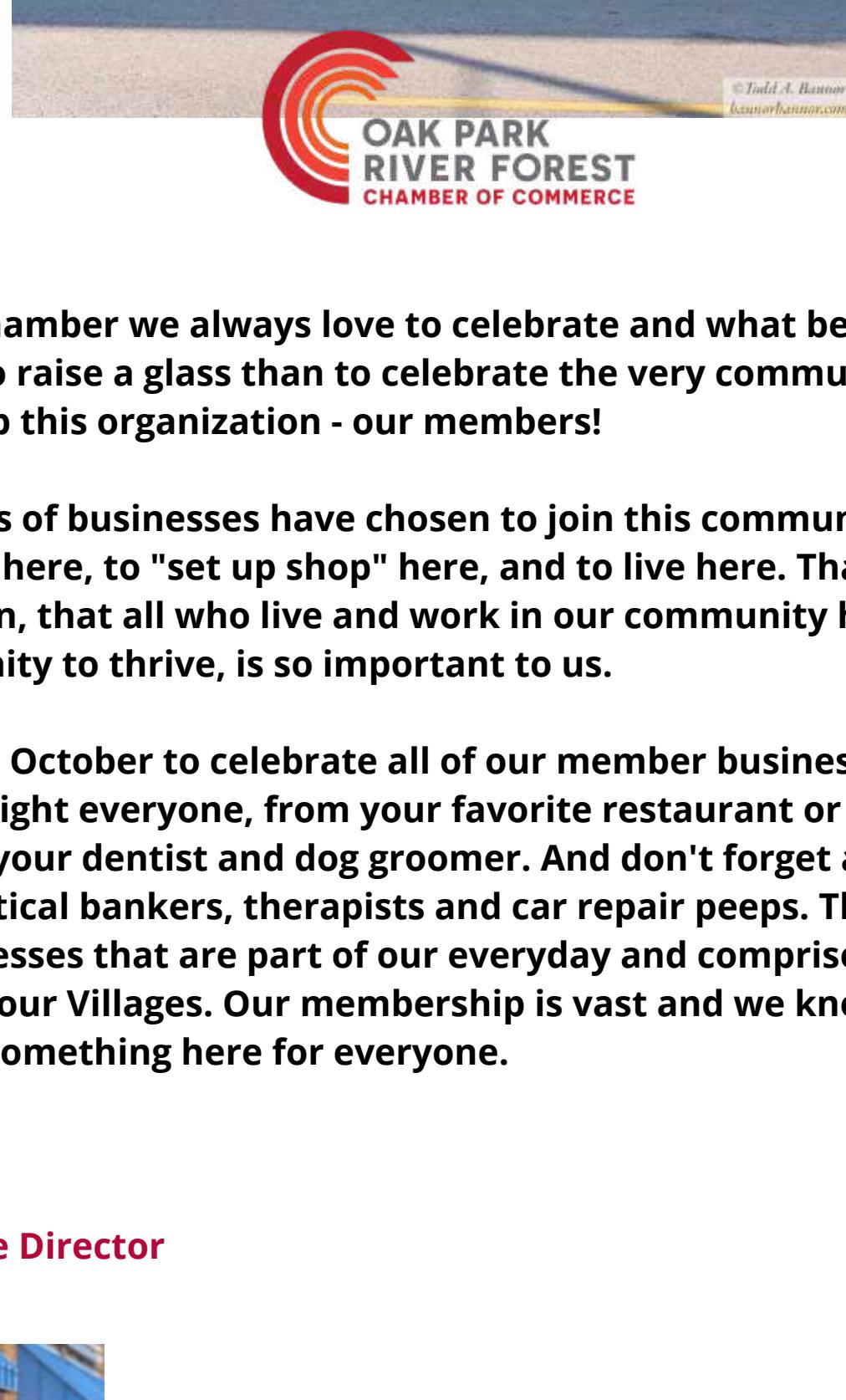


Choose Community



At the Chamber we always love to celebrate and what better reason to raise a glass than to celebrate the very community that makes up this organization - our members!

