TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

35TH ANNIVERSARY TEXAS MAIN STREET TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION 1981-2016

Main Street Matters!

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE TEXAS MAIN STREET PROGRAM

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SPOTLIGHT ON GONZALES

Written by Barbara Friedrich, Main Street Manager, Gonzales Main Street Program

Gonzales, known for the First Shot of Texas Independence and its "Come and Take It" flag, is one of the most historic cities in Texas. The downtown area is known for its late 19th and early 20th century commercial and institutional buildings, and was awarded official Main Street status in 1988. Through the revitalization and restoration efforts of the community, Gonzales has been recognized as an accredited national Main Street program since 2000. Since 1988, businesses have come and gone, buildings have been rehabbed, and buildings have been neglected.

In the last 28 years, the city of Gonzales has supported the Main Street program in its efforts for revitalization of the Main Street area. Throughout these years, the city of Gonzales was awarded four Texas Capital Fund/Main Street grants. The first grant allowed parking and landscaping on two of the historical squares, and the second and third grants allowed for infrastructure needs to help stop the flooding in downtown. The fourth TCF project replaced water, sewer, and drainage lines, sidewalks, ADA accessibility, historic lighting, and trees along the sidewalks in the 300 block of Saint George Street. This was a $450,000 project—the city funded $300,000 of that amount. The TCF grant was for $150,000 to replace sidewalks. In obtaining the grant, city council voted to replace the drainage pipes, and water and sewer lines along with the new sidewalks.

In one of the oldest sections of downtown, some of the buildings on St. Lawrence Street date to the 1850s. (Image Source)

In 2009, the Gonzales Economic Development Corporation (GEDC) granted Main Street $50,000 for a business development grant. In 2014, GEDC approved Main Street's utility relocation grant and increased the funding amount to $75,000 for the two grants. The business improvement grant allows building owners up to $15,000 for façade improvements with a 20 percent match. The utility relocation grant allows building owners to receive $2,500 to move their utility boxes from the front of their buildings. Since the grant program began, Main Street has helped 33 building owners renovate the façade of their buildings and five owners to relocate their utilities. The Main Street Board approved two grant applications at its July meeting. This

program has made a tremendous impact on our downtown.

Doug Phelan owned three buildings next to each other and utilized the Main Street business development and utility relocation grants to do renovations to the façade of the buildings. Another success story for the grant was the renovation of the Angels and Outlaws building. The new owners opened the transom windows, painted, and put up a new awning. In July 2016, three of our buildings sold and two of these will be utilizing the grant program. One building will be used as a real estate office and upstairs living; one will house a bakery and upstairs living; and one will have retail in front of the building and offices in the back.

Five years ago when HEB decided to relocate its store to Highway 90A from downtown, we felt this would be disastrous for our downtown. Gonzales Independent School District purchased the building to renovate as the East Avenue Primary Academy for Pre-K and Kindergarten students. They did a wonderful job with the renovations and have added so much life to downtown. Needing more space for the Gonzales County Tax Office and County Clerk's Office and Archives, Gonzales County purchased the historic 1897 Randle Rather Building. A $3 million renovation is underway and should be completed in 2017. An anonymous benefactor realized the need for a new library in the city. After much discussion, city council approved keeping the library in the downtown area and purchased the former Wells Fargo Bank building. An $800,000 renovation is underway and the Robert Lee Brothers, Jr. Library should be completed by the end of the year 2017.

Various renovations have taken place in downtown Gonzales recently. Just a few of the successful projects include Angels and Outlaws (top left) and Templin Saloon (top right), East Avenue Primary Academy (middle left), and Lynn Theater (middle right). Both the Robert Lee Brothers, Jr Library (bottom left) and Randle Rather Building (bottom right) have major renovations underway and will be completed in 2017.

Nightlife in Main Street has flourished in recent years with the Templin Saloon, Running M Bar and Grill, and The Lynn Theater being opened nightly. The Lynn Theater sold in 2005, after being vacant for 20 years, and was renovated to a two-screen movie theater. In 2009, the theater sold again to a business owner who wanted to make it a live theater, but unfortunately this did not work. Then the Gonzales Economic Development Corporation obtained the building and has leased it to Cliff Anderson who has first-run movies. The Lynn Theater will be partnering with Main Street this fall for a movie on the square night.

