Certified Local Government Program Annual Report

City of Washington Historic Preservation Commission Activities

October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019

Prepared by Jamie Walters-Seamon for submission to the
Missouri Department of Natural Resources
State Historic Preservation Office
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102

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Certified Local Government Program Annual Report

1. Introduction:

The City of Washington has been a Certified Local Government since October 3, 1986, has six historic districts and over thirty individually listed sites on the **National Register of Historic Places**. The buildings in the six districts and the individual listings add up to more than four hundred and fifty structures. In 2017 the City of Washington added local landmark Wildey Odd Fellows Cemetery, Pagoda and Columbarium. In 2018, the city added the Old Main Post Office, The Washington Farmers Market and Gottfried's Cabin as local landmarks.

The City collaborated with Downtown Washington Inc. to apply for grant funding. The pre-application requested funding to hire a consultant who would nominate the International Shoe Factory to the National Register of Historic Places. Also proposed was a re-survey of the proposed International Shoe Factory Historic District. All three phases of the survey are now complete.

The Washington Historic Preservation Commission teamed up with the Chamber of Commerce and Downtown Washington, Inc. again this year to hold the **Architectural Treasure Hunt**. There was also a child version so younger children in the area could participate in the contest. There were sixteen building pieces to find.

The commission has a **Curb Appeal Awards** program. These awards have been presented by the commission since 2004 and are given to property owners who make improvements to their historic properties' outward appearance.

The Commission also continued the **Historic Plaque Program** this year. The plaques give a brief history of the building including the date of construction. Since 2008 there have been forty-five plaques presented to property owners and installed on their historic buildings. Issuing plaques was put on hold this year, due to the extra expense of the International Shoe Factory survey.

The Washington Historic Preservation Commission continued the **Creating New History Award –** which recognizes property owners who create historic infill by building a new structure in an existing historic district, while honoring and recognizing the historic surroundings.

Participating in the Certified Local Government Program has a positive effect on local historic preservation. It provides the tools and resources required to effectively maintain historic preservation efforts.

2. Historic Preservation Commission Membership:

Member Name	Appointed	Expires	Preservation Related Field
Carolyn Witt Chairman	June 2012	August 2020	Retired Librarian Planning & Zoning Commission Washington Historical Society Downtown Washington Inc. Board Design Committee of Downtown Washington, Inc. National Alliance of Historic Preservation Commissions National Historic Trust Colonial Williamsburg Foundation
Steve Strubberg, Vice-Chairman	October 2005	August 2023	Architect Downtown Business Owner Downtown Resident
Rick Hopp	May 2010	August 2020	Downtown Business Owner Downtown Washington, Inc. Downtown Resident Historic Washington Foundation
Bryan Bogue	August 2007	August 2021	Business Owner Downtown Washington, Inc. Downtown Resident
Danielle Grotewiel	October 2014	August 2024	Downtown Washington Inc.
Jamie Holtmeier	May 2015	August 2024	Compliance Analyst, Bank of Washington Downtown Resident
Andrew Clary	February 2016	August 2020	Downtown Business Owner Downtown Washington Inc. Downtown Resident
Advisory, City Council Liaisons and staff:			
Bridgette Kelch, Advisory	June 2005	present	Downtown Washington, Inc. Historic Washington Foundation Downtown Resident
Joe Holtmeier, City Council Liaison	April 2011	April 2020	Maintenance Manager, St. Francis Borgia Church Downtown Resident
Mark Hidritch City Council Liaison	May 2018	May 2019	City Council Member
Susan Watermann City Council Liaison	May 2018	May 2019	City Council Member
Greg Skornia City Council Liaison	May 2019	May 2020	City Council Member
Anthony "Sal" Maniaci Community and Economic Development Director	February 2016	present	Staff liaison to the commission
Tom Neldon Building Official	August 2018	present	Plan review, inspections, permitting

Historic Preservation Commission Member Resumes:

Carolyn Witt

Educational Background:

- **William Woods College, Fulton, MO – 1972 Bachelor of Arts (cum laude),**
- **History/Social Studies (major), Secondary Education/ Library Science (minor)**
- **St. Louis University – 1974 Master of Arts, Medieval History**
- **University of Missouri/Columbia – 1975 Master/Library Science**
- **Missouri Teaching Certificate (lifetime) – Social Studies 7-12, Librarian K-12**

Employment History:

- **Clayton School District (Clayton, MO) – 1975-1976 Wydown Junior High School, Library Assistant**
- **New Haven School District (New Haven, MO) – 1976-1981 Librarian K-12**
- **City of Washington/Washington Public Library – 1981-2005 Director (part time library staff summer 2018, fall 2019)**
- **East Central College (Union, MO) – 1988-1998 Part time faculty/Children's Literature**
- **Rockwood School District – 2009-2018 .2 Librarian (Lafayette High School)**

Professional, Civic and Advisory:

American Library Association (life member), Missouri Library Association: Education and Manpower Committee 1982-84, Young Adult Services Round Table 1985-89 (chair 1988), YA Manual State Grant Committee 1990-92, St. Louis Regional Library Network: Ed. Committee 1983-84, President 1985-86, Washington Area United Fund 1988-91 (Secretary 1991), Missouri Public Libraries Directors 1992-2005 (Vice President 1994, President 1995), Washington City Council (Ward 4) 2006-2012, Historic Preservation Commission 2006-present (chair 2017 to present), Downtown Washington Board of Directors 2016 to present (secretary 2017 to present), Washington Planning and Zoning 2016 to present, America in Bloom Committee 2017 to present, Washington Historical Society.

Steven R. Strubberg

Educational Background:

- **University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS – Bachelor of Architecture 1992**

Community & Professional Involvement:

- **Washington Historic Preservation Commission, Vice Chair (present)**
- **Rotary Club of Washington (present)**
- **City of Washington Board of Public Works (present)**
- **Washington Area Chamber of Commerce – Board of Directors (present)**
- **City of Washington Board of Appeals (present)**
- **Washington Clean Energy Development Board, Chairman (past)**
- **Downtown Washington, Inc., Design Committee (past)**
- **Habitat for Humanity (past)**

Professional History:

- **HS2 Architects (dba Horn Architects), Washington, MO – 2013-present Owner/Principal**
- **Horn Architects, AIA, Washington, MO – 1994-2012 Project Manager**
- **R.L. Praprotnik & Associates Architects, St. Louis, MO – 1992-1994 Intern Architect**
- **Brunjes & Associates, Civil Engineers, Union, MO – 1990-1992 Summer Internship**
- **Steve's professional career has included involvement in every aspect of the practice of architecture from Pre-Design through Construction completion. His experience has included presentations to Architectural Review Boards and Planning and Zoning Commissions in numerous municipalities.**
- **His professional experience covers a broad and diversified base of projects including commercial, retail, municipal, civic, industrial, educational, religious, residential, multi-family and historic preservation.**
- **In addition to numerous new construction projects, he has substantial experience with renovation and additions to several historic structures including numerous listed on the national register.**
- **Project experience has included numerous projects applying for historic tax credits and award winning design solutions.**
- **Steve is also the Account Executive (contact person) with the St. Louis Archdiocese, in which Horn Architects have been retained on a continual bases to provide Architectural Services.**

Danielle Grotewiel

Graduated:

- **Washington High School 1994**
- **Patricia Stevens College (St. Louis) 1998-2005 (Designer)**

Work:

- **RSI Kitchen & Bath (St. Louis) 1998-2005 (Designer)**
- **Ashley Furniture/Home Creations Furniture (Union/Washington) 2005-2008 (Manager)**
- **MOCAP (St. Louis) 2008-2010 (Customer Service)**
- **Downtown Washington, Inc. 2011-present (Communication Specialist)**

Clubs:

- **Independent Order of Odd Fellows-Pacific Lodge 86 (Washington) 2001-present**
  - **Offices held: Vice Grand 2002-2004; Noble Grand 2004-2006; Past Grand 2006-present; Conductor 2006-present**
- **Downtown Washington, Inc. 2001-present**
  - **Offices held: Fall Festival of the Arts & Crafts Committee 2006-present; Bluesfest Committee 2006-2009; Design Committee 2007-present**
- **Washington Jaycees 2004-2015**
  - **Offices held: Community Development Vice President 2004-2005; Membership Vice President 2005-2007; Club Director 2007-2009; District Director (Franklin & Warren Counties) 2007-2008; Region Director (St. Louis, Franklin & Warren Counties) 2008-2009; President 2010, 2012-2013; Chairman of the Board 2011/2014; All Abilities Park Committee 2009-2018; Event Chair – Demolition Derby 2005-2007, Holiday Parade 2005 (3rd place), Brewfest 2011/2012/2014, Piccadilly Auction 2012-2015, Mud Run 2011-2013, BBQ Booth at T&C Fair 2011-2015; Awarded a Senatorship (lifetime membership) in 2016**

Special Skills:

- **Grant writing (increased grant funding for Downtown Washingotn, Inc. by 28% over five years); Graphic Design; Technical Writing; Creative Writing; Storytelling/Tour Guide; Instructor/Trainer**

Bio

- **I was born and raised in Washington and cannot think of a better place to live. I lived in the St. Louis area for 6 years and was not able to be as involved in my community as I wanted to be. To have the opportunity to serve on the Washington Historic Preservation Commission is wonderful. I believe that preserving the aesthetic of our town is an important undertaking. It is vital to balance our history with modern usage and business. Washington is as great as it is because of the individuals that are willing to give their time to keep us moving forward and I'm excited to be one of them. I believe that while the WHPC is focused on our history, it is a vital part of our future as well. I think that my experience with Downtown Washington, Inc. and the construction and design fields will benefit the Commission.**

Andrew Clary

Graduated:

- **Union R-XI 2000**
- **East Central College 2000-2002**
- **University of Central Missouri 2002-2004**

Work:

- **Royal Caribbean Cruise 2004-2005**
- **Edward Jones 2005-present**

Clubs and Organizations:

- **Washington Jaycees**
- **Immanuel Lutheran School and Church Board**
- **East Central Patrons of the Arts**
- **East Central Alum**
- **Edward Jones Region 17 Recruiting Leader**

Bio:

- **Having grown up in this area my whole life, I cannot think of a better place to live and raise a family. To have the opportunity to serve on the Washington Historic Preservation Commission is time well spent. I believe that preserving the aesthetic of our town is an important undertaking. I have personally worked over the last 11 years with my wife to historically restore our home. Treasuring and protecting our past is something we are passionate about. What separates Washington from surrounding communities is the citizens' willingness to participate and give back. I am honored to have the chance to do this through the Historic Preservation Commission. Preserving our past and enhancing it are an important part of our future.**

Bryan Bogue

- **Bryan Bogue currently serves on the Washington, Missouri Historic Preservation Commission. He has had extensive experience volunteering in historic Washington, Missouri. Bryan has served for 11 years on the board of directors for Downtown Washington, Inc. and has held the positions of Design Committee Chairman, Vice President, Treasurer, and President of the organization. He is also a member of the Washington Historical Society where he has served on the Board of Directors as well. Bryan has served on the Washington Historic Preservation Commission for more than six years, having served two years as chairman. With both Downtown Washington, Inc. and the Washington Historic Preservation Commission, he has attended numerous trainings and conventions geared toward promoting and preserving a successful historic downtown district.**

Greg Skornia

- 1969 graduate of Washington High School
- 1971 graduate of Missouri College of Engineering Technology
- Worked in engineering for several firms in St. Louis County from 1974-1976
- 1976-May 1977 was assistant to City Engineer in St. Peters
- May 1977-May 2007 delivery driver for UPS
- Retired May 2007 and started home furniture restoration business (refinishing/repairing/retooling)
- 2016 became real estate agent for Coldwell Banker Premier
- 1976-2016 worked on several home remodels
- Planning & Zoning Commission member for 16 years
- City Council member for 5 years
- Donates time cooking for church

Jamie Holtmeier

Education:

- B.A., English Literature – Webster University, 2007
- School of Bank Management – Missouri Banker's Association

Professional Experience:

- Bank of Washington – Washington, MO, March 2014-present
  Assistant BSA and Deposit Compliance Officer
- Edward Jones & Co., L.P. Compliance Division – St. Louis, MO, June 2010- Feb 2014
- Husch Blackwell LLLP – St. Louis, MO, April 2007-Jun 2010
  Paralegal II, Commercial Litigation

Professional Organizations:

- Missouri Bankers Association (MBA) – Vice Chairman for Young Bankers Leadership Division Board
- Association of Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialists (ACAMS) – Member
- Independent Community Bankers Association (ICBA) – Member

Civic Organizations:

- Washington Jaycees – immediate past Chairman of the Board
- City of Washington Historic Preservation Commission – Member, 2015-present

Volunteer Experience

- Franklin County Area United Way – Bank Fundraising Committee
- Meals on Wheels – Meal Delivery

Rick Hopp

Education:

- **1972-1977 Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology and Biology, Southwest Missouri State University**

Employment:

- **1981-present – Richard W Hopp, Inc., dba Wiemann & Pues Insurance Agency President and owner of an Independent Insurance Agency in Downtown Washington, MO**

Civic Involvement:

- **1976-Present – Member of Hope Masonic Lodge, Moolah Shriners St. Louis**
- **1981-1992 – Member of Washington Town & Country Fair Board, Chairman 1991, Main Stage Production Manager 1991-2009**
- **1981-Present – Member of Washington Lions Clubs, Treasurer 1983-present**
  Melvin Jones Award 2006
- **1991-1999 – Board Member of Downtown Washington Inc.,**
  - **President 1996-1997**
  - **Sunset on the Riverfront Committee 1993-1997**
  - **Remodeled 124 Jefferson St., Washington, MO into offices of Downtown Washington, Inc. Building is an 1834 log cabin**
  - **Director Emeritus**
- **2002-2008 – Board Member of Washington Area Chamber of Commerce**
  - **Chairman 2006-2007**
  - **Prior chair of the Tourism Committee**
  - **During Chairmanship, was responsible for funding and direction of remodel and new construction of 1868 building on Main St., Washington, MO into current Farmers Market. Total cost of project $1,000,000. Facility is now used on a daily basis.**
- **1998-2010 – Board Member Core Restructuring Committee**
  - **City, Chamber and Downtown Washington, Inc. guidance committee for downtown district**
- **2008-present – Board Member and Director for Washington Civic Industrial Corporation**
  - **Responsible for recruitment and maintaining viable industry in the Washington, MO area**
- **2007-present – Board Member for Bank of Washington Advisory Board**
  - **Responsible for maintaining communications between community and bank**
- **2006-present – President of Historic Washington Foundation**
  - **Foundation created to own and preserve historic buildings in downtown Washington, MO / Current ownership includes the Farmers Market on West Main St. 124 Jefferson St. – 1834 cabin**
  - **Negotiated the purchase of 1921 Post Office building in downtown Washington, MO – remodeled building into Downtown Washington Inc. offices and tenant office space**

- **2006-present – Board Member of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, St. Louis Chapter**
    - **Chairman 2009-2010**
    - **Fundraiser events for foundation to purchase land in order to preserve our national forest and wildlife**

3. Scheduled Meetings Held and Attendance:

Member Name	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Witt, Carolyn	P	P	N	P	N	P	P	N	N	N	P	N
Strubberg, Steve	P	A	N	P	N	P	A	N	N	N	P	N
Bogue, Bryan	A	A	N	A	N	P	P	N	N	N	P	N
Hopp, Rick	P	A	N	P	N	P	P	N	N	N	P	N
Grotewiel, Danielle	P	P	N	A	N	A	A	N	N	N	A	N
Holtmeier, Jamie	A	P	N	P	N	P	A	N	N	N	P	N
Clary, Andrew	P	A	N	P	N	P	P	N	N	N	P	N
Kelch, Bridgette	P	A	N	A	N	P	A	N	N	N	A	N
Holtmeier, Joe	P	P	N	P	N	P	P	N	N	N	P	N
Hidritch, Mark	P	P	N	P	N	P	A	N	N	N	A	N
Watermann, Susan	P	P	N	P	N	P	A	N	N	N	T	N
Greg Skornia	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Maniaci, Sal	P	P	N	P	N	P	P	N	N	N	P	N
Neldon, Tom	A	A	N	A	N	A	A	N	N	N	A	N

P=Present, A=Absent, R=Resigned, N=No meeting held, T=Term expired, X=Not yet a member

The agendas, minutes and budget report were sent to the State Historic Preservation Office on a monthly basis.

4. Subcommittees and Study Groups:

Plaque Research Study Group
The Plaque Research Study Group meets to do research for the historic plaque program.

Design Committee of Downtown Washington, Inc.
The Design Committee of Downtown Washington, Inc. continued its Sign and Awning Grant Program which assists business and property owners who invest in Downtown Washington Incorporated. The program assists with the design and construction of windows which are historically appropriate to add to the character of the downtown. The grant also covers up to 50% of the cost of a sign or awning with a maximum contribution of $100 per window. There are guidelines and requirements to participate in the program. Carolyn Witt, Bryan Bogue, Danielle Grotewiel and Bridgette Kelch are all members of this committee.

Curb Appeal Committee
Jamie Holtmeier and Danielle Grotewiel jointly seek properties for the Curb Appeal Award program.

Creating New History Committee
Jamie Holtmeier and Danielle Grotewiel jointly seek properties for the Creating New History program.

Budget Committee:
The committee members oversee the budget for the fiscal year with the assistance of the city's Planning Department.

5. Commission Activities:

a. Local Landmarks Designations:

The Washington Historic Preservation Commission received and reviewed three applications for Local Historic Landmark Designation at the September 17, 2018 meeting.

- **317 West Main Street**
  Bleckmann Building / Washington Farmers' Market

- **123 Lafayette Street**
  Old Main Post Office

- **124 Jefferson Street**
  Godt House / Gottfried's Cabin

All three were part of a local project. The properties will not be individually nominated to the National Register of historic Places, at this time. At the October 15, 2018 Historic Preservation Commission meeting, the commission voted on a resolution with conditions of approval, for each application. On Tuesday, November 13, 2018, the Planning and Zoning Commission approved the resolutions and drafted a letter of approval for city council. On January 22, 2019, the city council voted to designate ordinances naming these properties Local Historic Landmarks.

Application for Historic Landmark Designation

1. Name of Property

Historic name Bleckmann Building

Current/other name Washington Farmers' Market

2. Location

Street address 317 West Main Street

City or town Washington

State MO County Franklin Zip code 63090

Parcel Identification Number (PID) 10-5-15.0-4-005-020.000

Is the property located in a historic district? yes If so, which one? Downtown

Is the property located in the Downtown Washington Design Review Area? yes

3. Owner Information

Name Historic Washington Foundation Phone 636-239-1743

Address 123 Lafayette Street, Suite 100 Email address bkelch@downtownwashmo.org

4. Applicant Information

Name same Phone

Address Email address

Signatures

Owner Richard W Hopp . Pres Date

Applicant same Date

5. Property Information

Date of construction, including any major additions or alterations 1855, 2006 addition removed and pavilion added, 2011 both upper residential units renovated

Outbuildings, include type of each and date of construction n/a

Size of lot 294 acres Name of architect or builder Fred Bleckmann

Original use retail/residential Present use commercial/residential

Detail significance for designation

Is this location currently listed on the National Register of Historic Places? yes Date listed Downtown District 10/5/1989

6. Classification

Category (fill in type from below): building

- Building (house, church, school, theatre, hotel, barn etc.)
- Site (location of event, cemetery, battlefield etc.)
- Structure (bridge, highway, silo etc.)
- Object (monument, fountain etc.)

Ownership ☒ Private ☐ Public

Number of contributing and non-contributing resources on property

	Contributing	Non-contributing
Buildings	1	
Sites		
Structures		
Objects		

7. Supporting Documentation

Please attach all documentation with the completed form

- ☐ Historic information including period of significance
- ☒ Map showing the property or boundary and the contributing status of each property (hard copy and digital).
- ☒ Floor plan for all structures
- ☐ Architectural descriptions for all structures
- ☒ A digital photo of each building, including all elevations

8. Form Prepared By

Name/title Danielle Grotewiel, Communication Specialist Phone 636-239-1743

Company Downtown Washington, Inc.

Address PO Box 144, 123 Lafayette Street Email address assistant@downtownwashmo.org

Washington, MO 63090

Please submit all information to the: Department of Planning & Engineering Services
Washington Historic Preservation Commission
405 Jefferson Street
Washington, MO 63090
636-390-1010

History and Period of Significance

Built in 1856 by Frederick "Fritz" Bleckmann, this building housed the Bleckmann undertaking and furniture business. The building was built as a two story building. When the City of Washington leveled Main Street, circa 1873, the basement was exposed and gave the building the appearance of a three story structure.

The Bleckmann family had their business and home in this building until 1913 when they moved the business to the northwest corner of Fifth and Jefferson Streets. From 1913-2006 the building had several owners and housed many different businesses.

In 2006, in a partnership with the City of Washington, Washington area Chamber of Commerce and Washington Historical Society, the building was saved from demolition and renovated. The renovation created public restrooms on the main floor and added a pavilion on three sides of the historic structure to create a civic pavilion.

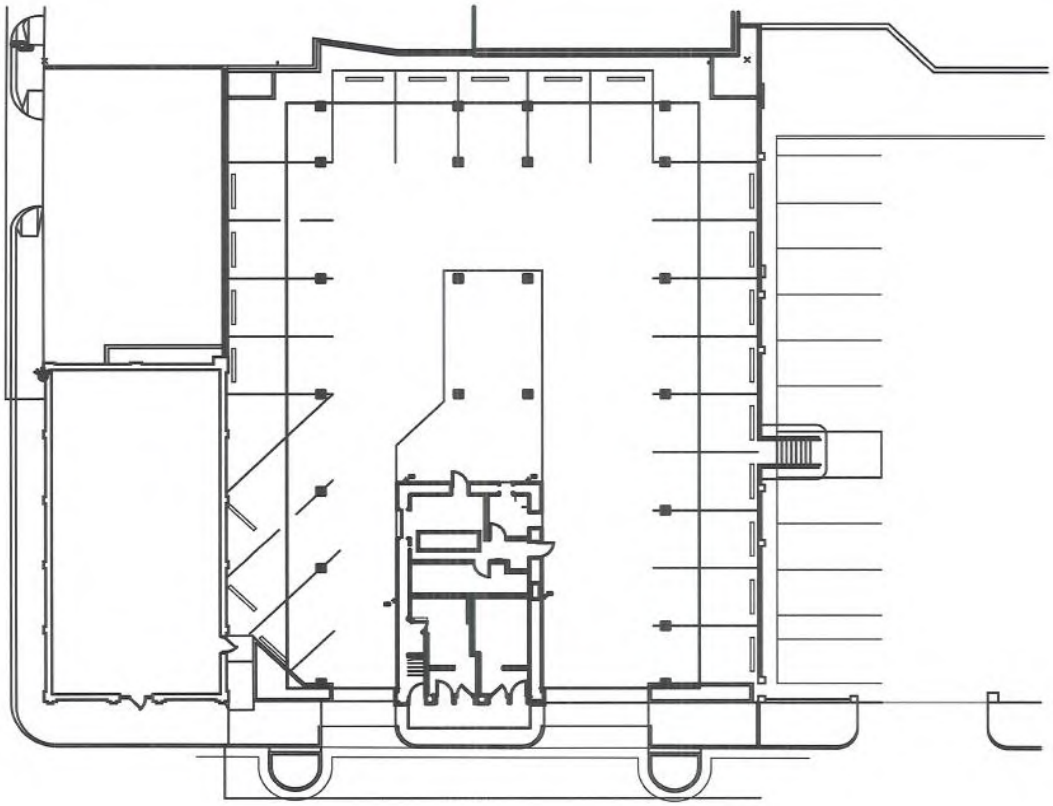
Since its renovation it has housed a weekly seasonal farmers' market as well as many community and private events. The structure underwent further renovation of the second and third floor residential units in 2011.

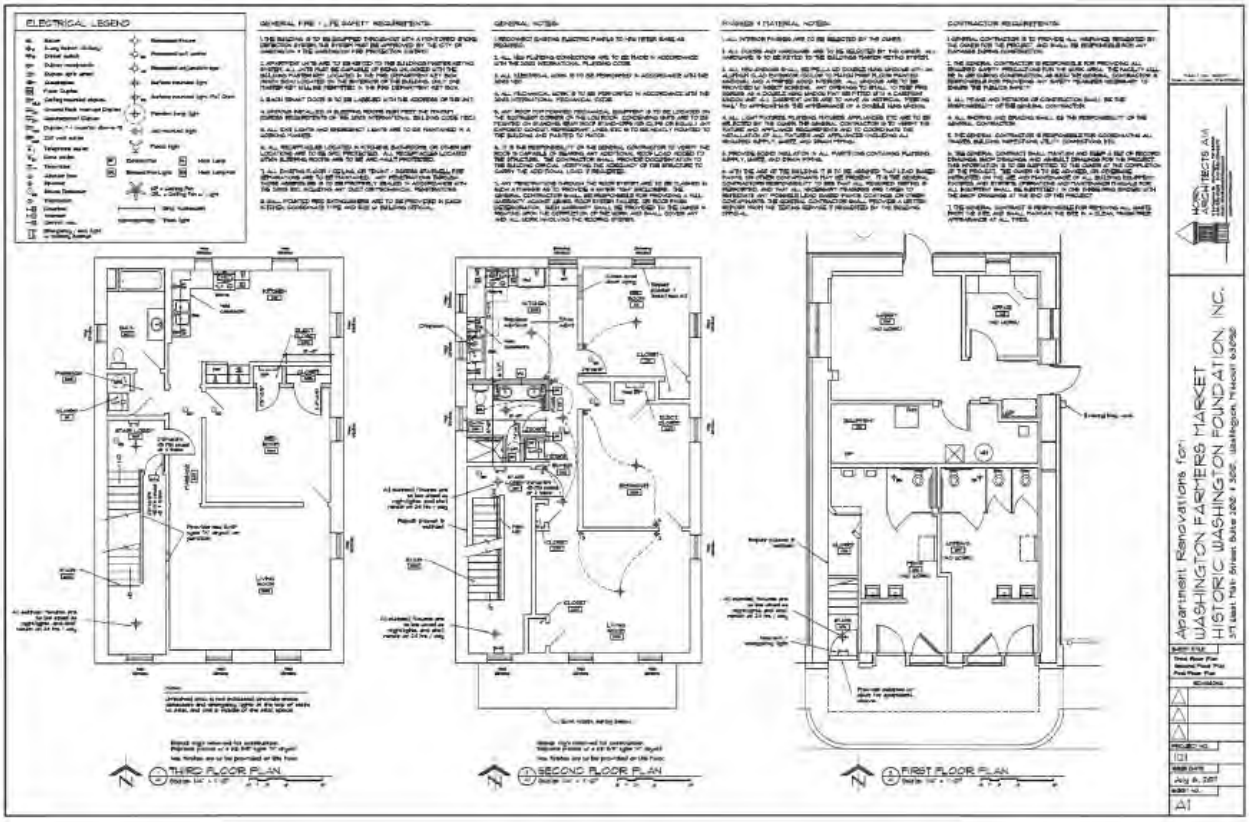
Architectural Description

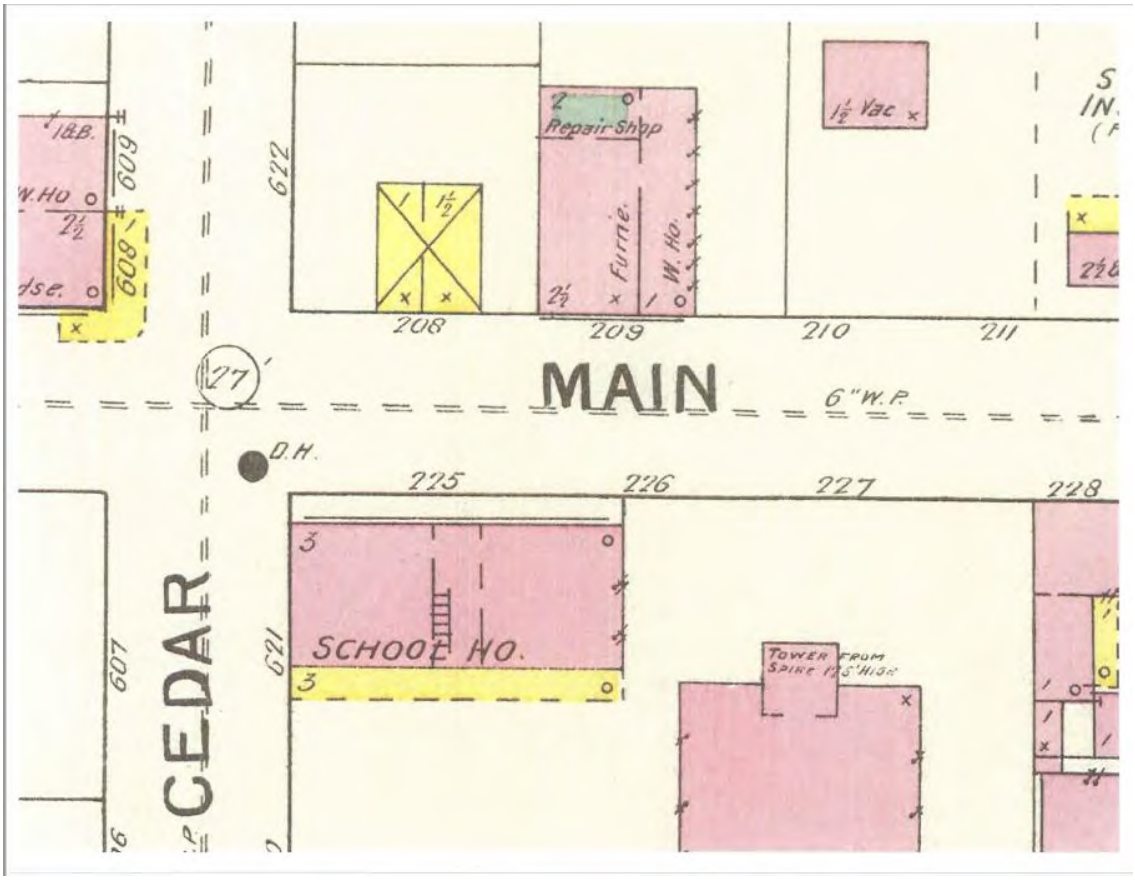
Three and one half story brick German Vernacular building with a metal roof and pavilion.

The Historic Washington Foundation would like to request a special rider for this property. We would like to request that the demolition of the property be a mandatory review and mandatory compliance for the Washington Historic Preservation Commission. We defer to the City of Washington for the appropriate wording for this rider.

Missouri Meerschaum
Bleckman Machine Supply Inc
W Front St
Cedar St
W Main St
Washington Chamber of Commerce
317 West Main Street
Washington Farmers Market
Marquarts Landing Inc
Visit WashMO
Elm St
Otis Campbell's
Gary R. Lucy Gallery




ELECTRICAL LEGEND
GENERAL FIRE / LIFE SAFETY REQUIREMENTS
GENERAL NOTES
FINISHES / MATERIAL NOTES
CONTRACTOR REQUIREMENTS
THIRD FLOOR PLAN
SECOND FLOOR PLAN
FIRST FLOOR PLAN
Apartment Renovations for:
WASHINGTON FARMERS MARKET
HISTORIC WASHINGTON FOUNDATION, INC.
A1


Repair Shop
Furne.
W. Ho.
1½ Vac
MAIN
6" W.P.
D.H.
CEDAR
SCHOOL HO.
TOWER FROM SPIRE 125' HIGH
208
209
210
211
225
226
227
228
622
621
609
608
607

WASHINGTON FARMERS' MARKET

WASHINGTON HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION RESOLUTION NUMBER 18-001

A RESOLUTION OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON RECOMMENDING APPROVAL OF A LOCAL LANDMARK DESIGNATION

WHEREAS, the Washington Historic Preservation Commission (WHPC) reviewed the nomination of The Bleckmann Building, more commonly known as the Farmer's Market located at 317 W. Main Street at their October 15, 2018 meeting

WHEREAS, the WHPC finds that the nomination meets one or more of the required criteria listed in Section 400.375 (B), specifically the following:

1. Its character, interest and value contribute to the heritage and cultural characteristics of the community.
2. Its identification with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the development of the community.
3. Its embodiment of elements of design, detailing, materials, or craftsmanship which renders it architecturally significant

WHEREAS, the WHPC recommends that the contributing structures detailed in the nomination are prohibited from demolition unless reviewed and approved by the WHPC at one of their regularly scheduled meetings

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Historic Preservation Commission of the City of Washington, Missouri, as follows:

SECTION 1: The WHPC hereby recommends approval of the nomination of the 317 West Main Street as a Local Landmark, as it meets the criteria in Section 400.375(B)

SECTION 2: The WHPC recommends a prohibition of demolition of any contributing structure detailed in the nomination unless reviewed and approved by the Commission.

SECTION 3: Any future alteration to the exterior of the structure must be approved by the Commission.

SECTION 4: That this Resolution shall be forwarded on to review by the Washington Planning and Zoning Commission and City Council.

PASSED: October 15, 2018

APPROVED: October 15, 2018

ATTEST: Jamie Walters-Seaman — Carolyn Witt

Commission Secretary — WHPC Chairwoman

405 Jefferson Street, Washington, MO 63090

636-390-1010 | www.washmo.gov

November 14, 2018

Mayor & City Council
City of Washington
Washington, MO 63090

RE: Landmark Nominations-Farmer's Market, The Old Main Post Office & Gottfried's Cabin

Mayor & City Council,

At the regular meeting of the Planning & Zoning Commission held on November 13, 2018 the above mentioned was approved with a unanimous 9-0 vote in favor.

Sincerely,

Thomas R Holdmeier

Thomas R. Holdmeier
Chairman
Planning & Zoning Commission

BILL NO. 19-11928 INTRODUCED BY HOLTMEIER

ORDINANCE NO. 19-11966

AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING THE BLECKMANN BUILDING/FARMERS' MARKET, 317 WEST MAIN STREET, AS A LOCAL HISTORIC LANDMARK IN THE CITY OF WASHINGTON, FRANKLIN COUNTY, MISSOURI.

WHEREAS the Washington Historic Preservation Commission reviewed the nomination of the Bleckmann Building/Farmers' Market, 317 West Main Street, on October 15, 2018 to be designated a local historic landmark and determined it met the criteria for a local historic landmark and listed such criteria in Resolution #18-001 which was passed at their regular meeting on October 15, 2018.

WHEREAS, the Planning and Zoning Commission reviewed the nomination and also determined it meets the criteria for designation as a local historic landmark.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Washington, Missouri, as follows:

SECTION 1: The Bleckmann Building/Farmers' Market, 317 W. Main Street, meets the criteria to be designated as a Local Historic Landmark and it is hereby ordered and directed to be designated a Local Historic Landmark. The application, the resolution of the Washington Historic Preservation Commission and the report and recommendation of the Planning and Zoning Commission are hereby adopted and incorporated herein by reference. A copy is attached and marked as "Exhibit A".

SECTION 2: Demolition of any contributing structure detailed in the nomination on file with the City Clerk is prohibited unless reviewed and approved by the Washington Historic Preservation Commission.

SECTION 3: Any future alteration to the exterior of the structure is prohibited unless reviewed and approved by the Washington Historic Preservation Commission.

SECTION 4: All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 5: This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force from and after the passage and approval hereof.

PASSED: 01-22-19

ATTEST: Mary Trentmann — City Clerk

President of the City Council

APPROVED: 01-22-19

ATTEST: Mary Trentmann — City Clerk

Mayor of Washington, Missouri

Application for Historic Landmark Designation

1. Name of Property

Historic name Old Main Post Office

Current/other name Old Main Post Office

2. Location

Street address 123 Lafayette Street

City or town Washington

State MO County Franklin Zip code 63090

Parcel Identification Number (PID) 10-5-22.0-1-008-103.000

Is the property located in a historic district? yes If so, which one? Downtown

Is the property located in the Downtown Washington Design Review Area? yes

3. Owner Information

Name Historic Washington Foundation Phone 636-239-1743

Address 123 Lafayette Street, Suite 100 Email address bkelch@downtownwashmo.org

4. Applicant Information

Name same Phone

Address Email address

Signatures

Owner Date

Applicant same Date

5. Property Information

Date of construction, including any major additions or alterations 1922, rear addition added in 1956, interior renovation 1963 interior renovation 2010

Outbuildings, include type of each and date of construction n/a

Size of lot .3697 acres Name of architect or builder

Original use retail/residential Present use commercial/residential

Detail significance for designation

Is this location currently listed on the National Register of Historic Places? yes Date listed Downtown District 10/5/1989

6. Classification

Category (fill in type from below): building

- Building (house, church, school, theatre, hotel, barn etc.)
- Site (location of event, cemetery, battlefield etc.)
- Structure (bridge, highway, silo etc.)
- Object (monument, fountain etc.)

Ownership ☒ Private ☐ Public

Number of contributing and non-contributing resources on property

	Contributing	Non-contributing
Buildings	1	
Sites		
Structures		
Objects		

7. Supporting Documentation

Please attach all documentation with the completed form

- ☐ Historic information including period of significance
- ☒ Map showing the property or boundary and the contributing status of each property (hard copy and digital).
- ☒ Floor plan for all structures
- ☐ Architectural descriptions for all structures
- ☒ A digital photo of each building, including all elevations

8. Form Prepared By

Name/title Danielle Grotewiel, Communication Specialist Phone 636-239-1743

Company Downtown Washington, Inc.

Address PO Box 144, 123 Lafayette Street Email address assistant@downtownwashmo.org

Washington, MO 63090

Please submit all information to the: Department of Planning & Engineering Services
Washington Historic Preservation Commission
405 Jefferson Street
Washington, MO 63090
636-390-1010

History and Period of Significance

The land for the Old Main Post Office was purchased in 1917 from former Postmaster James Issac Jones. The land was the location of his family home which was razed to make way for the Post Office building. The project was underfunded by the Postal Service and construction was postponed for four years.

During this postponement caused citizens to lodge complaints about the vacant lot in downtown. They complained about the unsightly look of the vacant lot and were concerned about its safety. To assuage the public fear of the vacant lot the Postal Service rented the lot to a local farmer. Corn was grown there for 3 seasons.

On November 1, 1922 the Old Main Post Office in Washington is the first dedicated postal building for Washington, MO. The Postmaster was Oscar F. Schulte.There have been continual postal operations in this building since its opening.

In early 2008 Downtown Washington, Inc. and the Historic Washington Foundation found out that the United States Postal Services was planning to cease operation at the downtown location. In 1993 the Postal Service built a larger more modern facility on the edge of Washington, but kept the retail location open in downtown.

If the retail location closed the buildings future would be uncertain. If properties are left vacant and fall into disrepair they can become hazardous to property values and eventually to the public at large. Fearing that with cessation of use the Postal Service would not maintain the building the Historic Washington Foundation and Downtown Washington, Inc. began the long process of purchasing the building from the Postal Service.

When the purchase of the building was finalized in 2010 renovations began. In nine months the interior was gutted accept for historic moldings and windows. The original blueprints were found in the basement and the Foundation restored the lobby to 95% of it's original look.

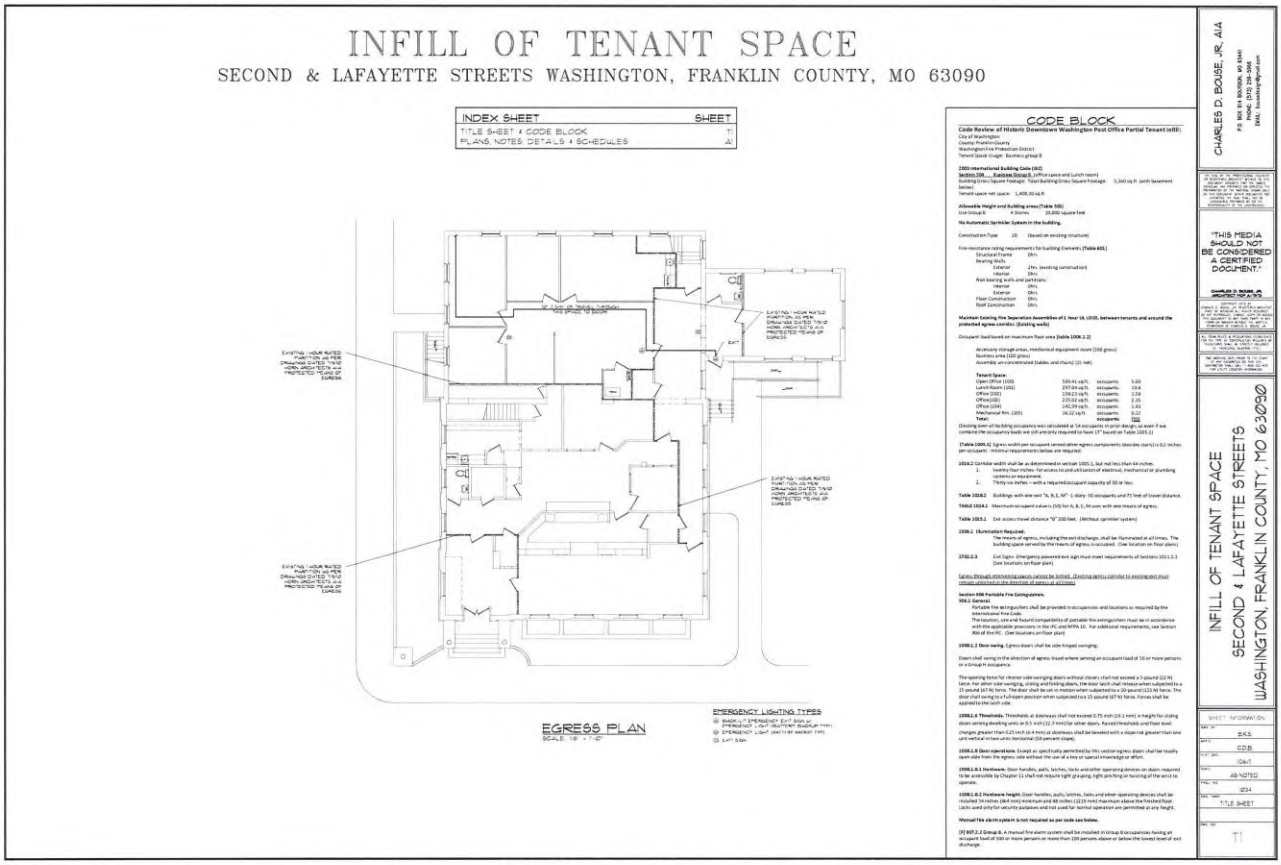
Downtown Washington, Inc. felt that it was imperative to keep postal services in downtown. They entered into a sub-contracting agreement with the Postal Service to operate a Contract Postal Unit in the building. As of the writing of this description this is the only CPU operations in an historic postal building.

Architectural Description

One story brick structure with a straight mansard roof and railing detail

The Historic Washington Foundation would like to request a special rider for this property. We would like to request that the demolition of the property be a mandatory review and mandatory compliance for the Washington Historic Preservation Commission. We defer to the City of Washington for the appropriate wording for this rider.

Mommy And Me
Downtown Washington Inc
W 2nd St
W 2nd St
Lafayette St
Lafayette St
Lafayette St
Dapper Bully Barber Co


INFILL OF TENANT SPACE
SECOND & LAFAYETTE STREETS WASHINGTON, FRANKLIN COUNTY, MO 63090
INDEX SHEET
SHEET
TITLE SHEET & CODE BLOCK
T1
PLANS, NOTES, DETAILS & SCHEDULES
A1
CODE BLOCK
EGRESS PLAN
EMERGENCY LIGHTING TYPES
CHARLES D. BOSSE, JR, AIA
"THIS MEDIA SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED A CERTIFIED DOCUMENT."
INFILL OF TENANT SPACE
SECOND & LAFAYETTE STREETS
WASHINGTON, FRANKLIN COUNTY, MO 63090
SHEET INFORMATION
T1

Google

Image capture: Jun 2013 © 2018 Google

ADVISORS
Google

Google

WASHINGTON HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION RESOLUTION NUMBER 18-002

A RESOLUTION OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON RECOMMENDING APPROVAL OF A LOCAL LANDMARK DESIGNATION

WHEREAS, the Washington Historic Preservation Commission (WHPC) reviewed the nomination of The Old Main Post Office located at 123 Lafayette Street at their October 15, 2018 meeting

WHEREAS, the WHPC finds that the nomination meets one or more of the required criteria listed in Section 400.375 (B), specifically the following:

1. Its character, interest and value contribute to the heritage and cultural characteristics of the community.
2. Its identification with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the development of the community.
3. Its embodiment of elements of design, detailing, materials, or craftsmanship which renders it architecturally significant

WHEREAS, the WHPC recommends that the contributing structures detailed in the nomination are prohibited from demolition unless reviewed and approved by the WHPC at one of their regularly scheduled meetings

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Historic Preservation Commission of the City of Washington, Missouri, as follows:

SECTION 1: The WHPC hereby recommends approval of the nomination of the Old Main Post Office located at 123 Lafayette Street as a Local Landmark, as it meets the criteria in Section 400.375(B)

SECTION 2: The WHPC recommends a prohibition of demolition of any contributing structure detailed in the nomination unless reviewed and approved by the Commission.

SECTION 3: Any future alteration to the exterior of the structure must be approved by the Commission.

SECTION 4: That this Resolution shall be forwarded on to review by the Washington Planning and Zoning Commission and City Council.

PASSED: October 15, 2018

APPROVED: October 15, 2018

ATTEST: Jamie Walters-Seamon — Carolyn Wolff

Commission Secretary — WHPC Chairwoman

405 Jefferson Street, Washington, MO 63090

636-390-1010 | www.washmo.gov

November 14, 2018

Mayor & City Council
City of Washington
Washington, MO 63090

RE: Landmark Nominations-Farmer's Market, The Old Main Post Office & Gottfried's Cabin

Mayor & City Council,

At the regular meeting of the Planning & Zoning Commission held on November 13, 2018 the above mentioned was approved with a unanimous 9-0 vote in favor.

Sincerely,

Thomas R Holdmeier

Thomas R. Holdmeier
Chairman
Planning & Zoning Commission

BILL NO. 19-11929 INTRODUCED BY SULLENTRUP

ORDINANCE NO. 19-11967

AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING THE OLD MAIN POST OFFICE, 123 LAFAYETTE STREET, AS A LOCAL HISTORIC LANDMARK IN THE CITY OF WASHINGTON, FRANKLIN COUNTY, MISSOURI.

WHEREAS the Washington Historic Preservation Commission reviewed the nomination of the Old Main Post Office, 123 Lafayette Street, on October 15, 2018 to be designated a local historic landmark and determined it met the criteria for a local historic landmark and listed such criteria in Resolution #18-002 which was passed at their regular meeting on October 15, 2018.

WHEREAS, the Planning and Zoning Commission reviewed the nomination and also determined it meets the criteria for designation as a local historic landmark.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Washington, Missouri, as follows:

SECTION 1: The Old Main Post Office, 123 Lafayette Street, meets the criteria to be designated as a Local Historic Landmark and it is hereby ordered and directed to be designated a Local Historic Landmark. The application, the resolution of the Washington Historic Preservation Commission and the report and recommendation of the Planning and Zoning Commission are hereby adopted and incorporated herein by reference. A copy is attached and marked as "Exhibit A".

SECTION 2: Demolition of any contributing structure detailed in the nomination on file with the City Clerk is prohibited unless reviewed and approved by the Washington Historic Preservation Commission.

SECTION 3: Any future alteration to the exterior of the structure is prohibited unless reviewed and approved by the Washington Historic Preservation Commission.

SECTION 4: All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 5: This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force from and after the passage and approval hereof.