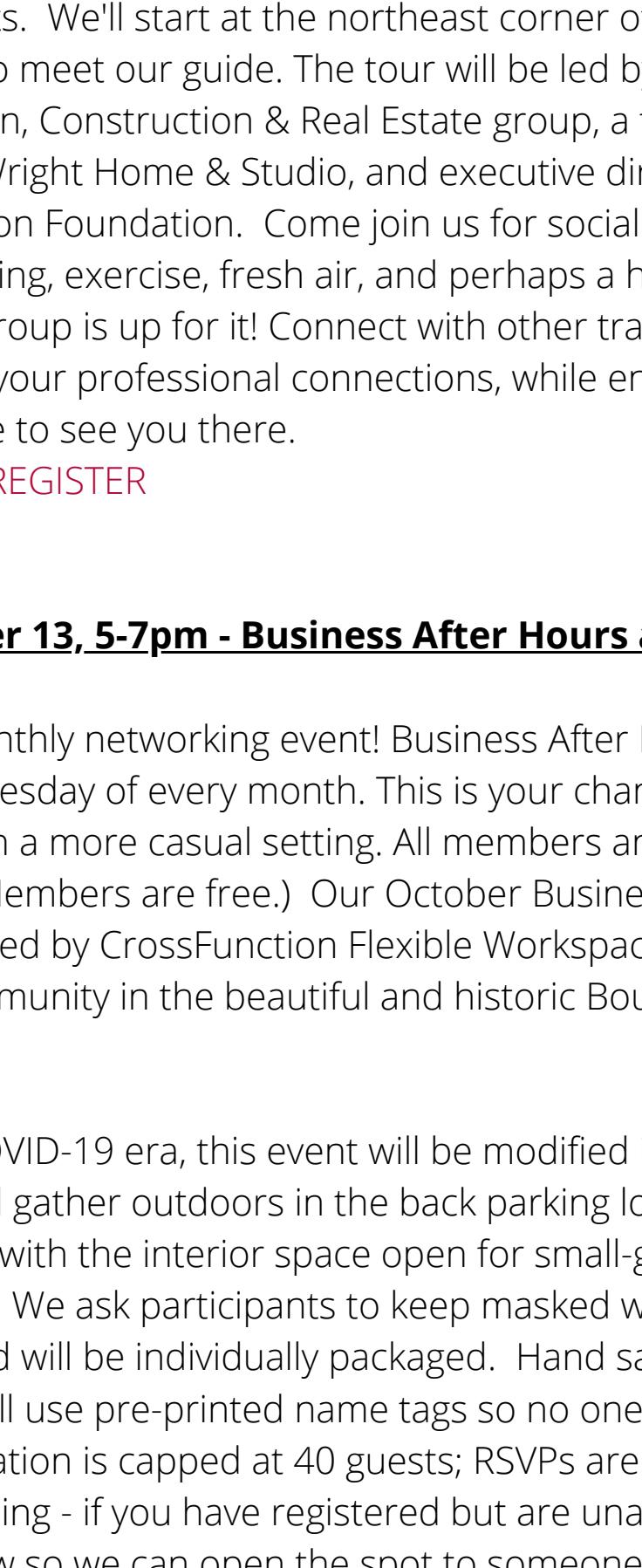
Hundreds of businesses have chosen to join this community, to do business here, to "set up shop" here, and to live here. That is why our Vision, that all who live and work in our community have the opportunity to thrive, is so important to us.

Join us in October to celebrate all of our member businesses. We will spotlight everyone, from your favorite restaurant or retail shop, to your dentist and dog groomer. And don't forget about those critical bankers, therapists and car repair peeps. These are all businesses that are part of our everyday and comprise the very fabric of our Villages. Our membership is vast and we know that there is something here for everyone.

**Liz Holt
Executive Director**



Celebrate with us!



What is the 2020 Member Spotlight Our Community Program?