The Templin Saloon was established in 1906, and it has operated as a domino hall and local saloon. Over the years it has changed names and gone through

several owners, but not much has physically changed. In 2014, it was reopened under the original name and now functions as a live music venue, as well as a saloon and St. Paul Pizzeria. To accommodate larger crowds, a backyard area was constructed, which functions as an outdoor music venue. The Templin is a fun place to visit with the original bar, domino tables, and décor. Only in Gonzales can you ride your horse in a bar and pick up a cold one!

The Running M Bar and Grill opened its doors in 2012. It is an american restaurant serving lunch and dinner Monday–Friday and dinner on Saturdays. On weekends, live entertainment featuring local talent can be heard in the backyard area. The Come and Take It Bar & Grill will be opening soon.

Dining for lunch and dinner is a must in downtown Gonzales. Great Italian food is served at La Bella Tavola; Gonzales Food Market is well known for its delicious barbecue; Mi Lupita Taco House serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner; and the Alcalde Grill has down-home cooking with a touch of class.

The mom and pop stores on Main Street have a lot to offer. Visit Discovery Architectural Antiques, Main Street Market Place, Laurel Ridge Antiques and Christmas Corner, and Carriage House Collectibles for the finest antiques around. Halamicek's Arts & Gift was an auto store up until the 1990s and still has a lot of old auto supplies as well as arts and gifts. This is a unique shop to go back in history and view how auto shops were originally built. Angels and Outlaws and Shear Design Boutique offers fine clothing and accessories. Hearty Gourmet is a locally owned shop specializing in gourmet and easy to prepare foods, unique kitchen items, and beautiful gifts to complement any decor. Craft Crossing is an arts and crafts supply store that offers classes in quilting, sewing, scrapbooking, and craft classes for children. The China Basket has been in business for 33 years specializing in unique gifts, fine china, and baby clothing and accessories. Apache Leather and Saddle Repair opened its doors on August 1. They do saddle repair, chaps, bags, belts, tack, and custom leather designs. Gonzales is the rodeo venue for Junior High School Rodeo Finals, TYRA Finals, and YRA Finals, so this unique service is well needed in our community and will drive the visitors downtown from the rodeo venue. Star Struck, a t-shirt design shop, opened its doors on August 16 just in time to get a custom-made shirt design for all the school activities.

In 2009, Gonzales Main Street advisory board realized that Gonzales basically had no night life downtown. There was only one restaurant that was open after 6 p.m. This is when the board came up with the idea of having a concert every Friday night in June to entice citizens and visitors to downtown Gonzales after 5 p.m. The board formed a committee of interested volunteers. They started off with a budget of about $5,000 and plenty of ideas. The committee wanted to make this a free family-friendly event to be held on Confederate Square in downtown Gonzales. Food, arts, and craft vendors were allowed to set up at no charge; volunteers coordinated children games during the band's intermission; the Pilot Club had a train ride for the children; and our only downtown restaurant agreed to sell beer on the square. We hired four bands and had them perform on a borrowed flatbed trailer. The local newspaper and radio station advertised the event for a sponsorship. We were surprised about the attendance at all four concerts and the positive reaction

To boost nightlife in downtown Gonzales, the Concert Series started back in 2009. By including live music, food, arts and crafts vendors, and kids' games and activities, citizens and visitors stayed downtown after 6 p.m.

we received from the community. It was such a success that people wanted us to continue throughout the summer, and we had businesses coming to us wanting to sponsor the event next year. The following year the board had enough sponsors to add the Star Spangled Spectacular event on July 4th with the largest fireworks display in our area. Each year this event has grown. The budget this year was $40,000. This summer The Hot Attacks, Two Tons of Steel, Blue Finger Disco, and Jay Perez performed for the Friday night concerts. Jon Wolff headlined the Star Spangled Spectacular event and was great. Our local antique car club displayed their cars on the second Friday night and we added more activities for children. The 4th of July Fireworks show has become bigger and better. The police department estimated about 20,000 people were in town to watch the fireworks. The fireworks are fired from Gonzales Independence Park and can be seen for miles. Thousands of people are either downtown, tailgating at the park, or enjoying the firework display from home.

