

DOWNTOWN UPDATE

May 2008

Clean Up Downtown Day May 31st!

As part of Starbucks' Make Your Mark program, the Downtown Walla Walla Foundation is organizing the annual Clean Up Downtown Day from 9 am to noon on Saturday, May 31st.

Come to the downtown Starbucks at 9 am to check in, get your assignment, and fuel up with Starbucks signature coffee, hot cocoa and treats. Then spend an hour (or three!) really making a difference in the appearance of our beautiful downtown.

Last year, over 60 volunteers collected trash, weeded planters and flower beds, swept sidewalks, washed windows, and made downtown sparkle. Coldwell Banker sent a team of 10+ employees and took on an entire block themselves. It was a great day of team building for them, and service to downtown and the community.

This could be a great family project, too – there are jobs for every age, from toddler to grandpa! Bring your work gloves, rakes, and gardening hand tools – we'll provide trash bags and as much coffee as you can hold!

Starbucks will donate \$10 for every volunteer hour worked on this project, up to \$1000 to the Downtown Walla Walla Foundation Endowment Fund, which provides a permanent income source for the downtown revitalization efforts of the Foundation.

Make Your Mark on May 31st – help Clean Up Downtown! Call the office (529-8755) to volunteer, or email info@downtownwallawalla.com.



SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

- ♪ May 23 :: C Street
- ♪ June 6 :: WWU Jazz Band
- ♪ June 20 :: Vintage
- ♪ July 18 :: No Quarter
- ♪ Aug 15 :: Gary Hemenway
- ♪ Sept 19 :: The Part-Time Band

*All Concerts at Land Title Plaza
1st and Main :: 5:30 to 7:30*

THANK YOU FOR YOUR MEMBERSHIP!


Thank you to new members Fort Walla Walla Cellars, Provenance and Romanza Gifts; renewing businesses Clarette's & Deborah Zalaznik, CPA; and Friends of Downtown Pat Gregg, Alice Reithmayr and Tim Copeland for their membership in April—we couldn't do it without you!

WALLA WALLA CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL COMES DOWNTOWN

Beginning June 9th and continuing through the 20th, Chamber Music comes to the Walla Walla Valley and will be featured prominently downtown. Open rehearsals, student outreach and intimate performances will be conducted at the Marcus Whitman Hotel, Merchants LTD, Verve Coffee + Art House, Morrison Lane Tasting Room, Walla Walla Public Library, The Farmers Market and Whitman College. For particulars, go to www.wvcmf.org or call Founder & Artistic Director Tim Christie at 253/459-0300.

Community Partners

With sincere thanks to    


DOWNTOWN
WALLA WALLA
FOUNDATION
2 S First Ave, #300
Walla Walla, WA
99362
t:529-8755
www.downtownwallawalla.com
info@downtownwallawalla.com

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What's New with Elio? *Executive Director Elio Agostini*

We were hopeful that we would have a decent event for Feast Walla Walla I.

The sunny weather was the first indication that it was going to be another perfect day in our paradise and then the people kept coming...and coming. Nearly 600 folks showed up and we ended up running out of glasses—and a few vendors ran out of food!

The afternoon ended up being a wonderful social event and most everyone was pleased and excited about our first Feast. The massive tent spread from Main to Alder gave the whole event a feeling of warmth and splendor. The 16 food purveyors all served up their finest and the portions were generous and unique. The wine flowed and many of the 29 wineries sold additional bottles at their stores and vineyards afterwards. Our artists actually sold items and felt they had had a great opportunity to show off their talents.

Our major sponsor, Banner Bank, contributed significantly to our success and because of them we ended up with a surplus to give back to the Foundation.

We want to thank in particular some people who gave us an extra effort:

Michael Davidson and his crew of Chris and Tom at Tourism Walla Walla; Lynne Anderson and Krista McCorkle Davis; and the helpful people at the city including Dave Collette, Tim Thompson and Robert Reed.

We had over 60 volunteers that did everything from painting to collecting tokens to helping us with the cleanup – we couldn't have done any of it without them.

As we hoped, many of the attendees were from out-of-town. Nearly 65 percent came from outside the valley. Over 100 came from Seattle, 40 to 50 from Tri-Cities, over 50 from Oregon, around 20 odd from Idaho, 10 from Vegas and assorted numbers from Chicago, New York, California and Wyoming.

That being said, it was thrilling to see so many familiar faces in the crowd – thank you, Walla Walla, for welcoming Feast!

It was a first-class event and although we're all exhausted from the work we can hardly wait for next year.

Mark your calendar; *Feast Walla Walla II* is April 11, 2009.

GREAT THINGS ARE HAPPENING IN DOWNTOWN WALLA WALLA: WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

The Foundation has many committees that need community input: Do you love the architecture and color palette of downtown? Then the Design Committee could be right up your alley. Do you have creative ideas for solving the parking problems downtown? The Economic Development Committee could be the place for you.

But what if you already have too much on your plate? How can you make a difference in our award-winning downtown? **Become a member!**

A special category of membership was created for community members who love downtown and want to contribute to its continued revitalization. ***Friends of Downtown membership is \$50 per year***, giving you a subscription to this monthly newsletter, advance notice of special events like Girl's Night Out and the Downtown Sounds concert series, and a chance to make sure the Foundation can continue its work, seeking solutions to the parking problems, ensuring the sidewalks stay clean, and bringing great events downtown, just to name a few. Call the office for more information (529-8755), or send a check today!

DOWNTOWN FOUNDATION TO OFFER 2nd GIRL'S NIGHT OUT

Thanks to the participation of over 40 retailers, restaurants, spas and tasting rooms, Girl's Night Out in March was a huge success, and more than \$800 was donated to the Special Needs Fund at St. Mary's Community Breast Center. Coming Friday, June 27th, we are working with our wonderful downtown merchants to hold another great evening event: Passport to Summer. Participating merchants will sell a printed Passport, listing each special available that night only. Passport holders then "travel" from shop to restaurant to spa to tasting room, enjoying the available specials, really exploring the downtown; as they leave each "destination," they will receive a stamp or sticker in their passport. "Travelers" with completely full passports may enter a drawing for a fabulous prize. Proceeds from the sale of the passports will benefit the YWCA Women's Shelter. Passport sales will begin mid-June – watch the Buy It Right Downtown page in the U-B for more updates!