PASSED: 01-22-19

ATTEST: Mary Trentmann — City Clerk

President of the City Council

APPROVED: 01-22-19

ATTEST: Mary Trentmann — City Clerk

Mayor of Washington, Missouri

Application for Historic Landmark Designation

1. Name of Property

Historic name Godt House

Current/other name Gottfried's Cabin

2. Location

Street address 124 Jefferson Street

City or town Washington

State MO County Franklin Zip code 63090

Parcel Identification Number (PID) 10-5-22.0-1-006-098.000

Is the property located in a historic district? yes If so, which one? Downtown

Is the property located in the Downtown Washington Design Review Area? yes

3. Owner Information

Name Historic Washington Foundation Phone 636-239-1743

Address PO Box 144, 123 Lafayette Street Email address bkelch@downtownwashmo.org

Washington, MO 63090

4. Applicant Information

Name Rick Hopp Phone 636-239-4741

Address PO Box 144, 123 Lafayette Street Email address rick@wiemannpues.com

Washington, MO 63090

Signatures

Owner Richard W Hopp, Pres Date February 17, 2017

Applicant same as above Date February 17, 2017

5. Property Information

Date of construction, including any major additions or alterations 1834

Outbuildings, include type of each and date of construction n/a

Size of lot .0636 acres Name of architect or builder George Gottfried Byeries

Original use dwelling Present use guest house

Detail significance for designation oldest standing structure in Washington

Is this location currently listed on the National Register of Historic Places? no Date listed

6. Classification

Category (fill in type from below): building

- Building (house, church, school, theatre, hotel, barn etc.)
- Site (location of event, cemetery, battlefield etc.)
- Structure (bridge, highway, silo etc.)
- Object (monument, fountain etc.)

Ownership ☒ Private ☐ Public

Number of contributing and non-contributing resources on property

	Contributing	Non-contributing
Buildings	1	
Sites		
Structures		
Objects		

7. Supporting Documentation

Please attach all documentation with the completed form

- ☒ Historic information including period of significance
- ☒ Map showing the property or boundary and the contributing status of each property (hard copy and digital).
- ☒ Floor plan for all structures
- ☒ Architectural descriptions for all structures
- ☒ A digital photo of each building, including all elevations

8. Form Prepared By

Name/title Danielle Grotewiel, Communication Specialist Phone 636-239-1743

Company Downtown Washington, Inc.

Address PO Box 144, 123 Lafayette Street Email address assistant@downtownwashmo.org

Washington, MO 63090

Please submit all information to the: Department of Planning & Engineering Services
Washington Historic Preservation Commission
405 Jefferson Street
Washington, MO 63090
636-390-1010

Period of Significance
Gottfried's Cabin Gast Haus - 124 Jefferson Street

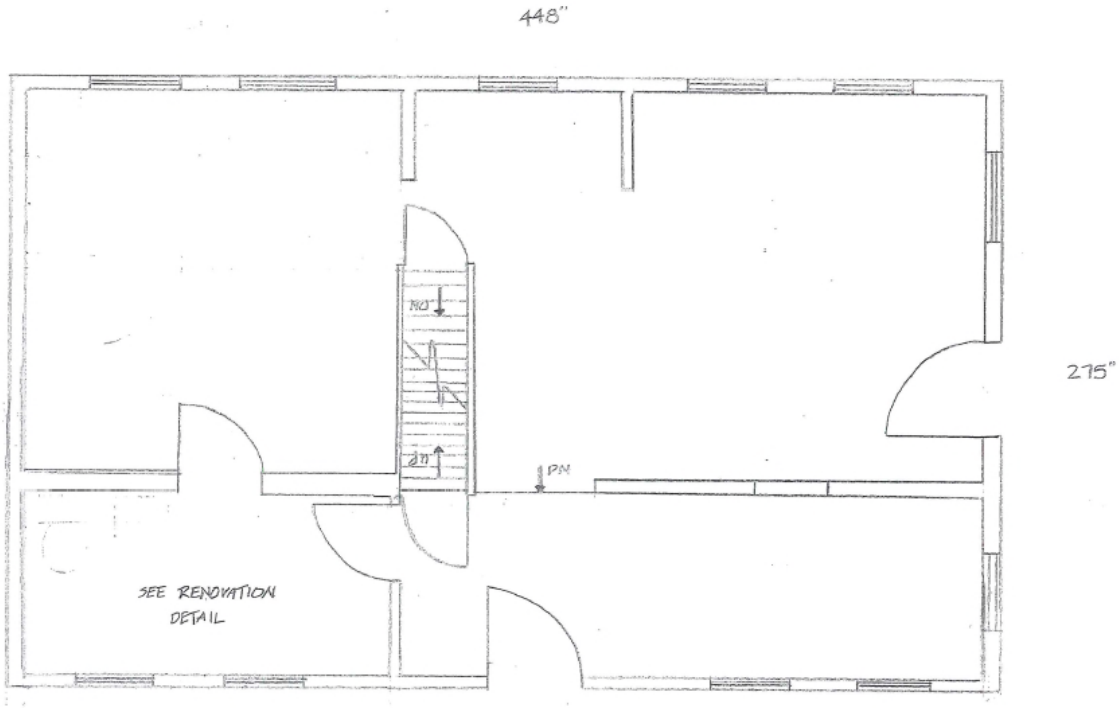
The period of significance for this building is 1834, 1993-present. 1834 is significant because it is the year of construction. 1993-present represents the time the structure has been under the control of Downtown Washington, Inc. and the Historic Washington Foundation. During this time we have restored and preserved the structure. It has served as our office and is now lodging.

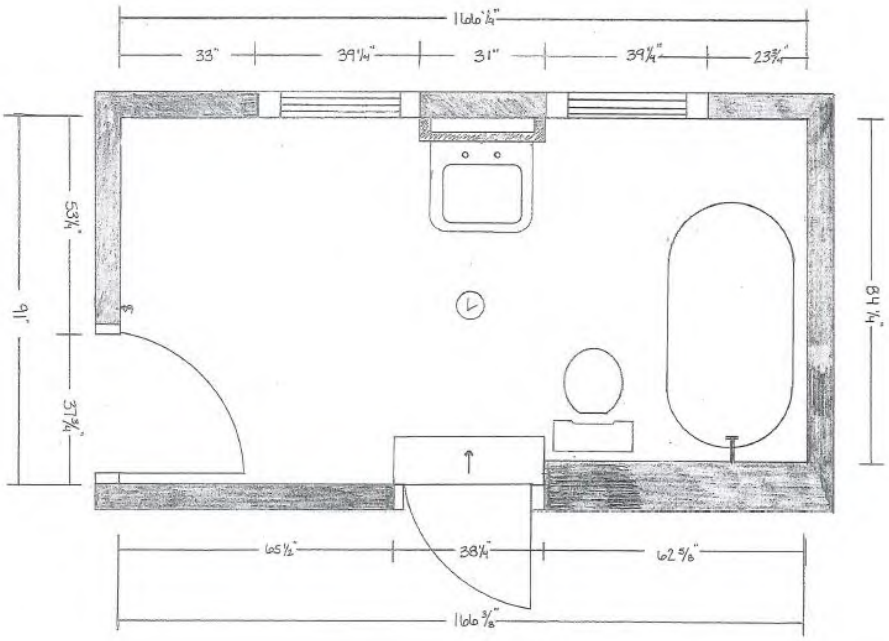
CIRCA 1940

"THE COTTAGE"

CIRCA 1990

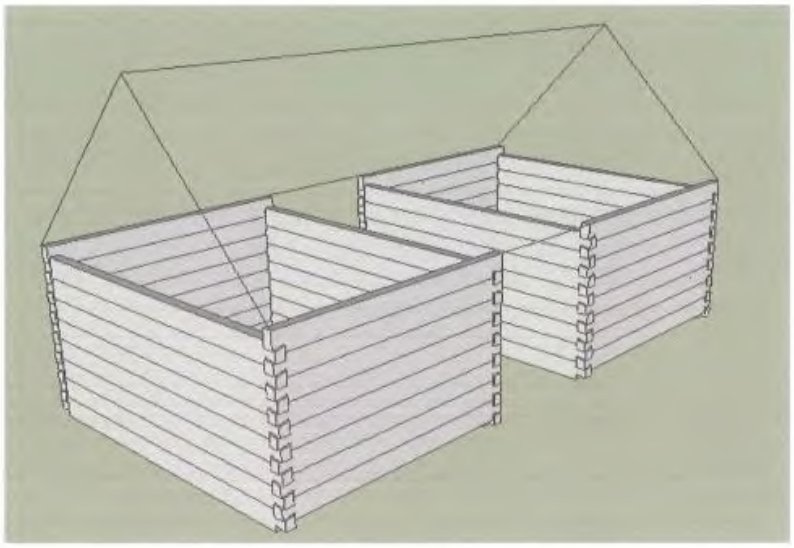
Brune's Hot
Rod Restoration
Jefferson St
Great Commission
Baptist Church
E 2nd St
E 2nd St
Trashy Roots Salon
W 2nd St
Gottfried's
Cabin Gast Haus


448"
275"
8"
20"
PN
SEE RENOVATION
DETAIL



2015 RENOVATION DETAIL

Architectural Description
Gottfried's Cabin Gast Haus - 124 Jefferson Street



Gottfried's Cabin Gast Haus, located at 124 Jefferson Street in Washington, Missouri, is a double pen log cabin with dog trot. According to the National Park Service Department of the Interior, a log building is defined as a building whose structural walls are composed of horizontally laid or vertically positioned logs. The "dogtrot" plan, formed by two pens separated by an open passage space (sometimes enclosed later), all covered by a continuous roof.

NORTH ELEVATION

WEST ELEVATION

SOUTH ELEVATION

EAST ELEVATION

The Historic Washington Foundation would like to request a special rider for this property. We would like to request that the demolition of the property be a mandatory review and mandatory compliance for the Washington Historic Preservation Commission. We defer to the City of Washington for the appropriate wording for this rider.

WASHINGTON HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION RESOLUTION NUMBER 18-003

A RESOLUTION OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON RECOMMENDING APPROVAL OF A LOCAL LANDMARK DESIGNATION

WHEREAS, the Washington Historic Preservation Commission (WHPC) reviewed the nomination of Gottfried's Cabin located at 124 Jefferson Street at their October 15, 2018 meeting

WHEREAS, the WHPC finds that the nomination meets one or more of the required criteria listed in Section 400.375 (B), specifically the following:

1. Its character, interest and value contribute to the heritage and cultural characteristics of the community.
2. Its identification with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the development of the community.
3. Its embodiment of elements of design, detailing, materials, or craftsmanship which renders it architecturally significant

WHEREAS, the WHPC recommends that the contributing structures detailed in the nomination are prohibited from demolition unless reviewed and approved by the WHPC at one of their regularly scheduled meetings

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Historic Preservation Commission of the City of Washington, Missouri, as follows:

SECTION 1: The WHPC hereby recommends approval of the nomination of Gottfried's Cabin located at 124 Jefferson Street as a Local Landmark, as it meets the criteria in Section 400.375(B)

SECTION 2: The WHPC recommends a prohibition of demolition of any contributing structure detailed in the nomination unless reviewed and approved by the Commission.

SECTION 3: Any future alteration to the exterior of the structure must be approved by the Commission.

SECTION 4: That this Resolution shall be forwarded on to review by the Washington Planning and Zoning Commission and City Council.

PASSED: October 15, 2018

APPROVED: October 15, 2018

ATTEST: Amie Walters Seaman Carolyn Wolff

Commission Secretary WHPC Chairwoman

405 Jefferson Street, Washington, MO 63090

636-390-1010 | www.washmo.gov

November 14, 2018

Mayor & City Council
City of Washington
Washington, MO 63090

RE: Landmark Nominations-Farmer's Market, The Old Main Post Office & Gottfried's Cabin

Mayor & City Council,

At the regular meeting of the Planning & Zoning Commission held on November 13, 2018 the above mentioned was approved with a unanimous 9-0 vote in favor.

Sincerely,

Thomas R. Holdmeier
Chairman
Planning & Zoning Commission

BILL NO. 19-11930 INTRODUCED BY SULLENTRUP

ORDINANCE NO. 19-11968

AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING GOTTFRIED'S CABIN/GODT HOUSE, 124 JEFFERSON STREET, AS A LOCAL HISTORIC LANDMARK IN THE CITY OF WASHINGTON, FRANKLIN COUNTY, MISSOURI.

WHEREAS the Washington Historic Preservation Commission reviewed the nomination of Gottfried's Cabin/Godt House, 124 Jefferson Street, on October 15, 2018 to be designated a local historic landmark and determined it met the criteria for a local historic landmark and listed such criteria in Resolution #18-003 which was passed at their regular meeting on October 15, 2018.

WHEREAS, the Planning and Zoning Commission reviewed the nomination and also determined it meets the criteria for designation as a local historic landmark.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Washington, Missouri, as follows:

SECTION 1: Gottfried's Cabin/Godt House, 124 Jefferson Street, meets the criteria to be designated as a Local Historic Landmark and it is hereby ordered and directed to be designated a Local Historic Landmark. The application, the resolution of the Washington Historic Preservation Commission and the report and recommendation of the Planning and Zoning Commission are hereby adopted and incorporated herein by reference. A copy is attached and marked as "Exhibit A".

SECTION 2: Demolition of any contributing structure detailed in the nomination on file with the City Clerk is prohibited unless reviewed and approved by the Washington Historic Preservation Commission.

SECTION 3: Any future alteration to the exterior of the structure is prohibited unless reviewed and approved by the Washington Historic Preservation Commission.

SECTION 4: All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 5: This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force from and after the passage and approval hereof.

PASSED: 01-22-19

ATTEST: Mary Trentmann — City Clerk

President of the City Council

APPROVED: 01-22-19

ATTEST: Mary Trentmann — City Clerk

Mayor of Washington, Missouri

b. Local Districts Designations:

There were no local districts designated this year.

c. National Register Nominations Reviewed:

The City of Washington collaborated with Downtown Washington Inc. and applied for Historic Preservation grant funds to survey Phase III of the International Shoe Factory District area, centered at 700 West Second Street, for the National Register of Historic Places. In July of 2018, the City of Washington received the grant agreement and has now completed Phase III. The City received $12,000 in grant funds to cover a portion of the survey costs.

d. Cases Reviewed and Decisions Reached:

During this reporting period, the Historic Preservation Commission reviewed 22 applications for properties located in the design review area for compliance with city code, pertaining to Historic Preservation. Certificates of Review were issued for the following:

October 9, 2018	204 Jefferson Street – awning
	206 Jefferson Street – awning
November 2, 2018	231 W. Main Street – sign
November 19, 2018	116 W. Front St. – bicycle ramp on building
December 12, 2018	204 Jefferson St. – sign
January 7, 2019	18 E. Front Street – façade changes
January 9, 2019	504 W. Fifth St. – sign
March 18, 2019	320 Lafayette St. – façade changes
	24 W. Second St. – façade changes
	18 E. Front St. – façade changes (post TIF application)
	120 W. Front St. – façade changes
April 15, 2019	120 W. Front St. – awning
May 31, 2019	114 Elm St. – sign
July 17, 2019	309 Market St. – shed
July 23, 2019	120 Elm St. – sign
August 19, 2019	201-205 Elm St. – façade changes
August 30, 2019	115 E. Second St. – garage
September 9, 2019	24 W. Second St. – sign
September 13, 2019	6 E. Front St. – sign
September 26, 2019	204 Jefferson St. – sign
September 27, 2019	24 W. Second St. – paint side of building

Not issued at this time:

November 19, 2018	123-125 W. Main St. – new roof on awning
	Waiting for more information pertaining to the roofing materials and colors.

e. Training and Conferences:

Date	Description of Event
November 9, 2018	Missouri Main Street Connection: Tool and Resources to Take Back Vacant and Abandoned Properties – Cape Girardeau, MO This training focused on the identification, prioritization and redevelopment of underused, vacant and abandoned properties. Attendees learned how to assess the redevelopment potential of a site and how to work with their local government to properly plan for redevelopment – both on a broad scale and within the Main Street district. Also taught were the fundamentals of real estate financing. *Attended by: Carolyn Witt*
November 2018	Missouri Main Street Training: Developing Historic Structures *Attended by: Bridgette Kelch*
March 25-27, 2019	Missouri Main Street Now Conference – Seattle, WA This was a two day conference with multiple workshops and sessions geared towards revitalizing your downtown area. *Attended by: Carolyn Witt, Sal Maniaci, Bridgette Kelch*
March 30, 2019	Preservation Academy – Washington, MO – Part 1 Historic Window Preservation by Greg Lamb Learn the tricks of the trade to not only restore your historic windows, but to keep them looking amazing for decades into the future. Appropriate Historic Landscaping by Russ Volmert Learn how proper landscaping can enhance your historic property. Choosing the period correct plantings will bring your property to the next level.
April 6, 2019	Preservation Academy – Washington, MO – Part 2 Historic Brick Preservation by Terry Firsick Learn the ins and outs of historic brick care. From pointing to paint (shudder) to using historic brick in new construction. Painting Historic Surfaces by Dick Watt Whether you need to paint wood or metal, walls or ceilings, windows or doors, or interior or exterior,

this session is the place to be. Learn about preparation and painting techniques to preserve your surfaces.

May 2, 2019

National Alliance of Preservation Commissions CAMP – Jefferson City, MO

This training was an overview of Historic Resource Surveys/Preservation Planning with trainers from North Carolina, Oklahoma and Colorado. Covered meeting procedures and role of the commission – best practices and prep strategies before, during and after a public hearing.

Attended by: Carolyn Witt

May 4, 2019

Preservation Academy – Washington, MO – Part 3

Investing in Historic Properties by Andy Unerstall, Bryan Bogue and Chris Eckelkamp

Learn what to look for in a historic property that you want to invest in. Physical traits, currents tenants, utilization of all floors and how to recognize a good business plan.

Financial Incentives for Historic Properties by Sal Maniaci and Bridgette Kelch

Local, state and federal incentives can offset some of the cost of renovations for your historic property.

July 24-26, 2019

Get Plugged in… Downtown Revitalization Conference – St. Louis, MO

Michael Sweeney, Missouri Bicentennial coordinator for the State Historical Society of Missouri spoke about current and planned Bicentennial projects, programs, events and how your community can be involved in the commemoration. Danielle Grotewiel learned about the programs the state is working on like the encyclopedia of important people and the listing and promotion of Missouri related events. She plans to take advantage of the option to suggest important Missourians, events and places for the encyclopedia. On her suggestions list are: Dr. Mary Hancock McLean, Franz Schwartzer, John B. Busch, Anton Tibbe, Price's Rais, Busch Brewery, Missouri Meerschaum, Tibbe Power Co., Schwartzer Zither Company, Lucinda Owens, M&W Hand Trucks. Danielle will continue to gather topics and will write the articles if requested.

Peter Kageyama, For the Love of Cities author, spoke about emotional engagement with PLACES—cities, towns, communities, neighborhoods, and especially downtowns, which he calls the "psychic centers" of places. Good things happen when more people become emotionally engaged with their places and when more people fall in love with those places. Main Street programs pay a unique role in creating this sense of place. Peter will inspire the audience to encourage people to go from saying they love a place to actually doing something for that place. He believes Main Streets can compete and even thrive in the Age of Amazon with bottom-up community development and the amazing people who are making change happen. Danielle Grotewiel said, "Peter was an excellent speaker. There were some great nuggets in this address. Mostly I took away that not every project needs to be a huge undertaking. For instance, a simple hose/sprinkler can make a space or event more engaging. I would like to involve our local CAPS program in more historic projects. They have taken over the Architectural Treasure Hunt and have ideas to expand it and increase engagement. Perhaps the Washington Historic Preservation Commission could start a simple kids club? There are many untapped resources in our community that could help us increase engagement with the community."

Danita Wood, Editor-in-Chief, Missouri Life Magazine; Tina Casagrande, Publisher and Editor, The New Territory; Austin Kolb, Founder and Director, Evoke Group – spoke about how to pitch your story to the media to earn great public relations. Danielle Grotewiel said, "Being a professional storyteller, I was excited to attend this training. The speakers were engaging and involved the attendees in what became more of a round table style discussion and idea sharing time. The most important take away for me was that to "sell" what you're trying to accomplish you need to tell its story not just the numbers. People need to FEEL and buy in to your emotions about the project. I will be contacting Missouri Life Magazine regarding an article on the Columbarium at the Wildey Odd Fellows Cemetery, our first local landmark designation."

Dr. Steven Hoffman, Professor, Dept. of History, Southeast Missouri State University; Steven Hoffman, Ph.D., President of Missouri Main Street Connection, professor of History at

Southeast Missouri State University, and Coordinator of the University's Historic Preservation Program highlighted the different , distinctive and just plain weird properties that have been listed in the National Register of Historic Places in Missouri and across the country and expand your understanding of what makes a property historic. Danielle Grotewiel said, "This training was informative, but not what I expected. It focused more on unconventional historic sites like ditches and walls. I was expecting a look at modern structures and a discussion about how to bridge the preservation gap between 19th and 20th century architecture."

Brandon W. Johnson, a.k.a. "Positive Energy Guy" authored a book *Hospitality from the Heart* – which helps engage your employees, deliver extraordinary service and create loyal guests. Danielle Grotewiel said, "I have never experienced a speaker with energy as high as Brandon's! His passion for experience is obvious and contagious. Brandon's message was to treat our historic districts as though they were our homes. Invite people in and make them feel welcome. He also advised us to "Stop Throwing Poop". In other words, be positive because eventually that poop will hit the fan."

Ben Muldrow, Arnett Muldrow & Associates – discussed all the current trends and future changes that could revolutionize our nation's downtowns. Danielle Grotewiel said, "Ben is very knowledgeable about the Main Street process. I feel that our purpose on the Commission is inextricably linked to the mission of Downtown Washington, Inc. While it is not in our prevue to recruit new businesses or create new events, we should be supporting their efforts. They keep life in the downtown district and that, in turn, fosters improvements and preservation. The heart of this presentation was that, even in the global economy, microbusinesses are a driving force of local economies."
Attended by: Danielle Grotewiel

f. Public Education and Outreach:

October 3, 2018 The Missourian

Downtown Director Appreciates Jasper Home Sale Approval

By Gregg Jones
Missourian Staff Writer

Downtown Washington Inc. Executive Director Bridgette Kelch Monday told the city council she is excited for the sale of the old Anton Jasper House, and the future impact on the community.

Last month the Washington City Council approved the sale of the Jasper House and property to Steve Sullentrup.

"Working together through the process was great," Kelch said. "It couldn't have turned out better for us."

The Jasper House is located on 320 Lafayette St. in Downtown Washington.

Sullentrup, who serves on the city council, was the high bidder at $75,150. Downtown Washington bid the minimum amount of $75,000.

"We are thrilled that it is going to be done in the private sector and that the property will be contributing to the tax base again," Kelch said.

"We can't wait to help and encourage the owner in the process and we are very excited to see the finished product, and know it will be a huge asset to the community."

If the home and property were not sold, plans called for it to be to demolished.

Requirements

Kelch added the requirements set by the council were "perfect."

Sullentrup will have to propose the use of the property to be compatible with the C-2 commercial overlay zoning district regulations. The property also must be of a permitted use with applicable parking spaces.

Sullentrup will submit exterior improvement plans for the structure for review and approval from the Historic Preservation Commission and city council.

Construction of exterior improvements will have to conform with the approved plans.

Work must begin within three months after closing on the property.

If all improvements are not completed during the allotted time, the city will have the option to repurchase the property for the $75,150 that Sullentrup paid. If this were to occur, Sullentrup will not be repaid for the money spent on improvements during time of ownership.

Also included in the contract, Sullentrup must provide a final plat survey similar to the site plan for review and approval by the planning and zoning commission and city council.

October 3, 2018 The Missourian

Pumpkin Palooza Will Be October 27

Downtown Washington, Inc. and the Washington Area Chamber of Commerce will host the seventh annual Pumpkin Palooza Saturday, Oct. 27, from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Main Street between Elm and Cedar streets.

Pumpkin growers are invited to bring their pumpkins for the Giant Pumpkin Contest that will be weighed at 10 a.m.

The contest winners will be awarded cash prizes for first, second and third place. The fee to enter the contest is $10.

Pumpkin growers also may enter in the prettiest pumpkin, ugliest pumpkin and ugliest gourd contests.

Pumpkins may not be decorated.

Both the prettiest and ugliest pumpkin contests will be judges on shape and color. The pumpkins also will need to weight at least five pounds and be unaltered.

There are no weight requirements for the ugliest gourds contest.

The Washington Farmers' Market vendors will open beginning at 8 a.m.

For more information contract Cheryl Quennoz, event coordinator for the Chamber, at 636-239-2715, ext. 102 or at cquennoz@washmo.org.

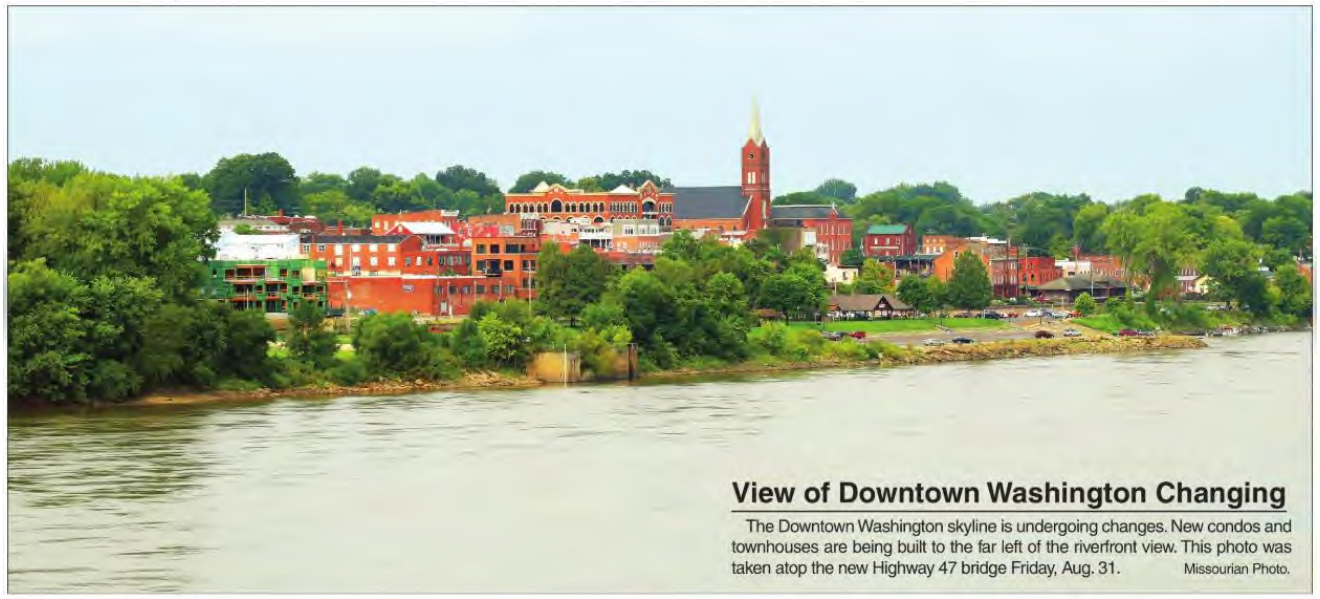
October 3, 2018 The Missourian

October 6-7, 2018 The Missourian

History Day at Cemetery

Students from Our Lady of Lourdes celebrated history day at the Odd Fellows Cemetery Thursday, Oct. 4, to learn about the history of the cemetery, some of the people buried there and cemetery etiquette. Pictured above, students learn about Marianne Lindauer as portrayed by Danielle Grotewiel. Lindauer specified in her will that she was to be buried north to south, occupying three gravesites. Her relatives complied and she is the only one in the cemetery that faces south instead of east. Missourian Photo.

October 10, 2018 The Missourian



View of Downtown Washington Changing

The Downtown Washington skyline is undergoing changes. New condos and townhouses are being built to the far left of the riverfront view. This photo was taken atop the new Highway 47 bridge Friday, Aug. 31. Missourian Photo.

October 13-14, 2018 The Missourian

Hoefel Haus Grand Opening

Kurt and Peggy Hoefel, owners of the Hoefel Haus B&B and Bike Hostel, hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony Friday, Sept. 21, to announce the grand opening of the bed and breakfast located at 504 W. Fifth St., Washington. The owners also joined the Washington Area Chamber of Commerce. The 1910 Queen Anne home holds three suite-style rooms and a hostel room with three beds. The rooms have planes, trains and automobiles as their theme. Missourian Photo.

October 13-14, 2018 The Missourian

New B & B, Hostel Opens In Washington

By Amanda Postma
Missourian Staff Writer

A historic home in Washington has been renovated into a B&B and hostel to host travelers on the Katy Trail and other guests.

Kurt and Peggy Hoefel, owners of the Hoefel Haus B&B and Bike Hostel, hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony Friday, Sept. 21, to announce the grand opening of the bed and breakfast located at 504 W. Fifth St., Washington.

Upon walking through the door, a Bryan Haynes art piece stares back at visitors over a reception bar. Peggy said it tells time.

The piece depicts the story of Sylvester Labaddie Jr.'s fight with a bear. The title is "Sylvester Labaddie and the History of a Missouri River Town." There's a mural of the painting at the Hawthorne Inn in Labadie.

Continuing through the house, one could count a number of doors, but not all of them lead to anywhere in particular.

Peggy was the project manager for the renovations done on the 1910 Queen Anne home. She said the plumbing and electrical wiring had to be replaced. The renovations took a year and a half to complete.

After the renovations, a lot of the doors now lead to drywall. But, there are three doors that guests may prefer to open.

Those doors reveal three suite-style rooms complete with heated tile flooring and soaking tubs in the bathrooms, and king beds in the bedrooms.

Each bedroom has a framed picture of what it looked like before the renovation.

"We can't believe how pretty it (turned out)," said Peggy, who wanted the rooms to have a neutral feel to it — not too girly and not too manly — so she decorated with planes, trains and automobiles themes.

Peggy will run the operations up-front and Kurt will work in the kitchen — a farm-to-table operation.

"He makes something out of nothing," Peggy said describing her husband's cooking ability.

Kurt said it has been his dream to own a bed and breakfast since he first stayed in one in 1990.

Bike Hostel

Peggy said the bike hostel part of the operation is geared toward those traveling the Katy Trail.

The hostel room has three beds that is rented out for a price per bed.

Since guests are paying per bed, Kurt said there is potential for a guest to sleep in the same room with someone they don't know.

The hostel bathroom does not have heated tile flooring.

Nonetheless, Peggy's renovation work was not lacking in this room.

"We want people to feel pampered and comfortable while they're here," she said.

Common Areas

Aside from guest's sleeping quarters, there are a number of common rooms for guests to relax.

Upstairs there is a sunlit library stocked with books, mini fridge and a coffee bar. On the main level there is a parlor with a fireplace.

Outside, there is a wrap-around porch and a screened porch both decorated with chairs and tables.

More information can be found at https://www.hoefelhausbbb.com/.

October 17, 2018 The Missourian

More Than $8 Million Invested in Downtown

By Gregg Jones
Missourian Staff Writer

There was more than $7.6 million invested privately in Downtown Washington over the past year — a significant increase over the previous year.

The financial boost is coupled with 37 new employees downtown, marking a successful 12 months for the area.

That is according to a report to the city council by Bridgette Kelch, executive director of Downtown Washington Inc.

The year in review included the first three quarters of 2018 and the fourth quarter of 2017.

"We are very excited to share these numbers with you," Kelch told the council.

Compared to the previous year's report, the private investments increased $6,731,587.

She noted that much of the $7,646,587 in investments is residential construction during the redevelopment of blighted property along Front Street by Andy Unerstall, of Front Street Development LLC.

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DOWNTOWN

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The renovation of Elijah McLean's also has played a role in private sector investments, she said.

Kelch added there have been 6,928 volunteer hours valued at $171,046, and the volunteers and board members of Downtown Washington Inc. have attended six training sessions at the cost of $13,427.

There were 84 days of community events and education sessions held Downtown with nearly 85,000 attendees.

There also was $352,495 "infused into the Washington economy," Kelch added.

"One of our greatest strengths is the partnership between the Chamber, city and downtown — and all of the different service organizations," she said.

City Administrator Darren Lamb said Downtown Washington Inc. provides a unique service to the entire city, which allows for Community and Economic Development Director Sal Maniaci to focus his attention in other areas.

"It is really an arm of economic development," he said. "It allows him (Maniaci) to work on industries."

Other Investments

According to Kelch, there have been $515,000 in public investments in the downtown area made between October 2017 and September 2018.

That is expected to increase greatly through the fourth quarter of the calendar year due to projects such as Oak Street construction and sidewalk work.

There also was $371,993 in grant funding spent over the last year. That includes $9,411 in grants from the Missouri Arts Council, $357,587 from the Missouri Department of Economic Development and $5,000 through a US Bank Play Pillar community grant.

Kelch added there has been $11,645 through the downtown's sign and awning grant awarded since 2010.

There were 28 potential new businesses counseled by the downtown organization.

Of those, 11 businesses have opened, or are slated to open. There are two businesses that were counseled that are now "on hold," and four under construction. There is one business "in process."

Six businesses are searching for a location, and another four are planning or "pre-planning," according to Kelch.

October 20-21, 2018 The Missourian

Waiting to Board Tour

Lady Elizabeth, right, also known as Danielle Grotewiel, led a haunted history wagon ride Wednesday, Oct. 17, in Downtown Washington. The tour featured some of the city's most well-known historic sites and the hauntings surrounding them. Partnered with Wine Country Wagon Rides, Lady Elizabeth has conducted the tour for several years. From left are Marci Boland, Sarah Jasper, Mandy Makowsky and Grotewiel. Missourian Photo.

October 20-21, 2018 The Missourian

Watching From Beyond the Grave

Walt Larson portrayed Judge Daniel Gael, former postmaster and first lawyer in Washington, during a history day Thursday, Oct. 4, at the Oddfellows Cemetery. Students had the opportunity to learn about the history of the cemetery, some of the people buried there and cemetery etiquette. Missourian Photo.

Wednesday, October 24, 2018 The Missourian

Haunted Happenings

The Missouri Meerschaum Corn Cob Pipe Company in Downtown Washington hosted haunted history tours Friday and Saturday, Oct. 19 and 20. Both evenings were filled with history and haunting tales of the 135-year-old building. Missourian Photo.

October 24, 2018 The Missourian

Olivino Ribbon Cutting

The Olivino Tasting Bar located at 120 W. Main St. in Downtown Washington recently joined the Washington Area Chamber of Commerce. A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held Thursday, Oct. 18. From left are Darren Lamb, city administrator; Jane Haberberger, Chamber member; Joe Holtmeier, city council member; Tracy Horvath, Olivino sales associate; Sal Maniaci, Community and Economic Development director; Debbie Baker, Olivino owner; Ed Menefee, Washington police chief; Hannah Holtmeyer, Olivino sales associate; George Meyer, Brittany Reed and Julie Scannell, all Chamber members; and Greg Skornia, city council member. Missourian Photo.

October 24, 2018 The Missourian

Yard of the Month Winners

The Washington in Bloom committee named Verna and George Wiseheart, 301 Cedar St., the Yard of the Month for September. Pictured above, from left, are, Judy Wildt, Schroeder Drug, sponsor; Ardis Briggs, Yard of the Month judge; Bridgette Kelch, Downtown Washington Inc., sponsor; Nick Kiser, Main Street Creamery, sponsor; Sarah Voss, Addi's, sponsor; Sandi Hillermann McDonald, Hillermann Nursery & Florist, sponsor; Verna and George Wiseheart, winners; and Sally Bocklage, Washington in Bloom, co-chair. Not shown is Jason Teems, Westlake Ace Hardware, sponsor.

Missourian Photo.

October 27-28, 2018 The Missourian

Pumpkin Palooza Saturday

The seventh annual Pumpkin Palooza takes place this Saturday in Downtown Washington.

Activities will get underway at 10 a.m. and run through 3:30 p.m. on Main Street, between Elm and Cedar.

Downtown Washington Inc. and the Washington Area Chamber of Commerce are the hosts.

"This event is great fun for the entire family," said Mary Beth Rettke, tourism director.

Some activities have sign-up fees but admission to the event is free.

The Farmers' Market also will be open all day.

The Downtown Washington merchants will again sponsor a Candy Crawl.

This year's hunt theme will be mummies. Costume contests, games and prizes, along with storytelling and the children's favorite music maker, Babaloo, will all be part of the fun.

Once again pumpkin growers may bring their pumpkins for the Giant Pumpkin Contest. The pumpkins will be weighed at 10 a.m.

The Giant Pumpkin Contest will pay out $200 for first place; $100 for second place; and $50 for third place.

The Prettiest Pumpkin, Ugliest Pumpkin and Ugliest Gourd contests were added last year and will return.

Both the Prettiest and Ugliest Pumpkin contests will be judged on shape and color. These pumpkins must weigh at least 5 pounds and must not be altered in any way.

There are no weight requirements on the Ugliest Gourds. These three contests will each have only a first-place winner with a prize of $10.

October 31, 2018 The Missourian

Portraying the Past

Some of the more interesting decedents buried at the Wildey Odd Fellows Cemetery in Washington were portrayed by costumed characters Monday evening, Oct. 29, for the annual cemetery tour hosted by the Washington Odd Fellows Lodge and the Washington Historical Society. From left are Penny Pitman as George Bergner, Sherri Jaudes as Charles Miller, Ginger Justus as Johanna Adams and Danielle Groteweil as Marianne Lindauer. Missourian Photo.

October 31, 2018 The Missourian

Getting a Good Angle

Russell Bailey snaps a photo of his children, Ayla and Vance, sitting by one of the several giant pumpkins Saturday, Oct. 27, during the seventh annual Pumpkin Palooza in Downtown Washington. The event was sponsored by Downtown Washington Inc. and the Washington Area Chamber of Commerce. The day featured a candy crawl, costume and pumpkin contests and a Babaloo concert. Missourian Photo.

October 31, 2018 The Missourian

Best Costumes at Pumpkin Palooza

The seventh annual Pumpkin Palooza in Downtown Washington featured costume contests during the event Saturday, Oct. 27. Citizens Bank employees, also shown, donated prizes to the individual costume winners and judged the contest. Pumpkin Palooza was sponsored by Downtown Washington Inc. and the Washington Area Chamber of Commerce.

Missourian Photo.

October 31, 2018 The Missourian

Balloon Fun at Babaloo

Giant balloons were thrown out into the audience at the Babaloo Concert Saturday, Oct. 27, during the seventh annual Pumpkin Palooza in Downtown Washington. The event featured costume and pumpkin contests as well as a candy crawl. Missourian Photo.

October 31, 2018 The Missourian

Ready to Spit!

Participants in the pumpkin seed spitting contest gave it their all Saturday, Oct. 27, at Pumpkin Palooza in Downtown Washington. The event was sponsored by Downtown Washington Inc. and the Washington Area Chamber of Commerce. The day featured a candy crawl, costume and pumpkin contests and a Babaloo concert. Missourian Photo.

October 31, 2018 The Missourian

Historic Roettger Building Purchased

New Owners to Create Loft on Third Floor

By Amanda Postma
Missourian Staff Writer

Three longtime Washington friends recently bought the historic circa-1853 August Roettger building at 120 W. Front St. in Downtown Washington as "something fun to do together."

Bryan Bogue, Tonya Wade and Tony Gokenbach all grew up in Washington and Wade said that local connection is what inspired them to take on this project.

Bogue and Wade attended St. Francis Borgia Regional High School, and Gokenbach attended Washington High School.

"Tony and Bryan are very involved locally with the community," said Wade, who moved to Chesterfield last year after spending 20 years in Los Angeles.

With Wade closer, Bogue and Gokenbach pitched the idea of buying the building together.

Currently, the team has the entire building leased, except for the third floor, which they're planning to use for corporate short-term housing.

Upstairs Unit

The friends have big plans for the third floor unit.

"This space up here is going to be a luxury three-bedroom VRBO, Airbnb type unit," Wade said. "We plan on this being a very beautiful, nice, high-end unit. I could totally see a girlfriend getaway, bridal suite or family vacation because it is a really large, beautiful space."

Currently, the exterior bricks that surround the windows looking out to the Missouri River cover up the full length of the window spaces and where a balcony used to be.

The plans are to restore the balcony and windows, but first Bogue said they'll have to go before the Washington Historical Preservation Commission.

The third floor used to be the Roettger Inn, which was run by the widow of August Roettger. The building was designed by Otto Brix, a Washington architect.

More recently it was a daiquiri bar called Daiquiris Plus and then an office space.

The area facing the river will be turned into a kitchen and living room space. Toward the back of the third floor, the partners envision a master bath and bedroom along with two other rooms.

Wade said they're planning to utilize some of the landing space by the stairs to create the bathroom.

"Being gone for 20 years, I have come back and rented a lot of places to stay," she said. "I have two kids. It's really hard to find a good place to stay in Washington when you have two kids where you're not

• See Roettger Page 2A

ROETTGERS

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just jumbled up all in one hotel room or getting two hotel rooms."

Gokenbach said there are plans to make the unit a high-tech "smart" space.

Even with the renovations and technology plans, the partners are looking to restore the original design.

"Tonya did some research on what the building looked like when it was constructed so we're going to be returning as much (of it) to its historical character as possible," Gokenbach.

That's why the unit will be referred to as the Roettger Inn Loft.

Bogue said he's hoping the renovations for the loft will be complete by the end of the year.

The Courtyard

The courtyard on the side of the building is another reason the three friends purchased the property.

"We hung out in the courtyard and after you spend a little bit of time in the courtyard you can't help but love the building," Bogue said. "That's the neat thing — anybody in this building has access to it."

He said the area will serve as a backyard for the residential space on the third floor and may be used for small gatherings.

"We can see music going on there," Bogue said. "We can see people relaxing, drinking and watching the river go by."

The courtyard also will undergo renovations to be configured for more seating, along with a new water feature and lighting.

"It just needs a little TLC," Bogue said. "It's still in good shape."

The courtyard should completed in the spring of 2019.

Other Renovations

The partners recently secured a tenant for the second level and will be renovating to fit the tenant.

They are planning to open it up to just one space, whereas in the past it has been two separate spaces.

The Wellness Spot is currently still in the building, but will be completely moved out by December.

Larry Pogue's Sculpture Studio also used to be located in the building.

"We have a concept to go in each of these spaces to make the building work together," Gokenbach said.

Roettger Inn Loft

Longtime friends Tony Gokenbach, left, Tonya Wade and Bryan Bogue recently purchased the historical August Roettger building. The partners have renovations planned for the third floor to turn it into corporate short-term housing or a VRBO unit. With hopes to restore the building as close as possible to its original design the partners are planning to name the third floor space Roettger Inn Loft. It was originally called the Roettger Inn.

Missourian Photo.Amanda Postma

October 31, 2018 The Missourian

Best Booth Decor Winners

The chili cook-off winners for best booth decor are pictured above. Seated in the front is *The Missourian* team, third place. In the back left is the team from BFA, first place, and back right is Grey Eagle's team who came in second place. Missourian Photo.

October 31, 2018 The Missourian

Family Costume Winners

The family costume winners at the seventh annual Pumpkin Palooza Saturday, Oct. 27, in Downtown Washington are pictured above. Citizens Bank employees, also shown, donated prizes and judged the contest. Pumpkin Palooza was sponsored by Downtown Washington Inc. and the Washington Area Chamber of Commerce. Missourian Photo.

October 31, 2018 The Missourian

Haunted Wagon Ride

The haunted history wagon ride took off Wednesday, Oct. 17, in Downtown Washington. Participants could experience some of the city's most well-known historic sites and the hauntings surrounding them. The tour was led by Lady Elizabeth who also is known as Danielle Grotewiel. She has conducted the tour for several years. The tour is partnered with Wine Country Wagon Rides. Missourian Photo.

October 31, 2018 The Missourian

Chili Challenge Winners

Pictured above are the winners in the challenge division for best chili at the Downtown Washington Inc. Chili Cook-Off Friday, Oct. 26. Seated is the Washington Jaycees team voted best nonprofit. In the back, from left, are US Bank, best bank challenge winner; Marquart's Landing, best restaurant challenge winner; and Route 66 Realtors, best real estate challenge winner. Missourian Photo.

October 31, 2018 The Missourian

Best Chili Winners

The winners for the best chili at the Downtown Washington Inc. Chili Cook-Off are pictured above. Seated in front is the Washington Jaycees team that placed second. In the back left is Titan Granite's team, which took first place. In the back right is the Missouri Meerschaum Company team that placed third. There was a total of 27 teams that competed Friday, Oct. 26.

Missourian Photo.

October 31, 2018 The Missourian

People's Choice Award

Downtown Washington Inc. held its 18th annual Chili Cook-Off Friday, Oct. 26, between Main and Elm streets. Those in attendance were able to try 27 different types of chili and vote for their favorites. This year's People's Choice award for best chili went to BFA.

Missourian Photo.

October 31, 2018 The Missourian

Unexplained Stories of Downtown Washington

By Karen Cernich, Missourian Feature Writer

Even before he and his wife bought the historic Thias house on Elm Street in Downtown Washington, Marc Houseman had heard stories that it was haunted. And after living in the house for several years now, he admits there are things they have heard (and smelled) that are unexplained.

"My wife has told me many times that she knew I was going to be home soon because 10 minutes before I got home she heard me walking up the stair," said Houseman, who is quick to note that this not a creaking noise on the stairs, but more like a timed thump of weight being put on the stair.

Both of the Housemans also have experienced moments on the stairs that they were overcome by a strong scent of an unfamiliar perfume. And there have been times when the heat was unexpectedly found to be turned on in the house instead of the air conditioning, and vice versa, when neither had touched the thermostat.

Something unexplained like that typically happens once a week, said Houseman. Everything has always been benign and nothing has ever given them pause to stay living in the house. Mostly, they are entertaining stories, said Houseman, who shared a few of them with passengers on an annual ghost tour of Downtown Washington Friday evening, Oct. 26.

As director of the Washington Historical Society Museum, Houseman is someone people turn to in their search for explanations for paranormal experiences. Over the years he has heard stories of many unexplained things in many of the old buildings in Downtown Washington.

The bulding he's heard the most stories of is the Elijah McLean house, which in the '80s and '90s operated as a restaurant. Built in 1839 on Front Street, it is one of the five oldest buildings in Washington.

"People who've worked there tell us stories, particularly young women who worked there as waitresses," said Houseman, noting whatever spirit may be lingering in the building mostly picked on young women. "They will tell me that they were pushed on the shoulder blades, like someone tried to push them down the stairs... Apparently one of the food storage areas was in the basement of the house, so when they would start down the basement stairs they would feel this push. One woman told me she almost fell down the stairs it was such a hard hit. Presumably there was no one there, visibly."

When he shares these stories with people on the Washington Historical Society's annual ghost tour, Houseman doesn't speculate on who the ghosts could be.

"I leave that open to interpretation," said Houseman, noting he simply tells the history of the building or the property and the unexplained stories that he has heard.

"Our take on the whole thing is this is a way to feed people local history using the theme of ghosts, which is extremely popular," said Houseman. "I tell them who Elijah McLean was and when the house was built, and some of the major facts of his life – like he was a slaveholder, which automatically raises some eyebrows."

He was told about a group of people who held a séance at Elijah McLean's after working hours. Using a Ouija board, the group asked for the name of the spirit present and the planchette (heart-shaped piece of wood used to receive answers) spelled out the name Elijah McLean. However, no more information than that was gained.

Stories From Front, Main Street

There is a legend with The Landing building, which was built in 1855 as the Pacific House, named after the Pacific Railroad, said Houseman.

As the story goes, on the night of a full moon, in a window on the East side of the building, there appears a young woman who steps up onto the windowsill and jumps, but then vanishes in midair, said Houseman, who is quick to note that there is absolutely no historical record of anything like that ever happening.

A few doors down at the Missouri Meerschaum Corn Cob Pipe Factory, which earlier this month held its own first-ever ghost tour of the factory, there was at least one death that resulted from an accident at the factory, said Houseman.

"Anton Tibbe, who was the second generation of Tibbes to have the pipe factory, had a son, Arnold, who was about 3 years old and was playing at the factory one day," he said. "He was running with a pipe stem in his hand… when he fell, and the pipe stem punctured his eye soket and went into his brain… a couple of hours later he passed away from the injury."

Down the street a little further, a friendly ghost resides at the Schwegmann House. Doris Noelke, who grew up in the house with her parents and her grandparents, said her Grandfather Flake passed away when she was still a child, and for the remainder of her childhood, whenever she would wake up in the middle of the night, she would see him standing at the foot of her bed watching over her, said Houseman.

"She said it never scared her, that she knew Grandpa couldn't really be there, 'but I had the feeling that I was enveloped in protection, that he was watching over me all the time, even as I slept,'" Houseman said. "So that's a nice ghost there! We like that one."

One of the more interesting ghost stories Houseman has heard came from Jim Feltmann Sr. about the old Modern Auto building on Main Street. His family owned the business and years ago before he retired, Feltmann recalled how on nights that he stayed late at the office on the main floor and was completely alone in the building, he would often hear footsteps overhead in what had once been the old parts warehouse.

