I feel like it has been a hard summer for Main Street. We have lost several directors, and have several new ones. I know this is the nature of Main Street, but it doesn’t mean I have to like it! This week we say good-bye to Beth Strawn in Henderson. I will miss her enthusiasm, laughter, and shopping tips. Laura Peck, who has been Beth’s assistant for several years will serve as interim executive director.

Congratulations to Paintsville director, Bonnie Porter. Bonnie received the award for Paintsville’s Employee of the Year!!

Wesley (pictured right) and Taylor approached the Heart of Danville in the spring to see if they could help us with a community service project this summer. They agreed to take on the big task of helping us with research and creating features on our retail business members, and they have been interviewing retail merchants the last several weeks. In addition to asking great questions and collecting interesting stories on our downtown shops, they have taken some candid photos and collected interesting historic images of our longer standing retail stores. In the weeks ahead, we’ll feature their writing and images in our Enews and on our Facebook page. We think you’ll enjoy reading and viewing what Wesley and Taylor created for us and for you, our community. We have certainly enjoyed collaborating with them and introducing them to the history and happenings of our downtown.

If you post it on Facebook or social media, take an extra second and send it to KYMS so that we can share your info. MSM is received by lots of folks across the state!!!
Save the Historic Odd Fellows Building!

You are invited to a special Kick Off Campaign
This event is being sponsored by the New Castle Main Street program to save and restore the Historic Odd Fellows Building!

At 6:00 pm Thursday, August 13, 2015, we will gather at the Historic Odd Fellows Building at 32 South Main Street in New Castle, Kentucky to hear the following speak:

Former Governor and University of Pikeville President Paul Patton
Kentucky Representative Rick Rand
State Historic Preservation Officer Craig Potts
Kentucky Main Street Program Administrator Kitty Dougoud
Odd Fellows spokesperson plus others

6:30 pm: Reception with light food and refreshments in “The Locker” next to Odd Fellows Building

In March of this year, a heavy snowstorm caused a collapse of the roof of the Historic Odd Fellows Building. This particular Odd Fellows Chapter is unique as it became home to the Grand United Order of Odd Fellows Washington Lodge #1513 in 1886. This organization was founded by former slaves in 1872 just following the end of the Civil War. This lodge is the only remaining active Grand United Order of Odd Fellows Lodge in Kentucky and possibly the oldest African American fraternal organization in the state. On August 15th, the Odd Fellows will be celebrating their 143rd Homecoming and Parade in downtown New Castle.

We hope you are able to attend this important event prior to the Odd Fellows Homecoming as it is imperative this building be saved and restored. It is not only a significant part of African American history in New Castle and the Commonwealth of Kentucky, it is a national treasure that must be preserved.


EventCrazy.com
This is a free site to publish your events! If you aren’t using it, you need too. Weekly newsletters are sent that highlight things in your area or around the country. You have great events people need to know about! :)

Calendar this week: I will be out of the office tomorrow 8-11-2015 conducting board training in Bardstown. Thursday evening I will be speaking along with Craig Potts in New Castle and on Friday I will be the featured dinner speaker in Paris to talk Main Street!
WATCH YOUR INBOX TODAY !!!

A Grant opportunity will be on its way to Main Street directors today!! There was a glitch last week so it was delayed, but it is definitely work watching for!!
Scottsville director, Jamie Boler and friends partnered with the United Way and conducted a little Tactical Urbanism project for a day of caring by creating a pocket park! I doubt it will be long before Jamie puts his artistic skills to use on those benches and walls. I hear murals will be on the way.

![Pocket Park Image]

**Conference registration for Main Street Directors!**

Your Main Street conference registration is attached. Main Street is separate from the one on the KHC web-site due to the extra day to conduct Main Street business. The agenda is not quite complete, but should come to you next Monday.

Please share the KHC web-site with your government officials, city planners, engineers, etc. so they can sign up to attend STRONGTOWNS! They have the option to pay on-line.

