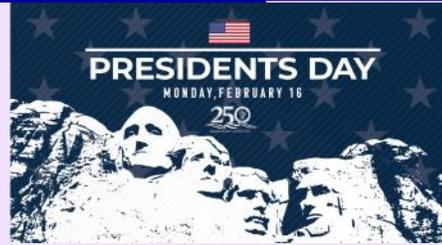




Main Street Monday!

February 16, 2026

NEW



It's National Entrepreneurship Week!
Love Your Downtown. Support Local Entrepreneurs.

Downtown is more than buildings and sidewalks it's where dreams open their doors each morning. Our historic downtowns serve as a launching pad for entrepreneurs who invest their time, talent, and heart into our communities.

When you shop, dine, and do business downtown, you're not just making a purchase you're supporting a neighbor, encouraging innovation, and helping small businesses grow. Downtown storefronts are where new ideas are tested, family businesses are built, and local character thrives.

This month, show your love for downtown by choosing local first. Attend an event, try a new business, share your favorite shop on social media, or simply stop in and say hello. Every dollar spent downtown strengthens our local economy and helps entrepreneurs continue turning their vision into reality. Love your downtown. Support entrepreneurs. Build community.

We invite you to refresh your Main Street's small business development toolbox with the Main Street America Academy. Check out Focus on the Four Points: Economic Vitality for free courses all about ways to support local entrepreneurship.

Dive in <https://bit.ly/4kCC4Rk>



It's a great time to visit Springfield to learn about the 16th President, Abraham Lincoln. From the Lincoln Museum that is located in the historic 1816 Washington County Courthouse which is also the oldest active courthouse in the state!

Across the street you can view the ten foot sculpture that was dedicated in 2009 and one of 3 in the state.

Walk along the streets and visit locally owned shops and restaurants and find some souvenirs and maybe even spy Mr. Lincoln himself!



A mere 10 minutes away you can visit the Lincoln Homestead State Park and view the Berry House the home of his mother, Nancy Hanks and so much more!

HISTORIC REHABILITATION

TAX CREDIT PROGRAM

LIVE WEBINAR

Are you a city official, preservation commission member, or local realtor?

This free webinar will teach you how this program can benefit your constituents. Also open to the general public, owners of historic homes and buildings are encouraged to attend.

THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2026

6:00 PM ET | WEBINAR

Join us for a virtual workshop about KY's Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit Program and learn how it can support the rehabilitation of historic homes and buildings across the state. This session will provide an overview of how the program works, who is eligible, and how it is a great tool for preservation, revitalization, and local investment opportunities.

REGISTER NOW

KENTUCKY HERITAGE COUNCIL
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Katie Wilborn
Site Development Program Administrator
Preservation Easements & Tax Credits

Katherine.Wilborn@ky.gov
heritage.ky.gov

BRUSHY FORK LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

A STRATEGIC INITIATIVE OF BEREA COLLEGE

SEPTEMBER 16-17

SAVE THE DATE

2026 LEADERSHIP GATHERING

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Black history is American History and it can be celebrated all across the Commonwealth. You can follow the African American Trail



www.kentuckytourism.com/aaht or stop in KYMS towns to find more local history.

From the coal mines in Lynch, the Hotel Metropolitan in Paducah & its rich musical history, the Underground Railroad in Maysville & other markers & signage

to learn about the people who made significant contributions to Kentucky.



OFFICIAL BLACK WALL STREET

“WHEN YOU SUPPORT A BLACK-OWNED BUSINESS, YOU’RE NOT JUST BUYING A PRODUCT — YOU’RE BUILDING A LEGACY.”

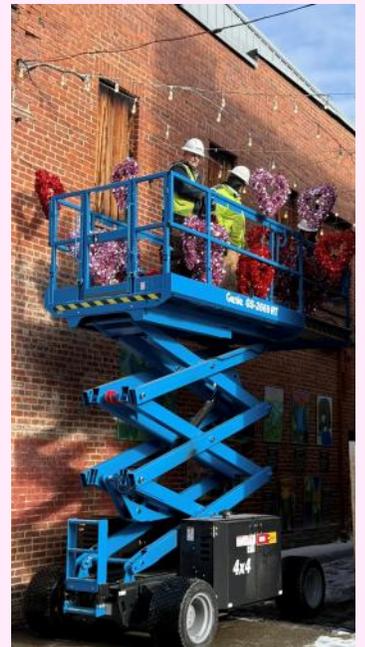
Today is the last day to channel your inner Olympian!
 Figure skater? Hockey player? Maybe even curling.
 Get to Maysville and have a great time!!



