



What's Up



Downtown

A Main Street Community

April, May, June 2010

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Letter from the President Book Fair & Spring Clean Up

I want to thank the DMDC staff, Promotions Committee, Tourism, Data-Lock, Tom Wielt, the Granada board, and the many volunteers and supporters for their dedication to prepare for our first ever Book Fair promotional event. Friday, April 16th starting at 5 p.m., our DOWNTOWN AFTER FIVE preview party at the Granada will feature book signing by three local authors, food and drink, live entertainment by Jeff & Ian, and the opportunity to get "first dibs" at the Book Fair! The "bargain" price of \$10.00 in advance and \$15 at the door covers all preview party festivities!



Saturday, April 17th the Book Fair is open to the public with free admittance. Come downtown and have a great time and get some super bargains on thousands of books, VHS tapes (over 4000 tapes!), CDs, DVD's, magazines, and much more.

Spring is just around the corner and many people will be visiting our downtown area. Please take the time to "spruce-up" outside around your business. Trash and debris accumulates during the winter. Steve Talley, our maintenance man, spends much of his day picking up trash around downtown on a weekly basis. If everyone downtown does his part to maintain the area around his building, we can free up Steve to do the many other requirements of his job! Remember the sign in the Rogers Building at the corner of 10th & Main: "city wide clean-up is EVERYDAY"!

Rex Cusumano

In Memoriam—Ed Breeze February 21, 2010

The DMDC Board of Directors wishes to express their sincere sympathies in the loss of Ed Breeze, a friend and long-time DMDC board member who was a strong advocate of Downtown Mt. Vernon. A man who had a great love for family, church and his community, he will always be remembered for his many acts of kindness.

He will be missed.

DMDC Website is Up and Going!

Check out the new DMDC website at www.downtownmtvernon.org, if you haven't already. The site, developed by Arthur Agency for DMDC, reflects the organization's mission, vision and progress – making the heart and soul of downtown a viable and active area to visit, work, shop and play. You can learn about what's happening downtown, where we're from and where we're going, our goals and accomplishments, our activities and even how you can be involved, if you wish. At the 'contact us' tab, we welcome your questions and suggestions.

See you on the Web!

Mark Your Calendars

April 11-17

- National Library Week

April 16-17

- 16th—Book Fair Preview Party & Sale
- 17th—Book Fair

May 18

- Annual DMDC Dinner Meeting

Mission Statement: To revitalize and maintain downtown Mt. Vernon as a commercial and cultural center of the local and regional community.

Executive Committee

Rex Cusumano, President
Cindy Bevis, Vice President
Barb Hengle, Vice President
Chris Campo, Vice President
Doug Hoffman, Vice President
Susan Hughey, Vice President
Laura Thacker, Treasurer
Brenda Breeze, Secretary
Brian Edmison, Past President

Board of Directors

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Patrick Bevis
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Jo Ann Joy
Jay Koch
Greg Lundius
Wendy Lupa
Lindy Lysell
Mike McKelvy
Karen Pelker
Kevin Phillips
Lisa Quinn
Denise Ross
Pam Robertson
Luther Torrez
Tammy Wheeler

Board Meetings

Third Tuesday of the Month 6:00 p.m.
First United Methodist Church

Staff

Cyndy Mitchell, Executive Director
Mary Denham, Administrative Assistant
Stephen Talley, Maintenance

Census 2010 is Simple and Safe

**United States
Census
2010**

Remember to send in your completed Census 2010 questionnaire. This year's census is quick and easy with just 10 questions. This simple, short questionnaire takes just a few minutes to complete and return by mail. Our community's participation in the census matters because every year, more than \$400 billion in federal funds is awarded to states and communities based on census data resulting in more than \$4 trillion over a 10-year period. In addition, census data is used to determine the most need for additional social services, including who receives community development block grants and other grant programs essential to our communities. Completing census forms is safe. The Census Bureau does not release or share information that identifies individual respondents or their household for 72 years. Please encourage others you know to complete and mail their forms so our community can achieve a complete and accurate 2010 census.



IT'S IN OUR HANDS

Applicants Awarded First Downtown TIF Funding

Recipients of the first Downtown TIF funding were announced on Friday, March 19 at City Hall. The TIF committee reviewed twelve applications, the majority of which were for brick and mortar projects. The DMDC board has been a strong supporter of the development of a Downtown TIF program in its mission to revitalize the area. Having so many applications submitted and awarded funding demonstrates both the city's and DMDC's efforts to make downtown an active, viable center of the community.



