



DOWNTOWN PEORIA NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2024

DDC Activities

New Board Member

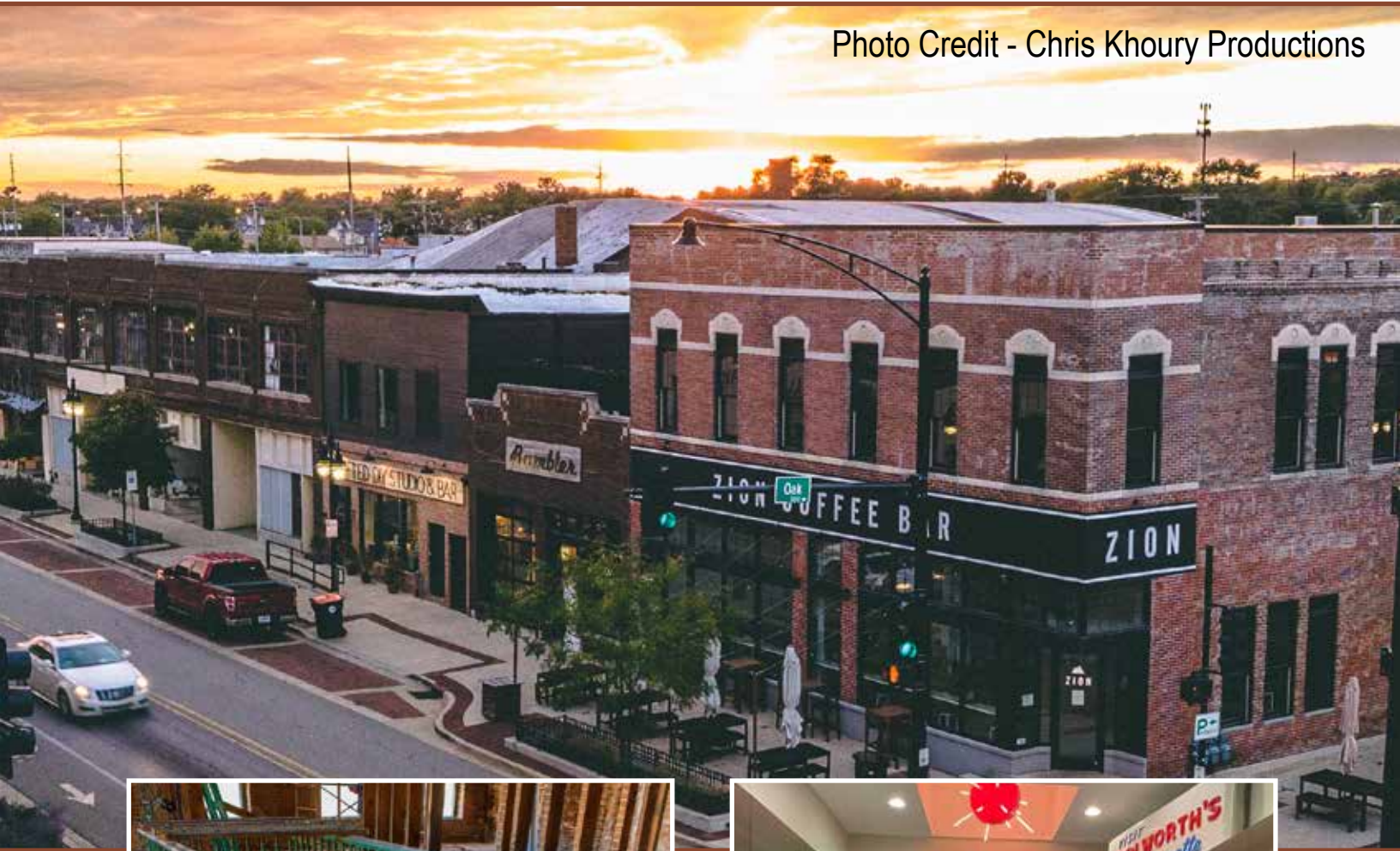
Wade Ross, Farnsworth Group



The DDC Nominating Committee is pleased to announce that Wade Ross, Farnsworth Group, has agreed to serve on our board, representing the Architecture, Construction & Equipment industry. Wade and his family recently relocated back to Illinois from Texas and plays a significant role at Farnsworth Group, having responsibility for all mechanical engineering and commissioning services throughout the nation. He has also worked with several OSF complexes in the past, including Peoria when he was previously located in Illinois. With Wade's mechanical engineering background and extensive experience, we are confident he will add a great perspective to our business of developing the downtown. **Welcome, Wade Ross, to the DDC board!**

