



AUSTIN HIGH 1950's ALUMNI

NEWSLETTER VOLUME 13 ISSUE 3 SUMMER 2018

www.austin1955.org -- reunion@austin1955.org



LAST CHANCE TO SIGN UP FOR OUR WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15th SUMMER OUTING:

Lunch at the **Onion Pub**, 22221 N. Pepper Rd, Lake Barrington, IL 60010, Phone: 847-381-7308, and a guided 3-hour tour of the Spectacular Sanfilippo Estate. See detailed description of the tour and the estate on the next page.



Check In @ 11 AM – Lunch Seating @ 11:30 – 3-Hour Tour Begins @ 1:30 PM

Payment due by JULY 15, 2018



Name(s) _____

Name(s) _____

Number of people _____ X \$50 = \$_____ Check # _____ is enclosed.

Contact Phone: _____ Email: _____

Entree (check one per person):

Pub Burger: ___ Chicken Penne Pasta: ___ Reuben: ___ Black Bean Burger: ___

Make check Payable to: “Austin 1955 Reunion, Ltd.” and MAIL this Form & Check to:

**Irwin Magad
Austin Class of 1955 Reunion
3714 Monticeto Circle
Mundelein, IL 60060**

SANFILIPPO ESTATE TOUR:

It all starts at the Onion Pub restaurant, 22221 N. Pepper Rd, Lake Barrington, IL 60010. We meet there, park in the free restaurant lot, enjoy a great lunch, and form carpools to the Estate, as parking is limited at the Estate. The Sanfilippo Estate features a world class collection of automated music machines, Barrel Organs, Disk Players, Violin Machines, such as the 1922 Hufeld Phonoliszt-Violina which plays the piano and three violins. Tiffany and other art glass lamps and a large collection of Victorian chandeliers add to the color of the room. Thrill to the mini-concert in the mansion's *Music Theater* with the world's largest theater pipe organ. Our Docent-Guided Tour lasts approximately 3 hours, so wear your walking shoes; it continues in the *Carousel Pavilion*, where you will see the Eden Palais Carousel, the most complete example of a European salon carousel. **Sign up now, as space is limited** for an experience you will long remember. Call or email Marshall Hechter with questions. **847-903-4221** or **marshech@comcast.net**.

THANKS TO OUR NEWSLETTER SUPPORTERS: John Dal Pino, James Connelly, Robert Mintz, Janet (Westergren) Johnson, and Ben Weinberg,

Special Thanks to these extra generous donors: Paul Abramchik, Millicent (Bissi) Pine, Norma (Gisler) Gonzalez, **Ken Rosko**, **John Rozinsky**, and Louis Weber.

IN MEMORIAM – CLASS OF 1955:

Dolores(Lindquist) DeFazio was born on February 24, 1937 in Chicago, and died on Thursday, December 21, 2017 at her home in Arlington Heights. Mrs. DeFazio was the owner of Arlington Answering and Secretarial Service, a company she operated for 20 years. She was a member of the Arlington Heights Women's Club, Red Hat Ladies, and Plum Grove Estates Book Club and volunteered as an English as a Second Language tutor at the Arlington Heights Memorial Library. Dolores is survived by her children, Debra (Richard) Vojtsek, Michael (Michelle) DeFazio, Jr. and Christine (Patrick) Bowden; and her grandchildren Samantha, Jake and Jessica Vojtsek; Michael and Ondiana DeFazio; Kimberly, Danielle and Kellie Bowden. She was preceded in death by her husband, Michael DeFazio, her parents, and a brother.

Anthony (Tony) Fojtik, age 81, formerly of Lombard, and a resident of Batavia, passed away April 2, 2018. Tony was the former owner of a flower shop in Forest Park. He was best known for his sense of humor and antics that made people laugh. Tony was the beloved husband of Carol (Dalton) Fojtik, and loving father of Paula (Dominik) Weisserth, adoring grandfather of Fiona, Claire and Liam Weisserth, and brother of the late Anne Maks, the late Rudy Fojtik and Joseph (Erika) Fojtik. He had many nieces and nephews and his “adopted son”, Mike Crimmin. He was born in Chicago and attended Austin High School and Wilbur Wright Junior College. As a former ballroom dance instructor, Tony could really “cut a rug” and especially enjoyed a polka. In years past, he enjoyed singing karaoke songs, especially Sinatra and Tony Bennett, his look-alike.

