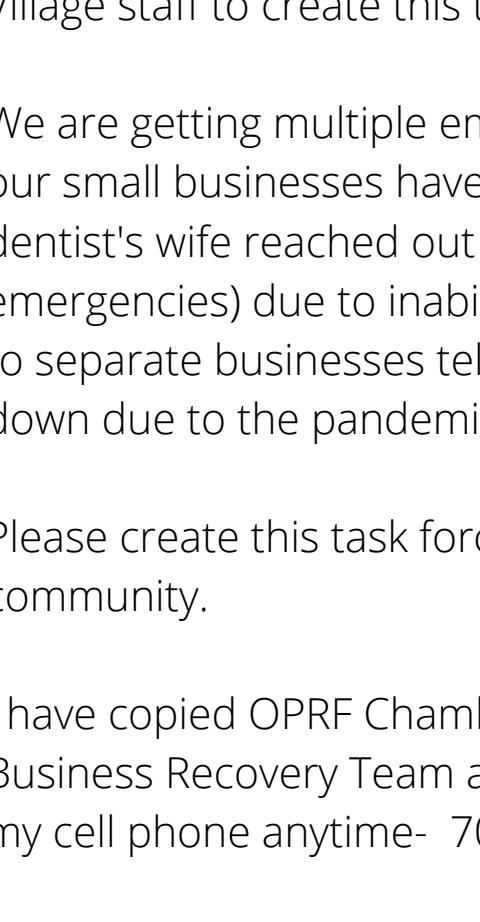
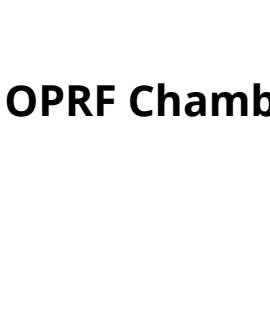


On this Mother's Day, I would like to send a shout out to the incredible women in all of our lives. They appear in many forms, they shape our lives in many ways and they embody resilience to see us through the worst of times. I ask you to celebrate all those women you have loved and whom have loved you, those who have shown strength when you needed it, and compassion when you least expected it. On this day, this is what I celebrate. Please join me! **#chamberLOVE**

Liz Holt
Executive Director
OPRF Chamber of Commerce



Also, coming soon... Inside the Chamber



Business Recovery Task Force for the Village of Oak Park initiated by our Board President

Sent 4/27/20 to : Mayor Abu-Taleb, Oak Park Trustees, Clerk Scaman, Cara Pavlicek, and Tammie Grossman-

Good Afternoon. I am very thankful that the Village of Oak Park has put public health and the safety of our citizens first during this pandemic.

I am writing on behalf of the OPRF Chamber of Commerce to ask for your immediate assistance in the formation of a Business Recovery Task Force for the Village of Oak Park. It has come to my attention that the Village of River Forest and City of Berwyn have already created task forces for their business communities. In fact, the Village of River Forest task force has met, created a plan, is developing videos to promote their small businesses this week, has supplied re-opening packets to their businesses, and has been calling or meeting with their businesses regularly.

Liz Holt and I have connected with you repeatedly via Zoom, phone calls, and emails over the last 5 weeks to discuss small business issues and concerns. Therefore, it is extremely concerning that our surrounding villages are taking a more proactive position on the future of their small businesses. While I am very thankful that Mayor Abu-Taleb instructed the OPEDC to help create education on financial assistance programs available to businesses, that is NOT enough.

The Chamber has furloughed or laid off most of our staff, and we only have Liz Holt and one other part-time staff member to manage Chamber members, outreach, networking, and all other Chamber businesses. We want to be part of the team on a Village Recovery Task Force, but we cannot lead this team or organize it. Since the Village funds two full time staff members at the OPEDC and has staff members at Village Hall who support the business community, I am asking you to assign the OPEDC or Village staff to create this task force this week.

We are getting multiple emails per day about the serious concerns that our small businesses have during this pandemic. Today, a non-member dentist's wife reached out to me because he cannot open (even for emergencies) due to inability to get PPE that he needs. Last Friday, I had to separate businesses tell me that they think they will be forced to close down due to the pandemic.