It is an entire month **dedicated to highlighting our Chamber members** - what they do and what makes them unique, while also sharing their love for our community and the Chamber. **This marketing extravaganza will include being published in the Wednesday Journal Small Business Superheroes blog, videos, social media marketing, and much more.**

The goal is two-fold: to **connect our members to the community**, and also give them what they need most - **more marketing and exposure**.

This program also represents a COVID-year pivot for our well-loved Spotlight Awards program. We knew our program had to be virtual this year and needed to extend far beyond celebrating only six category winners.

By combining it with our annual Membership Month, we created a platform to give a spotlight to many, so that we could help ALL of our hard-working businesses to survive and thrive.

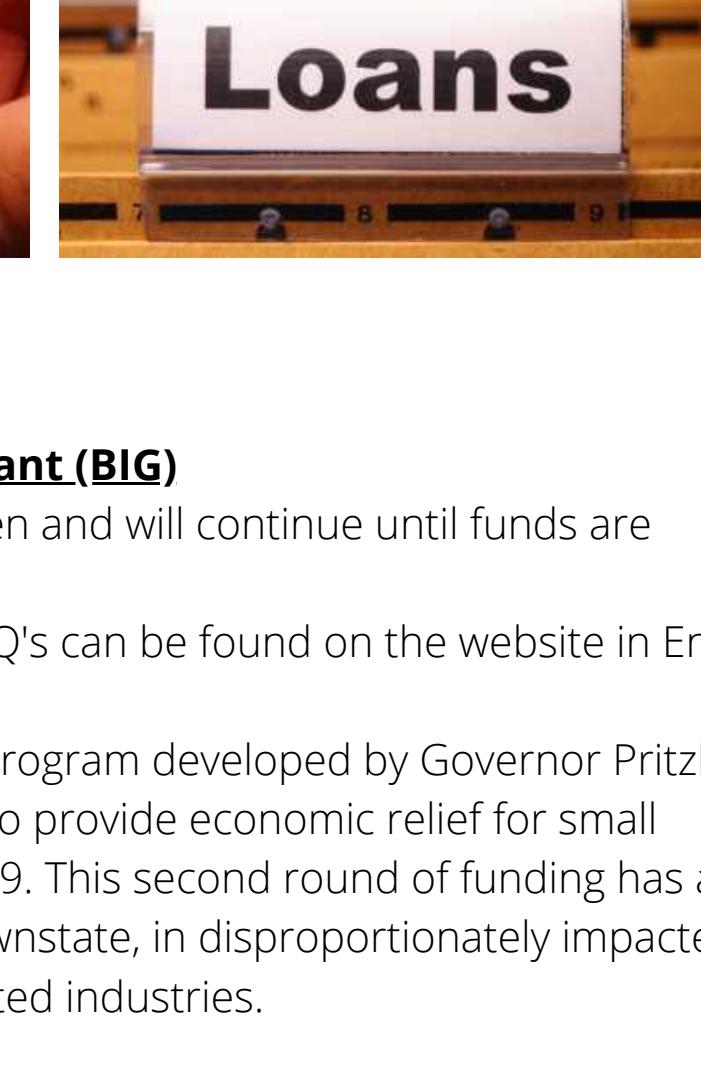
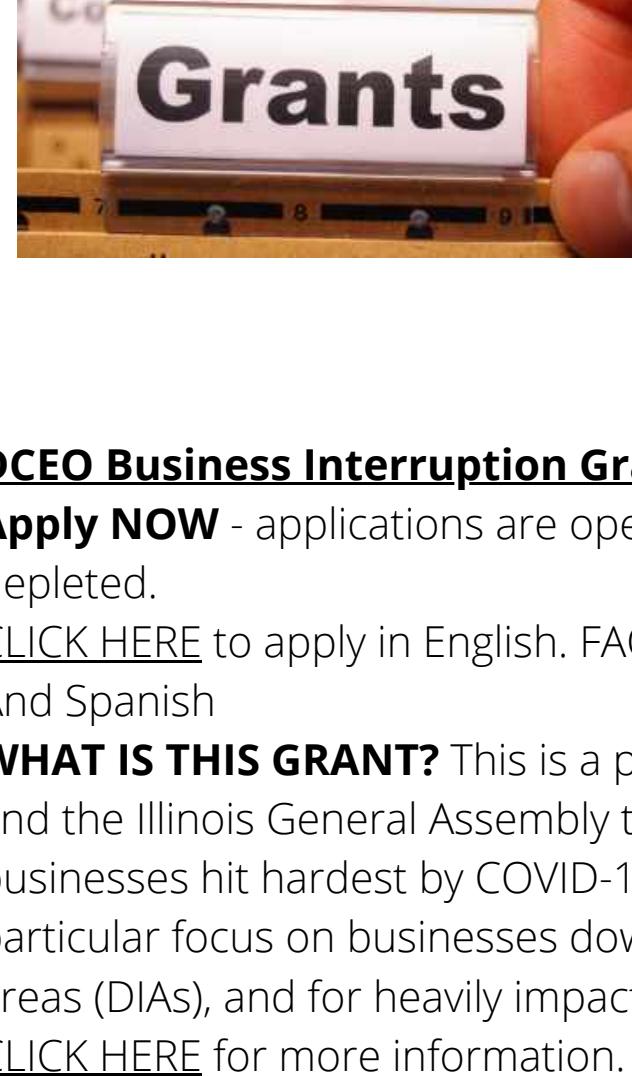
which means your support will help your community too.