Michael McGuire, age 80, died of pancreatic cancer in Naples, Fla., on April 13. Mike and his wife, Liliana, had been longtime Glencoe residents until moving to Naples about eight years ago. They also had a home in Rome, Italy. Michael Joseph McGuire was born in Montreal to Canadian parents of Irish descent. He lost his mother as a toddler and was raised by his grandparents in a small village outside Quebec City. He moved to Chicago at age 11 to reunite with his father and graduated from Austin High School in 1955. He attended Northwestern University, then worked for a time at the City News Bureau and also served stateside in the Army for three years. In 1965, McGuire joined the Tribune, covering neighborhood news on the South Side before shifting to report on northwest Indiana communities. In early 1966, McGuire began covering northern Lake County suburbs, with a special emphasis on writing about armed forces members who had been wounded in Vietnam. McGuire soon transitioned to covering military affairs, starting in 1967.

McGuire served as the Tribune's Rome correspondent starting in late 1969, also covering the Middle East and the Mediterranean. In late 1972, McGuire was named the Tribune's correspondent in Moscow, where he worked until the end of 1974. At the start of 1975, McGuire became the paper's foreign editor, overseeing the paper's foreign correspondents and bureaus. Former Tribune Managing Editor for News, George de Lama, who as the Tribune's chief of correspondents, worked alongside McGuire said, “There was no one kinder, more concerned or more genuinely invested in the physical safety and psychic well-being of the correspondents under his charge. And he did it all with his Irish charm and grace and a well-toned sense of fun.”

Former Tribune foreign correspondent Timothy J. McNulty recalled that during his first foreign assignment, to China in 1979, accompanied by his family, McGuire showed up, unannounced, to pay a visit, and also brought a New York Times cookbook for McNulty's wife. "It was a total surprise and so thoughtful, and it was the way he was about so many things," McNulty said. "And on my next assignment in the Middle East in the early 1980s, it was during a war going on, and I couldn't communicate with my family at all. Mike would call my wife every night and say, 'Tim is fine.' That meant so much."

From 1984 until 1986, McGuire wrote editorials for the Tribune. In 1986, he returned to the paper's national and foreign desk, as deputy associate managing editor for foreign and national news. In 2001, Mike helped Tribune Co. open a bureau in Havana. "He knew the island very well and loved it and had very fun memories. He traveled all over the island even prior to that experience," said his wife. After retiring from the Tribune in 2002, McGuire divided his time between Florida and Rome. He also developed an interest in photography, and occasionally freelanced articles for the Tribune from Rome as a special correspondent.

Many of Mike's former classmates have fond memories of him and feel blessed that he touched their lives. Peggy and **Chuck Meyer** recall their delightful visits with Liliana and Mike in Italy and in Florida. Another classmate, Donna (Mayfield) Harder told how Mike, at our 50th reunion, had lifted her spirits at a particularly sad time in her life, by telling her how smart and beautiful she was. Former Tribune Managing Editor Jim O'Shea, who oversaw McGuire during the 1990s, recalled Mike filling in with editing duties during the Persian Gulf War in 1991 after the foreign desk found itself short-handed. "He stepped up and really helped me through it and showed me the ropes. Mike was not just a guy who earned his stripes — he earned his stars." In addition to his wife, Mike leaves two sons, Kevin and Nicholas. Rest in Peace, Mike. You did good work.

Rochelle (Lisky) Adler, beloved wife of Theodore, mother of Marla (Daniel) Callistein and Aaron Adler, grandmother of Dylan and Claire Callistein, passed away on May 2nd. Rochelle volunteered and worked for The Ark, a community service agency that helps Chicagoland Jews who are facing adversity navigate toward self-reliance. Contributions in Rochelle's name to The Ark www.arkchicago.org would be appreciated.

EQUAL RIGHTS: On May 30, 2018, The Illinois House voted 72-45 to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) to the U.S. Constitution. The ERA, which explicitly enshrined civil rights regardless of gender, was approved by the House of Representatives in 1971 and by the U.S. Senate in 1972. It was then sent to the states for ratification, garnering 35 of the necessary 38 state ratifications, before it was met by opposition by conservative women's groups. Now, only 13 states have not yet ratified: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Utah, and Virginia.

