprofits and other organizations that are naturally suited to bolster vaccine distribution on such a massive scale.

Additionally, Orland Township has a strong network of nurses, nursing students, community medical professionals and volunteers already experienced in working together to administer vaccines to residents. For many years they have worked as a team during the Township's monthly immunization clinics and flu shot clinics, including our popular drive-thru flu shot clinic.

Because of our monthly immunization clinics, Orland Township Health Services is registered in the IDPH Illinois Comprehensive Automated immunization Registry Exchange (ICARE) program, where it has been tracking vaccine inventory, usage and storage temperatures since 2013. Orland Township is in good standing with IDPH and has been registered in the ICARE system as a COVID-19 vaccine provider since October, 2020, when IDPH first contacted the Health Services department regarding the possibility of administering the vaccine.

The Orland Township Strike Force has and will continue to meet virtually on a regular basis so that we are up-to-date on Illinois' COVID-19 vaccine distribution plan. We stand ready to serve our residents.

I want to wish everyone a safe and healthy New Year!

Sincerely,

Paul O'Grady
Orland Township Supervisor

Around Town



OPACC Executive Director Felicitas Cortez joined Orland Township Supervisor Paul O'Grady at the Orland Township Holiday Program distribution.

Supervisor Paul O'Grady greets residents and loads their vehicles with a bag of cleaning and disinfecting supplies, masks, gloves and other items to help in the fight against COVID-19.



Member Spotlight

Smith Senior Living Trustees Recognize Employees With Special Holiday Gifts

The Board of Trustees for Smith Senior Living, which sponsors Smith Village in Chicago's Beverly neighborhood and Smith Crossing in Orland Park, has collaborated with local businesses near each campus to thank employees of both life plan communities for their exceptional service and dedication to residents during this extraordinary time.

Smith trustees arranged for each employee to receive a gift certificate redeemable at one or more establishments in the area surrounding each senior living campus. In total, this employee gift certificate program will drive more than \$23,500 into the local economies.

"We are so proud of how Smith staff members have risen to face unprecedented challenges this year. Keeping our residents safe during the COVID-19 pandemic has required a truly extraordinary level of commitment and care," says Kay E. Thurn, chair of Smith Senior Living Board of Trustees.

"We decided to reward our dedicated professionals while also supporting neighboring businesses during these challenging times for them. We believe our approach to spreading holiday cheer will have a ripple effect that benefits even more people," adds Thurn, who acknowledges cancelling the Board's popular holiday party on each campus motivated trustees to find a fresh way to say thank you to staff members.

Smith trustees collaborated with the business association for each area to produce a custom Smith Crossing Dining Dollars certificate for the Orland Park community and to tap the popular The Bucks Stay Here program for the southside neighborhood.

"We are delighted to help organize this program with Smith Senior Living," says Felicitas Cortez, executive director of Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce. "We recruited six restaurants who appreciate the opportunity to attract more customers. Helping businesses make connections to support each other is always important, but in a challenging year like 2020, it really does make a difference."

Caroline Connors, executive director of the Morgan Park Beverly Hills Business Association, agrees, "We are excited to see Smith trustees chose a program our association introduced this holiday season for establishments in the Beverly, Morgan Park and Mt. Greenwood neighborhoods. Now more than ever, it is essential all of us to support small business."



Smith Senior Living Trustees (seated) Andy Anello and chair Kay Thurn, join Smith Crossing employees (L-R) William Jansma, Esther Amede, Jaman McIntosh, Amanda Hixon, Tina Hill, Valerie Mueller, and Smith Crossing Executive Director Amanda Mauceri to celebrate the holiday season with a special gift for more than 250 staff members.

Member Spotlight

Silver Lake Country Club Named Winner Of The Knot Best Of Weddings 2021

15th Annual Best of Weddings Awards Honor the Top Wedding Vendors Across America

Silver Lake Country Club is pleased to announce that we have been selected as a 2021 winner of The Knot Best of Weddings, an accolade representing the highest- and most-rated wedding professionals as reviewed by real couples, their families and wedding guests on The Knot, a leading wedding planning and registry brand and app.