"He would hear these footsteps going down one way and back the other way, back down and up, like someone was walking in straight lines down rows," said Houseman. "But he said, 'Over time I gradually started paying attention to the pattern… and there was always something familiar about it. Then I finally figured out who and what it is. It's my dad taking inventory in the parts room.'"

Thias House Ghost Once Did Laundry

Before the Housemans' bought the historic Thias home, the owner before them came into the museum to research the building's history. She opened up to Houseman that one of the reasons she was doing research was because the home was haunted,

and she claimed to have seen the ghost: an older woman with her hair teased up high wearing plastic Mardi Gras bead necklaces and a mumu.

"I asked if she knew Mrs. Swartz at all," said Houseman, "but she said, 'No.' She had met Mr. Swartz, because that's who she bought the house from, but Mrs. Swartz was already passed away."

Houseman asked then if she'd ever seen a photo of Mrs. Swartz, because the ghost she described sounded exactly like Milie Swartz.

After the Housemans bought the Thias house, they didn't have to wait long to be "introduced" to the ghost there. Marc Houseman said one afternoon before they moved in he was at the house ripping up some old carpeting when he heard a dull thud that sounded like someone had come in the back screen door. That thud was followed by the sound of really heavy footsteps slowly walking across the dining room.

"I looked down the staircase to see who might appear and I remember thinking, 'Who walks like that?'" said Houseman, adding that as each footstep fell it was followed by a crunching sound, like someone was stepping on potato chips.

But after about five footsteps, the sound just stopped. "I sort of paused and then called out, but no one was there, so I pretty quickly went downstairs to see who was in the house, and there was no one. I ran outside to look and no one was around," said Houseman. "I still can't explain it."

One of Houseman's favorite stories to tell of the Thias house "ghost" was how it did their laundry one night.

As Houseman tells it, he had taken a load of laundry downstairs to start in the washing machine. He put the laundry in the machine, but then was called away from doing it for some reason, leaving the lid to the machine open.

It wasn't until the next day that he remembered the laundry that he never started, but when he returned to the machine, he found that the clothes had been through the wash cycle because they were still wet and plastered against the side of the tub. Yet the lid to the machine was still open just as he'd left it, and the machine can't operate without the lid being closed.

His wife hadn't done the laundry and there hadn't been anyone else in the house… except the "ghost."

"I cannot figure it out. I can't explain it practically," said Houseman

The Old Busch Brewery

Just like Elijah McLean's, there's no shortage of "ghost" stories centered on the old Busch Brewery, which has had several ghost-hunting groups come through over the years with their divining rods and other specialized equipment.

A medium who had been at the brewery for an event one time met with a middle-aged couple and before they told her anything, she told them, "I have a message for you. There is a young man standing here telling me to tell you that Eric is all right."

It turned out that Eric was their son who had been killed a year or so prior in an accident, said Houseman.

"Those kinds of stories really grab your attention," he remarked.

And back when the brewery was open as a restaurant some 20 or 25 years ago, a woman who purportedly was a psychic was eating there for dinner one night and claims that she saw the ghost of a Confederate soldier walk through one of the walls.

"During the Civil War, the brewery was raided as the Confederate Army came through tearing up the railroad," said Houseman.

The annual Washington Historical Society ghost tour always ends at the brewery, where people can go inside to look around and see the space for themselves. One year someone took a photo of Houseman as he shared ghost stories of the brewery and the

photo showed a large orange orb just above his head. Many ghost hunters believe orbs that are revealed in photos but not visible to the naked eye indicate the presence of spirits.

All of the stories of ghosts at the brewery prompted Houseman to ask Antonia "Sis" Busch, back when she was still alive, if she knew of anyone ever dying at the brewery. Sis' grandfather was John B. Busch and her father helped continue the brewery. She was born in the mansion and spent a lot of time there.

Sis informed him that yes, there was a man named Fritz who had died at the brewery around 1912 when she was 3 years old or so. He was a homeless man who had come to the brewery looking for work. There weren't any openings, but the man was desperate, so her father let him stay in a washroom-like area in a corner of the brewery where there was a sink and they set up a cot, if he would keep the grounds kept up.

Fritz had only been at the brewery about one month, when he dropped dead at the sink one morning. Sis thought he was maybe in his late 50's.

Armed with that information, ghost hunting groups that visit the brewery continue to call up on Fritz. Local ghost hunter Dan Terry, who is known as "the Spookstalker," has used divining rods to ask, "Fritz, are you with us?" and almost always cross for him, which indicates, "yes," said Houseman.

When a ghost conference was held at the brewery some time ago, Houseman experienced the presence of Fritz firsthand. He was there to relate the history of the brewery and Busch family, and when he began to talk about Fritz, a piece of long metal pipe that had been propped up in the corner behind him suddenly moved forward – defying gravity – and then fell forward landing on Houseman's shoulder before clanging to the floor.

"Well, the whole room went nuts when that happened," said Houseman, noting that the entire thing had been captured on video and film of the many ghost hunters who were there.

Saddest Story is Truly Haunting

The saddest story of all those that Houseman has heard and that he shares on the ghost tour occurred at the intersection of Fourth and Cedar streets in the 1890s either on or near Halloween night. The neighbors were all burning leaves in the street, when a 3-year-old girl, Rosa Common, got too close and her dress caught fire.

"She died there in the street in agony, screaming," said Houseman, somberly. "But the story goes on that on the anniversary of that night, people have heard what sounds like a girl screaming."

There have been other stories of ghosts and haunted places in Washington and around the county that Houseman has heard over the years. Many are not backed by any kind of historical record that would support them, but others are.

To learn more about the history of old buildings in Washington, people can visit the Washington Historical Society Museum at the corner of Fourth and Market streets in Dwontown Washington or call 636-239-0280.

Current owners of the historic Thias house on Elm Street, built in 1888, experience unexplainable activity about once a week. Most are sounds, like footsteps on the stairs, but they also have smelled a strong waft of unfamiliar perfume. Missourian Photos.

When Elijah McLean's was open as a restaurant in the '80s and '90s, several staff members reported feeling a push on their backs as if someone was trying to push them down the stairs, but no one was behind them.

The Washington Brewery is said to be haunted by the ghost of Fritz, a homeless man who found temporary housing and work there around 1912. He died inside the brewery of seemingly natural causes after about a month, according to the late Antonia "Sis" Busch. Washington Historical Society Photo.

A friendly ghost has been reported at Schwegmann House on Front Street — the late grandfather of a woman who lived there as a child.

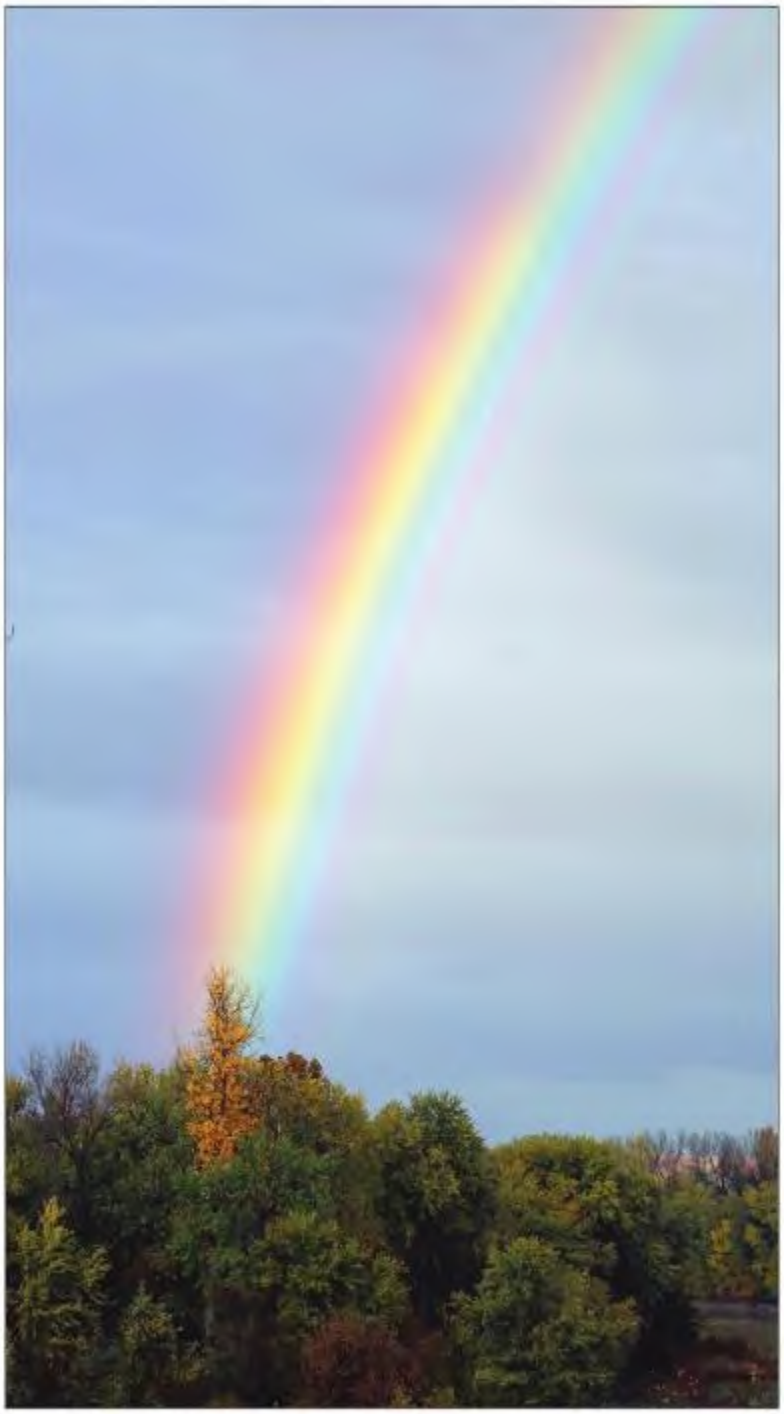
Marc Houseman, left, director of the Washington Historical Society Museum, shared stories of haunting experiences in buildings around Downtown Washington during the group's annual ghost tour Friday evening, Oct. 26.

November 7, 2018 The Missourian

First Sign of Christmas Downtown

Downtown Washington Inc. volunteers and city workers erected the giant Christmas tree at the corner of Main and Elm streets Monday. The tree lights will officially be turned on after the Holiday Parade of Lights Friday, Nov. 23. The parade will begin at 6 p.m. Santa will greet children under the Farmers' Market. Missourian Photo.

November 7, 2018 The Missourian



Fall Rainbow

This rainbow was spotted after rain showers Friday, Nov. 2, near West Main Street in Downtown Washington. Missourian Photo.

November 7, 2018 The Missourian

City Approves Request for Bike Ramp

At New Revolution Cycles

By Gregg Jones
Missourian Staff Writer

The Washington City Council gave the nod to a request by a local business seeking to open up shop downtown.

The council Monday agreed to permit a variance for Revolution Cycles to build a bicycle ramp that will encroach on city right of way on Front Street.

Community and Economic Development Director Sal Maniaci said Joe and Katy Ferguson are renting a building at 116 Front St. where they are operating a new store that offers classes, with projected plans to have bicycles available for rent.

Maniaci explained the variance is to construct a ramp along the front of the building which will make the building more accessible to customers, as well as making it easier to enter the building with bicycles.

The council agreed to the request under the condition that if work needs to be conducted under where the ramp will be located, Revolution Cycles is required to remove the ramp at no cost to the city. The business also would be fully responsible for costs and work to reinstall the ramp.

That includes work to replace streets, curb and gutter, sidewalks, landscaping, or utilities. Removal must be done within 30 days upon request of the city.

A second condition is that a hold harmless agreement be in place that states the city is indemnified from all damages which may result from the use of the ramp.

The agreement between the city and business similar to a 2009 agreement with John G's Bier Deck, which installed stairs on city right of way.

According to Maniaci, the Revolution Cycles would not be American with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant because the slope is too great.

He added there are no building requirements for private businesses to follow ADA standards.

New Store

In September, Joe Ferguson told *The Missourian* that he has been exploring this store idea for about five years while he had been searching for a place to put it. A goal is to make it easier to rent bicycles in Washington for people to ride around town, on the riverfront and Katy trail and over the new Highway 47 bridge.

The business hopes to attract leisure cyclists, those who don't have a bicycle, and tourists getting off the Missouri River Runner train who want to rent a bicycle and have a "fun" riding day.

Ideally, the store will stay open Wednesday through Sunday for rentals, bicycle

• See Bike Ramp Page 2B

BIKE RAMP

CONTINUED FROM 1B

supplies and accessories, bicycle art, gifts and postcards.

Ferguson said the store will offer comfort bicycles, electric bicycles, recumbent trikes and child trailers.

The Fergusons opened Revolution Cycles June 29, 2008. That store is located at 1917 Bedford Center Drive, off Highway 100. No changes are planned for that store.

Missourian reporter Amanda Postma contributed to this article.

November 7, 2018 The Missourian

Fall Glow

In the late afternoon of Friday, Nov. 2, the sky and trees glowed in the afternoon light, looking north across the Missouri River from Washington. The scene painted an effortless fall picture.

Missourian Photo.

November 7, 2018 The Missourian

Burst of Color

This burst of fall color was found near West Main Street in Washington Saturday, Nov. 3. Trees all around the area are popping with fall colors.

Missourian Photo.

November 7, 2018 The Missourian

November 7, 2018 The Missourian

Speaks About German Ancestors

The Washington Historical Society hosted Astrid Adler Sunday, Oct. 28, for a presentation and book signing of "Our Ancestors Were German." There were over 50 people in attendance. The event was held at the museum. Missourian Photo.

November 7, 2018 The Missourian

Corn Cob Pipe Ghosts

The Missouri Meerschaum Corn Cob Pipe Company on Front Street in Downtown Washington hosted haunted history tours Friday and Saturday, Oct. 19 and 20. Both evenings were filled with history and haunting tales of the 135-year-old building.

Missourian Photo.

November 14, 2018 The Missourian

Third Phase of Shoe Factory Survey Underway

By Gregg Jones
Missourian Staff Writer

Washington city staff is looking to combine several downtown properties to form a historic district eligible for tax credits.

According to Sal Maniaci, community and economic development director, a third, and final, historical and architectural survey of the International Shoe Company plant and surrounding homes will be completed in August 2019, and then the city can move forward in seeking the national historic status for the area.

Last week the Washington City Council approved an ordinance entering into a contract with Landmarks Association of St. Louis Inc. to conduct the third phase of the survey. Landmarks Association also performed the first two phases.

"Once it is complete, we are required by the state to wait a year before we can submit a request to nominate a district in its entirety," Maniaci said.

The cost of the final survey is $18,700. The first phase and second phases cost about $20,000 each. The city was awarded grants for the historic preservation project through the Missouri Department of Natural Resources.

Phase III includes a survey of a grocery store within the district.

Historic District

The area was identified in 1992 as a potential historic district within the vicinity of the International Shoe Factory on West Second Street.

According to the Historic Survey Project Report released in March of 2017, a branch of the Roberts, Johnson and Rand Shoe Company opened in Washington in 1907.

By 1911, the company name changed to International Shoe Company.

The Landmark Association study records properties associated with the factory's presence as well as the impacts the factory had on the surrounding area.

Phase I of the survey concluded in 2017, and the second phase was completed in July.

"The results of Phase I and Phase II showed that they would not qualify on their own but if we took parts of them and combine it with a portion of the third phase we should have a viable district for national historic status," Maniaci said. "This will open up not only the shoe factory but also homes in the district for historic tax credits."

Once all three phases are complete, they also could produce individual nominations of properties within the neighborhood to the register and possibly add an amendment to the "Historic Resources of Washington, Mo." Multiple Property Documentation Form.

Phase III covers an area between Third and Fifth Street between Fair and Stafford streets. Not all of the properties with those blocks are part of the survey.

Other Phases

Under the first phase, there were 150 parcels associated with the International Shoe Company plant district.

The area encompassed about 44 acres surrounding the shoe company building.

The area is bounded on the north by Front Street; on the east by Olive and Stafford streets; on the west by High Street and Tiemann Drive; and on the south by Edith and Roberts streets.

Eight vacant lots were surveyed out of a total 155 properties in Phase I with 152 of those properties being primary buildings. Roughly, 75 to 80 buildings were constructed from 1920 to the 1940s.

Phase II covered 194 properties with 185 being "primary resources" such as homes and an institution. Of the primary resources, 146 were constructed during the time the International Shoe Factory was operating. The phase consists of 167, or 90 percent, single-family dwellings.

The survey area covered properties bounded by Roberts and Esther streets (north), Stafford Street (east), James and West Third streets (south), and State Street (west).

November 14, 2018 The Missourian

Downtown Washington To Celebrate the Holidays

By Susan Miller
Missourian Managing Editor

Downtown Washington Inc. and merchants in the historic core will celebrate the holidays with a variety of activities, beginning this weekend.

The annual Downtown Merchants holiday open house will take place Friday, Nov. 16, with participating shops offering extended hours and special deals.

The 20th annual Holiday Parade of Lights will be held Friday, Nov. 23, the day after Thanksgiving, at 6 p.m.

The parade will end at Main and Elm streets for the Mayor's Annual Tree Lighting. Mayor Sandy Lucy and Santa Claus will officially turn on the lights on the giant Christmas tree. Santa also will greet families under the Farmers' Market that evening.

Black/Plaid Friday also will take place Nov. 23 with merchants offering extended hours and specials.

The name Plaid Friday was conceived from the idea of weaving the individual threads of small businesses together to create a strong fabric that celebrates the diversity and creativity of independent businesses. Plaid Friday is offered an alternative to the big box stores "Black Friday."

The next day, many of the downtown merchants will participate in Small Business Saturday, a nationwide movement that celebrates small businesses. It was founded by American Express.

Santa and Mrs. Claus will arrive on Amtrak at the Washington depot Friday, Nov. 30, at approximately 5 p.m. They will pose for photos inside the train depot.

Downtown Washington Inc. and Wine Country Wagon Rides will team up to offer Lights and History Wagon Rides Nov. 30 and again Dec. 22 from 5 to 7 p.m.

Santa also will meet with children and families the first three Saturdays in December — Dec. 1, Dec. 8 and Dec. 15 — from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Farmers' Market. Photos will cost $5 or families may take their own photo.

A special kids shopping downtown event is planned for Wednesday, Dec. 5, from 5 to 7 p.m. Many of the merchants will have a special kids shopping section with gifts for $10 or less.

This event will let children shop for Mom and Dad independently. United Methodist Church volunteers will be on hand to wrap the gifts.

The annual Holiday House Tour, presented by Downtown Washington Inc., will take place Sunday, Dec. 9, from 4 to 7 p.m. Trolley rides will again be offered to take participants to the different stops. Five houses and two businesses will be featured.

Tickets for the House Tour are on sale now for $10 in advance or $15 after Nov. 30.

For more information on any of the events, as well as costs, visit downtownwashmo.org or call 636-239-1743.

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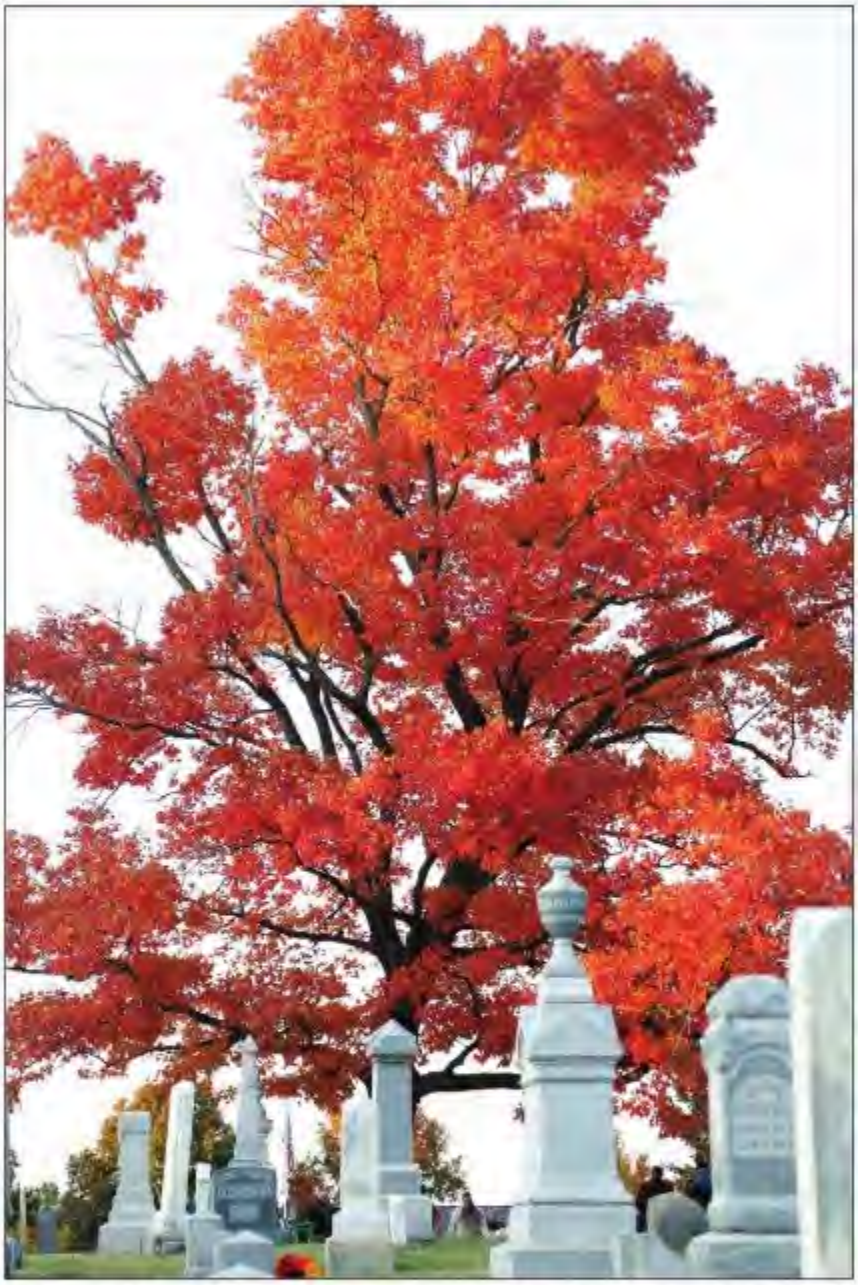
Who Did it?

Downtown Washington Inc. held its annual Murder Mystery Dinner Nov. 9 at the historic Busch Brewery. The event included a custom show put on by the Riverside Players. Trish Baker, a Riverside Player, is pictured here. The theme for the night was 1988 Class Reunion — Relive Your Prom. Missourian Photo.

November 14, 2018 The Missourian

November 14, 2018 The Missourian



Fall Color Paints Background

The bright color of changing leaves added a seasonal touch to the Wildey Odd Fellows Cemetery tour Monday evening, Oct. 29. Historical in nature, the tour featured costumed characters portraying some of the people who are buried at the cemetery. It is organized by the Washington Odd Fellows Lodge and the Washington Historical Society. Missourian Photo.

November 17-18, 2018 The Missourian

Group Seeks Landmark Designation

For Historic Buildings

Gregg Jones – Missourian Staff Writer

Three Washington buildings are poised to receive a new local histroic designation intended to preserve the structures.

The Washington Planning and Zoning Commission Monday voted to recommend the city couoncil pass a resolution designating the buildings through the "historic local landmark" mechanism, which prohibits them from demolition before review by the Washington Historic Preservation Commission (WHPC).

The nominees are: the Gottfreid's Cabin Gast Haus, 124 Jefferson St.; Old Main Post Office, 123 Lafayette St.; and the Bleckmann Building/Washington Farmers' Market, 317 W. Main St..

Carolyn Witt, chairman of the WHPC and member of the planning commission, said this designation will give the comission time to provide iput when there are plans to raze a historic buildilng.

The three properties are owned by the Historic Washignton Foundation, a sister organization to Downtown Washington Inc.

"All three (buldings) we have put before you, we feel are worthy of this designation," Witt stated. "And it is very easy because the ownership of the buildings is presenting this to you."

The WHPC canot prevent the owner of a historic local landmark from razing a structure.

"It puts some restrictions on it so they have to go through some hoops before it is destroyed and gone, " Witt explained.

Last year, two structures at the WIldey Oldd Fellows Cemetery – a pagoda and columbarium – were the first historic local landmarks designated through this mechanism. However, the mechanism has been part of the city codes for some time.

Witt stated the historic designation process is being used now in response to the demolition of Fifth Street School, which was not designated a historic local lalndmark. WHPC members opposed the demolition of the school that was purchased by the Immanual Lutheran Parish and is now used for a playground.

"The preservation commission discoved that we have the abilty to noiminate local landmarks," she told the planning board, "and after the loss of Fifth Street School, we decided this is something we need to pursue.

"Even though it would not necessarily prevent something like that, it would make it an issue so that they would have to go through more steps (to raze the building)," she said. "It doesn't mean it is guaranteed for eternity, but at the same

time it puts some restrictions on it so that it has to go through a lot of hoops to get to that point where it is destroyed."

According to Witt, not every building would qualify as a local landmark.

"The idea is that we don't make this so easy that if you live in an old house, you can just decide you want it to be a local historic landmark," she said.

In order to be nominated by the WHPC for recommendation to be a historic local landmark, the nomination must meet one of the following criteria: contribution to the heritage and cultural characteristics of the community; identification with a person, or persons, who significantly contributed to the development of the community; or embodies the elements of design, detailing, material or craftsmanship which renders it architecturally significant.

Planning commission member Samantha Cerutti Wacker questioned if the city council could take any measures to prevent a historic building from being demolished.

"I think this whole thing just slows the process down," Mayor Sandy Lucy replied.

The planning commission voted 7-0 to move forward with the historic local landmark designation. Two planning members, John Borgmann and Tony Gokenback, were absent.

Gottfried's Cabin

The building historically called the "Godt House" is located at the corner of East Second Street and Jefferson Street. It was built in 1834 and it has been under the control of Downtown Washington Inc. and the Historic Washington Foundation since 1993.

During that time the building has been restored and preserved.

It served as the first Downtown Washington Inc. office and is now used for lodging.

Bleckmann Building

The building, which now houses the Washington Farmers' Market and two apartments, is located on Main Street at Cedar Street.

It was built in 1856 by Frederick "Fritz" Bleckmann and was an undertaking and furniture business. It was built as a two-story building.

When the city of Washington leveled Main Street in 1873, the basement was exposed and gave the building the appearance of a three-story structure.

From 1913-2006 the building had several owners and housed many different businesses.

In 2006, in a partnership with the city of Washington, Chamber of Commerce and Washington Historical Society, the building was saved from demolition and renovated. The renovation created public restrooms on the main floor and added a pavilion on three sides of the historic structure to create a civic pavilion. Two apartments are on the upper levels.

"No one can deny it has become the heart of any event we have downtown," Witt said.

Old Main Post Office

The land for the Old Main Post Office was purchased in 1917 from former Postmaster James Issac Jones. It was the location of his family home, which was razed to make way for the post office building.

In 1922, the Old Main Post Office was the first dedicated postal building in Washington. There have been continual postal operations in this building since its opening.

In early 2008, Downtown Washington Inc. and the Historic Washington Foundation found out that the U.S. Postal Services was planning to cease operation at the downtown location. In 1193, The USPS built a new facility, but kept the retail location open in downtown.

The Historic Washington Foundation and Downtown Washington Inc. purchased the building in 2010 and renovated it. They have an agreement with the Postal Service to operate a contract postal unit in the building.

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Washington Art Walk Will Be November 23-24

The Washington Art Walk will be Friday and Saturday, Nov. 23-24, in Downtown Washington.

The event is sponsored by the Arts Council of Washington, Bank of Washington, Gallery Augusta and Washington Area Chamber of Commerce.

The art walk will run from 5-8 p.m. on Friday and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday.

The artists and locations are listed below.

Mid-Missouri Fine Arts Society, 301 W. Front St.; Kelly Brinkmann, 217 W. Main St.; Ashley Harp and Ted Coburn, 201 W. Main St.; Crosspoint Christian School, featuring prekindergarten through eighth-grade students' artwork, 110 W. Main St.; Teresa Mount and Tammi Elbert, 120 Elm St.; Vicki LaRue and Gene Huebner, 127 Elm St.; Cindy Frick, 211 Elm St.; Jim Peters and Andy McCoy, 307 Elm St.; and Bryan Haynes, 10 W. Second St.

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WASHINGTON ART WALK

Friday, November 23, 2018 • 5-8 p.m.
Saturday, November 24, 2018 • 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

ARTISTS & LOCATIONS

Front St.

1. **301 W. Front – Washington Train Depot**
   Mid-Missouri Fine Arts Society

Main St.

2. **217 W. Main –Chimera Creative Works**
   Kelly Brinkmann
3. **201 W. Main – Artisans On Main**
   Ashley Harp • Ted Coburn
4. **110 W. Main – Main Street Creamery**
   Crosspoint Christian School

Elm St.

5. **120 Elm – Loyal Bella**
   Teresa Mount • Tammi Elbert
6. **127 Elm – Plush**
   Vicki LaRue • Gene Huebner
7. **211 Elm St. – Four Seasons Florist**
   Cindy Frick
8. **307 Elm – Washington Community Arts Studio**
   Jim Peters • Andy McCoy

Second St.

9. **10 W. Second – Haynes Gallery**
   Bryan Haynes

LOOK FOR THE YELLOW BALLOONS

SPONSORS

ARTS COUNCIL OF WASHINGTON · BANK OF WASHINGTON · Washington · gallery augusta

November 17-18, 2018 The Missourian

Franz Schwarzer Tells His Story

Andrew Clary portrayed Franz Schwarzer, Washington's historic zither maker, for the annual Wildey Odd Fellows Cemetery tour Monday evening, Oct. 29. A crowd of about 85 people attended this year's tour, which features costumed characters portraying some of the more interesting people who are buried there. Missourian Photo.

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Pumpkin Grin

Cade Miller sits on his 165-pound pumpkin after the giant pumpkin contest during the seventh annual Pumpkin Palooza Saturday, Oct. 27, in Downtown Washington. The event was sponsored by Downtown Washington Inc. and the Washington Area Chamber of Commerce.

Missourian Photo.

November 21, 2018 The Missourian

Parade Of Lights Friday

By Susan Miller
Missourian Staff Writer

Santa Claus is coming to town this Friday for the annual Downtown Washington Inc. Holiday Parade of Lights.

Traditionally held the day after Thanksgiving, the parade will begin at 6 p.m. at the corner of Cedar and Main streets.

All of the entries, and even many of the participants, will be decked out in lights.

Santa and Mrs. Claus will ride in their sleigh atop a special float

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PARADE

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in the parade.

Santa also will join Mayor Sandy Lucy immediately after the parade for the official tree lighting ceremony at the corner of Main and Elm streets, and he will stick around to greet families under the Farmers' Market.

The parade, sponsored by St. Francis Borgia Grade School, will feature about 48 entries, according to Bridgette Kelch, Downtown Washington Inc. executive director.

Grand Marshal

The grand marshal will be St. Francis Borgia Regional High School football coach Dale Gildehaus, who recently was inducted into the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame. This was his 32nd season as head coach at Borgia.

Both the Washington High School and Borgia High School bands will march in the parade, along with special guests Fred Bird, *The Missourian's* Newsbee, McGruff the Crime Dog, the Borgia High School Knight and the Shriners.

Floats, decorated vehicles and walking groups, all decked in lights, also will participate.

An optional judging contest will be held again this year for nonprofit groups and businesses/individuals.

This year's theme is The Magic of Christmas.

Kelch said the Holiday Parade of Lights serves as the unofficial kickoff to the Christmas season and always attracts a large number of spectators.

"We are excited about hosting our 20th annual parade," she said. "This parade was started by Bonnie Eckelkamp and is a true Washington tradition."

November 21, 2018 The Missourian

Tickets on Sale for Holiday House Tour

Tickets are on sale for Downtown Washington Inc.'s 37th annual Holiday House Tour.

The tour, featuring homes, businesses and two places of lodging, will take place Sunday, Dec. 9, from 4 to 7 p.m.

The downtown post office at 123 Lafayette St. and St. Peter's United Church of Christ for its Festival of Trees also are part of the tour.

"This tour is a wonderful way to start off your December holiday activities," said Bridgette Kelch, executive director. "All ages are welcome to tour historic homes and properties."

Tickets are $10 and on sale now at www.downtownwashmo.org or call 636-239-1743. Tickets also can be purchased the day of the event at the downtown post office.

Trolley rides will again be available and refreshments will be served at the post office, which will be decorated for Christmas. The trolley will run continuously to the various stops.

Kelch encourages people to visit the post office first to pick up their tour booklets.

The tour stops include:

Elijah McLean's, 600 W. Front St.

Julie Underwood Photography, 220 Jefferson St.

Cedar House Airbnb, 312 Cedar St.

Pheasant Hill Airbnb, 508 Burnside.

Langenberg Luxury Lofts, 330 W. Front St.

Sal Maniaci home, 604 Jefferson St.

Kayla Frankenberg, 204-206 Jefferson St.

Ben and Maggie Hotz, 312 Locust St.

Proceeds from the tour benefit the downtown organization to help continue its preservation efforts.

For more information, people may call Downtown Washington Inc., 636-239-1743.

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November 24-25, 2018 The Missourian

Lack of Quorum Sparks Talk On Meetings

By Amanda Postma
Missourian Staff Writer

The Washington Historic Preservation Commission is revaluating how often they meet when not enough members attended the meeting Monday, Nov. 19.

"By show of standards, we're only required to meet four times a year," Sal Maniaci, community and economic development director, said. "I'm not saying we should go down to that but just throwing it out there if we can (meet) as needed."

Typically, the commission meets monthly, but there is no meeting scheduled in December. The commission will meet next Tuesday, Jan. 22, 2019.

Maniaci suggested they keep scheduling the meeting for the same time slot in the same room and then cancel if there's no new business when the agenda goes out.

"(It) is very distressing when you have very few people come," Carolyn Witt, board member of Downtown Washington Inc., said.

Witt said she was going to contact everyone who wasn't at Monday's meeting to explain how important the next meeting will be.

"This is your mother and I'm calling to tell you, you will be there," Witt said jokingly. "I try to avoid that tone of voice."

Other members in attendance said the commission should be used as a resource.

"This commission should be available to anyone who wants to come and get our advice," Danielle Grotewiel, Downtown Washington communication specialist, said. "They could come to us prior to starting anything and we can help them through that process, which is not something I think that our citizens know."

Maniaci also said the meetings could be used to discuss emails that are sent from the commission. If the email has too much information the citizen should be able to discuss it in person.

Discussions led to concern regarding members still being interested in being on the board.

"You want to have people (who) have an invested interest and want to be here," Witt said. "We're so grateful that people are willing to give up their time because it is a thankless (job). We cannot survive without the volunteers."

November 24-25, 2018 The Missourian

Preservation Group May Explore Survey of Bassora

After Shoe Factory Process

By Amanda Postma
Missourian Staff Writer

The Washington Historical Preservation Commission may direct its attention to the former town of Bassora while waiting to move forward with the International Shoe Factory Historic District.

The third survey of the shoe factory is underway. The city is required to wait a year before submitting a request to nominate the district in its entirety before seeking national historic status for the area.

"We need to start talking about (if) we want to do something next year because we have to take a year off from this district," Danielle Grotewiel, Downtown Washington Inc. communication specialist, said at the commission's Nov. 19 meeting.

Bassora was a rival town founded in 1836 just east of Washington. The Bassora cemetery is now known as Krog Park.

"I would like to put this up for consideration and we can all think about it in our spare time until January, (but) I think we should think about (developing) some sort of historic district for Bassora," Grotewiel said.

The contract for phase three of the International Shoe Factory Historic District Survey was approved Monday, Nov. 12.

The district survey must be completed by the end of August 2019.

Community and Economic Development Director Sal Maniaci said he thought some internal surveying of Bassora should take place first.

"If we go through and visually see that most of the structures are not contributing, it's just a waste of money," he said.

A contributing structure is one that adds to the historical integrity or architectural qualities that makes a district significant.

Grotewiel also suggested the commission consider resurveying the existing districts. Some of the districts haven't been surveyed since the late '80s or '90s.

"It puts more people in a position to be able to utilize tax credits if they're contributing now," she said.

The discussion of what to do next will continue during the commission's next meeting Tuesday, Jan. 22, 2019.

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Downtown Group Puts Out Its Annual Guide

Distributed Locally, Statewide

By Susan Miller
Missourian Managing Editor

Downtown Washington Inc.'s 32-page guide on what's happening here and in the surrounding area is now available.

The magazine, called The Invitation, comes out each year and is distributed across Missouri, according to Bridgette Kelch, executive director.

"We had 17,500 copies printed and began distributing the magazine this week locally and will continue next week," she said. "It also goes out to all Missouri welcome centers and rest stops, the Amtrak stations, as well as Missouri wineries and breweries, really any tourism-related businesses."

Copies are held back for restocking as needed, she said.

This year's cover has a new look featuring a photo of the Washington riverfront. The Chamber of Commerce's Historic Washington brochure will feature the same photo. The brochure will be coming out soon.

Kelch said The Invitation is a guide to all special events and activities in Downtown Washington and beyond.

"It's an advertising and promotional piece for us," she said. "People will really like the center spread because it has a calendar of events and information on the major activities in 2019, such as the Art Fair and Winefest, Sunset on the Riverfront, the Washington Town & Country Fair and Olde-Fashioned Christmas, among others."

In her "welcome" on Page 1, Kelch states: "Washington is the perfect destination for any occasion, like a romantic getaway, family trip or week with your friends. We can't wait to meet you and share our amazing community with you."

Short stories on local businesses and the Washington Historical Society are featured, as well as a map of downtown.

A complete listing of all members and friends of Downtown Washington Inc. also can be found in the magazine.

"It's a great piece for not only locals to find out what's happening, but visitors who are planning a trip here," said Kelch. "It's a nice showcase of local businesses as well."

The Invitation is always well-received, she said, with people often calling to find out when it's coming out.

"We are a little late in getting the magazine out this year, so we really put the focus on what's happening in 2019," she said.

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Cemetery Tour Provides Lessons on Washington's History

Gary and Mary Beth Rettke lean in to read gravestones at the Wildey Odd Fellows Cemetery during the annual cemetery tour Monday evening, Oct. 29. Organized by the Washington Odd Fellows Lodge and the Washington Historical Society, the tour is historical in nature and designed to educate people about some of the more interesting people who are buried at the cemetery. Missourian Photo.

November 28, 2018 The Missourian

Tears for Santa

Isabella Dunham was not happy to see the man in the red suit Sunday, Nov. 25, at the annual Olde Fashioned Christmas at the Farmers' Market. Mary Grace, her mom, tried to calm her as Everett, her dad, snaps a quick photo with his cellphone. The Washington Area Chamber of Commerce and Washington Parks Department's event drew large crowds. Missourian Photo.

November 28, 2018 The Missourian

Holiday Wagon Rides Downtown

Downtown Washington Inc. and Wine Country Wagon Rides will team up to offer Lights and History Wagon Rides this Friday, Nov. 30, and again Saturday, Dec. 22, from 5 to 7 p.m.

Guests will enjoy a twilight ride to see the lights of downtown and hear the history of the community.

Reservations are required. The cost is $25 per person. Children under the age of 3 are free.

For more information or to make reservations, call Downtown Washington Inc., 636-239-1743.

Santa Coming To Washington

Santa and Mrs. Claus will arrive on Amtrak at the Washington depot this Friday, Nov. 30, at approximately 5 p.m.

They will pose for photos inside the train depot.

Fredbird also will make a special appearance that night. He was scheduled to be in the Holiday Parade of Lights this past Friday, but the parade was canceled due to rain.

Santa also will meet with children and families the first three Saturdays in December — Dec. 1, Dec. 8 and Dec. 15 — from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Farmers' Market. Photos will cost $5 or families may take their own photo.

November 28, 2018 The Missourian

Rain Forces Organizers To Cancel Holiday Parade

By Susan Miller
Missourian Managing Editor

It's only happened once before, but Downtown Washington Inc.'s Holiday Parade of Lights was canceled Friday night, Nov. 23, due to heavy rain.

"We hated to cancel, and we know people put a lot of work into their entries, but the rain was not stopping," said Bridgette Kelch, executive director.

The parade was not rescheduled, however Kelch said a rain date will be set for next year.

"We will definitely have a rain date planned so people know in advance," she said. "In the 18 years I've been with Downtown Washington Inc. we've only had to cancel one time in 2015."

Kelch noted she consulted with Mark Skornia, Washington Emergency Management director, in making the decision. The weather service was calling for rain to fall until 8 p.m. or later Friday.

The organization did ask all participants to take a photo of their float or entry and submit it to events@downtownwashmo.org so a video can be made and winners chosen for best float.

"We've received about 10 photos and people have until Friday to send them in," Kelch said. "We hope to have the video up next week and announce the winners."

November 28, 2018 The Missourian

Old Bridge to Pass Into Pages of History

Historical Society Director Praises Historic Structure

While others extol the benefits of the newly constructed bridge, Marc Houseman said it's appropriate for a local history buff to offer some praise for the historic structure being replaced which has served the community effectively and efficiently for longer than most can remember.

Houseman, director of the Washington Historical Society Museum, said the bridge became a part of the local landscape during the years of construction from 1934 to 1936.

"What a prideful day when she was dedicated as a beautifully designed, state-of-the art span crossing the muddy Missouri," he said. "Her creation was in part inspired by the construction of a bridge at Hermann, which ruffled the feathers of a few Washington residents since 'they got theirs' before we got ours."

Houseman said the carefully formed Washington Bridge committee was quickly notified that the state didn't have the money in the budget for a bridge at Washington, in part because, indeed, a bridge had just been built at Hermann.

Undaunted, the committee forged a plan for a toll bridge – one which would be paid for by those who used it, he said.

Harry Schaefer, the last of Washington's 122-year-long chain of ferryboat operators, was hired as one of the toll collectors, Houseman said.

"It took 15 years to pay off the $600,000-plus debt on the bridge, but as soon as it was paid for, the toll was lifted, the toll booth demolished and yet another daylong celebration was held in honor of 'free bridge day,' which included the distribution of fee ashtrays to those crossing the river," he said.

Miss Virginia Eichmeyer of Marthasville was the first person to cross the "free" bridge that day and likewise, he said, though she never smoked, was given an ashtray.

"Over the decades our grand old bridge has been featured in countless photographs, paintings, line drawings, recreated in miniature, featured on letterheads and billboards," Houseman said. "But more importantly, she has never failed us as an imperative link between the north and south sides of the Missouri River. She has only been affected negatively by things of nature and perhaps the neglect of man. Though made of concrete and steel, one can almost sense a feeling of pride and strength oozing from her girders as though she was indeed, part human"

Right after the bridge opened, Schaefer divested his ferry, the "Walter W. Schaefer" of its engine and towed the hull to the northern bank of the river, just east of the bridge where he sank her.

Named for his young brother who died from the bite of a rabid dog, Schaefer's boat had served the Washington area community and Warren County for many years.

"I can't imagine that Harry put her in a watery grave without shedding a tear," Houseman said.

"I suspect I won't be the only person to shed a tear at the bridge's passing into the pages of history and if this reads as if an obituary, well, perhaps it is," he said. "For one who never let us down and stands defiantly still until she will be forcibly retired from service and relegated to the scrap yard. Yes, it will seem as though we're burying an old friend."

November 28, 2018 The Missourian

Meeting a Princess

The Washington Area Chamber of Commerce and Washington Parks Department hosted an Olde Fashioned Christmas Sunday, Nov. 25, at the Farmers' Market in Downtown Washington. Visitors enjoyed local music, face painting, carriage rides, holiday crafts and met Santa and Mrs. Claus. Audrie Scull is overjoyed in the presence of the Christmas Beauty princess. Missourian Photo.

November 28, 2018 The Missourian

The Old Bridge in Photos

By Jeanne Miller Wood.

November 28, 2018 The Missourian

Kids Shopping Night Downtown

A special kids shopping downtown event is planned for Wednesday, Dec. 5, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Cowan's in Downtown Washington.

Many of the downtown merchants will have a special kids shopping section set up at the restaurant with gifts for $10 or less.

This event will let children shop for Mom and Dad independently. United Methodist Church volunteers will be on hand to wrap the gifts.

November 28, 2018 The Missourian

Hello to the New Bridge, Goodbye to the Old

Story by Karen Cernich,
Photos by Jeanne Miller Wood

Back in 1936, the opening of the first vehicle bridge over the Missouri River at Washington was such a monumental event that Mayor Fred Ruether declared a half-day holiday. He issued a proclamation requesting all businesses to close up shop by noon Thursday, May 28, so everyone could attend the parade and bridge dedication ceremony that afternoon.

Current Mayor Sandy Lucy isn't going that far, but she is hoping as many people as possible will turn out this Saturday, Dec. 1, for the activities and ceremonies celebrating the new bridge.

"This is a tremendous milestone for our community and the entire area," said Mayor Lucy, noting this is only the second time in Washington's history that this has occurred, and it will be a 100 years or so before it happens again.

For that reason, she is particularly hopeful that a large number of children will attend the event Saturday.

"They have the best chance of being here someday when we open the third bridge," said Lucy. "It's a milestone. It might not seem like that to our younger generation, but it certainly is . . . Their parents need to write in their journals or baby books about the bridge opening and take a photo of that. This is monumental."

The opening of the new Route 47 bridge is bittersweet for everyone who appreciates the architectural features of the old bridge, which has become an iconic image over the last 80-plus years. For decades, people have been drawn to the riverfront to pose for photos with the bridge span in the background.

The new bridge is a girder style, while the old bridge is a Warren thru truss style. The difference isn't in just how the two bridges look, but how they function.

"The Warren thru truss carries the load above the driving surface, and a girder style carries the load below the driving surface," said Judy Wagner, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) area engineer, noting the girder style is the most economical type of bridge to build for this size.

The new bridge, which is expected to last between 75 and 100 years, features two 12-foot driving lanes with 10-foot shoulders, as well as a bicycle/pedestrian trail, a scenic overlook, decorative fencing, benches and lights to illuminate the piers.

It is 2,560 feet long with 4,500 cubic yards of concrete on the driving surface, another 7,400 cubic yards of concrete on the rest of the bridge, and 5,781 tons of structural steel, said Wagner.

There are girders varying in height from 10 to 16 feet and spanning up to 500 feet across the river supporting the bridge, along with 15 drilled shafts. Each 10-foot diameter drilled shaft is 60 to 75 feet long and embedded into bedrock up to 20 feet.

More than two years since a groundbreaking ceremony for the new bridge was held in August 2016, the new bridge construction is on time and on budget, said Wagner, noting the project is not 100 percent complete yet.

There is touchup and cleanup work still to be done, she said, as well as the installation of aesthetic lighting, taking down the old bridge, reopening the riverfront trail on the south side and constructing a trail on the north side.

"We have a long way to go, but we are just ecstatic to get this done with all the obstacles you overcome on a major river bridge construction — floods, weather, all kinds of environmental concerns that are out of our control," she said. "So it's very exciting to have it done and open to traffic on time. We still have a lot to finish up, so we will continue."

The bridge is scheduled to be open to traffic next week, and the completion date for the entire project is scheduled for July 2019.

Bob Zick, who served as chairman of the Highway 47 Bridge Committee since he was appointed in 2007 by then-Washington Mayor Dick Stratman, said he's pleased at how well and how smoothly the project came together.

"It's just very gratifying," Zick remarked. "Very gratifying to be getting very close to the end here. We are just delighted that we are finally seeing the structure completed.

"One of the joys has been the way everyone in the community and the state and the legislators all chipped in, and we never really experienced any opposition or problems, whatsoever. We had a challenge finding money, but we never had any real complaint or opposition to replacing the bridge. Everybody recognized it was a safety necessity and everybody got on board, chipped in and got it done," said Zick.

"We are just very delighted that everybody pitched in together and it was a huge community joint effort," he added.

Old Bridge Was Deteriorating

The cost of the new bridge is $63 million, with 80 percent provided by the federal government, 20 percent by the state and $800,000 from the city of Washington and Franklin and Warren counties for the enhancements. The $1,400 raised by local schoolchildren in a penny drive helped fund the enhancements.

The need for the new bridge was due to de-

•Continued on Page 2C

A Walk to Remember

Katie and Jared Nelson swing their daughter, Lillian, between them as they take a walk across the old Highway 47 bridge at Washington May 4, 2017. The bridge was closed to traffic due to flooding on the highway across the river.

