



May 2007

DOWNTOWN UPDATE

DOWNTOWN
WALLA WALLA
FOUNDATION

DOWNTOWN NEWS & INFORMATION

Downtown Sounds series begins next week

The Downtown Sounds summer concert series is returning to the streets— Land Title Plaza that is! Beginning on May 31st, there will be free concerts from 5:30-7:30 p.m. in the Plaza at 1st and Main. Audrey Renaud will bring folk, light rock and sacred sounds for the first street-side performance. Chairs are provided for those that would like to hang out and enjoy the music. This is a great opportunity for families to enjoy Downtown Walla Walla.

The concert series is known to bring increased traffic through Downtown streets on Thursday evenings. If your business is open after 5:30 p.m., you may wish to prepare for a few extra customers. For those retail and food venues not open, you may consider staying open a bit later to entice concert-goers into your space. Contact the Foundation at 529-8755 or info@downtownwallawalla.com if you run a special sale or event that evening and we'll put it in our weekly e-mail update to encourage even more visitors.

Market Station Design Competition

Valley Transit and the Downtown Walla Walla Foundation have partnered with the city and the Walla Walla Valley Farmers Market Association to run a design competition for a new Valley Transit station and expanded Farmers' Market facilities. Twenty six entrants from 12 states and two foreign countries entered the competition.

Please join us at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, June 6th at Whitman College's Reid Center for an Open House where the designs will be unveiled and available for viewing. The public may comment on each design through the morning of Friday, June 8th. The first round of judging is scheduled for June 9th and 10th to select semi-finalists, who will be formally announced on Monday morning, June 11th at Crawford Park. The judges are stakeholders and design professionals ranging from Walla Walla to Portland, OR. Semi-finalists will have three weeks to revise their designs in response to jury and public comments. The winners will be determined in mid-July. Check out the DWWF web site for competition updates or visit www.wallawalldesign.com.

The search is on

The Downtown Walla Walla Foundation is searching for a new Executive Director. The Foundation seeks candidates who are entrepreneurial, energetic, imaginative, well organized and capable of moving the Foundation forward to meet its mission of promoting the history, culture and commerce of Downtown Walla Walla.

Several great candidates have applied and an interview team is established. Application reviews are set to begin this week.

Annual Meeting—Save the date!

Join us on June 29th for a great evening recognizing our outstanding volunteers, announcing new board members and celebrating accomplishments. More details announced mid-June.

Want to receive weekly updates?

E-mail us at info@downtownwallawalla.com and type "Weekly Update" in the subject line. You'll receive news delivered to your inbox each week about exciting events in Walla Walla.

Join the Foundation

Not a member yet? Benefit from networking opportunities, special promotions and helping create a great Downtown for all to enjoy. Call or stop by the DWWF office to obtain a flyer outlining membership prices and benefits. Call 529-8755 • 5 S Colville

GET INVOLVED

—Upcoming Events—

Summer Sounds

5:30 P.M. - 7:30 P.M.

THURSDAYS, MAY 31 - AUG 30

LAND TITLE PLAZA AT 1ST & MAIN

Our popular hometown concert series returns! First performance by Audrey Renaud of "Feels Like Home" fame.

ArtWalk Walla Walla

FRIDAY, JUNE 1, 5 P.M. - 8 P.M.

Enjoy the sounds of the Walla Walla College Jazz Band at 1st and Main in addition to the amazing art. Pick up a map from participating businesses or at the Kiosk on Main Street.

Vintage Walla Walla

JUNE 1-2, ALL DAY

A wine tasters dream! This exclusive tasting event draws the crowds to Downtown for tasting, dining and shopping in between sessions held at Whitman College, ArtWalla's annual Bronze Pour event at the Walla Walla Foundry and vineyard tours.

Wine Barrel Art Raffle

DRAWING WILL BE HELD JUNE 3

Win one of several wine barrels, donated by local wineries, artistically transformed by a local artist. More information on back.

Whitman's 50 + Reunion

JUNE 8-10, ALL DAY

Call 527-5167 for details or visit Whitman College's site for a schedule.

—Volunteer Opportunities—

Taste of Walla Walla

AUGUST 3, 5 P.M. - 8 P.M.

Join our promotions committee to help make the 2007 Taste bigger and better than ever. Event day volunteers are also needed. Call Jennifer at DWWF for more information and to sign up.

Promoting the history, culture and commerce of Downtown Walla Walla

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DOWNTOWN UPDATE May 2007 continued

You may have seen the letter to the editor from the disgruntled Tri-Cities shopper about receiving a \$5 parking ticket. The Foundation is participating in a city committee to update wayfinding signage, but in the meantime, **please gently remind out-of-town customers that Downtown is a 2 hour parking zone.**

Increasing police presence in Downtown after hours

Springtime has brought renewed energy to the downtown area, including local youth. While this can be positive, some businesses are experiencing increased incidences of verbal harassment and vandalism from congregating groups of youth at First and Main. Captain Gary Bainter and Officer Terry Heisey spoke with a group of concerned business owners in early May explaining they will do all they can to increase police presence Downtown. If your business incurs problems (vandalism, harassment that may lead to physical conflicts, etc), please phone the police dispatch center at 527-1960 with a detailed description of the situation, persons involved and any other helpful information. Please call the Foundation at 529-8755 if you would like more specific information regarding security tips or future opportunities to discuss the issue.

Foundation seeks office space

We're looking for a space that speaks to our mission of promoting the history, culture and commerce of Downtown Walla Walla. Currently we are occupying street-level retail space that could be used for better purposes. If you know of a space with two or more offices and a conference room that is around 1000 square feet, we'd greatly appreciate hearing from you. Call 529-8755 or e-mail info@downtownwallawalla.com.

Wine Barrel Art Raffle is here!

Purchase a raffle ticket for your chance to win one of several authentic wine barrels creatively transformed into a work of art.

WHERE TO PURCHASE A RAFFLE TICKET

DWWF office, Main Street Bedrooms, Board Members (listed below), and Barrel Art committee members: Jeanne Brewer, Reggie Mace, Suzie Nelson, Beth Swansen, Jason Davidson, Rose Worth, Lisa Lucas and Jennifer Northam

BARREL LOCATIONS

WW Sew & Vac Verve
WW Clothing Co. Destination Grill at The Depot
Brickstone The Home Loan Center
Best Western

Are you planning an event or promotion for your business?

If you are, let us know! We'll put the information on our home page and add it to our weekly e-mail updates.

Our goal is to facilitate communication about Walla Walla area events and promote coordinating events that bring the crowds Downtown. Our e-mails travel to residents throughout Washington and Oregon, which means you receive free advertising for your event in Walla Walla AND the Pacific Northwest!

PaintBox: Public art for everyone

The PaintBox, originally the gift wrap for the Information Kiosk in Heritage Square Park, was transformed into public art during the season's first ArtWalk on May 4th with resounding success. The DWWF Arts subcommittee relocated the box to bring awareness to another opportunity site in the downtown area. It soon will reside behind the Preston Winery and Ash Hollow tasting rooms in an empty lot off Rose Street that is awaiting a new purpose. Painting opportunities will happen beginning mid-June. Call the office or visit the web site for specific dates and times.

Board of Directors Darcey Benzel, *President*; Larry Nelson, *Vice-President*; Monte Willis, *Treasurer*; Sharon Graese, *Secretary*
Board members Squire Broel, Jon Campbell, Gail Waetje, Lyle Hansen, Denny Wagaman, Val Jensen
Staff Jennifer Northam, *Events & PR Manager*; Rossi Giard, *Program Assistant*