

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AND RURAL AFFAIRS



MAIN STREET

Main Street Monthly

A monthly publication from the Office of Community and Rural Affairs



Downtown Development Week was a great success!

We would like to take a moment to say **thank you** to all the communities who participated in our inaugural Downtown Development Week (DDW). More than 30 cities, towns, main street organizations and economic development groups planned events to include festivals, scavenger hunts, contests, business openings, and costume contests, just to name a few. Five communities received a \$1,000 grant to fund their DDW events.

“This week was an opportunity to pause and celebrate all that our downtowns add to our quality of life,” said Jodi Golden, Executive Director of OCRA. “It was such a pleasure to see

Important Dates

Main Street Community Exchange - Friday, Nov. 16, in Frankfort.

CDBG Round 2 Applications Due – Friday, Nov. 30.

We hope to have our 2019 calendar available soon!

Recent News

[Indiana communities eligible for Blight Clearance Grants](#) - Press Release



Participate in Small Business Saturday

Small Business Saturday is more than a day to shop. It's a nationwide movement that shines a spotlight on the

so many communities join our challenge and pick events unique to their backyards.”

Two winners were chosen from the “Bring the LG to My Community” and received a personal visit to their downtown by Lt. Governor Crouch. [Grant County Economic GROWTH Council](#) has been partnering with SB Research & Planning to provide developers with a market study outlining the retail market in Grant County. This information was on display during the Developer Tour, which the Lt. Governor was able to visit.



The second winner was [Seymour Main Street](#) who showcased the 20 downtown business owners who made scarecrows and displayed them in and around their downtown. Executive Director of Seymour Main Street Becky Schepman, and Mayor Craig Luedeman provided a personal tour filled with introductions with business owners who spoke about why they enjoy living and working in Seymour.

We hope you enjoyed the celebration too! We would like your feedback by [completing this simple survey](#). We are planning to host DDW next year, so be on the lookout next fall!

Register for the final Main Street Exchange of the year



[Frankfort Main Street](#) is hosting the final 2018 Indiana Main Street community exchange on Friday, Nov. 16 focusing on economic vitality. Frankfort leaders will discuss a few exciting projects happening in

and near their downtown as well as the latest Indiana Main Street updates. The exchange is from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Frankfort Community Public Library, Room 219, 208 West Clinton Street, Frankfort, IN 46041.

[Click here](#) to register! Mailed registrations are also being accepted by [completing this form](#) and sending it to Frankfort Main Street. The exchange costs \$25 per person and the fee includes lunch.

Remember, attendance at community exchanges fulfills the annual training requirement for continued membership in the Indiana Main Street Program. This is the final opportunity to receive training credit for 2018!

Wabash Marketplace is looking for a Project Coordinator

importance of supporting small businesses in communities across America, and Main Streeters are some of its biggest and best champions.

American Express founded Small Business Saturday in response to small business owners' most pressing need: more customers, according to the [2017 Small Business Saturday Consumer Insights Survey](#), an estimated 108 million consumers reported shopping or dining at local independently-owned businesses the Saturday after Thanksgiving. This year's Small Business Saturday takes place on November 24.

Become a neighborhood champion

Together with American Express, we invite you to sign up to become a Neighborhood Champion. As an approved Neighborhood Champion you will be eligible to receive Shop Small merchandise, compliments of American Express, Sign up [online](#). Learn more [here](#).

In 2017, more than 7,200 individuals and local business organizations—including nearly 600 Main Street organizations—signed up to become a Neighborhood Champion and rallied their communities by organizing local events, spurring small businesses to participate, and encouraging people to go out and Shop Small. So whether you're a rookie or seasoned Small Business Saturday pro, we've rounded up promotion ideas and implementation tips from your Main Street colleagues to help you make this year's event your best one yet.



Join or renew your membership

Be a part of a national network of Main Streets. Visit [mainstreet.org](#) or call 312-619-5611 to join Main Street America.

The Project Coordinator of Wabash Marketplace manages economic development activities within downtown Wabash, Indiana with a goal of bringing more people with spendable income to the downtown district and leveraging private investment through property development. [Click here](#) to read the full job description. Anyone interested may email resumes to info@wabashmarketplace.org.



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