



What's Up



Downtown

A Main Street Community

October, November, December 2009

In This Issue

- Sculpture Installed Downtown
- US Bank Donation
- Letter from the President
- Granada Receives Governor's Hometown Award
- Welcome to Downtown
- Downtown Businesses Special Events
- Available Real Estate Property
- Cruise Night Highlights
- Hawkins Donates Art to DMDC
- Organization Committee
- Our Staff
- Partnership Application

Mark Your Calendars

October 10-18

- Southern IL Harvest Festival
- 17-Parade & Activities in Downtown

October 16

- Concert at Granada Theater

October 23

- Granada Halloween Gala

November 13

- Gong Show at the Granada Theater

November TBA

- Indian Cooking Class at dish on the square

November 22

- Holiday Open House

December 4-5

- Independent Artists' Studio exhibition and sale at Granada Theater

December 5

- Christmas Parade

- DMDC Holiday Decorating Contest

December 16

- Granada Theater 72nd Anniversary

Circle of Hope Sculpture Installed in Downtown District

Visitors to the downtown district will now see an addition to its newly enhanced streetscape – a sculpture titled “Circle of Hope.” David Wood, local business owner and Mt. Vernon City Council member, donated the Work of Art to the Downtown Mt. Vernon Development Corporation. The sculpture is in keeping with DMDC’s mission to make downtown an attractive and appealing place to shop and to visit. Wood hopes this will encourage other downtown business owners to do something for their businesses. The piece, which was installed on September 2 at 822 Main Street, is the creation of John Stephens, then a student at Moorehouse State University in Kentucky.



David and Kim Wood next to Circle of Hope



DMDC Design Committee Chairman and Board Member Brian Edmison oversaw the installation of the sculpture. DMDC employee Mark Ilbery and summer interns, Josh Bayer and Tyler Ilbery, assisted.

US Bank Donates \$1000 Grant to DMDC

DMDC President Rex Cusumano accepts a \$1000 donation from US Bank Mt. Vernon Market President Jo Ann Joy. The US Bank Foundation Grant helps support the downtown organization’s mission to revitalize and maintain downtown as a cultural and commercial center of the local and regional community. US Bank has two locations in Mt. Vernon - at 123 South 10th and 4100 Broadway. From left: DMDC President Rex Cusumano, Jo Ann Joy and DMDC Executive Director Cyndy Mitchell.



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

Susan Bacon
Patrick Bevis
Ed Breeze
Russell Brown
Chris Campo
Jo David Cummins
Rae Cummins
Bob Dennis
David Eadie
Molly Federici
Mark Hassakis
Bonnie Jerdon
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

Letter from the President

The DMDC's Mission Statement is: *To revitalize and maintain Downtown Mt. Vernon as a commercial and cultural center of the local and regional community.* There are many facets that comprise this Mission Statement. One of the many important roles that DMDC carries out is facilitating our downtown property owners and businesses by addressing challenges that they might encounter while dealing with local, state, or federal government. Once an issue is substantiated, the DMDC will take the issue to the proper governing body to try to remedy the situation. We have found that governmental bodies are extremely helpful and fair in addressing situations and taking corrective action for issues that are properly addressed. A follow up report will be presented to the constituent with an explanation of the outcome. We cannot guarantee a favorable outcome to all situations, but we will exhaust all avenues to try to resolve the issue. Working together is what makes Downtown Mt. Vernon the "gem stone" of Southern Illinois!



Granada Theater Receives Governor's Hometown Award



The many volunteers who dedicated numerous hours to the preservation and restoration of the old Granada Theater in the downtown district recently received very good news from the State informing them that they had received the Governor's Hometown Award. According to David Lister, vice-president of the Granada Center for the Performing Arts (GCPA) Board of Directors, they will receive the award at an awards ceremony in Springfield on October 29. On behalf of the board, Lister wanted to thank Curt Mower and Nick LeMay at the Rend Lake College Small Business Development Center for writing the grant application.

The GCPA was organized as a separate nonprofit organization with its own board of directors by the Downtown Mt. Vernon Development Corporation in 2002 to preserve and restore the historic landmark. Although there is more to do, the volunteer-driven organization has made major improvements to the structure with more restoration plans on which they are already working. The theater is available to rent for events and activities.

