

# "MAIN STREET" NEWS

"Main Street" Washington

3rd Quarter 2003

## Uptown Theatre Announces Grand Opening Show

After nine months of extensive renovation efforts, the **Uptown Theatre** has announced that it will open on Saturday, September 6, 2003, with a **Grand Opening Extravaganza** variety show. The show, which is open to the public, plans to treat the audience to a sampling of the kind of entertainment it can expect when the theatre begins running fulltime the next week: classical music, Christian bands and singers, comedy, rock and roll, jazz, some country music, dance, and some special magic for kids. The line-up features acts such as the Joyce Ellis dancers, jazz musician Tony Janflone, Pittsburgh comedian Auggie Cook, and magician Jason Christopher, among others.

In addition to the Grand Opening Extravaganza, The Uptown Theatre has a busy fall ahead, with plenty of acts lined up for almost every night of the week. Featured upcoming shows include oldies band The Elmonics (9/13), jazz vocalist Patrick Arena (9/12), local rockers Three Car Garage (9/27), the folk-country group Boxstep (9/11), and an encore performance of the sell-out Perry Como tribute show from Jude Pohl Productions (9/19). To see which bands are coming as they are announced, check out the Uptown Theatre website.

Tickets can currently be reserved for the Uptown Theatre's Grand Opening Extravaganza, as well as for the rest of the fall shows, on the Uptown Theatre website, [www.uptowntheatre.info](http://www.uptowntheatre.info). The website also offers the latest information on which bands will be playing at the Uptown Theatre, when the shows are, and other ticket information.

The Uptown Theatre, formerly the Midtown Theater, is located right at the heart of downtown Washington. The theatre's managers have transformed the abandoned movie theater into a beautiful, modern venue for live music and performing arts. It plans to showcase local and regional talent six nights a week. Response to the theatre's new look and new mission has been overwhelmingly enthusiastic and positive as citizens of Washington look forward to something new to do in their hometown.

## Washington Parking Department Relocates

Effective in June 2003, all Washington Parking Department business has moved to City Hall located at 55 West Maiden Street.

All parking violations may be paid (the day they were issued) at any of the tan metal Ticket boxes conveniently located throughout downtown. Just use the envelope provided—*be sure to save your receipt*. Or you may take the citation directly to City Hall.

All other parking business should also be directed to City Hall. The phone number for all parking issues is 724-223-4212.

Monthly parking passes for the Parking Garage located on East Chestnut Street may also be purchased there. Monthly passes are just \$35.00.

The East Chestnut Street Parking Garage is now fully automated and is scheduled to be open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Daily parking rates are just \$3.00 a day. (There are no longer any passes issued as you enter the garage.) The payment terminal is located adjacent to the East Chestnut Street exit—right before the former payment window. The machine can accept coin and/or up to \$20 bills. Your change is given in \$1 coin, these are NOT tokens.

All Emergencies—call 911 using the elevator phones or your cellular phone.

Your cooperation and continued patronage is appreciated during this transition.

"Main Street"  
Washington

50 East Chestnut Street  
Washington, PA 15301  
724-229-7207  
Fax 724-229-7208  
[info@washpa.net](mailto: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:**

Parking

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 the board room of the Main Street office at 50 East Chestnut Street, Washington, Pennsylvania 15301.

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

## Main Street Office Moves to East Chestnut Street

Effective July 1st, the “Main Street” Washington office is now located at 50 East Chestnut Street in the former Washington Parking Authority building.

The interior of the building has been completely re-decorated following the Main Street theme. This expanded office space includes multiple display cases (for promotional literature about each retail, restaurant, and business in the downtown), a reception area, additional display areas, conference room/meeting space, larger work space and extra storage.

It is hoped that this new office facility will also become recognized as a *Downtown Welcome Center*. New exterior signs will welcome visitors to the downtown community. The new location is also handicap accessible. Plans are underway for some additional exterior renovations that will include a pleas-

ant seating area, flags and flowers.

