APRIL 25, 2018 DRURY LANE EVENT: **LAST CALL to Register** for *South Pacific*. The first 50 reservations are guaranteed seats. Our special discount price for the lunch and show is $50 per person. This includes almost everything! Free parking, easy access with a minimum of stairs, beautiful surroundings, congenial company, all taxes and gratuities (but a little extra never hurt for great service). Lunch will include a salad, choice of entrée, dessert, rolls and butter, and coffee or hot or iced tea. Soft drinks and adult beverages are extra. Friends, family, and other Austin alumni are welcome to join us. The more, the merrier! Sign up now with the form at the bottom of Page 5. **Reservations and payments MUST be in by March 20.**

**MEA CULPA!!**
Your editor apologizes for not acknowledging the donations of the following classmates in the Autumn 2017 newsletter. The lists of donations got buried in one of the many heaps and piles of paper on her computer desk. We are very grateful to the following classmates for their donations in support of this newsletter: Dorothy (Carlson) Frischkorn, Rita (Cimino) Reczek, Marcia (Hoffenkamp) Barba, Carole (Jiroch) Mathes, Suzanne (Johnson) Peterson, Arlene (Kroll) Porys, Yolanda (Lopez) Mason, and Gail (Newman) Goldstein. **Special Thanks** for their extra generous donations to: Victoria (Dobryzinski) Petersen, Louise (Lyon) Tuchman, Robert Meyers, Robert Mintz, Roberta (Shane) Atlas, Louis Weber and Lawrence Zolkesitz.

**THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!**

**Please make your annual $5 (or more) donation checks payable to “Austin 1955 Reunion Ltd.” and mail them to our Treasurer, Irwin Magad: 3714 Monticeto Circle, Mundelein, IL 60060. PLEASE BE SURE TO NOTE YOUR CLASS (’55,’56,’57, etc.) and LADIES, PLEASE ALSO NOTE YOUR MAIDEN NAME.**

**REUNION COMMITTEE ELECTION OF 2018 OFFICERS:**
At our Austin High 1950’s Alumni reunion committee meeting on January 12, the following officers were elected: President, *Ken Rosko*; Vice President, *Sheldon Marcus*; Treasurer, *Irwin Magad*; and Secretary, *Kaye (Beecroft) Aurigemma*. To ensure coverage in the event of resignations or inability to serve, we agreed that backup is needed for all committee officer positions. *Nancy (Baggio) Pasquerelli* is Assistant Vice President, and *John Rozinsky* is Assistant Treasurer. **We need someone from ANY of the 50’s classes** to step up to serve as Assistant Secretary. Contact Kaye (Beecroft) Aurigemma to volunteer your services.

**SAVE THE DATE:** Wednesday, August 15th is our summer outing – A tour of the Sanfilippo Estate in Barrington. [www.sanfilippofoundation.org/](http://www.sanfilippofoundation.org/). More information will be in the next newsletter.
INSTANT LEG CRAMP TREATMENT:

Stand on a plastic zip loc bag containing ice cubes or frozen water in it until the cramp goes away. It has also been reported that swallowing a spoonful of yellow mustard or an ounce of pickle juice (containing vinegar) can quickly reverse muscle cramps. This may be accomplished by stimulating TRP (transient receptor potential) channels which are found on cell membranes throughout the body. [peoplespharmacy.com]
KENNETH E. IVERSEN:
It is with deep personal sorrow that your editor reports the passing on January 9, 2018, at age 95, of Mr. Iversen, WWII Veteran, Chicago Public Schools educator, Austin Choir and Boy’s Glee Director, and beloved mentor to many. I was surprised (and pleased) to learn at the Class of 1955 50th reunion, which Mr. I attended with his lovely wife (the late Marie), that he and I share an August 11 birthday. Since then, I’ve had the opportunity to have many conversations with him and learn about his fascinating and productive life. Throughout his teaching career, he was a positive influence on many young lives, and was always willing to help further their music careers. Irwin Magad said recently, “If it was not for him, I would not appreciate music of all kinds as much as I do today.” In retirement, Ken continued to bring joy to others by putting on music programs and conducting sing-a-longs for the residents of the senior village when he lived. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to daughter Diane (Michael) Smith; his grandchildren Jeffrey (Cary), Leslie (Jeremy) Senese, and Brian (Danielle); and great-grandchildren Brendan, Emma, Tyler, and Hailey. He and Marie lost daughter Linda at an early age. Ken Iversen was a very special person whose presence on this earth enriched many lives. I am grateful to have known him, and shall never forget him. Rest in Peace, Dear Ken.

HAPPY 80th BIRTHDAYS TO THE CLASS OF 1956:
and to the 1938 over-achiever babies who graduated with the Class of ’55. (You know who you are.)

OTHER SIGNIFICANT BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES:

234 years ago, on December 23, 1783, George Washington retired. “Having now finished the work assigned to me, I retire from the great theatre of action; and bidding an affectionate farewell to this august body, under whose orders I have so long acted, I here offer my commission, and take any leave of all the employments of public life.” He was unanimously elected to the first of two terms as president of the United States in 1788.

230 years ago: The first state to ratify the US Constitution was Delaware, on December 7, 1787, by a unanimous vote, 30 - 0. It took 10 months for the first nine states to approve the Constitution.