In September of 2006, the board chair called asking if we could have a Lighted Christmas Parade in conjunction with the Winterfest activities during the first weekend in December. How were we going to get this done in three months? The board formed a committee which met and started planning. We met with the city manager, city street department, police department, and utility department to help us make this happen. Applications for the parade were sent to all the businesses in town, and placed in the local newspaper. Criteria for entering the parade was that your car, float, or trailer had to be lit, and there would be only one Santa in the parade – he would ride on the Main Street float. The newspaper and radio station gave us free advertising, and we sent out press releases to the surrounding newspapers. Flyers were made and distributed throughout Gonzales. We found that the advertising was not enough; people did not know about the parade. Word of mouth is the best advertising, so the board started telling their friends, and people began talking about the parade. It is hard to believe how many people mentioned that they did not read the newspaper or listen to the radio. That year the weather was wonderful. We had 40 parade entries and about 2,000 people lined along the parade route to watch. Everyone enjoyed the parade. In 2007, the Gonzales chamber of commerce awarded a community service award to the Gonzales Main Street program for volunteerism for organizing the First Lighted Christmas Parade. The Winterfest takes place the first weekend of December and is three-day event. The first day starts off with an annual Lighted Christmas Parade at 7 p.m. After the parade, people come to Confederate Square for a visit with Santa, Christmas Carols, and lighting of the Community Christmas Tree. The second day includes breakfast with Santa, Santa's Market on the Square, Historic Homes Tour, and Stars in the Village. The third day conludes with a wrap-up of the Historic Homes Tour.

The Alcalde Hotel and Dilworth Inn & Suites are also located in historic downtown Gonzales. The Alcalde is full of American history and folklore. Bonnie and Clyde once stayed at the Alcalde and had to escape out the window when the law showed up. Elvis Presley stayed at the Alcalde multiple times during his days as

Other fun events that happen year-round in downtown Gonzales include the Star Spangled Spectacular event (top images) every July 4th, and the Winterfest (bottom images), which takes place the first weekend in December. Both of these events would not be successful without the amazing volunteers who help.

The Alcalde Hotel & Grill in downtown Gonzales is ideal for a visit and overnight stay. Notable people that have stayed here were Bonnie & Clyde and the King himself: Elvis Presley.

part of the Louisiana Hayride. Rick and Kara Green bought the Alcalde in 2013, and after a year of planning and hard work, returned the hotel to its historical status of the "Grand Dame Hotel" of Gonzales. While staying at the Alcalde you might want to ask for the Elvis Presley Room, room 301. Elvis Presley performed in Gonzales on August 26, 1956 at the Baseball Park. Or maybe you would prefer staying in the Bonnie and Clyde Room: room 207. Bonnie and Clyde stayed at the Alcalde Hotel during their run from the law. When law enforcement caught up with them, they jumped from a second floor window to the alley below in order to escape the police. All the rooms are very luxurious.

The Dilworth Inn & Suites is a newly established 14-room boutique hotel in the historic Dilworth Building. The style integrates contemporary and traditional design elements with colorful and repurposed accents. The building was originally constructed in 1912 as the Dilworth Bank. The building was renovated in 2014 for the Dilworth Inn & Suites and La Bella Tavola Italian Restaurant.

Gonzales has changed in the past 28 years since becoming a Main Street community, and it will continue to change. There will always be buildings to maintain and new businesses filling them. But visiting our little historic town will always be an enjoyable experience.

DESIGNING FOR ADA, BUT WHAT ABOUT OTHER DISABILITIES?