Please create this task force this week. Please help our business community.

I have copied OPRF Chamber Board members who are on our Board Business Recovery Team and Liz Holt on this email. I can be reached on my cell phone anytime- 708-837-2540.

Kindest Regards,
Dr. Mary Ann Bender
Podiatrist, Mary Ann Bender, DPM, Ltd.President, OPRF Chamber of Commerce

6931 W. North, Oak Park, IL 60302

708-763-0580, oakparkpodiatry.com

Shape your future. Start here. [CLICK HERE](#)

Tuesday May 12, 9:30-10am - Restaurants - In the first session in this series we will focus on restaurants, cafes and food service businesses.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

Wednesday May 13, 9:30-10am - Hair/Nail/Beauty Salons - In this second session in this series we will focus on hair salons, barber shops, nail salons, and other businesses who welcome in patrons for aesthetic services.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

Thursday May 14, 9:30-10a, - Retail - In this third session in this series we will focus on retail stores, both brick&mortar and on-line, as well as other businesses who have a retail component to their business.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

Friday May 15, 9:30-10am - Health Care / Clinic - massage, acupuncture etc. - In this fourth session in the series we will focus on small health care clinics or other businesses who serve our clients and small patients and provide hand-on services.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

Monday May 18, 9:30-10am - Gyms (Personal Training/Small Group/Yoga/Pilates) - In this fifth session in the series we will focus on gyms and work out spaces used for personal training, and studios used for yoga, pilates, or other health-related activities.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

Tuesday May 19, 9:30-10am - Office (Insurance, Legal, Consulting, Professional, etc.) - In the last session in the series we will focus on professional offices and meeting spaces. We will discuss strategies for getting your staff back into the office safely while maintaining high standards of personal safety. When is a good time to ask staff to come back? Should your employees continue to work from home? What are the protocols that you should put in place if you have clients visiting you in the office?

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

RECOVERY & REOPENING SERIES

The OPRF Chamber teams up with the Chambers in Berwyn, Forest Park and WSCCI to share ideas, update you on procedural documents and standards that you might reference and keep you up to date on what is happening locally and at the State level.

PLEASE JOIN US AND LET US KNOW YOUR THOUGHTS.

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[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

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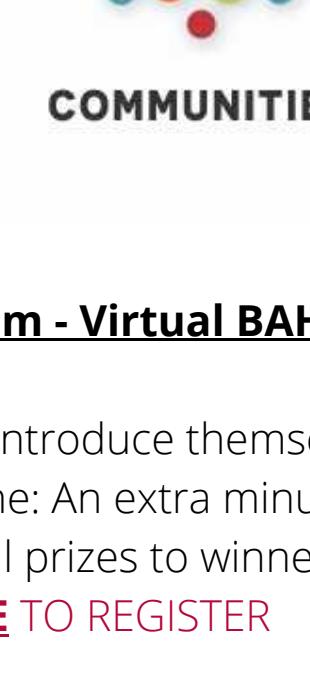
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[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

Wednesday May 20, 9:30-10am - CASH FLOW [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

Please join the OPRF Chamber and the Berwyn Development Corporation (BDC) as we host a big Scanlan from the Women's Business Development Center. Abigail has helped Scanlan less business understand exactly how their money is coming in and where it is going out. She will be chatting with our group about how any business can easily get a handle on their cash flow to make sure that they can effectively plan for the future.



COMMUNITIES

Tuesday May 12, 5-6:30 pm - Virtual BAH: Preparing Businesses for after Shelter-in-Place

Everyone gets 1 minute to introduce themselves and answer the question, "How are you?" Program time: An extra minute for any new members; announcements; raffle (mail prizes to winners); close with a musical performance? [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

Thursday May 14, 1-2:30 pm - Virtual Office Hours: Drop-In Help Center with Chamber Professionals

Coronavirus UPDATE: As our office is temporarily closed, our Open Office Hours will be held virtually. Email mwalden@oprfchamber.org to set up a consultation via phone, FaceTime, Messenger or...?

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

Friday May 15, 9-10:30 am - Women in Business Affinity Group

Topic: Finding Your Way Staying Motivated and Focused.