•Continued From Page 1C

teriorating conditions of the old bridge and it had become costly to repair. Millions of dollars were spent to extend the life of the old bridge, including $5 million in 2009.

Two years earlier, members of the Washington Area Highway and Transportation Committee (which had been created by Washington Mayor Bernie Hillermann) urged Mayor Stratman to appoint a committee to work exclusively on getting a new bridge built. That recommendation came after the collapse of the Interstate 35W truss bridge over the Mississippi River in Minneapolis, Minn., on Aug. 1, 2007, and the closing of the Washington bridge several days later for emergency repairs after structural damage was discovered during a regular inspection.

When the Old Bridge Was New

Before the first Missouri River bridge at Washington was built to connect Franklin and Warren counties, people relied on ferryboats to get across the river. And waiting for the ferryboat then was like waiting for a bus today — not only did you need to know the schedule and make sure you weren't late, but there often were delays.

The bridge, which people could get across by walking, riding a bicycle or driving a car, made life much simpler, according to people like Dottie Bolzenius and Virginia Nadler, who shared their memories of when the old bridge was new for a feature story that appeared in *The Missourian* Sept. 24-25, 2016.

The bridge provided people with more choices for work, services, shopping, recreation and entertainment. They did have to pay a toll to use the bridge for the first 15 years.

Bolzenius, who lived on a farm in Augusta when the bridge was opened, recalled how once she was old enough to go to work, she took a job at KDK Shoe Factory on Fifth Street in Washington. On Fridays, she would cash her paycheck and walk across the bridge, because the toll was cheaper for foot passengers than a car, and her father would pick her up on the other side.

Much like today, getting the first bridge built took a decade from when local citizens began making a case for it to when the bridge was open to traffic.

"Citizens of Washington had worked since 1926 to get a bridge built over the Missouri River," George Bocklage of the Washington Historical Society wrote in a story that appeared in *The Missourian* Jan. 3, 2017. "In that year, they approached the State Highway Commission about construction. The state decided not to participate, but local citizens began planning for a toll bridge."

A group of Washington men organized the Washington Missouri River Bridge Company. In 1928, the U.S. Congress authorized it to build the bridge.

"Cost concerns (estimated at $1 million) and the Great Depression kept the company from acting on construction," Bocklage wrote.

"In June 1933, authorization was transferred to the city of Washington. In that same year, the Washington Chamber of Commerce convinced the Missouri State Highway Commission to contribute funds. The city hired Sverdrup & Parcel to design the cantilevered truss bridge, which became a project of the Public Works Administration. Sverdrup & Parcel also would supervise bridge construction."

No one worked harder to have the bridge at Washington built than U.S. Congressman Clarence Cannon, Elsberry, who represented this area in the U.S. House for more than 40 years. It was Cannon who sent a telegram from Washington, D.C., to officials here on June 27, 1934, with news that finally the bridge was a go:

"Glad to advise president today approved allotment of public works funds for construction of the Washington bridge. Congratulations."

Bridge Memories

Just a couple of weeks after a groundbreaking ceremony for the new bridge, Robert Holdmeyer stopped along the Washington Riverfront Trail to watch the river Saturday morning, Sept. 3, 2016.

The news spread like wildfire.

"Blaring whistles and ringing bells informed the general public. The fire siren sounded for several minutes, frightening people. The Boys Band played on street corners that evening," Bocklage noted.

To fund the construction, the federal government provided a $428,000 loan and a $175,000 grant, and the state highway department provided another $200,000.

"The city would pay off the loan by selling municipal revenue bonds. Bridge tolls would fund bonds. Once financing was secured, construction could proceed in the near future. The city agreed to operate the bridge," Bocklage wrote.

Delays and Injuries, Then and Now

Bids for building the bridge were opened at city hall Sept. 7, 1934, and one month later, the Missouri Valley Bridge & Iron Co. began work on the substructure, said Bocklage. The contract called for payment of $212,187.50 to set supporting piers.

"Most bridge material was shipped by gasoline-powered boats to the site and stored on the banks until needed," he wrote. "At the southern site, two stairways were built, one from the railroad tracks to the south bank and another from the tracks to the top of the bluff.

"Once piers were completed, construction of the superstructure began from both the north and south bank. Overhead steel structures and the roadbed were to meet in the middle, after which concrete would be poured for the road surface. Stupp Bros. Bridge & Iron Company won the contract for the superstructure work with a bid of $345,493."

Work continued steadily from August to October 1935, with progress becoming noticeable. The first concrete was poured in November 1935. Riveters ended their work January 1936.

In building the old bridge, it took 245 men to place the piers, the largest workforce on the project.

With the new bridge, there may have been that many workers over the entire course of the project, said Wagner, explaining that overall the building of the new bridge has been a much simpler process than what was needed the first time around.

"Construction technology has increased greatly, to not only improve the production, but also the safety of our workers," said Wagner.

Flooding was a cause for delay in building both the old and new bridges. Work was delayed for 60 days in the early summer of 1935 due to major flooding.

There were more delays that winter when the Missouri River froze solid. It was the coldest in 18 years with temperatures as low as 30 to 50 degrees below zero.

With ice measuring between 5 and 20 inches thick, people didn't need a bridge to cross the river, Bocklage noted. They were able to walk and drive across as needed.

In building the new bridge these last two years, there was only one significant delay, which came in spring 2017, said Wagner. After nearly 11 inches of rain fell between April 26 and May 5, 2017, Alberici Constructors Inc. was delayed close to a month due to flooding.

Back in the 1930s, there was one man who died on the job while building the bridge. Fred P. Summers of Washington, who was employed on the bridge founda-

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November 28, 2018 The Missourian

Looking Back at the Bridge

Mary Lee West, a lifelong Washington resident, shows a toll sign from when the first Missouri River bridge at Washington was in the 1930s. The bridge was paid for, in part, by tolls collected by the city of Washington from 1936 to 1951.

November 28, 2018 The Missourian

WASHINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY PHOTO

WASHINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY PHOTO

WASHINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY PHOTO

WASHINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY PHOTO

December 1-2, 2018 The Missourian

Italian Market to Open Downtown

Will Bring a Taste of The Hill Here

By Amanda Postma
Missourian Staff Writer

An Italian market will open in the coming year in Downtown Washington.

"It all started this past spring," said Monica Buel, owner, who had reached out to her brother, Joe Lanasa, about a business opportunity they could do together.

At first, they were interested in opening a market in the former Jasper house at 320 Lafayette St.

When that didn't work out, Buel said they let the idea go.

Then, during a stop at the old post office in Downtown Washington to mail bridal shower invitations, Buel and Angela Gewinner, her mother, saw a for sale sign on the space where Ed's Meat Market at 24 W. Second St. used to be located.

They contacted the realtor and the idea was reborn.

"That kind of got us started," Buel said. "She (my mother) wants to add a little bit of Sicily into the German town of Washington."

The three owners plan to name the new market Angelina's after Gewinner's grandmother.

"Mom's grandmother was married to Dominic Bommarito and he owned a bakery in downtown St. Louis (called) Bommarito's Bakery," Buel said.

Bommarito passed away in 1925 and Angelina Bommarito began working as a seamstress for men's clothing.

"She was quite a lady," Gewinner said. "(She) always looked like a little doll when she left the house."

"She was an inspiration for my mom," Buel said.

The Bommaritos immigrated from Italy.

"So that's how we got to where we are," Buel said.

Angelina's market will have a deli to serve hot and cold sandwiches to go.

"We'll have all the deli meats and cheeses that you would normally get from any market, as well as some specialty Volpi," Lanasa said. "Volpi is a brand of salami from The Hill."

The market also will offer Boar's Head meats.

The sandwiches will come with side options, including mostaccioli, coleslaw and salad.

"If I see there's a real need for it, I'll make some hot German potato salad," Gewinner said. "I've got a good recipe for that."

Buel said Gewinner's priority with the market is the Italian part of it.

"She wants to put in the Italian spices, breads, cookies, tomatoes, olive oils — all that pertains to Italian food like on St. Louis The Hill," Buel said. "We want to bring a taste of The Hill to Washington."

The market also will sell homemade pasta sauces and pizzas, Italian wines, sasizzas and spadinis.

"We'll have sausage and cheese trays that people going to wineries could come in and grab," Lanasa said.

The owners also have plans for a kitchen for baked goods. They're working with Steve Strubberg, Horn Architects, to design the layout.

"We haven't seen his plans yet, but we're excited about that," Buel said.

The market also will offer grocery items, such as milk, bread and butter.

"Living here and knowing that there's not a grocery store in this little (downtown) area, we talked about putting one in the store as well as Italian stuff," said Buel.

"We're just excited to be part of the community and help maybe fill a void," Lanasa said.

The family is planning on being involved in the community.

"I know that each business down here participates in the town and I hope that we are going to do that as well," Buel said. "It's really neat that they all get together and work together as a group to make downtown really nice."

She said they want the market to feel homey and personal while also providing good food for the community.

"We want it to have an old-time feel," Buel said. "We just want an old-time, quaint Italian store."

"It's going to be a fun place," Gewinner added.

The plan is to have Angelina's open sometime in 2019.

The market hours have not been determined yet, Gewinner said.

"Somebody will have to be here early cooking," she said, "and then I'm going to leave the door open so you can smell it."

Italian Market to Open

A sister and brother duo are teaming up with their mom to turn the space at 24 W. Second St. in Downtown Washington where Ed's Meat Market used to be into Angelina's Italian Market. Angela Gewinner, left, Joe Lanasa and Monica Buel will offer Italian staples and a deli for carry-out orders. The market also will carry groceries. They are hoping to open within the next year. The three want it to feel like an old-time, quaint Italian market. Missourian Photo.

December 1-2, 2018 The Missourian

Knoebel Completes Reno Of Langenberg Hat Building

Construction is complete on the $3 million historic renovation of the former Langenberg Hat Building at 330 W. Front St in Washington. It also was the Hirschl and Bendheim cob pipe factory.

As general contractor, Knoebel Construction converted the two-story brick building into a multiuse space featuring 6, two-bedroom lofts and Streetside Tacos, a sit-down restaurant on the first floor.

The developer was Marquart Landing Properties, L.L.C., Washington, and the architect was The Van Hooser Partnership, St. Louis.

The construction of the historic building included renovation of the façade, structural modifications and all-new HVAC, electrical, plumbing, roofing, sidewalks, stairs, parking lot and elevator.

The historic renovation was funded in part through the city's Downtown Building Rehabilitation Program.

The new 2,020-square-foot Streetside Tacos features an open-view kitchen, outdoor patio, vibrant artwork, salsa and chip bar and views of the Missouri River and Washington Riverfront.

The first floor also features two lofts, offices and room for future build-out of additional retail space.

Four additional lofts are located on the second floor.

The 1,350 to 1,730-square-foot, one-bedroom and one-and-a-half bathroom lofts retain the historic charm of the building with exposed brick, hardwood floors, wood beams and tall ceilings.

Knoebel Construction, Inc., St. Louis, is a national general contractor specializing in retail center, multiuse, restaurant, grocery, health care and retail store construction. Projects range from major regional shopping centers to local restaurants.

Founded in 1981, Knoebel Construction provides full-service development and general contracting services to real estate development firms, independent restaurant and retail owners, and retailers.

December 4, 2018 The Missourian

Holiday House Tour This Sunday

A limited number of tickets are still available for Downtown Washington Inc.'s 37th annual Holiday House Tour this Sunday, Dec. 9.

The tour, featuring homes, businesses and two places of lodging, will run from 4 to 7 p.m. It will be held rain or shine.

The downtown post office at 123 Lafayette St. and St. Peter's United Church of Christ for its Festival of Trees also are part of the tour.

Tickets are $10 and on sale now at www.downtownwashmo.org or call 636-239-1743.

If still available, tickets can be purchased the day of the event at the downtown post office.

Trolley rides will again be available and refreshments will be served at the post office, which will be decorated for Christmas. The trolley will run continuously to the various stops.

People should visit the post office first to pick up their tour booklets.

The tour stops include:

Elijah McLean's, 600 W. Front St.

Julie Underwood Photography, 220 Jefferson St.

Cedar House Airbnb, 312 Cedar St.

Pheasant Hill Airbnb, 508 Burnside.

Langenberg Luxury Lofts, 330 W. Front St.

Sal Maniaci home, 604 Jefferson St.

Kayla Frankenberg, 204-206 Jefferson St.

Ben and Maggie Hotz, 312 Locust St.

Proceeds from the tour benefit the downtown organization to help continue its preservation efforts.

For more information, people may call Downtown Washington Inc., 636-239-1743.

December 5, 2018 The Missourian

You Better Not Cry!

Lonnie Pearson was not happy about posing for a photo with Mrs. Claus Friday, Nov. 30, at the train depot in Downtown Washington. Santa accompanied Mrs. Claus on an Amtrak train and they stopped in Washington to greet children and pose for photos. Also pictured is Marissa Breer. Missourian Photo.

December 5, 2018 The Missourian

Brass Band Performance

The Washington Brass Band performed Sunday, Nov. 25, at the Washington Area Chamber of Commerce and Washington Parks Department's Olde Fashioned Christmas at the Farmers' Market in Downtown Washington. Guests enjoyed live music, free carriage rides, holiday crafts and the arrival of Santa and Mrs. Claus. The band will host its annual Christmas concert Sunday, Dec. 9, at 3 p.m. at the Washington City Park Auditorium. Missourian Photo.

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December 5, 2018 The Missourian

Christmas Carolers

The East Central Children's Chorale sang Christmas carols Sunday, Nov. 25, at the Washington Area Chamber of Commerce and Washington Parks Department's Olde Fashioned Christmas at the Farmers' Market in Downtown Washington.

Missourian Photo.

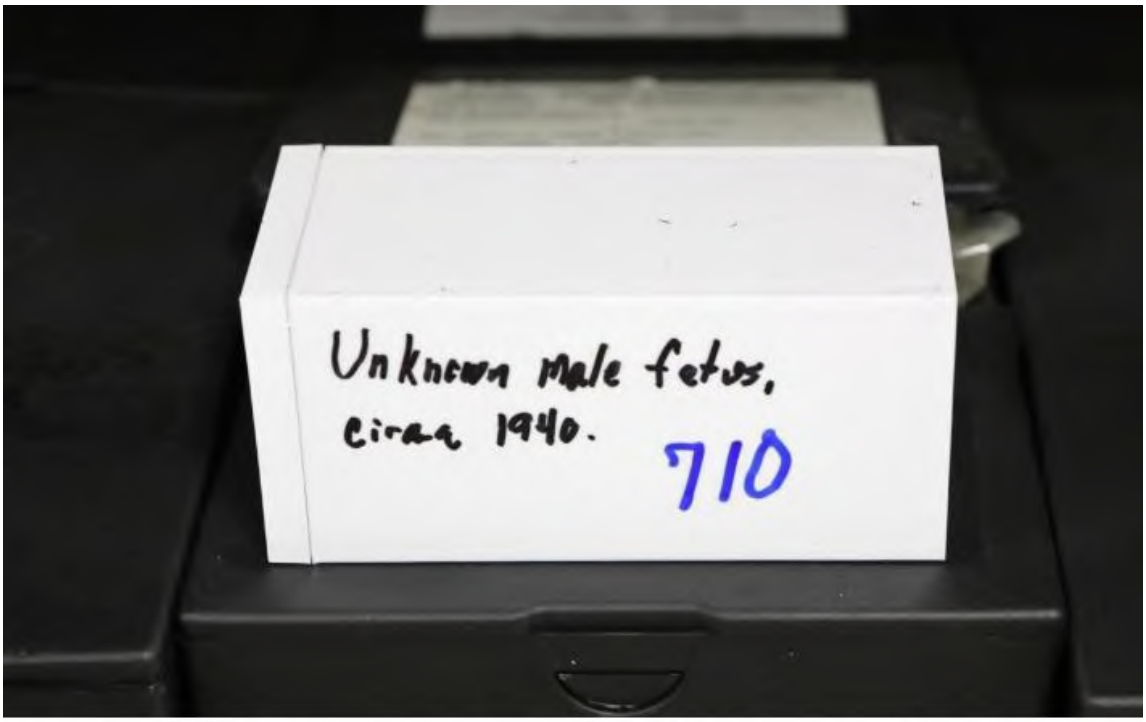
December 5, 2018 The Missourian

When no one wants a person's cremated remains, they may wind up in Washington, Mo.

By Valerie Schremp Hahn St. Louis Post-Dispatch Dec 7, 2018

Marc Houseman, the Vice Grand of the Odd Fellows Pacific Lodge #86, shows one of the unclaimed cremated remains of a woman inside an urn on Tuesday, Sept. 25, 2018, at the columbarium at the Wildey Odd Fellows Cemetery in Washington, Missouri. The woman had been there twice. The funeral home located her son, and picked up her remains from the columbarium when he said he would pick them up from the funeral home. But he never did, so the funeral home brought the cremains back to the columbarium. Photo by J.B. Forbes, jforbes@post-dispatch.com

Paul Annable watches as the cremains of veteran James Helton are interred in Grubville, Mo. on Oct. 13, 2018. Helton lived in St. Louis and his remains had been unclaimed until Annable and the Odd Fellows of Washington, Mo. got involved. (photo courtesy of Paul Annable)



The unclaimed cremated remains of a an unknown male fetus is on a shelf on Tuesday, Sept. 25, 2018, at the columbarium at the Wildey Odd Fellows Cemetery in Washington, Missouri. Photo by J.B. Forbes, jforbes@post-dispatch.com

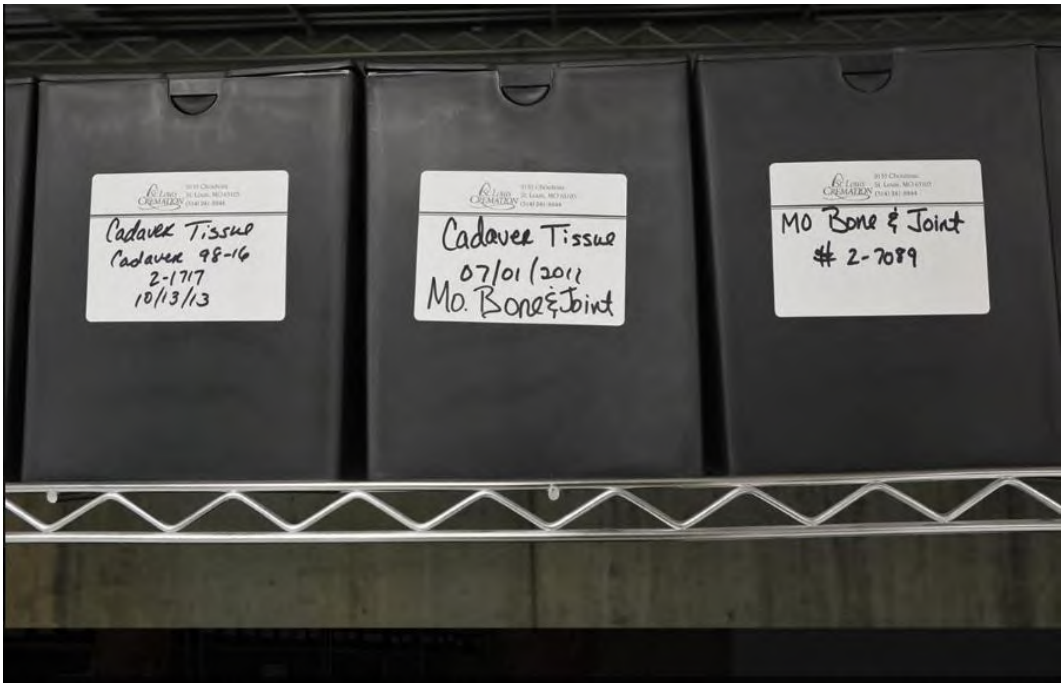
Dennis Hellebusch (left) and Paul Annable document each new set of cremains delivered on Tuesday, Sept. 25, 2018, to the columbarium at the Wildey Odd Fellows Cemetery in Washington, Missouri. Annable is the Nobel Grand of the Odd Fellows Pacific Lodge #86 and the Missouri Coordinator of the Missing in America Project. Photo by J.B. Forbes, jforbes@post-dispatch.com

Ron Shaver (left) from St. Louis Cremation, helps Marc Houseman, Vice Grand of the Odd Fellows Pacific Lodge #86, put away the cremated remains of 37 people on Tuesday, Sept. 25, 2018, at the columbarium at the Wildey Odd Fellows Cemetery in Washington, Missouri. Shaver said his last delivery of unclaimed cremated remains to the columbarium was several months ago. Photo by J.B. Forbes, jforbes@post-dispatch.com

Marc Houseman, Vice Grand of the Odd Fellows Pacific Lodge #86, shows where some of the official Odd Fellows robes are kept on Tuesday, Sept. 25, 2018, at the Wildey Odd Fellows Cemetery in Washington, Missouri. Photo by J.B. Forbes, jforbes@post-dispatch.com

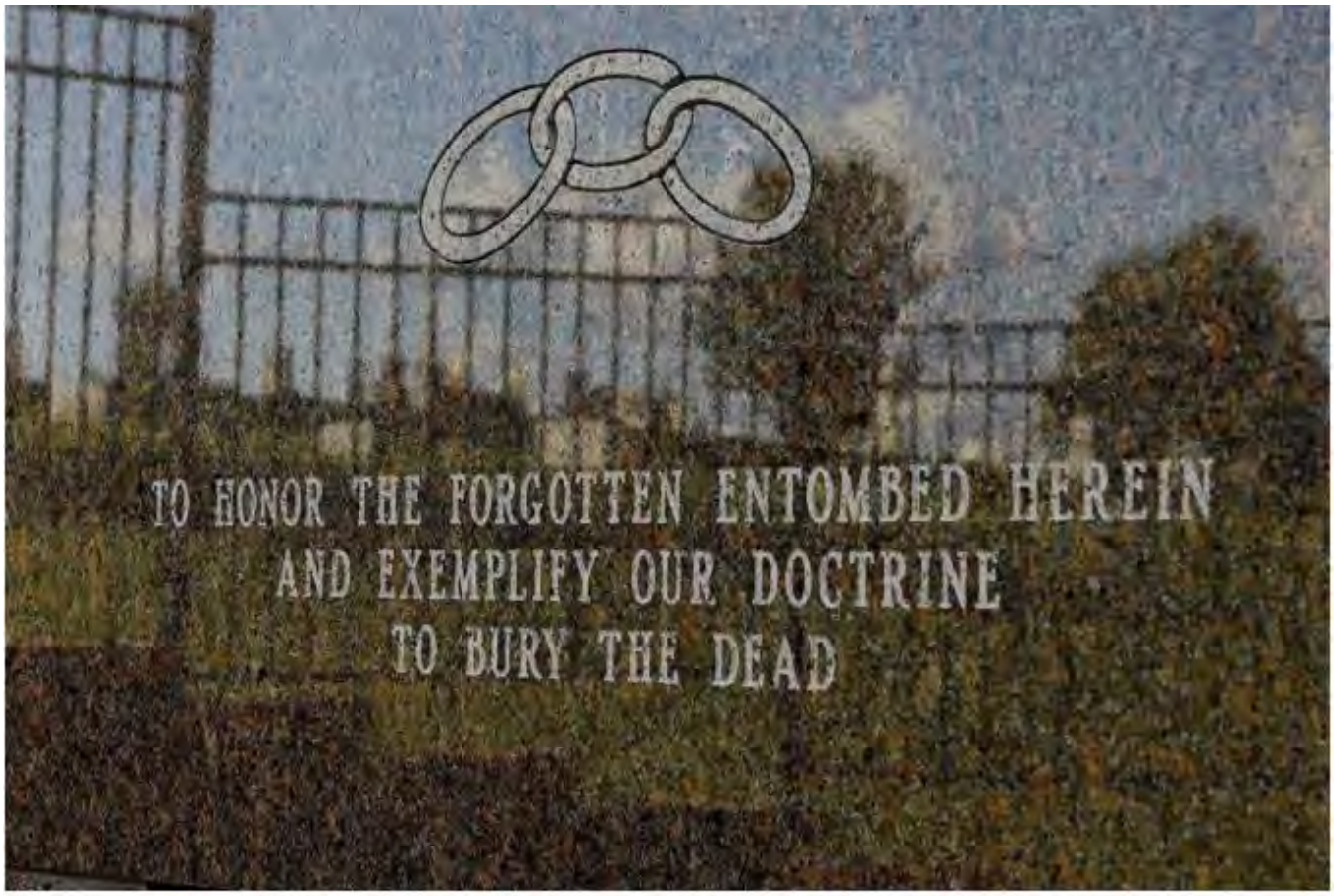
The meeting room for the Odd Fellows Pacific Lodge #86 is upstairs on Tuesday, Sept. 25, 2018, at the Wildey Odd Fellows Cemetery in Washington, Missouri. Photo by J.B. Forbes, jforbes@post-dispatch.com

Marc Houseman, Vice Grand of the Odd Fellows Pacific Lodge #86, (left) helps Ron Shaver, from St. Louis Cremation, bring the cremated remains of 37 people on Tuesday, Sept. 25, 2018, into the columbarium at the Wildey Odd Fellows Cemetery in Washington, Missouri. The columbarium takes in the unclaimed cremated remains of bodies from anywhere in Missouri. Photo by J.B. Forbes, jforbes@post-dispatch.com



Cremated cadaver parts are in boxes on Tuesday, Sept. 25, 2018, at the columbarium at the Wildey Odd Fellows Cemetery in Washington, Missouri. The cadaver parts come from bodies donated to science. Photo by J.B. Forbes, jforbes@post-dispatch.com

Ron Shaver (left) from St. Louis Cremation, helps Marc Houseman, Vice Grand of the Odd Fellows Pacific Lodge #86, put away the cremated remains of 37 people on Tuesday, Sept. 25, 2018, at the columbarium at the Wildey Odd Fellows Cemetery in Washington, Missouri. Photo by J.B. Forbes, jforbes@post-dispatch.com



The Odd Fellows statement that is engraved over the entrance on Tuesday, Sept. 25, 2018, at the columbarium at the Wildey Odd Fellows Cemetery in Washington, Missouri. Photo by J.B. Forbes, jforbes@post-dispatch.com

Washington, MO – The white minivan from St. Louis Cremation has backed up for another delivery.

Ron Shaver gets out and opens the back door, revealing a gurney.

"OK, want to go backward or forward?" asks Marc Houseman, who has been waiting.

The two men wrestle the gurney down the stone steps. It's heavy. Strapped onto it are boxes containing the creamins of 38 people. All of the boxes have names on them: Donald Frzier. Marie Winters. Fannie Curry.

Until today, nobody had claimed them.

The Odd Fellows did.

"Why don't more people do this?" said Houseman.
"How do you just ignore it?"

The columbarium building at the Wildy Odd Fellows Cemetery in Washington is dedicated to holding unclaimed cremains. The Odd Fellows believe it's the only such

facility in the world. They built it in 2013, after learning that it's not uncommon for funeral homes to have dozens of cremains on their shelves, sometimes for years. Since the group's beginning in 1819, one of the four commandments of the Odd Fellows is to bury the dead.

So the Odd Fellows of the Pacific Lodge No. 86 built a columbarium in their cemetery, next to their gathering hall. It's partially underground, and utilitarian, with a granite-finished entrance on the side. Carved above the entrance is a three-link chain, a symbol of the Odd Fellows, representing friendship, love and truth.

So far, the building holds about 1,100 cremains on wire shelving. Boxes containing unassembled wire shelving sit and wait across the room.

It has room for about 10,800 more.

They have reunited 14 sets of cremains with family members. They have also worked with the Missing in America Project to give final honors to 17 veterans. They have 72 sets of cremains that are simply known as "baby" along with their last name. They are in smaller boxes.

In Missouri, there are no laws regulating where cremains can be scattered, explained Houseman, of Washington, who is the vice grand of the lodge. Technically, they can be thrown away. When they Odd Fellows opened the columbarium, they sent letters to every funeral home in the state explaining what they were doing.

The circumstances that bring the remains here are often sad. The deceased didn't have any relatives. Some were homeless. Some are cremains of bodies that have been donated for medical research. Sometimes, there's a misunderstanding among relatives as to who was supposed to pick up the cremains. Sometimes, relatives simply don't want them.

"It would be totally person and different for everybody," said Justin King, co-owner of St. Louis Cremation. "I've had people say it's just not that important to them; they don't care that much. (They say) it's just remains, what makes them 'them' isn't there anymore."

In the past, St. Louis Cremation scattered unclaimed cremains in an dignified manner, or purchased a vault to bury several sets at a time.

Now they – as well as other funeral homes – send them to the Odd Fellows columbarium. "It's an incredible service that is really needed," said King.

Inside the columbarium, boxes are lined up in neat rows on wire shelving, with an occasional empty space.

"Anywhere you see an empty space, someone was here, but we made a connection," said Houseman.

He spent part of his career as a funeral director but is now the director of the Washington Historical Society. It's easy to explain his work with the columbarium.

"It just feels so good to do the right thing," he said.

Every time they get a delivery, they put the name in a database and post it on the website, findagrave.com. That way, people researching their families online might stumble across the name.

That's how one woman found the remains of her great aunt at the columbarium. The great aunt had died in 1996. But the relative who was supposed to get her interred at the cemetery dropped the ball. Once the great-niece found her, the family gathered at Bellefontaine Cemetery to reinter her ashes, and even visited the columbarium in Washington to see her temporary resting place.

"They got the entire extended family together for the first time in 40 years," he said. "It was a very emotional time for them."

More Connections
One man, Gregory Masteller, was physically and mentally disabled and died at a nursing home in Joplin in 2014. He had no family, but he left enough money for a cremation and an urn. A young funeral director, about 25 years old, started crying as she carried his urn into the columbarium. "I don't even know him," Houseman recalled her saying. "This is just so amazing to me."

One elderly man came to the columbarium to pick up the remains of his son, who died as a young man and had his body donated to science. He didn't know the remains would end up here.

He explained that he and his wife were making their own arrangements and bought a family plot at a cemetery in St. Charles. His daughter had died the year before.

"Now, we can all be together again," he told Houseman. "I'm 90 years old. I've never heard of the Odd Fellows. I don't know who the hell you are. I want to make a donation."

The cremains of veterans get special attention. Paul Annable of Union, the noble grand of the Odd Fellows in Washington, learned about the Missing in America Project during his work with the columbarium. The national organization works with different groups to locate and identify unclaimed cremains of veterans. He's now the coordinator for Missouri.

If Annable finds out a person served in the military, he works to ensure they are interred with full military honors. So far, several soldiers have been sent to final resting places, mostly at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery.

"They can rest now on alongside other soldiers," said Annable.

Their first veteran to be transferred to the cemetery with full military honors was Albert Onyika, a veteran of World War II. His cremains had been sitting on a funeral home shelf in DeSoto for 37 years.

Earlier this summer, a man named James Helton died at his home in St. Louis. He was a sergeant in the Air Force and served in Vietnam.

His closest surviving relative was a mentally disabled brother who lived with him, and lived with his brother's dead body in their home – possibly for two weeks. Once authorities got involved, the body remained in the St. Louis City morgue for more than three months.

Annable worked with the morgue and St. Louis Cremation, and they were able to locate a cousin to authorize its cremation. The cremains stayed in the columbarium for a few weeks, until Oct. 14, when they were interred with military honors at Luebbering Citizens Community Cemetery in Grubville, in Jefferson County, where Helton's parents were buried.

Houseman and Annable both did readings at the service. About 50 people attended. Not one of them knew or was related to Helton.

"That was kind of moving," said Annable. "There are just people that care."

December 8-9, 2018 The Missourian

Christmas Shopping

Makayla Thomas, left, and Peyton Kelley admire a gift during a special kids shopping night held Wednesday, Dec. 5, at Cowan's in Downtown Washington. Many downtown merchants had booths filled with gifts for $10 or less. The event gave children the opportunity to shop for Mom and Dad without their assistance. Volunteers from the United Methodist Church were on hand to wrap gifts. Missourian Photo.

December 8-9-2018 The Missourian

Sing-along With the Mayor

Children sang Christmas carols with Mayor Sandy Lucy and Dr. Mike Radetic, not shown, Sunday, Nov. 25, at the Washington Area Chamber of Commerce and Washington Parks Department's Olde Fashioned Christmas at the Farmers' Market in Downtown Washington. Those in attendance enjoyed free carriage rides, holiday crafts, the arrival of Santa and Mrs. Claus, face painting and cookie decorating.

Missourian Photo.

December 12, 2018 The Missourian

Holiday Magic . . . Holiday Meltdown

Silas, left, and Finnegan Ellis, twins, have differing opinions when it comes to sitting on Santa and Mrs. Claus' laps. The twins met the couple Saturday, Dec. 8, during a Breakfast With Santa at Clearview Elementary. Guests also enjoyed crafts, music and doughnuts. Missourian Photo.

December 12, 2018 The Missourian

Downtown Group Still Has Tax Credits to Sell

For Facade Improvement Program

By Susan Miller
Missourian Managing Editor

The Historic Washington Foundation, a sister organization to Downtown Washington Inc., still has about $50,000 available in Neighborhood Assistance Program tax credits for its low-interest facade improvement loan program.

The foundation was approved for $325,000 in credits.

"We would like to get the tax credits sold by Dec. 31," said Bridgette Kelch, Downtown Washington Inc. executive director.

Those eligible to purchase the credits are individuals who operate a sole proprietorship, operate a farm, have rental property or have royalty income, as well as a shareholder in an S-corporation, a partner in a partnership or a member of a Limited Liability Corporation.

The foundation can accept donations and in turn offer 70 percent of that donation back to the donor as a state tax credit.

"The donations can be made by check or cash or stocks and bonds," said Kelch.

These tax credits are part of $7.3 million being awarded by the Department of Economic Development to nonprofits across Missouri for community development projects.

The credits will benefit the group's low-interest facade improvement revolving loan program, which offers financing for facade improvements, as well as hands-on classes for historic building maintenance.

"The program is being created to provide an incentive for property owners to rehabilitate, reuse or enhance buildings in the downtown district, specifically those buildings that are vacant or have underutilized upper-floor space," Kelch said.

The long-term goal, she said, is to continue to attract new investors, businesses and residents to Downtown Washington.

Kelch said potential projects for the facade improvement loan may include, but are not limited to, reinstalling bricked-in or otherwise obscured windows; replacing ill-fitting and/or noncompliant replacement windows; removing inappropriate materials; repainting brick; repainting currently painted brick; restoration of historic storefronts; and updating or adding signage and awnings.

This is the fourth time the downtown group has received NAP tax credits, which helped with the post office renovation at Lafayette and Second streets and the Farmers' Market.

December 12, 2018 The Missourian

House Tour Stop

Ben and Maggie Hotz's house at 312 Locust St. was one of the featured stops on the Washington Holiday House Tour. The 37th annual tour took place Sunday, Dec. 9, and featured homes, businesses and two places of lodging. St. Peter's United Church of Christ Festival of Trees and the downtown post office also were part of the tour. The event was sponsored by Downtown Washington Inc. Missourian Photo.

December 12, 2018 The Missourian

Holiday House Tour Big Success

By Susan Miller
Missourian Managing Editor

Downtown Washington Inc.'s holiday house tour, held this past Sunday, was a big success.

The organization sold 700 tickets for the one-day event.

"Everything went wonderful and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves," said Bridgette Kelch, executive director.

"We did sell out of tickets early, so I know there were some people who wanted to come, but couldn't, but I guess that's a good problem to have," she said. "We're very excited as a nonprofit to put on this fundraiser and have it be so successful."

Proceeds from the tour benefit the downtown organization to help continue its preservation efforts.

Kelch said she always encourages people to buy their tickets early.

"Seven hundred tickets is the max we sell because we don't want people waiting out in the cold at each of the stops too long," she explained.

This year's tour featured homes, businesses and two lodging establishments, along with the downtown post office and St. Peter's United Church of Christ for its Festival of Trees.

"It was a good mix and people were excited for the opportunity to check out many of thsese places," Kelch said. "We heard nothing but positive comments."

Kelch thanked the property owners and businesses for showcasing their homes and properties.

"We are always looking for properties to feature on the tour, so if anyone is interested, please call the downtown office," she added.

December 12, 2018 The Missourian

December 12, 2018 The Missourian

Christmas Wishes

Tucker Griesheimer shows Santa what he wants for Christmas on a cellphone held by his dad, Aaron, while his sister, Dayton, watches Sunday, Nov. 25, during an Olde Fashioned Christmas in Downtown Washington. The event was hosted by the Washington Area Chamber of Commerce and Washington Parks and Recreation Department at the Farmers' Market. The event also featured cookie decorating, face painting, holiday crafts and carriage rides. Missourian Photo.

December 12, 2018 The Missourian

Christmas Time Is Here

Mark Trebacz, a member of the Washington Lions Club, adds a bow to the garland strung up on the fence at Railroad Heritage Park on Front Street Tuesday, Nov. 20. Club members put up Christmas decorations in the park for the holiday season each year. Missourian Photo.

December 15-16, 2018 The Missourian

Caroling Sing-along

The Washington Area Chamber of Commerce and Washington Parks Department hosted an Olde Fashioned Christmas Sunday, Nov. 25, at the Farmers' Market in Downtown Washington. The event featured free carriage rides, holiday crafts, the arrival of Santa and Mrs. Claus, face painting and cookie decorating. Children sang Christmas carols with Mayor Sandy Lucy and Dr. Mike Radetic, on accordion. Missourian Photo.

December 15-16, 2018 The Missourian

Finding the Perfect Gift

These children ask questions about products to find the perfect gift for Mom and Dad Wednesday, Dec. 5, at Cowan's during a special kids shopping in Downtown Washington event. Many downtown merchants had a special kids shopping section set up at the restaurant with gifts for $10 or less. United Methodist Church volunteers were on hand to wrap the gifts. Missourian Photo.

December 15-16, 2018 The Missourian

Here Comes Santa Claus

Santa and Mrs. Claus wave to all the children at the train depot in Downtown Washington Friday, Nov. 30, after arriving by Amtrak. The two posed for photos and listened to the children's Christmas wishes during the visit. Missourian Photo.

December 15-16, 2018 The Missourian

Greetings From the North Pole

Lilly McCleave shakes Santa's hand Friday, Nov. 30, at the train depot in Downtown Washington when he and Mrs. Claus arrived by Amtrak. They met with children and listened to their Christmas wishes. Missourian Photo.

December 15-16, 2018 The Missourian

Downtown Carriage Rides

Families enjoyed free carriage rides Sunday, Nov. 25, during the Olde Fashioned Christmas in Downtown Washington. The event was hosted by the Washington Area Chamber of Commerce and Washington Parks and Recreation Department at the Farmers' Market. Missourian Photo.

December 22-23, 2018 The Missourian

Christmas Wonder

Morgan Daehnke, Warrenton, stares up at the Christmas tree in Downtown Washington with awe and wonder Wednesday evening, Dec. 19. Morgan is the daughter of Josh and Anne Daehnke. Missourian Photo.

December 22-23, 2018 The Missourian

Starlight Steamboat

Christmas lights on buildings in Downtown Washington twinkle through the fence at the corner of Main and Elm streets Wednesday evening, Dec. 19. *The Missourian* photographer used a star filter to accentuate the seasonal display.

Missourian Photo.

December 26, 2018 The Missourian

Star Light, Star Bright

The Christmas tree at the corner of Main and Elm streets in Downtown Washington lights up the night sky Wednesday, Dec. 19. Standing 30 feet tall, the tree is put up and decorated by a team of volunteers and Washington Parks Department staff. A traditional star with a long tail adorns the top of the tree. Missourian Photo.

Twinkle, Twinkle, Christmas Star

The colorful lights on the Downtown Washington Christmas tree twinkle against a clear blue sky Wednesday evening, Dec. 19. Located at the corner of Main and Elm streets, the artificial tree, which was made in Liberty, Mo., was purchased new last year. Missourian Photo.

December 26, 2018 The Missourian

January 2, 2019 The Missourian

'Great' Year For Downtown Washington

By Amanda Postma
Missourian Staff Writer

With 84 days of events scheduled throughout the year, storefront vacancies down and a new low-interest loan program to offer, Downtown Washington Inc. reported a strong 2018 and looks forward to more of the same in the new year.

"It was a great year," said Bridgette Kelch, executive director.

The organization applied for the new loan program through the Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP). The NAP was used originally to reinvent the Washington Farmers' Market and the Downtown Washington Inc. structures.

Kelch said they have $325,000 to loan out.

"We've made one loan already," she said.

Kelch said there are three other applications out right now that they're expecting to be returned.

"We're excited people will be able to use the

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DOWNTOWN

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loan funds to complete their projects," she said.

Kelch said another highlight of the year was being able to save the Jasper House at 320 Lafayette St.

She said people should keep an eye on the building because it's being worked on.

"We're excited it's going to be an active utilized building with a business contributing to the community," Kelch said.

2018 Statistics

Private improvements over the last year totaled $7,646,587 downtown.

Public improvements totaled $515,000.

Downtown Washington also infused $352,495 into the Washington economy this past year.

It counseled six property owners on historic tax credits and was awarded $371,998 in grants from the Missouri Arts Council, Missouri Department of Economic Development and the U.S. Bank Play Pillar.

Downtown Washington Inc. also counseled 28 potential new business owners.

Events

The downtown organization hosted 84 days of events over the last year and the same number is expected to return in 2019.

The planning began in October. Kelch said many committees have already had meetings.

Kelch said 2018 was the first full year of all the haunted tours and the events were immensely popular.

She also said they will be continuing the Holiday Sneak Peek event since it went really well.

The Holiday Lights Parade was rained out in 2018 without a rain date.

Kelch said many expected the parade to be rescheduled.

"It takes a little more planning than a day," Kelch said.

So next year will be a little different.

"We have a rain date planned," she said.

The parade is scheduled for Friday, Nov. 29, but will have a rain date built in for Saturday, Nov. 30.

Kelch said the theme for 2019 will stay the same as in 2018 for those who created floats for the 2018 parade to recreate them rather than come up with new ones.

Main Street

Roughly a dozen local participants attended the National Main Street Conference that was held in Kansas City in March.

"It was rewarding to see communities across the U.S. come to Kansas City and learn about what we are doing in these Missouri communities," Kelch said. "It was the largest one for them in 11 years. It was nice to know it was that appealing to that many folks."

One thing Downtown Washington is looking forward to in the new year is celebrating 30 years of being a part of the Main Street Four Point Approach.

Washington was originally chosen as one of five communities for the pilot program. Now, it's one of two still following the approach today.

"The program has really served us well and has made us a national example of exemplary downtown revitalization," Kelch said.

Goals for 2019

Kelch said the organization wants to focus on helping property owners use public gap financing programs that are already in place, such as low-interest loan programs, tax increment financing, sign and awning grants, and state and federal preservation tax credits.

Downtown Washington Inc. also plans to meet with property owners to help them see the best economic benefits from their structure or property.

"We hope to take away the unknown or even the fear in tackling underutilized upper floors," Kelch said.

Ideally, Kelch said they're hoping to see upper floors being used as residential and commercial.

"One of the goals is to help existing businesses, as well as those who have yet to open," Kelch said.

The downtown area currently has a vacancy rate of 6 percent, according to Kelch.

Downtown Washington Inc. will be debuting a new website in 2019.

Post Office

The downtown post office, officially a contract postal unit (CPU) operated by Downtown Washington Inc. and its sister organization, experienced a declining trend of selling less postage each year from 2013 to 2016.

After focusing on marketing and returning customers, Kelch said 2017 saw an increase in sales.

"We're on track for 2018 to beat 2017," she said.

Kelch said they've recorded roughly $350,000 in sales.

Usually the day after Thanksgiving is busiest for the CPU and then sales slow down.

"This year, it never died down," Leanna Epperson, CPU specialist, said. "The economy must have been up because people were definitely shipping."

The old post office building was completely renovated by the downtown organization in 2010-11 and today serves not only as a CPU, but as the group's offices.

History

Downtown Washington Inc., formerly a merchants committee since the early 1950s, was formed in 1989 when the city of Washington was selected as one of the first five pilot communities for the Missouri Main Street Program.

Downtown Washington Inc. has maintained its status as a Missouri Main Street Program and as a National Main Street Community to this day.

The group's mission is to promote an attractive and financially stable downtown while preserving the historic resources and enriching the community.

January 2, 2019 The Missourian

Steady Year For Historical Society in 2018

By Amanda Postma – Missourian Staff Writer

Washington Historical Society Museum Director Marc Houseman said 2018 was an average year in terms of visitors at the museum.

The museum saw roughly 2,800 visitors this past year.

"It seems we've been very busy," houseman told The Missourian. "It's also been busy with other things like with the upcoming (Franklin County) bicentennial, which of course we're involved in."

The museum is open to the public March through December. It then closes for a winter hiatus to allow volunteers time to work on displays.

Houseman said while the number of visitors didn't change much, events like the Evenings at the Museum saw an increase in attendance.

"We had to buy more folding chairs to accommodate the crowd," he remarked.

Houseman said Evenings at the Museum now draw in about 85 to 90 people. The monthly programs are free and open to the public.

The museum also has a new projector screen attached to the ceiling which helps with these types of programs.

"We kind of readapted part of the building to accommodate things like this a little bit better," Houseman said. "It's growing pains, (but) it's not too painful."

The number of events Historical Society representatives are asked to speak at also has been increasing.

"Which is good (because) it gets the name out in the public and gets us in front of the eyeballs and the citizenry," Houseman said.

Attendance at the museum's social events for members has continued to stay strong with about 125 members on an average night.

"Considering our total membership is just over 400, that's a pretty good ongoing base of people who just gather together to enjoy a little social time with like-minded people," said Houseman.

The museum published two books this year and sold about 800-900 books.

"There's always a surge when a new book comes out," Houseman said. "We see a lot of repeat business. This has been a pretty good year for book sales."

In total, the museum has published about 10 books in the last five or six year.

"It's pretty good for a small organization like this to be actively publishing so much," Houseman said. "There's hardly a better way to share history with the public other than through social media, but that's so casual."

The museum's volunteer numbers have stayed around the same since last year.

"I know overall we have roughly 30 active volunteers," Houseman said, "meaning at least on a semi-regular basis."

The museum did not have any new exhibits this year.

"Donations as far as objects have been down in recent years," Houseman explained. "We're always given things, but not enough of anything to create a new exhibit. We

occasionally will switch things a little bit around here and there just to make it look a little different in case you're a regular visitor.

Winter Hiatus

The project completed during last year's winter hiatus was relighting the entire building.

"That was so exciting for me," Houseman said. "It worked out great. In fact, I got an email from Ameren and we have been awarded a $1,900 grant for upgrading to all new, much more energy-efficient lighting. So that helps pay the bill."

Houseman added the museum also received gifts from members and the electrician discounted the work.

"It needed to be done," he said. "Our fluorescents that were in this level of the building were installed in 1982."

After showing the Historical Society Board a light bulb with a burnt ballast and reminding them the St. Clair Historical Museum burned down due to a fluorescent light malfunction, the board agreed it was time for new lighting.

"They tell me I literally may never have to change a light again while I work here and I've got a while to go yet before I can retire," Houseman said.

Motion sensors for areas that don't see a lot of traffic also were installed.

"If a visitor comes in and is wandering through the museum, then the lights will come on for them," Housman said.

The museum closed for its annual winter hiatus Monday, Dec.24. It will reopen March 1.

"I'm hoping during the closure this year one of my projects is going to be building a base of volunteers who are just willing to help watch the museum on Saturdays," said Houseman, who is off that day.

"There's been a little bit of a shortfall in people stepping up to sit here for a day or half a day on Saturday," he said.

The museum is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10a.m to 4p.m and Sunday from 12-4p.m.

Marc Houseman, Museum Director

January 5-6, 2019 The Missourian

Downtown Meeting

Downtown Washington Inc. held its quarterly membership meeting Monday, Dec. 3, at Cowan's. The meeting updated members on the status of downtown, upcoming events, new businesses and any significant changes coming up.

Missourian Photo.

January 9, 2019 The Missourian

Public Hearing

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Washington Historic Preservation Commission – notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held on Tuesday, January 22, 2019, at 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the public may be heard, in the Council Chambers of City Hall of said City to discuss the following:

Phase III Survey of the International Shoe Factory District

Further information is available within the Planning Department located at Washington City Hall, 405 Jefferson Street, Washington, MO 63090.

