



Main Street Monday!

Nov. 18, 2014

Happenings Around the State

Please continue to send your holiday happenings to both Diane Comer and myself. There is a list of things that are going on in communities on the Kentucky Heritage Council web-site and they are sent to the state tourism agency to share as well.



Grant applications open for tree-planting groups

Applications are available for Plant for the Planet grants from Kentucky Utilities Co. and Louisville Gas and Electric to fund qualified tree plantings by nonprofit or government entities. The program awards matching grants of \$500 to \$5,000 to organizations with a history of successful tree plantings in the KU and LG&E service territories. Applications and program information are available at lge-ku.com/plantfortheplanet. Applications must be postmarked by Nov. 30.

Toot Your Horn!



Bardstown and Frankfort, both Main Street communities were named as two of the best Kentucky Day Trips in a recent article. Other locations such as the Horse Park or Cumberland Gap are near other Main Street communities. To read more go to <https://impulcity.com/articles/the-14-best-kentucky-day-trips>

2015 conferences/trainings will focus on entrepreneurship and economic development on Main Street. Here are some important dates to place on your calendars!!!

It was great to have several Main Streets in Savannah! Danville, Williamsburg, and Middlesboro as well as those who were listening to the on line streaming including other KHC staff members. !

Our annual winter conference will be February 25-27 in Carrollton, Kentucky. We will be staying and conducting most sessions at General Butler State Park. I will send you more information next week regarding how to book your hotel, registration, etc.

Interesting Idea to share on engaging community members. . If you receive the Downtown Idea Exchange you can read more there.

Mark you calendars now to attend the National Main Street conference in beautiful downtown ATLANTA, GA It is going to be great! We hope to have large group of Kentuckians in attendance.



Our Fall KYMS/KHC conference will be held in Louisville September 25-26, 2015 and will feature StrongTowns! Of course more information will be sent along as it becomes available, but wanted to let you know so that you can be planning your calendar and your budgets. Be sure to invite to your boards and officials too!!

Community Engagement Drives Change Downtown

To draw the community into an ongoing conversation, the city of Hagerstown, MD, launched its engageHagerstown website.

The city posts questions and moderates discussions about important topics that will shape the future of the downtown.

The inaugural question was: "What's your big idea for downtown?"

That first question generated "a ton of feedback," says Sarah Nelson, planning and outreach coordinator for the city.

Building on that success, the city has queried the public and kept the conversation going around topics including public art, walkability, the downtown farmers market, and more.

"We have a team that works on the questions, and our staff meets regularly to talk about what topics to post," says Nelson.

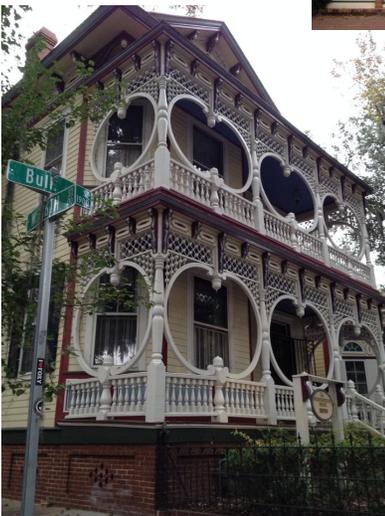
"We review a large portion of the ideas and let participants know if they are feasible, which ones we are working on, what we are able to do, so they are getting feedback from us in real time on how their ideas are informing city decisions."

More on engageHagerstown, complete streets programs, and a downtown living initiative appear in the November issue of "Downtown Idea Exchange."

Scenes from Savannah!



At the Hampton Inn on Bay Street every sign uses photos to welcome visitors or to tell you where everything is located down to the photos of the genres of music .



Savannah buildings are beautiful inside and out! There adaptive reuse is an example for others to follow. Even the McDonald's is in a building that almost has the golden arches motif at the top. A vacant lot is a beer garden and the old Kress 5 and 10 is now the Gap



I know many of you would like this sign in your downtowns. They also had one for 2 hours once per day



Lots of great topics and sessions were held. I hope you tuned in to some of the live streaming. One of the mobile sessions I attended with several other Kentuckians was with former KY native Daniel Cary, head of the Savannah Historic Foundation as he explained their revolving fund to save structures.