WCBU Interviews

Photo Credit - Chris Khoury Productions



Jon & Angie Walker Loft: BEFORE

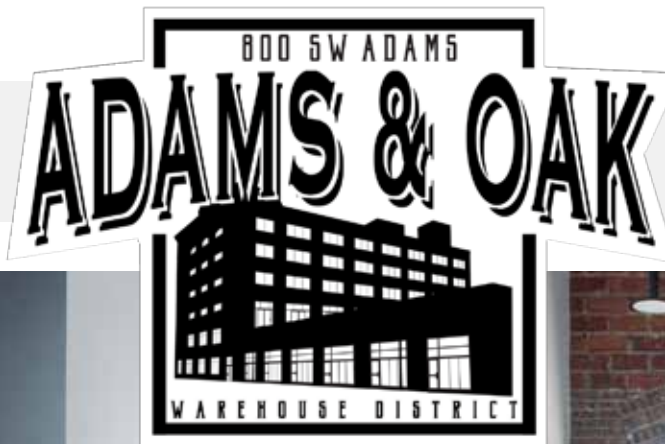


Jon & Angie Walker Loft: AFTER

The DDC helped coordinate interviews with WCBU - Peoria Public Radio, with residents living in downtown Peoria for a short on-air segment. Staff member Angie Walker along with her husband, Jon, participated, as they live in the Warehouse District. Also interviewed were Mary Jo Papich and Jacquie, a couple of residents who live in the Central Business District, and Travis Platt, Warehouse District resident. All enjoy living downtown. To hear their take on city living, listen to the broadcast: <https://www.wcbu.org/local-news/2024-03-05/who-is-choosing-to-live-in-peorias-downtown-and-warehouse-district-and-why>.

New Development Spotlights

Baldovin Development: Adams & Oak Apartments



RESIDENTIAL APARTMENTS

800 SW ADAMS ST., PEORIA



TALL CEILINGS · IN-UNIT LAUNDRY · AMPLE NATURAL LIGHT
WATER, WIFI, SEWER, & TRASH INCLUDED · EXPOSED MASONRY AT EXTERIOR WALLS
PET FRIENDLY · LARGE KITCHENS WITH BREAKFAST BARS · TILE SHOWERS
WALKABLE NEIGHBORHOOD · COVETED WAREHOUSE DISTRICT LOCATION



We just cannot quit talking about the new development going on in the Warehouse District! We are very excited to help get the word out about the brand-new residential units for rent at Adams & Oak, 800 SW Adams Street. Last month, we were able to tour the building and what we saw was amazing! Will you be one of the lucky tenants in this modern, chic development? Pre-leasing begins this month with a current target move-in date for residents of June 1. Here is the apartments.com listing for the property where you can view preliminary property information, rent ranges, square footage ranges, and more!

FAQ's:

- There are no condos for sale; all units are apartments for rent.
- Pets are allowed. There will be some restrictions on quantities and dog breeds.
- Wi-Fi, water, sewer, & trash are included in the rents. Tenant pays electrical separately. (There is no gas).
- Conditioned, secured indoor parking on the lower level of the building is available for an additional annual rent. Free surface parking is available around the building. To view the full listing, visit the link below:
[https://www.apartments.com/adams-oak-peoria-il/z1807rz/.](https://www.apartments.com/adams-oak-peoria-il/z1807rz/)

OSF Cancer Care Center



We are excited to help get the word out about the new OSF Cancer Care Center that opened just a few weeks ago. This is a wonderful addition to Peoria's medical district in downtown Peoria. We watched this development happen over the course of the past few years, and it is finally here! According to the website, **“OSF HealthCare is spearheading a new day in cancer care, impacting communities across Illinois and beyond. The official blessing of the OSF HealthCare Cancer Institute, located on the campus of OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center in Peoria, was conducted by the Most Rev. Louis Tylka, Bishop of the Peoria Diocese on Tuesday, February 13. The OSF Cancer Institute will be a one-stop destination for a patient's cancer journey.”** All the buzz is about proton beam therapy. This will be the only center outside of Chicago and St. Louis offering proton therapy in the region. To learn more about other key features of this wonderful new addition to the medical district, visit the website at [https://newsroom.osfhealthcare.org/osf-healthcare-cancer-institute-readies-for-first-patient/.](https://newsroom.osfhealthcare.org/osf-healthcare-cancer-institute-readies-for-first-patient/)