You don't have to spend a lot to make your town feel festive and inviting. We love how Middlesboro Main Street created a festive look for LOVE YOUR DOWNTOWN on the city fountains.



A big shout out to the public works departments who help make our communities inviting places to be. This Pikeville crew was working in the 2nd Street alley that is always a fun photo op!



We also love how KYMS directors change up their logos and cover photos to showcase the current activities.

Perryville and Murray are pretty in pink to show Love to their downtown.





It's time to give a shout out to all the best in Kentucky and those who have worked hard to preserve all the wonderful things in the Commonwealth!

Take the time to nominate those you know that are making a difference or are the best of the best in our uncommon Commonwealth.



Kentucky Living Magazine's Best of Kentucky is now open. What a great way to support local! Make your nomination today!

<https://www.kentuckyliving.com/.../2026-best-in-kentucky...>



Categories are:

- The **Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award** goes to the individual who has demonstrated outstanding dedication to the cause of historic preservation.
- **Preservation Project Awards** honor outstanding examples of building or site rehabilitation, restoration, and adaptive reuse.
- **Service to Preservation Awards** recognize individuals, organizations, nonprofits, public officials, financial institutions, news media, volunteers, and others whose contributions have had a positive impact on preserving historic and prehistoric resources.
- **Grassroots Preservation Awards** are given at the selection committee's discretion and celebrate those who have committed their personal time and resources to successfully take on a challenge that addresses a preservation issue at the local level.

For more information and nomination forms go to our website heritage.ky.gov



Mark your calendar to come visit Morehead!

The Antique & Artisan Market is a great place to find unique treasures! Then take a stroll to visit the Fuzzy Duck, Holbrook Drugs soda fountain, the Folk Art Museum and so much more. Make it a day in Morehead!



You can find entrepreneurs in every KYMS district and Main Street programs supporting them from Farmer's Markets to Main Street Markets. Main Street programs help dreams come true!



Just a small sampling of the Main Street Market operated by Guthrie Main Street helping over 150 entrepreneurs with a place to sell their products, try out new products, and learn how to be a business owner!

We have had this question before and the answer is always YES! Food trucks can certainly serve as incubator spaces that lead to brick and mortar locations. We are proud to present Devilish Wings Bar & Grill to you located in the heart of downtown LaGrange!

From waffles and wings on wheels to a brick and mortar shop, owners Chris and Erin Johnson celebrated their ribbon cutting on Friday!



LaGrange Main Street reminds you why it is important to shop local and shop small.

LA GRANGE, KY
RAILFEST

VENDOR APPLICATION

WILL BE COMING
DOWN THE TRACKS ON

FEBRUARY 9TH

The vendor application will be posted on our social media pages and website.

Vendor set up date: Saturday, May 9, 2026

Why It's Important to Shop Small

- 1 It contributes to economic growth, keeping money in the community 
- 2 It preserves the distinctive flavor and character of the local area 
- 3 Encourages innovation, creativity, and diversity 
- 4 It's sustainable and environmentally friendly 





Since its debut in 2017, the AARP Community Challenge has invested \$24.3 million in 2,100 livability projects, with a focus on meeting the needs of adults age 50 or older.

Applications are due by March 4, 2026 - [2026 AARP Community Challenge](#)

The program is open to IRS-recognized nonprofit organizations, such as those designated 501(c)(3),



Don't forget this special offer from Steve at Making Good Scenz in Bardstown to help you promote your organizations! Contact Steve orders@makinggoodscenz



"Laissez les bons temps rouler!"

Let the Good Times Roll! You don't have to be Cajun or from NOLA to enjoy the spirit of the day! Many local bakers are now helping you celebrate the day! Grab your beads and enjoy Mardi Gras, just watch out for the baby! And in case someone asks you'll be ready!

The traditional colors of Mardi Gras are **purple, green, and gold**.

Established in 1892 by the Rex Parade, these iconic colors symbolize specific virtues: **purple** represents **justice**, **green** represents **faith**, and **gold** represents **power**. They are prominently featured in parades, king cakes, and decorations.

