

# "MAIN STREET" NEWS

"Main Street" Washington

January/February 2003

## Washington County St. Patrick's Day Parade—2003

"Main Street"  
Washington  
80 North Main Street  
Washington, PA 15301  
724-229-7207  
Fax 724-229-7208  
info@washpa.net

Washington Business  
District Authority Board:  
Chair: Dr. Christopher Webb  
Vice-Chair: Debra Rhone  
Secretary: Rachel Gladden  
Treasurer: Thomas Zimmaro  
Richard White  
Michael Gomber  
Ernest Alexas  
Audrey Richman  
Christopher Potts

Main Street Manager:  
Suzanne Gagliardo  
Administrative Assistant:  
Barbara Moyer  
Committees:

Membership  
Design  
Promotion

Economic Restructuring  
Volunteers are welcome to be a part of  
any committee. Please call the Main  
Street office to sign up, 724-229-7207.

The Washington Business  
District Authority meets the  
2nd Tuesday of every month at  
5:30PM in Council Chambers at  
City Hall located at 55 West  
Maiden Street, Washington,  
Pennsylvania 15301.

All WBDA meetings are  
open to the public,  
please plan to attend.

? The Washington County St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee plans to again bring a touch of the Irish and lively St. Patrick's Day spirit to Washington County by hosting the 2003 St. Patrick's Day Parade in downtown Washington on Saturday, March 15, 2003 beginning at 1:00PM

? You are invited to come be a part of the fun and celebration and even show off a little bit, whether you are a Parade participant or observer.

? There will be a Float Contest, a separate Best-of-the-Parade Band contest and more—complete with trophies and prizes. Judging and announcing will take place from the Courthouse steps. Prizes will be awarded immediately after the parade at a location to be announced).

? This Parade is a great opportunity for *businesses* and *organizations* to promote and advertise themselves to the greater Washington commu-

nity. Its not very hard to decorate a vehicle, your business delivery car or van, etc. and join the fun with a few friends, coworkers, employees or family members.

? The streets of Washington will be decorated for the occasion. The restaurants and businesses of downtown *should* be ready to greet the crowds. Restaurants—this is the perfect time to add specialty items to your menu. Everyone—remember to decorate your storefronts for the occasion! Special events and activities are already being planned to coordinate with the Parade and St. Patrick's Day. There will be lots of advertising and publicity for the Parade.

? The East Chestnut Street Parking Garage will be open and FREE to the public, courtesy of the Washington Parking Authority. All metered parking lots and spaces will be free. Additional free parking can be found adjacent to the entire parade route.

? The Parade route starts at Wash High on Jefferson and proceeds up West Chestnut to Main and follows Main past the Courthouse to the WCTPA in the old B&O Train Station on South Main at the RR tracks.

? Please plan on joining us for this very special occasion. Invitations to participate have again be sent throughout the county to all public schools, municipalities, emergency forces, scout organizations, dance schools, and more. Parade applications are also available at the Main Street office or on the website at [www.washpa.net](http://www.washpa.net).

? Let's join together and showcase all of Washington County for St. Patrick's Day and continue a special Washington County tradition right here in downtown! Volunteers are welcome to call 724-229-7207!

## Parking in Downtown Washington

Parking is always an issue—no matter where you go! There are no *perfect* answers to the ever present parking dilemma— including "free."

In our downtown, on-street metered parking is available in almost every block. The time limit on the majority of the on-street meters is 2 hours. This parking is best left available for customers and clients.

There are metered parking lots throughout town,

many with longer term metered spaces.

The best kept parking secret is the Parking Garage located on East Chestnut! The garage is open Monday through Friday from 6AM to 8PM. Daily parking rates are just \$2.00 and monthly parking passes are available for just \$30.00. For additional information call the Parking Authority at 724-223-4212 or stop by the East Chestnut office.

## WASHINGTON CITY MISSION HOSTS 9TH ANNUAL SWEET SUNDAY EVENT

In less than one week the Washington City Mission will host the 9th Annual **SWEET SUNDAY** fund-raising event. Admission is just \$3.00 per person (kids under 3 free!) Enjoy an entire afternoon of delicious desserts, door prizes, entertainment and fun for all ages. Restaurants, bakeries and local churches make desserts for you to sample for a nominal fee (\$.25–\$1.00). Vote for your favorite dessert in the professional, amateur and youth categories. Trophies will be awarded in each category, plus the best decorated booth will be recognized.