Article written by Kimberly Klein, Administrative Technician, Texas Main Street Program

Handicapped access laws have been in effect in Texas for a long time. What this means is that there are very specific ways that things must be done.It is very crucial and important that we follow the ADA Standards for Accessible Design and Architectural Barriers Texas Accessibility Standards (TAS), in order to keep our downtowns accessible and citizens protected.

Although we constantly strive to keep our handicapped individuals safe, we may be forgetting the other disabilities that surround us daily. Common disabilities such as ADD/ADHD, Down Syndrome, autism, and dyslexia involve a new set of considerations other than more typically considered items like of ramps, door widths, and elevators. In a typical American community, 20 percent of the population has a disability (mental illness, developmental disability, blind, deaf/hard of hearing, physical disability). By engaging this large part of society, one ensures consensus and cooperation with the 80 percent, and buy-in from the whole community.

If you are designing for an outdoor space or indoor space, it is recommended you consult with a firm that specializes in "accessible design," a design process in which the needs of people with disabilities are specifically considered. Some of the best Main Street cities across the nation are very mindful in creating accessible spaces for these individuals. If your community is not already doing this, consider researching architecture firms and interior designers, and how they effectively create safe and user-friendly spaces for individuals with specific disabilities. A majority of the firms researched for the purpose of this article cater to designing for children and adults with autism, but they also cater to a wide range of disabilities.

Outdoor Spaces

Through their practice and expertise, specialist firms create outdoor environments ranging from playscapes, gardens, sensory gardens, and other outdoor living spaces. There are various ways of creating user-friendly outdoor spaces for children with autism. A few design practices include:

- Avoiding toxic plants
- Creating orientation maps, visual aids, and signage for both verbal and non-verbal individual(s)
- Creating shaded areas
- Keeping a consistent element
- Creating transition spaces
- Providing a clear edge along pathways
- Creating soothing areas

To further explain some of these bullet points, **avoiding toxic plants** is highly important due to children exploring their world through taste. They will put everything in their mouth from plants to dirt to bugs. Some of the major plants you want to avoid are castor oil plant, common or pink oleander, yellow oleander, rhus or wax tree, coral tree, deadly nightshade, and white cedar tree. It's very important to keep your playscapes and gardens safe and avoid using these plants. Please research these plants, to become aware of what they look like or what symptoms to look for if you think your child has come in contact with them.

Orientation maps, visual aids, and signage is another key component. Fifty percent of children with autism are non-verbal and use a picture exchange system to communicate with family, friends, and even their teachers. Therefore, it is very important to create key signage, so it can help children know what to expect. Most autistic children do not like surprises, so creating a visual map will help keep them calm and know what activity to expect next. **Keeping consistent elements** such as a perimeter wall (stonewall material) or landscaping (hedge), helps the space feel comfortable and predictable as well. It is also important to have your signage available in Braille for visually impaired individuals.

(Top left) Outdoor environments for children with autism could include transitions between spaces/activities, orientation maps, and elements of consistency. (Top right) Soothing areas and orientation maps can be incorporated into outdoor spaces for children with autism and other special needs. (Image(s) source) (Bottom) Examples of signage and visual aids that can be used in a playscape setting. A great example of a local playground is the Play for All Abilities Park located in Round Rock. Their park includes individual areas or "pods" that help children develop specific skills. (Image Source and Image Source)

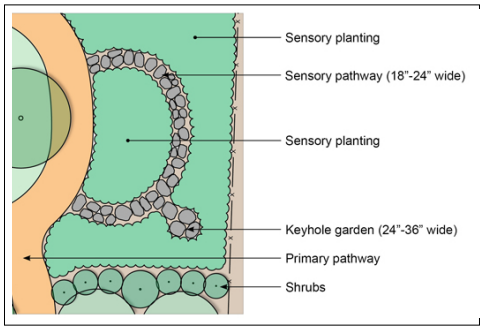
Soothing areas allow children to have allowed a place to escape and calm down when feeling overwhelmed. If a parent cannot console their child, having elements such as hammocks, suggesting a rocking sensation, or small tunnels that offer a tight, enclosed space, can help with this difficulty.