As mentioned, there are many spaces for displaying promotional materials about downtown businesses and events. In addition there are large windows that will be used for posters—visible to every car leaving the parking garage. If you have not already provided the Main Street office with your business literature, please feel free to do so. We would like to have as much information as possible to pass on to our “customers.” Many visitors stop by looking for maps and with questions about where to eat and shop, etc. There is one display rack dedicated to just restaurants and dining. Your menus are welcome. We will also have the Washington County Tourism Promotion Agency brochure rack.

The Washington Business District Authority Board of Directors meetings will now be held every month in the conference room at 50 East Chestnut

Street. The WBDA meets the second Tuesday of every month at 5:30PM. The meetings are open to the public and you are encouraged to attend. All committee meetings will also be held here.

An Open House was held on Friday, August 1st. Many came to visit and tour our new facilities. Special thanks to the Bradford House, the Sunlight Club and Martha’s Public House for the lovely flowers and good wishes that added so much to the day. If you were unable to attend the Open House, the office is generally open Monday thru Friday from 8:30AM to 5:00PM. Visitors are always welcome.

The Main Street phone, fax, and email information remains the same. Please stop by and visit! (And be sure to bring your informational materials and posters.)

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## Special Thanks...

A very special Thank You to all the participating merchants and vendors who supplied the door prizes for this year’s Musical Luncheon Concert series:

- \*Antiques Downtown
- \*Bradford House
- \*Comfort’s Cleaners
- \*David’s Limited
- \*Fierce Fitness
- \*Gold Exchange
- \*Hickson’s Office Supply
- \*Images by Setto
- \*Ivy Green
- \*Jeanne’s Print & Party
- \*Stile’s Floral Shop
- \*LeMoyné House
- \*Washington Community Theater
- \*Washington Jewelry Co.
- \*Washington Wild Things And..

- \*Alfano’s
- \*All About You Wet Bar
- \*Brother’s Pizza
- \*Café Bean
- \*Main Street Market
- \*Martha’s Public House
- \*Mr. Gyro’s
- \*May’rz Inn
- \*Night & Day Café
- \*Pizza Outlet
- \*Popcorn Willy
- \*Shorty’s Lunch
- \*Union Grill

## Downtown Musical Luncheon Series

Everyone is welcome to come who wants to listen to a wonderful **FREE** concert while you relax and eat lunch in the beautiful park adjacent to Washington Federal located at 77 South Main Street. In case of rain, the concert moves across the street to the Washington Room in the George Washington.

Bring your lunch and enjoy the remaining concerts every Wednesday from 11:30AM to 1:00PM throughout August.

Drawings for “Door Prizes” are held at 12:30, winners need not be present. Just drop your business card in the bowl or out the available slips. Local merchants and restaurants have donated great gifts and gift certificates. There were even tickets to *Washington Wild Things* games.

The August performance schedule includes: Kathy Wigman Lesnock on 8/6, Worley Dervish on 8/13, Susan Hartger on 8/20 and the Strabane SNPJ International Buttonbox Club on a date to be announced.

Come enjoy a pleasant lunchtime in the park, right in the heart of downtown Washington. The concert series is sponsored in part by “Main Street” Washington and Washington Federal. A special Thank You to all those who have contributed “Door Prizes” for this year’s concert series. Check the list in the column above and be sure to patronize these generous donors.

Don’t miss the next **FREE** concert! ? ? ?

## WBDA Forms Parking Committee

Following the recent changes in the Washington Parking Authority, the Washington Business District Authority has formed an official Parking Committee. The committee is co-chaired by WBDA Board member Ernest Alexas (*Ernie's Freestyle*) and Patsy Calabro (*David's Limited*).

This new committee will meet on a regular, monthly basis to work on finding solutions to the never-ending parking concerns, complaints and problems. Suggestions and possible solutions from the committee will then be forwarded to Mayor and City Council for consideration.

The committee is looking for interested members to participate. The first organizational meeting was Monday, August 18. The regular meeting schedule will be on the second Monday of each month at 10AM in the conference space of the Main Street office at 50 East Chestnut Street. The next meeting is scheduled for September 8th.