Facilitator TBD. [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

Thursday May 21, 9-10 am - Virtual New Member Breakfast

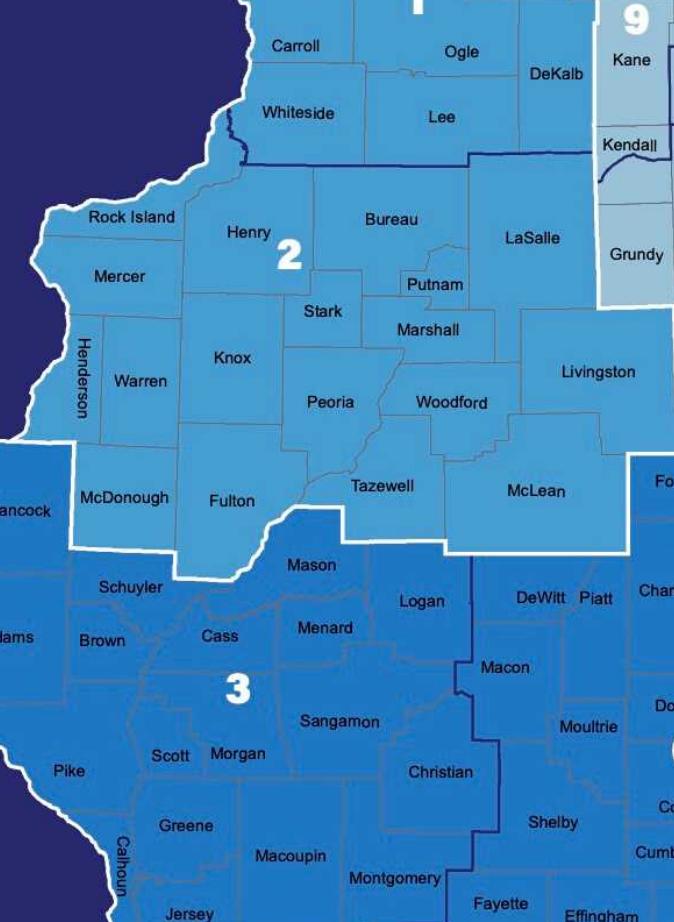
Welcome new members and non-members! Join us at our virtual New Member Breakfast to learn the Chamber's history and culture, to meet its staff and board leadership, learn about all the benefits membership carries, and find opportunities to get involved.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

Friday May 22, 9:30-11 am - Virtual Open Office Hours: Drop-In Help Center with Chamber Professionals

Coronavirus UPDATE: As our office is temporarily closed, our Open Office Hours will be held virtually. Email mwalden@oprfchamber.org to set up a consultation via phone, FaceTime, Messenger or...?

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)



ASK AN EXPERT:

Face Masks and Hearing Loss: How to Effectively Communicate

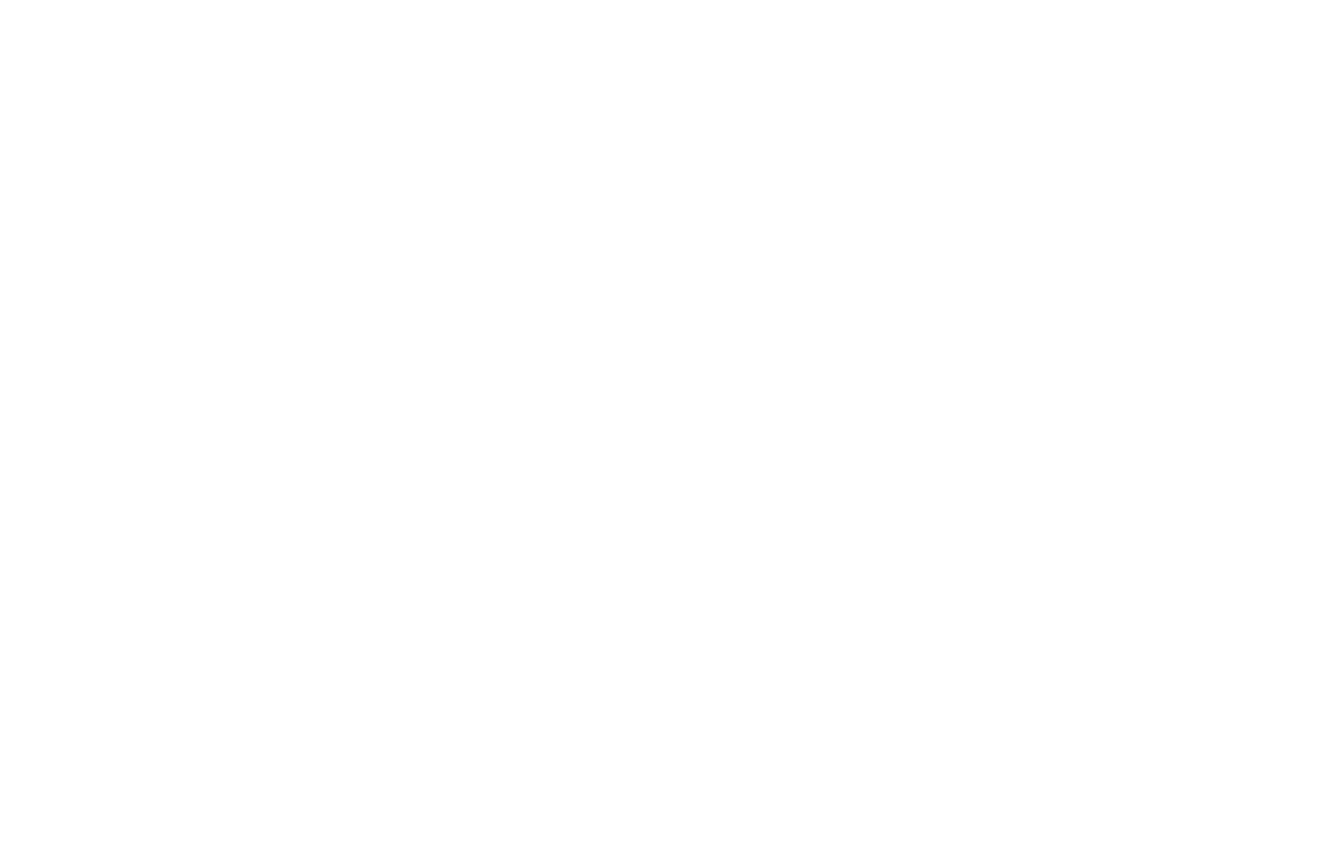
[Learn more from Cyndie Chow](#), AuD, PhD, Consulting Audiology

Associates, LLC on how we can effectively communicate in this "new face mask world"

[CLICK HERE](#)

Check out River Forest's campaign:

Shop Safe. Shop River Forest. We've got you covered!



CLICK BELOW TO WATCH

<https://youtu.be/vQgsgUSFMg>

RESTORE ILLINOIS

To learn more [CLICK HERE](#)

RESTORE ILLINOIS

A Public Health Approach To Safely Reopen Our State

Phase 1 Rapid Spread	Phase 2 Flattening	Phase 3 Recovery	Phase 4 Revitalization	Phase 5 Illinois Restored
Strict stay at home and social distancing guidelines are put in place, and only essential businesses remain open. Every region has experienced this phase once already and could return to it if mitigation efforts are unsuccessful.	Non-essential retail stores reopen for curb-side pickup and delivery. Illinoisans are directed to wear a face covering when outside the home and can begin enjoying additional outdoor activities like golf, boating & fishing while practicing social distancing.	Manufacturing, offices, retail, barbershops and salons can reopen to the public with capacity and other limits and safety precautions. Gatherings of 10 people or fewer are allowed. Face coverings and social distancing are the norm.	Gatherings of 50 people or fewer are allowed, restaurants and bars reopen, travel resumes, child care and schools reopen under guidance from the Illinois Department of Public Health. Face coverings and social distancing are the norm.	The economy fully reopens with safety precautions continuing. Conventions, festivals and large events are permitted, and all businesses, schools and places of recreation can open with new safety guidance and procedures.

RESTORE ILLINOIS HEALTH REGIONS

