



Choose Community

This week we have seen two fabulous examples of our communities coming together to support local businesses. On Thursday a portion of Oak Park Ave was closed and people gathered in front of LIVE Cafe to stand in solidarity with owner Reesheda Graham-Washington. Everyone in attendance felt the love that night (and we felt the love from Reesheda!). This love will heal us, to make us stronger to be agents of change in 2021.

On Friday, the Forest Park Chamber joined us to welcome Patrick O'Brien's newest "Scratch" endeavor, Lathrop House, to the community with a Ribbon Cutting in the snow, and a show of force for take-out lunches! 41 lunches were distributed to hearty (and hungry!) Chamber members, and we infused over \$600 into their lunchtime revenue. Patrick and his staff indeed felt the love!

Let's ride the wave of this first week of the New Year and keep the love flowing and our local businesses afloat. Let's continue to unite and focus on a brighter 2021. Together we can do this. **Choose Community.**

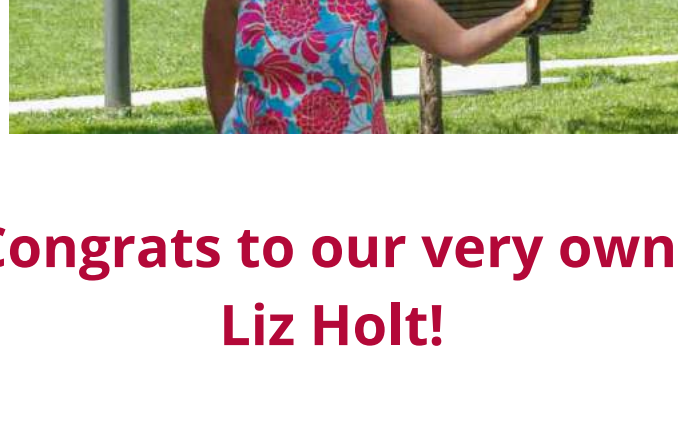
Liz Holt
Executive Director



Photo Credit: Todd Bannor



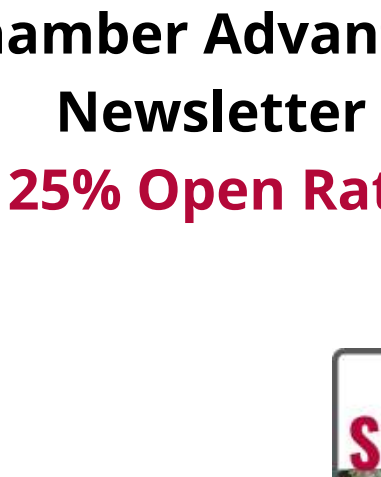
Helpers and heroes bring us through A year like no other brings us 16 Villagers of the Year



Congrats to our very own Liz Holt!

Thank you for all your hard work to support our small business community, keeping them energized, connected and resilient.

2020 Chamber Highlights



**Chamber Advantage
Newsletter**
25% Open Rate



**944 Listens on
SoundCloud & Spotify**



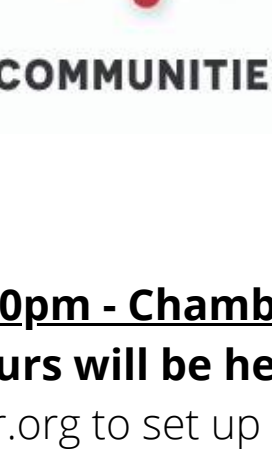
\$5,500 Sold
7,000 Website Impressions



143,000 Impressions
Engagement:
9.7% in 2020 (average is 3.6%)



Takeout Stakeout
June-Dec 2020
425 lunches, \$6,325 spent



COMMUNITIES

Thursday, January 14, 1-2:30pm - Chamber Virtual Open Office Hours **Our Open Office Hours will be held virtually.**

Email mwalden@oprchamber.org to set up a consultation via phone, Facetime, Messenger or...?

Held twice monthly at the Chamber HQ, "Office Hours" is a drop-in help center for all Chamber Members looking to beef up their member ePage, better understand Chamber benefits or just talk business. RSVP to make an appointment with us.

