



Main Street Monday!





A former Main Street director gave me a sign that says, " Life if full of surprises, why should today be any different?" I keep it on my kitchen window ledge so I see it every day. Last Friday

was a day of surprise for me and one of joy for my colleague, Lisa Thompson. Although she had received the news Thursday morning, she didn't want to tell me prior to the Main Street awards. Why such explanation you are thinking, she never tells us the much when someone leaves. Well this one will have more impact on KYMS.

Lisa will be leaving us this Friday, May 13th (right? Friday the 13th) to start a new position with Main Street America our national organization!

She will be introduced to the MSA network at the National Main Street Conference next week. It is a great honor and opportunity for her and for Kentucky.

Lisa will continue to be based in Danville which is great for everyone. We wish her all the best and look forward to working with her in a new roll.



It's Kentucky Main Street Week!!

Last week we celebrated all small businesses and this week we celebrate those who are located in our KY Main Street districts across the state! We encourage everyone to stop in and see your favorite shopkeeper. They have had a rough few years and we want you to know they are back and better than ever! These are the people who offer a unique selections and personal service. They create the authentic experiences for locals and visitors alike. They sponsor our children, our charities, and more. This week make a special effort to visti and say thank you!!! We'll see you downtown!

MONDAY MEET ME ON MAIN MONDAY MEET ME ON MAIN WEDNESDAY WINE AND DINE DOWNTOWN WEDNESDAY WILD ABOUT DOWNTOWN THURSDAY TAKE ME OUT THURSDAY FRIDAY CELEBRATE MAIN STREET SATURDAY SHOP MAIN STREET

In case you are new to our newsletter and have that question, Main Street is program is economic development that has its foundation in historic preservation using a 4-point approach. Learn more at heritage.ky.gov or mainstreet.org

Build a diverse economic base | Catalyze smart new investment | Cultivate a strong entrepreneurship ecosystem Create an inviting, inclusive atmosphere | Celebrate historic character | Foster accessible, people-centered public spaces

ECONOMIC VITALITY DESIGN

COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION

ORGANIZATION PROMOTION

Build leadership and strong organizational capacity | Ensure broad community engagement | Forge partnerships across sectors Market district's defining assets | Communicate unique features through storytelling | Support buy-local experience Last week we shared our Main Street award winners. This week we share with you the accomplishments of our programs! Each year our communities go through an evaluation process for annual certification. This requires them to meet a set of standards set forth by Main Street America. Those communities meeting all of the standards are Accredited those meeting most are Affiliate and those looking to become a national program working with Kentucky Main Street are our Network programs. It is important to note that communities can fluctuate from one level to another for a variety of reasons and our goal is to help every program/community be the best they can be. We are happy to announce this years certified communities.

2022 KYMS Communities

Certification is awarded based on work completed in the 2021 calendar year.

Nationally Accredited Programs

Bardstown Beattyville Campbellsville Carrollton Covington Cynthiana Danville Guthrie LaGrange London Maysville Morehead Murray Paducah Perryville Pikeville Pineville Salversville Shelbyville Springfield Taylorsville Winchester



National Affiliate Programs Middlesboro Scottsville Tri-Cities Williamsburg <u>KYMS Network Communities</u> Catlettsburg Paintsville



Communities receive certificates from both the state and national offices to display. Certification also allows them to market themselves as both a certified Kentucky Main Street program and a Nationally Accredited program. Cities are announced at the national convention and 2022 Certificates will be sent to the programs. We are very proud of all our programs and the work they do everyday to make their towns the best they can be!!

DID YOU KNOW?

OF THE 60+ DOWNTOWN BUSINESSES

OVER 80% ARE LOCALLY OWNED

60% ARE OWNED OR CO-OWNED BY WOMEN!

It's a great week to go downtown and meet these incredible business owners!





Grand opening will be Sat. 5/14 Join us for discounts, giveaways and a snack or two.

STORE HOURS: WED 3-7 THURS AND FRIDAY 12-6 SAT 11-4



Give the gift of shopping and eating at so many wonderful Covington small businesses with the Love the Cov digital



Pictured here is <u>Scarlet Begonia's Flower Truck</u> in front of <u>Lil's Bagels & Roebling Point Books &</u> <u>Coffee</u>, which all accept Lov the Cov gift cards!!

View the full list of over 30 participating businesses and purchase your Love the Cov digital gift card for yourself or someone you love at the link: https://app.yiftee.com/gift-card/ renaissance-covington



Crater City Coffee is now open in downtown Middlesboro! Former Main Street director, Larry Grandy and his wife Judy are the owners. We can't wait to visit. Main Street programs strive to transform the communities they serve. To do that effectively part of the work is having a strategic plan in place, both short term and long term. To be effective you must have a vision of what can be, a mission of purpose and why your organization is there to be instrumental in the change and to look at what the community and organization value. Main Street is grassroots, we look for community input to make things happen. We value our cultural heritage, our historic buildings, our partnerships and our merchants. As they say, team work makes the dream work. What is the dream for your community?

Effective strategic planning is rooted in three elements





Vision Our aspiration for the future

Mission Our purpose or reason for existing





On a recent trip to western KY we visited with Traci Robinson and viewed the Guthrie Main Street's newest project. Yes, Main Street owns the building and will complete the restoration work. This is just one of the many they have put back in to service in their downtown community.



What a great way to end Main Street Week with LaGrange being featured on HGTV's Hometown Kickstart!! Sunday at 8:00 EST You can bet we will be watching!!!

Development Must Be:

- Unique
- Authentic
- Desirable

POINTS OF PRIORITY

- Generate Newfound Interest in Downtown District
- Increase Foot Traffic
- Optimize Safety & Accessibility
- Artistry Accessible By All
- Develop New Industries/Business while Supporting Current

BIGGEST CHALLENGES

- Workforce Shortage
- Employment Quarantine
- Uniting Varying Viewpoints



It's official! May is Historic Preservation

Check out the upcoming article in The

We'd like to say a special thanks to Mayor Burch (former Main Street director) and City Council for their ongoing support of Heart of Scottsville and our economic development efforts!



PINEVILLE | KENT

May 27-29 You'll be glad you did!



Check out Taylorsville's new billboard! We love it! Don't' miss the Gourd Art Festival coming on May 21st!





Did you know several of our Main Street directors also own small businesses? Stephanie Burden owns the Flower Depot in Cynthiana, a gift shop & florist.





Beverly Ingram owns the Red Scooter in Downtown Taylorsville. It has everything including antiques, art, garden items and more!



No newsletter next week as we look forward to seeing directors, state coordinators and Main Street staff next week! It is always exciting to learn and do and engage in all things Main Street!







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