



**Orland Park Area**  
**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  
*We're Growing Places*

Volume 42, Issue 6

# Chambergram

June 2021

## OPACC ROUND UP

Our 2021 OPACC ROUND UP Golf Outing was a huge success! Special shout out to David Adam, **MidAmerica Orthopaedics** - our SHINDIG (Presenting) Sponsor, **Delaney, Delaney & Voorn, Ltd.** - our STAGECOACH (Golf Cart) Sponsor, **Baird & Warner - Jim Psychogios** and **Edwards Realty Company** - our SALOON (Beverage Cart) Sponsors, **Randy Barcella, Real Estate Revealed Radio Show AM 560** - our CHUCK WAGON (Lunch) Sponsor, **First Secure Bank & Trust** - our VITTLES (Breakfast) Sponsor, **McCabe Financial Group** - our COMPETITION (Game) Sponsor, **CIBC Banking Center** - our WATER Sponsor, **O'Neill & Gaspardo, LLC** - our TOWEL Sponsor, **Servpro of Orland Park** - our SANITIZER Sponsor, and **RentalMax** - our BALL DROP LIFT Sponsor.

Thanks to our numerous HOMESTEAD (Staffed Hole) Sponsors and OPEN RANGE (Unstaffed Hole) Sponsors.

And we could not have done it without our Golf Committee and Volunteers who made sure our event ran smoothly.

A portion of the proceeds from the event funds the three scholarships that were awarded to area high school seniors. Congratulations to Jeremiah Burden, Lucy Haas and Alicja Kuna!



# TAKE NOTE



## President's Message

I am happy to say we had a very successful golf outing this year. Many people really enjoyed getting together and being outside on a perfect weather day for golf. Thank you to the golf committee for working so hard and making this event amazing.

It was great to host State of the Village featuring Mayor Keith Pekau. This was also a great networking opportunity for our members. If you were unable to attend, you can view it on YouTube.

Hope you can join us on Thursday, June 10th from 5:30 until 8:30 at Silver Lake Country Club for the Member Awards & Board Celebration. There will be a carving station, appetizer buffet, 2 drink tickets and a cash bar. It will be good to see everyone and celebrate together with more networking opportunities for our members.

The month of June brings back in-person ribbon cuttings. First we have Aligned Modern Health on June 2nd and Clean Eatz of Orland Park on June 16th. Join us at a multi-chamber ribbon cutting at Better Homes & Garden Real Estate on June 23rd. Register for these on our website calendar at [www.orlandparkchamber.org](http://www.orlandparkchamber.org). Please join me in welcoming these new members to our Chamber and community.

*Joyce Bibeau*

Joyce Bibeau  
2021 OPACC President  
Kerry Funeral Home & Cremation Care Center

## 2021 OPACC Leadership Team

### Executive Board

**Joyce Bibeau**  
President  
Kerry Funeral Home

**Meghan Preston**  
President Elect  
Delaney, Delaney  
& Voorn, Ltd

**Ramzi Hassan**  
Vice President  
Edwards Realty Company

**Monika Sestakauskaite**  
Treasurer  
Peoples Bank

**Raymond Klosowski**  
Immediate Past President  
Mueller & Co., LLP

### Board Of Directors

**Randy Barcella**  
Real Estate Revealed  
Radio Show &  
Residential Real Estate  
Appraiser

**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

**Kelly Glester**  
Jeffrey LaMorte Salon

**Matt Guglielmo**  
Lake View Plaza

**Michael Hardek**  
First Secure Bank & Trust

**April Koerber**  
Salina's Pizza - Catering -  
Rentals

**Kurt Lindemann**  
Morgan Stanley

**Daniel McMillan**  
Rizza Auto Group

**Tina Scott**  
Vegan Tease

**Kyle Treglown**  
Keller Williams  
Preferred Realty



# TAKE NOTE



## Executive Director's Message

Happy June, Members!

I can't believe it has already been a month. In one month as the Executive Director, I have attended the golf outing, a board meeting, the State of the Village and a ribbon cutting ceremony! It has been awesome to be able to meet so many faces at our in-person meetings and events!

The golf outing was such a wonderful day and a great opportunity to meet members for the first time in a very happy state of mind! The sun was out and the day could not have been more perfect. Amy Coghill and her staff went above and beyond with outstanding hospitality that added to the experience. Thank you to everyone who attended for your support and most of all for your warm welcome.

