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The MidWeek

Group photo to mark Star Worlds' 30th anniversary

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DeKALB – Star Worlds Arcade, a member of the International Registry of Historic Video Game Arcades, is getting ready to celebrate 30 years in business – almost unheard of in today's video game industry. To celebrate, Star Worlds is asking its community supporters to come to the arcade at 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 4, for a group photograph.

Patrick O'Malley of DeKalb started Star Worlds Arcade in Maple Park in 1985, when he acquired too many games to fit in his parents' garage.

"My parents wanted the games and all my friends out of their house," O'Malley said.

Star Worlds later moved to its current location, 1234 E. Lincoln Highway in DeKalb. It was described by James McGovern of RetroBlast! as "a living time capsule of classic arcade games and atmosphere."

The group photo is the first step toward preparing for an anniversary celebration in January. O'Malley hopes at least 100 gamers and other supporters will gather at the arcade to show their encouragement and appreciation for this shrine to arcade heritage. One person attending the photo shoot will be selected to receive a free private arcade party.

After the photo, there will be an all-you-can-play event at the arcade. The \$25 admission fee will include free play on all video game and pinball machines, entrance into game tournaments, and food. Walter Day, founder of the international video game high score organization Twin Galaxies, will attend the event to honor several local gamers with their newest

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trading card in the Twin Galaxies Trading Card series.

For more information, visit starworldsarcade.com or 1234 E. Lincoln Highway in DeKalb.

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