

# The News-Gazette.com

## Two community additions deserving of recognition

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Periodically, I like to reflect on quality of life issues in Urbana-Champaign. There are two fairly new assets in our community to which I would like to draw attention.

The new I Hotel and Conference Center, along with Houlihan's restaurant, is such a gem. I recently attended a convention, about the third or fourth time I have attended an event there. The convention center is well-managed, nicely appointed and offers a perfect setting for most events. Houlihan's is outstanding food.

Another great new asset in our community is the University of Illinois' Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. Begun over a year ago, OLLI offers topical classes, discussion groups and lectures to those over 50. These offerings are relevant, timely and vastly interesting, often taking advantage of the huge brain trust we enjoy in C-U. And there are no grades and little homework. OLLI is enriching the lives of many with its presence.

I am grateful to live in a community that has so very much to offer. I encourage others to seek out these entities and take advantage of them.

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Urbana

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