Despite COVID-19 interrupting many 2020 weddings and social events, wedding professionals around the nation continued to support to-be-weds throughout their wedding planning journeys. From adjusting future schedules to make way for postponed weddings, to helping couples host socially distanced weddings following state and local guidelines and restrictions with an increased focus on health and safety, wedding pros—and the industry as a whole—rallied together in 2020, ultimately helping couples continue to celebrate life and love. The Knot 2021 Best of Weddings recognition honors the vendors who went above and beyond to help to-be-weds navigate the global pandemic.

In 2021, five percent of hundreds of thousands of local wedding professionals listed on The Knot received this distinguished award. In its fifteenth annual year, The Knot continues its long-standing tradition of supporting local wedding vendors with The Knot Best of Weddings 2021, an annual by-couples, for-couples guide to the top wedding professionals across the country. This comes as the industry prepares for an increase in upcoming celebrations due to postponed events throughout 2020.

To determine the winners, The Knot analyzed its millions of user reviews across various vendor categories—including venues, musicians, florists, photographers, caterers and more—to find the highest rated vendors of the year. These winners represent the best of the best wedding professionals that engaged couples should consider booking for their own unique weddings.

On behalf of everyone at Silver Lake Country Club, thank you for your support in 2020. We look forward to helping couples plan their special day and creating memories in 2021!



Member Spotlight



TOP 100 Award Presented to Sharon Vetsch, QuickBooks Queen

Sharon Vetsch, founder of QuickBooks Queen, was recently honored with the prestigious "TOP 100" award at the Scaling New Heights Conference held in Florida, 2020. This qualified group was identified from the more than 500,000 Intuit QuickBooks Pro Advisors in the United States. Sharon had previously been awarded this designation in 2014, 2015 and 2016.

Sharon is an Intuit QuickBooks Advanced Certified ProAdvisor and Intuit QuickBooks POS ProAdvisor with more than 20 years of QuickBooks experience. Sharon is located in Oak Lawn, Illinois, and provides various QuickBooks services including:

- QuickBooks Training and Consulting
- QuickBooks Initial Installation and Implementation
- QuickBooks Troubleshooting
- Bookkeeping Using QuickBooks

Congratulations to our QuickBooks Queen!

Resource Corner

Sanitation Services Are Essential

Submitted by: Janelle Iaccino, Rose Pest Solutions

We are currently navigating the largest medical dilemma since the 1920's. We're all learning to adapt, using guidelines by CDC and local health resources. Right now, more than ever, concrete procedures, safety requirements, and proper training for sanitation are the keys to restoring a healthy living.

What is a Sanitation Service?

A professional Sanitation Service involves treating an environment with a product formulated to reduce or eliminate levels of bacteria and viruses on surfaces. The service has many benefits, especially if your commercial facility is essential and still open. Many companies now provide this type of service.

Are all Sanitation Services the same?

When requesting quotes, make sure you're comparing apples to apples. Some products don't last over time. Some services have no guarantee. Ask for a product that is applied by an electrostatic mister that continues working for at least 30 days once applied. This product is an antimicrobial, approved by the CDC to effectively kill the SARS-CoV-2 virus, and is the only product of its kind approved by the FDA, so it's highly recommended for food industry businesses. A reputable company offering sanitation service with this product will most likely conduct swab tests before and after the treatment to record readings and ensure the environment has been effectively treated. A public-facing window cling may also be provided to let your patrons and employees know that the environment is healthy.

Why would a pest control company be doing Sanitation Services?

The Pest Control industry is a vital protector of Public Health. Often times, sanitation issues are the root of certain types of pest problems. Maintaining healthy environments is what reputable pest companies do best. Their experts have thoroughly researched the sanitation process and best practices for performing Virus Sanitation Services. If you currently have a pest control program in place for your facility, reach out to your Service Technician today and ask if they also offer a Virus Sanitation Services.

Is this Sanitation Service available for homes too?

The main objective of providing this service is to provide safe, reliable, healthy solutions to commercial clients while assisting them in re-opening and remaining open for years to come. This service is not currently offered to residential environments, such as apartments, condominiums, or single-family homes. Available to all commercial businesses, professional Sanitation Services will assist restaurants, offices, retail stores, commercial warehousing, and any other commercial environment to eliminate any concern over the presence of the SARS-CoV-2 Virus. Safety, Security, and Peace of Mind is an achievable goal.