The following applicants were awarded funding from the Downtown TIF:

- Antioch International Assembly – \$9,000
- Granada Center for the Performing Arts -\$4,736
- David Parker (Expressions) - \$2,765
- 9th St. Grill - \$7,500 plus 75% of tax increment for 5 years
- Kim Loker (K & K Resale) - \$20,395
- Mario Hodge (Parkway Shoe Repair) - \$20,395
- Deanies Flowers - \$12,000
- Hassakis & Hassakis - \$3,300

Have You Noticed Something New Downtown?



Bart Wright Law Office at Main and 9th Street



Tommy Ts is opening soon at 118 North 9th Street.



Krehbiel & Associates' new awning at 125 North 11th Street



New windows in the J & R Appliance building at 1001 Broadway



New railing for Audio Hearing Center at 1306 Broadway



New sign for American Resale at 801 Broadway

Granada Center for the Performing Arts Calendar

Classic Kids Matinee Series 2010

Date	Movie	Sponsored By
4/10/10	The Muppet Movie	First State Bank of Dix
5/8/10	Dr. Seuss Cat in the Hat	Banterra Bank

Free to the public – Children must be accompanied by an adult

Doors Open at 1:30 Movies Start at 2:00

Each bank will give away an \$100 US Savings Bond to a lucky kid!

Concession on sale in the lobby – soda \$1, candy \$1, popcorn \$1

Classic Movie Series 2010

Date	Movie	Sponsored By/Time
4/8/10	Judgment at Nuremberg 1961 Drama with an All Star Cast	Mt. Vernon Register News 7:00 p.m.
5/13/10	Giant 1956 Western Drama starring Elizabeth Taylor, Rock Hudson and James Dean	Toni Federici 7:00 p.m.

Free to the public!

Concession on sale in the lobby – soda \$1, candy \$1, popcorn \$1
Alcohol is sold at non-children events only.



Another successful event downtown!
Friday and Saturday, March 19 and 20

Available Real Estate

STATUS	POINT OF REFERENCE	ADDRESS	AVAILABLE SQ. FT.	CONTACT	PHONE
Rent	Jefferson State Bank - Upper Space	1002 Main	12' x 16'	Brian Edmison	244-0780
Rent	Front Office Space	328 S. 10th	800 sq. ft.	Chuck Baldrige	241-9009
Rent	Stan the Tire Man	12th & Broadway	11,000 sq. ft., plus parking and fenced storage	Dale Lowery	237-4725
Rent	US Bank - Office Space	123 S. 10th	Varies	Frank Bastida	394-4520
Rent	Designer Kids Building	236 S. 9th	2,000 Upper Floor	Gino Federici	244-3168
Rent	Round Table Design-Upper Level	1020 Main	1,500	Kevin Phillips	244-7819
Rent	Round Table Design-Upper Level	1020 Main	1,500	Kevin Phillips	244-7819
Rent	Boston/Universal Bldg, upper floor	206,208,210 S. 9th	12,000	Mark Hassakis	244-5335
Rent	Hassakis & Hassakis	206 S. 9th	200-350 sq. ft. shared office space	Mark Hassakis	244-5335
Rent	Vacant building	805 Broadway	3,000	Robin Hensley	237-9241
Rent	Vacant building	809 Broadway	3,000	Robin Hensley	231-9241
Rent	Vacant building	813 Broadway	3,000	Robin Hensley	237-9241
Rent	1 Suite, 2 Office spaces	815 Broadway	varies	Cindy Bevis Bevis RE	244-9500
Rent	Vacant office space	1006 Main	60 x 20 ft.	Ron Harrison	242-4949
Rent	Tavern on 10th	224 S. 10th	7,500 sq. ft. fully sprinkled, 14 ft. ceilings, \$2-3/sq. ft. annually	Chris Campo	364-2465
Rent	Wielt Plumbing Storefront	116 N. 9th	3,150	Tom Wielt	242-3360
Rent	Plaza Theater	118 S. 9th	Design to suit needs	Robin Hensley	237-9241
Rent/Sale	9th St. Apartments	203 N. 9th		Mary Burgan	214-0660
Rent/Sale	Empty Building	223 S. 9th	1,600	Dennis Williams, Cross Davidson	237-0870
Rent/Sale	Move-in ready	212 S. 9th	3,000 on each floor	Robin Hensley	237-9241
Sale	Building Site 10th & Casey	315-321 S. 10th		Robin Hensley	237-9241
Sale	Vacant Lot	907 Jordan	50' x 100'	Butch Burwell	244-4548
Sale	Airex Heating & Air Building	114 N. Johnson	3,336	Janet Fryar	266-7477
Sale	Vacant lot east of the Mt. Vernon Motel	724 Main	100' X 222'	David Parker Coldwell Bankers	242-8383 237-5525
Sale	Mt. Vernon Motel vacant lot	800 Main		David Parker Coldwell Bankers	242-8383 237-2252
Sale	Store Front building	801 Broadway	40' x 100' one floor	Sandra Graddy	242-3266



