



1-8-18

Main Street Monday!

We are looking forward to our winter conference and seeing all of our KYMS directors and board members in Frankfort in just a few weeks! We are excited that Mary Helmer, the state coordinator from Alabama, will be visiting with us and Laura Krizov and Leigh Young from the Michigan office will be conducting our training on Thursday!

Agenda and Registration are attached

We look forward to learning & sharing new ideas!



This year Main Street Awards will be presented on

Thursday, January 25th during Main Street Day at the Capitol.

Awards Ceremony will begin in the Capitol Rotunda at 1:00.

Please invite your legislators to this event.



Several grants and webinars are listed in on pages 2 and 3 of this edition.

Be sure to see the information for a free webinar Tuesday regarding the changes to the historic tax credits.

It is hard to believe that in just a few short weeks I will be starting my fifth year as your state coordinator! As we begin this new year I just want to say thank you for all of your support and hard work during this time. We have made great strides and I look forward to all that 2018 has in store. We will be working hard creating new partnerships, showing off our communities, making site visits, educating others about all the great work that KYMS programs are doing!

As we begin 2018 Kentucky Main Street certified directors classes are beginning & our winter conference will be taking place.

Looking forward everyone involved with KYMS will begin planning for our 40th Anniversary of Kentucky Main Street in 2019 and celebrating all the great work that is happening around the state.



Early Bird Registration closes on January 12th!!

Tuesday, January 9 2:00 p.m. eastern

Free Webinar: Understanding the Historic Tax Credit Post Tax Reform

To register, visit: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7285418309228831490>

Grant Opportunities!

Community Farm Alliance (CFA) - Farmers Market Support Program and Kentucky Double Dollars

Deadline: January 15, 2018

Funding Amount: Up to \$5,500 for Double Dollars, 33% match required; and, up to \$2,000 for Market Manager cost share. \$1 for \$1 match required

Eligible Entities: Kentucky farmers markets with at least five members that market a majority of their products from farms within 50 miles.

Link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2018FMSP>

Overview: CFA's Farmers Market Support Program provides technical assistance to farmers markets in Kentucky. The program also offers a market manager cost share, and a double dollar cost share on a competitive basis. The goal of the program is to help participants improve farm sales, increase their number of vendors, and work towards creating long-term sustainable local market places within our communities. This is a great opportunity to improve your local market!

KSU Small Scale Farm Grant and Farmer Education Grant

Deadline: February 1, April 1, June 1, August 1, and October 1 in 2018

Funding Amount: Up to \$5,000 for farmers & \$15,000 for agriculture groups.

Up to \$500 for Farmer Education

Eligible Entities: Kentucky farmers and Kentucky agriculture groups including farmer markets

Link: joni.nelson@kysu.edu or at (502) 597-6831

Overview: The Kentucky State University (KSU) Small Scale Farm Grant was created with the small farmer in mind! The grant application is relatively painless to complete and the funds can be used to purchase needed equipment related to the proposed project. Applicants must be adding value to their product, be an organic farmer, live in a food insecure area, and/or be an aquatic farmer. Farmers markets are often eligible. Previously approved projects have included canning equipment, a water line to a hoop house, a root cellar, a cool-bot for vegetables, & freezers for keeping meat cool.

REAP - Renewable Energy for America Grants

Deadline: March 31, 2018

Funding Amount: \$1,500 to \$500,000 (25% of the total project cost)

Eligible Entities: Farmers and rural businesses

Links: <https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/all-programs/energy-programs>

Overview: REAP grants are offered by USDA Rural Development and can help agricultural producers and rural businesses pay for 25% of renewable energy and/or energy efficiency project costs. Funds are to do efficiency upgrades or install renewable energy systems. Project examples include: lighting efficiency, heating efficiency, bio-energy, solar energy, and dairy ventilation projects. An energy assessment or audit is required as part of the application. There is also a low interest loan program that can help with part of the project costs. This is a great opportunity to reduce the long term operating cost of your business!

Passionate about walking but not sure how to make your community more walkable?

America Walks invites you to apply for a [2018 Walking College Fellowship](#) to help you build a local walking movement and take your advocacy work to the next level. **The application process will be open from February 1st - 28th**, and there's an ["Orientation to the Walking College" webinar on February 8th](#). America Walks is an inclusive organization and we seek applications from diverse individuals who are interested in getting involved in the walking movement.

Funders' Network for Smart Growth and Livable Communities:

Partners for Places

Application is due January 29.