![Mail Box Image]

*IT's time! Have you written to your government officials this year? Now is a great time to do so. This will insure they are not lost among the many requests they will receive later in the year and you can place copies in your orange folder and check the box on certification.*

You and your organization should advocate the importance of what you do and what Main Street has done for your community. The legislature will meet again in January and now is the time to share with them again about Main Street and how it has helped to revitalize your downtown community. Let them hear from your board members, your government officials, and others who support your work. Show them your reinvestment statistics, continue to invite them to your events, ribbon cuttings, and a board meeting. Invite them on a tour of a new business or renovated building. This is a budget year and Main Street needs to be something they advocate for.

**One of Your Most Powerful Tools is a Great Story, tell your Main Street story and the difference Main Street is making in your community!**
A month or so ago we reported on the new RED BIKE program that was implemented in Covington. This article provides more information along with statistics on the number of trips that have been taken on the RED BIKES. We all need RED BIKES!

Here's How Many Red Bike Trips Have Been Taken in Northern Kentucky
River Cities News

It has been exactly a month since Red Bike launched in Covington, followed a week later by an opening in Newport and a few days after that in Bellevue. So, how popular is the Cincinnati-based bike-sharing program in the Northern Kentucky River Cities? "All are performing quite well," said Jason Barron, executive director of Red Bike, adding that the early numbers are "really strong". According to numbers released by Red Bike to The River City News, the most-used station so far is at Roebling Point in Covington with one of the two locations at Newport on the Levee close behind. Combined, the two stations make the Levee the most popular NKY destination. Roebling Point was the site of the celebrated launch where local leaders predicted that the program would be popular and that it would eventually expand even further in Northern Kentucky. Overall there are eleven stations in Northern Kentucky, each costing roughly $50,000 to install. The three cities raised their own money in different ways to install the first bike-sharing program in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Red Bike is one of the few such programs to span more than one state.

In Covington, approximately $200,000 was donated to the city by a private individual and a private company towards the Red Bike effort. The city invested roughly $30,000 to cover the remainder of costs associated with its six stations. All three cities were given $20,000 by Southbank Partners to get started. Newport raised private money through various organizations and individuals, ultimately investing about $30,000 from its budget for its four stations. Bellevue raised private funds and also allocated about $50,000 from its Port Bellevue funds to cover what will eventually be two locations, though the issue was controversial for its city council. Bellevue’s Port Bellevue station is open and a second one is on the way at Ward Avenue. Red Bike stations feature a dozen or so bikes that users can rent for $8 for a 24-hour period, as long as the bike is checked in at a station every hour. (Non check-in rates run $28 per day.) Annual passes cost $80 (though the check-in rules still apply).

The numbers at Northern Kentucky stations:

#1 ROEBLING POINT Covington 500 rides
#2 NEWPORT ON THE LEVEE - EAST Newport 458 rides
#3 EAST ROW HISTORIC DISTRICT Newport 324 rides
#4 NEWPORT ON THE LEVEE - WEST Newport 297 rides
#5 RIVERCENTER & NKY CONVENTION CENTER Covington 262 rides
#6 MAINSTRASSE VILLAGE Covington 259 rides
#7 PORT BELLEVUE Bellevue 166 rides
#8 DUVENECK SQUARE Covington 164 rides
#9 GATEWAY COLLEGE & LIBRARY Covington 130 rides
#10 MONMOUTH STREET Newport 123 rides

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Downtown Newport is always hopping, so for those who might like to start their evenings at Packhouse Meats or Dixie Chili or Pepper Pod and then end it at the Levee, this is a good place to grab a bite and a bike. #11 WEST 3RD & BAKEWE

It's no surprise that this location outside popular cyclist hangout Roebling Point Books & Coffee shops Covington 60 rides

The slowest station out of the gate is the one located in Covington’s fast food district. Likely placed in this spot because of its proximity to the Courtyard Inn, Holiday Inn, and Hampton Inn, it's also a good station to pick up a bike to head to Cincinnati via the Clay Wade Bailey Bridge or to continue on to Mainstrasse or Duveneck Square or beyond! In total, there have been 2,743 rides in Northern Kentucky.

Written by Michael Monks, editor & publisher

“Success seems to be connected with action. Successful people keep moving. They make mistakes, but they don't quit.”

Conrad Hilton