New Business Spotlight

The Luminary Aesthetics + Self Care Bar



We are pleased to highlight one of the very first tenants in Adams Street Center, a Baldovin development, located in the 800 block of SW Adams Street. The Luminary (formerly known as GlowRX) is a boutique medical aesthetic practice that is hyper-focused on providing safe, personal aesthetic treatments that honor your natural beauty and leave you feeling your best. The Luminary specializes in Botox, Sculptra, Filler, VI Peel, Skincare, and Microneedling.

Per Lyndsie Ingold, Owner of The Luminary, **“We are thrilled about the opportunity to establish ourselves in the Adams Street Center. Breathing new life into the historic walls of the 90-year-old building has been an incredible journey. Our office strikes the perfect balance between old and new offering character, warmth, and coziness. In contrast to the clinical atmosphere of traditional medical offices, The Luminary strives to be distinctive. We have curated an inviting atmosphere and a harmonious blend of warmth and beauty where clients can feel at ease, free from concerns, and empowered to be themselves. Our commitment extends beyond delivering natural and safe aesthetic results. We are dedicated to cultivating a welcoming and inviting space where clients truly feel at home. We are so excited to bring our services to the heart of Peoria.”**

The Luminary is now open and operating at 811 SW. Adams St., Peoria, IL 61602. Give them a call today at (309) 360-8053 or visit their website at <https://theluminaryaesthetics.com/> so you can feel good, look good, and do good!

City Updates



One-Way to Two-Way Street Restoration

On February 26, construction work zones and traffic control was established on SW Adams Street between Walnut Street and Fulton Street to begin work on the two-way street restoration project. The project was approved last year by City Council to help the flow of traffic and to make it easier for pedestrians to access businesses in the area. Restrictions in the parking lane on the south side of SW Adams Street are present. These parking restrictions are clearly marked, and meters are bagged with “No Parking” signs. Additional parking and lane restrictions will be forthcoming as the Adams Street and Jefferson Avenue One-Way to Two-Way (OWTW) Conversion Project progresses. Construction began on Monday, March 4, at the intersection of N. William Kumpf Boulevard and SW Adams Street. Drivers should be mindful of workers in the area and watch for no-parking areas. Extra caution should be exercised in the area. We will keep you updated as work progresses.

2024 Commercial Renovation Grant

The city of Peoria is launching the 2024 Commercial Renovation Grant program on Monday, March 11 through Friday, April 5. This program, now in its third year, provides financial assistance for small businesses in the city of Peoria to make improvements to their commercial property.

Grants can range from \$5,000 to \$25,000 for projects that improve the interior or exterior of the business. Past recipients have been awarded funding for façade beautification, fixture upgrades, improved signage, painting, and flooring replacement, amongst others. Proposed projects must not require a City permit. A full list of requirements and additional information may be found here: www.peoriagov.org/CommercialRenovation2024. For questions about the grant or application, please contact the City of Peoria Economic Development Department at 309-494-8640 or economic-development@peoriagov.org.

Downtown Art Spotlight

Peoria Art Guild



For over 145 years, the Peoria Art Guild has been dedicated to **“bringing art to the community and the community to art.”** As a visual arts leader, the Guild takes pride in its efforts to educate young artists, showcase art diversity, exhibit multidisciplinary contemporary art, and promote art throughout our community.

In September 2024, they will celebrate their 61st anniversary of hosting the Peoria Art Guild Fine Art Fair. It is one of the largest visual arts events in Central Illinois. This juried Art Fair features 130 local, national and international artists from all across the United States and numerous countries around the world. And the economic impact of last year’s Fine Art Fair? \$324,553! Forty percent of attendees traveled over 25 miles. That is a nice infusion for our area!



In addition to the Fine Art Fair, the Peoria Art Guild offers a myriad of programs at their downtown location at 203 Harrison St., their newest location at the Grand Prairie Mall, and through community outreach. According to their 2024 annual report, **“Our commitment to nurturing artistic talent is evident in the remarkable statistics from our Arts Education programs.”**

In 2023, they provided 381 art classes, offering an astounding total of 3,254 enriching art experiences. Among these, 155 childrens classes imparted 1,572 experiences of creative growth, while 272 adult classes sparked 1,702 experiences.