For more information: PO Box 821, Mt. Vernon, IL 62864;
Hot Line – 740-0707; Website – Granada @mvn.net

Welcome to Downtown

New Business

American Resale Shop	801 Broadway	315-9280
Household & Office Management Services	109 North 10th Street	244-2766
AmeriSpec Home Inspection Service	109 North 10th Street	242-5250
Mark Haney, Attorney at Law	206 South 9th Street, Suite 205	242-1700
Kevin McClain Investigations	206 South 9th Street, Suite 204	877-532-1152

New Associate

Elliott M. Hedin has joined the law firm of Campbell, Black, Carnine, Hedin, Ballard & McDonald, P.C. effective July 1, 2009. Hedin was previously a partner with the Springfield, Illinois law firm Brown Hay and Stephens, LLP. Hedin received his law degree from Washington University School of Law in St. Louis, Missouri, in 2000 and his bachelor of science degree from University of Illinois-Champaign in 1996. He is admitted to practice in Illinois and Missouri and before the Southern, Central and Northern Districts of Illinois. Hedin is a Mt. Vernon native and 1992 graduate of Mt. Vernon Township High School.

Let Us Know

If you have a new associate or change in your business you would like to announce in the DMDC quarterly newsletter, just let us know. We would also like to acknowledge any new businesses coming downtown. Call 242-6866.

Downtown Businesses Special Events

Mt. Vernon Holiday Open House Sunday, November 22

Downtown Businesses participating in the open house are dish on the square, Easton's Flowers, and The Blossom Shop.

Coming Soon!

Indian Cooking Class November TBA

In recognition of the Indian culture that is being celebrated by Cedarhurst Center for the Arts, dish on the square is offering a cooking class on Indian Cuisine.

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	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	Vacant building	809 Broadway	3,000	Robin Hensley	237-9241
Rent	Vacant building	805 Broadway	3,000	Robin Hensley	237-9241
Rent	Suite for rent—2	815 Broadway	varies	Cindy Bevis Bevis RE	244-9500
Rent	Wielt Plumbing Storefront	116 N. 9th	3,150	Tom Wielt	242-3360
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
Rent/Sale	Empty building (Downtown Carpet) Street Floor & Basement-Storage	216 N. 9th	4,500 on each floor with own htg and utilities	Jack Gaston	315-0247
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	Former State Beauty Supply Bldg	801 Broadway	40'x100' -one floor	Sandra Graddy	242-3268
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	Podges Pizza Building	826-830 Main	37.33x40x8x9x59.3x 49	Cindy Bevis Bevis Real Estate	244-9500
Sale	Former Jansen's Laundry Building	318 S. 10th	100x50x35x50x107	Cindy Bevis Bevis Real Estate	244-9500
Sale	The Insurance Store building	102 N. 9th	30x92x17	Cindy Bevis Bevis Real Estate	244-9500
Sale	The Stumpp Building	1005-1013 Broadway	84x94x109x10x84	Cindy Bevis Bevis Real Estate	244-9500



Designer Kids Building



10th & Casey



318 South 10th

Cruise Night Draws Big Crowd

In spite of the high temperature on August 8, the Downtown Mt. Vernon Development Corporation's (DMDC) 8th Annual Cruise Night proved to be a great success with around 145 vehicles participating in the event. Participants came from 24 different communities including, among others, Effingham, Alton, Olney and Murphysboro. The event offered a venue for participants to share their enthusiasm for vintage and modified vehicles and show off their machines. Additionally, it gives DMDC an opportunity to increase visitors and residents awareness of the downtown district with its enhanced new look that includes renovated buildings, new restaurants and shops and the beautifully improved sidewalk streetscape on Main Street.



The competition is a Sponsor's Choice and the winners were Joel and Christi Ham for Best Ford (1966 Shelby Mustang) sponsored by Subway, Tom Glover for Best GM (1987 Grand National Buick) sponsored by Community First Bank, Jerri Prince for Best Chevy (1957 Bel Air Chevy Convertible) sponsored by Stan the Tire Man, Leroy and Teresa Dodson for Best Mopar (1974 Dodge Charger SE) sponsored by Walgreens, Bill Jones for Best Truck (1988 Chevy C1500 Pick Up) sponsored by Midwest Truck Accessories, David Schrum for Best Motorcycle (1973 Husky 400 DR) sponsored by Cusumano and Sons, Rosanne Pace for Best Import (1959 Austin Healey) sponsored by dish on the square and Joel and Christi Ham for People's Choice sponsored by Shelter Mutual Insurance.

A big **THANK YOU** goes to **Rex Brieseacher**, winner of the 50/50 raffle to benefit the Granada Theater Restoration project, who generously donated his winnings to the Granada.

DMDC wishes to thank the following people and businesses for making
The Cruise Night on August 8, 2009 A HUGE SUCCESS!!!!