Another approach to outdoor spaces is creating gardens for adults and children to interact with. Concentrate on how gardening can enhance focus and attention and reduce anxiety for adults with autism.

Sensory gardens and can help children stimulate their senses without overwhelming them. Sensory gardens provide intimate spaces where young children can be immersed in the scents, textures and colors of plants and related elements. Along with specially selected plants, sensory gardens may also include elements such as wind chimes, wind socks, flags, and children's art. Two

popular forms of sensory gardens are sensory pathways and keyhole gardens.

"**Sensory pathways** can be constructed of smooth, flat, stepping stones or tree cookies with gaps wide enough for in-between planting. Stepping stones can be natural stone or concrete or made by children to include hand prints, leaf prints, shells, marbles, colored tile mosaics, or smooth glass. Glass blocks or clay bricks can be laid in the sensory pathway to add additional sensory richness and variety. Sensory pathways should be considered part of the larger pathway system and should not dead end. They can be installed as a narrow (18"-24"), short loop off the primary pathway or a broad (36"-72") connection between settings." (Image Source)



Example of a narrow (18"-24"), short loop off the primary pathway. (Image Source)

Example of a broad (36"-72") connection between settings. (Image Source)

"**Keyhole gardens** provide an intimate space to rest while immersed in sensory plants. Keyhole gardens are shaped like a skeleton keyhole with a narrow entry and bulbous, interior space wide enough for a young child or two to sit and reach the plantings on either side (approximately 24" - 36" wide). Keyhole gardens can be installed as a subspace along a sensory path or be designed as a stand-alone setting." (Image Source)

Indoor Spaces

Designing for individuals with disabilities is mostly seen through interior design practices, and they can become very complex due to each individual's disability. When designing for interior spaces, a downtown store owner should make many considerations. It's highly recommended to contact an interior design company that specializes in this field. Some of the recommendations include:

- **Noise control**: Autistic patients are extremely sensitive to noise. Wall studs, dual ceiling and walls to ameliorate sound transmission, and carpeting and acoustic ceiling tiles absorb sound.
- **Careful use of color**: Color is an important part of creating a less-institutionalized care setting. However, it cannot be too bold or "visually loud" to cause distraction or agitation.
- **Purposeful design**: It is important to include a range of experiences for patients, but autistic kids can be sensitive to certain textures. Include a range of touchable materials, including rubber flooring, matted walls, and wood surfaces.

Some of the outdoor design practices listed earlier can also be used in interior spaces. Creating maps and visual aids, soothing areas, transition spaces, shaded areas, and clear edges along pathways are also useful indoors.

A project completed by Cheryl Jones, an interior designer based in Fort Myers, Florida, showcases the guestrooms and multi-sensory rooms for the Autistic Disney's Magic Kingdom. Special considerations were made to the acoustics and lighting, in order to help families soothe and calm an autistic child who may become overstimulated. The multi-sensory rooms even include areas of stimulation for those that need a rocking sensation.

Another project completed by Enter Architecture, a firm based in Australia, showcases a Medical Center for Autistic Children. Their color palette was very neutral and healing at the same time. There were soft furnishings and fun Fiocco "stocking" chairs to help create a soothing center and sensation.

Architects and interior designers have studied the programming process and executed designs for people with disabilities for years. They take the factors of ergonomics, age, gender, and physical disabilities into deep consideration when integrating them into solutions. It is just recently that headlines revealed growing concern about designing better environments and solutions to equip people with disabilities. If your community is not already practicing this, maybe it is time to think about making each individual in your community comfortable. Perhaps it is by making that new pocket park space, community garden, or playscape available to a different audience. Making good spaces for people with special needs

Examples of the guestrooms at the Autistic Facility Disney's Magic Kingdom completed by Cheryl Jones (top) and Medical Center for Autistic Children completed by EnterArchitecture (bottom). (Image source and Image source)

makes great places for everyone.