Thank you to the Village of Orland Park for opening your doors and co-hosting the State of the Village with Mayor Keith Pekau. The meeting was super informative and a great way to learn about the wonderful things that are happening in Orland Park. The Village staff are working hard to keep the community safe and thriving.

I was so excited to attend my very first Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at Aligned Modern Health on June 2nd in Orland Park. Upon arrival, the first thing I saw were beautifully decorated tables, balloons and staff ready to invite you in for a tour of their facility. The excitement of the staff was contagious and welcoming. I was happy to see the smiling faces of Orland Park Chamber of Commerce Board Members, Ambassadors and fellow members as well as the Village of Orland Park Mayor Pekau, the Elected Officials and staff in attendance. The support of the community and the Chamber was well received and a great way to support a new business and one of our members! Please check out the upcoming Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies on our website calendar as well as the email blasts.

Coming up this month we are hosting our Member Awards and Board Installation Celebration at Silver Lake Country Club on June 10th from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. I hope you have purchased your ticket and are ready for an evening of paradise featuring the tropical beverage for the evening "Malibu Joyce." It will be so nice to meet more members and learn about the wonderful accomplishments of our outstanding members. Thank you to the board members who volunteer their time and are dedicated to the Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce. I know what a commitment it is and I personally thank you for what you do and look forward to celebrating with each of you!

Stay tuned for the complete details of the Membership Meeting that will be on June 23rd. The membership meetings are a great opportunity for members to host and speak on services that will be beneficial to all members and the community. Please feel free to contact me if you would like to host or you have a topic that would be beneficial to all members. I would be happy to meet with you and discuss future opportunities. Enjoy the sunshine and I look forward to connecting with you at the upcoming Chamber Events!

All the best,  
Shannon Rocha

## 2021 OPACC Leadership Team

**Shannon Rocha**  
Executive Director

### Executive Board

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President  
*Kerry Funeral Home*

**Meghan Preston**  
President Elect  
*Delaney, Delaney & Voorn, Ltd*

**Ramzi Hassan**  
Vice President  
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*Real Estate Revealed*

**Glen Borkowski**  
*DreamMaker Bath & Kitchen*

**Michael A. Buck**  
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**Amy Coghill**  
*Silver Lake Country Club*

**Roy Crews**  
*Angels Among Us*

**Bob Feldman**  
*Nothing Bundt Cakes*

**Kelly Glester**  
*Jeffrey LaMorte Salon*

**Matt Gugliciello**  
*Lake View Plaza*

**Michael Hardek**  
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**April Koerber**  
*Salina's Pizza - Catering -  
Rentals*

**Kurt Lindemann**  
*Morgan Stanley*

**Daniel McMillan**  
*Rizza Auto Group*

**Tina Scott**  
*Vegan Tease*

**Kyle Treglown**  
*Keller Williams  
Preferred Realty*

# TAKE NOTE



## Mayor's Message

Orland Park Business Community,

Thank you to those who were able to join us at the recent State of the Village event hosted by the Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce and the Village of Orland Park. It is great to see so many of Orland Park's business leaders so actively involved in the community as a whole.

At the State of the Village, I addressed issues regarding Public Safety, Finances, Infrastructure Improvement and Economic Development.

The Orland Park Police Department continues to provide phenomenal public safety services to the community. Index crimes have been declining for the past four years. In 2011, there were 1690 index crimes in Orland Park; in 2020 we had 691. These numbers include major crimes such as homicide and rape but also include retail theft, which is what drives this number up with our vast retail makeup in the Village. Property crime is down from over 1,300 occurrences in 2016 to just over 660 in 2020.

In 2020, our traffic enforcement officers issued 2,788 speeding citations with 82 cited with aggravated speeding (greater than 26 miles over the speed limit). The message we are giving those with a need for speed is to slow down when driving in, around and through Orland Park. Vehicle accidents increased by 4% when compared to 2019. 159th Street and LaGrange Road had the most accidents in 2020 with 37 occurring at that intersection.

Criminals are not getting away with crimes in Orland Park. Our Police Department is apprehending those who choose to break the law in Orland Park. The problem is Cook County's court system "catch and release" mentality where those who commit crime are given minimal fines and let right back out on the street where many become repeat offenders.

Orland Park remains the safest city in the region for towns over 55,000 in population. We intend to continue on this path well into the future.