224 S. 10th



212 S. 9th



236 S. 9th

DMDC Partnership Application

Make a difference. Preserve downtown Mt. Vernon as a viable place to shop, work, dine, play and live. Join Main Street today. Your tax-deductible contribution helps make Mt. Vernon a community of which we can be proud.

DMDC MAIN STREET PARTNERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Work Phone _____

Email Address _____

Company _____

Contribution Amount \$ _____ Enclosed _____

PARTNERSHIP LEVELS

New Renew Upgrade

Corporate Partner	\$1000 to \$3000
Sustaining Partner	\$500 to \$999
Sponsoring Partner	\$250 to \$499
Partner	\$100 to \$249

All partnerships include delivery of the DMDC Quarterly newsletter.

DMDC Main Street is a 501 (C) 3 nonprofit organization. Your partnership fee is tax deductible.

Please mail your check made payable to DMDC Main Street along with this form to
DMDC Main Street, 809 Main St., Mt. Vernon, IL 62864

Visit our website: www.downtownmtvernon.org to become a member online.



ILLINOIS MAIN STREET

Did You Know?

That Mt. Vernon has a Historic Preservation Commission made up of five members who are appointed by the Mayor? The commission was established in 2004 as part of DMDC's pursuit to become an Illinois Main Street community. However, the scope of their work includes all of Mt. Vernon. The purpose of the commission according to the Mt. Vernon Historic Preservation Ordinance is to promote the protection, enhancement, perpetuation, and use of improvements of special character or historical interest or value in the interest of the health, prosperity, safety, and welfare of the people of the City of Mt. Vernon. Committee members include Rick Marlow, Rick Kirkpatrick, Laura Thacker, Nick Lemay and Barb Hengle.



Their mission: "is to encourage, support, and participate in the efforts of the citizens of Mt. Vernon, to identify, recognize, preserve and protect Mt. Vernon's historic structures, objects, sites and landscapes."

Their vision: "The City of Mt. Vernon has a wealth of historic properties that exemplify our city's and region's culture and history and further represent our shared heritage. If preserved they can stabilize our neighborhoods, stimulate private investment, revitalize downtown activities, attract tourists, and greatly enhance civic pride.

The commission meets the fourth Wednesday of the month at 4:30 p.m. in the DMDC office at 809 Main Street.

Do you have information you want to put in the quarterly?

Just give us a call or email us with your information. Contact Cyndy Mitchell at 242-6866 or email dmdc@mvn.net.

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www.downtownmtvernon.com

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Four Points to Success

Downtown Mt. Vernon and the Illinois Main Street program employ the Four-Point Approach to successful downtown revitalization.

Design

This committee enhances the physical appearance of Downtown by assisting with the renovation of historic buildings and streetscape enhancements, encouraging supportive new construction and long term planning.

Economic Restructuring

This committee works to strengthen Downtown’s economic base by focusing on retaining and recruiting a cross-section of businesses that can create a viable economic downtown.

Organization

This committee coordinates the overall volunteer effort and builds unity among the many volunteers and the community who have a role in the downtown revitalization process.

Promotion

This committee promotes the assets of Downtown to attract new customers, investors, businesses and visitors. They plan special events and assist with publicity and communication.

Each committee welcomes volunteers who wish to participate in DMDC activities and events. If interested, contact the DMDC office at (618) 242-6866 or email to dmdc@mvn.net.