During the months of January and February, the popular \$1.00 **Sweet Sunday** Sarris chocolate bars will be sold at the City Mission, two Eckerd Drug Stores in McMurray, and many other local businesses and organizations. Sale of the chocolate bars, which helps to raise money for the Washington City Mission, is a prelude to the **Sweet Sunday** Dessert Festival which be held at the Holiday Inn Meadowlands on February 9, 2003, from 1–7 pm. In 2002, businesses and other organizations sold more than 10,00 chocolate bars to support the Mission.

Buy a hot pink **Sweet Sunday** Sarris chocolate bar to help the homeless at the Washington City Mission and you will have a chance to win more than 200 prizes, including Sarris gift certificates and free **Sweet Sunday** admissions, found on the inside of the wrapper. Local businesses and churches who wish to join in this fund-raising event may contact Helen at the Washington City Mission 724-222-8530 for their supply of chocolate bars.

The Washington City Mission provides food, clothing, shelter and love to the homeless and those in need of help. Through Christ-centered teaching, counseling, work therapy, social service assistance and life skills programs, the Mission seeks to restore men, women and families to independent living.

The Washington City Mission is located at 84 West Wheeling Street, 724-222-8530. The Washington Hidden Treasures Store is at 770 Jefferson Avenue.

## WASHINGTON SYMPHONIC ORCHESTRA

Presents

### *Classics for Lovers*

**Saturday, February 15, 2003**

Beginning at 8:00PM

at

**The George Washington**

**60 South Main Street**

**Washington, Pennsylvania**

? This all-classical concert will feature music inspired by timeless tales of love as well as memorable tunes suitable for cuddling by a warm fireplace with someone special. A heart-warming evening featuring music from Carmen, Barber of Seville, Schherazade, and much more.

? Please join us for a pre-concert lecture one hour prior to the performance and for a reception following the concert!

? Tickets for a pre-concert buffet dinner at The George Washington can be purchased at any Washington Federal branch or at Martha's Public House (in The George Washington) for \$25 per person. Ticket price includes reserved seating for the concert.

No admission charge. Seating is limited.

Visit <http://www.washsym.org> or call 724-223-WSYM for more information.

Do you have a special event or article of interest about your business or organization? "*Main Street " News* is happy to work with you to provide FREE, extra publicity. Contact the Main Street office at 724-229-7207 for details.

**Have a SPECIAL EVENT or SALE happening soon? Need some extra FREE publicity?**

Log on to [www.washpa.net](http://www.washpa.net), click on Calendar of Events, click on the Submit button and make a few simple entries—we'll take care of the rest!

**Take advantage of this FREE service.**

Get into the habit of checking the web site to find out what's happening around Washington.

## **DOWNTOWN, ARTS, ACTION!!!**

If you've been noticing the lights burning bright at night in the 2nd floor above Brother's Pizza, you might have asked yourself, "What's going on up there?"

Or, if you're on the upper floors of the Washington Trust Building, you may have looked out your window and down to what was known as the Old Smith Iron Building and seen men and women arranged in dancing shapes gliding along the wooden floor.

All of the new activity is the result of Wash Arts—the newly established Washington Community Arts and Cultural Center which took up residence at 9 West Beau Street in September of 2002. In keeping with our revitalization goals of utilizing our downtown's upper floor space, Wash Arts has united inspiring architecture with the arts in a unique way.

In October, the non-profit organization began programming and offers courses in all of the fine arts for children and adults. From visual arts such as oil and acrylic painting and clay/ceramics, to performing arts and creative writing, Wash Arts focuses on high-quality instruction by working artists, writers and performers.

Wash Arts' mission is that every child should be able to explore the fine arts, regardless of their ability to pay. All of the center's courses are offered free of charge to any child on a free or reduced lunch program in their school. In their first Fall Semester, Wash Arts served over 50 children. So far, their current Winter Schedule has attracted nearly 100 children and adults! There's still time to register for classes in Oil Painting, Acting with Bill Cameron for Adults and Senior High, NIA Dance, and much more!

According to director, Sandee Umbach, the center would not be possible without the kind support and assistance of Congressman Tim Murphy who secured \$15,000 in seed money from the state during his term as State Senator to establish operations. State Senator Barry Stout, State Representative Tim

Solobay, and Mayor Ken Westcott are securing additional funding. The United Way of Washington County, the Washington County Tourism Promotion Agency, and PA Partners in the Arts also contributed, as well as Campbell Insurance Associates, First Lutheran Church, Shearer Heating and Air Conditioning, WesBanco Savings Bank, Washington County Community Foundation, and a host of other individuals and organizations.

A major grant of \$10,600 has just been awarded by Washington Federal Bank for children's programming and a new Musical Luncheon Series which will feature an ensemble of the Pittsburgh Symphony to kick-off the series, as well as local talent, including youth from Wash Arts' dynamic Voice Program. Most luncheon concerts will be held on alternating Fridays from 12:00–1:15 during February, March and April. Details coming soon!