Partners for Places, an initiative of the Funders' Network for Smart Growth and Livable Communities, is a matching grant program that creates opportunities for cities and counties in the United States and Canada to improve communities by building partnerships between local government sustainability offices and place-based foundations. [Go here for more information.](https://www.fundersnetwork.org/partners-for-places/) <https://www.fundersnetwork.org/partners-for-places/>

January 10th at 2pm Eastern, 11am Pacific: Start the year out right with our first webinar of 2018, ["Creating Safe Spaces for All Community Members."](#) Be sure to check out the listing of [our first six webinars for the new year](#). See AmericaWalks.org for more information



8th Annual **Chocolate CRAWL**
BRUGHT TO YOU BY LA GRANGE MAIN STREET PROGRAM AND DOWNTOWN MERCHANTS
Saturday February 10th from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM

A SPECIAL DAY FOR ALL OF OUR CHOCOLATE LOVING FOLK
Great fun! Great chocolate! Great Shops! Door Prizes!

Cost: **\$10 per ticket** until Feb. 1st
\$15 until Feb. 9th // \$20 day-of

Only 500 tickets available!
Order online today!

Benefits LaGrange Main Street Program
First Stop - Welcome Center at 208 E. Main Street

For more information, please contact:
La Grange Main Street (502.269.0126)
www.LaGrangeMainStreet.org

VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE CHOCOLATE!



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!
FEBRUARY 9, 2018

TRIVIA Night

More info coming soon.

MAIN STREET
CELEBRATING HISTORY & CULTURE

The Murray Bank
That's My Bank

Congratulations to Middlesboro on winning \$25K in matching grants to present their Levitt AMP Music Series for the third year in a row —10 free outdoor concerts featuring high caliber entertainment in a broad range of music genres. **Stay tuned for details on upcoming Levitt AMP concerts and performers in early spring!**

Berea and Whitesburg were also recipients.



STRONG TOWNS

Every single day, members of the Strong Towns movement gather their neighbors to do extraordinary things for the places they love.

Now, we're making it just a bit easier for you to find each other—and answering the number #1 request we receive from our readers.

We're thrilled to announce the Strong Towns Local Conversations map.

Find Strong Towns fans near you who are signing on, meeting up, and joining forces to talk about how to make the Strong Towns approach real in your unique place. Organize for the future you want for your community. And make a few friends along the way.

It's a brand new year. How will you make your town stronger in the next 364 days?

Take the first step. **[Join or add a group to the map now.](#)** Visit strongtowns.org/local

"Research shows that when storefronts are improved, 90 percent of surrounding businesses report an increase in sales."

Read [City Sidewalks](#), [Dressed in Holiday Style](#) for more on how to reduce vacant storefront space and garner increased foot traffic with window displays.

KYMS made it's first visit last week, an evening in Shelbyville with director Eilene Collins. We have no photos to show as it was so cold the phone died!

We had a wonderful meal at the new "Red Lion", be sure to check it out if you are in the area!

Exciting news for Winchester Main

City pledges \$100K for downtown investment

The City of Winchester is stepping up to help fund downtown development with a \$100,000 pledge for a downtown investment fund.

The Winchester Board of Commissioners approved the resolution unanimously Tuesday, which calls for the city to contribute the funds over the next two years to be used as matching funds.

Creating the development investment fund is one of the action items in the Downtown Master Plan, which was completed earlier this year. Main Street Winchester Executive Director Rachel Alexander said the fund will help encourage development.

“Providing an incentive to our downtown businesses ... will give us that push to move forward,” she said.

The fund would be available to property and business owners to help finance projects like installing a new roof or other repairs needed to bring a building up to code, she said.

Winchester-Clark County Industrial Development Authority Director Todd Denham said the fund is designed to provide partial funding for projects, rather than to pay for the entire thing.

“This is not a free ride for anybody,” he said.

Having funds available may make the difference in whether someone decides to invest in downtown or not, he said.

“This has been requested by members of the community for quite a while now,” he said. “It gives us a guide to address issues moving forward.”

Denham said Winchester’s program will be modeled on those from other cities, including Paducah, where there are financial caps for projects and a very clear application and review process.

Main Street Winchester and the Winchester-Clark County Industrial Development Authority have each pledged \$50,000 to start the fund, Alexander said. Others are interested in contributing, she said, including at least one private donor.

“We have a pot of money that’s beginning to pool,” she said



Streetscape work beginning in downtown Scottsville!