170 years ago, on January 24, 1848, The California Gold Rush (1848–1855) began when gold was found by James W. Marshall at Sutter's Mill in Coloma, California. The news of gold brought some 300,000 people to California from the rest of the United States and abroad. The Gold Rush undoubtedly sped up California's admission to the Union as the 31st state. [Wikipedia]

155 years ago on January 1, 1863, President Lincoln signed the final Emancipation Proclamation.

90 years ago, Chicago leased the originally named Chicago Air Park, and named it Chicago Municipal Airport on December 12, 1927. By 1928, the airport had twelve hangars and four runways, lit for night operations. In July 1949 the airport was renamed after the Battle of Midway. That year Midway saw 3.2 million passengers; passengers peaked at 10 million in 1959.

75 years ago, in December 1942, the Museum of Science & Industry opened the first Christmas tree exhibit. The United States was just about one year into World War II, and morale was low on the Homefront. So here in Chicago, the folks at the Museum of Science & Industry decided to lift spirits with a simple item: a Christmas tree. It started out as a tribute to our allied nations during the war with one tree with 12 different countries decorating it every night. That single tree has turned into a 75-year tradition, and includes one epic, 45-foot tree, plus 50 smaller trees that nod to holiday traditions from around the globe

INTERESTING TIDBIT:
Abraham Lincoln loved cats. He had two, Tabby and Dixie, in the White House. At one point during his first term, Lincoln was said to have observed in frustration, “Dixie is smarter than my whole cabinet! And furthermore she doesn’t talk back!” Read more at http://www.presidentialpetmuseum.com/pets/abraham-lincoln-cats/
NEW MEDICARE I.D. CARDS: New cards for new Medicare beneficiaries will be issued in waves by geographic region, starting in June 2018, and then new cards will be issued to existing beneficiaries. Arizona, Florida, and Illinois cards will be issued after June 2018. The new cards will NOT show your social security number. BEWARE OF SCAMS. This change presents an opening to scammers. If you get a call claiming to be from Medicare asking you to confirm your Social Security number for the new card, this is a scam! It is also a scam if you get a call claiming you have to pay for your new card. **Hang up immediately.** Report scams to local law enforcement. **Contact the AARP Fraud Watch Network at** [www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork](http://www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork) **for more information on fraud prevention.** More information is available on the following websites; [https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/New-Medicare-Card/](https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/New-Medicare-Card/) [https://www.cms.gov/medicare/new-medicare-card/nmc-home.html](https://www.cms.gov/medicare/new-medicare-card/nmc-home.html)

AUSTIN BOXING CLUB, ABC: 
Started in September 2017, this non-profit boxing club is the dream of an Austin area businessman who had shown promise in the ring in his teen years, but traded the sport for a life of crime. Forty-one year old Salah Ahmed, who spent time behind bars, is trying to get the kids off the streets. Ahmed and his three brothers inherited Sunset Liquor at 5921 W. Division from their father, Mohamed, who had run it since 1983. He passed away in 2001. The boxing club, at 5915 W. Division, just east of Austin Blvd., is the siblings’ effort to give back to the community.

The family’s relationship with the community is notable, given some longstanding resentment in the black community over the proliferation of Arab-American-owned businesses and liquor stores and the dearth of businesses owned by African-Americans. Parent Andre Wilson says, “I really appreciate they’re giving the kids something to do after school. We don’t have a lot of positive things around here for the kids to get into.” He let his son Kierre test it out, and “he liked it, so I keep bringing him back.” Read the whole story in the Sun-Times at [https://chicago.suntimes.com/sports/kids-flock-to-new-austin-boxing-club-gift-from-local-business-owners/](https://chicago.suntimes.com/sports/kids-flock-to-new-austin-boxing-club-gift-from-local-business-owners/)

HELP WANTED: ALL 1950’s alumni are encouraged to submit personal news and articles of general interest for the newsletter. 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.

TELL US YOUR NEWS: If you have any news 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](mailto:webmaster@austin1955.org) or 5426 West Lunt Avenue, Chicago IL 60646

### Austin 1950’s Alumni Committee

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This newsletter was printed by Minute Man Press of Westchester on behalf of the Austin 1950’s Alumni.
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.

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

STREET ADDRESS:

CITY, STATE, ZIP:

PHONE (Required): EMAIL:

DRURY LANE SPRING EVENT  WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25, 2018

More timely than ever, this Rodgers & Hammerstein landmark musical proves that even the backdrop of a tropical paradise cannot shelter its residents from the prejudices of World War II. South Pacific is the winner of the 1950 Pulitzer Prize for Drama and ten Tony Awards including Best Musical.
Runtime: 2 hours and 25 minutes with a 15-minute intermission

Check In @ 11 AM – Lunch Seating @ 11:30
Play Begins @ 1:30 PM

Payment due by Thursday, MARCH 20, 2018
Payable to: “Austin 1955 Reunion, Ltd.”

Name(s)_______________________________________________________________________________________

Entree choices (check one): Fish: ____  Chicken: ____  Beef ____

Irwin Magad
Austin Class of 1955 Reunion
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Mundelein, IL  60060