[CLICK HERE](#) TO REGISTER

Friday, January 22, 9:30-11am - Chamber Virtual Open Office Hours **Our Open Office Hours will be held virtually.**

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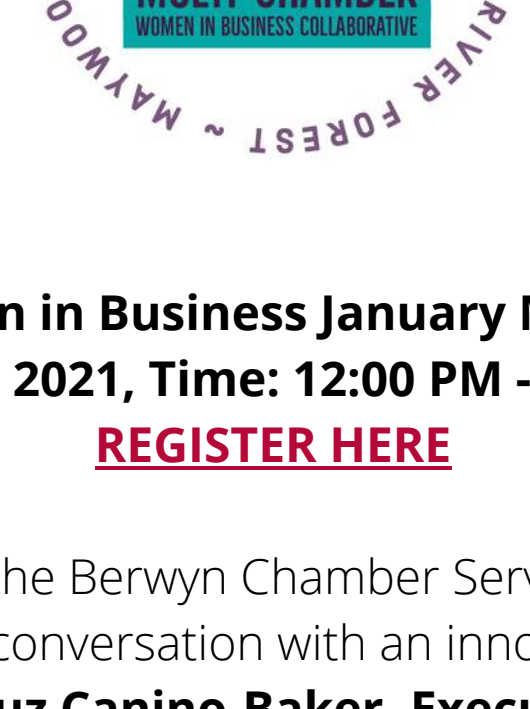
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[CLICK HERE](#) TO REGISTER

Friday, January 22, 12-12:30pm - Takeout Stakeout at Q BBQ

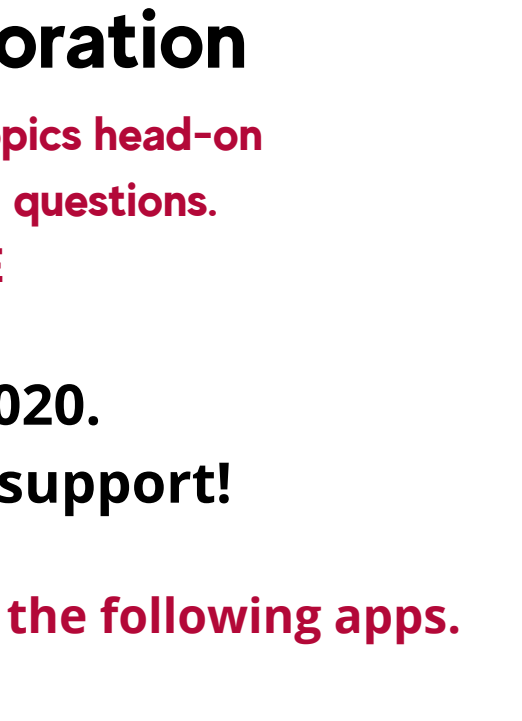
Come join your fellow Chamber members for our next Takeout Stakeout, this time at **Q BBQ**! In this event, we convene at a designated restaurant to pick up our takeout lunch choices, and get to see each other for a bit while we're at it in a socially-distanced meetup. Like our Tuesday Tasting lunch series from which this springs, lunch is a flat \$15 including tax & tip.

Choose your lunch options when you register.
[CLICK HERE](#) TO REGISTER



Women in Business January Meeting **January 15, 2021, Time: 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM CST** **[REGISTER HERE](#)**

On January 15, the Berwyn Chamber Services Division will host an exciting conversation with an innovative leader and change-maker, **Luz Canino-Baker, Executive Director of Latinas on the Plaza**, a non-profit specializing in Women's Leadership with a focus on accelerating the pathway to success for women of color. We all had "to do" lists, and a calendar filled with plans for 2020...and all that got tossed out the window in March. What did we learn? We learned that stuff happens, and plans can change on a dime. We also learned that we could handle it by having a support system that shores us up and keeps us going. That said, we all are anxiously waiting to ring in the new year. As we begin planning for 2021, it might be wise to consider a new way of planning. Instead of taking on the whole year...what about breaking it down into chunks. Doesn't planning for 12 weeks sound more realistic and manageable? Join me on January 15th as we set our plans to move forward together. We will network, discuss attainable goals and resources, and step into 2021 with an action plan.



A Unique Collaboration

**Join us as we tackle timely topics head-on
and fearlessly ask the hard questions.**

#chamberLOVE

944 Listens in 2020.

Thank you for your support!

Check out our 2020 episodes on the following apps.