While COVID-19 had a huge financial impact on many, we have weathered the storms and are persevering nonetheless. The Village has not skipped a beat when it comes to providing services while collecting only 6.47% of your total tax bill. 79% of your tax bill can be attributed to taxes collected by schools and the fire district.

Since 2016, we have reduced our long-term debt by \$50 million while not reducing services offered. We were able to handle the reduction in revenue due to our strong financial position and smart planning.

In 2021, you will see the renovation of 16 parks, including 39 basketball, tennis and volleyball courts. This is a great improvement from years prior when we saw 1-2 parks per year improved upon or updated.

We were glad to be in a position to offer several economic incentives and programs to assist Orland Park's businesses as many struggled to make ends meet during the state-mandated shut down. These included our Shop, Dine, Play program, sales tax sharing, manufacturing incentives, outdoor dining arrangements as well as our newest app, Orland Perks.

Orland Park continues to be the destination of choice for many "new to Orland Park" businesses. We welcomed many new businesses in 2020 and the first part of 2021 and will soon welcome Angelo Caputo's Fresh Market, Rei, Pete's Fresh Market, Moran Family of Brands, X Golf, BJ's Brew House and Raising Cane's to name a few.

Last, but certainly not least, the Village is excited about finally moving forward with the development of the Orland Park Triangle area with Orland Park's Edwards Realty. This site needs to benefit ALL of Orland Park and will be designed with that in mind.

For those who were unable to join us at the State of the Village in person, we invite you to watch the recorded version of the event on the Village of Orland Park YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5DT6Lz5BKfs>. There was a lot of ground covered and many interesting points of interest and facts.

Again, thank you for being an integral part of the Orland Park community and working as hard as you do to keep Orland Park strong.

Keith Pekau  
Village President



# 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 Members

## First Centennial Mortgage Corporation

Nick Sherry  
1111 N. Plaza Drive  
Suite 101  
Schaumburg, IL 60173  
Phone: (708) 548-0951  
n.sherry@goFCM.com  
www.NickSherry.com  
*Mortgage Products & Services*

## Oak Creek Coffee

Derek D'Alessandro  
Orland Park, IL 60467  
Phone: (708) 296-6190  
Scarpini@aol.com  
www.oakcreekcoffee.com  
*Direct Sales/Coffee*

## Raising Cane's

David Grandell  
15011 S. LaGrange Road  
Orland Park, IL 60462  
Phone: (815) 341-5848  
dgrandell@raisingcanes.com  
http://raisingcanes.com  
*Restaurants/Bars*

## State Representative

### Tim Ozinga

Tim Ozinga  
11019 Front Street, Unit 1W  
Mokena, IL 60448  
Phone: (708) 694-2032  
timozinga@ilhousegop.org  
http://timozinga.com  
*Government*

## OPACC

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Kerry Funeral Home

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Orland Township

**Keith Pekau**  
Mayor  
Village of Orland Park

**Shannon Rocha**  
Executive Director  
Orland Park Area  
Chamber of Commerce

**John Stein**  
Darvin Furniture & Mattress

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CHamber of Commerce

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Orland Township

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Wehmeier Photography Ltd.

**Deadline to register - 5:00PM Monday, June 7**

**[www.orlandparkchamber.org](http://www.orlandparkchamber.org)**

**Cocktail Sponsor - MAXIM MAINTENANCE**



**MEMBER AWARDS &  
BOARD INSTALLATION**

Thursday, June 10th 2021  
5:30pm - 8:30pm  
*Silver Lake Country Club*  
14700 S. 82nd Avenue  
Orland Park

Featuring our  
*2021 Presidential Signature Drink*  
**MALIBU JOYCE(Bibeau)**  
Malibu Rum & Diet Coke

*New this year*  
**WINE PULL**

At least 40 bottles of wine available  
10 bottles will include an added bonus  
\$20.00 per Cork CASH ONLY

## JUST A REMINDER...

Please be aware that the Chamber utilizes various software to send our emails to our members. Our weekly email blasts and membership invoices are sent as mass email communications; therefore, please check your SPAM or BULK folder periodically so they will not be inadvertently overlooked.

If you are interested in contributing to the *Chambergram*, please contact Bonnie Hollaway at [bonnie@orlandparkchamber.org](mailto:bonnie@orlandparkchamber.org)



# New Member Introductions



## First Centennial Mortgage Corporation

Nick Sherry is a Mortgage Loan Officer at First Centennial Mortgage in Schaumburg, IL. He has been originating in the mortgage business for over 20 years and building strong relationships with his clients and partners through trust. He has become a trusted advisor through listening to and understanding the needs of his clients in order to provide his expert service.