Resource Corner

Quality Sleep Matters - Get New Year Off To A Great Start

Submitted by: Hanny Diab, Darwin Furniture VP Merchandising

The New Year is always an opportunity to look at changing things for the better. For years I have been talking to customers who enter our Mattress showroom looking for answer to a life-changing dilemma – how can I get a better night's sleep?

While everyone is different, there are some very specific things that are proven to help you wind down, find the perfect position, get to sleep – and stay asleep. Here's some advice that will help get the New Year off to a great start for better quality sleep.

Winding Down

You've heard the expression all 'wound up' and it clearly is not ideal for any kind of relaxation – let alone quality sleep. What you may do in the hours leading up to going to bed can seriously impact your ability to get to sleep. Here are some tips for getting there each night:

- Create a routine
- Make sure you can get comfortable
- Turn phone/devices off

Falling Asleep & Staying Asleep

We've all heard the quick fix recommendations, from counting backwards and drinking warm milk to indulging in some bedtime reading, but there are more long-term solutions to falling asleep and they begin with proper sleep hygiene.

Good sleep hygiene involves activities that promote preparation and preservation of quality sleep. These include: Getting regular exercise; avoiding caffeine or alcohol prior to bedtime; eliminating electronic devices that stimulate brain activity; and making sure your bedroom is dark, quiet and comfortable (65-67 F).

The 'Right Amount' of Sleep for You

There's been plenty of research on the human need for sleep and most experts agree that the amount of sleep needed by each person varies based on several variables. A range between 6-9 hours is considered healthy.

If you want to figure out where your need for sleep may be, look no further than your parents. In all likelihood, their need for sleep is probably leaning in the same direction as your own. Active lifestyle can have an impact by demanding more intense but shorter periods of sleep, while inactivity often leads to longer sleep hours.

Sleep Quality Matters

Sleep quality matters most because it impacts each person's individual health. While getting to sleep may seem to be the primary hurdle, many people struggle to stay asleep. Don't let a lack of quality sleep impact your overall health and productivity. Here are some keys to getting better quality sleep:

- Exercise & Move Around More
- Find a Comfortable Mattress
- Limit potential distractions & stressful thoughts

What's Your Position "A" for Sleep?

Whether it's golf, Indy Car Racing – or Sleep, attaining position "A" means you have found the preferred option or outcome in any given situation. When it comes to sleep, one of the most distinct differences between each person is their ideal sleeping position.

While lying down is much easier than actually getting to sleep, there has been lots of research that shows certain positions are better than others. Determining the best sleep position can emanate from a person's height, weight, medical conditions and other physical variables. Experts say the ideal bend at the hips is 45 degrees and it's 145 degrees for your knees.

Sleep & Adjustable Beds

Adjustable base beds may not be a new concept, but the latest technologies have definitely expanded the potential for anyone to find the perfect position for a great night's sleep. Brands like Tempur-Pedic, Stearns & Foster, and Sealy have combined massive research hours with innovative materials to deliver effective automatically controlled sleep systems.



JANUARY Programs & Events

Board Meeting

Wednesday, January 20 8:00 am - 9:00 am

Virtual Meeting

Membership Orientation - Learn How to MAXIMIZE Your Membership

Friday, January 22 9:30 am - 10:30 am

Virtual Meeting

Executive Director Felicitas Cortez will present the history, structure and purpose of the Chamber.

Tips and tricks for navigating the website and Member Information Center will be presented by Member Services Coordinator Bonnie Hollaway.

Monthly Membership Meeting & Legislative Update

Wednesday, January 27 8:00 am - 9:00 am

Virtual Meeting

Learn about the new and upcoming laws for 2021 and how they will affect your business presented by the OPACC Legislative Committee



SAVE THE DATE

THURSDAY, MAY 13, 2021
SILVER LAKE COUNTRY CLUB

Whether you are a scratch golfer or double digit handicapper, join us for a great day of golf & networking with local businesses and organizations.



Orland Park Area
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE