

April 11, 2022

## Main Street Monday!



It was great to see everyone for the Spring conference! We had a great time learning how the “arts” of all kinds can be a catalyst for economic vitality in our downtown communities.

We have seen a lot of emphasis on public art especially during the pandemic. Whether it is a sculpture, a mural, an event space, a gallery, a book walk, so many areas that bring a new vibrancy and interest to our downtowns. Most individuals are visual learners and providing visual stimulation in the revitalization of our service areas brings renewed interest and economic development and new or renewed civic pride.

People should not have to leave town for a place they love. They should love where they live and share that love with others. That will bring people to town. If locals love it others will too.

We were so sad to see the loss in downtown Carrollton. A fire occurred the night before our arrival. We have been waiting for two years to visit and the business owners were excited to see us and then.... It was just terrible. Fortunately both businesses have found space to relocate and have continued to do business even in the face of adversity. They too, are Main Street Strong.

We saw the building in person today before noon. Approximately three hours later the strong winds knocked the existing wall down. So sad for this community.



**Comings and goings.** We are sad to announce the retirement of Vicki Goode in Perryville. Vicki began her Main Street tenure in 2007 and has been a force ever since. She and her board have been instrumental in the restoration and preservation of Merchant's Row and she has served as regional captain for many years. We know she will still be around, but she will have more time to quilt and make art along with spending time with her family.



Ally Huff will step into the director's role and will be working part time as the director this summer and move to full time in August. Ally was able to meet the Main Street family at the state conference and is excited to be in the Main Street director position. Ally has a degree in history from Northern Kentucky University & loves all the history that is Perryville.

**Katie Axt- Paducah** Katie came to us from Manhattan NY and Paducah was quite a difference experience for her. She certainly left her mark in the community creating the entertainment district and working on large projects in the downtown. Katie is a planner by profession and will be returning to New York in the future in a new job that is her passion, riverfront development. This will also allow her and her family to be closer to their families.



Nic Hutchinson is the Planning director for Paducah and will be serving as the interim director. Nic attended the state conference and will join us in Richmond for the national conference. Nic is a native of Missouri and a graduate of Hutchison has a Bachelor's of Community & Regional Planning from Missouri State University, Master's of Urban & Environment Planning from the University of Virginia, and a Master of Public Administration from University of Kansas.



March took Main Street and KHC to western Kentucky for a visit. It has been quite a while since we visited our Main Streets there and we are happy to report they are all doing well.

We drove through Mayfield and we still hold them and the other western KY communities in our thoughts as they continue to recover from the tornadic events of last December.



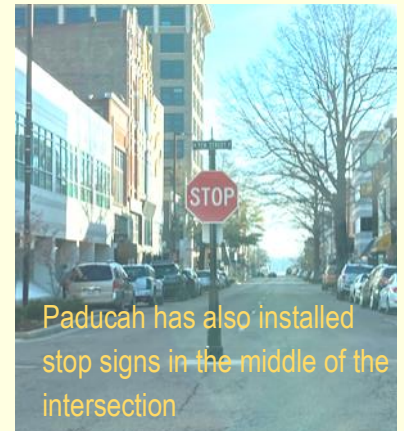
Our first stop was Murray. We met with director Deana Wright & a number of her board members to look at a newly acquired property to discuss tax credits, adaptive reuse and more. It is great to see Main Street leading these types of projects in their downtown.



A problem that many of our downtowns face is being a state highway/truck route. Not only is this not pedestrian friendly, but a safety factor on many levels. This is the intersection at the courthouse square in Murray. Yes, that is a large log truck headed toward you and another semi headed the opposite direction. It is important that we all work with the transportation dept to have trucks use the bypass if available. This does affect the economic vitality of a place.



A stop in Paducah for a National Register meeting also afforded us the opportunity to meet with Katie, the Paducah Main Street board & our friend and former KHC board member, Chris Black. We always love catching up with our people but especially after a long absence due to COVID.



Paducah has also installed stop signs in the middle of the intersection

NR coordinator, Lisa Thompson is a huge fan of Main Street and data and helps us with our MS reinvestment statistics. Guthrie Director, Tracy Robinson (in pink) was excited to show us their work as they plan for the year ahead. We were excited to see the wall charts that shows their transformation strategies along with the demographics to assist them in their planning.



We love this cute little building and the Minority owned boutique on Main Street in Guthrie!



## Scenes from our Spring Conference!

We were so excited to see our directors, many for the first time in two years! We have been fortunate to have Zoom meetings for the last two years so that new faces are familiar, but there is nothing like seeing friends in person. We all have learned how important human interaction is during this pandemic and a good hug takes away a lot of anxiety and is a true expression of joy.

We started our day in Carrollton. We were so anxious to see each other and to learn about the value of art in our communities. Our joy turned to a bit of sadness as we had a front row seat to the disaster of fire in the core of downtown. From a minor fire on Tuesday, to reigniting over night to be what would likely be a total loss and then to have the wind finish it off during our meeting was heartbreaking. We do want to share that both of the businesses have found new spaces and will continue to be a vital part of downtown Carrollton.

Networking and social time are always a great part of our conferences. We learn so much from one another.

We visited the historic home, in Carrollton

Then we were treated to a great meal and music at where Morehead director, Tony Pence, also treated us to his musical talents!

We finished the evening connecting in the lodge at General Butler State park.



Kim Nyberg has a long history with Main Street! She currently lives and works in Madison Indiana and shared how the arts have added to the economic vitality of downtown Madison. She provided us with a lot of great information.



New director round table. Lots to learn and time to make new friends.

Director Tony Pence shares his talents.



Lots of sharing and conversations take place during our social time. We all love being together and sharing our successes and finding help with issues we might have. Main Street is a great team !



## All Aboard! Next stop LaGrange!

It is so cool to have a train go through the middle of your town! We were welcomed to town by director, Teresa Boling and Mayor John Black. The community has so many lovely historic buildings and unique shops. It was a treat to visit after we had a presentation on transformation strategies by Lisa Thompson. We even enjoyed a delicious lunch from the Red Pepper on a train at the train museum!



Heather Hottenroth shared with us the Alley Loop project. She is a dynamic speaker and passionate art supporter.

LaGrange was selected by HGTV for an episode that will air on May 15th! So exciting and great for the downtown and a chance to share LaGrange with a wide viewing audience!



Public art or cigarette receptacle? Actually, it's both! Who says trash containers need to be ugly? This is a great asset in the downtown.



Lisa provided a great presentation and activity to provide more information on transformation strategic planning.



Ally and Julie enjoyed lunch on the train and Caroline wanted to make sure she didn't miss it! We always have fun at KYMS events.





Shelbyville was an action packed afternoon! We learned about the sculpture walk and the renewing of 6th street. We saw the façade work project that was made possible in part from the National Main Street grant from the NPS. We learned a lot about the importance of historic preservation in a downtown.

We toured the theatre and saw the many ways that art and the arts are contributing to the economic vitality of the town and we saw the new wonderful conference center that is just a block away from the Main Street service area, and the trolley did we mention the trolley ride ? :) Director Darlene Snow and Mayor David Eaton along with many others made sure we were warmly welcomed on a cold day!



We heard some great words from Mayor Eaton and Craig Potts the State Historic Preservation Officer. Both big supporters of Main Street!



We enjoyed a reception by Shelby Main Street at the beautiful Wakefield Searce Gallery.



The community theatre is amazing and has been performing in Shelbyville since 1977!



Every town needs a trolley.



Old friends were happy to see each other! Tracy and Julie took a well deserved break. It's a long way from Guthrie and an hour time change!



We were greeted at our last stop by Taylorsville director, Beverly Ingram and warm treats and coffee from the Tea Cup! Did you know that Taylorsville is known for gourds?? Bonnie Drake told us how she came to be the gourd lady and how Taylorsville became known for this special art form. The annual festival will take place May 21, 2022.



Gourd art can be found everywhere in town. Many of the businesses have them as part of their signage. You can also find gourds and gourd items for sale at the Red Scooter.



Even the planters let you know you are in an historic place.



We toured the old Jail where the annual fundraiser dinner takes place. Get your tickets now for the April 30th event!



Anything can be made better with art.



During the conference communities received their certifications for 2022 based on the work they completed in 2021. Beattyville director, Teresa Mays and board member and tourism director, Dedra Brandenburg were excited to share their accomplishments with their community upon their return home. Being nationally accredited or an affiliate honors the hard work put forth by these communities and serves as a sign of excellence.

This years Nationally Accredited communities are: Bardstown, Beattyville, Campbellsville, Carrollton, Covington, Cynthiana, Danville, Guthrie, LaGrange, London, Maysville, Morehead, Murray, Paducah, Perryville, Pikeville, Pineville, Shelbyville, Springfield, Taylorsville, and Winchester

National Affiliate communities: Middlesboro, Scottsville, Tri-Cities, and Williamsburg

Kentucky Network communities: Catlettsburg and Paintsville



The annual Kentucky Main Street Awards will be presented April 28, 2022 in the Capitol Rotunda at 11:00 a.m. EST with a reception to follow on the mezzanine. The annual reinvestments will also be released at this time.

Main Street on the news!  
Director Randi Mouser and Bardstown Main Street were featured on Great Day Live. Randi did a great job sharing her community.



Happening in downtown Morehead tonight!!

This will be a great event and will also feature our own Tony Pence!







Sweet obsessions has opened at 105 Main Street in Beattyville and people are obsessed with it. Allie has an extensive menu everyday and just looking at it makes us tired. She is cooking up a storm. Stop in and see her and her great items.

Lots of Easter activities will be taking place this week and downtown is the perfect place to find all your Easter needs. A bonnet, basket fillers, candy and more. Look for Jelly in Murray and her friends around the state.



**DOWNTOWN EASTER EGG HUNT**

**Pikeville - Saturday 4/16, Noon-5pm**

Take photos with the EASTER BUNNY and get a hot dog at Appcycled at 242 Second St.

**OPENING SOON!**

Downtown 2nd Street is opening soon! Hop In and see us! Collect eggs from participating businesses. First 10 to collect 10+ eggs and one receipt from a local shop can redeem a free movie ticket at the Shoppes at 225.

Participating Businesses (include but not limited to):

- Appalachian Center for the Arts - Appcycled - Bank 253 - Classy Stork - Faith Life Market - Friends Drift Inn - Lovey's - Ping Pig Yarn Shop - Ritchie's Art & Gift Shoppe - Studio 23 - Two Chicks & Co. - You, Me & Pottery - \*The Shoppes at 225: Caudill Corn, Kate & Kris Boutique, Leather and Lattes, Peace Love Plants, Southern Mercantile, Sweet Southern Tastings\*

It's time to dye the eggs! What better place to find them than your local Farmer's Market. HOP on over to Covington and pick up a dozen or two this week!

Join the Easter Bunny and Hop on in to any KYMS community this week to find great items for Easter! Events, shopping, candy, they have it all!

**Easter on the Square**  
**April 16, 2022**  
**Noon - 4:00 p.m.**

Featuring

- Pictures with Easter Bunny (12:30 - 3:30 \$5 donation to Shop With A Cop)
- Inflatable
- Egg Decorating
- Face Painting
- Jellybean Counting Contest
- Easter Egg Hunt

(Two age groups with bicycle as top prize in each age group plus many other prizes)

**Beattyville Shop Hop**  
**\$100.00 Prize**

For a chance to win \$100.00 CASH Spend a total of \$20.00 at participating downtown businesses (can be multiple stores) during April 15th through 17th

Have the clerk note the amount and initial on Shop Hop card available at businesses. Leave card with the last store you make a purchase with.

Drawing to be held on Monday April 18th. Promotion sponsored by DBA & Tourism!

City of BEATTYVILLE Kentucky  
Beattyville Main Street

Beattyville LEE COUNTY KENTUCKY

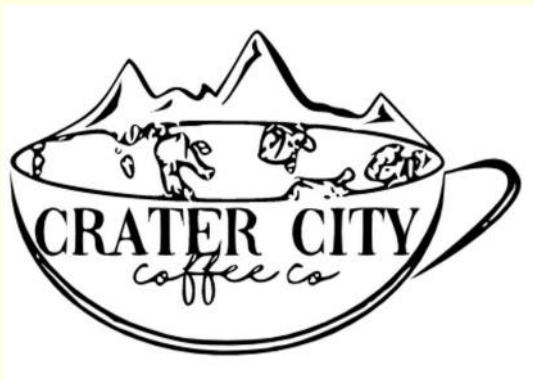
**RED'S OPENING DAY**  
**CELEBRATION @ ROEBLING POINT**

**Tuesday, April 12th | 11 AM - 10 PM**

Join Molly Malone's, Smoke Justis, Frosthous & Keystone for a street party with live music & lots of food and fun!

If you're a baseball fan, hop on over to Covington for a great time tomorrow! The Roebling Bridge is now open and you can have a great time shopping, eating, and watching the REDS.





Coming soon to downtown Middlesboro!! We're so excited for them and guess who the owner is? Our own former Main Street director and current MS board member, Larry Grandey and his lovely wife Judy. We can't wait to visit!



There's some new swag in Paducah! Check out these new coasters and

## T-Mobile grants are open!

Calling all small towns with populations fewer than 50,000! Don't miss the chance to apply for a grant of up to \$50K to fund projects to build, rebuild, or re-fresh community spaces that help foster local connections in your community.

Submit your application for the [T-Mobile Hometown Grants Program](https://www.t-mobile.com/hometowngrants) by June 30, 2022. Learn more at [tmobile.com/hometowngrants](https://www.t-mobile.com/hometowngrants)



Excited to see the new pedestrian bridge being installed in downtown Perryville!



**April is National Volunteer Month!** The Main Street movement could not exist without a network of dedicated, passionate volunteers at programs around Kentucky and the country. Their work activating and improving their communities is the foundation of everything we do. Take time this month to celebrate and spotlight the amazing volunteers at your Main Street organization!