Nick's experience has given him an understanding of the diverse product offerings available. At First Centennial Mortgage, he offers FHA, conventional, VA, USDA, first-time homebuyer down payment assistance programs, renovation and jumbo loans. He provides his clients with an easy-to-read analysis along with a video to connect personally with them so they understand the difference in each loan option available.

Outside of work, Nick is happily married to his lovely wife, Rachael. They enjoy traveling with their yellow lab, Sugar, and spend a lot of time hunting and fishing with family and friends. Nick likes to stay active in each weather season and recently began wake surfing.

## About First Centennial Mortgage:

First Centennial Mortgage is a residential mortgage lender headquartered in Illinois, founded by brothers Steven and David McCormick. Family-owned, the company strives to deliver an extraordinary experience to the communities it serves through an extensive portfolio of mortgage products and services. The company has been named one of the Top 100 Mortgage Companies by Mortgage Executive Magazine, and one of the fastest-growing companies in the U.S. by Inc. Magazine.



## Oak Creek Coffee

I am Derek D'Alessandro, and I am the owner of Oak Creek Coffee (lifelong resident of Orland Park). We offer premium coffees delivered to your door, using priority mail (free delivery on all coffee products). Once an order is received, we then roast the coffee and it is delivered to the customers address. Our coffee is always fresh. It does not sit in a warehouse for months, and then once it is delivered to your local grocer...it does not sit on the shelf there either, our coffee is always fresh. Oak Creek Coffee is also delivered in a reverse vacuum pack. Once opened you reseal the zip-lock container, and the air is released, but cannot re-enter the pack, keeping your coffee fresh.

At Oak Creek Coffee, we have many flavors and origins of coffee, and we also have K-cups. We believe in helping the community by working with high schools and sport team in their fund-raising activities.

Feel free to call us for a free 2oz sample, 708-296-6190 or e-mail us at [derekdalessandro@gmail.com](mailto:derekdalessandro@gmail.com).

Thru the month we are offering a 10% off discount, please use promo code ORLAND CHAMBER at check out.  
[www.oakcreekcoffee.com](http://www.oakcreekcoffee.com)

**Registration Deadline 5PM Monday, June 7**

**<https://business.orlandparkchamber.org/events/details/2021-member-awards-board-celebration-1679>**

**COCKTAIL SPONSOR - MAXIM MAINTENANCE**

*You are invited to attend a  
Celebration of the  
Orland Park Area  
Chamber of Commerce*

## MEMBER AWARDS & BOARD CELEBRATION

*Join us as we welcome our  
2021 President & Board of Directors*

Thursday, June 10th 2021  
5:30pm - 8:30pm

*Silver Lake Country Club*  
14700 S. 82nd Avenue  
Orland Park

*Carving Station & Appetizer Buffet  
2 Drink Tickets & Cash Bar*

\$45 per Person with Registration  
\$255 Reserved Table of 6  
\$340 Reserved Table of 8

RSVP Online [www.orlandparkchamber.org](http://www.orlandparkchamber.org)

*Presidential Awards*  
**BUSINESS OF THE YEAR**  
Village of Orland Park

### MEMBERS OF THE YEAR

Adam Czerwinski  
Sidebar Insurance  
Solutions, Inc.

Butch Zemar  
Elite Benefits  
of America

### 2021 Officers

**PRESIDENT**  
Joyce Bibeau  
Kerry Funeral Home

**PRESIDENT-ELECT**  
Meghan Preston  
Delaney, Delaney &  
Voorn, Ltd.

**VICE PRESIDENT**  
Ramzi Hassan  
Edwards Realty  
Company

**TREASURER**  
Monika Sestakauskaite  
Peoples Bank

**PAST PRESIDENT**  
Raymond Klosowski  
Mueller & Co., LLP

### 2021 Board of Directors

Randy Barcella  
Real Estate Revealed  
Radio Show AM 560

Bob Feldman  
Nothing Bundt Cakes

Kurt Lindemann  
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DreamMaker  
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Kelly Glester  
Jeffrey LaMorte Salon

Daniel McMillan  
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Law Offices of  
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*Featuring our  
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MALIBU JOYCE(Bibeau)*

