

# NEWS

VOLUME 88 • NUMBER 41 SEPTEMBER 2020 WWW.OMAHAPRESSCLUB.COM



SEE PAGE 2

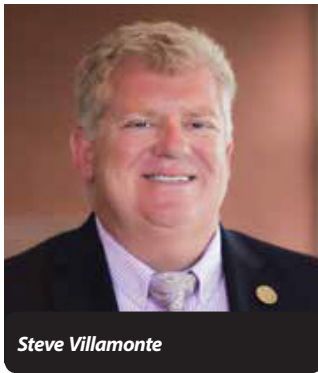


SEE PAGE 2

## The club is open: please join us!

Dear Omaha Press Club community:

It's great to be back from our annual summer break and ready for business. We are now open our regular lunch schedule Monday through Friday, 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and will be open for evening dining when we have sufficient demand. Please contact Christine at [opcchristine@gmail.com](mailto:opcchristine@gmail.com) or call 402-345-8008 if you are looking to reserve an event at the club — we have space available daytime and evenings. She will also plan dinners for anyone who wants an evening event with 10 or more guests. (No regular evening dining at this time. By reservation with parties of 10 or more only.)



Steve Villamonte

September is the start of the last quarter and traditionally our busy season, although we know this year is not like usual. The Press Club is like many restaurants — we need your support more now than ever.

As of Sept. 1, the regular lunch menu is available in the restaurant, and the Express menu is available in the First National Bank building and tower for pick-up or delivery. We make deliveries to the guard stations

in both buildings every half-hour (11:30 a.m. / noon / 12:30 / 1 p.m. / 1:30 p.m. / 2 p.m.)

Every other Friday, we are preparing Family Deal Fridays from 4:30-6 p.m.

On Friday, Sept. 11, we will have our Fried Chicken Friday special. It includes eight pieces of chicken and your choice of two sides (choose from baked beans, Thunderbird pasta salad and Thunderbird slaw), hot and ready to eat for just \$25+tax. It serves four people.

Friday, Sept. 25, we will have Prime Rib Dinner for Two as the Friday special. This will also be hot and ready to eat for just \$40+tax. As the name says,

it serves two people.

We will also continue to have our Family Meals menu for curbside pick-up at lunchtime. These meals must be ordered on the website at least 24 hours in advance, and these can be picked up from the 10-minute parking on Dodge Street (near the entrance to the DoubleTree Hotel) at the top of each

Continue on Page 2

## Shatel luncheon scheduled for Sept. 22

An Omaha Press Club favorite, the Shatel Sports Lunch Series, will kick off the fall season on Tuesday, Sept. 22

The world of sports has been turned upside down due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Big 10 Conference has postponed its fall season. The Big 12 is playing but without fan participation. These are just some of the topics to be discussed by Omaha World-Herald columnist Tom Shatel in addition to your questions at the luncheon.

The cost is \$17 per person, which includes lunch being served starting at 11:30 a.m. The program runs from noon to 1 p.m.

For reservations, call 402-345-8008 or email Christine at [opcchristine@gmail.com](mailto:opcchristine@gmail.com) with your member number and the number of people attending, or RSVP online at [omahapressclub.com](http://omahapressclub.com) (click RSVP in the upper right hand corner and choose "Shatel Series" from the dropdown menu). The 48-hour cancellation policy applies.

Parking is suggested at the Central City Parking garage just west of the First National Bank Building; it's free for OPC members, who should bring their tickets to the club for validation.

Before entering the bank from the parking garage, press the button on the black box and say, "Omaha Press Club."

## September Forum to offer preview of symphony season

The Sept. 17 Noon Forum at the Omaha

Press Club will present a look at what's in store during the 100th season of the Omaha Symphony Orchestra. Jennifer Boomgaarden, president and chief executive officer of the symphony, will be the featured speaker.



Jennifer Boomgaarden

Jennifer is no stranger to Omaha, having served as associate conductor of the Omaha Area Youth Orchestras beginning in 1999. In 2005, she became the vice president of education and community partnerships and staff conductor for the Omaha Symphony.

Under Jennifer's leadership, the symphony was awarded the Leonard Bernstein Award for Educational Programming in 2010. In recognition of her leadership and passion for music and music education, Jennifer received the Omaha Public Schools A+ Advocate award in 2009 and the Nebraska Governor's Emerging Leader in the Arts award in 2010.

She will present an overview of the symphony's 100th season, including special guests, concerts and other events sure to make the season one of the most special in the orchestra's history. In addition, Jennifer will take questions from the audience.

The program will begin at noon and continue until 1 p.m. Lunch, at \$17 per person, is served beginning at 11:30 a.m.

Call 402-345-8008 for reservations or email [opcchristine@gmail.com](mailto:opcchristine@gmail.com). Non-Press Club members are welcome.