SHOP LOCAL OPRF

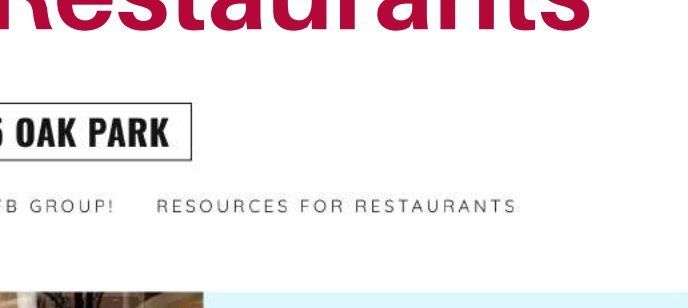
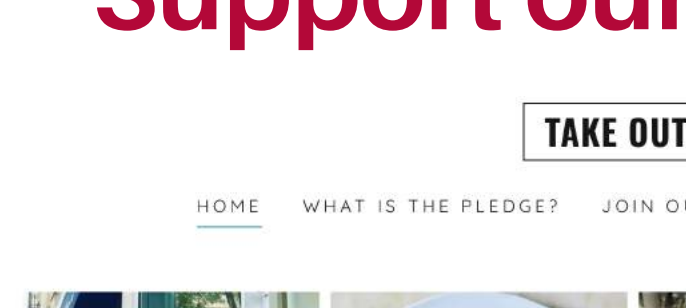
A community digital gift card program
Support Small Business



Want to be a Participating Vendor in the Shop Local OPRF Digital Gift Card?

45 vendors, \$5,500+ in sales, and 7,000+ website impressions to date.

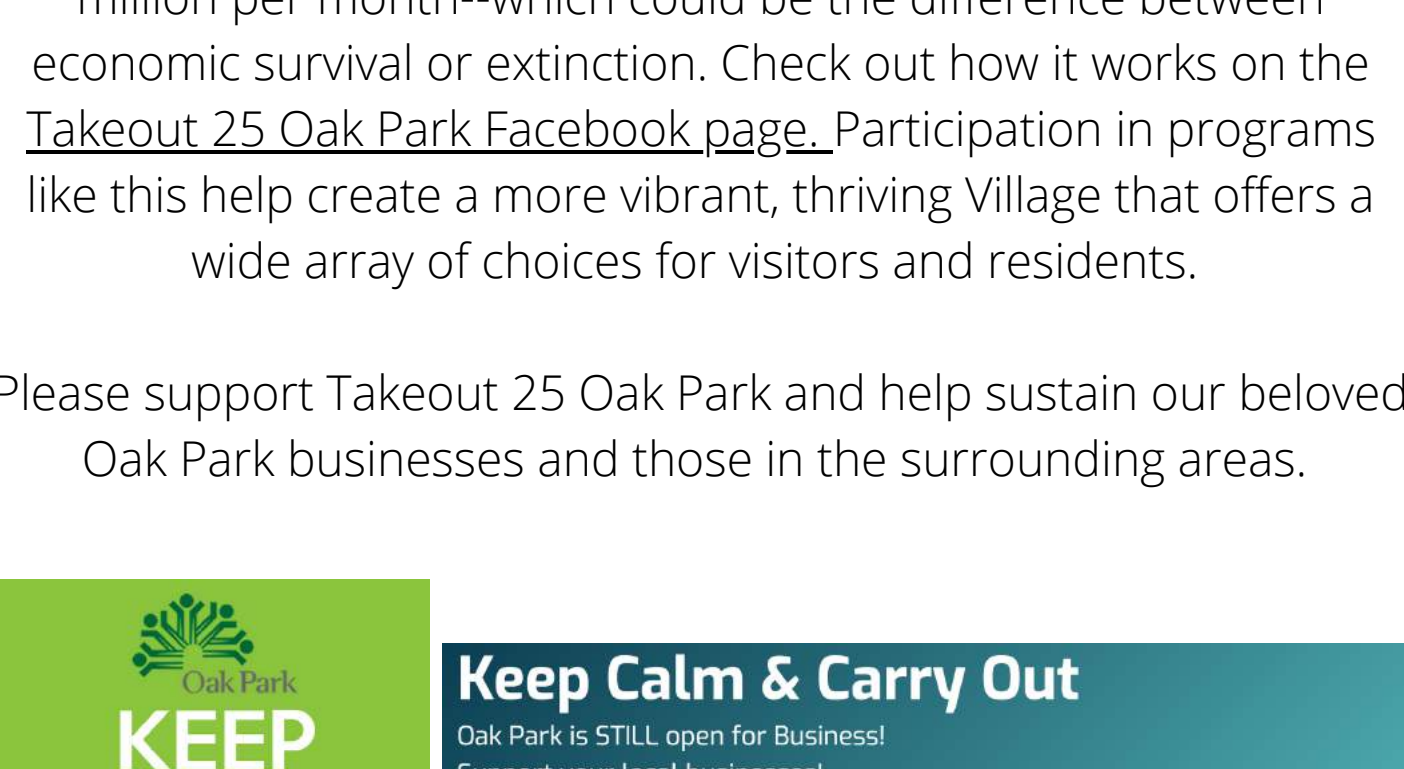
Sign up TODAY!