Other good sources and articles to research are:

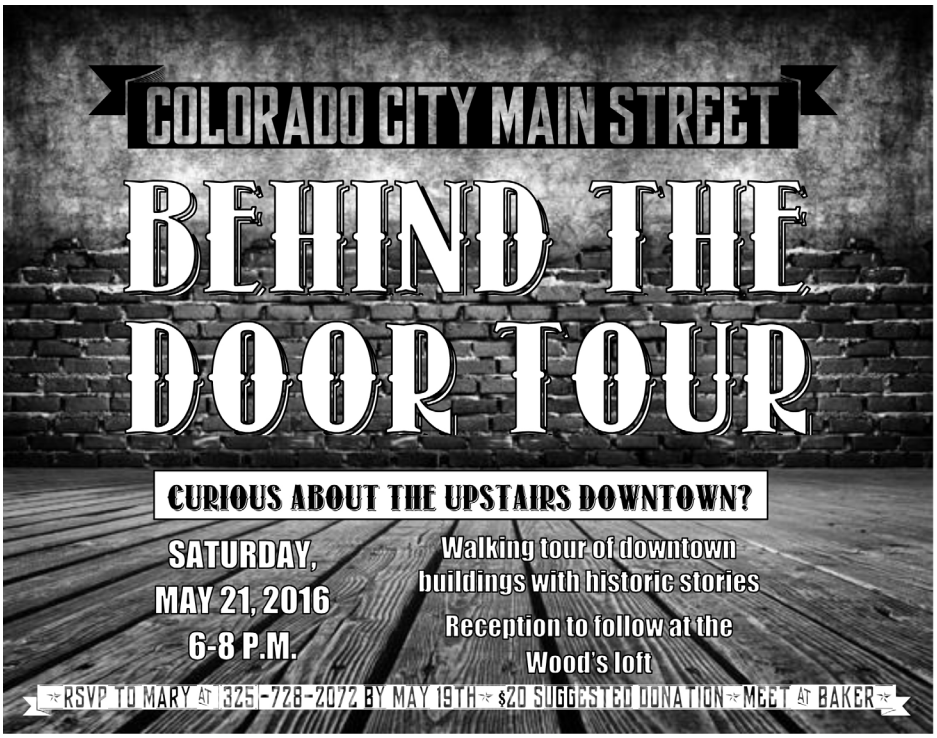
- https://adata.org/training-request-form
- http://incfit.org/node/91
- http://www.gametime.com/resources/playground-funding-guide/
- http://www.special-education-degree.net/30-most-impressive-accessible-and-inclusive-playgrounds/
- http://www.playengland.org.uk/
- http://www.informedesign.org/
- http://www.ga-architects.com/
- http://www.kingwood.org.uk/
- https://www.planetnatural.com/sensory-gardens/
- http://www.michaelsinger.com/
- http://www.informedesign.org/_news/april_v09-p.pdf
- http://raisingchildren.net.au/articles/dangerous_plants_checklist.html
- https://www.researchgate.net/publication/256547367_Green_Spaces_Outdoor_Environments_for_Adults_with_Autism
- http://www.healthcaredesignmagazine.com/article/3-lessons-designing-autism
- http://www.ccjdesigns.net/services/inclusive-design-autism-spectrum/
- http://www.rockpapersquare.com/blog/2014/4/5/designing-for-users-with-autism-and-asd
- http://www.enterprojects.net/
- http://www.designrulz.com/design/2013/05/modern-reception-for-autistic-children-medical-center-by-enter-architecture/

WHAT IS HIDDEN BEHIND THE DOORS ON YOUR MAIN STREET?

Article written by Mary P. Mc Mullen, Main Street Director, Colorado City Main Street Program

Colorado City has a rich history, as do most Texas Main Street cities, and our historic buildings are a part of that history. While most of this history is well known and the facades that we work so hard to preserve are easily recognized, there is often another dozen stories left unknown, untold, and hidden just "behind the door."

The idea for Colorado City's Behind the Door Tour was born in mid-March, as I interviewed the final time for the position of Main Street director. In this second interview I met with three members of our advisory board, the city manager, and the human resources manager. The question posed to me was, "What do you see as our Main Street area?" My answer was, "What is seen every day on Main Street, what is seen every day just off Main Street, and then what is hidden in the shadows and behind the recessed doorways of the Main Street buildings." The three board members immediately looked at each other and said, "May Preservation Month: Back Door Tour?" I became Main Street Manager on March 24, 2016, and on May 21, 2016 Colorado City Main



Promotional poster for Colorado City's Behind the Door Tour event.