Interested in becoming a committee member or have ideas to forward to the committee for consideration? Volunteers are welcome from both the property and business owners. Call 724-229-7207 or email [info@washpa.net](mailto:info@washpa.net). We look forward to hearing from you. We will keep you posted on progress.

## Wash Arts & Café Bean Mural Project

On Friday, September 12th, between 4 and 8PM—be sure to stop by **Café Bean**, located at 31 East Wheeling Street. A very special celebration—the ribbon cutting/unveiling of the **Brody Burroughs Mural Project** in the new, outdoor courtyard area directly behind Café Bean is planned. Come sample some of Café Bean's wonderful treats and enjoy the new outdoor area, which is a work-in-progress.

Brody Burroughs has been the *Artist-in-Residence* this summer at the **Washington Community Arts and Cultural Center** located at 9 West Beau Street. As part of the residency program, Brody taught a mural class as he worked on this very special project. In addition, Paul Warne has been teaching a filmmaking class at Wash Arts, while making a documentary about the Mural Project and Washington. Clips from the documentary may be available for viewing on the 12th.

In addition, a specially printed (and signed by the artist) scarf of the mural—printed by Peter West of World West Galleries will be on display. The scarf will be raffled off at Wash Arts gala 1st year anniversary in November. Raffle tickets will be available.

There will also be displays of art by Brody and Leta Miller throughout Café Bean. Watch for additional details and be sure to stop by!

*Don't Forget Art in the Garden—10th Anniversary  
September 6 & 7 - see enclosed flyer for details*

## WBDA Wins Townie Award

The Washington Business District Authority was selected as a **Townie Award winner for Organizational Excellence—Community Partnerships** at the Pennsylvania Downtown Center Annual Conference. The 2003 conference was held in Scranton in June. The award was presented to Main Street Manager Suzanne Gagliardo and Washington & Jefferson Vice President for Business and Finance Stuart Koop by DCED Secretary Yablonski.

Working together, Washington & Jefferson College, the City of Washington, and "Main Street" Washington forged the "**Blueprint for Collaboration.**" This initiative was designed to bring the three groups together as strategic partners in local community revitalization efforts. Meetings, focus groups, and individual interviews were held with over 100 individuals from all parts of the greater Washington business and residential community.

The *Blueprint* was formally presented to those interviewed and the community in November of 2002, by Mayor Westcott, President Mitchell and the Steering Committee. The story of the *Blueprint* was presented in the Pennsylvania League of Cities and Municipalities February 2003 newsletter, as well as *The Chronicle for Higher Education's* March 7, 2003 issue.

The *Organizational Excellence in Community Partnerships Award* is made to those organizations that have reached out and forged innovative and mutually beneficial relationships with other downtown organizations that have a vested interest in downtown revitalization.

The mission of the Pennsylvania Downtown Center is to promote and support the vitality of Pennsylvania's downtown and traditional neighborhood business districts. The WBDA and "Main Street" Washington are active members of PDC. For more information about PDC, visit their website at [www.padowntown.org](http://www.padowntown.org).

## United Way Day of Caring

The United Way of Washington County's 12th annual *Day of Caring* will be held on Tuesday, September 9th. *Day of Caring* gives volunteers the opportunity to learn how your agency and others are meeting needs in our area. This event also encourages additional volunteer service and increases donor awareness for the upcoming United Way campaign.

For additional information, contact Natalie BonAnno, Vice President—Community Services at 724-225-3310.

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.



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 50 East Chestnut 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 front footage 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 50 East Chestnut 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—724-229-7207.

Its not *TOO* early to be thinking ahead to the **Holidays!**  
**The City of Washington Christmas Parade** is scheduled for Friday, December 5, 2003. Volunteers for the Parade Planning Committee and Holiday Craft Fair are needed and welcome. Please call the Main Street office at 724-229-7207.

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.  
 The News is also available online 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 quarterly "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 office window display space is also available on a first-come basis.

Next Issue:  
 4th Qtr. 2003  
 Insert Deadline  
 September 30