Malibu Rum & Diet Coke

*New this year  
WINE PULL*

At least 40 bottles of wine available  
10 bottles will include an added bonus  
\$20.00 per Cork CASH ONLY



# Arts & Drafts is back for 2021!

Artist Registration Form & Sponsorship Opportunities available at  
<https://business.orlandparkchamber.org/events/details/2021-arts-drafts-1677>



*Save the Date*

**SATURDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 25<sup>TH</sup>**

**11:00 AM – 9:00 PM**

*143<sup>rd</sup> & LaGrange Road, Orland Park, IL*

- 12+ Local Breweries -
- Local Artists -
- Local Food -
- Music All Day -

*Featuring*



**7:00 PM – 9:00 PM**



**11:00 AM – 5:00 PM**

**FREE ADMISSION**

*Beer Tasting Tickets Available for Purchase*

*Presented by:*





# OPACC ROUND UP GOLF OUTING





# OPACC ROUND UP GOLF OUTING



## HOMESTEAD (STAFFED) HOLE SPONSORS

Aligned Modern Health  
BankFinancial  
Boyk Consulting Inc.  
Chiro One Wellness  
Home State Bank  
MidAmerica Orthopaedics  
Peace Village  
Peoples Bank  
Randy Barcella-Real Estate  
Revealed Radio Show AM 560

Rizza Cars  
RoccoVino's Restaurant  
Rose Pest Solutions  
Shark Shredding &  
Document Management  
Services, Inc.  
Smith Crossing  
Bill Pattara-State  
Farm Insurance  
TCF Bank

## OPEN RANGE (UNSTAFFED) HOLE SPONSORS

Marquette Bank  
O'Keefe, Lyons & Hynes, LLC

O'Neill & Gaspardo, LLC  
Terry's Ford of Peotone

## SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Alicja Kuna (left)  
Lucy Haas (right)  
Jeremiah Burden (not pictured)

## GOLF BALL DROP WINNER

Joyce Bibeau

## COVERED WAGON(Yeti Cooler) of BOOZE WINNER

Tom McCabe



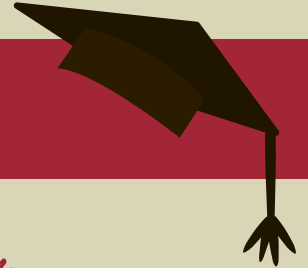


# *Congratulations*



## Orland Park Chamber Scholarship Recipients

### *Class of 2021*



*Jeremiah Burden*

- Graduated from Carl Sandburg High School with honors
- High School & Community Service Accolades: National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta, First Class Ambassadors, Mathletes, Volleyball
- Will attend Juniata College to study Data and Computer Science

*Lucy Haas*

- Graduated from Lincoln-Way Central High School with honors
- High School & Community Service Accolades: National Honor Society, Lincoln Way Student Leader 2019-2020, Leadership Award 2021, SICA Conference Academic All-Star 2018-2019, Swimming / Diving Team, Gymnastics
- Will attend University of Missouri to pursue nursing



*Alicja Kuna*



- Graduated from Amos Alonzo Stagg High School with honors
- High School & Community Service Accolades: National Honor Society, Spanish Seal of Biliteracy, Top 10% Award, Spanish Honors Society, Senior Class Vice President, English Honors Society, Student Council, Basketball, Soccer and Tennis
- Will attend University of San Diego to major in Business Management



# Around Town



## TOWNSHIP TIDBITS



Orland Township Supervisor Paul O'Grady (right) with Honorable Daniel Patrick Brennan at the swearing in ceremony held on Monday, May, 17, 2021



Congresswoman Marie Newman with Orland Township Veterans and Highway Commissioner Antonio Rubino.

# Member Spotlight



## Local Teens Gain Green Thumbs During Gardening Week

The Bridge Teen Center Hosts Week of Free Programming Promoting the Benefits of Gardening

The Bridge Teen Center celebrated the arrival of Spring by hosting “Gardening Week” for its 7th-12th grade students during the week of May 17. Led by the organization’s Founder and Executive Director, Priscilla Steinmetz, this week focused on engaging and educating students about holistic gardening practices. Gardening has been cited by mental health experts to be a positive outlet for teenagers, which the organization aimed to capitalize on during this week.

“Gardening offers so many physical, mental and emotional benefits to students, and those benefits are needed as we come out of the pandemic,” says Steinmetz. “These programs helped students get their hands dirty, pick up some valuable STEM know-how, discover new ways to reduce stress and connect with the Earth, and gain a sense of accomplishment working alongside their peers.”