City of Washington
Mary Trentmann
City Clerk

Publish in The Missourian January 9, 2019.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to Section 400.375 of the City of Washington Zoning Code, notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held on Tuesday, January 22, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the public may be heard, in the Council Chambers of City Hall of said City to consider the following items:

1. Local Historic Landmark Designation – The Bleckmann Building/Farmers' Market, 317 W. Main Street.
2. Local Historic Landmark Designation – The Old Main Post Office, 123 Lafayette Street.
3. Local Historic Landmark Designation – Gottfried's Cabin/ Godt House, 124 Jefferson Street.

Further information on the applications is available within the Planning and Engineering Services Department located at Washington City Hall, 405 Jefferson Street, Washington, MO 63090.

City of Washington
Mary Trentmann
City Clerk

Publish in The Missourian January 9, 2019.

January 12-13, 2019 The Missourian

Taking Down Decorations

Christmas decorations were taken down Thursday, Jan. 10, in Downtown Washington. City crews disassembled lights, wreaths, decorations and the city Christmas tree.

Missourian Photo.

Taking Down the Christmas Tree

Bridgette Kelch and Cassidy Lowery, both of Downtown Washington Inc., assisted city workers in taking down the Christmas tree in Downtown Washington Thursday morning.

Missourian Photo.

January 16, 2019 The Missourian

Front Street Flurries

Snow began to fall at 2:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 11, on Front Street in Downtown Washington. A variety of local businesses closed early so employees could get home before the snowstorm hit. The area received over 11 inches of snow.

Missourian Photo.

January 19-20, 2019 The Missourian

Council To Meet Tuesday

The Washington City Council is expected to vote on three ordinances Tuesday, Jan. 22, designating local historic landmarks.

In November, the city's planning and zoning commission Monday recommended the city council designate the buildings through the "historic local landmark" mechanism, which prohibits them from demolition before review by the Washington Historic Preservation Commission (WHPC).

The nominees are: the Gottfried's Cabin Gast Haus, 124 Jefferson St.; Old Main Post Office, 123 Lafayette St.; and the Bleckmann Building/Washington Farmers' Market, 317 W. Main St.

The three properties are owned by the Historic Washington Foundation, a sister organization to Downtown Washington Inc.

The council also will review an ordinance amending the 2019 budget, and a contract with WashPC for the purchase of a server.

The meeting will be held Tuesday due to the observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day Monday, Jan. 21.

January 26-27, 2019 The Missourian

Oldest Structure in City Declared Historic Landmark

By Gregg Jones
Missourian Staff Writer

New measures are now in place to better preserve the historic qualities of three Washington structures, including the oldest building in the city.

The city council Tuesday approved a local historic designation for three landmarks, which ultimately prohibits them from demolition before review by the Washington Historic Preservation Commission (WHPC).

The council voted 7-0 to name the Gottfried's Cabin Gast Haus, 124 Jefferson St.; Old Main Post Office, 123 Lafayette St.; and the Bleckmann Building/Washington Farmers' Market, 317 W. Main St., "historic local landmarks." Councilman Jeff Patke was not at Tuesday's meeting.

Gottfried's Cabin, historically called the "Godt House," was built in 1834 before the city was chartered.

Carolyn Witt, chairman of the WHPC and member of the planning commission, said this designation will give the commission time to provide input when there are plans to raze a historic building.

The three properties are owned by the Historic Washington Foundation, a sister organization to Downtown Washington Inc.

"We want to work with property owners," Witt said. "We have suggestions."

The WHPC cannot prevent the owner of a historic local landmark from razing a structure.

"Basically we want to be an adviser but this gives us more power," Witt said.

Last year, two structures at the Wildey Odd Fellows Cemetery — a pagoda and columbarium — were the first historic local landmarks designated through this mechanism. However, the mechanism has been part of the city codes for some time.

Witt previously stated the historic designation process is being used now in response to the demolition of Fifth Street School, which was not designated a historic local landmark. WHPC members opposed the demolition of the school that was purchased by the Immanuel Lutheran Parish and is now used for a playground.

Nominations

In order to be nominated by the WHPC for recommendation to be a historic local landmark, the nomination must meet one of the following criteria: contribution to the heritage and cultural characteristics of the community; identification with a person, or persons, who significantly contributed to the development of the community; or embodies the elements of design, detailing, materials or craftsmanship which renders it architecturally significant.

Buildings can be nominated for historic local landmark status by the property owners, the WHPC or the city council.

The council voted 7-0 to approve each of the three ordinances. Councilman Jeff Patke was absent.

Gottfried's Cabin

The "Godt House" is located at the corner of East Second Street and Jefferson Street. It has been under the control of Downtown Washington Inc. and the Historic Washington Foundation since 1993.

During that time the building has been restored and preserved. It is the oldest structure in Washington.

It served as the first Downtown Washington Inc. office and is now used for lodging.

Bleckmann Building

The building, which now houses the Washington Farmers' Market and two apartments, is located on Main Street at Cedar Street.

It was built in 1856 by Frederick "Fritz" Bleckmann and was an undertaking and furniture business. It was built as a two-story building.

When the city of Washington leveled Main Street in 1873, the basement was exposed and gave the building the appearance of a three-story structure.

From 1913-2006 the building had several owners and housed many different businesses.

In 2006, in a partnership with the city of Washington, Chamber of Commerce and Washington Historical Society, the building was saved from demolition and renovated. The renovation created public restrooms on the main floor and added a pavilion on three sides of the historic structure to create a civic pavilion. Two apartments are on the upper levels.

Old Main Post Office

The land for the Old Main Post Office was purchased in 1917 from former Postmaster James Issac Jones. It was the location of his family home, which was razed to make way for the post office building.

In 1922, the Old Main Post Office was the first dedicated postal building in Washington. There have been continual postal operations in this building since its opening.

In early 2008, Downtown Washington Inc. and the Historic Washington Foundation found out that the U. S. Postal Services was planning to cease operation at the downtown location. In 1993, the USPS built a new facility, but kept the retail location open in downtown.

The Historic Washington Foundation and Downtown Washington Inc. purchased the building in 2010 and renovated it. They have an agreement with the Postal Service to operate a contract postal unit in the building.

January 26-27, 2019 The Missourian

City Approves Main Street Sidewalks Bids

By Gregg Jones
Missourian Staff Writer

The city of Washington entered into a contract with a local developer for a Main Street sidewalk project.

K. J. Unnerstall Construction Co., Washington, was the low bidder of $214,988 for the project to expand the sidewalk system around the fairgrounds to Downtown Washington.

The Washington City Council Tuesday voted 7-0 to approve the contract. Construction is scheduled for this year.

According to John Nilges, director of public services, the estimated cost of the project was $242,715.

Awarding of the bid is contingent on Missouri Department of Transportation's (MoDOT) approval anticipated in early February. The contractor has 40 calendar days to complete the project once notice to proceed has been issued.

Plans call for 5-foot-wide sidewalks on the north side of West Main Street from Tiemann Drive to Catawba Place. The project will be an extension of the Front Street sidewalks already in place.

The project primarily is funded through an 80/20 cost-share grant through the Surface Transportation Project (STP)-small urban-non-attributable funds, which are allocated to the city and bypass a competitive selection process.

Nilges added the urban-non-attributable funds program is expiring, and all funds must be utilized by September 2019.

The city also will use $43,500 funded through a Franklin County Transportation grant. The remaining $50,970 will be funded through the city's transportation sales tax.

Included in the project is a retaining wall located on the north side of West Main Street, west of Tiemann Drive.

Nilges told the board he is looking into the cost of a "large block" or "small block" retaining wall.

Minor road closures are expected during the project.

There were 13 bidders for the project.

February 20, 2019 The Missourian

New Store Opens in Downtown Washington

Sells Refinished Furniture

By Amanda Postma
Missourian Staff Writer

In August of 2018, Rebecca Lynn started selling refinished furniture out of her home. Now, she has her own storefront in Downtown Washington.

Lynn said she has always loved to refinish furniture, but raising a family, took up a lot of her time.

After a couple of months of working out of her home, she decided to open a shop. In October, she noticed a vacant lot at 216 Elm St.

Now her store, Beautiful Journey, is located there. She officially opened for business Saturday, Feb. 9.

Lynn sells new home decor, textiles and refinished furniture.

"I see things that are broken and I want to fix them," she said, pointing to a large furniture piece in her store. She said it typically takes her about three to four days to refinish a piece.

"There's a lot of drying time," she noted.

Beautiful Journey is open Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Everything Lynn sells in her store also is available online at https://beautifuljourneyshop.com/. She accepts debit and credit cards, gift cards and cash.

Opens Up Shop

Rebecca Lynn opened her store Beautiful Journey last Saturday at 216 Elm St. in Downtown Washington. The store offers new home decor, textiles and refinished furniture. It is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturdays. Missourian Photo.

Online orders can be shipped directly to a customer's home or picked up at the store.

For more information, people may call 314-324-5148, or visit the sotre's Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/beautifuljourneyshop/.

February 23-24, 2019 The Missourian

That's a Tall Order

Standing atop a scaffolding 40 feet in the air, Charles Puffer with Max Autenrieb Church Interior Decorating out of Edwardsville, Ill., works to repair portions of the canvas that were peeling away from the ceiling of St. Francis Borgia Church. The canvas, which is used to cover the walls and ceiling to hide any cracks in the plaster, had begun to peel away from the ceiling because the glue was old, dating back to 1987 when the church was last renovated. The canvas pieces of the apostle images are much older, dating back to the late 1800s, according to Joe Holtmeier, SFB maintenance supervisor.

About eight to 10 feet of the canvas near the fourth apostle image on the right side of the church was falling down and needed new glue. The canvas pieces had to be removed from the center of the ceiling all the way over to the apostle. Since the scaffolding went up, Mass has been held in Jesuit Hall. The scaffolding is expected to be down in time for the Ash Wednesday Mass on March 6. Missourian Photo.

February 23-24, 2019 The Missourian

Doing God's Work

With the image of God watching over him, Jentry Maxwell with Max Autenrieb Church Interior Decorating Inc. out of Edwardsville, Ill., adds fresh glue to an area of the ceiling at St. Francis Borgia Church in Downtown Washington where the wallpaper-like canvas that covers the entire church had begun to come loose from the plaster. The canvas dates back to 1987 when the church was last renovated. In the next year or two all of the canvas in the church will have to be removed and redone. Missourian Photo.

February 23-24, 2019 The Missourian

City Approves Downtown Plat

The preliminary and final plat for a Downtown Washington building was granted final round approval Tuesday by the city council.

The council voted 8-0 to approve the request by Ryan Murphy who submitted the plat for the building located at 18 E. Second St. in a C-3 zoning district. It was approved by the city's planning and zoning commission Feb. 11.

The building has two office spaces accessing Jefferson Street and a residence that accesses Jefferson Street and Second Street. The residence crosses over two parcels.

The plat shows a consolidation of the lots and subdivision into three new lots. Lots Nos. 1 and 2 will be for office space accessing Jefferson Street. Lot No. 3 will consist of the residence that is addressed at 18 E. Second Street.

Housed in the building is Event Inspirations by Plush, which provides rental items for weddings. It fronts on Jefferson Street.

There is no public infrastructure required to expand to each lot as each space will access existing public utilities and right of way, city staff said.

Mark Frankenberg, who was representing the applicant, stated the primary reason for the request was for financing and taxes.

February 27, 2019 The Missourian

Where the Wind Blows

A train transporting wind turbine blades blew through Downtown Washington Saturday afternoon, Feb. 23. This picture was taken on Jefferson Street looking North. The Water Works building is in the background.

Missourian Photo.

March 6, 2019 The Missourian

City, Tourism Agreement

New agreements between the city of Washington and tourism commission were approved Monday.

Under revised agreements the city and Washington Tourism Committee will continue to promote the city as a convention, visitor and tourist center.

The revised agreement will be for three years. The agreement outlines a subcontracting agreement with the Washington Area Chamber of Commerce.

The commission will pay the Chamber no less than 97.5 percent of funds received through a bed tax.

The commission will keep 2.5 percent of the tax revenue to be used for tourism projects. For example, the commission funded half of a hotel and conference center feasibility study.

March 9-10, 2019 The Missourian

River Festival, Cleanup Is Planned for April 13

All Ages Welcome to Participate, Register Online

The Washington River Festival and Missouri River Cleanup will be held Saturday, April 13, at Rennick Riverfront Park. Families and people of all ages are welcome to participate.

The river cleanup will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., and the festival will run from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. It will include river activities, hands-on, educational fun, music, food and many art activities. Entertainment will be provided by Babaloo, World Bird Sanctuary, Wild Horse Creek, the Burney Sisters, an art auction and Woodshine.

To participate in the cleanup, volunteers are encouraged to sign up in advance at www.riverrelief.org, which is the partnering organization for the festival and the cleanup.

Missouri River Relief facilitates cleanups in communities all along the Missouri River from Yankton, S.D., to the confluence in St. Louis.

Safety-certified boat drivers will transport cleanup participants to locations along the river to pick up trash on the banks. The boat then brings them back to the park for the festival.

Life vests, gloves and water will be provided. People of all ages are welcome to participate in the cleanup, but children under the age of 5 should bring their own fitted life vest.

Missouri River Relief's education department will present field trips the week before the festival for parochial and public elementary students and middle school students.

The Washington River Festival and River Cleanup is in its seventh year and is a biennial event.

For more information and to sign up for the cleanup, go to www.riverrelief.org.

March 13, 2019 The Missourian

Three-Part Preservation Academy to Be Offered

By Downtown Washington Inc.

By Susan Miller
Missourian Managing Editor

Downtown Washington Inc. will host a Preservation Academy open to area residents.

The program will be offered on three Saturdays in March, April and May. People do not have to attend all three sessions.

Those who do attend a full Saturday session, which will run from 8 a.m. to noon, will receive a refund in the form of downtown gift certificates, along with breakfast and a $10 gift certificate for lunch.

The sessions are being funded by the Missouri Department of Economic Development.

Bridgette Kelch, Downtown Washington Inc. executive director, said her organization agreed to offer educational sessions to the public on its grant application for NAP (Neighborhood Assistance Program) tax credits, which were received. The downtown office still has NAP credits available, she noted.

All of the sessions for the Preservation Academy will be held in the lower level of the Washington Area Chamber of Commerce building at 323 W. Main St.

The first classes, Historic Window Preservation and Appropriate Historic Landscaping, will take place Saturday, March 30.

Greg Lamb, Old Growth Restoration, St. Louis, will share the tricks of the trade to not only restore historic windows, but to keep them looking great for decades.

The second speaker, Russ Volmert, Arcturis, St. Louis, will discuss how proper landscaping can enhance historic properties. Volmert, who lives in Washington, said choosing period correct plants will bring a property to the next level.

On Saturday, April 6, the first session will be on Historic Brick Preservation. Terry Firsick, Quality Masonry, Union, will discuss the ins and outs of historic brick care — from pointing to painting to using historic brick in new construction.

The second session that day will be Painting Historic Surfaces with Dick Watt of Dashco Painting, Union, who will discuss painting wood, metal, walls, ceilings, windows and doors of interiors and exteriors. He also will share tips on preparation and painting techniques.

The final session, Saturday, May 4, will be on Investing in Historic Properties and Financial Incentives for Historic Properties.

Andy Unerstall, a local contractor, Bryan Bogue, who owns historic properties, and Chris Eckelkamp, a local banker, will talk about what to look for in a historic property that you may be interested in investing in, including physical traits, current tenants, utilization of all floors and how to recognize a good business plan.

The three men all have been involved in Downtown Washington Inc.

The second session will be led by Sal Maniaci, community and economic development director, and Kelch, who will talk about local, state and federal incentives and how they can offset some of the cost of renovation of historic properties.

Kelch said the sessions will be of interest to those who own or rent historic properties or are interested in investing in such properties. The academy also is open to anyone outside the community as well.

"We've shared this with other Main Street communities so we may have some from out of town attending as well," Kelch said, adding she hopes to have about 50 people at each session.

For more information, people may call the downtown office, 636-239-1743 or visit the Facebook page for 2019 Preservation Academy.

March 16-17, 2019 The Missourian

Eerie Fog

The boat docks at the riverfront in Washington almost disappeared from view as the fog settled in on the Missouri River Saturday afternoon, Feb. 23. Missourian Photo.

March 20, 2019 The Missourian

Public Hearing on Cedar Street Rezoning Held

There was no opposition Monday in a public hearing for the request to rezone an office building into a multifamily residence.

The Washington City Council heard the request to rezone 415 Cedar St. from R-1B residential to R-3 multifamily. There is a vacant doctor's/business office on the property that is owned by Isidore and Susan Lamke. Many years ago the building housed Dr. Post's office.

There are plans to repurpose the building into a multifamily dwelling. Due to the size of the lot, there would be four housing units at most on the property.

Tentative plans call for a two-unit building now, but there may be four units at a later date.

"We think this is a great repurposing of the building," said Sal Maniaci, community and economic development director.

At the March 11 planning and zoning commission meeting, Maniaci stated there are homes nearby that are rented out for short-term lodging with two or more units each.

The property is located in the city's historic district and the Washington Historic Preservation Committee would review proposed changes to the structure.

The owner will be required to include two off-street parking spots in the plans.

Maniaci noted that if the building houses four units, the owner would be required to provide eight off-street parking spaces.

The owners requested that the final approval wait until an inspection of the building is completed.

Maniaci added that if the building does not pass inspection, the owners do not want to rezone it.

March 20, 2019 The Missourian

Design Plans Approved For New Italian Market

By Historic Preservation Commission

The Washington Historic Preservation Commission approved design plans Monday night for the front exterior of the new Angelina's Italian Market at 24 W. Second St. in Downtown Washington.

The building formerly housed Ed's Meat Market for many years.

"When I saw the plans, I was ecstatic, over the moon, squealing with excitement," said Bridgette Kelch, board member. "There could not be a more perfect storefront. It has every element. It follows every rule."

Steve Strubberg, board member and architect, was asked by the market owners, Monica Buel, Joe Lanasa and Angela Gewinner, to present the design review during the meeting.

"The owners will be tearing off the existing front," said Strubberg. "They discovered old historical photos of the building when it was brick and it matches the new front elevation,"

The bricks will be covered with a type of wood paneling that is similar to the front of the Farmers' Market and Olivino, both located on Main Street. The building also will get new windows.

"Some of the new windows will be slightly smaller than they were before," Strubberg said.

The window sash will be white or light creme and the door sash will be dark bronze or black.

Strubberg said the owners hope to be open in July.

Italian Market

Last spring, Buel reached out to her brother, Lanasa, about pursuing a business opportunity together. After an attempt to purchase the former Jasper house at 320 Lafayette St. didn't work out, Buel and her mother, Gewinner, saw a for sale sign in the former Ed's Meat Market space.

Then the idea for bringing an Italian Market to the Washington area took off for the family members.

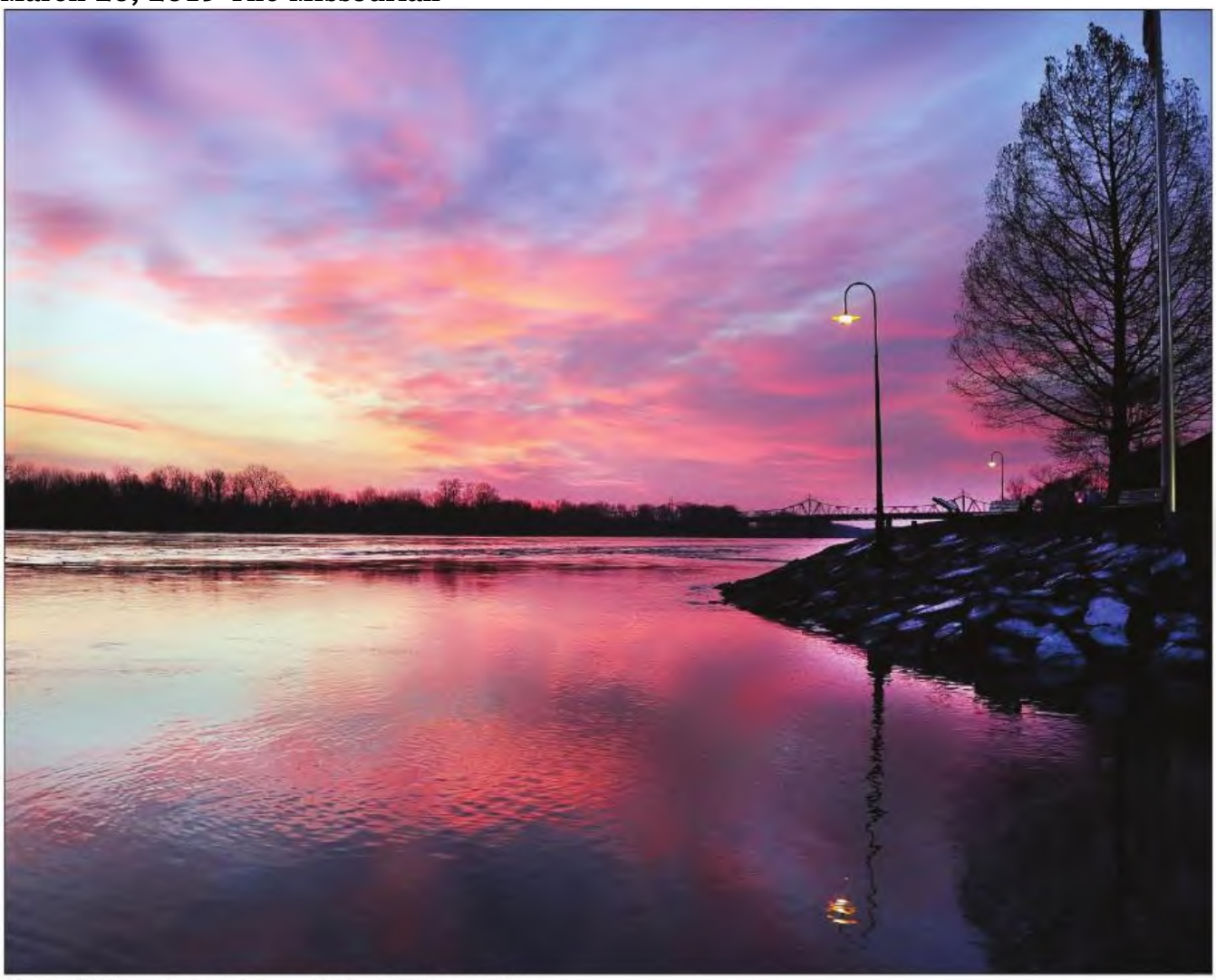
Angelina's market will have a deli to serve hot and cold sandwiches to go. The sandwiches will come with side options, including mostaccioli, coleslaw and salad.

The market also will sell homemade pasta sauces and pizzas, Italian wines, sasizzas and spadinis.

Staples such as milk, bread and butter will be offered.

Buildings in the historic district must undergo a design review by the historic preservation commission, but compliance is voluntary.

March 20, 2019 The Missourian



Oh, What a Beautiful Morning

This colorful sunrise was captured Tuesday, March 19, at the Washington Riverfront. The river is currently dropping as of Tuesday.

Missourian Photo.

March 23-24, 2019 The Missourian

Washington Historic Preservation Commission OKs Building Design

For Roettger Building on Front Street

By Amanda Postma
Missourian Staff Writer

A mandatory review, mandatory compliance design plan for the historic Roettger building on 120 W. Front St. in Downtown Washington was approved by the Washington Historic Preservation Commission Monday night.

Bryan Bogue and Tony Gokenbach, owners of the building, presented the design plans. A third owner, Tonya Wade, couldn't make it to the meeting.

The design includes restoring the third floor back to its original as much as possible.

"We are going to put the balcony back on the third floor," Bogue said. "As well as reopen all of the windows to the original height."

There are a total of 10 windows on the third floor.

"It's about a foot worth of bricks they'll be taking out," Bogue said.

The balcony plans will include French doors.

When asked about the small gargoyles on the corners of the roof, both owners said they were staying.

"Albeit those aren't necessarily historical, that is part of the living history of the building," Gokenbach said. "The idea with the building would be to play on each living history component that has survived there."

A mandatory review, mandatory compliance review takes place when public funds are used for the design.

Upstairs Unit

The space on the third floor will be used for a three-bedroom VRBO or Airbnb unit.

The area facing the river will be turned into a kitchen and living room space.

The unit will be referred to as the Roettger Inn Loft as a way to return the building to its original character. Historically, the building was the Roettger Inn, which was run by the widow of August Roettger.

The first and second levels of the building are occupied by tenants.

March 23-24, 2019 The Missourian

Design Plans for Property Approved

Now Seeks Council's Approval

By Amanda Postma
Missourian Staff Writer

The Washington Historic Preservation Commission approved design plans for the Riverfront Limited building on 18 E. Front St. in Washington during its meeting Monday night.

The plans include redoing the front of the building through laser work.

A few of the bricks do not match the majority of the bricks on the building. The laser work will use a dye to stain the bricks.

The plans presented to the commission included the addition of three windows, but Riverfront Limited President Ed Mroz and contractor Matthew Flagg, Flagg Enterprises LLC, said they might pursue adding four windows to the front of the building.

The new windows would be installed below the existing windows. They will be commercial, aluminum frame windows.

There are plans to install a new garage door. The new door is planned to be a dark color.

Flagg said the history of the building includes it being blown up and burnt down. The building has been rebuilt several times, he noted.

"It's got many lives," said Carolyn Witt, board member.

Since Mroz is utilizing a small Tax Increment Financing (TIF) plan to redevelop the building, the design plans are mandatory review and mandatory compliance. The design plans also will go to the city council for approval.

"I tell you Front Street's unrecognizable and you will be contributing to that," Witt said.

March 23-24, 2019 The Missourian

Design Plans Approved For New Law Offices

Firm Moving From Union

By Amanda Postma
Missourian Staff Writer

Ben Hotz of Helfrich Hotz Brandt LLC, Union, presented a design plan for review to the Washington Historic Preservation Commission.

The commission gave its approval Monday night, March 18.

The law firms plans to move its offices from Union into the old Anton Jasper House at 320 Lafayette St. in Downtown Washington once the renovation is complete.

Plans call for four offices, two bathrooms and a kitchen.

The renovation initially included whitewashing the brick building, but upon further inspection it was clear the whitewashing wouldn't do much.

"We thought about whitewashing it and having that brick look," Hotz said, "but there's so much stuff on top of that brick. We powerwashed it last week. You can see it's been powerwashed, but you couldn't get back to that brick look. So we're going to keep it white."

The new window casements will be black and from the Andersen 400 Series.

The windowsills and front door will be replaced and a new, flat awning will be installed to replace the current one.

Hotz said a cedar door will likely be installed.

The design plans are under mandatory review and mandatory compliance.

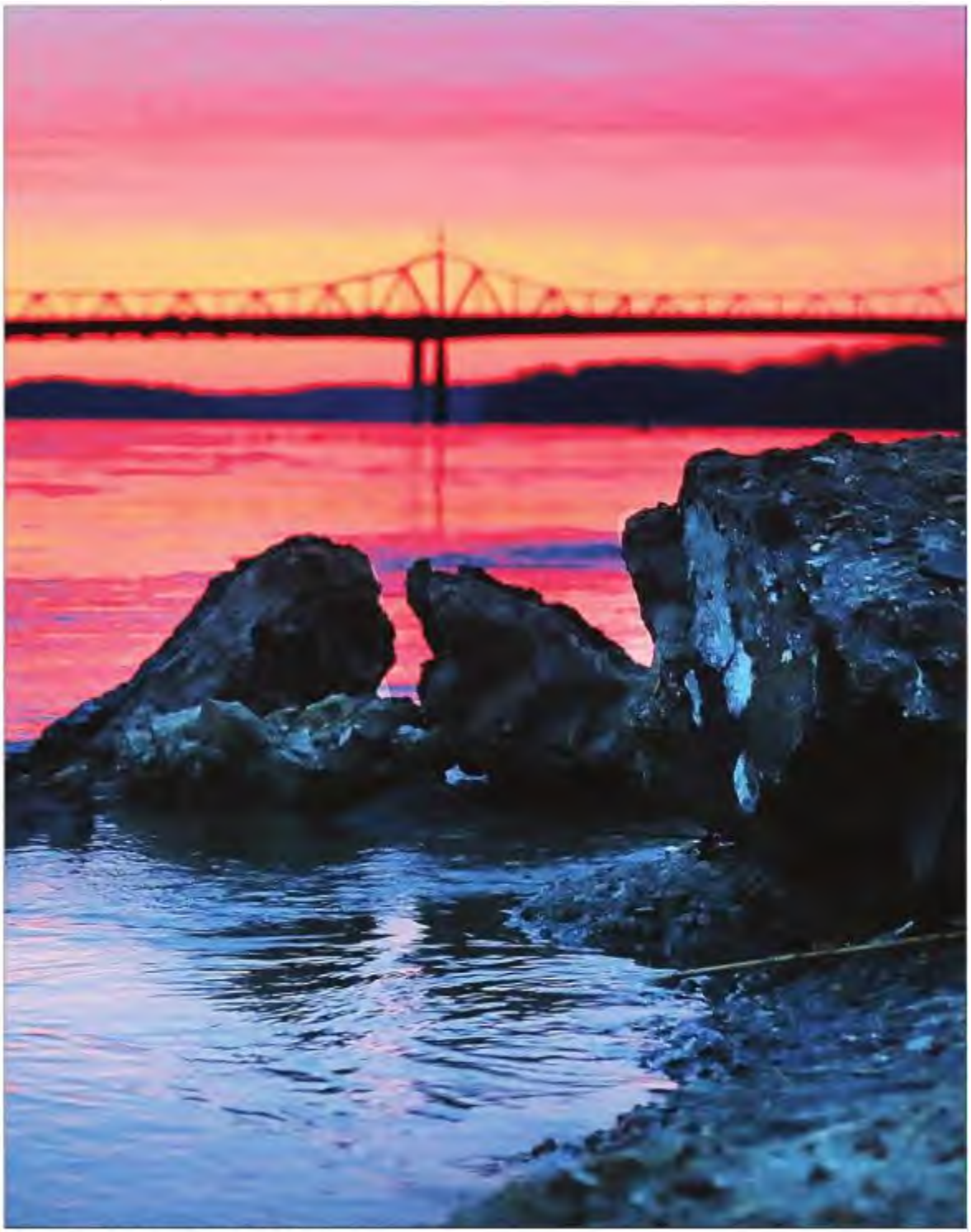
The law firm has a projected move-in date of June.

March 30-31, 2019 The Missourian

Weeding 'Warriors' Clean Up Riverfront Flowerbeds

A volunteer group of Weeding Wednesday "Warriors" worked together to clean up the flowerbeds in Rennick Riverfront Park Wednesday, March 27. The volunteer group meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month and selects the location just prior to each gathering. Anyone who would like to be included on the composite email list for receiving notification should contact the Washington Parks and Recreation Office at 636-390-1080 or email Washingtoninbloom@yhti.net. Working in front are Lynne Curtis, left, and Sally Bocklage. In back, from left, are Wanda Rogers-Larson, John Steffens and Wayne Dunker. Not shown are volunteers Ann Rall and Paula Obermark, and Josh Wargo and Tim Boehmer, who were regrading and reseeding turf. Missourian Photo.

March 30-31, 2019 The Missourian



A March Sunrise

Bright colors lit up the sky as the sun rose Tuesday morning, March 12. This picture was captured along the Washington Riverfront. Missourian Photo.

April 3, 2019 The Missourian

April 3, 2019 The Missourian

April 3, 2019 The Missourian

Construction at Elijah McLean's

The new owners of Elijah McLean's estate are constructing a nine-room hotel that is expected to open in late May or early June. The nine rooms include one that is handicap friendly and another that is compliant with ADA. Missourian Photo.

Elijah McLean's Gets Facelift

Offers Tastings, Spirits, Event Center

By Amanda Postma
Missourian Staff Writer

At first it was a homestead and then it operated as different restaurants. Now under new ownership, it's Elijah McLean's Estate River Vineyard and Event Center.

Located at 600 W. Front St. in Washington, Elijah McLean's has been going through changes recently.

"It's been fun to be a part of it," said Diana Luepker, event manager.

One of the changes includes construction on a nine room hotel that will be open in late May or early June. Reservations are already being accepted.

There are a total of seven rooms upstairs and two downstairs. Of the lower rooms, one is handicap friendly and the other is an ADA compliant handicap room.

The tasting and main bars in Elijah McLean's offer wines from all over, spirits and beers.

Charcuterie boards featuring local meats, cheeses, fresh and dried fruits, and other food items also are offered. The menu includes gourmet flatbread pizzas and Famous Barr-style onion soup, among others.

The building has a banquet hall for events only. Luepker said she's excited to decorate for an upcoming Royal Princess Ball event.

She imagines the event space will be used mainly for weddings and special dinners. Luepker noted eventually Elijah's may offer bourbon tastings, spirits education classes and wine dinners on special occasions.

The winter hours for the vineyard and event center are Thursday and Friday, 4 to 9 p.m.; Saturday, 12 to 9 p.m.; and Sunday, 12 to 5 p.m.

The summer hours have yet to be decided upon, but Luepker said they will likely be extended.

As part of the renovations, Luepker noted grapevines will eventually be added to the front of the property.

Other renovations taking place at Elijah McLean's include new flooring, painting, marble tile in the foyer, updating the electric, installing geothermal heating and cooling, leveling out an area for future outdoor wedding ceremonies and landscaping.

A bridal suite and groom's lounge also have been added.

Anthony Allmeroth, one of the owners, said redoing the rotting exterior balcony was a major project. The main bar, which had been covered in wood paneling, has been painted all black, and the flooring and ceiling completely redone.

The tasting bar features a handmade bar and wine rack made from materials from a 100-year-old monastery. The built-in was created by Joe Rauth, who was 82 at the time.

The main hall features 24-foot ceilings with two chandeliers made of bronze and crystal. The chandeliers are leveraged on wood pulleys that can be used to adjust the height of them depending on the event.

The original building was built in 1839 by Elijah McLean, a prominent doctor and state representative. In 1860, the local paper described him as "the richest man in town or county." The main bar is decorated with old pictures of the estate.

The building also features artwork from Bryan Haynes, Jim Peters and Gary Lucy.

For more information visit www.elijahmcleans.com or call 314-402-6268.

Inside the New Elijah McLean's

Elijah McLean's Estate on Front Street in Washington used to be a homestead before it was a restaurant, but now it's a wine bar and event center. Decorating for an upcoming event had begun Thursday, March 28, by Event Manager Diana Luepker. The venue offers a bridal suite and groom's lounge, as well as space for a wedding ceremony and reception, rehearsal dinner, shower, social gathering or corporate function. Missourian Photo.

April 3, 2019 The Missourian

Saturday Opening For Market

Downtown Washington

By Amanda Pastma
Missourian Staff Writer

The Washington Farmers' Market will reopen for the 2019 season this Saturday, April 6, and temps are expected to be in the 70s.

"We're so excited to have a beautiful, warm opening day," said Amanda Griesheimer, marketing director for the Washington Area Chamber of Commerce, which manages the market.

"Who doesn't want to get out and welcome spring?" Griesheimer asked.

After the harsh weather the area has experienced, she said the venders are eager to be back. Market hours will be 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Saturday through October, with a few exceptions. Hours may be extended or changed for certain downtown festivals.

The covered Farmers' Market is located at 317 W. Main St. in Downtown Washington. It only features vendors from Franklin or an adjoining county.

Griesheimer expects there to be roughly 20 vendors in attendance Saturday with baked goods and craft items. She was not sure about produce at this time.

The market is exclusive to produce that is in season in Missouri.

Griesheimer noted that vendor packets can be found online at www.washmomarket.com.

"We'll always take new vendors," she said.

The market got its start in July of 1990.

Last year, opening day had to be rescheduled due to snow.

Sprouts Kids Club

The Sprouts Kids Club for children ages 3-10 will return this year in May.

Parents can register their children to be members during market hours.

Griesheimer noted the club starts later in the season to allow more produce vendors to come into season.

"Of course, they're always welcome to come to the market (before May)," she said. "We'd love to see them there."

Griesheimer said the goal of the club is to introduce children to a variety of fresh, local produce.

Each market day, children can check in at the Sprouts table and receive $2 in sprout tokens. The tokens can only be used for fresh produce from a vendor.

Tokens can be spent immediately, saved for a larger purchase or combined with siblings' or friends' tokens. Tokens may only be used by Sprouts members.

April 3, 2019 The Missourian

Corn Cob Pipe Factory to Mark 150th Anniversary

Missouri Meerschaum corn cob pipe factory on Front Street in Downtown Washington will kick off its 150th anniversary celebration Friday and Saturday, April 12-13, with tours, live music, games and other activities.

Free factory tours for ages 10 and older will run every 20 minutes from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Live music will be provided by Shotgun Creek Band from 2 to 6 p.m. and Burnt Whiskey Band from 6 to 10 p.m.

Other activities will include the Monkey Bus from New Haven and balloon twisting from 2 to 6 p.m. There also will be yard games and food and drink vendors, including Downtown Washington, Pinckney Bend, Washington Lions Club and InKettleble Corn.

Missouri Meerschaum will have a booth set up, and Iron Spike Model Train Museum will be attending to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Golden Spike.

April 10, 2019 The Missourian

Missouri Meerschaum Marks 150 Years

Missouri Meerschaum corn cob pipe factory at 400 W. Front St. in Downtown Washington is marking its 150th anniversary this Friday and Saturday, April 12-13. Several events are planned both days. Pictured is Phil Morgan, general manager. Missourian Photo.

Pipe Factory Open House This Weekend

Missouri Meerschaum corn cob pipe factory at 400 W. Front St. in Downtown Washington will kick off its 150th anniversary celebration this Friday and Saturday, April 12-13, with tours, live music, games and other activities.

Free factory tours for anyone age 10 and older will run every 20 minutes from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Live music will be provided from 2 to 10 p.m.

Other activities will include the Monkey Bus from New Haven and balloon twisting from 2 to 6 p.m. There also will be yard games and food and drink vendors.

April 10, 2019 The Missourian

Downtown Group Is Certified

By Susan Miller
Missourian Managing Editor

Downtown Washington Inc. has maintained its national and state accreditation as a Main Street community following a site visit from representatives of the National Main Street Center and Missouri Main Street Connection (MMSC).

Accreditation is the highest level a downtown revitalization program can achieve, said Bridgette Kelch, executive director.

"It's always exciting to learn we've maintained our accreditations because it's really a report card on how we're doing," Kelch told *The Missourian*.

"This reaffirms we are following the Main

• See Downtown Page 2A

DOWNTOWN

CONTINUED FROM 1A

Street four-point approach and the principles set forth," she said. "It also keeps us on our toes for goal setting and planning."

Kelch said it's important for an outside agency to review the organization and to be given a "thumbs-up" means Downtown Washington Inc. is continuing to improve.

Process

To receive national and state accreditation status an organization must meet or exceed the 10-point criteria established by the National Main Street Center, a subsidiary of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. These criteria are utilized across the country to recognize high-achieving Main Street programs.

The 10-point criteria cover various aspects of revitalization work that help create a sustainable, community-driven Main Street program.

Kelch said these criteria ensure a broad-based community support for the program, a strong historic preservation ethic, active board of directors and committees, as well as other technical aspects that help the program function at a high level.

"Downtown Washington Inc. demonstrated in 2018 that Main Street provides the framework for downtown revitalization through its event, business retention and job creation activities," said MMSC Community Development Director Keith Winge.

The accreditation process includes a self-evaluation and submission of materials from the program that supports its work for each criteria. This is followed by a site visit for meetings with program staff, board, committee members and city officials. The site visit was in February.

"We turn in a huge amount of materials prior to the site visit," Kelch said. "It lists out everything we've accomplished for the year — really a checklist across all aspects of the organization. We usually exceed the number of points required to remain accredited."

Though it is a critical moment for a Missouri Main Street community to become accredited, it is equally important for the community to maintain the accreditation status once it has been earned, officials said.

By the Numbers

Throughout 2018, Downtown Washington Inc. saw public and private investment of over $13 million in the historic district from 102 projects. The district saw a net gain of nine new businesses and 35 new jobs.

Additionally, volunteers for Downtown Washington Inc. donated 7,107 hours of their time.

Gayla Roten, MMSC state director, noted Missouri Main Street Connection works diligently to equip communities with the tools they need to revitalize their historic districts and make them the economic and cultural heart of their community once again.

"Achieving accredited status showcases that Downtown Washington Inc. is realizing this goal through its work and doing so at an elevated level," Roten said. "We are proud of all they have accomplished."

The Missouri Main Street Program's purpose is to create vibrant communities across the state, officials said. This effort is based on recent studies showing that empowering individuals to develop their downtown motivates high achievement.

Revitalized downtowns where people want to live, work and invest make the state economically stronger, Roten said.

The goal of the National Main Street Center and Missouri Main Street Connection is to encourage preservation-based economic development through the Main Street Four-Point Approach.

April 10, 2019 The Missourian

Farmers' Market Has 'Best' Opening Day

Open Every Saturday Through October

By Amanda Postma
Missourian Staff Writer

The warm weather this past Saturday, April 6, contributed to a successful opening day of the Washington Farmers' Market.

The mild temps helped bring in a steady number of customers throughout the day, according to Amanda Griesheimer, Washington Area Chamber of Commerce marketing director.

The Chamber operates the covered market at 317 W. Main St. in Downtown Washington.

"It was beautiful," said Griesheimer. "It was definitely the best opening day of recent memory."

The market will be open every Saturday through October from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The opening day brought in 22 vendors from Franklin and an adjoining county, selling jams and jellies, plants, baked goods and craft items.

Greisheimer said the vendors were thrilled to have as many customers as they did. While she doesn't have an official number of attendees, business was steady throughout the day.

"I know everyone was happy to be back in the swing of things, vendors and customers alike," she said.

The Farmers' Market opened at 8 a.m. with a special flag ceremony with assistance from the Sprouts Kids Club.

The Sprouts carried the open flag "Olympic torch-style" and handed it off to Mayor Sandy Lucy, who placed the flag in its holder.

"That was adorable," Griesheimer said. "It was neat to be able to include them in the opening day."

The Sprouts Kids Club will open in May for children ages 3-10. Children can check in each market day and receive $2 in sprout tokens, which can only be used for fresh produce from a market vendor.

Last year's opening day had to be postponed due to snowy weather. When it finally did open, the market offered a lunch option on site.

That option wasn't available Saturday, but Griesheimer said she would love to incorporate lunch again this year. The food vendors will need to acquire a temporary license from the Health Department.

Interested vendors should contact Griesheimer at 636-239-2715, ext. 106, for more information.

Griesheimer expects Bob and Pat's Barbecue to be featured for an on-site lunch option in either late April or early May. She noted they generally come to the market once a month.

The market's Facebook page, https://www.facebook.com/washmomarket/, is updated regularly to show what vendors are expected each week.

Vendor packets can be found online at www.washmomarket.com. New vendors are always welcome.

April 10, 2019 The Missourian

The Market Is Open!

Seamus Long, left, and Dayton Griesheimer, both Sprouts kids, passed the open flag Saturday, April 6, with other Sprouts in an "Olympic torch-style" before handing it off to Mayor Sandy Lucy, who placed the flag in its holder. The special flag ceremony signified the opening day at the market, which is located at 317 W. Main St. in Downtown Washington. It will be open 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Saturday through October. Hours may be extended or changed for certain downtown festivals. Missourian Photo.

April 10, 2019 The Missourian

WashMO BBQ, Bikes, Blues Set for April 26-28

In Downtown Washington

By Susan Miller
Missourian Managing Editor

Downtown Washington Inc. is finalizing plans for its 11th annual WashMO BBQ, Bikes & Blues Festival, to be held April 26-28 in the historic downtown district.

The three-day, family-oriented event features a professional barbecue competition, live blues music and a motorcycle show on Sunday.

"People can enjoy live music and a full food court throughout the weekend," said Cassidy Lowery, events and promotions specialist.

"This year's event also will feature various vendors, a photo booth on Main Street and wine slushies by Adam Puchta Winery," she said.

Grace's Place Vintage Market also will be held in conjunction with the festival. About 35 vintage vendors will be set up on the downtown streets.

The hours for both events will be 5 to 10 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday; and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday.

Barbecue

WashMO BBQ, Bikes & Blues will kick off Friday, April 26, with the "Anything But" open competition for barbecue teams, in which they can enter a food in the category of sandwiches.

"This is a fun way for the teams to make a dish that is not barbecue and be creative," said Lowery.

On Saturday, April 27, the barbecue competition, sanctioned by the Kansas City BBQ Society, will get underway. Teams will compete for the title of grand champion, along with trophies, ribbons and cash prizes for the winners.

"We have about 35 teams signed up to date, but hope to have 40," said Lowery. "The teams are coming from all over, including Wisconsin, Texas and even the Netherlands."

Lowery said over $10,500 in prize money will be given out.

From 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, a barbecue tasting event will be open to the public, in which each team competes for People's Choice.

The cost is $12 to sample barbecue from the teams if tickets are purchased by April 16. After that, the price increases to $15. People also can purchase a VIP ticket for a 15-minute head start, commemorative cup and complimentary bottle of water.

"There are only 100 VIP tickets available so don't delay," said Lowery. Tickets are available online on www.downtownwashmo.org.

A Kids Que competition also will take place Saturday. Advance registration is required.

"We encourage kids in the community to sign up to cook," said Lowery. "It should be a lot of fun."

Blues Music

The live music will kick off Friday with Brian Curran from 5 to 7 p.m. followed by Ivas John from 7:30 to 10 p.m.

On Saturday, The Dust Covers will perform from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Next, the Kingdom Brothers will take the stage from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. followed by the Paul Cockrum Trio from 5 to 8 p.m.

The BagLunch Blues Band will close out the festival Sunday from noon to 4 p.m.

April 10, 2019 The Missourian

Renovating a New Office Space

Ryan Helfrich, Ben Hotz and Jake Brandt, all of Helfrich Hotz Brandt LLC, will be moving their law firm office to the Anton Jasper House at 320 Lafayette St. in Downtown Washington sometime this summer. Currently the law firm has an office space in Union and another in Washington.

The house will be restored to a two-story commercial building with new windows, roofing, electrical, plumbing and staircase. The lower level will house two office spaces, a conference room, a kitchen and a bathroom. The upper level will have four office spaces and a bathroom.

Missourian Photo.

April 10, 2019 The Missourian

Spring Art Walk Set for April 26-27

The Washington Spring Art Walk, presented by the Arts Council of Washington (ACOW), will be held Friday and Saturday, April 26-27.

The hours will be from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday.

Local and area artists will display their work in downtown businesses.

This event is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Petra Haynes, 636-544-1014, or visit the Facebook page "Arts Council of Washington" for a list of participating artists and downtown businesses.

April 13-14, 2019 The Missourian

First Sunset on the Riverfront April 25

Music, Food at the Riverfront

Downtown Washington Inc.'s annual Sunset on the Riverfront concert series will begin later this month and run through September.

The free outdoor events will be held the fourth Thursday of the month from 5 to 8 p.m. at Rennick Riverfront Park. The 2019 dates are April 25, May 23, June 27, July 25, Aug. 22 and Sept. 26.

"People can enjoy live music, food and friends in the lovely riverfront park," said Cassidy Lowery, events and promotion specialist.

There is no admission to get into the park. Food and drink will be available for purchase. Volunteer bartenders from local businesses will work the bar.

The bands and food vendors for each Sunset are as follows:

April 25 — Music provided by the Texas Giants; food vendors, Masons Hope Lodge and Sugarfire Smoke House. 21 Design Group will serve as the bartenders.

May 23 — Music, Garden Party; food, Marquart's Landing and Joe's Bakery & Deli. Bartenders will be from USA Mortgage.

June 27 — Music, Shawneetown Band; food, Washington Lions Club, Williams Brothers and Kona Ice. Washington Town & Country Fair board will serve as the bartenders.

July 25 — Music, Starlighters; food, Big Boy's Subs & Wings, Streetside Tacos and Kona Ice. Guild Mortgage will provide the bartenders.

Aug. 22 — Music, Friends of Aaron; food, Cafe Mosaic, Happy Apple and Droege's Catering. The bartenders will be from Arconic.

Sept. 26 — Music, Fanfare; food, Miller's Grill and Dairy Delight. Bank of Washington will provide the bartenders.

No coolers or pets are allowed at the event.

