

Oswego museum set to reopen Saturday, Aug. 1

Oswego's Little White School Museum closed its doors due to the 2019 Novel Coronavirus--COVID--on March 13. This week, the museum announced plans to finally reopen on Saturday, Aug. 1, although with restricted hours.

The museum is located at 72 Polk Street (Jackson at Polk), just two blocks from Oswego's historic downtown business district.

"Previously we were open seven days a week, but with area businesses and governmental agencies slowly opening in accord with the Restore Illinois guidelines, we'll be open on a restricted basis until further notice," said museum director Roger Matile.

Current plans call for the museum to be open Thursdays through Mondays from 12 noon to 4 p.m. each day.



"Even that schedule could be changed depending on what happens with COVID going forward," Matile said.

Because of the unique challenges posed by the pandemic, museum visitors will be required to call ahead to reserve times to visit the museum gallery and core exhibit and whatever exhibit is currently available in the museum's main room.

Reservations will be available for each hour from noon to 3 p.m., with visits limited to 45 minutes each to give staff time to clean before the next visitors arrive. The museum gallery will be limited to six visitors during each 45-minute time slot. The first hour of each day will be set aside for visits by seniors and other medically vulnerable people and their families.

Starting Thursday, July 30, community residents can make reservations by visiting the museum web site littlewhiteschoolmuseum.org in the search bar of their web browser or, during the new open hours, by calling the museum at 630-554-2999.

"Going forward, we will evaluate and adjust as this fluid situation continues," museum manager Tina Heidrich said. She added that the museum has been working closely comparing notes with other small Fox Valley-area museums as well as with the Illinois Association of Museums.

The Little White School Museum is a joint project of the Oswegoland Park District and the not-for-profit Oswegoland Heritage Association.

For more information, call the museum at 630-554-2999 during the new museum hours or email info@littlewhiteschoolmuseum.org.

PHOTO: Oswego's Little White School Museum, which closed due to the pandemic on March 13, has announced plans to reopen with limited hours starting Saturday, Aug. 1. The museum is located at 72 Polk Street, just two blocks from Oswego's historic downtown business district. For more information, call 630-554-2999 or email info@littlewhiteschoolmuseum.org.