This was all made possible through the dedication of 32 skilled art instructors who tirelessly shared their expertise.

Furthermore, they were able to extend one scholarship, granting an individual the opportunity to pursue their artistic aspirations. They also provided 46 FREE or deeply discounted art classes, creating 540 art experiences that enriched lives across our community with their Community Arts Program.

Their artisan gift shop featured 45 artists in the store in 2023 and sold \$5,000+ in local artisan's work. They are optimistic their 2024 stats will be even more impressive.

As you can see, the Peoria Art Guild offers so much! From the Sculpture Walk to Art and Music Camp to ongoing art education, the Guild supports students, artists, and enhances our entire community! To find out how you can get involved through learning, volunteering, donating, attending events and exhibitions, etc., visit their website at <https://www.peoriaartguild.org/>.

Downtown Activities



St. Patrick's Day Celebrations in Downtown Peoria

Everything goes green on St. Patrick's Day in downtown Peoria! A lively parade begins at 2:00 p.m., but the festivities begin way earlier with several restaurants and bars offering traditional Irish fare and music with specialty drinks galore! So, don your shamrocks and come downtown to join the fun. It's OK to be Irish for a day. You won't want to miss the shenanigans!

Peoria Art Guild



Sculpture Walk Peoria Opening Day is May 18, 2024!

Sculpture Walk Peoria is currently accepting submissions for an outdoor sculpture exhibition running 2024-2026.

Sculpture Walk Peoria is a biennial, juried, outdoor exhibit offering local, regional, national and international sculptors opportunities to showcase and sell their creations, while enhancing the cultural environment of Peoria and providing opportunities to educate the public.

All sculptures are to be for sale. Since its inception, Sculpture Walk Peoria has sold 14 sculptures.

Sculptures will be placed in highly visible locations along Washington

Street in close proximity to the Peoria Art Guild and the Peoria Riverfront Museum which features over a dozen permanent pieces of outdoor public art. The Peoria Warehouse District has been included on the National Register of Historic Places.

Sculpture Walk Peoria is an initiative of the Peoria Art Guild with the support of the City of Peoria and private donors. They are seeking professional sculptures appropriate for public viewing from local, regional, national, and international artists. Sculptures are owned by the artist and loaned to the exhibit from May 18, 2024 through March of 2026. All sculptures must be made of materials that can withstand outdoor weather and not require any maintenance. The Honorarium is \$4,500 dollars, payable \$2,000 following the exhibit opening on May 18, 2024; \$2,000 May 2025, and \$500 at pickup of the sculpture. There will be an additional \$1,000 People's Choice Award given to one artist in May of 2025. Please visit www.peoriaartguild.com for more information.

Visit Peoria!

In collaboration with Peoria Riverfront Association, we keep a pulse on downtown activities, and there are activities galore! Venture downtown this spring and check out the many music venues, such as the CEFCU Center Stage on the riverfront, the Civic Center, Contemporary Arts Center, and many fine restaurants and bars. Also, Chiefs tickets are now on sale so take the family out to the ballgame! And don't forget to visit the Peoria Riverfront Museum where there is something new and exciting every week! The insect display is amazing and just in time for spring! To plan your next outing, make sure to visit our web site at <https://www.downtownpeoria.us/play>.

Congratulations!

Ardor Bread & Provisions



...located at 301 SW Water Street in the Warehouse District on the riverfront, was among 47 restaurants across the United States to be named in the **2024 USA TODAY Restaurants of the Year** list. We applaud Cody Scogin and his team for this special recognition!

For fresh, delicious fare, including scrumptious freshly baked pastries, visit them soon on the riverfront!

Saffron Social



...located at 187 SW Washington Street on the Peoria riverfront, is honored to announce that they are a **2024 recipient of the famed DiRona Award**.

A sincere thank you to Travis Mohlenbrink and his staff and management team for this special recognition! For steak, seafood, and pasta dishes beyond compare, stop in at Saffron Social!



www.downtownpeoria.us

Downtown Development Corporation of Peoria (DDC)

Michael J. Freilinger, President/CEO | e: michael@downtownpeoria.us | m: 309.369.6038
403 NE Jefferson Ave, Peoria, IL 61603-3725



@Downtown Development Corporation of Peoria