Support our Restaurants

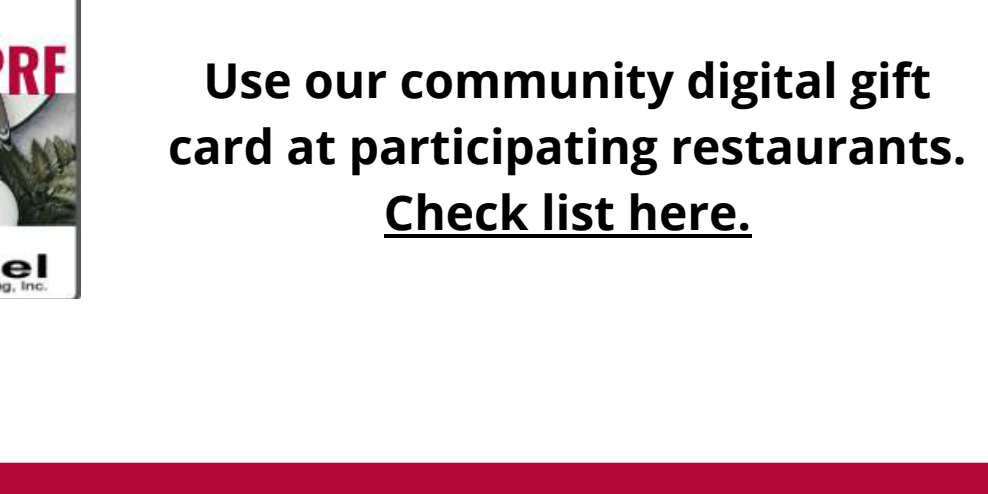
TAKE OUT 25 OAK PARK

[HOME](#) [WHAT IS THE PLEDGE?](#) [JOIN OUR FB GROUP!](#) [RESOURCES FOR RESTAURANTS](#)



Takeout 25 Oak Park asks participants to spend \$25 a week at a local establishment. If 10,000 residents spend \$25 a week for carryout or delivery at an area restaurant, this translates to \$1 million per month--which could be the difference between economic survival or extinction. Check out how it works on the [Takeout 25 Oak Park Facebook page](#). Participation in programs like this help create a more vibrant, thriving Village that offers a wide array of choices for visitors and residents.

Please support Takeout 25 Oak Park and help sustain our beloved Oak Park businesses and those in the surrounding areas.