SUBMIT YOUR WEDNESDAY JOURNAL SMALL BUSINESS SUPERHEROES BLOG HERE

AND SEND YOUR VIDEOS TO jyang@oprfchamber.org

Tell us what you love about the chamber and our community.

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER



DCEO Business Interruption Grant (BIG)

Apply NOW - applications are open and will continue until funds are depleted.

[CLICK HERE](#) to apply in English. FAQ's can be found on the website in English And Spanish

WHAT IS THIS GRANT? This is a program developed by Governor Pritzker and the Illinois General Assembly to provide economic relief for small businesses hit hardest by COVID-19. This second round of funding has a particular focus on businesses downstate, in disproportionately impacted areas (DIAs), and for heavily impacted industries.

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

Cook County Covid-19 Recovery Grant

Apply NOW! Applications are being accepted **Sept 16 - October 6, 2020**.

[CLICK HERE](#) to apply in English.

[CLICK HERE](#) to apply in Spanish

WHAT IS THIS GRANT? For businesses located in municipalities within suburban Cook County with 20 or fewer employees and sales reduced (>20%) by COVID-19 in any month from March-July vs. February 2020). This is intended for businesses who have not received federal funding in the past, or businesses that have received federal funding and intend to use the Cook County Recovery Grant for expenses different than what federal funding was used for.

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

NEED HELP APPLYING? We have partnered with two fabulous organizations who will help you with your application (YES! They will actually really make this process easier!)

- [If you are a black-owned business](#), contact our partners at the Illinois Black Chamber of Commerce - Siri Hibbler - siri.hibbler@illinoisblackchamberofcommerce.com

- [All other business owners](#) should feel free to contact our partner at the Berwyn Development Corporation - Erika Coron-Owens erikao@berwyn.net or cell: 708-268-6157

Oak Park Loan Program

Applications are still open and there are still funds left for the taking!

-[CLICK HERE](#) to apply.- **WHAT IS THIS?** The Village of Oak Park will offer Oak Park businesses that have been negatively affected by the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus low- interest forgivable financing through Oak Park's CARES Act Business Assistance Loan program. Max \$5,000.00.

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information.



**Illinois
Department of Commerce
& Economic Opportunity**

Stay Informed. Stay Healthy. Stay Connected.



Visit [HERE](#) to learn more about **programs at the Illinois Dept of Commerce celebrating Women's Business Month and Hispanic Heritage Month this October 2020.**