Sponsors



Subway dish on the square
Community First Bank Shelter Mutual Insurance
Stan the Tire Man Elks Post #819
Walgreens Peoples National Bank
Cusumano and Sons Jeff. County Title Co.
Midwest Truck Accessories Orthopaedic Center of SI



American Family Insurance
Audio Visionz
Auto Zone
Bank of America
Bevis Real Estate
Cactus Jack
Christian Motorcycle Association
City of Mt. Vernon
City D.A.R.E. Ray Gilbert
City K-9 Unit
County D.A.R.E. Joe Porter

Dale's Harley Davidson
Designer Kids
Granada Center
Holz Tool Supply
Integra Bank
JCCC
King City Custom Cruisers
Morning Sentinel
Peacock Printing
O'Reilly Auto Parts
Panini Grill
PFS Molly Federici
Register News
Rub Down

Renshaw & Associates
Sheriff Roger Mulch
Tavern on 10th
US Bank
WMIX
WDML
Susan Bacon
Chuch Baldrige
Mary Ellen Bechtel
Cindy & Patrick Bevis
Don Brooks
Debbie Chiapelli
Mary Denham
Nikki Greene

Barb Hengle
Kelly Hengle
Judi Heitmeyer
Bonnie Jerdon
Mike Johnson
Jo Ann Joy
Beth Lundius
Conner Lundius
Hannah Lundius
James Moore
Justin Riley
Pam Robertson
Kent Southers

Hawkins Donates Southwestern Bow and Arrow to DMDC



Michael Hawkins, artist and owner of Cactus Jack Burrito Shack, donated this bow and arrow, which he created, to DMDC. The work of art, which hangs in the DMDC office entry, reflects Hawkins' interest in the culture of the Southwest where he lived for several years. You can see other works he has done and Indian artifacts at his restaurant at 819 Jordan as well as enjoy the Tex-Mex cuisine that is served there.

Organization Committee

The fourth committee in the Illinois Main Street Four Points Program is the Organization Committee. This committee focuses on uniting volunteers and the community, fundraising and communication. The members of this committee are David Eadie, chairman, Susan Hughey and Molly Federici. Volunteers are welcome to join this committee, which meets on the first Friday of each month at 12:00 p.m. at the DMDC office, 809 Main Street. For more information, call the office at 242-6866.

DMDC Staff



Mary Denham is the first person to greet you when you come to our office or to answer the phone if you call. She keeps the office running smoothly by managing a multitude of tasks. Mary joined DMDC as a part-time administrative assistant in September 2005. She is a native of Mt. Vernon and has worked in various positions in the community. She worked at General Radiator for ten years, as a legal secretary for eighteen years and at a CPA office for five. In addition, she also worked at United Way, The Security Bank and Graphics by Design. She is a member of the Logan Street Baptist Church and has a son Mike, and his wife Debbie, two granddaughters and four great grandchildren.

We Would Like to Hear from You

If you have something of interest that relates to Downtown Mt. Vernon that you would like to see in the newsletter, just contact our office. If you would like to participate in our projects and programs, don't hesitate to call. We look forward to hearing from you. Our phone number is 242-6866 or email us at dmdc@mvn.net.

Our website is up and going! Check it out at www.downtownmtvernon.org.

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

.....

CLASSIC KIDS MATINEE SERIES 2009 – 2010

10/17/09	SHREK	OLD NATIONAL BANK
11/14/09	KUNG FU PANDA	COMMUNITY FIRST BANK OF THE HEARTLAND
12/12/09	THE GRINCH	US BANK
1/9/10	BEE MOVIE	PEOPLES NATIONAL BANK
2/13/10	AN AMERICAN TALE	INTEGRA BANK
3/13/10	ET	MID COUNTRY BANK
4/10/10	THE MUPPET MOVIE	FIRST STATE BANK OF DIX
5/8/10	DR SUESS 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

.....

Downtown Mt. Vernon Development Corporation
“A Main Street Community”
809 Main Street
Mt. Vernon, IL 62864

Phone: 618.242.6866
Fax: 618.242.6868
Hours: M-F, 9 a.m.—5 p.m.
Email: dmdc@mvn.net
Websites: www.downtownmtvernon.org
www.mtvernon.com/downtowndevelopment
www.downtownmtvernon.com

Editor: Cyndy Mitchell
Design: Mt. Vernon Tourism

Photo Credits:
Bonnie Jerdon, Cindy Bevis, Cyndy Mitchell,
Ken Southers

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.