Sunset on the Riverfront is hosted by Downtown Washington Inc., a nonprofit dedicated to the preservation and continued vitality of the historic downtown area. The organization is a Main Street program, which is part of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

For more information on Sunset on the Riverfront, call 636-239-1743; email events@downtownwashmo.org; visit www.downtownwashmo.org or go to Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/downtownwashmo

April 13-14, 2019 The Missourian

Music at Market Returns May 9 at Farmers' Market

The Washington Area Chamber of Commerce and Washington Parks Department will team up again this year to offer Music at the Market.

The free outdoor events are held the second Thursday of the month, May through October, from 5 to 8 p.m. under the Farmers' Market.

Live music is featured each month. There is no charge to attend. Food and drink will be available for purchase.

These events are held rain or shine.

The first Music at the Market will be held Thursday, May 9, featuring the Texas Giants. The food vendor will be Fazoli's. Stone Hill Winery will offer its wine and the Four Rivers Family YMCA will serve as the volunteer bartenders.

The Rockin' Lazy R Roadhouse Band will perform Thursday, June 13. Pasta House will be the food vendor and Lake Creek the winery. The bartenders will be from Citizens Bank.

On Thursday, July 11, Backroads will perform and Sugarfire Smoke House will be the food vendor. The featured winery will be White Mule and the bartenders will be from the Bank of Washington.

There will not be an event in August due to the Washington Town & Country Fair.

Garden Party will perform Thursday, Sept. 12. Food will be offered by Cafe Mosaic and Montelle Winery will provide the wine. Cornerstone Mortgage will serve as bartenders.

On Thursday, Oct. 10, the featured band will be Tall Poppies. The Creek will be the food vendor and variety of wine will be available. The bartenders will be from Heritage Community Bank.

New this year, corn hole and koosh ball games will be set up on Main Street.

Main Street will be closed between the Cedar Street and the Main and Elm streets parking lot during Music at the Market.

Parking will still be available in the lots at Main and Elm and Main and Cedar.

The Farmers' Market is designated as a festival district from 4 to 9 p.m. on Music at the Market days.

No pets or coolers will be allowed.

April 13-14, 2019 The Missourian

View From Mercy Hospital Roof. Missourian Photo/Monte Miller.

Missourian Photo/B.J. Battle.

Bridge Comes Down

Blast was Thursday

By Monte Miller
Missourian Staff Writer

In just eight milliseconds, 750 explosive charges sent the old Highway 47 bridge at Washington to the bottom of the Missouri River.

Representatives from the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) and the demolition team from Marschel Wrecking said the implosion was a huge success.

Jeremy Frye, Marschel Wrecking project manager, said his company began planning for the demolition last October and there is still much more to do.

"Everything went exactly perfect," Frye said. "Each piece fell exactly where it was supposed to and nothing hit the new bridge."

Frye added there were more than 200

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BRIDGE

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pages of plans for the placement of 145 pounds of explosives packed into 750 linear-shaped charges and metal precuts on the 2,100-foot-long structure.

All of the charges were connected by 8,000 feet of detonation cord.

"To the naked eye it looked like one blast. The detonation cord took eight milliseconds to travel the 2,000-plus feet," Frye said. "There were only two charges (on the north side) that didn't cut through the metal like they were supposed to."

Those pieces will be cut in place and there will not be any need for additional blasts.

Frye added the all clear notice was given about 45 minutes after the blast.

"We had covered all of the explosives with plywood, so we had to clean some of that off of the new bridge," he said.

Now that the 38 sections of the old bridge are down, subcontractor Budrovich Marine, St. Louis, is assisting Marschel crews with removing the pieces from the river.

"We've still got a lot of work to do," Frye said. "Budrovich has the cranes and barges, we don't, but we do have some of our equipment on the barges also."

From the time the first piece of bridge hit the water just seconds after 10:30 a.m., Marschel had a window of 24 hours to get several bridge sections out of the water.

"We have to get the pieces out of the main channel first," Frye said. "It has to be cleaned and sonar swept."

The main channel is located on the Washington side of the river between piers one and two of the bridges.

Once all of the metal pieces are out of the river, Marschel crews will begin the task of removing the piers that once held the steel structure by cutting the concrete in to smaller pieces and placing them on the barges.

Frye said Marschel Wrecking has taken down several other bridges, but this was the largest span over water the company has done to date.

MoDOT

The successful blast Thursday was yet another chapter in the decades long book to replace the 83-year-old river crossing for Missouri Department of Transportation officials as well.

Area Engineer Judy Wagner has been deeply involved with both the construction of the new $63 million bridge and demolition of the old.

"Overall, this was a huge success and everything is good to go," Wagner said. "Everything went smoothly from the coordination on the land and water, and crews are already in the process of cleaning the twisted metal from the river."

Wagner confirmed no debris from the demolition hit the new bridge, but there was a lot of old paint chips from the trusses that ended up on the new road deck, but they were cleared quickly.

In less than an hour after the blast, the new Highway 47 bridge and railroad tracks were all open for regular traffic.

"I'm thankful for all of the groups involved," Wagner said. "The FAA, marine patrols, the railroad, highway patrol, department of conservation local authorities and many others."

Budrovich

The subcontractor on the demolition project, Budrovich Marine, provided all marine support equipment for the retrieval of the bridge, including tugs, cranes on barges, and excavator on barge. The manager of Budrovich Marine, Mindy Brundick, grew up in Franklin County.

Budrovich Marine previously has done the retrieval on Boone Bridge, as well as Chain of Rocks Bridge.

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Rennick Riverfront Park Public Viewing Location

April 17, 2019 The Missourian

It Takes Muscle to Clean Up the River

Volunteers hefted and rolled old tires pulled from the Missouri River and its banks Saturday morning, April 13, during a cleanup led by Missouri River Relief in Washington. Barrels and other large pieces of trash also were collected. The Missouri River cleanup here has become a biennial event, when weather and river levels cooperate. Missourian Photo.

April 17, 2019 The Missourian

Grace's Place Will Host Vintage Market Downtown

Grace's Place is finalizing preparations for its 2019 fundraising event, Grace's Place Vintage Market, which will be held April 26-28.

"This fundraiser is a fun time for all of our vendors and volunteers," said Amanda Jones, chief executive officer.

This is the fifth year Grace's Place is holding a vintage market, which is held in conjunction with Downtown Washington Inc.'s Washmo BBQ, Bikes & Blues Festival.

"Our vintage market is different than a lot of others around the area because it is a fundraiser, admission is free and the profits directly benefit Grace's Place — keeping the doors at our emergency shelter open for children," said Jones.

"Our vintage market committee is the hardest working group of volunteers," she added. "They did an amazing job securing sponsorships from store owners and vendors, attendees for the event, as well as corporate businesses to cover all out-of-pocket expenses so we can raise even more money to support our mission."

Jones said vendor registration fees, coupon cards, event apparel, a 50/50 raffle held the entire weekend of the event and free-will donations will all benefit Grace's Place.

Vendors will sell vintage, vintage repurposed or vintage upcycled items. They will begin setting up along Main and Elm streets Friday, April 26, with their booths opening for sales from 4:30 to 9 p.m. The booths will be open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, April 27, and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, April 28.

"Grace's Place will also have a booth set up at the corner of Elm and Main streets to provide advocacy to the community, as well as host an area where kids can engage in activities while their parents can take a minute to learn about Grace's Place and take a rest," said Jones.

Kid friendly activities will include The Monkey Bus, a balloon clown, a face painter and life-sized games such as Jenga and checkers.

"We've really been focusing on providing a quality event for our community members as well as thinking of ways we could use the number of people attending to meet our fundraising goals for the year," said Jones. "If we can collect $1 from each person there, it could make a significant impact.

"We think it is so important to make sure our message is reaching families in need of the services we provide and that our services are kept free — the only way for us to continue to do this is through fundraising," she added.

Admission to the event is free all three days.

Representatives from several downtown shops serve on the Grace's Place Vintage Market committee, including Flippin' Family, Four Seasons Florist, Tanglewood Cottage and The Painted Home.

"Our committee members mean the world to us," said Jones. "They donate their time, talent and connections to make this a successful fundraiser for us. There is no way we could host a quality vintage market without their expertise and guidance-they are truly a big deal to us."

Coupon cards can be purchased online at FB.com/GPVintageMarket for $10 each. There are nearly 20 vendors and shops listed on the card, which can be used all weekend long.

A washable event tote for sale for $15 also will be sold. Shoppers can purchase both items through a bundle deal for $20 and save $5.

"As with everything going on this weekend, the proceeds from the coupon card and event tote directly benefit our emergency shelter," said Grace's Place Board Chair Jacque McHugh.

She said many volunteers are needed throughout the weekend to make sure the vendors and those attending enjoy their time at the event.

"Grabbing a friend to volunteer for a few hours and then to go shopping at the market is really a great way to support Grace's Place and have fun," said McHugh. "You can also grab some food and listen to music at the Washmo BBQ, Bikes & Blues Festival that will also be going on at the same time as our event."

Volunteers are needed to set up the event on Friday morning, sell 50/50 raffle tickets, help people get large purchases to their vehicles and help with cleanup.

"This also is a great opportunity for students to earn needed community service hours before the end of the school year," said McHugh.

To be considered as a vendor, visit www.FB.com/GPVintageMarket and click on the blue "Sign Up" button. Volunteers also can sign up at that site.

April 17, 2019 The Missourian

Springtime Tulips

These blooming tulips were spotted through *The Missourian's* camera lens Sunday, April 14, at the Bank of Washington Second Street entrance with the St. Francis Borgia Church in the background. Missourian Photo.

April 17, 2019 The Missourian

Historic Preservation Approves Awning Design

The Historic Preservation Commission Monday night approved an awning design for a building at 120 W. Front St. in Downtown Washington.

The review is mandatory, but compliance is voluntary.

The design calls for a yellow awning to be placed on the side of the historic Roettger building owned by Bryan Bogue, Tony Gokenbach and Tonya Wade.

The awning is for a new business, Wild Sparrow Gift Shop, going in on the main floor of the building, The gift shop is owned by Wade, who was not present for the meeting, so Bogue presented the plans.

"Right now the unit's being painted," Bogue told the commission. "She (Wade) has ordered a lot of the shelving so she'll be setting up pretty soon."

He said Wade hopes to have the business open in May.

The three partners have plans to restore the building to its original purpose as much as possible.

The third floor of the building will be referred to as the Roettger Inn Loft. Historically, the upper level was the Roettger Inn, which was run by the widow of August Roettger.

August 17, 2019 The Missourian

April 27-28, 2019 The Missourian

Barbecue, Live Music Downtown

By Susan Miller
Missourian Managing Editor

Whether you're looking for food, entertainment or to shop, the 11th annual WashMO BBQ, Bikes & Blues Festival will have it all.

Sponsored by Downtown Washington Inc., the three-day, family-oriented event will feature a professional barbecue competition, live blues music and a motorcycle show on Sunday.

The festival, which kicked off Friday night, also will have a full food court, various vendors, a photo booth on Main Street and wine slushies by Adam Puchta Winery.

Grace's Place Vintage Market

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BARBECUE

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also will be held in conjunction with the festival. Vendors selling vintage, vintage repurposed and vintage upcycled items will be set up on the downtown streets.

The vintage market is a major fundraiser for Grace's Place, which provides emergency shelter for children.

Children's activities will include The Monkey Bus, a balloon clown, face painter and games.

The hours for both the blues festival and vintage market are 5 to 10 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday; and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday.

Cassidy Lowery, Downtown Washington Inc. events and promotions specialist, said the festival will be held rain or shine.

Barbecue

The festival was scheduled to kick off Friday with the "Anything But" open competition for barbecue teams, in which they can enter a food in the category of sandwiches.

On Saturday, the barbecue competition, sanctioned by the Kansas City BBQ Society, will get underway. Teams from across the U.S. and even the Netherlands will compete for the title of grand champion, along with trophies, ribbons and cash prizes for the winners. Over $10,500 in prize money will be given out.

From 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, a barbecue tasting event will be open to the public, in which each team competes for People's Choice. Tickets are $15.

A Kids Que competition also will take place Saturday.

Bike Show

On Sunday, a motorcycle show will take place from noon to 4 p.m. with special parking for those on two wheels under the Farmers' Market.

Trophies will be awarded in different categories, including People's Choice

April 27-28, 2019 The Missourian

Spring Art Walk Is This Weekend

The Washington Spring Art Walk, presented by the Arts Council of Washington (ACOW), will be held Friday and Saturday, April 26-27.

The hours will be from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday.

Local and area artists will display their work in downtown businesses.

This event is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Petra Haynes, 636-544-1014, or visit the Facebook page "Arts Council of Washington" for a list of participating artists and downtown businesses.

April 27-28, 2019 The Missourian

Dogwood in Bloom

A white dogwood tree at Marquart's Landing on Front Street framed the caboose that has become a landmark in Downtown Washington Friday morning, April 26. After a couple of days of rain and gray skies, the sky was clear and bright Friday.

Missourian Photo.

May 1, 2019 The Missourian

Cheers to Barbecue!

Rachel Tobben, left, and Trini Haddox, both volunteers, toast barbecue samples in celebration of the 11th annual WashMO BBQ, Bikes & Blues Festival Saturday, April 27. The tasting event featured meats made by about 40 teams from across the U.S. and the Netherlands. Teams competed for the title of grand champion. Missourian Photo.

May 1, 2019 The Missourian

May 1, 2019 The Missourian

Steady Painting

Jamie Green, a plein-air artist, keeps a steady hand to duplicate a scene on Main Street in Washington during the Washington Paint Out Saturday, April 27. The event is part of the 17th annual Augusta Plein-Air Art Festival. The artists had four hours to complete their works before judging at the Washington Public Library commenced. After judging, the art works were put on display and available for purchase. Missourian Photo.

May 1, 2019 The Missourian

Historic Preservation Awards Presented

The Missouri Alliance for Historic Preservation presented its 39th annual awards Tuesday in Jefferson City.

Among the award winners was Twelker Farm/ Steeple View Manor, LLC, New Haven, which was recognized under the category of Preserve Missouri Awards.

Awards were given to 14 recipients representing individual historic building projects, people and/or projects that have created or inspired synergy in historic preservation, public works promoting Missouri's architectural history, and lifetime achievements in the field of historic preservation.

The New Haven project was the only winner in Franklin County.

The awards ceremony took place in the Capitol Rotunda, followed by a luncheon at an event center.

May 1, 2019 The Missourian

Sweet Ride

A motorcycle show took place Sunday, April 28, in Downtown Washington as part of the 11th annual WashMO BBQ, Bikes and Blues Festival hosted by Downtown Washington Inc. The bikes lined up under the Farmers' Market and on Main Street, and trophies were awarded for different categories, including People's Choice. Missourian Photo.

May 1, 2019 The Missourian

All Lined Up

These motorcycles were lined up Sunday, April 28, for the motorcycle show under the Farmers' Market and on Main Street in Downtown Washington. The show was part of the 11th annual WashMO BBQ, Bikes & Blues Festival hosted by Downtown Washington Inc. Trophies were awarded for different categories, including People's Choice. Missourian Photo.

May 4-5, 2019 The Missourian

Historic Building Is Up for Lease

By Gregg Jones
Missourian Staff Writer

City and Chamber officials are looking to breathe new life into a historic landmark to better fit the entertainment and residential atmosphere of Downtown Washington.

Proposals for businesses — such as a winery or brewery — are now being sought for the city's Waterworks Building located at Rennick Riverfront Park.

The building is up for lease for the first time in 20 years since it began to house Waterworks Antiques. The owners of the store were granted a two-month lease extension through June to remove items that had been in the building.

Sal Maniaci, Washington's community and economic develop-

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BUILDING

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ment director, said city staff is working with the Washington Area Chamber of Commerce to attract a restaurant, winery, brewery or similar type of business to better fit with the park and downtown atmosphere.

"We are interested in leasing out the Waterworks Building to a business that will complement our park and surrounding downtown district," he said.

We are imagining a use that is pedestrian friendly whether it be a winery or brewery satellite location or a business that is geared toward recreational activities," Maniaci added.

"The Waterworks Building is in such a great location to serve the general public in some fashion. We want a use that is going to take advantage of and hopefully increase the foot traffic at Rennick Riverfront Park."

Darren Lamb, city administrator, noted that wineries or breweries would be a draw to the riverfront during times that typically are not as busy.

"Any one of those uses would bring visitors to the riverfront during the times of the year when we don't get a lot of people there," he said.

The city has sent out a request for proposals (RFP) which must be returned by June 7.

In addition to a public RFP, direct requests have been sent to any Washington business with a liquor license, and area wineries and breweries.

"We are directly soliciting any business in the city of Washington that currently has a liquor license, as well as over 100 breweries and wineries on this side of the state," Maniaci stated. "That certainly doesn't mean we are only open to those types of business. All proposals are welcome. Hopefully we can find an entrepreneur who sees the same potential we do at the site."

Proposals

The RFP must include a plan showing the intention of the applicant and the financial stability to operate a business and maintain the building.

The city is marketing the downtown area as a residential and entertainment district where there have been 70 new residences added in the past 10 years. Those residences range from market value rentals to $1.3 million townhomes.

Commercial investments in the downtown area include $70 million in commercial investments.

The property is zoned C-3 commercial and no residential zoning would be permitted at the building. It is located within the 100-year flood plain.

The leesee would be required to enter into a lease agreement, with a five- to 10-year lease expected. The business owner also must provide sufficient insurance on the building.

City officials added that the original features of the Waterworks Building must be retained.

Any remodeling, repair or alteration plans must be approved by the city.

City Objectives

The primary goal of leasing the building is to benefit Washington residents with a use compatible with the downtown area.

The project also must be consistent with the city's comprehensive plan and zoning and building codes.

In addition, the city is looking to retain the historic significance of the Waterworks Building.

Waterworks Building

There are three levels and a basement at the building located at No. 1 Elbert Drive.

The building is 2,160 square feet, not including the basement or third level, both about 650 square feet. Those areas would be best suited for storage, officials said.

Public parking and outdoor seating will be included in the lease agreement.

For more information, people may call Maniaci at 636-390-1004 or email smaniaci@washmo.gov.

May 4-5, 2019 The Missourian

Friday Morning River View

The Missouri River covers parking areas at Rennick Riverfront Park Friday morning during its most recent flood. The National Weather Service reported the river crested at 26.52 feet early Friday morning. The river is expected to drop below the 20-foot flood stage Tuesday morning. Missourian Photo.

May 4-5, 2019 The Missourian

Hard at Work

Devin McAfoos worked hard to rid this section of landscaping of weeds Wednesday, April 24, at Weeding Wednesday. The group worked around the Washington City Hall, Washington Public Library and Public Safety Building. They worked under the direction of Washington Horticulturist/Aborist Josh Wargo. The group works alongside Washington in Bloom and master gardeners. Missourian Photo.

May 8, 2019 The Missourian

Finalizing Plans for Art Fair & Winefest

May 17-19 in Downtown Washington

Organizers are gearing up for the 38th annual Art Fair & Winefest to be held May 17-19 in historic Downtown Washington.

"This unique festival in the heart of Missouri wine country draws visitors each spring from across the Midwest," said Cassidy Lowery, events and promotion specialist for Downtown Washington Inc., which sponsors the event.

There will be live music, a full food court and vendors all weekend long, said Lowery.

All of the activities will be held on and around the Main and Elm streets parking lot.

"Planning is going great and we can't believe it's less than two weeks away," she said.

Winefest

There will be 15 featured wineries this year for both the winefest and Sip & Savor Sunday.

The winetasting will be held Friday and Saturday under the pavilion at the Washington Farmers' Market. The hours will be 5 to 10 p.m. Friday and noon to 10 p.m. Saturday.

Admission to the winetasting is $30, which includes a souvenir wineglass and complimentary cheese and crackers. More than 70 wines will be offered for tasting.

"Visitors in the winetasting area also will have the opportunity to enter drawings for giveaway prizes," said Lowery.

Sip & Savor Sunday

Sip & Savor Sunday is designed to provide seasoned winetasting guests or first-time visitors with a truly memorable experience that will allow them to celebrate spring, indulge their senses and learn more about pairing great area restaurant foods with fabulous Missouri wines, Lowery said.

"The wineries and area restaurants come together to showcase food and wine pairings specially crafted for this event," she said.

This event will run from noon to 3 p.m. Tickets are $30 and can be purchased in advance or at the event.

Celebrity judges from Feast magazine will be on hand to award the traveling trophy to this year's winner.

Visitors can then vote for their favorite pairing and a People's Choice award will be given out.

Art Fair

Held adjacent to the winetasting pavilion, the Art Fair will showcase a juried selection of about 38 artists featuring exhibitions and sales run by the Arts Council of Washington in conjunction with Downtown Washington Inc.

Lowery said items on sale will include watercolor paintings, photography, woodwork and other artwork.

Admission is free. The hours will be Friday from 5 to 8 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Live Music

The entertainment will open Friday, May 17, with The Tall Poppies performing from 6 to 10 p.m.

On Saturday, May 18, the Friends of Aaron will play from noon to 4 p.m., followed by Joe Fry the Guitar Guy from 4 to 6 p.m. and then Savana from 6 to 10 p.m.

The Garden Party will perform Sunday, May 19, from noon to 4 p.m.

Returning this year will be the Wine 101 class, a free event that will take place Saturday at noon on Main Street in front of the Washington Area Chamber of Commerce building.

"Guests can listen to local award-winning winemaker Ryan Menke explain his experience with wine and the winemaking process," Lowery said. "This is an opportunity to dive deep into what wine is all about."

May 8, 2019 The Missourian

Music at the Market Thursday

The first Music at the Market event, sponsored by the Washington Area Chamber of Commerce and city parks department, will be held this Thursday, May 9, from 5 to 8 p.m. under the Farmers' Market.

Admission is free. Food and drink will be available for purchase.

Music will be provided by the Texas Giants. The featured winery will be Stone Hill and featured specialty beer is Joe IPA. Food vendors will be Fazoli's.

The Four Rivers YMCA will serve as the bartenders.

New this year will be corn hole and koosh ball games.

The event is held rain or shine. People may bring their own lawn chairs. No pets or coolers are allowed.

Music at the Market will be held the second Thursday of the month in May, June, July, September and October.

May 15, 2019 The Missourian

Art Fair, Winefest Is This Weekend

Big Crowds Expected

By Susan Miller
Missourian Managing Editor

Organizers are expecting big crowds to turn out for the 38th annual Art Fair & Winefest this weekend in Downtown Washington.

The festival will kick off Friday night and run through Sunday afternoon on and around the Main and Elm streets parking lot.

"We're hoping for 15,000 to 20,000 people because the weather forecast looks great," said Cassidy Lowery, events and promotion specialist for Downtown Washington Inc., which sponsors the event.

Lowery said the festival will feature winetasting, a juried selection of

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ART

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artists, live music and a full food court.

"It's shaping up to be a great event and we hope everyone comes down to check it out," she said.

Winefest

There will be 15 featured wineries offering over 70 wines this year for both the winefest and Sip & Savor Sunday.

The winetasting will be held Friday and Saturday under the pavilion at the Washington Farmers' Market. The hours will be 5 to 10 p.m. Friday and noon to 10 p.m. Saturday.

Admission to the winetasting is $30, which includes a souvenir wineglass and complimentary cheese and crackers. More than 70 wines will be offered for tasting.

"Visitors in the winetasting area also will have the opportunity to enter drawings for giveaway prizes," said Lowery.

Sip & Savor Sunday

Sip & Savor Sunday is designed to provide seasoned winetasting guests or first-time visitors with a truly memorable experience that will allow them to celebrate spring, indulge their senses and learn more about pairing great area restaurant foods with fabulous Missouri wines, Lowery said.

"The wineries and area restaurants come together to showcase food and wine pairings specially crafted for this event," she said.

This event will run from noon to 3 p.m. Tickets are $30 and can be purchased in advance or at the event.

Celebrity judges from Feast magazine will be on hand to award the traveling trophy to this year's winner.

Visitors can then vote for their favorite pairing and a People's Choice award will be given out.

Art Fair

Held adjacent to the winetasting pavilion, the Art Fair will showcase a juried selection of about 38 artists featuring exhibitions and sales run by the Arts Council of Washington in conjunction with Downtown Washington Inc.

Lowery said items on sale will include watercolor paintings, photography, woodwork and other artwork.

Admission is free. The hours will be Friday from 5 to 8 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Live Music

The entertainment will open Friday, May 17, with The Tall Poppies performing from 6 to 10 p.m.

On Saturday, May 18, the Friends of Aaron will play from noon to 4 p.m., followed by Joe Fry the Guitar Guy from 4 to 6 p.m. and then Savana from 6 to 10 p.m.

The Garden Party will perform Sunday, May 19, from noon to 4 p.m.

Returning this year will be the Wine 101 class, a free event that will take place Saturday at noon on Main Street in front of the Washington Area Chamber of Commerce building.

"Guests can listen to local award-winning winemaker Ryan Menke explain his experience with wine and the winemaking process," Lowery said. "This is an opportunity to dive deep into what wine is all about."

The food court will feature a wide variety of food, including a Mediterranean vendor and homemade fudge.

Wine will be available by the glass and bottle, as well as beer.

Lowery said several local organizations will have booths at the event.

May 15, 2019 The Missourian

Downtown Washington To Host Cleanup Day

■ *Volunteers Are Being Sought*

Downtown Washington Inc. will present the 10th annual Cleanup Day Saturday, June 8, from 8 to 11 a.m. in historic Downtown Washington.

The downtown organization is seeking volunteers, of all ages, to help keep Washington beautiful.

Volunteers will pick up trash, paint, weed and do other light maintenance.

Kids are welcome with adult supervision, organizers said.

T-shirts will be provided while supplies last courtesy of Arconic. Schulte's doughnuts will be served before the work begins.

Volunteers may sign up in advance at the Downtown Washington post office at 123 Lafayette St. or online at https://tinyurl.com/yyeq7d48.

Downtown Washington Inc. is a nonprofit dedicated to the preservation and continued vitality of the downtown area. The organization is a Main Street program, which is part of the National Main Street Center, a division of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

For more information, people may contact Cassidy Lowery at 636-239-1743 or at events@downtownwashmo.org, or visit www.downtownwashmo.org or on Facebook at www.fb.com/downtownwasmo.

May 15, 2019 The Missourian

The New Faces of Driftwood

Tony Franklin and fiancee Erica Moore decided to "go for it," and now they're the new owners of Driftwood at 514 W. Front St., Washington. One of the future changes they're planning to implement is a new menu with more locally sourced food items. The owners have already added five beverages on tap – two types of Samuel Adams, the Pinckney Bend Gin and Tonic, Deep Sleep Racemic Red Ale and Crown Valley Strawberry Cider.

Missourian Photo.

Driftwood in Washington Under New Ownership

Live Music to Continue

By Amanda Postma
Missourian Staff Writer

When Tony Franklin and his fiancee Erica Moore heard that Driftwood in Washington was for sale they didn't hesitate to make a bid.

"I said 'Let's go for it,' " Franklin said.

Moore noted the thought of owning a bar had crossed their minds before. She remembered Franklin asking her if she would like to own a bar someday. Moore was onboard.

The restaurant/bar has been operating under the new owners as of April 26.

Moore and Franklin met in 2008 at a company they were both working at in Philadelphia. For a long time, they were friends. Now, they're engaged.

Moore has a background as a quality manager and in customer service. She even worked at Driftwood as a server and bartender when she first moved to the area from Philadelphia in 2015.

Franklin moved to the area in 2011. He's originally from Glasgow, Mo.

"I was looking for a place small enough to raise kids," he said, noting it also was important the area had a bit of nightlife.

Franklin has a background in marketing and finance.

The couple have a 5-month-old daughter together and Franklin has two sons, 18 and 16.

Changes

Franklin told *The Missourian* the live music and concerts on the weekends will not go away. However, the new owners are making a few changes.

They have begun implementing server training and training for consistency in the kitchen.

Moore will be helping with front-of-house operations and has been working on minor upgrades for the point-of-sale software.

The owners also are currently in the process of working on a new menu. They will have a soft launch of the new food items in the last week of May.

Franklin said they are hoping to offer as many locally sourced items as possible. They will continue work with the same head chef, Greg, who was there under the former owners.

Franklin said Greg is a world-class chef who worked under Jacques Costeau's chef. He will be helping the owners create the new menu.

The owners already have added five beverages on tap — two types of Samuel Adams, the Pinckney Bend Gin and Tonic, Deep Sleep Racemic Red Ale and Crown Valley Strawberry Cider.

The couple is planning to host a grand opening in June, but are still working on the details.

May 15, 2019 The Missourian

Hanging Up Banners

Washington Parks Department staff recently installed banners on light posts near the riverfront on Front Street in Washington. Missourian Photo.

May 15, 2019 The Missourian

This Place Matters — The Calvin Theater

Carolyn Witt, center, her brother, John, and Krista Carver held signs Saturday morning across the street from the Calvin Theater in Downtown Washington stating "This Place Matters." The signs are from the Missouri Historic Preservation office. Carolyn Witt initially urged people through social media to "heart bomb" the theater with paper hearts sharing their memories of the old theater. When the building owner objected, Witt asked people to gather on Elm Street to appreciate the neighborhood, hearts in hand. It was a small turnout, but Witt said many people did share memories of the theater on Facebook. Missourian Photo.

May 15, 2019 The Missourian

Witt Says Old Calvin Theater Still Matters

Tried to 'Heart Bomb' Building

By Susan Miller
Missourian Managing Editor

The Washington Historic Preservation Commission chairman says the old Calvin Theater in Downtown Washington matters and that's why she urged people to "heart bomb" the building this past Saturday.

On social media, Witt asked people to make a heart out of red construction paper, write down their best memory of the Calvin Theater and bring it down to the building Saturday morning.

Witt said after the owner objected she reversed course and instead asked people to gather in the 300 block of Elm Street to appreciate the neighborhood, with their paper hearts in hand.

May also is Historic Preservation Month, she noted, so it was a great way to celebrate that too.

It was a small turnout, but Witt said many people posted "great memories" on Facebook about the "venerable" old theater.

"We all mourn the fact that it sits neglected and that every year it will become harder to bring it back to a useful, productive life," she said.

Witt said was inspired to do something while attending a government meeting in Jefferson City. The "heart bomb" idea is a national one, she said, and encourages people to place hearts on historic buildings that could use a little love and attention.

Witt added her own twist to the idea by asking people to share a memory of the Calvin Theater on the heart.

Although she chairs the historic preservation commission, Witt said she was not representing any organization in the heart bomb endeavor.

About the Theater

The Calvin Opera House Theater was built in 1909 by John L. Calvin on a vacant lot adjoining the Universal Grocery on Elm Street.

The Calvin was planned for theatrical productions, but shortly after it opened a movie screen and projector were installed for supplemental income.

The theater was operated by the Calvin family until the early 1930s, when they leased it to Commonwealth Theaters, Inc., a national chain.

Commonwealth purchased the Calvin in the mid-1970s and then it sold the business in 1983 to Mr. and Mrs. George McLean of Gerald. The McLeans, who at the time owned several theaters in the area, ran the Calvin for a couple of years before they sold it to Larry and Nancy Snyder.

The Calvin was sold once more after that before Doug Strothkamp purchased it in December 1999.

The marquee on the theater was removed in October 2016 after the city contacted the owner about property maintenance code violations. The city did not call for the removal of the marquee but did note several issues with the sign and many other problems with the deteriorating building.

May 18-19, 2015 The Missourian

Annual Art Fair, Winefest Is Downtown

This Weekend

By Susan Miller
Missourian Managing Editor

The 38th annual Art Fair & Winefest in Downtown Washington this weekend will offer something for everyone.

"We'll have winetasting, lots of great art, live music and a large food court," said Cassidy Lowery, events and promotion specialist for Downtown Washington Inc., which sponsors the event.

The event will be held rain or shine, organizers stressed.

"The forecast keeps changing, but we will be here and the winetasting is under the Farmers' Market, the bands are under cover and there will be plenty of areas to get out of the rain and enjoy all of the activities," said Executive Director Bridgette Kelch, who expects between 15,000 and 20,000 people over the three days if the weather is good.

The festival was scheduled to kick off Friday night and run through Sunday afternoon on and around the Main and Elm streets parking lot.

There will be 15 featured wineries offering over 70 wines for both the winefest and Sip & Savor Sunday.

The winetasting will be held Friday and Saturday under the pavilion at the Washington Farmers' Market. The hours will be 5 to 10 p.m. Friday and noon to 10

• See Winefest Page 2A

WINEFEST

CONTINUED FROM 1A

p.m. Saturday.

Admission is $30, which includes a souvenir wineglass and complimentary cheese and crackers.

For Sip & Savor Sunday the wineries and area restaurants will come together to showcase food and wine pairings specially crafted for this event, said Lowery.

This event will run from noon to 3 p.m. Tickets are $30 and can be purchased at the event.

Celebrity judges from Feast magazine will be on hand to award the traveling trophy to this year's winner.

Held adjacent to the winetasting pavilion, the Art Fair will showcase a juried selection of about 38 artists. All artwork will be for sale.

The Art Fair is run by the Arts Council of Washington in conjunction with Downtown Washington Inc.

Items to be offered for sale will include watercolor paintings, photography, woodwork and other artwork.

Admission is free. The hours will be Friday from 5 to 8 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Live Music

The live entertainment opened Friday with The Tall Poppies performing from 6 to 10 p.m.

On Saturday, Friends of Aaron will play from noon to 4 p.m., followed by Joe Fry the Guitar Guy from 4 to 6 p.m. and then Savana from 6 to 10 p.m.

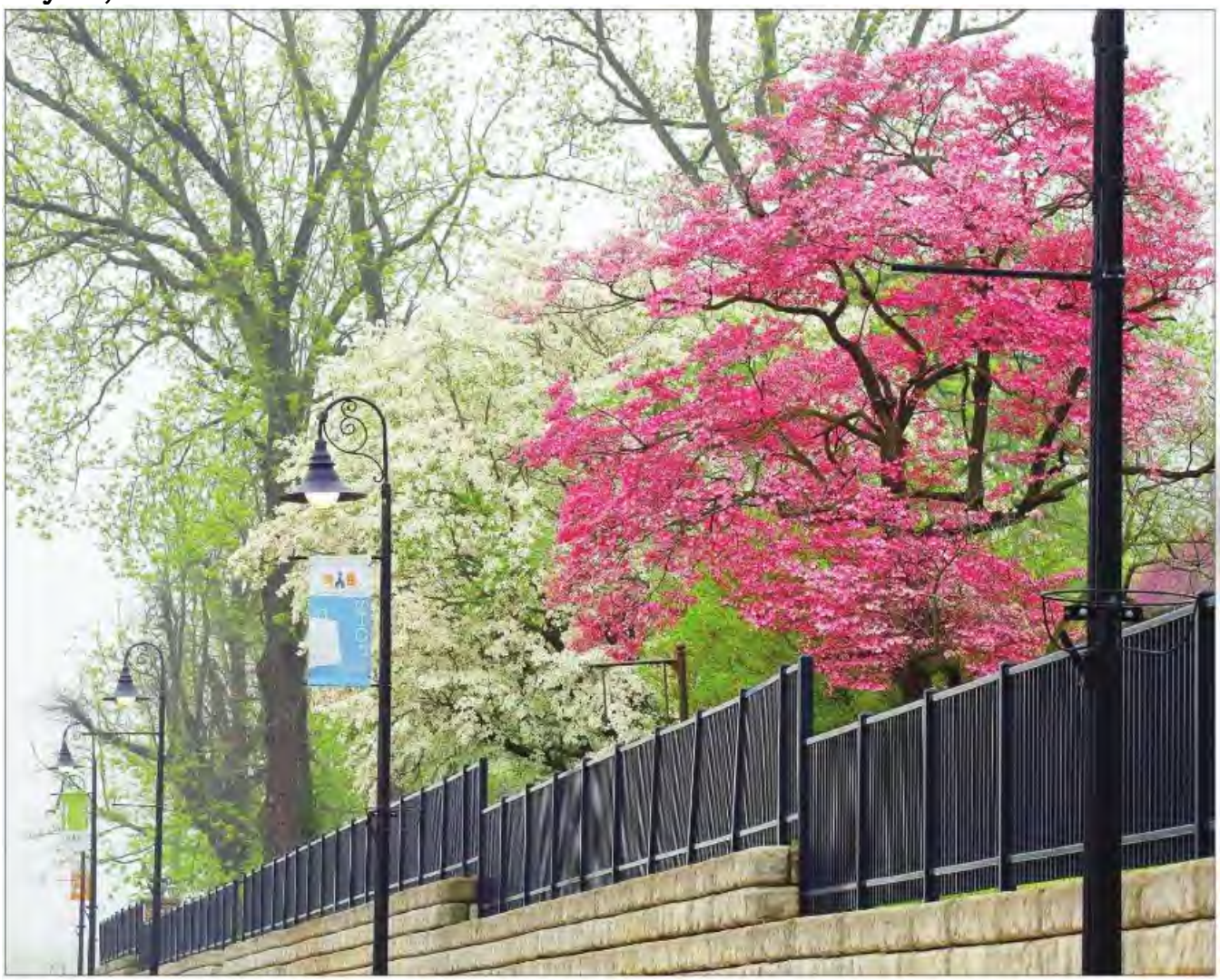
Garden Party will perform Sunday, May 19, from noon to 4 p.m.

Returning this year will be the Wine 101 class, a free event that will take place Saturday at noon on Main Street in front of the Washington Area Chamber of Commerce building.

The food court will feature a wide variety of food, including a Mediterranean vendor and homemade fudge.

Wine will be available by the glass and bottle, as well as beer.

May 22, 2019 The Missourian



Flowering Along Front Street

Flowering pink and white dogwood trees along Front Street in Downtown Washington provided a burst of color against a gray, rainy sky Thursday morning, April 25. The forecast called for a chance of more rain on Saturday and Sunday.

Missourian Photo.

May 22, 2019 The Missourian

Fog Rolls In

The fog rolled in over the Missouri River Sunday morning, May 5. This scene was captured at the Rennick Riverfront Park in Washington. The new Highway 47 bridge can be seen in the background. Missourian Photo.

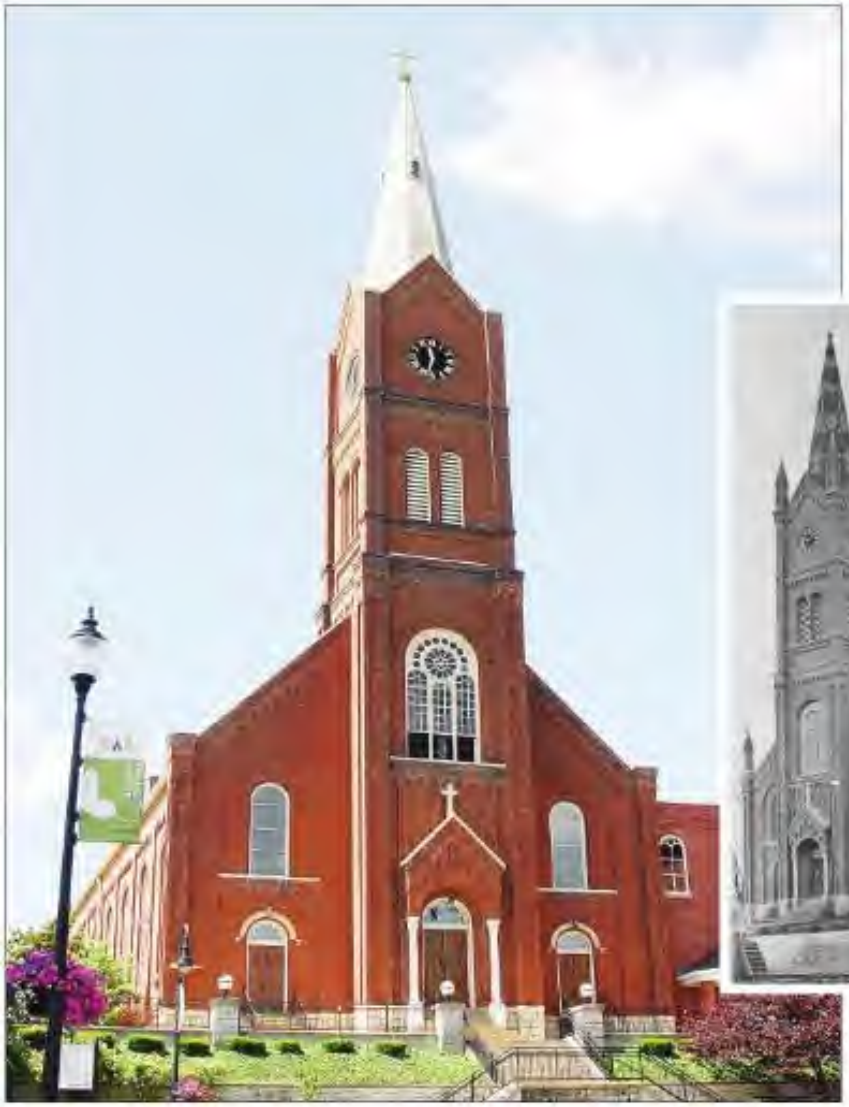
May 29, 2019 The Missourian

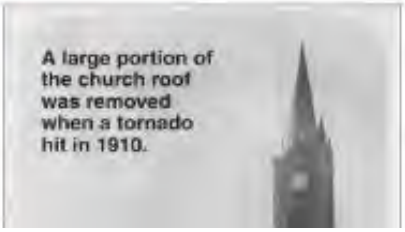
June 1-2, 2019 The Missourian

'A Lot of History, A Lot of Faith'

St. Francis Borgia To Celebrate 150th Anniversary of Third Church

By Karen Cernich,
Missourian Feature Writer





A large portion of the church roof was removed when a tornado hit in 1910.

The exterior of St. Francis Borgia Church looks largely the same today, above, as it did when it was completed in 1869. The inset photo shows the church with spires that were removed after a tornado hit in 1910. Notice the pattern on the steeple and also the location of Borgia's second church, which was still standing at the time. These old photos were provided by the Washington Historical Society.

The interior of Borgia's current church has changed many times in the last 150 years. At left is an early photo that shows the pulpit on the right side of the church among the pews. The photo at right is how the church looks today with images of the 12 apostles displayed along the arched ceiling.

Painted images of the 12 apostles along the arched ceiling of St. Francis Borgia Church in Downtown Washington are among Father Joe Wormek's favorite details inside this historic structure. Installed in 1905, the images don't have names to identify who is who. Rather, they are recognized by what each one is holding in his hands.

"Peter has the keys, Paul has the sword. Andrew has an X cross…," said Father Joe, pastor at St. Francis Borgia since 2014.

Not included among the 12 is Judas, who removed himself from the group by betraying Jesus. According to the Bible's "Acts of the Apostles," the 11 remaining drew names to find a replacement. They selected Matthias, but he's not featured along the ceiling at SFB either.

"Paul is there," said Father Joe. "Paul was called by Jesus himself."

"The images of the apostles are one of the most beloved features of SFB church by parishioners. Earlier this year when the canvas on which the images are painted began peeling away from the walls, extensive care was taken to make repairs.

"It's a plaster ceiling with a wall covering that has been painted over it," Father Joe explained. "It has been up for 30 year and the duration is usually 20, so we're talking about replacing it… but the apostles will remain."

"The apostles were not an original feature of this SFB church, the third in the parish's 185-year history. Not much of the interior is, since the building dates back 150 years. But the exterior remains largely the same as it was in Easter Monday, April 6, 1869, when it was blessed and dedicated.

SFB parishioners will be celebrating the 150th anniversary of this church with a special dinner Saturday, June 8, following the 4:40pm Mass. Archbishop Robert Carlson will be in attendance.

Third Church in Less Than 30 Years

Father Martin Seisl, SJ, was pastor of SFB in 1866 when the parish took on construction of a new church, having outgrown its two previous churches.

The first SFB church was a log cabin located where the church cemetery at 14th and Jefferson streets is today. The second was a brick structure, 36 feet wide by 70 feet long, built in 1846 just west of the current church.

The growth of the Borgia parish forced the parish to begin building its third church in 1866, said Father Joe. They had wanted to start sooner, but the Civil War prevented that.

According to a church history compiled by Karen Marquart in the booklet, "St. Francis Borgia Parish, A Dream by the River," 650,700 bricks were used at a cost of $4,717 to build the church. Labor costs to the bricklayers was $3,811.

When the church was completed in 1869, it was the Rev. Provincial Fred Coosemans who gave the blessing. He was assisted by the Rev. Father Foller and the Rev. Father William Faeber. The Rev. Father Haza sang the High Mass.

The hhigh alter was built and put up by Washington's own Schwarzer and Co. The Communion rail was made by Trentmann and Co., and an iron enclosure around the Baptismal font was made by A. Jasper.

The church's three bells, which were cast in 1869, 1876 and 1877 are still hanging in the 12 by 12 foot bell tower. The bells measure 5, 4 and 3 feet in diameter, and together weigh several tons.

However, the bells no longer swing to make their familiar ringing sound, as the swinging was shaking the tower too much. Several years ago electronic hammers were placed on the bells to hit the bells and create the ringing sound.

A tornado ripped into the roof and steeple of the church on July 9, 1910. The repairs were quick and the remaining turrets on the façade were removed.

Renovations Began in Early 1900's

Improvements and modifications to the church interior began after Father Alphonse Bergener, O.F.M. arrived in 1902. These included frescoing of the church by George Hoepfinger of Chicago, Ill., pictorial stained-glass windows, Stations of the Cross, a new pulpit and alters, confessional and Communion railing, a steam heating system and electric lights.

"Before then, the pulpit was located among the pews on the right side, and there were no stained-glass windows," Father Joe pointed out.

The stained-glass windows each tell a story. On the baptismal font side (right side if facing the alter), from the front of the church to the back,, these include the Annunciation; the birth of Jesus,; the Holy Family in Nazareth; the Assumption; the Coronation of Mary as queen and mother; and the Face of Mary. On the other side (piano side), from front to back,

the windows depict the Presentation of Mary; Jesus lost in the temple and teaching; the Ascension; and the Face of Jesus.

In the choir loft, the stained-glass window above the pipe organ, the rose window depicts St. Cecilia.

According to a parish bulletin from July 1943, kneeler cushions were installed the week of July 13. In March 1949, the bulletin outlined how the clock in the bell tower was sent off to Cincinnati where it was equipped to operate electronically. That same bulletin also noted that the church bells were strengthened with new lumber and steel.

Old photos show how ornate the church interior used to be, even as late as the 1930's and 40's.

In the late 1950's, the interior of the church was completely redecorated. The ornately decorated wooden altars were re-dome of the sanctuary portrayed the symbol of God the Father and "Seat of Wisdom."

Those changes coincided with the Second Vatican Council which convened in 1959 and brought major changes to the Mass, said Father Joe.

"The altar was turned around, and Mass went from Latin to English," he remarked. "There were a lot of changes then. People were used to going to church and watching, and now they were expected to participate."

The next round of major interior renovations and redecorating came in the mid 1980's. Parishioners supported the effort, pledging more than $500,000 to complete the work, which began in 1986.

Air conditioning was added to the church in 1993. The following year, the steeple was renovated and lighting was installed. In 1995, the choir area was redesigned to be more accommodating to choir members, the director and other musicians.

Three years ago, the four clock faces in the bell tower, each of which measures about 8 feet across, were refurbished, and the wooden hands, which are 4 and 3 feet apiece, were replaced with aluminum hands manufactured by Bleckman Machine Company, Washington.

Angels, Historical Statues

Along with the images of the apostles, Father Joe said another favorite detail of the décor is the abundance of angels. There are 20 or more seen in the sanctuary dome, the stained-glass windows, above the door at the entrance to the church and elsewhere.

He also appreciates the statues displayed in the church to have special meaning to the parish history. The statues of St. Francis Borgia and St. Francis of Assisi represent the two religious orders that served the parish over the years, and there also is a small statute hanging on the wall just inside the center doors to the church of St. Rose Philippine Duchesne, who is buried in St. Charles and who visited this parish in 1841.

It's natural to be impressed that over the last 150 years, this third SFB church has survived natural disasters, but Father Joe said what is equally as impressive to him is how the church has survived the growth of the parish. Back in 1869 when the church as completed, the parish had maybe 200 families, and the church was built to seat 600 people, so it was built with growth in mind.

Today the parish has more than 1,200 families. To accommodate that number, there are four Masses held each weekend, one on Saturday evening at 4:30 p.m. and three on Sunday mornings at 7, 9 and 11 a.m.

The parish has just two priests.