2018 BIRTHDAY'S & ANNIVERSARIES:

Two U.S. cities are celebrating their **tri-centennials** this year, and both are among what have been described as the "four unique cities in America: Boston, **New Orleans**, San Francisco, and **San Antonio**." The designation is attributed to both Mark Twain and Will Rogers.

San Antonio was named in 1691 and founded officially on **May 1, 1718** with the founding of the San Antonio de Béxar Presidio and Mission San Antonio de Valero (now the Alamo), whose inhabitants helped lay the foundation for the eclectic art, diverse culture and stunning innovations that have become signatures of life in San Antonio. The following centuries saw the tiny collective grow to become the seventh-largest city in the country and a major contributor to the advancement of Texas arts, tourism, cuisine and technology.

La Nouvelle-Orléans (New Orleans) was founded in Spring of **1718** (May 7 has become the traditional date to mark the anniversary, but the actual day is unknown) by the French Mississippi Company, under the direction of Jean-Baptiste Le Moyne de Bienville, on land inhabited by the Chitimacha. 2018 marks the city of New Orleans' 300th Anniversary and a time full of celebrations of our rich history, unique traditions and diverse culture. The Tricentennial will be a time to reflect on our past, embrace the wonderful, hospitable city that we have become, look forward to our exciting future ahead. [Wikipedia]

"In the Game of Life, it's not whether you win or lose that's important, it's whether you get through it alive!" [Ziggy 4-18-18]

MORE ILLINOIS BI-CENTENNIAL NEWS: The Illinois State Museum (ISM) is highlighting artifacts that tell the story of Illinois' rich heritage. Partnered with the Illinois Association of Museums, they launched the "Story of Illinois" website, featuring objects from the ISM Illinois Legacy Collection, as well as collections from other museums across the state. "The collections help tell the unique story of Illinois, from statehood 200 years ago and beyond," said Illinois State Museum Interim Director Robert Sill. "The new 'Story of Illinois' website will allow anyone to go online and sample some of the best of Illinois history, art, culture, and science."

The new website previews some objects that will be on display in the "Bicentennial and Beyond: The Illinois Legacy Collection" exhibition, which opens at the Illinois State Museum in Springfield on June 30. "You will find some rare, quirky, and beautiful objects on the website, such as the Lone Ranger's saddle used by Brace Beemer from the Wabash County Museum, a ceremonial war club used by the Potawatomi Indians from the Chicago History Museum, and a photoelectric relay used at the Chicago Century of Progress Exposition of 1933-34," said Illinois Association of Museums President Karen Everingham. The collections held by Illinois museums help tell a story of Illinois dating back approximately 500 million years. From animals, fish, insects and plants to minerals, jewels, paintings, manuscripts, stone tools and fossils – the website will feature some of the best artifacts and treasures from the collections of the participating museums. Objects will be added regularly during this year and promoted through the ISM Facebook page. Find the museum website at this link: <http://story.illinoisstatemuseum.org>

Lincoln Park Zoo was founded **150 years ago** on May 20, 1868 with the gift of two pairs of swans from New York's Central Park Commissioners. The zoo is celebrating this anniversary with a special exhibit called "From Swans to Science" that runs until September 3. The zoo will also publish a celebratory book at the end of the year featuring stories from zoo guests, staff and supporters. For more information, visit lpzoo.org/150.

125 years ago, The World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago, the most famous world's fair ever held on American soil, opened on May 1, 1893. The fair, celebrating the 400th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' discovery of the Americas, had been the subject of a fierce competition among Chicago, Washington, New York, and St. Louis. Chicago not only won the fight but gained a nickname when New York Sun editor Charles A. Dana wrote: "Don't pay attention to the nonsensical claims of that **windy city**. Its people could not build a world's fair even if they won." But Chicago did, and the world came to gawk and marvel. Over its 179-day run, attendance totaled more than 150,000 people a day. Most visitors went more than once, but even after the multiple visits were accounted for, it was estimated that about 12 million people attended--this in a nation of about 63 million people. Nearly 129,000 people, including President Grover Cleveland, strolled the grounds on the rainy opening day. But the biggest crowd--716,881 people--jammed the exhibits on Chicago Day, Oct. 9, commemorating the 22nd anniversary of the Great Chicago Fire.