Street hosted its first ever Behind the Door Tour.

The Behind the Door Tour is a walking tour of downtown buildings with historic stories of hidden places or areas of the business or building that have never been seen or not seen for many years. Colorado City Main Street used it as a fundraiser to help fund our façade grant program and as our May Preservation Month event. We began with a list of 12 downtown businesses or historic buildings with upstairs, hidden areas, or back rooms that are not open to the public. Each business or building owner agreed to act as "tale tellers" and historians for their tour stop or to provide someone in their place. Our final tour map had eight tour stops that agreed to open these hidden areas to us. This list included a historic movie theatre with an unused upstairs apartment, and the upstairs of a building built in1926 that once housed lawyers, insurance, and abstract companies and has a secluded connecting door to the next-door bank built in 1883.

Upstairs at the historic Colorado Drugs (Walgreen Agency) building, now a sandwich shop, bar, and boutique, the "Mysterious Lady" of our tour made her appearance. The business owner allowed our advisory board president to remove the sheetrock that covered a mural for over 50 years, and the image of a woman was exposed. We used the possible appearance of our "Mysterious Lady" as a teaser in our marketing campaign. Other stops included were a building made from two businesses by removing an interior wall, the upstairs of the "Oldest Department Store in West Texas," an early 1900s steam laundry that has been repurposed as an event venue seating 300 people, and the Colorado Opera House, built in 1899.

The final tour stop was a reception and open house at the Mooar Brothers Livery Stable built in 1884 by buffalo hunters, John W. and J. Wright Mooar. Today it has been completely renovated and restored by Ty and Amie Wood. The downstairs houses Wood's Law Office and the upstairs is now a loft for the Woods and their three children, who are our first downtown residents since the 1970s.

Seventy people registered for the tour and were divided into five tour groups led by Main Street volunteers; golf carts were provided for those that wanted to attend the tour but were unable to walk; and two Main Street Board Members videoed the tour for those unable to climb the stairs. A waiver of liability was signed by each participant. Thirty-five volunteers and our advisory board members worked to make this tour a huge success!

MAIN STREET EVENTS

BRIDGEPORT

2nd Annual Taste of Bridgeport
Friday, September 30, 2016
6–8 p.m.

Come sip, savor, and shop in historic downtown Bridgeport.

CELINA

Friday Night Market
Friday, September 16, 2016
Friday, September 30, 2016
6–9 p.m.

Shop for fresh produce, wine, handmade gifts, homemade goodies, and much more.

Fun Day
Saturday, September 17, 2016
11 a.m.–5 p.m.

The return of a 37-year family fun festival tradition. Tons of games, music, food, and live music.

COLORADO CITY

Sip, Savor, and Shop
Saturday, September 17, 2016
1–4 p.m.

Enjoy light snacks, sip tasty drinks, and shopping fun! Come and enjoy antiques, boutiques, junktique, and other unique shopping experiences.

CORSICANA

Downtown Market
Saturday, September 10, 2016
9 a.m.–2 p.m.
Located along Beaton Street between 5th Street and 4th Avenue

Antiques, craft vendors, food trucks, live music by The Studebakers, and more.

ELGIN

Sip, Shop, and Stroll
Thursday, September 8, 2016
5–8 p.m.

Sip a little wine and shop as you stroll through the stores in historic downtown Elgin. There will be dance performances by the Elgin Ballet Folkloric Dancers and the Elgin High School Wildcat Purple Diamond Dancers. You will find diverse merchandise, eclectic decor, artwork by local artists, and live music in many of the venues.

GREENVILLE

Rally Round
Friday, September 16, 2016
Saturday, September 17, 2016

Join us for a weekend of music and fun. There is lots more to see and do downtown during the Rally, including the Rally Round Greenville Car Show, the Cotton Patch Classic Bicycle Ride, Kids Alley, games, and a variety of food and merchandise vendors. See website for more details.