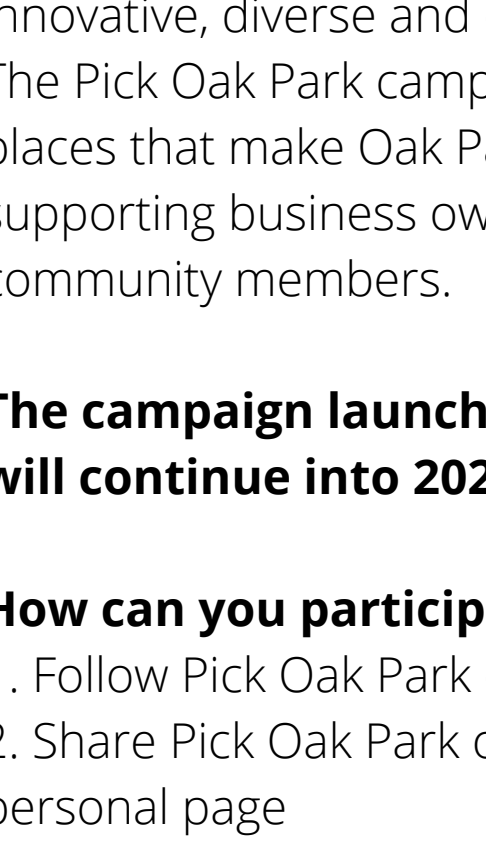


HAMBER TAKE OUT STAKE OUTS

12-12:30pm \$15 lunch options

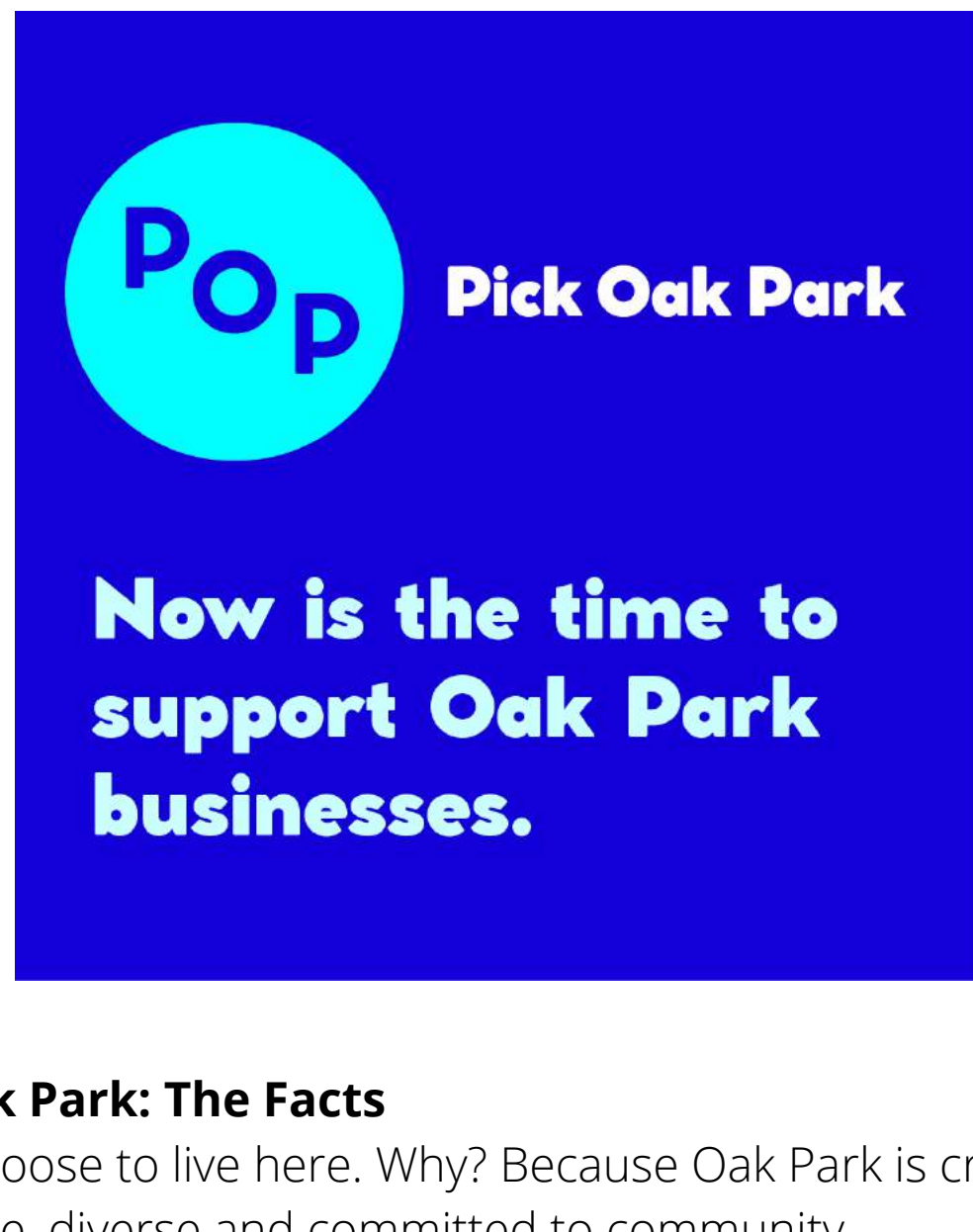
Friday January 22, 12-12:30pm

[Register HERE](#)



Use our community digital gift card at participating restaurants.

[Check list here.](#)



Pick Oak Park: The Facts

We all choose to live here. Why? Because Oak Park is creative,

innovative, diverse and committed to community.

The Pick Oak Park campaign aims to highlight the people and places that make Oak Park special and create excitement about supporting business owners who are friends, neighbors and community members.

The campaign launched on Tuesday, December 15 and will continue into 2021.

How can you participate?

1. Follow Pick Oak Park on Facebook and Instagram
 2. Share Pick Oak Park on your organization/business page and personal page
 3. Create your own post with the hashtag: #IPickOakParkFor and share where you are choosing to support (i.e. “#IPickOakParkFor the perfect birthday cake”)
 4. Send the Pick Oak Park email to your email subscriber list
 5. Hang the Pick Oak Park poster in your window
 6. Add the logo and link to pickoakpark.com to your website
- Together, Pick Oak Park creates awareness, cultivates loyalty and builds a groundswell of support for local businesses. Pick your community, Pick your Village. Pick Oak Park.

How can you learn more?

pickoakpark.com

facebook.com/pickoakpark

Instagram.com/pickoakpark