Priscilla is an avid gardener in her personal time, and greatly enjoys sharing how this hobby can be a stress-reliever, point of spiritual connectivity, and source of healthy food. Gardening Week allowed her to merge her love of gardening with her passion for working with students, creating some unique, fun programs.

During the DIY: Herb Garden program, for example, students learned about healthier eating habits while repurposing old dresser drawers to create their own seeded herb garden. In another program, students worked to plan out their own veggie gardens at home. The week finished off with students working together to plant veggies, herbs, and flowers in The Bridge Teen Center’s outdoor garden, which they will be able to care for as they return to The Bridge throughout the summer.

“We hope that those students who attended our “Gardening Week” programs discover a new passion and interest in gardening - maybe even bringing some of what they learned home to share with parents and siblings,” continued Steinmetz.

All Bridge Teen Center programs and events are FREE and open to teens currently in 7th-12th grade with an approved student membership application on file. Students who are graduating 6th grade this year and entering 7th grade in the Fall will be eligible for membership this coming Summer. Students that are not members can apply for a free student membership at [www.thebridgeteencenter.org](http://www.thebridgeteencenter.org) or by calling 708.532.0500.

The Bridge Teen Center is a nationally-recognized nonprofit community center that is designed around the needs and interests of teens in the suburbs, providing free holistically-designed afterschool programs and a safe environment for Friday night entertainment. Over 10,000+ different students from 128 different communities have been served by The Bridge since 2010. The Bridge is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors and is funded by individuals, businesses, and foundations in the community.

# Member Spotlight



Bridge Teen Center students, Nora Van Kuiken (left) and Abbey Hernandez (right) help spread mulch to plants in the Bridge Patio during the "Prep The Bridge Garden" Free Program on Thursday, May 20, 2021.

Bridge Teen Center Founder, Priscilla Steinmetz (right), explains best practices and tips when planting a plant to Bridge student, Rylan Davidson (left), during a free student program at The Bridge Teen Center.



Bridge Teen Center student, Dominik Szklarz, displays his newly completed herb garden planted in a repurposed dresser drawer during a free student program at The Bridge Teen Center.





# Member Spotlight



## Sandburg High School Named A Top Illinois High School: U.S. News

Carl Sandburg High School in Orland Park has been named one of the best high schools in Illinois, according to a new ranking by U.S. News and World Report.

This year's list ranks more than 440 public high schools throughout the state. Among those schools, Sandburg was ranked at 93.

The purpose of the rankings is to provide insight into academic performance among underserved groups, showing how well schools are supporting these students, Anita Narayan, managing editor of education at U.S. News, said in a news release.

Families can also use the rankings to see how schools compare at the national, state and local level on factors such as graduation rates and college readiness, Narayan said.

The methodology used for this year's ranking focused on six factors: college readiness, reading and math proficiency, reading and math performance, underserved student performance, college curriculum breadth and graduation rates.

The data used in this edition is from the 2018-2019 academic school year and, therefore, was not affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Article credited to Yasmeen Sheikah, Orland Park Patch



# Member Spotlight



## National Award Recognizes Darvin® Furniture as Retail Giant of Bedding

*Furniture Today* presents Darvin with prestigious national honor

Darvin® Furniture & Mattress, 15400 La Grange Road, Orland Park, IL., is the recipient of the 2021 Retail Giant of Bedding Award from Furniture Today, one of the furniture industry's most respected publications. The award was presented to Darvin President Will Harris and Darvin Vice President of Merchandising & Business Development Hanny Diab during the 2021 Bedding Conference held via Zoom May 18-20.

According to Sheila Long O'Mara, executive editor of Furniture Today, as they were going through the nominations for 2021 Retail Bedding Giant, the Darvin Furniture & Mattress name kept coming up.

"Furniture Today has been highlighting great bedding retail since 2006 with our Retail Giants of Bedding," says Long O'Mara. "Darvin Furniture & Mattress has great partnerships with a broad swath of bedding manufacturers, and several of them mentioned Darvin as a leader in the mattress category. Other home furnishings retailers also see the retailer as a significant player."

Diab says the Darvin Mattress Store has been offering the largest selection of mattresses in the Chicago area since 1920. With the 2010 opening of the 9,000-square-foot Bedding Showroom, Darvin has been able to showcase the most popular brands, including Beautyrest, Tempur-Pedic, Aireloom, Serta, Sealy, Stearns & Foster, Restonic Therapedic and iComfort.