HILLSBORO

Cotton Pickin' Fair
Friday, September 23, 2016
Saturday, September 24, 2016

Things kick off on Friday at 9 p.m. with a street dance and concert on the Courthouse Square. Saturday morning will feature performers for children, including Joe McDermott and Majik Theatre. In addition, the fair will feature Inflatable Alley, over 100 vendors, and an IBCA Texas Championship barbecue cook-off.

PARIS

Market Square Farmers Market
Saturdays in September
8 a.m.–1 p.m.
Local producers and vendors are coming together to enrich, enliven, and entertain while providing local products to the community.

SAN AUGUSTINE

An American Main Street Patriots Day
Sunday, September 11, 2016
2–4 p.m.

Join us in honoring all first responders, followed by a good old american barbecue and live patriotic music. For more information, see website for details.

SAN MARCOS

Texas State Family Weekend Wine Walk
Friday, September 30, 2016
4–7 p.m.

Enjoy wines and artisan food in 17 downtown locations. Meet and greet other Texas State families while you sample wines and enjoy paired hors d'oeuvres. Enjoy an evening of exclusive shopping and historic tours upon a horse-drawn carriage.

SEGUIN

Annual Pontiac Club Classic Car Show
Saturday, September 24, 2016
9 a.m.–4 p.m.
Central Park, 201 South Austin Street

Hundreds of classic cars line the streets of downtown Seguin. Food vendors will be onsite, local merchants will be open, and we will be blasting some classic show car tunes.

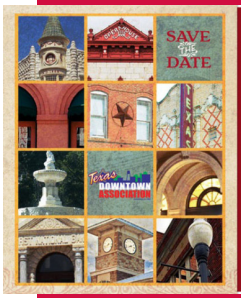
MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

TEXAS DOWNTOWN CONFERENCE

Join us in Killeen from November 8-11, for the 2016 Texas Downtown Conference hosted by the Texas Downtown Association and the Texas Main Street Program.

For 30 years, the Texas Downtown Association has hosted a statewide conference for leaders of downtown and commercial district development and revitalization. The Texas Main Street Program, part of the Texas Historical Commission, partners with us annually to provide this opportunity to downtown professionals.

Visit the Texas Downtown Assocation website for more information, which includes links to register for the conference, download the conference brochure, and ways to become an exhibitor or sponsor.



2016 TEXAS DOWNTOWN CONFERENCE KILLEEN NOV 8-11

Websites of Interest

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation: www.achp.gov

African American Heritage Preservation Foundation: www.aahpfdn.org

(The) Alliance for Historic Landscape Preservation: www.ahlp.org

(The) American Institute of Architects: www.aia.org

American Planning Association: www.planning.org

American Society of Landscape Architects: www.asla.org

(The) Cultural Landscape Foundation: www.tclf.org

(The) Handbook of Texas Online: www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online

Keep Texas Beautiful: www.ktb.org

League of Historic American Theatres: www.lhat.org

National Main Street Center: www.preservationnation.org/main-street

National Park Service: www.nps.gov

National Trust for Historic Preservation: www.preservationnation.org

Partners for Sacred Places: www.sacredplaces.org

Preservation Easement Trust: www.preservationeasement.org

PreservationDirectory.com: www.preservationdirectory.com

Preservation Texas: www.preservationtexas.org

Project for Public Spaces: www.pps.org

Rails-to-Trails Conservancy: www.railstotrails.org

Scenic America: www.scenic.org

Texas Department of Agriculture: www.TexasAgriculture.gov

Texas Commission on the Arts: www.arts.state.tx.us

Texas Downtown Association: www.texasddowntown.org

Texas Folklife Resources: www.texasfolklife.org

Texas Historical Commission: www.thc.state.tx.us

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department: www.tpwd.state.tx.us

Texas Rural Leadership Program: www.trlp.org

Texas State Preservation Board: www.tspb.state.tx.us

Urban Land Institute: www.uli.org

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