Anniversary Celebration

St. Francis Borgia Church will celebrate the 150th anniversary of its current church building with a special dinner in the courtyard of Jesuit Hall Saturday, June 8, beginning around 5:30 p.m. following the 4:30 p.m. Mass, which will be led by Archbishop Robert Carlson.

The menu will include a variety of food provided by SFB members who have restaurants and food businesses. The deadline to register for the meal has passed.

The evening also will include music from Loehnig German Band and kids activities.

The parishioners – some of whom are descendants of the original 12 families who founded SFB – are excited to celebrate this milestone in Borgia's history, said Father Joe. He is too.

"Think about all the sacraments people have received here – baptisms, First Communions, marriages, people being buried from here.... We are celebrating a lot of history, a lot of faith," he said. "W're just a small part of it, and we're just trying to be thankful to the Lord for the blessings he has bestowed on this community and this church."

The organ and some of the many stained-glass windows inside Borgia Church are visible in this photo, as are some of the images of the apostles near the arched ceiling. The church was built in 1869 to seat 600 people. Today the parish has more than 1,200 families and offers four Masses to accommodate them — Saturday at 4:30 p.m. and Sundays at 7, 9 and 11 a.m. The parish will celebrate the 150th anniversary of its third and current church next Saturday, June 8, during and after the 4:30 p.m. Mass.

Missourian Photo.

June 1-2, 2019 The Missourian

Exploring the City of Washington

Spanish speaking residents of Washington had the opportunity to take a tram tour of Washington and learn about its history Friday, April 26. Marc Houseman of the Washington Historical Society gave the tour, and Alan Wunderlich drove the truck pulling the tram. Other volunteers also assisted with the tour. Several of these tours have been given this year.

Missourian Photo.

June 1-2, 2019 The Missourian

Paint Washington in Color

A child brushes in the letter "O" on one of the murals provided by the Arts Council of Washington at the 38th annual Art Fair & Winefest Friday, May 17, in Downtown Washington. The festival included a selection of nearly 40 artists with multiple styles of art for sale.

Missourian Photo.

June 1-2, 2019 The Missourian

More Wine, Please

Guests at the 38th annual Art Fair & Winefest in Downtown Washington visited winery booths to sample different wines Saturday, May 18. The festival featured 15 wineries which brought more than 70 wines. Aside from winetasting, the event featured various artists, live music and a food court. The festival lasted from Friday to Sunday.

Missourian Photo.

June 5, 2019 The Missourian

Downtown Washington Cleanup Day Saturday

Volunteers Are Still Needed

By Susan Miller
Missourian Managing Editor

Downtown Washington Inc. will present the 10th annual Cleanup Day this Saturday, June 8, from 8 to 11 a.m.

"The downtown organization is seeking volunteers, of all ages, to help keep Washington beautiful," said Cassidy Lowery, event specialist.

Volunteers will pick up trash, paint, weed and do other light maintenance.

Children are welcome with adult supervision, Lowery said.

"We have 20 people signed up so far, and that included our board members, but we need many more," she said. "This also is a great opportunity for high school students to earn community service hours."

T-shirts will be provided while supplies last courtesy of Arconic. Schulte's doughnuts will be served before the work begins.

Volunteers may sign up in advance at the Downtown Washington post office at 123 Lafayette St. or online at https://tinyurl.com/yyeq7d48.

Downtown Washington Inc. is a nonprofit dedicated to the preservation and continued vitality of the downtown area. The organization is a Main Street program, which is part of the National Main Street Center, a division of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

For more information, people may contact Cassidy Lowery at 636-239-1743 or at events@downtownwashmo.org, or visit www.downtownwashmo.org or on Facebook at www.fb.com/downtownwasmo.

June 5, 2019 The Missourian

June 5, 2019 The Missourian

Washington Farmers' Market in Full Swing

Spout Kids Club Again Offered

By Amanda Postma
Missourian Staff Writer

The Washington Farmers' Market is now in the full swing of things with summer right around the corner.

Washington Area Chamber of Commerce Marketing Director Amanda Griesheimer said that rainy weather has been affecting what is available each week, but all in all the season has been going really well.

The covered market is operated by the Chamber at 317 W. Main St. in Downtown Washington.

The market is open every Saturday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. now through October.

Currently, vendors are selling potted plants, hanging baskets, starter plants, beets, eggs, meat, lettuce, jewelry and crafts, pastries, jams, jellies, bread and other items.

The market only features vendors from Franklin or an adjoining county and is exclusive to in-season Missouri produce.

Griesheimer said guests should expect to see blueberries toward the end of June. She said the amount of produce offered has become more steady each week.

The market does not have a vendor selling strawberries.

"We would literally do cart wheels if somebody brought strawberries to the market," Griesheimer said.

New vendors are always welcome and can find vendor packets online at www.washmomarket.com.

The market has been consistently hosting about 20 vendors each week. The market has a total of 26 spaces.

Griesheimer expects the market to fill up as more vendors have more items to offer.

Sprouts Kids

The Sprouts Kids Club began this season May 3 for children ages 3-10.

"The kids have been excited to be back in the swing of things," Griesheimer said.

Each market day the children check in, they receive $2 in sprout tokens. The tokens only can be used for fresh produce from a market vendor.

Griesheimer said the way the children spend their tokens tells a lot about their personalities.

Tokens may be spent immediately, saved for a larger purchase or combined with siblings' or friends' tokens.

"For some, the tokens burn a hole in their little pockets," she said.

Other children save their tokens for particular produce.

"One Sprout got a watermelon starter plant the other day," Griesheimer said. "I'm excited to see how that works out for her."

Children can be registered by parents during market hours.

The tokens only are for use by Sprouts members.

Special Event

Griesheimer said there will be a new event to be offered at the market this summer.

A Junk in the Trunk event will take place Saturday, June 22, on the parking lot at Main and Elm streets. The community is invited to sign up for a booth to sell gently used or unwanted items.

Representatives from direct sales companies also will be there. The free event will take place from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

"It's a brand new adventure for us," Griesheimer said. "We're hoping to bring more people in who aren't as familiar with the market."

On-Site Lunch

Before opening day in April, Griesheimer was hoping to provide an on-site lunch option for market guests. Last Saturday was the first of the season.

Blazin Bro's BBQ prepared lunch for guests.

Also, two lunch vendors are confirmed for June 22 and June 29.

Griesheimer said she's hoping to have a food vendor consistently each week.

The market's Facebook page, https://www.facebook.com/washmomarket/, features what vendors are expected each week and is updated regularly.

The market was started in July 1990.

June 5, 2019 The Missourian

Farmers' Market Junk In the Trunk June 22

The Washington Farmers' Market will host a Junk in the Trunk event Saturday, June 22, on the parking lot at Main and Elm streets.

The free one-day event will take place from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

It will feature representatives from direct sales companies, as well as locals selling gently used or unwanted items.

Food and drink will be available for purchase.

Vendors can sign up for a booth until Thursday, June 20.

Those interested should contact Amanda at 636-239-2715, extension 106, or info@washmomarket.com, or contact Emmy at 636-239-2715 or junk@washmomarket.

For more information, people can visit www.washmomarket.com.

June 12, 2019 The Missourian

Cleaning Up Downtown

Thirty-nine volunteers helped clean up the downtown area Saturday, June 8, during Downtown Washington Inc.'s Cleanup Day. These volunteers are spreading mulch at a Lafayette Street location. Pictured, in no order, are Toni Cavin, Hailey Menges, Hannah Menges, Madeleine Menges, Dawn Menges and Tim Beumer, with the city of Washington. Missourian Photo.

July 12, 2019 The Missourian

Music at Farmers' Market Thursday

Music at the Market, 317 W. Main St., Washington, will feature the Rockin' Lazy R Roadhouse Band Thursday, June 13, from 5-8 p.m.

The event, held under the Farmers' Market, is free to attend. There will be food from Pasta House and Lake Creek Winery. The featured beer will be STL Red by O'Fallon Brewery. Citizens Bank employees will serve as the bartenders.

There will be corn hole and koosh ball games. No pets or coolers are allowed.

The event is organized by the Washington Area Chamber of Commerce and Washington Parks Department.

July 12, 2019 The Missourian

June 12, 2019 The Missourian

Volunteers Help Clean Up Downtown Area

By Susan Miller
Missourian Managing Editor

The historic downtown core got some much-needed TLC this past Saturday when Downtown Washington Inc. spearheaded its annual cleanup day.

"We had about 39 volunteers in all help out, and we got a lot done," said Bridgette Kelch, Downtown Washington Inc. executive director.

"We were able to pull weeds, mulch, pick up trash and do some painting," she said. "Due to the high water at the riverfront, we focused most efforts along Main and Front streets."

The back side of the wrought iron fence at the Main and Elm streets parking lot was painted and several areas received mulch. The younger helpers picked up trash along Front Street.

Several Jubilee Church members returned again this year, along with other residents of all ages, Kelch said.

"We also had city staffers come out to help along with many of our Downtown Washington Inc. board members," she said. "The city had sprayed weeds the week before so that helped."

Kelch thanked all of the volunteers and singled out the city for its assistance every year.

"It was a very successful cleanup. I'm really pleased with how it all went," Kelch said.

June 12, 2019 The Missourian

Neighborhood Reads To Host Special Events

For Second Anniversary

Neighborhood Reads bookstore is celebrating two years in Downtown Washington with several special events Friday and Saturday, June 14-15.

The bookstore will host two story times with the Taco Dragon — a life-size version of the main character from the "Dragons Love Tacos" books.

Friday's story time will be held at 11 a.m., and Saturday's story time will be held at 10:30 a.m.

There will be drawings both days for prizes for the dragon's favorite food — tacos — from Washington Taco Bell.

On Saturday, a special make-your-own book jewelry bar from The Compton Co. will be in the store from 1-5 p.m. The bookstore will have drawings for books, refreshments and a sidewalk sale.

A special bookstore birthday coupon is in the June 8-9 and June 12 issues of *The Missourian*.

Dawn Kitchell opened Neighborhood Reads June 15, 2017, after renovating a historic home at 401 Lafayette St., across from the Washington Public Library. Kitchell's background in newspapers and youth literacy inspired her to bring an independent bookstore to the community.

The bookstore features new books for all ages and genres — including books featured in *The Missourian's* book columns.

In addition to books and gifts, Neighborhood Reads hosts author signings, book clubs, open mic poetry nights and classes on everything from creative lettering to flower pounding.

In June and July, Neighborhood Reads is offering Wonder Wednesdays — minicamps for Little Kids, ages 4-7 and Big Kids, ages 8 and up.

Beginning July 1, the bookstore will host its monthlong Where's Waldo search downtown.

Neighborhood Reads is open seven days a week, and readers can shop online 24 hours a day through the website, www.neighborhoodreads.com. The online link shows books currently on the shelves, books on order and lets customers place orders for pickup in store or to be shipped.

This spring, the bookstore initiated a popular a gift subscription program, called Page Pal.

The bookstore also reaches out to readers weekly through an emailed newsletter, Shelf Awareness, that highlights new releases, authors and book news. The newsletter features local reviews from *The Missourian's* Novel Ideas, MO Books blog and youth columns, including Book Buzz, Baby Buzz and Book Sprouts.

A calendar of events for the bookstore is included in each issue.

To learn more about Neighborhood Reads bookstore, visit the website or connect on social media platforms Facebook, Instagram or Twitter.

June 12, 2019 The Missourian

Junk in The Trunk June 22

The Washington Farmers' Market will host a Junk in the Trunk event Saturday, June 22, on the parking lot at Main and Elm streets.

The free one-day event will take place from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Food and drink will be available for purchase.

Vendors can sign up for a booth until Thursday, June 20.

Those interested should contact Amanda at 636-239-2715, extension 106, or info@washmomarket.com, or contact Emmy at 636-239-2715 or junk@washmomarket.

For more information, people can visit www.washmomarket.com.

June 19, 2019 The Missourian

Historic Home Provides Suites for Travelers

By Amanda Postma
Missourian Staff Writer

The Stephen Jones House Inn, located at 108-110 Jefferson St. in Washington, gained new owners in February with the hopes of filling monthlong or yearly travelers' needs.

The inn was purchased by JMR Development LLC, Sullivan, and will be managed by T & C Hospitality LLC, Washington.

The historic inn consists of four extended-stay suites, which are currently being upgraded with new furnishings.

The idea is to maintain the historic era of the inn while catering to modern conveniences, said Joan Rohrer, president of JMR Development. Joan is working alongside her daughter Cody Rohrer, with T & C Hospitality, to help preserve "yesterday's character" of the inn.

JMR purchased the inn from Ralph Gildehaus. He purchased the inn in 2007 after his wife, Kathy Gildehaus, told him she could see herself living there. "We made it happen," Ralph said.

During their time of ownership, Ralph said they were very involved when it came down to maintaining the house.

"Many investors would not go to that extent," he said.

Now, the couple is handing the keys over to the new owners.

"It's time for us to travel and stay at other Airbnbs, rather than running one," Ralph said.

The JMR company is a multifamily business that saw the need to expand for long-term stay rentals in Washington, Joan said.

The inn is geared for corporate employees who travel for work, nurse associations, corporate relocation or for employees temporarily relocated to help update and organize a company or train new employees.

Aside from the bedroom upgrades, Joan noted a firepit sitting area may be in the works. She also said the patios would be getting a facelift.

"The location is very walkable to all restaurants and downtown commerce," Ralph said.

Additionally, Joan said the suites have river views and they are close to downtown events and festivals.

"We're excited to be a part of Washington's history," Joan said.

The idea of the suites is to provide the luxury of being at home, while being away from home.

Guests will have accessibility to a high efficiency washer and dryer that are free to use.

The rooms come with free Wi-Fi and TV, and feature 11-foot ceilings and 7-foot arch windows.

There's an option for weekly cleaning and linen service by T & C at an extra cost. All utilities are included and the units have central air conditioning.

The house has been on the National Register of Historic Places since 2000.

People can visit www.stephenjoneshouseinn.com for more information about the inn.

Historic House

Stephen Miller Jones completed his house in 1883 according to an announcement published in the *Die Washingtoner Post*, the local newspaper during that time.

The announcement noted that the building was two stories with modern conveniences.

Jones arrived in Franklin County in 1828 before serving in the Mexican War.

He started a mercantile business in Washington and then owned a match manufacturing business before engaging in railroad contract work.

He also helped organize and became president of the Washington Savings Bank, which opened in 1866.

When the bank closed, Jones and his son, Eugene, opened a business that offered real estate, financial and loan agent services.

Jones also served in a number of public offices including treasurer, constable and collector, trustee, deputy sheriff and sheriff, beginning in the 1850s. He served two terms as mayor of Washington.

Jones passed away in 1889.

The property was then passed down to Jones' sons, Eugene and James, until Eugene passed away and James became the sole owner.

After James' death in 1924, Hilda Steuerman purchased the building.

Handing Over the Keys

The Stephen Jones House Inn was purchased by JMR Development LLC, Sullivan, from the previous owners Ralph and Kathy Gildehaus in February. The JMR company saw a need for long-term stay rentals in the Washington area and the Gildehauses wanted to stay at other Airbnbs rather than running one. The inn will be managed by T & C Hospitality LLC, Washington. Pictured, from left, are Ralph Gildehaus, Kathy Gildehaus, Cody Rohrer, T & C Hospitality; and Joan Rohrer, president of JMR Development. The inn is located at 108-110 Jefferson St. in Washington. Missourian Photo.

June 19, 2019 The Missourian

New Nut Lady

Mother-daughter duo Kristy Stoyer, left, and Barbara Hillermann, right, are selling I.B. Nuts & Fruit Too to Holly Wunderlich, center. Wunderlich has been working with the previous owners the past year and was looking at starting her own business. Hillermann was looking to retire from the store, so the opportunity made for a perfect match. Missourian Photo.

New Owner Takes Over I.B. Nuts & Fruit Too

By Spencer Michelson
Missourian Staff Writer

I.B. Nuts & Fruit Too in Downtown Washington is changing ownership from mother-daughter duo Barbara Hillermann and Kristy Stoyer to Holly (Piontek) Wunderlich.

Wunderlich was born and raised in Washington and is a graduate from St. Francis Borgia Regional High School. She has spent the past 13 years in the financial industry and wanted to get out of the cubicle.

"I was looking to get into business ownership, and looking for something to get back into Washington," she said. "I was thinking of starting a store from scratch, but this opportunity came up. I thought, this is an awesome way to get back into town."

She and her husband, Dale, have two sons, ages 2 and 4 months. Her parents, aunts, uncles and cousins all call Washington home.

Wunderlich said she met her husband at Edward Jones while working together. She was still in project management, but he has since switched careers.

"He's a teacher now, and loves it," she said. "So, he was ready for me to go back to school and figure out what I want to do forever and this is it. He's really happy for me."

Transition

Wunderlich has been working with the previous owners since last year.

Hillermann said she was ready to retire and will now have more time to spend with her family, which includes seven grandchildren.

"I liked the people," Hillermann said. "That's one thing I'm going to miss. There's so many people who come in here now, I don't know how many hugs I've given."

Hillermann and Stoyer have owned the store going on nine years. They took over from Margaret Horn in 2011, who previously owned the business for 18 years.

"I'll miss being a part of the Downtown Washington group of merchants and the area because it's such a special, unique town," Stoyer said. "That's a special part of the store too, being in downtown."

Hillermann and Stoyer are both from Washington as well.

"We're excited for Holly and we will continue to help her throughout the year," Stoyer said.

As for the store itself, don't expect any major changes. It will be closed June 28 to July 8 while the computer systems are updated.

"I'm excited to continue the name and the brand that they've continued to build up over the years," Wunderlich said. "We won't have any drastic changes because it's established and people like it."

The store carries nuts, chocolates, candies, snack mixes and local wines and spirits. There also are many Missouri made products for sale, including soups, dip mixes, salsa, relishes, jellies and other items.

"In general, the store will remain focused on gift baskets and gift wear," Wunderlich said. "We might do some expansion of different product lines depending on what sells. But, it's staying the same."

June 19, 2019 The Missourian

Farmers' Market Junk In the Trunk June 22

The Washington Farmers' Market will host a Junk in the Trunk event Saturday, June 22, in the parking lot at Main and Elm streets.

The free one-day event will take place from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Food and drink will be available for purchase.

Vendors can sign up for a booth until Thursday, June 20.

Those interested should contact Amanda at 636-239-2715, ext. 106, or info@washmomarket.com, or contact Emmy at 636-239-2715 or junk@washmomarket.com.

For more information, people can visit www.washmomarket.com.

June 12, 2019 The Missourian

June 22-23, 2019 The Missourian

Riverfront Cleanup

Staff from the Washington Parks Department this week worked to remove debris and mud from the James W. Rennick Riverfront Park. The park has been closed for weeks due to floodwaters. The parks department has been cleaning the site in preparation of its future opening. Missourian Photo.

June 22-23, 2019 The Missourian

Sunset at The Market Thursday

Downtown Washington Inc. will hold Sunset at the Market (Riverfront) Thursday, June 27, from 5-8 p.m. Due to the flooding it was moved from the riverfront to the market.

The Shawneetown Band will be the featured musical act. The event is free to attend.

There will be food from Washington Lions Club, Williams Brothers and Kona Ice. Washington Fair volunteers will serve as the bartenders.

For more information visit downtownwashmo.org or call 636-239-1743.

June 22-23, 2019 The Missourian

Cleaning Up Downtown

Downtown Washington Inc. held its annual Cleanup Day Saturday, June 8. Thirty-nine volunteers performed maintenance such as painting, weeding, and picking up trash to clean up the downtown area. Lynn Curtis raked mulch during the event in an area below the Main and Elm Street parking lot. Missourian Photo.

June 22-23, 2019 The Missourian

Beer Run Torch

Lu Wilson, right, holds the torch, while Sherry Krawitz looks on during Marquart's Landing's beer run Saturday, June 15. A total of 150 people took part in the event benefiting Downtown Washington Inc. Missourian Photo.

June 26, 2019 The Missourian

Cleanup Day

Phil Morgan was all smiles as he shoveled mulch during the Downtown Washington Inc. Cleanup Day Saturday, June 8. Thirty-nine volunteers picked up trash, painted and weeded around downtown in an effort to maintain the area. Missourian Photo.

June 29-30, 2019 The Missourian

Thunder Rolls

Unique clouds formed over Downtown Washington Wednesday afternoon, June 26. A thunderstorm with lots of lightning rolled through the area. Missourian Photo.

July 3, 2019 The Missourian

Downtown Fireworks

John G's sponsored a fireworks show Friday, June 28, on the Washington riverfront. This photo was taken from Front Street. Over 100 people viewed the fireworks from the Bier Deck and nearly 400 more watched downtown along the riverfront. The event raised funds for Missouri Patriot Paws, who train and certify post-traumatic stress disorder service dogs for Missouri veterans and first responders. 4-U Fireworks matched donations dollar for dollar as well to benefit the organization. Missourian Photo.

July 3, 2019 The Missourian

July 6-7, 2019 The Missourian

Volunteers Paint Fence

Bryan Bogue, left, and Taylor Moore helped paint the iron fencing at the Main and Elm Street parking lot during the Downtown Washington Cleanup Day Saturday, June 8. Downtown Washington Inc. sponsored the annual event to maintain and preserve the vitality of the area. Missourian Photo.

July 10, 2019 The Missourian

Director: More Businesses Could Take Advantage of TIF

By Gregg Jones
Missourian Staff Writer

Only two downtown property owners are benefiting from the city's small TIF program, but officials say they had expected more to take advantage of the tax incentive.

Last week, the Washington City Council approved only the second "mini-TIF" (Tax Increment Finance) since the program began in 2012. The agreement allows for the developers of the Mroz property, located at 18 E. Front St., to recapture a portion of the increase in property tax after the property is developed through rebates.

The mini-TIF program expires in 2030, and those approved to participate can seek rebates annually until that time.

The developers, Riverfront Leather, plan to rehabilitate four commercial units on the street level along Front Street and an additional six residential units on the upper floor.

Sal Maniaci, community and economic development director, said by using the mini-TIF program, Riverfront Leather will bring new life into a historic building and incur savings in property taxes.

"It is an excellent program that is meant to encourage owners of historic buildings in the downtown TIF District to redevelop and take full advantage of everything their building has to offer," Maniaci said. "The program can assist in façade improvements and when an owner wants to renovate their upper floors for residential or commercial uses."

Riverfront Leather president Ed Mroz, the building owner, is working with contractor Matthew Flagg, Flagg Enterprises LLC.

City Administrator Darren Lamb noted that any property owner considering facade or rehabilitation

• See TIF Page 2A

July 10, 2019 The Missourian

Farmers' Market Fresh Corn

Customers at the Washington Farmers' Market bought fresh corn and other produce Saturday, July 6. Various vendors also supplied flowers, crafts and other items.

Missourian Photo.

July 10, 2019 The Missourian

Music at the Market July 11

Music at the Market will be held this Thursday, July 11, from 5-8 p.m. under the Farmers' Market.

Backroads is the featured band.

Sugarfire will provide food for purchase and White Mule wine will be featured. STL IPA will be the specialty beer available.

Bank of Washington employees will serve as the the bartenders.

Admission is free, but no pets or coolers are allowed. Corn hole and koosh ball games will be featured.

The event is organized by the Washington Area Chamber of Commerce and Washington Parks Department.

July 13-14, 2019 The Missourian

Resolution for Housing Grant on Council Agenda

The Washington City Council Monday will be asked to support a resolution for a grant to provide more housing in Downtown Washington.

At the Monday, July 15, meeting, council members are poised to pass a resolution in support on a HOPE VI Main Street Grant applied for by Washington Downtown Inc. The Housing and Urban Development grant caps off at $500,000. The meeting will be held in the council chambers at Washington City Hall beginning at 7 p.m.

According to Sal Maniaci, community and economic development director, this summer, Downtown Inc. and city staff have been working to reapply for the grant to redevelop the fourth floor of 214 Elm St., commonly known as the YHTI Building.

Fred Becker, owner of the building, has agreed to partner as the developer in the project.

Maniaci added that there has been significant development in Downtown Washington but there are few new apartment units that are considered reasonably affordable.

This grant requires that the first tenants of the building, and only the first tenants, make approximately $40,000 a year or less which would create Downtown housing opportunities for some teachers, government workers, industrial skilled laborers, and more, according to Maniaci.

Also on the agenda are public hearings for a proposed short-term rental at 1518 Riverview Drive. Applicant Tyann Marcink (Hammond), who would manage the property, is seeking a special use permit for a short-term lodging at the home which is located in an R-1B Zoning District.

Short-term lodging, anything less than 30 days, requires a special use permit for any zoning district outside of C-3 Overlay Districts.

Neighboring homeowners objected to the request at the July 8 planning and zoning commission meeting, stating a business is not a good fit in their neighborhood. The planning commission voted 5-3 to recommend the council approve the permit.

A second public hearing is for the rezoning of a duplex located at 4967 and 4971 South Point Road in the Stone Crest subdivision.

Cathy Bledsoe, with Re/MAX Central, requested to rezone the property from R-2 Two-Family Residential to R-1C Single-Family Attached to allow for zero lot lines between each structure. The separation of duplexes has become necessary because most banks no longer finance duplexes that are sold as one unit.

The council also will consider ordinances allowing for prorating business licenses and an agreement allowing the city to lease a parking lot at Third and Oak streets from Eckelkamp Enterprises, LLC.

July 13-14, 2019 The Missourian

Annual Foodstock Event August 24 in Downtown

To Collect Food, Money for Food Banks

The eighth annual Foodstock will be held Saturday, Aug. 24, from 4 to 11 p.m. under the Farmers' Market in historic Downtown Washington.

Downtown Washington Inc. and local musicians will again join forces to collect food and raise money for local food banks.

All proceeds from this event will be divided equally between Loving Hearts Outreach, St. Francis Borgia Food Pantry and St. Peters Food Pantry.

In 2018, Foodstock collected over 4,400 pounds of nonperishable food donations and $7,227 in monetary donations.

There will be wine, beer, and soda available for purchase, as well as food from the Lions Club. No outside beverages, coolers, or pets are allowed inside the event area.

Continuous live entertainment will be offered throughout the evening. The musical lineup is as follows:

4 p.m. — Jonesy, Martin & Stan.

5 p.m. — Wes McRaven & the Widow Makers.

6 p.m. — 8 Track the Oldies Band.

7 p.m. — The Texas Giants.

8 p.m. — Butch Wax & the Hollywoods.

9 p.m. — Phase 5 & Friends (a tribute to Mike Borgmann).

10 p.m. — Burnt Whiskey.

Downtown Washington Inc., a nonprofit, is dedicated to the preservation and continued vitality of downtown Washington.

For more information, call 636-239-1743, visit downtownwashmo.org or email events@downtownwashmo.org.

July 13-14, 2019 The Missourian

A Tranquil Train

A train passed through Washington Tuesday night, June 18. The receding waters of the Missouri River left debris and mud along the riverfront; however, the barricades had been removed and the Rennick Riverfront Park was accessible to the public.

Missourian Photo.

July 17, 2019 The Missourian

July 17, 2019 The Missourian

City, Downtown Group Seeking Housing Grant

By Gregg Jones
Missourian Staff Writer

The city and Downtown Washington Inc. are pursuing a federal grant to fund new affordable apartments downtown.

Officials hope to secure the funding to redevelop the second floor of an Elm Street building.

The Washington City Council voted 6-0 to pass a resolution and an accompanying ordinance Monday showing support for a HOPE VI Main Street Grant applied for by Washington Downtown Inc. Councilmen Greg Skornia and Nick Obermark were not at the meeting.

According to Bridget Kelch, Downtown Inc. executive director, the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) grant is being sought to redevelop the second floor of 214 Elm St., commonly known as the YHTI Building.

Fred Becker, of Elm Street Investments, owner of the building, is partnering in the

• See Grant Page 2A

GRANT

CONTINUED FROM 1A

project seeking four new apartments on the upper floor of the two-story structure. The grant caps off at $500,000.

Kelch added that the grant is to be utilized in a central business district to preserve historic and traditional Main Streets. She said the Elm Street project fits the bill.

She further added that although the grant is administered through HUD, it is not Section 8 subsidized housing.

Kelch said the apartments would be ideal for teachers, police officers and nurses who work in the city.

"There is a need for affordable, workforce housing," she said. "Downtown will always be identified as a place where high density works well."

This grant requires that the first tenants of the building, and only the first tenants, make approximately $40,000 a year or less which would create Downtown housing opportunities for the workforce that currently can't afford Downtown housing.

The second floor of the YHTI building is about 4,000 square feet. Plans call for apartments ranging in size from 545 square feet to 830 square feet. Those plans are preliminary, Kelch noted.

She said the recipients of the grant may be notified in September.

Historic Building

The YHTI building houses Wisper Internet and offices for more than 10 other small businesses, Kelch said.

The building was built in 1930 by Nieburg and Vitt Inc. to be a "modern furniture store." There is an interior balcony that overlooks what had been the showroom floor.

The Nieburg and Vitt furniture store was in business at the location for over 50 years.

In the 1990s, Becker looked into renovating the second floor to apartments, but the undertaking was too costly. The project would have included adding a second egress and meeting other codes.

"As all of this added up, it became something he was not able to do," Kelch said.

About the Grant

The HOPE VI grant is awarded every two years to two communities in the United States. The grant is worth $500,000. No community in Missouri has gotten the grant yet.

The grant is limited to communities that have a population under 50,000, have less than 100 affordable housing units and have an active Main Street program. Kelch said Washington qualifies for all three.

The deadline for the grant application for the current cycle is July 30. The project must be "shovel ready" so work can begin on the federal time line, Kelch said.

Committee members are Sal Maniaci, Sam Unnerstall, Jennifer Giesike, Trent Hendrickson, John Vietmeier, Alecia Turner, Danielle Grotewiel and Kelch.

This is the second HOPE grant to be applied for in Washington. In 2016, the city and the Historic Washington Foundation, which is affiliated with Downtown Washington Inc., applied for a grant for Fifth Street School. The city came in third place for the grant, but only two grants were awarded, according to Kelch.

That plan was to renovate and upgrade the building for apartments on the top floor, and the ground floor was proposed to be renovated as the home for the Washington Historical Society.

The Fifth Street School building was razed in 2017.

July 20-21, 2019 The Missourian

'Missouri Fish' Sculpture

Washington Parks staff placed the "Missouri Fish" sculpture to the east of the train depot at the Washington Riverfront Thursday, July 18. The sculpture was one of nine donated to the city by Artist Larry Pogue. Parks Director Wayne Dunker said the goal was to have some of the sculptures out before the America in Bloom judges visit next week. Parks Foreman Chad Owens is pictured helping Aaron Lewis, staff member. Missourian Photo.

July 20-21, 2019 The Missourian

In Full Bloom

These hibiscus flowers were spotted in full bloom on Front Street in Washington near the train depot. Front Street is very colorful this summer with lots of bright flowers and plants.

Missourian Photo.

July 20-21, 2019 The Missourian

Downtown Merchants Host Christmas in July

Downtown Washington merchants are hosting a Christmas in July promotion now through July 25.

Shoppers can use their Santa Bucks coupon for $5 off a $25 purchase during the event. Specific details may vary by store. Some stores also are offering other special deals, along with holiday items.

Participating businesses include Addi's, Bryan Haynes Gallery, Calming Touch Massage, Country Living General Store, Dapper Bully Barber Co.;

East Main Antiques, Envy Boutique, Fischer's Food Shop, Four Seasons Florist, GameUphoria;

Gary R. Lucy Gallery, I.B. Nuts & Fruits Too, Joe's Bakery, Loyal Bella Co., Main Street Creamery;

Marquart's Landing, Missouri Meerschaum Co., Mommy & Me... Again!, Neighborhood Reads, Office Supplies & Equipment;

Olivino Tasting Bar, Plush Home and Fashion, Scudder & Co., The Painted Home, The Pot Shop, Tilted Skillet, Vino di Lafayette and Vintage Trader.

July 24, 2019 The Missourian

Summer Blooms

A hanging basket of colorful flowers blooms in Downtown Washington by the Missouri Meerschaum Corn Cob Pipe factory. This picture of Front Street was taken from across the train tracks Sunday, July 21. Missourian Photo.

July 24, 2019 The Missourian

July 27-28, 2019 The Missourian

Sculpture Goes Up

Washington Parks staff carefully lowered this sculpture into place behind the Washington Farmers' Market Tuesday, July 23. The parks department's goal was to get as many of the donated sculptures from Larry Pogue into their designated locations before the America in Bloom judges visited Thursday and Friday, July 25-26. Missourian Photo.

July 27-28,2019 The Missourian

Veggie Vendor

The Washington Farmers' Market was busy with customers Saturday, July 6. Shoppers could buy produce such as the vegetables pictured here in addition to flowers, crafts and other items.

Missourian Photo.

July 27-28, 2019 The Missourian

Watching the River

A bicyclist takes a break to view the Missouri River near the Riverfront Trail in Washington Wednesday evening. Lots of mud remains on the trail due to being covered in floodwaters. Missourian Photo.

July 31, 2019 The Missourian

River Barge

Beautiful yellow flowers frame the U.S. Coast Guard buoy tender the Cheyenne as it conducted repairs and replaced navigational aids in the Missouri River. Dropping river levels have made this work possible. This photo was taken from the Washington riverfront Tuesday, July 30. Missourian Photo.

July 31, 2019 The Missourian

Downtown Washington In Spotlight

By Susan Miller
Missourian Managing Editor

Downtown Washington was in the spotlight last week at the annual Missouri Main Street Conference in St. Louis.

Missouri Main Street Connection Inc. (MMSC) presented downtown revitalization awards Thursday night, recognizing revitalization excellence during its annual conference, held at The Westin St. Louis.

The ceremony honored communities, individuals, businesses and organizations from across the state, including Washington, that have completed exemplary work in downtown revitalization.

Competitive nominations were submitted for projects, activities and individuals in 14 different categories that covered aspects of design, economic vitality, organization, promotion and other efforts in downtown revitalization.

Downtown Washington Inc. submitted nomina-

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DOWNTOWN

CONTINUED FROM 1A

tions in four categories — Business of the Year, Preservation Eduction, Outstanding Public Official and Facade Renovation.

"We won first for public official, which went to Washington City Administrator Darren Lamb, and second for Business of the Year for I.B. Nuts & Fruit Too, and second in Preservation Education, which went to the downtown organization," said Bridgette Kelch, executive director.

A new award this year, presented by MMSC, is the Pioneer Award, which went to John Griesheimer of Washington for his service and support for Missouri Main Street Connection throughout its history.

"We were so excited to have Washington shine on the state level," said Kelch. "We also had a big contingent from Washington at the conference representing our community."

Pioneer Award

MMSC officials said Griesheimer has had a great impact not only on the Missouri Main Street program, but on the state.

Griesheimer started his political career in 1982 as a member of the Washington City Council.

He went on to serve on the Franklin County Commission from 1989 to 1992, the Missouri House of Representatives from 1992 to 2002, the Missouri State Senate from 2002 to 2010, and as Franklin County Presiding Commissioner from 2010 to 2018.

After 36 years, Griesheimer retired last year as one of the longest serving public servants in Franklin County.

As state senator, he took MMSC under his wing when funding was cut for many state programs, including the Missouri Main Street Program. He tirelessly supported keeping MMSC in the state budget.

Griesheimer also was a vocal advocate to his legislative peers and state departments for Missouri Main Street's mission of downtown revitalization.

Without Griesheimer, MMSC would not be where it is today, officials said at the conference.

Kelch accepted the award on behalf of Griesheimer, who was unable to attend.

Outstanding Public Official

Washington City Administrator Darren Lamb was at the conference to accept his award as the Outstanding Public Official.

Lamb has served the city for nearly 16 years. Through his various roles, he has always been a supporter of Downtown Washington.

Kelch said Downtown Washington Inc. is equally proud of him.

"Darren has always been a willing volunteer and true friend to Downtown Washington Inc. and our historic downtown district," she said. "Darren's career in city leadership, planning and community development sets him apart as an excellent example of how local government and Main Street organizations can work together to accomplish great things."

As the planning and zoning director, Lamb helped the then Historic Preservation Commission chair, Mayor Sandy Lucy and Downtown Washington Inc. craft a three-part plan to get mandatory review and voluntary compliance for historic structures passed.

Both Lucy and Kelch noted that the measure would have never been passed if not for Lamb's guidance.

As Washington's Community and Economic Development director, Lamb often used Downtown Washington to highlight the vibrancy of the community during his visits with industrial companies. He was often quoted as saying that the vibrant downtown made it easier for him to get new industries to move to Washington and to help those industries maintain quality employees.

In his current role as city administrator, Lamb helped create a public bid packet for an endangered 1856 structure that included protections for the building, a set time table, future protection from demolition, mandatory review and compliance with the Historic Preservation Commission.

In his varied roles with both the city of Washington and Downtown Washington Inc., Lamb has been an invaluable asset to revitalization efforts in Washington, Kelch said.

About MMSC

Missouri Main Street Connection is a nonprofit designed to help communities preserve their historic commercial districts through economic revitalization.

Based on economic data collected from the communities in the top three tiers of the Missouri Main Street program since 2006, $771 million of private investments have been made in the Main Street communities based on economic data collected from the communities in the top three tiers of the program.

Public investments by municipal governments have totaled $169 million in improvements to infrastructure.

Missouri Main Street programs also have successfully created 775 net new businesses and 3,873 net new jobs.

Outstanding Public Official

Washington City Administrator Darren Lamb, second from right, received the Outstanding Public Official award July 25 at the Missouri Main Street Connection (MMSC) awards dinner, which recognized revitalization excellence efforts across the state. Lamb, nominated by Downtown Washington Inc., was honored for longtime support of the organization and the historic downtown. Also pictured, from left, are Dr. Steven Hoffman, Missouri Main Street president; Bridgette Kelch, Downtown Washington Inc. executive director; and Gayla Roten, Missouri Main Street Connection state director. Submitted Photo.

July 31, 2019 The Missourian

Washington Put Its Best Foot Forward for AIB Visit

Says Local Committee Co-Chair

By Amanda Postma
Missourian Staff Writer

The visit from the America in Bloom national judges was "stellar," according to Sally Bocklage, Washington in Bloom co-chair.

"Washington certainly put its best foot forward," she said. "The days of touring simply could not have gone better."

Last week, Bruce Riggs and Jack Clasen, both national AIB judges, visited Washington to evaluate the town on its heritage, environmental effort, community vitality, urban forestry, floral display, landscape display and overall impression.

The judges toured all around Washington, including stops at the All-Abilities Playground, Miller-Post Nature Reserve, Washington Historical Society Museum, Iron Spike Train Musuem, Frick's Meat Processing Plant, Washington Community Garden and other sites.

"They saw the good work of our city employees, our city council and how much volunteer time and talent was evident every step of the way," said Bocklage. "They applauded the volunteers from all the civic groups and saw the excellent results."

The judges utilized every minute through touring, she said, asking questions and providing input.

A formal evaluation will follow in early October. The AIB's National Symposium and Awards Celebration will be held Oct. 3-5 in St. Charles, Ill.

Washington representatives planning to attend are Mayor Sandy Lucy, Wayne Dunker, Washington Parks Department director; Dave Wehmeyer, WIB co-chair; Bocklage, John Steffens, WIB; Josh Wargo, horticulturist/aborist; and Carolyn Witt, Washington Historic Preservation Commission.

Wehmeyer said this year's tour was the best yet. Washington has been an AIB participant since 2011.

"We showed them great diversity in the tour," said Wehmeyer. "They were very impressed by the milestones of local businesses and churches. Touring Frick's (meat processing plant) and the (Missouri Meerschaum) corn cob pipe factory showed how well we embrace the old as well as the newer businesses."

Next year's theme is Embracing the Past and Enhancing the Future, and Washington will serve as host.

"We showed Bruce and Jack that we are already carrying out our theme for 2020," he said.

Bocklage said the judges commended the city on its maintained cultural heritage.

Most notably, the judges were impressed with the renovated Washington Area Chamber of Commerce offices where they ate lunch during the tour Thursday. Bocklage noted the judges were duly amazed at the scope of the Washington Town & Country Fair.

The judges watched a video of people enjoying the Fair last year and were even given a 2019 Fair hat.

"Like many things in this amazing community, it truly showed the heart of Washington," said Bocklage.

The retaining wall along Elm Street in Downtown Washington, with the mural sponsored by the Arts Council of Washington, specifically "wowed" the judges.

"They were impressed with the downtown and how clean our city looked," said Wehmeyer. "They were equally impressed with the rest of the industrial park and the construction of the Melton facility."

"It was very obvious that Washingtonians care deeply for our lovely city and its people," Bocklage noted. "Thank you, Washington, for helping us roll out the red carpet for our honored guests."

Bocklage attributes the success of the visit to city, Chamber, tourism and Fair officials, city and parks staffers; Weeding Wednesdays volunteers, Washington in Bloom steering committee members and many others who volunteered their time.

Both Riggs and Clasen had visited Washington as judges previously.

During the visit, Clasen noted that Washington is a model for the country. He said he hopes to see more downtown redevelopment in Washington in the future.

Riggs noted he would like to see more youth involved in the city in the future.

In addition to a written evaluation from the judges, the city will receive a special mention for what the judges deem to be an extraordinary project or program.

Other awards include population category winner, outstanding achievement award, special awards, community champion and YouTube video.

July31, 2019 The Missourian

Downtown Group, Bands To Collect Food, Money

For Local Food Banks

Downtown Washington Inc. and local musicians will again join forces to collect food and raise money for local food banks.

The eighth annual Foodstock event will be held Saturday, Aug. 24, from 4 to 11 p.m. under the Farmers' Market in historic Downtown Washington.

All proceeds from this event will be divided equally between Loving Hearts Outreach, St. Francis Borgia Food Pantry and St. Peter's Food Pantry.

In 2018, Foodstock collected over 4,400 pounds of nonperishable food donations and $7,227 in monetary donations.

There will be wine, beer, and soda available for purchase, as well as food from the Lions Club. No outside beverages, coolers, or pets are allowed inside the event area.

Continuous live entertainment will be offered throughout the evening. The musical lineup is as follows:

4 p.m. — Jonesy, Martin & Stan.

5 p.m. — Wes McRaven & the Widow Makers.

6 p.m. — 8 Track the Oldies Band.

7 p.m. — The Texas Giants.

8 p.m. — Butch Wax & the Hollywoods.

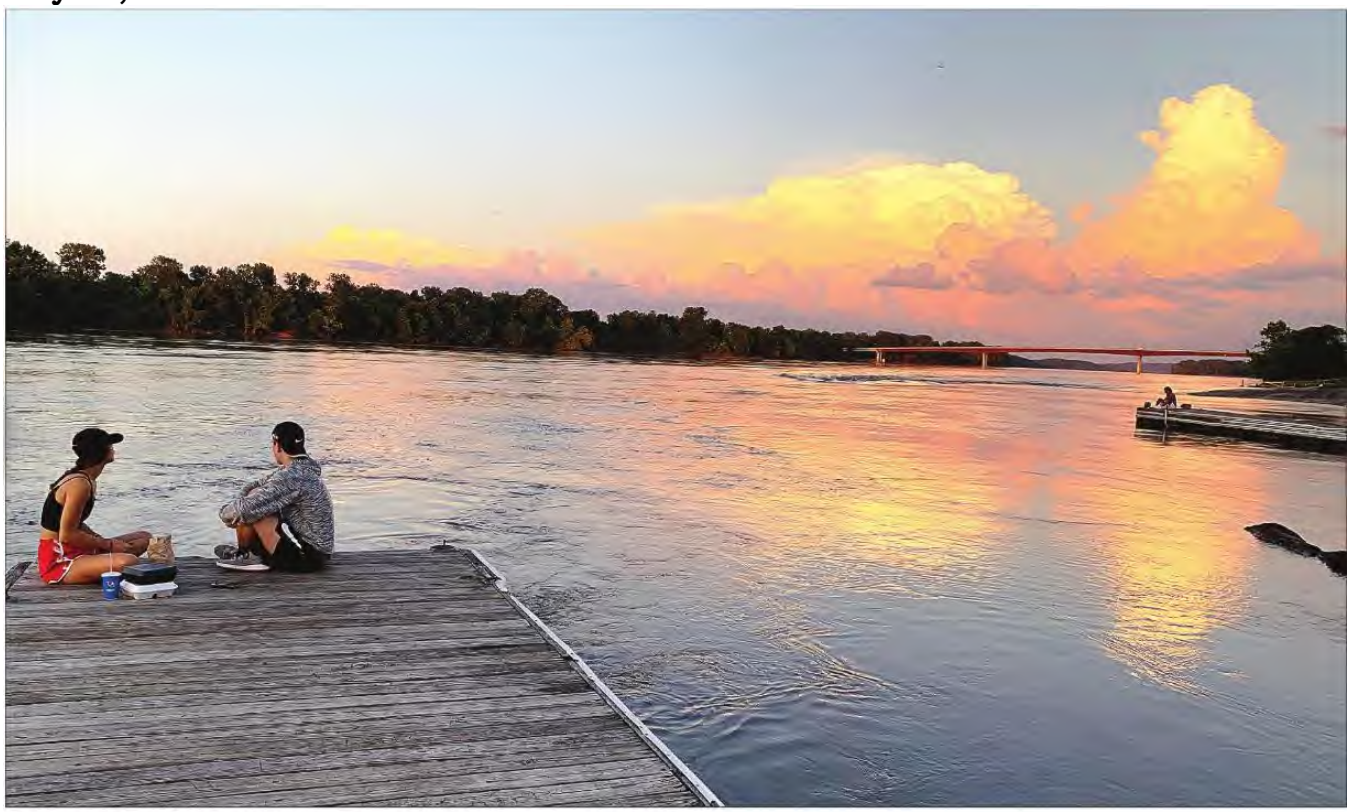
9 p.m. — Phase 5 & Friends (a tribute to Mike Borgmann).

10 p.m. — Burnt Whiskey.

Downtown Washington Inc., a nonprofit, is dedicated to the preservation and continued vitality of Downtown Washington.

For more information, call 636-239-1743, visit downtownwashmo.org or email events@downtownwashmo.org.

July 31, 2019 The Missourian



Cotton Candy Clouds

People enjoyed a breathtaking view of large pink clouds over the Missouri River Monday evening, July 29. The Washington riverfront is busy again due to lower river levels.

Missourian Photo.

July 31, 2019 The Missourian

Ghost Hunt at the Historic John B. Busch Brewery Events Center (south side of upper parking lot).

Tuesday, Sept. 10

Located at 108 Busch Ave., Washington, Mo. (just off Jefferson St.). Ghost hunt will be presented by Dan Terry, well-known local ghost hunter and author of numerous books. Come hang out with us – you never know what kind of spirits you'll find there! Cost for the ghost hunt is $20 and limited to 20 people. Payment accepted online by visiting our Facebook page, at Franklin County Bicentennial or website – Franklinmo200.com, or the old-fashioned way by contacting Marc Houseman at 636-239-0280. Checks made payable to Franklin County 1818 Corporation.

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August 3-4 , 2019 The Missourian

Rewarded for Finding Waldo

Lucas Frankenberg, 3, needed a little assistance from his grandmother, Bonnie, to haul away his prize of "Where's Waldo" books Wednesday, July 31, at Neighborhood Reads bookstore. More than 175 seekers completed the task of finding the iconic book character in a monthlong search through 24 downtown Washington businesses in the Find Waldo Local campaign organized by the bookstore. Businesses donated $10 Downtown Washington gift certificates as prizes, which were awarded at a finale party, along with the grand prize, a set of "Where's Waldo" books from Dawn Kitchell, right, at Neighborhood Reads. Waldo made an appearance at the event, thanks to local artist Bryan Haynes. Missourian Photo.

Find Waldo Finale Held At Neighborhood Reads

Over 175 Completed the Search

Hundreds of seekers took to the streets of Downtown Washington in July in search of Waldo — the iconic children's book character in the striped shirt and black-rimmed specs who's become a star of summer campaigns organized by bookstores across the country.

Find Waldo Local is organized by Neighborhood Reads bookstore to support local businesses and the Shop Local movement. This was the third year for the downtown event, which concluded Wednesday, July 31, with a finale event at the bookstore.

More than 175 seekers, mostly children, completed the search for the 6-inch Waldo, visiting at least 20 of the 24 local businesses to collect stamps on their project passport.