And speaking of Voice, Wash Arts has recently announced plans for a Community Arts Chorus under the tutelage of artistic director, Arnie Brock (a tenor in the Bach Choir of Pittsburgh and Wash Arts' Voice Instructor) and Brady Allred, director of the Bach Choir. This exciting new group is looking for singers to rehearse and perform locally at a variety of venues and at the request of the new Washington Symphonic Orchestra. The first public rehearsal will be held January 27th at Faith United Presbyterian Church in downtown from 7:00–8:45 pm. All are invited!

Other upcoming highlights include a Visiting Artist Series, sponsored by the Tourism Promotion Agency which will feature prize-winning poet, Peter Blair, and a national artist to be announced. In the Spring semester, Wash Arts looks forward to adding Photography and Jewelry Design to its roster of creative classes. Stop by the center for more information or call 724-222-1475.

*The Washington Community ARTS and Cultural Center  
9 West Beau Street, 2nd Floor  
Washington, Pennsylvania 15301  
724-222-1475*



The mission of the Washington Business District Authority "Main Street" program is to preserve, improve, promote, and enhance the downtown business district following the four main principles of organization, design, promotion, and economic restructuring. The WBDA "Main Street" will work to move Washington into the 21st century, while retaining our historic character and yet complimenting regional economic development efforts.



The vision of the Washington Business District Authority "Main Street" program is for the city of Washington to have a vital downtown business district that compliments Washington's role as the County seat. Washington will continue to play a role in southwestern Pennsylvania's growing tourism efforts. But more importantly, downtown will be an attractive, safe environment for the residential and business community partners to live, work, learn, shop, worship and play.

## Revitalization Project Amenities Sponsorships

Included in the capital improvements are all new amenities throughout downtown. The items include: street lamps, street trees, trash receptacles, decorative planters, and benches. Commemorative sponsorships of these attractive amenities are being made available to the public.

This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to have yourself or someone special memorialized in a permanent way in downtown Washington. On a limited, first-come, first-served basis, you may also designate a special location within the project boundaries for your commemorative choice.

Now the luminaires are installed on Beau and Chestnut Streets and the ones on West Beau are illuminated in the evening. Their installation should give all a better idea of how the new capital improvements will look throughout downtown once the project is finally completed.

Sponsorship brochures and order forms are available at the Main Street office and are also online at [www.washpa.net](http://www.washpa.net). Maps for the special location requests are available in the Main Street office at 80 North Main Street. Please call 724-229-7207 for additional information or ask any member of the City of Washington Economic Development Council or Washington Business District Authority.

## Design Challenge Grant Program Continues

The Washington Business District Authority Design Committee continues to accept and review applications for the Design Challenge Grant program for façade improvements in the Special Services District. Matching grants, up to \$2,500 for approved improvements are available to all qualified property and business owners.

Application packets are still available at the Main Street office at 80 North Main Street or online at [www.washpa.net](http://www.washpa.net). The Design Committee meets the first Tuesday of every month to review and pre-approve applications.

Have you noticed all of the improvement projects—both in progress and completed? Take the time to mention this to the participating property and business owners, things are looking great with the façade program!

Funds for this program are provided through a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development. This is a four year program. Please call the office if you have any questions or need information, referrals, or assistance.

**Happy Valentine's Day – February 14th!** REMEMBER—You can shop for your Valentine's Day needs right here in downtown Washington! Give it a try, you'll be pleasantly surprised by what you find!

The Road that built the Nation. Take your time...take a drive...and enjoy the Historic National Road. Check out the new website at: [www.nationalroadpa.org](http://www.nationalroadpa.org)

**Is Your Mailing Label Correct?**  
Please share your newsletter with a friend.  
Read the News at [www.washpa.net](http://www.washpa.net)

Have a story, story idea or suggestion for the *Main Street News* staff?? Email suggestions, comments to [info@washpa.net](mailto:info@washpa.net)

## Advertising Opportunities...

Space is available in the bi-monthly "Main Street" News for up to 10 advertising inserts. This offer is available to all interested "Main Street" businesses and non-profits. 650 copies of the insert must be provided to the Main Street office by the posted date. There is no charge to participants. The Calendar-of-Events at [www.washpa.net](http://www.washpa.net) is another FREE opportunity to list events, sales, etc. Take advantage of these FREE opportunities. Limited Main Street window display space is also available on a first-come basis.

Next Issue:  
March 2003

Insert Deadline  
February 28th