The exposition was really two fairs in one: the official White City with its grand Neoclassical buildings filled with exhibits; and the unofficial Midway outside the gates, where visitors could ride the world's first Ferris wheel, a gigantic 264 feet in diameter, or watch exotic dancers, such as Fahreda Mahzar, known as Little Egypt. Architect Louis Sullivan, who designed the fair's Transportation Building, complained that the fair's reliance on classical models would set back American architecture by half a century. And blacks, welcomed as paying customers, found that they were vastly underrepresented in the exhibits. One prominent opponent was Ida B. Wells, who, after waging an anti-lynching campaign in the South, moved to Chicago in 1893. For Wells, the final straw came when, as a sop to blacks (but also as an attendance booster), fair officials scheduled a Colored People's Day, promising 2,000 free watermelons. (Good Grief!) The fair closed amid mourning for Mayor Carter Harrison, who on the evening of Oct. 28, two days before the fair's final day, was assassinated in his Near West Side home by a 25-year-old job-seeker. Four months later, fire destroyed or damaged six fair buildings and their still-valuable exhibits. Another fire occurred in February, and then in July 1894, a final conflagration leveled nearly all of the remaining structures. [Patrick T. Reardon, Chicago Tribune]

80 YEARS ago, on June 1st, 1938, the Salvation Army established **National Donut day**. This delicious holiday started in Chicago, as a way to honor The Salvation Army's "Doughnut Girls" from World War I. These young women served treats from home to soldiers on the front lines. Donuts and coffee are a longtime American tradition, and it all started with The Salvation Army, right here in Chicago! In recent years, Dunkin' Donuts has given a free donut to anyone purchasing a cup of their coffee. [Your editor enjoyed one this year.]

Garfield turned **40** on **June 19**, and he celebrated his birthday in typical Garfield fashion--with a new book, a movie in development, another TV show, and enough licensing business to fund four more decades of eating, sleeping, and grouching about Mondays. *The Guinness Book of World Records* has declared *Garfield* "the most widely syndicated comic strip in the world," but that's only part of the story. Over the past 40 years, the furry feline has touched upon almost every aspect of popular culture in the United States and beyond. Garfield is more than a comic strip character--he's a superstar, an icon.

"If you're sad over finding a new wrinkle, think about all the smiles it took to make it." [Ziggy, 4-23-18]

JUNETEENTH: June 19th is also known as **Juneteenth Independence Day** or **Freedom Day**, an American holiday that commemorates the June 19, 1865 announcement of the abolition of slavery in the State of Texas. Its name is a portmanteau of "June" and "nineteenth", and the date is recognized as a state holiday or special day of observance in forty-five states.

"Three things in human life are important. The first is to be kind. The 2nd is to be kind. The 3rd is to be kind." Henry James, American writer (1843-1916) [Bottom Line Health – June 2018]

PLEASE TELL US: How did your years at Austin affect your life? What/who do you recall? We'd love to publish your memories or any news you want to share. Email **Kaye (Beecroft) Aurigemma** or write to her at 10846 Martindale Drive, Westchester, IL 60154-5021. Photos and other items for our website should be directed to Jim Padar at **webmaster@austin1955.org** or 5426 West Lunt Avenue, Chicago IL 60646. Also, if you are not interested in receiving this newsletter, please tell us, so we can remove you from the mailing list.

HELP STILL WANTED: People with writing and technical skills to help with the design and maintenance of our database and website, as well as the writing of the newsletter, are welcome. If you would like to participate in any of these activities, please contact any member of the reunion committee.

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CONTACT INFORMATION CHANGE: Please email changes to **reunion@austin1955.org** OR, mail to: **Chuck Meyer, Austin 1950's Alumni; 5800 St. Croix Ave. N – Apt. C610; Golden Valley, MN 55422.**

(print) _____

NAME (1st, maiden, last, and Class Year)

STREET ADDRESS: _____ CITY, ST, ZIP _____

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