Participating business this year were Addi's, Bryan Haynes Studio, Exit 11, Fischer's Food Shop, Four Rivers YMCA, Four Seasons Florist, Gary R. Lucy Gallery, IB Nuts & Fruit Too, Loyal Bella, Main Street Creamery, Missouri Meerschaum, Mommy & Me . . . Again, Olivino's Tasting Bar, The Painted Home, Plush Home & Fashion, Schroeder Drug, Vintage Trader, Amtrak Visitors Center, Washington Coffee Shop, Washington Public Library, Envy WashMo, Wedding Creations and Neighborhood Reads.

Businesses donated $10 Downtown Washington Inc. gift certificates as prizes, which were awarded at the party, along with the grand prize, a set of "Where's Waldo" books from Neighborhood Reads.

More than 67 million "Where's Waldo?" books are in print worldwide, and Martin Handford's collections of crowd scenes have been translated into more than 32 languages.

In celebration of Waldo's longevity and popularity, his American publisher, Candlewick Press, partnered with the American Booksellers Association and 250 independent bookstores across the country for hide-and-seek fun to encourage communities to patronize their local businesses.

There was no charge to participate, and the hunt lasted for the entire month of July.

August 7, 2019 The Missourian

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Washington Historic Preservation Commission – notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held on Monday, August 19, 2019, at 5:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the public may be heard, in the Council Chambers of City Hall of said City to discuss the following:

Phase III Survey of the International Shoe Factory District

Further information is available within the Planning Department located at Washington City Hall, 405 Jefferson Street, Washington, Missouri 63090.

City of Washington
Mary Trentmann
City Clerk

Publish in The Missourian August 7, 2019.

August 10-11, 2019 The Missourian

Downtown Group to Begin Search for New Director

■ *Kelch Stepping Down Next Month*

Downtown Washington Inc.'s Board of Directors announced the upcoming departure of Bridgette Kelch as its executive director by the end of September.

"The organization is well-positioned for this type of leadership change. A transition team is in place and operating from a succession plan that the board and staff have been developing over the past few years," said board President Jim Wurdack.

"Bridgette will be staying in touch to assist the organization and new director through the transition," he added.

Wurdack said Kelch has been a great asset to the organization.

"Her passion, energy and commitment have been a key to many of our successes and the board is extremely grateful for her nearly 20 years of service," he said. "She will be missed by our staff, board, community partners and the downtown community on whose behalf she worked so hard.

Wurdack said Kelch has helped put into place a great board and staff that will continue the work of the organization.

"We are very excited about the direction of downtown and confident about the future of both downtown and Downtown Washington Inc," he said. "We wish Bridgette the best as she moves on to other opportunities."

Over the next couple of weeks, the board will conduct a national search to find a new executive director.

During this transition period, Wurdack said it will be the board's priority to find the best individual to lead the organization's revitalization efforts, while still maintaining a stable and effective organization.

Since February 2001, Kelch has played a critical role in the development and success of the organization and of downtown, officials said.

During her tenure, the organization and its impact in the community have grown with over $55 million in public/private investment, 92 net new businesses and over 245 net new jobs in the downtown area and over 93,000 volunteer hours at work.

Other major accomplishments include:

- Washington being named a Great American Main Street Community in 2012.
- Coordinated business plans to create sustainable revenues by rehabilitating the Farmers' Market and post office facilities. The Farmers' Market capital project was a $1 million public/private partnership with the city, Chamber and Downtown Washington, Inc. The post office was a $750,000 capital project.
- Washington being named one of the first five DREAM Communities in 2006.
- Helped secure a Community Development Block Grant for over $1.75 million and a $1 million EDA grant.
- Served as Department of Economic Development Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP) grant administrator for four NAP grants totaling over $1 million.
- Earned the Certified Main Street Manager status through the National Main Street Certification Institute.
- Founding member of the Missouri Main Street Connection in 2004 and Historic Washington Foundation in 2006.
- Mentored the start up of the Arts Council of Washington.
- Washington being named a Success Story in 2018 by National Main Street Center — one of only five in the nation.
- Renovated, managed and maintained three historic buildings in the downtown district.
- Established, directed and operated the post office CPU with annual retail sales over $450K and created/opened a lodging business (Gottfried's Cabin).
- Orchestrated over 85 days of special events/trainings in any given year attracting over 85,000-plus participants.
- Worked closely with two boards of directors, serving 21 board members each year.
- Implemented over 60 action plans yearly (these plans are volunteer driven with measurable outcomes driving the development of processes and programs to ensure future viability for downtown).

August 14, 2019 The Missourian

Two More Sunset on Riverfront Events

Two more Sunset on the Riverfront concerts are planned this season.

The free outdoor events are held April through September on the fourth Thursday of the month from 5 to 8 p.m. at Rennick Riverfront Park.

The last two events are scheduled for Aug. 22 and Sept. 26., according to Downtown Washington Inc., host.

There is no admission to get into the park. Food and drink will be available for purchase. Volunteer bartenders from local businesses will work the bar.

For Aug. 22, the Friends of Aaron will perform. The food vendors will be Cafe Mosaic, Happy Apple and Droege's Catering. The bartenders will be from Arconic.

The August Sunset also will feature a petting zoo, provided by Faith Baptist Church.

On Sept. 26, Fanfare will perform and the food vendors will be Miller's Grill and Dairy Delight. Bank of Washington will provide the bartenders.

No coolers or pets are allowed.

August 14, 2019 The Missourian

August 14, 2019 The Missourian

Downtown WASHINGTON INC.

Downtown Washington, Inc., an award-winning and accredited Main Street program dedicated to the revitalization, development, and historic preservation of Downtown Washington, Mo., is seeking a

Full-Time Executive Director

Downtown Washington, Inc. is a professional, well-established 30+ year program with an active, engaged Board of Directors, strong volunteer base, four full-time and two part-time staff. A community of 15,000 located on the banks of the Missouri River, is a recipient of the Great American Main Street award.

Overview of Position

The Executive Director coordinates all project activities within the downtown revitalization program utilizing historic preservation as an integral foundation for economic development. The Executive Director is responsible for the development, execution, and documentation of the Main Street Program, with assistance from a support staff of three full-time employees, and volunteers. In addition, the Executive Director represents the community regionally and nationally and acts as a liaison to other local community organizations. Hours: 40+ per week with occasional night and weekend hours.

Minimum Qualifications

Bachelor's degree preferred and/or combination of education and experience in a discipline related to downtown revitalization such as historic preservation, urban/regional planning, public relations, public or business administration, marketing or design. Nonprofit administration and/or business development experience is a plus. Focus will be on these priority areas:

- Historic Preservation belief and ethic
- Business and Property Retention and Development
- Facilitating/Encouraging an increase in the number of people living downtown
- Promotion of the district as a whole
- Placemaking and Creation of a Pedestrian-Oriented Environment
- Main Street Experience and/or Main Street America Revitalization Professional Certification preferred
- Strong technology and computer skills
- Other skills and qualities required include: dependable, self-starter, strong leader and team builder, competent delegator, outgoing relationship builder, collaborative team player, confident fund raiser, excellent oral and written communicator, and effective time manager.

Compensation

Minimum starting salary is $45,000 and will commensurate with experience.
Flexible Benefit Package including, but not limited to: paid vacation, federal holidays, matching IRA contributions, and health, dental and eye insurance.

For a complete job description, please visit: www.downtownwashmo.org
Mail cover letter and resume and any supporting materials to:
Downtown Washington, Inc., Bridgette Kelch, PO Box 144, Washington, MO 63090.
Electronic submissions may be emailed to: bkelch@downtownwashmo.org
No phone calls or visits please.

August 21, 2019 The Missourian

Last Phase of Shoe Factory District Survey Completed

Only 89 Contributing Buildings

By Amanda Postma
Missourian Staff Writer

A historic surveying company is recommending Washington seek specific areas within the International Shoe Factory District for nominations to the National Register of Historic Places.

The recommendations came after completion of the third and final phase of surveying of the former shoe plant in Downtown Washington.

A Landmarks Association representative Monday, Aug. 19, told the Washington Historic Preservation Commission that the final phase has been completed and the company provided four recommendations for the commission to follow.

The goal is to secure the district on the National Register of Historic Places.

The recommendations include nominating the shoe factory as a stand-alone historic site, as well as a neighborhood district and three individual properties also within the survey are.

The third phase includes properties within West Third and James streets (north), Stafford Street (east), Horn Street with a portion of Fifth Street (south), and High and Williams streets (west).

Katie Graebe, with Landmarks, said 141 properties were included in this survey, however nine of the properties were consolidated into one form because it was an apartment complex.

"They're all pretty much the same building," said Graebe.

Within the survey, 136 primary or residential buildings were found along with 61 secondary buildings, such as garages and shed.

The survey also found fire vacant lots and 23 of the properties already are listed in the Stafford-Olive Historic District.

Of the 202 buildings and lots surveyed, only 89 were listed as contributing structures. Contributing structures add to the historical integrity or architectural qualities that make a district significant.

"So not fantastic if we were going to list it on its own." Said Graebe. There were three phases of surveying the potential district.

Of the 141 counted primary resources, 71 were constructed during the operation of the shoe factory, which was from 1907 through 1960.

"There were some factory workers who lived there, but not as heavily as in phase two or phase one which are concentrated closer to the factory," said Graebe.

She noted with the exception of a grocery store on the corner of James and High streets, there weren't any commercial or industrial buildings in phase three.

A lot of the buildings either had been altered or built past the period of significance, in conjunction with the operation of the factory, and those were listed as noncontributing.

Now that all there phases are complete, the commission has to wait a year before submitting a request to nominate the district I nits entirety before seeking national historic status for the area.

The commission also has the option of nominating individual properties within the neighborhood to the register as an amendment to the "Historic Resources of Washington, Mo" Multiple Property Documentation Form.

Establishing a district would come with tax incentives. There are already five other historic districts in Washington.

Other Phases

The survey of phase one concluded in 2017 and phase two was completed last summer.

The city was awarded a Historic Preservation Fund Grant in 2016 to carry out the initial survey phase for the International Shoe Factory district nomination.

The survey are in phase one included properties bounded by West Front Street (north); Olive, Stafford and Johnson streets (east); Edith and Roberts streets (south); and High Street and Tiemann Drive (west).

A total of 155 properties were surveyed in phase one with 152 being primary buildings.

Phase two survey area included properties within Roberts and Esther streets (north), Stafford Street (east), James and West Third streets (south), and State Street (west).

This survey found 194 properties with 185 being homes and an institution.

In March 2017, a Historic Survey Project Report was released that stated the city of Washington acquired a branch of the Roberts, Johnson and Rand Shoe Company in 1907.

In 1911, the company name was changed to International Shoe Company.

Recommendations

The commission was presented with four recommendations at the end of phase three.

For the first recommendations, Graebe said it might be helpful to reconcile contributing and noncontributing phase three properties that also were found to be in the Stafford-Olive Historic District.

Graebe also recommended that the commission place a nomination for the shoe factory to be listed as a stand-alone complex to the National Register of Historic Places.

"I think that would be pretty strong," she said. "It would follow other shoe factory nominations. It also maintains a lot of its architectural features."

A recommendation to place a nomination for a potential International Shoe Factory Neighborhood District to be placed on the National Register of Historic Places also was presented.

The area this would cover is bound by High Street to the west, the northern half of Second Street with a stretch along Johnson Street to the north, the entrance to Hillcrest Apartments and Stafford Street to the east, and the shoe factory complex and southern half of Edith Street.

Graebe said it took a while to come up with this boundary because they started with five potential boundary lines.

"This is the one we came up with just because it is the most consolidated area with the most contributing buildings," she said. "There's whole street blocks that have contributing buildings. A lot of the area was built due to the factory."

The fourth recommendation was for two individual dwellings to be placed on the register.

The dwellings at 821 W. Fifth St. and 905 W. Fifth St. were stated as potential eligible properties for nominations.

The 821 W. Fifth St. property would be eligible under Criterion B for its association with H.H. Bushmeyer and under Criterion C: Architecture.

Graebe noted the name was interesting because although Bushmeyer wasn't well-known, he did build several buildings near the shoe factory warehouse.

"Before the current owners, one of the original Bushmeyers was still living there," said Carolyn Witt, commission member, noting it was either his daughter or granddaughter.

"She was living in three rooms on the first floor. (She was) one of those people who slips through the cracks and you wish you would have sat down and talked to," said Witt.

Graebe did warn that the state can be "picky" when it comes to nominations depending on the style and craftsmanship used.

The other address, 905 W. Fifth St., could be nominated for Criterion C: Architecture.

At the end of Graebe's presentation, Witt thanked her.

"This is such a humongous amount of work," she said. "it really has been painless for us."

Witt suggested holding an open house for the residents in the entire survey.

"I think it would be really neat if they had an interest to see what was compiled," she said.

August 21, 2019 The Missourian

August 21, 2019 The Missourian

Historical Society to Hold Its Annual Dinner

'Celebration of the Franklin County Bicentennial'

The Washington Historical Society will present its annual fundraising dinner "Celebration of the Franklin County Bicentennial" Thursday, Sept. 26, at the Busch Brewery.

The program will begin at 6 p.m. with a social hour and silent auction. Williams Brothers will serve the meal at 6:45 p.m.

The keynote speaker will be Benjamin Franklin with "Bicentennial Reflections."

The evening will end with an oral auction of new items and historical treasures. This is an official bicentennial event.

Guests do not need to be a society member to attend. People are asked to register by Tuesday, Sept. 17, at washmohistorical.org/fundraising-dinner/ or by mailing checks to Washington Historical Society, P.O. Box 146, Washington, MO 63090.

The cost is $50 per person. This event helps fund operating expenses, such as utilities, insurance, supplies, repairs, director's salary, website, etc.

The society owns two properties — the Washington Historical Society Museum and the AME Annex building. It also maintains the Kohmueller Farmstead and the Firehouse Museum.

Anyone interested in becoming a member should visit washmohistorical.org/how-to-join.

August 21, 2019 The Missourian

Foodstock This Saturday Under Farmers' Market

Collect Food, Money for Food Banks

The eighth annual Foodstock will be held this Saturday, Aug. 24, from 4 to 11 p.m. under the Farmers' Market in historic Downtown Washington.

Downtown Washington Inc. and local musicians will again join forces to collect food and raise money for local food banks.

All proceeds from this event will be divided equally between Loving Hearts Outreach, St. Francis Borgia Food Pantry and St. Peter's Food Pantry.

Last year, Foodstock collected over 4,400 pounds of nonperishable food donations and $7,227 in monetary donations.

There will be wine, beer, and soda available for purchase, as well as food from the Lions Club. No outside beverages, coolers, or pets are allowed inside the event area.

Continuous live entertainment will be offered throughout the evening. The musical lineup is as follows:

4 p.m. — Jonesy, Martin & Stan.

5 p.m. — Wes McRaven & the Widow Makers.

6 p.m. — 8 Track the Oldies Band.

7 p.m. — The Texas Giants.

8 p.m. — Butch Wax & the Hollywoods.

9 p.m. — Phase 5 & Friends (a tribute to Mike Borgmann).

10 p.m. — Burnt Whiskey.

For more information, call 636-239-1743.

August 21, 2019 The Missourian

Accept Pioneer Award for Griesheimer

Bridget Kelch, center, Downtown Washington Inc. executive director, and Washington Mayor Sandy Lucy accepted the Missouri Main Street Connection (MMSC) Pioneer Award on behalf of John Griesheimer, of Washington, who was unable to attend the MMSC awards dinner July 25 in St. Louis. This is the first year for the award which recognizes service and support of the Main Street program. Also pictured is Dr. Steven Hoffman, Missouri Main Street president. Submitted Photo.

August 21, 2019 The Missourian

August 21, 2019 The Missourian

Colorful Planters

These colorful flowers were spotted Wednesday, June 12, at the Washington Farmers' Market. The flowers were planted last month by volunteers at Weeding Wednesday.

Missourian Photo.

August 24-25, 2019 The Missourian

Old Schroeder Drugs Building To Be Updated

Under New Ownership

By Amanda Postma
Missourian Staff Writer

The developer of the former Schroeder Drugs building in Downtown Washington plans to recapture its historic look.

The building, located at 201 Elm St., is now owned by ELS Properties, Union.

Developer Ed Schmelz, ELS properties, proposed a list of exterior changes that was approved by the Washington Historic Preservation Commission Monday, Aug. 19.

That includes a fresh coat of white paint, as it had originally.

The building used to be white, according to old pictures Schmelz had acquired from Bridgette Kelch, Downtown Washington Inc. executive director.

"It won't be just bright, shiny white or cram, but something in between," said Schmelz. "Almost like an antique white."

The brick that lines the building now didn't use to be there.

Schmelz said he wasn't sure when the brick was added, but noted it was sometime after the three-story building caught on fire in 1945. The third floor was completely destroyed and the rest of the building had to undergo reconstruction.

"I guess they added the layer of brick on top of it at a later date and to me it's just a really dated style of brick," said Schmelz. "I think going back to something similar to this, color-wise, will be a really good look."

After the fire, the building was only restored to two floors.

The upper level will have seven residential units and the lower level will be two commercial units.

ELS purchased the building approximately a month and a half ago from Schroeder Drugs.

The pharmacy is located now at 540 E. Fifth St., Washington.

The design plans for the old building on Elm include changing the signage from Schroeder Drugs to "Schroeder Bldg."

The dental molding on the building will be painted black and the old window shutters will be replaced with new black shutters.

The plans also call for the installation of an ADA entrance to the first floor commercial unit, as well as four full height windows.

Since ELS is applying for a small Tax Increment Financing (TIF) for the project, the proposed changes were mandatory review, mandatory compliance by the commission.

After the presentation, Carolyn Witt, board member, pointed out that normally the commission cringes when a design plan includes painting over brick on a historic building.

"But this isn't an original brick building." She said. "This was brick that was put on at a later date. I feel that this is not as big an issue as it usually is with painting brick."

Other members on the board guessed the brick had been put on sometime in the '70's.

"I think it looks great," said Bryan Bogue, board member, about the new design. "The larger windows will be good for businesses and residents."

The address of the building on the small TIF application includes units 201-205. It is located within the Downtown Historic District.

"Thank you for discovering downtown because I know that is not your usual modus operandi," said Witt. "We're thrilled because that building had the potential and we needed somebody to see it."

Sal Maniaci, community and economic development director, followed that up noting there were more historic buildings in the area needing design upgrades.

Design Plan

This design plan for the former Schroeder Drugs building was submitted to the Washington Historic Preservation Commission Monday, Aug. 19. The building is now owned by ELS Properties, Union. The plan calls for a fresh coat of white paint, changing the signage from Schroeder Drugs to "Schroeder Bldg." painting the dental molding black, installing black shutters, installation of an ADA entrance to the first floor commercial unit and the addition of four full height windows.

Submitted Photo.

August 24-25, 2019 The Missourian

Downtown Group Names New Executive Director

Tyler King to Succeed Bridgette Kelch

Downtown Washington Inc.'s board of directors announced Thursday that Tyler King has been chosen to succeed Bridgette Kelch as executive director.

Kelch is moving to a new position in the community later this fall. She has served as the organization's executive director since 2001.

King has more than seven years' experience in event planning, community relations, management, media relations and marketing. He will begin his new role Sept. 9.

"This role is important for our thriving downtown and our community," board President Jim Wurdack said. "It was so exciting to promote Tyler from within the organization. Four years ago, he started out as a volunteer at the events, then joined two committees, then was elected to the board of directors and most recently joined the executive board.

"Tyler is positioned to lead and his passion for this community and this role makes him a perfect match for the organization's next chapter," he added.

King has most recently been employed with WEG Transformers, USA. Before that, he spent three years at Hillermann Nursery & Florist as marketing manager. He also worked in marketing for the Dallas Cowboys and as a district manager for GNC.

Tyler King

A 2006 graduate of Washington High School, King earned two Bachelor of Arts degrees in 2011 from Columbia College, where he majored in marketing and management. He is the son of Robin Nonnenkamp and Chris and Penny King.

King and his wife, Amber, have a 1-month old son, Carter.

King has lived in the downtown area for three years. He said living downtown and being close to the restaurants, shops and Missouri River were very important factors to him and his wife.

"We routinely eat and shop at downtown businesses and we love to attend the events," he said.

King recalls attending the first Downtown Fall Festival as a child and has fond memories of the historic district, especially the river, which he feels is a huge asset to the community.

King said he has enjoyed learning about downtown and Downtown Washington Inc. over the past four years and has been a part of the leadership team for the group's largest event each year — Art Fair & Winefest.

As Downtown Washington, Inc. executive director, King will be responsible for:

Coordinating the activities and implementation of action plans of the Main Street Four Point committees;

Promoting downtown economic development strategies that are based on historic preservation;

Assisting tenants and property owners with physical improvement projects through personal consultation, providing advice and guidance pertaining to financial mechanisms for those improvements;

Encouraging a cooperative climate among downtown interests and local public officials; and

Helping build strong and productive relationships with appropriate agencies on the state, local and national levels.

August 28, 2019 The Missourian

Donating Food

Mark Spann, right, a volunteer at Foodstock, collects a bag of nonperishable food items from a guest at the eighth annual Foodstock held under the Washington Farmers' Market Saturday, Aug. 24. The event brought in 4,000 pounds of nonperishable food donations and $8,723 in monetary donations. The proceeds will be divided between Loving Hearts Outreach, St. Francis Borgia Food Pantry and St. Peter's Food Pantry. The event was sponsored by Downtown Washington Inc. in conjunction with a number of local musicians.

Missourian Photo.

August 28, 2019 The Missourian

Dancing at Foodstock

Deanna Hardgrave and George Portz had fun on the dance floor under the Washington Farmers' Market Saturday, Aug. 24, at the eighth annual Foodstock. The event collected 4,000 pounds of nonperishable food donations and $8,723 in monetary donations. The event was sponsored by Downtown Washington Inc. in conjunction with local musicians. The proceeds will be equally split between Loving Hearts Outreach, St. Francis Borgia Food Pantry and St. Peter's Food Pantry.

Missourian Photo.

August 28, 2019 The Missourian

Downtown Foodstock Event Brings in Money, Donations

To Benefit Local Food Banks

By Amanda Postma
Missourian Staff Writer

The eighth annual Foodstock brought in over $1,000 more in monetary donations this year compared to last.

Downtown Washington Inc. and local musicians joined together Saturday, Aug. 24, to collect food and raise money for local food banks. The event was held under the Farmers' Market in Downtown Washington.

Rather than charging an entry fee, guests were encouraged to donate a bag of food or make a monetary donation.

This year, 4,000 pounds of nonperishable food donations and $8,723 in monetary donations were collected.

The proceeds will be split between Loving Hearts Outreach, St. Francis Borgia Food Pantry and St. Peter's Food Pantry.

Last year, the event gathered 4,400 pounds of food and $7,227.

Nicole Oermann, Downtown Washington Inc. event and administrative assistant, said the money will stretch further.

"The food pantries can do a lot more with the money," she said. "They can purchase discounted food with the money."

Oermann noted the local food pantries work with the St. Louis Area Foodbank.

As for how many people actually attended Foodstock, Oermann said she didn't have an official number, but a large crowd turned out.

"We were packed in there because the weather was really great," she said.

The event featured entertainment from Jonesy, Martin & Stan, Wes McRaven & the Widow Makers, 8 Track the Oldies Band, The Texas Giants, Butch Wax & the Hollywoods, Phase 5 & Friends (a tribute to Mike Borgmann), and Burnt Whiskey.

Foodstock Founder

Foodstock was founded by Pat "O'D" O'Donnell, who continues to help with the event each year.

O'Donnell will tell you Foodstock started in his backyard. His wife held a birthday celebration for him one year with a setup similar to Foodstock.

"And away it went," he said.

O'Donnell and many of his musician friends partnered together to make it happen the first year. He said Rick Hopp is the reason the event takes place at the Farmers' Market each year.

"His (Hopp's) continued support and efforts to gather folks, who along with him, work their tails off is what makes the day successful," said O'Donnell.

Hopp and his crew set up the stage for the band this year, set up the tables and tents, cooked the food and manned the beverage and donation areas. Then, when the show is over, they take everything down, clean the market and make sure it's ready for the next day.

At the very first event, O'Donnell said only about $2,000 and 1,000 pounds of food items were collected. But, within eight years, the event has grown tremendously.

"The eighth annual Foodstock free music event went over flawlessly and was extremely successful in helping the three area food banks restock their shelves," he said, noting attendance and the number of donations grow every year.

"I can't thank the community enough," said O'Donnell, who also recognized the 35 musicians in the featured bands who donated their talent. He said he played in three of the seven bands.

O'Donnell also expressed gratitude to Kirk Lebish, who provided and set up the equipment, and controlled the sound for every act. Lebish was assisted by Leonard Marquart.

"I also want to thank the Lions Club, the great support from the entire staff at Downtown Washington Inc., volunteers from churches, and students from Washington (High School) and (St. Francis) Borgia Regional High School," he said.

O'Donnell said the next Foodstock event will take place Saturday, Aug. 29, 2020, for anyone who missed this year's event.

"To all who attended and donated to assist folks in need, I thank you," he said.

August 28, 2019 The Missourian

City Council Hires Firm to Oversee Waterworks Project

By Gregg Jones
Missourian Staff Writer

An engineering firm has been hired to move forward with plans for a Downtown Washington landmark.

During a special meeting Monday, the Washington City Council voted 7-0 to enter into an agreement with Horn Architects, Washington, to oversee the restoration of the Waterworks Building located at Rennick Riverfront Park. Councilman Greg Skornia was not at Monday's special meeting.

The city tentatively agreed to lease the building for the first time in 20 years since it began to house Waterworks Antiques.

Downtown Washington Inc. and the city had been working together to attract a restaurant, winery, brewery or similar type of business to better fit with the park and downtown atmosphere. For now, plans call for a tasting room with light fare.

Sal Maniaci, Washington's community and economic development director, said the business is looking toward a May grand opening event.

He told *The Missourian* that a draft lease has been written and once it is signed more information about the business will be made public.

Work to Building

City Administrator Darren Lamb said there are several projects to renovate the building that will be contracted.

Work includes demolition of existing wood floor structure at ground floor, and lower levels; design of a new floor, stairs and railings; a new concrete floor, tuckpointing of masonry, window repair, mechanical work, new HVAC for the main floor and associated ductwork, multiple painting projects, sitework, work to patio areas, a concrete pad in a walk-in cooler area, downspout collection and a trash enclosure.

Lamb said a preliminary estimates for the work is $200,000.

He noted there is $110,00 in the capital improvement earmarked for the project, and the remaining costs would be offset by rent collected by the business operating there.

"We have to move things around due to the fact that we are receiving rent," Lamb said.

Steve Strubberg, with Horn Architect, added that he will review the specs for the

• See Project Page 2B

PROJECT

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project and changes could be made.

"We need to see how some of these projects shake out," he said.

Proposals

Earlier this year, the city sent out a request for proposals (RFP) which were due June 7.

In addition to a public RFP, direct requests were sent to any Washington business with a liquor license, and area wineries and breweries.

In the spring the owners of Waterworks Antiques were granted a two-month lease extension through June to remove items that had been in the building.

The primary goal of leasing the building is to benefit Washington residents with a use compatible with the downtown area.

The project also must be consistent with the city's comprehensive plan and zoning and building codes.

In addition, the city is looking to retain the historic significance of the Waterworks Building.

Waterworks Building

There are three levels and a basement at the building located at No. 1 Elbert Drive.

The building is 2,160 square feet, not including the basement or third level, both about 650 square feet. Those areas would be best suited for storage, officials said.

Public parking and outdoor seating will be included in the lease agreement.

August 28, 2019 The Missourian

Annual Brewfest Is September 7

The Washington Jaycees will host their 13th annual Washington Brewfest Saturday, Sept. 7, at the Washington Farmers' Market in Downtown Washington.

The event will run from 4-8 p.m. It serves as one of the largest annual fundraisers for the Washington Jaycees, a nonprofit organization comprised of young area leaders that has been serving the Washington community for over 65 years.

Brewfest will feature live music and a local food vendor, with over 20 microbreweries attending and providing more than 50 beers to sample.

Two local distilleries also will be on hand to provide free samples of their products with specialty cocktails for purchase.

Tickets are available for $20 in advance and $25 at the door, and can be purchased at washmojaycees.org/event/brewfest.

For more information visit the Washington Jaycees' Facebook page at facebook.com/washmojaycees. Guests must be at least 21 years old to attend.

The Jaycees raise funds to benefit community development projects, college scholarships and donations to local charities and associations.

The Jaycees' most recent community development project was the Jaycees' All Abilities Park, a playground designed for use by children of all capacities.

August 28, 2019 The Missourian

Morning Dew

A flower is covered in morning dew as the sun begins to rise Friday morning, Aug. 23, in Washington. The Missouri River is in the background. Missourian Photo.

August 28, 2019 The Missourian

August 31-September 1, 2019 The Missourian

Farm to Table Thursday

Guests Will Dine on Main Street

By Susan Miller
Missourian Managing Editor

Downtown Washington Inc. will host its fourth annual Farm to Table event Thursday, Sept. 5, from 6 to 9 p.m.

The four-course meal, prepared by local chefs, will be served on one long table set up on Main Street in front the Farmers' Market.

The event is a fundraiser for the circa 1856 Farmers' Market building and other downtown projects.

"We are so excited to bring this event back for a fourth year," said Bridgette Kelch, Downtown Washington Inc. executive director. "This year's theme is Americana."

A total of 192 tickets were sold in less than two weeks, Kelch said.

"We have determined that 192 is the maximum number of people we can serve in a timely manner," she said. "The tickets were first made available to the 'Friends' of the downtown organization and then were available to the general public."

Kelch said the event would not be possible without all of the volunteers and donations.

"Some of the food is locally sourced and donated when possible," she said, adding a volunteer committee organizes the entire event.

The downtown organization also gets helps from local high school students.

"We have an amazing group of special needs students from Washington High School that help us set up each year, and FFA students help serve the food and clean up," she said. "Football players from St. Francis Borgia Regional High School and National Honor Society also help, along with the Jaycees BB gun team.

"I would estimate we have over 100 volunteers who help with the event, and probably closer to 200 when you include the students," she said.

Nancy Walkenhorst, committee chair, said while the event is a fundraiser, it also creates awareness and appreciation of local farmers and the importance of having fresh food.

All of the guests will receive a booklet focused on farming in Missouri and Century Farms, she said.

Kelch said the weather forecast looks good so far for the event, but it will be held rain or shine.

Last year's dinner had to be moved to under the market due to the threat of rain, she said, and it worked out great.

Corporate sponsors are Mercy Washington, Missouri Meerschaum and Renewal By Andersen.

September 4, 2019 The Missourian

Summer Blossoms on Front Street

A group of colorful flowers frame the Washington Railroad Heritage Park and caboose. This photo was taken Tuesday, July 30. Missourian Photo.

September 4, 2019 The Missourian

A Golden Sunset

Boaters enjoyed a peaceful evening on the Missouri River Thursday, July 11. Others watched the sunset from the docks. Missourian Photo.

September 7-8, 2019 The Missourian

Cheers to Downtown!

Downtown Washington Inc. hosted its fourth annual Farm to Table event Thursday night, Sept. 5. A four-course meal, prepared by local chefs, was served on one long table set up on Main Street in front of the Farmers' Market. The event is a fundraiser for the circa 1856 Farmers' Market building and other downtown projects.

A total of 192 guests enjoyed the Americana-themed dinner, some of which was locally sourced and donated. Volunteers helped set up, serve the meal and with cleanup. Nancy Walkenhorst, committee chair, said while the event is a fundraiser, it also creates awareness and appreciation of local farmers and the importance of having fresh food. Missourian Photo.

Dining Alfresco Downtown

A total of 192 guests enjoyed a four-course meal, prepared by local chefs and served on one long table set up on Main Street, in front of the Farmers' Market Thursday night, Sept. 5. Downtown Washington Inc. hosted the event, a fundraiser for the circa 1856 Farmers' Market building and other downtown projects. The event also creates awareness and appreciation of local farmers and the importance of having fresh food. Some of the food was locally sourced and donated. A team of volunteers, including students from both local high schools, helped work the event. Missourian Photo.

September 7-8, 2019 The Missourian

City Outlines Front Street Infrastructure Upgrades

Power Line Burial, Sidewalks

By Gregg Jones
Missourian Staff Writer

There is a three- to five-year plan to make major Downtown infrastructure upgrades, according to Washington city officials.

John Nilges, public works director, Tuesday told the Washington City Council he will seek a transportation alternative program (TAP) grant this fall to do a portion of the work.

The comments were in response to Downtown Washington business owners concerned about tax funds assisting a private business during the rehab of the Waterworks Building at Rennick Park.

Rick Marquart, who is the owner of The Landing and Cowan's Restaurant with his wife, said he would prefer tax money go toward upgrades on Front Street by already established businesses.

City Administrator Darren Lamb stated the sales tax funds to upgrade the Waterworks Building are not being done to accommodate a specific business, but are needed at the city-owned structure. See a related story in this issue of *The Missourian*.

"I have some issues with sidewalks that I think need to be addressed," Marquart said. "If I don't ever say anything, I figure you are never going to know my concerns."

In addition to sidewalks, Marquart has been pushing for the burial of power lines on Front Street in front of The Landing, similar to the work done east of his buildings. The Marquarts also own several other buildings and businesses, including Otis Campbell's, also on Front Street.

In 2017, the Marquarts first approached the city council about extending the project to bury lines on Front Street to the west in front of their buildings. At the time work was being planned to bury the lines on Front Street between Jefferson and Lafayette streets.

Several years ago, the city worked with Ameren Missouri to move the large distribution power line from Front Street to Third Street, but smaller utility lines, including electrical service lines, cable and phone lines, remained overhead.

"We do have discussions with Ameren in regards to burying the lines," Lamb said. "That is the last set of lines that needs to be buried down on Front Street."

Marquart said he was notified Tuesday that Ameren pushed back the time line of when the lines will be buried so the power company can address lines on Third Street for industrial electricity customers.

"Burying those lines will go right in front of the OC (Otis Campbell's), right in front of The Landing . . .," Lamb added.

According to Nilges, the city is working with Ameren on multiple city projects.

"Ameren has a very large investment that they are looking to get done in the next two to three years," Nilges said. "That includes electrical projects Downtown and on Third Street. We are trying to coordinate those projects."

Nilges added that the Third Street reconstruction project already is funded and work will be conducted in 2023.

Part of the city's plan for Downtown would utilize TAP grant funds, if they are approved.

"That would be new intersections, new pavers basically the whole gambit," Nilges said. "There is a four- to five-year plan to redo all of those things. If you coordinate them the right way, and stack the projects, you don't have utility cuts after putting sidewalks in.

"That is where we are at — getting to the critical path where in four to five years it will be brand new and will be that way for the next 40," he said.

The TAP grant is funded through the Missouri Department of Transportation and the federal government. EWGW administers the grant.

The grant provides funding for on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving nondriver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, environmental mitigation, and safe routes to school projects.

"The city has done a great job, but this one kind of stung a bit," Marquart said about the Waterworks Building project. "I just want things to be fair and on a fair playing field."

September 7-8, 2019

Farmers' Market Open Every Saturday Through October

Fall-Themed Items Featured Now

By Amanda Postma
Missourian Staff Writer

Despite summer being over and children back at school, area families are still finding time to make a visit to the Washington Farmers' Market.

Amanda Griesheimer, marketing director for the Washington Area Chamber of Commerce, which manages the market, said there was a small dip in attendance during and right after the Washington Town & Country Fair.

"Especially as families get back in the swing of school and fall sports, but it's been great to see so many people still including a visit to the market in their busy schedules," she said.

The market is operated by the Chamber at 317 W. Main St. in Downtown Washington. It is open every Saturday through October from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

This Saturday, Sept. 7, the market will close at noon for the Jaycees Brewfest.

The weather this spring and summer had an impact on the amount of items offered at the market, but Griesheimer said generally the items people expected were available.

"It's been a pretty great season," she said.

The market only features vendors from Franklin or an adjoining county and is exclusive to in-season Missouri produce. The market was started in July 1990.

Right now, Griesheimer said craft vendors are shifting to fall-themed items.

"Which is exciting for people like me who love this season," she said.

Mums have been available for the last few weeks, and there are still tomatoes, peppers, watermelon, cantaloupe, eggplant, meat, eggs and baked goods available. Also at the market, are soaps, lotions, candles and decor.

"If you haven't made time for a trip to the market, you really should visit us on a Saturday morning for a stroll," Griesheimer said.

The market's Facebook page, https://www.facebook.com/washmomarket/, is updated regularly with what vendors are expected each week.

On a few market days, an on-site lunch option also is available.

"We haven't filled quite as many weeks as I had hoped, so it's definitely on my list for the off-season," said Griesheimer. "I would love to get a full schedule lined up."

The market also features acoustic music played by Greg Krone and Tim Murray about once a month.

The market operates under a pavilion so vendors are there every Saturday, rain or shine. At the end of this month, market vendors will be set up for all three days of the Downtown Washington Fall Festival of the Arts and Crafts.

The market will have extended hours Saturday, Oct. 26, the last day of the season, which also coincides with the Chamber's Pumpkin Palooza event.

A Craft & Gift Expo also is planned for Saturday, Nov. 23, at the city auditorium.

Vendor information will be available soon on the market's website, washmomarket.com.

Sprouts

The Sprouts Club, available for children 3-10, will run through the last market day — Oct. 26.

Griesheimer noted they've seen a number of new Sprouts this year along with many who returned from previous years.

"The craziest part is that we have seen a few members who have aged out, but continue to come to the market — sometimes with younger siblings — but sometimes because the market is just part of what they do now," she said.

The goal of the club is to introduce children to a variety of fresh, local produce while encouraging families to shop at the market.

"It has been so rewarding to watch them build that relationship with our vendors and want to visit the market, whether they are getting tokens or not," said Griesheimer.

Children check in at the Sprouts table each market day and receive $2 in Sprout tokens. The tokens only can be used for fresh produce from a market vendor.

Tokens can be spent immediately or saved for a larger purchase. The tokens also can be combined with siblings' or friends' tokens for a larger purchase.

Every fifth time they check in, children receive a special token to purchase whatever they want, with a parent's approval.

Purchases can only be made by the Sprout member. Adults cannot make purchases with the tokens and may not pick up tokens from the Sprouts table for children.

"I will never stop adoring this program," said Griesheimer. "A big thank you to the sponsors who have supported this program for part or all of the past four years."

September 11, 2019 The Missourian

September 11, 2019 The Missourian

September 18, 2019 The Missourian

Employer of the Year

The Downtown Washington Inc. Employee/Employer picnic was held at the riverfront on Wednesday, Sept. 11. Marquart's Landing was named Employer of the Year for raising the standard of employment in the community, encouraging growth in employees and planning for the future of downtown. From left are Tonya Webb, Rick Marquart, owner, Victoria Emhoolah, Chris Rimmey and Alan Breid. Not shown is Karen Marquart, owner.

Missourian Photo.

September 18 2019 The Missourian

September 21-22, 2019 The Missourian

Foodstock Fun

A large crowd enjoyed listening to local musicians while others hit the dance floor Saturday, Aug. 24, at the eighth annual Foodstock. The event was held under the Farmers' Market in Downtown Washington. In conjunction with the local musicians, Downtown Washington Inc. collected 4,000 pounds of nonperishable food items and $8,723 in monetary donations. The proceeds will be split evenly between Loving Hearts Outreach, St. Francis Borgia Food Pantry and St. Peter's Food Pantry.

Missourian Photo.

September 21-22, 2019 The Missourian

Dining on Main Street

These guests raised their glasses to Downtown Washington Inc., local farmers and fresh food Thursday night, Sept. 5, at the fourth Farm to Table event, a fundraiser for the circa 1856 Farmers' Market building and other downtown projects. A total of 192 tickets were sold. In addiiton to raising funds, organizers said the event creates an awareness and appreciation of local farmers and the importance of having fresh food. Student and adult volunteers helped put on the event. The four-course meal was prepared by local chefs and served on one long table set up on Main Street in front of the Farmers' Market.

Missourian Photo.

September 25, 2019 The Missourian

Washington Fall Festival This Weekend

Vendors, Music, Kids Zone

By Susan Miller
Missourian Managing Editor

Vendors selling handmade goods will line Main and Elm streets this weekend for the Downtown Washington Inc. Fall Festival of the Arts & Crafts.

A large food court, kids zone, live music and other special activities will be featured all weekend, according to Cassidy Lowery, events and promotion specialist with the downtown organization.

The fall festival will kick off Friday night and run through Sunday afternoon on and around the Main and Elm streets parking lot. The adjacent Farmers' Market also will be open all weekend.

Festival hours will be Friday from 4 to 7 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

"This event is a kickoff to the fall season for our historic downtown and we're expecting big crowds," Lowery said. "The festival caters to the whole family so we encourage everyone to come out and check it out."

Lowery said there will be a total of 65 vendors, all selling handmade arts and crafts, this year.

Visitors will find clothing, paintings, furniture, home décor, sweet treats, candles, jewelry and many more items, she said.

"We will have some of our returning favorites, like Thompson Farms Soups & More and Judy B's Soy Candles, and newer

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FESTIVAL

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ones, including Swift Fox Clothing, Fairytale Cookie Company and Rare Rustics Authentic longhorn skulls and sculptures," she said.

Live Music

Live music will be featured all weekend. It will kick off Friday with Dave Bennett from 4 to 7 p.m.

Lowery noted the festival is starting and ending one hour earlier than last year.

On Saturday, the Osage Angels will perform from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. followed by STL (Sheila, Tom and Larry) from 2 to 6 p.m. The Washington Brass Band will close out the event on Sunday from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Kids Zone

The Kids Zone will feature a petting zoo Saturday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tinkerbell the friendly Dinosaur will be there all day Saturday and Sunday, along with Wonder Woman Saturday and Captain America on Sunday.

Waldo and McGruff the Police Dog will be making appearances as well.

Chair & Flair

A Chair & Flair booth, previously called Charming Chairs, will be open all three days. It will feature decorated chairs and other furniture and home decor items that have been donated. Visitors can bid on the items throughout the weekend. Online bidding also will be accepted.

Bids will be accepted until 2 p.m. Sunday, and all purchases must be picked up by 4 p.m. that day.

Proceeds will benefit continued historic preservation in Downtown Washington.

Food Court

Lowery said visitors should come hungry because there will be plenty to eat and drink at the food court.

Among the local vendors will be Sugarfire, Streetside Tacos, Driftwood and the Lions Club.

Food items will include nachos, tacos, pulled pork burgers, funnel cakes, fried pickles, gyros, smoothies and fresh squeezed lemonade.

Lowery said she expects thousands of visitors, both from the area and outside of the community, to attend.

September 25, 2019 The Missourian

New Wings Mural

Janet Rudd, Creative Touch Paint and Design, posed in front of the 9-foot-tall wings she was painting on the side of Four Seasons Florist in Downtown Washington. A smaller set of wings was painted on an adjacent wall by Jessica Ahner, Ahner's Art from the Heart. The wings serve as a place for the community to take photos and make memories.

Missourian Photo.

September 25, 2019 The Missourian

Wings Murals Painted On Four Seasons Building

Designed to Bring People Together

By Amanda Postma
Missourian Staff Writer

People walking or driving on Elm Street in Downtown Washington will notice a change on one of the buildings.

Two pairs of wings have been meticulously painted on the side of Four Seasons Florist shop at 211 Elm St.

The 9-foot-tall wings represent the floral side of business, with flowers and leaves decorating the 6-foot width. The smaller wings are sized for children and depict the four seasons — summer, fall, winter and spring.

The florist also has started a Facebook group called "Wings of Washington" for the community to share photos taken with the wings.

The shops' Instagram page, @four_seasons_florist_washmo, will serve as a central place to gather photos from the community with the hashtag #wingsofwashington.

Owner Julie Prenger is hopeful that when people take pictures with the wings they will share them on social media.

Prenger was approached local artist and entrepreneur Kelly Brinkmann about the possibility of painting the wings on the building.

"She thought I had the perfect wall area to do the wings," said Prenger. "I wouldn't have even thought of doing something if I wasn't approached."

Brinkmann said her goal is to add more artwork to enrich the community. She recommended Janet Rudd, Creative Touch Paint and Design, to paint the large set of wings.

"It's a great community place to have a memory in the town," said Rudd.

Another local artist, Jessica Ahner from Ahner's Art from the Heart, created the smaller set of wings.

"The wings are a symbol for anyone going through something," said Anher. "And it gets people to interact with each other."

The murals were completed Tuesday, just in time for the Downtown Washington Inc. Fall Festival of the Arts & Crafts, which will take place this weekend. Vendors will be set up along Main and Elm streets.

Wing murals are becoming increasingly popular around the country. The closest mural to Washington is in Rosebud at the Grand Antique Mall.

"The wings to me are in loving memory of people, like Michel (Otten) who owned Four Seasons before me," said Prenger.

September 28-29, 2019 The Missourian

Fall Festival This Weekend Downtown

By Susan Miller
Missourian Managing Editor

Big crowds are expected this weekend for the Downtown Washington Inc. Fall Festival of the Arts & Crafts.

Vendors selling handmade goods started to set up along Main and Elm streets Friday morning, according to Cassidy Lowery, events and promotion specialist with the downtown organization.

The fall festival kicked off Friday night and runs through Sunday afternoon on and around the Main and Elm streets parking lot. The adjacent Farmers' Market also will be open all weekend.

Festival hours will be Friday from 4 to 7 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

A large food court, kids zone, live music and other special activities will be featured all weekend, said Lowery.

"This is our kickoff to the fall season," she said. "The festival caters to the whole family so we encourage everyone to come down and check it out."

The festival will be held rain or

• See Festival Page 2A

FESTIVAL

CONTINUED FROM 1A

shine, she added.

A total of 65 vendors, all selling handmade arts and crafts, are featured this year. Visitors will find clothing, paintings, furniture, home décor, sweet treats, candles, jewelry and many more items.

Live music will be featured all weekend. It was scheduled to kick off Friday with Dave Bennett from 4 to 7 p.m.

On Saturday, the Osage Angels will perform from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. followed by STL (Sheila, Tom and Larry) from 2 to 6 p.m. The Washington Brass Band will close out the event on Sunday from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.

The Kids Zone will feature a petting zoo Saturday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tinkerbell the friendly Dinosaur will be there all day Saturday and Sunday, along with Wonder Woman Saturday and Captain America on Sunday.

Waldo and McGruff the Police Dog will be making appearances as well.

A Chair & Flair booth, previously called Charming Chairs, will be open all three days. It will feature decorated chairs and other furniture and home decor items that have been donated. Visitors can bid on the items throughout the weekend. Online bidding also will be accepted.

Bids will be accepted until 2 p.m. Sunday, and all purchases must be picked up by 4 p.m. that day.

Proceeds will benefit continued historic preservation in Downtown Washington.

There will be plenty to eat and drink at the food court all weekend, Lowery said.

Among the local vendors will be Sugarfire, Streetside Tacos, Driftwood and the Lions Club.

Food items will include nachos, tacos, pulled pork burgers, funnel cakes, fried pickles, gyros, smoothies and fresh squeezed lemonade.

Lowery said she expects thousands of visitors, both from the area and outside of the community, to attend.

6. Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan/Preservation Component to City Master plan:

The City of Washington Planning and Zoning Commission adopted the current comprehensive plan on April 8, 2013. The 248-page document can be viewed on the City of Washington website at www.washmo.gov. The document details the Historic/Cultural Resources of Washington on page 31.

7. Historic Properties Inventory:

There were no historic properties added to the City of Washington inventory.

8. Historic Preservation Incentives:

a. Local Tax Incentives Program:

The City of Washington offers a "Small TIF" Program for properties located in a Registered Historic District and the Downtown TIF District. Applicants can receive up to $70,000 for historic preservation and restoration projects that are funded through TIF proceeds generated by the project. At this time, two properties have utilized the TIF program.

Downtown Washington, Inc. and the Historic Washington Foundation offer NAP (Neighborhood Assistance Program). NAP is operated by the Missouri Department of Economic Development to help small communities raise funds that will stimulate the local and state economy. Every dollar contributed to the Historic Washington Foundation, a National and Missouri Main Street Program, can earn 70 cents in Missouri State income tax credits and participants can also take a federal charitable deduction. A participant's contribution is restricted only by the amount of their tax obligation. At this time, four properties have utilized the NAP program.

b. Local "Bricks and Mortar" Grants/Loans Program:

The City of Washington does not have a local Bricks and Mortar Grant or Loan program.

9. Local Property Acquisition Program:

The City of Washington does not have a property acquisition program.