## 2020 - 2021 Officers

**Tom Shatel**  
President  
Omaha World-Herald

**Roger Humphries**  
President-elect  
Roger Humphries Photography

**Dale Ervin**  
Treasurer  
First National Bank

**Bridget (Weide) Brooks**  
Secretary  
Image Building Communications

**Jeremy Maskel**  
Immediate past president  
Omaha Public Schools

## Board of Directors

### (2019-2021)

Chris Allen	UNO
Kristyna Engdahl	MECA
Mike McKnight	WOWT
Erin Johnson	Infogroup
Liz Hruska	Nebraska Legislature Fiscal Office

### (2020-2022)

Allen Beermann	Retired
Woody Bradford	Houghton Bradford Whitted
Bridget (Weide) Brooks	Image Building Communications
Roger Humphries	Roger Humphries Photography
Gary Willis	NP Dodge Real Estate

## Communications Committee

Cindy Workman • Don Summerside  
Gary Willis • Jennifer Bull • Karen Way  
Tom O'Connor • Anne Walsh • Sandra Tursi  
Bridget (Weide) Brooks • Hunter Samuels  
Lauren Robinson • Todd Andrews • Jon Brooks

# Bacon, Eastman to debate Oct. 8 at OPC luncheon

This is the second time that Congressman Don Bacon and Kara Eastman have competed for the seat in Omaha's 2nd Congressional District. Two years ago, Republican Bacon defeated Democrat Eastman by a narrow margin. Their 2020 race is being watched in political circles around the country. Voters will decide in the Nov. 3 election.

The luncheon debate is Thursday, Oct. 8, from noon to 1 p.m. at the Omaha Press Club. It is open to the public. Because of the pandemic, seating is limited and is on a first-come, first-served basis.

The cost is \$17 per person.

For reservations, call the Press Club at 402-345-8008 or make online reservations at [omahapressclub.com](http://omahapressclub.com) (click RSVP in the upper righthand corner of the website).

Doors will open at 11 a.m. Serving begins at 11:30. If you have special dietary restrictions, please let the club know when you make your reservation.

WOWT Channel Six is our partner for the debate. The moderator will be Channel Six anchor/reporter Brian Mastre. WOWT will record the debate and make it available for public viewing on various platforms

Masks are required to get into the bank building, use the elevators, and inside the Press Club except when people are seated and eating. Social distancing requirements will be in place.

People who don't want to remove masks under any circumstances can get a hot-and-ready-to-go lunch to take with them after the debate. If you want that option, make it known when you make your reservation.

Parking is suggested at the Central City Garage just west of the bank. It's free for OPC members, who should bring their tickets to the club for validation.

Before entering the bank from the garage passageway, press the button on the black box and say, "Omaha Press Club."

### Villamonte, continued from Page 1

hour (Noon, 1 p.m., and 2 p.m.). They are hot and ready to eat and are a delicious way to feed the family!

For our Takeout, Delivery, Curbside, or Family Deal Friday online ordering: <https://www.toasttab.com/omahapressclub/v3> or log on to our website: <https://omahapressclub.com/>

We recently learned that First National Bank will not have tenants or employees back in the building until January 2021. This makes the Press Club one of the safest facilities to dine in anywhere in the state.

The Omaha Press Club restaurant is unique in comparison with many other facilities. We require reservations and can accommodate social distancing with ease due to the layout of the restaurant. This is a value for dining out with regards to your health and safety.

Even if you are not taking advantage of our dine-in or takeout opportunities, we appreciate you continuing to support the club by paying your dues. Due to the type of club we are, we have not been eligible for the government's Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) programs that many Omaha restaurants have taken advantage of. Therefore, our dues revenue is especially vital to our survival during these difficult times. We want to be here for you in 2021 to celebrate our 50th anniversary of the club ... and we need your help to do so.

Here is a reminder of the safety guidelines in place:

- The Press Club door will be propped open during business hours.
- Sanitizer stations will be set up near the entrance door.
- FNBO is mandating that all employees wear face masks in common areas, (lobbies, hallways, elevators). This will also be the rule for members coming to the Press Club while in the common areas.

Our goal is precautions for all, as we continue to serve our membership, bank employees and tenants.

The club is currently operating in Phase III of the governor's directed health measures for dining. Bars and restaurants can operate at 100 percent capacity. Eight people can sit at a table. Salad bars and buffets are still prohibited.

To contact me best during this time: [opcdirector@gmail.com](mailto:opcdirector@gmail.com)

Meanwhile, check out the newsletter stories on our scheduled events and RSVP for one of the many opportunities to enjoy the club. The Sept. 17 Noon Forum will preview the Omaha Symphony's 100th season, and a Tom Shatel Sports Luncheon will kick off the fall season on Sept. 22. Then on Oct. 8, the club will host a luncheon debate between Congressman Don Bacon and challenger Kara Eastman.

**Note: It is important to make reservations as we are scheduling staff according to the number of RSVPs!**

Thank you and see you at the club,

**Steve L Villamonte Sr. CEC, BS**  
Executive Director  
Omaha Press Club