"We are incredibly honored to be recognized at the national level with such a prestigious award. At Darvin, we have always prided ourselves on not only offering the largest selection in Chicagoland, but the best value for our customers' dollar," Diab says. "Unlike most mattress stores who promote or feature just one brand, Darvin carries the widest selection. For convenient one-stop shopping under one roof, you can come to Darvin and compare and try out the actual mattresses."

The Darvin staff of experienced bedding specialists provide one-on-one consultation to ensure every customer gets a match with the perfect mattress, says Diab. "Our staff is trained to recognize key points that impact sleep. Everyone has a preferred sleeping position and we have a perfect match in our showroom for each one."

Darvin Furniture is a recipient of the Illinois Retailer of the Year Award from the Illinois Retail Merchants Association. The award recognizes Darvin for meeting consumer desires, dedication to the community, and loyalty to its employees. Darvin now offers a 24/7/365 shopping experience at Darvin.com. Enjoy Darvin selection, quality and value at your convenience. Delivery or pickup available.



Pictured (l to r) are Bedding Dept Manager Gerri Unsel; Senior Sales Manager Steve Gulias; VP Merchandising, Business Development & Darvin.com Hanny Diab; President Darvin Furniture & Mattress Will Harris; and Director of Sales Vicky Georgiadis

# Resource Corner

## Another Byproduct of the Pandemic Homeowners Have New Appreciation For Outdoor Spaces

Submitted by: John Stein - Darvin Furniture & Mattress

In the spring of 2020, with the impact of the pandemic starting to sink in with homeowners self-isolating, the importance – and the value – of having a comfortable outdoor space to relax became very apparent.

With the safest place to get together for many homeowners located outside, many realized they didn't necessarily have an ideal situation or a comfortable place to gather. That would change over the next 12 months as spring beckoned most to get outdoors once again, but this time many had prepared.

Entertaining at home was already a 'thing' for many homeowners who have opted to expand their living space from under the roof to outside on the deck or patio. Making the choice to purchase new outdoor furniture starts with recognizing there are many options and styles to choose from and, just like indoor furniture, design, quality materials and durability all are important considerations that impact price.

According to Darvin Furniture & Mattress Buyer Jeanie Harrison, her customers are very focused on making their outdoor space an attractive and comfortable escape that more than anything reflects their personal style. "Deep seating sofas, motion furniture and fire pits have been especially popular. So far, Darvin customers have been showing a lot of interest in wicker, modular and sectional units," she says.

From sofas, sectionals, dining sets and tables to firepits, outdoor rugs, umbrellas, and fun accessories, she says everything needed to create the perfect outdoor retreat is in high demand.

"At a time when so many people want to spend every possible minute outdoors, there's a huge selection of items offering more colors, designs, materials and fabric choices than ever before," Harrison says. "The items that have been very popular with customers have been able to fuse the durability necessary for outdoor furnishings as well as combining the comfort you might expect from furniture inside the home."

### Modern Trend – Rugs

The infusion of modern outdoor rugs to homeowner's exterior entertaining spaces is a relatively new trend that has become more mainstream over the last decade. Harrison points out that it is not a coincidence that the trend mirrors the same explosion of popularity for well-defined and stylish patios and decks.

"A lot of homeowners we meet in our showroom tell us they are looking for a way to make their outdoor areas more comfortable and more memorable – a real extension of their home. The area rug, not unlike its role inside the home, is a great way to add some color and style, while also adding some comfort for bare feet that might otherwise be in contact with hot surfaces," Harrison says.

What makes the outdoor rug so nice is the use of modern materials that dry quickly, resist mold and dirt, do not bleach out in the sunshine and are extremely easy to clean. Outdoor area rugs are available up 12 feet by 15 feet. While these rugs are incredibly durable and hold up under tough weather conditions, they do require a small bit of maintenance to ensure they provide years of protection on your deck or patio.

In 2021, outdoor furniture has stepped up to accommodate both everyday living and anticipated social gatherings. Today's offerings are not just about style, it's about how you live life. Look for pieces designed to perform several tasks, many featuring hidden features and offering a heightened level of versatility for nearly any space you choose.





# Membership Benefits

Looking to advertise a special offer?

LOOK NO FURTHER!

