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Friends of  
**Downtown**  
**Glenview**  
MAKING DOWNTOWN BRIGHTER

## Balancing Act

In one month we will welcome **spring!** At FDG, we have used this winter to plan for future happenings. On Feb. 1, a group of committed FDG volunteers gathered in the festive Midtown Square clubhouse to celebrate our accomplishments and strategize for upcoming projects, including an Oktoberfest event and furnishing the Midtown Square breezeway for community enjoyment.



This growth is exciting; I've personally reviewed FDG progress on all important fronts: new business, community communications, architectural design, neighborhood and civic outreach, and I am amazed by FDG Teams' accomplishments over such a short period.

I'm so indebted to key leaders, like attorney Megan McClung (pictured above front, right), who have created this momentum. But they each have many other commitments, so we continually need new volunteers to join our talented team. If you are interested in being a part of our Downtown revitalization, please fill out this simple [volunteer form](#) - we have small and larger roles to meet your interests.

Thank you for reading.

## Olympia Center Vape Store Update



Our relationship with the Village is important to reaching FDG's goals. At our recent steering committee meeting we had a lengthy discussion with a Village representative about our zoning codes, related in particular to a planned vape shop for Olympia Square. As we mentioned in a separate email last month, we know this news is upsetting to many, as vaping use is high among teens (see this informative [document](#) created by the CDC) but the Village is in discussions about making changes to our current code (see article below). In the meantime, we all can encourage

change in our Downtown by spending our dollars at more desirable, existing businesses.

### ***From the Village of Glenview Feb. 18 newsletter:***

*Village Board President Jim Patterson has expressed appreciation for the comments and feedback the Board of Trustees has received regarding the planned opening of a vape and smoke shop in Glenview. The Village has the authority to regulate broad land uses through its zoning code and by establishing zoning districts. The Village, however, cannot control and does not determine specific businesses and their respective locations.*

*In this particular case, the State of Illinois defines vape stores as the retail sale of an alternative nicotine product. As a result, this proposed business is classified in Glenview as a smoke shop or other miscellaneous retail store, which are currently permitted uses by right within several zoning districts. Therefore, in this case, the Village had no mechanism to deny the proposed business since no approvals were needed from the Village for it to locate in Glenview.*

*Based on the comments the Board has received, Patterson said it will be reviewing current regulations to determine if any changes are warranted.*

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## OLPH Town Hall Meeting

Our Lady of Perpetual Help (OLPH) church, a historical center of activity for our Downtown, has been considering building improvements on their campus (including the Glenview Road frontage) which could be a positive factor in revitalization for Downtown. The Parish has scheduled a [Town Hall meeting](#) on Monday, March 4 at 6:30pm in McDonnell Hall to present and review recommendations from the Church's architectural team, including possible streetscape enhancements for the Playdium entrance and exposed parking areas. We urge all OL *Parishioners* to attend this meeting and support our joint efforts for our Downtown.



## Brighter Days Ahead

Heinen's is hosting its annual Zest Fest on Sat., Feb 23 from 12-3pm by tapping kegs of the exclusive, limited-time beer, Cara Cara Juice God. Brewed in partnership with [Ten Ninety Brewing Co](#), this specialty beer was made with Heinen's Cara Cara Orange. Available to purchase by the glass while supplies last.



## Get to Know... Keith Gerth of Oil Lamp Theater

### What sets your business apart?

[Oil Lamp Theater](#) is the only professional live theater company based in the Glenview/Northbrook community. We seek out material that has a redemptive element to it. We believe in the human spirit and that when faced with life's greatest challenges, most of us make the right choice. So our goal is that you feel better when you leave Oil Lamp Theater than when you came in. We strive to achieve this in three ways 1) we serve complimentary freshly baked cookies at each performance 2) we are a BYOB establishment and 3) we produce work that is of an uplifting nature.

### Why Glenview?

The theater began in our condo by Wrigley Field in 2005 - spacious seating for 26 in our dining room. We quickly outgrew that space, and we wanted to be near transportation and in a community that supported the arts. We found both in Downtown Glenview. In 2018 alone we entertained more than 10,000 guests. We have been blessed and honored to be in such a compassionate and artistic community.

### You might be surprised to know...

I am actually a CPA by training and was an auditor for 15 years. But alas, I realized that the world of debits and credits was just not going to feed my soul and I began studying acting. As my training progressed I wanted to audition for a show, but most of theater produced today is of a dark/controversial nature and did not appeal to me. So my buddy and I decided to do a show at my condo and Oil Lamp Theater was born. To preserve that homey feel in our new theater, we light our lobby with 70 tea candles each night to give our space that warm glow.

### My favorite quote:

Carpe Diem



FDG is looking for energetic volunteers to help FUNdraise for various Downtown initiatives. Please fill out this simple [volunteer form](#) and we will contact you to discuss ideas of how you can help.

We look forward to seeing you around Downtown!

FDG Editor: Jenny Courtad

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[www.downtownglenview.org](http://www.downtownglenview.org)



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