



Main Street Eats!



Great local places are our favorite and the best place to find them, downtown of course! We are starting at the end of the alphabet and working our way up because W's are always at the end, but they submitted theirs first!

So here we go!

Winchester: *The Cairn Coffee House* 306 South Maple Street is a not for profit that supports a teen center. They are known for the Hot Mess, which features beer cheese (of course!), as well as Grippos, bacon, pepperoni and American cheese.

Springfield: Cecconi's Restaurant 117 West Main St. "Roast Beef, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy"

Mordecai's on Main 105 West Main Street

"Hot Brown" or "Seafood Buffet Every Friday Night"

Shelbyville: Bell House Restaurant 721 Main St

"Bell House burger"

Scottsville: The Farmacy 117 East Public Square

Downing's Ground beef patty with jalapeño-pimento cheese with local fried green tomatoes or the Pulled pork panini sandwich

Tri-Cities, Cumberland, Benham, & Lynch: *Charlotte's Hoagie Shop* 106 3rd Ave., Cumberland "Best Cheeseburger in Eastern, KY"

Taylorsville: *The Tea Cup* 37 East Main Fresh baked goods, great sandwiches and soups. Cinnamon rolls are a favorite!

Pikeville: Blue Raven 211 Main Street
Word is, it is the best steak you will ever eat!



List continues on Page 2!!

Main Street Monday!

Congratulations to Nick Wade and his team for winning an AARP Community Challenge Grant!!

Danville: <u>Heart of Danville</u> The grant will support the installation of the first community mural in downtown Danville and engage 1,000 residents in the design and painting of the mural.

Check the other list of national winners and their projects and be ready to apply in the next round!

Here is a special opportunity from the National Main Street Center!

Main Street America Institute's partnership with the National Development Council to offer their <u>Historic Real Estate Finance</u> training series. This is a great opportunity for managers, specifically those who are interested in pursuing tax credit projects in their downtowns, to understand the complex transactions that comprise a redevelopment project. The first course in the two-part series is occurring in Des Moines, IA, Sept 24-28.

Staff of Accredited programs are able to register for the course at a highly subsidized rate of \$250 (whereas the regular rate is \$1375).

This is yet another tool to have in your toolbox as an economic development/revitalization leader.



Pineville: Sauced 107 S. Pine Street

Craft Pizza. Pasta. Salad. No microwaves, no fryers, just fresh food crafted by you!

Murray: Mugsy's Hideout 410 Main Street

Chicago-Style Deep Dish Pizza Pie and The Works Salad

Middlesboro: Shades Café & Steakhouse

2119 Cumberland Ave. Coffee café in front,Steakhouse restaurant in back Thursday, Friday& Saturday nights.

Maysville: Chandler's 212 Market Street a "southern comfort" menu including Bourbon butter cake. Maysville is also known for their transparent pies so wherever you dine order it!

LaGrange: The Mayan Latin Cuisine 117 E. Main

Carnitas (a braised pork shoulder) it literally melts in your mouth.

London: The Abbey Corner of 6th and Main A London England theme to honor their sister city. They are known for their amazing fried green tomatoes, fried banana peppers, Catfish, Buffalo Wings and Turkey Bacon Avocado Sandwich. They also sponsor all Main Street Events and are great partners.

Danville: *Grace Cafe*, KY's first pay-what-you-can restaurant 219 S 4th St.

Cynthiana: *Biancke's* 102 South Main Fried green tomatoes and chocolate pie!

Covington: (Hard to pick just one!) Kung Food's

AmerAsia 521 Madison Avenue

Traditional Kung Pow

Campbellsville

Knobby's Deli 129 S. Columbia Avenue Chopped salad & Baha chicken wrap

Cadiz: Cabin Coffee & Café 22 Main St.

Best drink on the menu is the "Black & White" Coffee – either hot or ice

Bellevue: The Elusive Cow 519 Fairfield Ave Ultimate BLT. Bacon and avocado on 16 Bricks challah bread They offer a vegetarian version and a gluten-free version (stick to the challah). It comes with a side – recommended: the fries, a salad, veggies, kale slaw or a cup of soup (they usually have two or three and you'd be surprised how tasty the vegan soups are.

Beattyville: The Art Factory on Main

Coffee, Food and Music 290 W Main St. Best tomato soup and grilled cheese and maple bacon donut for dessert

Bardstown: Mammy's Kitchen

116 W Stephen Foster Ave. Kentucky Hot Brown

Alexander Bullitt's Brewery & BBQ 131 N 3rd

Pulled Pork BBQ, Smack and Cheese, & Bourbon Baked Beans.

Café Primo 120 N 3rd St.

Mediterranean Pasta. Italian Style Pizza.

To celebrate the final week of Independent business month Teresa Mays of Beattyville said it best.



Today and everyday we appreciate our small businesses. Those that have stood the test of time, and have been in business on our Main Street for more than 50 years. And to those new business owners investing in our community, willing to work at it and overcome the obstacles, Thank you. We do appreciate you.

Another great opportunity to engage with artists and see how you can partner with them in creative placemaking for your community!



To see an agenda, visit this link: https://artiststhrive.org/summit



Don't forget proposals are due AUGUST 8th!!!

It's getting to be Farm to Table season for Main Street!





Friday, September 14 at 6:30 - 9:30 PM

Ticket Sales are now open! Tickets can be purchased online https://www.eventbrite.com/e/farm-to-table-dinner-tickets-4.... Tickets can also be purchased at the Main Street office and Flower Depot by check or cash.

Come enjoy an amazing 5 course meal prepared by Kentucky Celebrity Chef Jason Smith of Food Network. Jason and his team will serve a delicious meal prepared with all Kentucky Proud food. Court Street downtown Cynthiana will be transformed into an outdoor event venue with harvest style table seating. We'll have great food and entertainment you won't want to miss.

News from Murray Main Street!

We are so excited about our planter beautification project that we can't hold it in anymore!! Our goal for 2018 is to bring art to downtown. We have many plans but this pro-

ject is first on the



1. We emptied the planters. 2. We will be replacing the soil in the planters. 3. We primed the planters. 4. We are

going to have a Call To Artists and students from MSU to come down and paint murals on the planters. Watch for all the great things coming downtown!



Thanks to this group the planters are now ready for artwork!!!











Hot music on Friday night, hot cars on Saturday night Downtown LaGrange!



12 Reasons Why Our Fans Buy Local 1. To support my community & neighbors 2. Shopping local creates more local jobs 3. I am responsible for my community 4. Local businesses appreciate me more 5, Local businesses go the extra mile 6. We love the shop owners who make our community one of a kind 7. To reduce my carbon footprint 8. I buy local because I AM local 9. It feels good to buy local 10. Local food tastes fresher 11. It's so much more fun! 12. It just makes sense Share and help us spread the word. INDEPENDENT WE ST ND

We are pleased to release a new Main Street Approach resource guide*, *Measuring Impact for Main Street Transformation: A Practitioner's Guide*, to help you in your efforts to the measure the impact and communicate the value of your work.

When deciding where to invest time or resources, more and more, volunteers, grant makers, municipalities, and other government partners are looking to organizations to make a clear and compelling case for why what they do matters. That's why rigorous outcome and impact measurement are key components of the refreshed Main Street Approach. This new guide provides a practical framework to help Main Street leadership, staff, and volunteers understand how to collect, assess, and communicate impact data to improve program operations, deepen impact, and ultimately, enhance your ability to serve your community.

In this guide, you'll find:

- An overview of different kinds of impact data, and why tracking is important;
- A close look at the role of reinvestment statistics and how to collect them;
- A dive into how to use metrics to evaluate effectiveness;
- Information on Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and Transformation Strategies;
- Case studies from the field.

Join NMSC for a **free webinar on August 9th, 2:00 PM - 3:15 PM EDT** with Jon Stover & Associates, economic development experts and collaborating guide author. They will walk through key-takeaways from the guide and answer your questions.

Quote of the Week

"In today's resource-constrained environment, impact is everything."

Learn how to effectively measure and communicate your organization's impact in our newly-released resource guide, Measuring Impact for Main Street Transformation: A Practitioner's Guide.

Looking for more? Check out other Main Street Approach resource guides <u>Community Engagement for Main Street Transformation</u> and <u>Market Analysis for Community Transformation</u>: A Practitioners Guide.

FY 2018 Regional Innovation Strategies Program Department of Commerce - Due August 29

The Regional Innovation Strategies Program supports capacity building programs that provide proof-of-concept and commercialization assistance to innovators and entrepreneurs.

https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=305799



Middlesboro has participated in this for several years. You may want to visit with them on a Thursday night and see how it works. You may also contact Emily Ayers, Middlesboro Main Street downtownmiddlesboro@gmail.com

https://grant.levittamp.org/ submit-a-registration/

The Levitt AMP [Your City] Grant Awards is an exciting matching grant program bringing the joy of free, live music to small and mid-sized towns and cities across the country. Learn more about how to win a \$25K matching grant.

Applications are due Tuesday, September 25, 2018

For dates and a list of performers please visit Middlesboro Main Street Facebook page



Spring Construction Season Gets a Little More Colorful with Public Art

Two blocks in downtown Iowa City, IA, were under construction this spring and summer as the city worked to upgrade underground utilities; increase the width of sidewalks; distribute parking on both sides of the street; enhance accessibility; create healthier planting areas; and modernize lighting, seating, and other amenities.

To reassure shoppers that the area is open for business, the Iowa City Downtown District organized interactive public art and hosted special events.

While the district is coordinating these activities, the city is providing financial support, as well as discounted parking and transit fares.

Geoff Fruin, Iowa City's interim city manager, explains the strategy, "The businesses know the best ways to market to the community so we are helping provide resources and physical space and letting them go to work on their plan."

The resulting public art project encourages passersby to select a brightly colored vinyl ribbon from a bucket and tie it to the chain link fence surrounding a portion of the work area.

Betsy Potter, operations director at the Iowa City Downtown District, says that the project has already proven a success. "The Downtown District has heard a lot of positive feedback about how many people are engaging with the project and how fun and simple it is," she says.

BENHAM, Ky. (KT) – Travis Warf's first job was a dishwasher at the Benham Schoolhouse Inn. Some three decades later, he runs the historic inn located in this small community in Harlan County.



"I knew there was something special about this place when I worked here as a teenager," said Warf. "The building is steeped in history and tradition, and is something that, I believe, can be a part of the future of Benham, Harlan County, and eastern Kentucky."

Benham was built in the early 1900s by Wisconsin Steel (which was later called International Harvester). Like many towns in Appalachia Kentucky, it was a community built to support America's growing need for energy and steel which fueled the country's industrial revolution.

Benham began with 408 ovens to coke coal for the giant furnaces at South Chicago Steel Works. In 1911, the first load of coal was shipped out of the L & N Railroad depot at Benham. A self-contained company town, Benham was a close-knit community, which resembled an extended family. It is very much the same today.

The Benham Schoolhouse was built in 1926, as coal company leaders identified the need of having a place for employees' children to learn. It was built on the property of the town's church, which is now the Benham United Methodist Church. Leaders in the community moved the church to its current location (beside the Schoolhouse Inn) and purposely moved dirt to make the steeple of the church higher than the Schoolhouse in a symbolic gesture of the community's emphasis on faith.

"It's a remarkable story of how a town was built on the foundations of faith, family, and hard work," Warf said. "It's much the same today." It was the home of Benham High School until 1961 and then became a K-8 school until it closed in 1992. An initial group of investors created the Benham Schoolhouse Inn in 1992 as a way to preserve the history of the building.

In 2016, Warf submitted a proposal to the Harlan County Fiscal Court to operate the Benham Schoolhouse Inn when it was set to close. "When I heard that the county was seeking requests to operate the Inn, it just made sense for me," said Warf. "Thinking back on it, it was a little unconventional. I was living in Richmond, but this area of Harlan County was – and will always be – home. I wanted to do something to help my community, and this seemed like a good fit."

It has worked out well so far. Warf and his company, Appalachian Hospitality Group, took over the Inn on July 1, 2016. He remembers one of the first conversations with the people of the community.

"The Schoolhouse has a beautiful dome, and as a kid, I remember seeing the dome lit up at night," Warf recalled. "It was so impressive, and it was a symbol of hope. I had asked about the lights on the dome and someone told me it had not been lit in about 15 years. That was the first thing I did. We put up new lights up and lit the dome at night. For us, it signified the dawning of a new day for Benham and the Schoolhouse Inn."

Warf and his team have worked to renovate the Schoolhouse Inn to make it more than just a lodging facility. He has developed meeting space, opened a gift shop, opened the Dinner Bucket Restaurant, and built a spacious outdoor patio for dining and events.

Shaping Our Appalachian Region, Inc., was one of the first organizations Warf and his team connected with after coming home to operate the Schoolhouse Inn. SOAR helped Warf establish a digital platform, which resulted in the creation of a new website for the Inn. This included new photos of the facility and the ability to accept reservations and inquiries online. The website was built by BitSource, an East Kentucky partner of SOAR, and its team of programmers and designers who once worked in the coal industry.

"SOAR was helpful in many ways," said Warf. "They embraced our idea and believed in us when it would have been easy not to. We believe that Benham and Harlan County can be a destination for tourists, especially those wanting an adventure. Making the region a destination is part of SOAR's Regional Blueprint, and we believe that the work we are doing is bringing us closer to the goal of being that destination."

The Benham Schoolhouse Inn is on the National Registry of Historic Places. That is important to Warf and his team.

"We are always thinking about bringing modern amenities to our guests while paying close attention to the history of the building," he said. The Benham Schoolhouse Inn has 29 guest rooms and has been called the most unique hotel in Kentucky by onlyinyourstate.com.

"If you want to bring people to your region, you have to offer something exhilarating," said Warf. "We have that in Harlan County. We have history, museums, mine tours, parks, mountains, zip lining, trails, and many other things that cater to those seeking adventure. We want to complement that with a unique and quality lodging experience."

Where does Warf see the Benham Schoolhouse Inn in five years?

"I see Harlan County as being a destination for those people and families seeking adventure, and I see the Benham Schoolhouse Inn as playing an important role in providing a unique experience to those who visit," he said. "I also see the Inn being a focal point of community and family events."

For more information on the Benham Schoolhouse Inn, visit <u>www.benhaminn.com</u>. To learn more about SOAR's Blueprint Partnership program, visit <u>www.thereisafuture.org/qet-involved</u>