Post your **HOT DEAL** on the Chamber's website  
It's a FREE benefit of your membership.

- Click onto the Member Login found in the upper right-hand side on the home page of [www.orlandparkchamber.org](http://www.orlandparkchamber.org)
- Enter your login name & password. Forgot password? Click on forgot password to reset your password.
- Don't have a login username? Call the Chamber office 708-349-2972.
- Click the Hot Deals link in the Shortcuts navigation panel on the left.
- Click Add Hot Deal from upper right
- Complete the fields:

**Title** - This is the name of your Hot Deal that will be displayed - grab consumer's attention with this phrase

**Tagline** - Appears on the Hot Deal Listing page - quick phrase to grab attention

**Category** - Select a category from the drop down list.

**Description** - Enter the Hot Deal description.

**Meta Description** - One to two sentence summary of your content, often visible in search engine results, social media posts and shares - gives you the opportunity to better target your message

**Short Description** - Will display "teaser text" in the deals search results on our website

**Offer Start & End Dates** - Enter first and last dates offer will be valid

**Image** - Click the Add Image icon to load in your digital flyer, coupon or business logo

**Contact Information** - This will automatically be populated with your information, but may be changed

**Active Dates** - These dates determine when your Hot Deal will display on our website. Dates may be modified by Chamber staff later, if needed

- Click Submit for Approval

Once approved by the Chamber office, the hot deal will appear on our website. Click on COMMUNITY HOT DEALS under MEMBER SERVICES on the tool bar on the home page of our website, [orlandparkchamber.org](http://orlandparkchamber.org), to see all hot deals posted by our members. In addition, the hot deal will appear on your business page on our website, under the NEWS tab.

Looking to hire a new employee?

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- Enter your login name & password. Forgot password? Click on forgot password to reset your password.
- Don't have a login username? Call the Chamber office 708-349-2972.
- Click the Job Postings link in the Shortcuts navigation panel on the left.
- Click Add Job Posting from upper right
- Complete the fields:

**Title** - This is the name of the job posting that will be displayed.

**Description** - Enter the job description.

**Category** - Select a category from the drop down list.

**Contact Information** - Review organization information & update any information as needed.

**Active Dates** - Click the dates you would like to have this Job Posting active on the website. NOTE: Active dates cannot be changed once the Job Posting has been submitted. Job Postings are on a week by week basis, beginning on Sunday.

**Image** - Click the Add Image icon to load your business logo to show on the Job Posting.

- Click Submit for Approval

Once approved by the Chamber office, the job posting will appear on our website. Click on Job Postings under MEMBER SERVICES on the tool bar on the home page of our website, [orlandparkchamber.org](http://orlandparkchamber.org), to see all jobs posted by our members. In addition, the job posting will appear on your business page on our website, under the NEWS tab.

# Upcoming Programs & Events

## JUNE 2021

### **Arts & Drafts Committee Meeting**

Tuesday, June 8 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

#### **The Brass Tap**

14225 95th Avenue, OP

### **Member Awards & Board Installation Celebration**

Thursday, June 10 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm

#### **Silver Lake Country Club**

14700 S. 82nd Avenue, OP

**\$45 per person \$255 Reserved Table of 6 \$340 Reserved Table of 8**

Carving Station & Appetizer Buffet, 2 Drink Tickets, Cash Bar

**Pre-Paid Event - Registration REQUIRED - Deadline 5PM June 7**

### **Clean Eatx of Orland Park Ribbon Cutting**

Wednesday, June 16 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

#### **Clean Eatx of Orland Park**

15222 S. LaGrange Road, Unit 8, OP

**Ribbon Cutting at 12:15 pm**

### **Board Meeting**

Wednesday, June 18 8:00 am - 9:00 am

#### **Orland Park Public Library**

14921 S. Ravinia Avenue, OP

### **Monthly Membership Meeting**

Wednesday, June 23 7:45 am - 9:00 am

#### **Silver Lake Country Club**

14700 S. 82nd Avenue, OP

### **Better Homes & Gardens Real Estate Connections**

#### **Multi-Chamber Ribbon Cutting & Business After Hours**

Thursday, June 24 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

#### **Better Homes & Gardens Real Estate Connections**

15000 S. Cicero Avenue, Suite 200, Oak Forest

## JULY 2021

### **Arts & Drafts Committee Meeting**

Tuesday, July 6 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

#### **The Brass Tap**

14225 95th Avenue, OP