



Kendallville Heartbeat

March 7, 2023



We Did It!

On Thursday, March 2nd, Historic Downtown Kendallville received the exciting news that we achieved accreditation with the National Main Street Association. This is a designation that brings our organization to a whole new level of prestige, while also opening up a variety of new funding opportunities and resources to help us continue our momentum; and to deliver on our mission of “encouraging the economic development, historic preservation, and continuous improvement of downtown Kendallville.”

I would like to personally thank the board members, volunteers, downtown merchants, donors, stakeholders, city employees, patrons, and community members who participated in some way to help us achieve this goal. Whether you attended one of our roundtable sessions with the OCRA review team, helped with a Main Street project, donated your time and treasure, provided council and constructive feedback, or participated in some other way – YOU are ultimately responsible for our success, and for that I am extremely grateful.

I look forward to continuing the incredible momentum in downtown Kendallville, and hope that you will continue to engage with us as we move forward in 2023 and beyond.

Words are truly not enough to thank you all for your ongoing support!

Thank you!

Kristen Johnson
Main Street Manager



Celebrating Our Hometown Heroes

Hometown Hero banners are going up this week, thanks to Kendallville's team at the Street Department! There will be two rounds of banners displayed over the next several months -- so if you purchased a banner for a loved one and don't see it on

display -- DONT WORRY! Your banner will go up in the next round. Historic Downtown Kendallville had a tremendous response to this project and are thrilled to have the opportunity to honor these American heroes!

Merchants Supporting Main Street

If you are a downtown Merchant within Kendallville's Main Street district, listed below are several ways that **YOU** can play an active role in our forward momentum and continued success. Feel free to download this list and post it somewhere in your business to serve as a friendly reminder that supporting Historic Downtown Kendallville is about more than just writing a check. It's about engagement and collaboration. You can download the list [HERE](#).

Simple Ways YOU Can Support & Improve Historic Downtown Kendallville

GET INVOLVED

- Volunteer to work on a committee, project, or event
- Participate in Main Street trainings & meetings
- Attend & participate in downtown events
- Claim your business on the DISTRX app

SHARE OUR MESSAGE

- Memorize our mission and share with others
- Take and share photos of downtown events and visible improvements
- Share our social media posts
- Share our Annual Report with patrons and friends
- Share your own business stories and successes

DONATE

- Make an annual donation to the organization
- Donate candy for Trick or Treat on Main
- Donate goody bag items for the Fairy Fest
- Donate an item for an event/contest prize
- Ask people in your circle to donate

SPEAK UP

- Provide constructive feedback and ideas on how we can make downtown better
- Let us know how we can help support your business

LOOK Y(OUR) BEST

- Eliminate any blighted conditions to your building
- Decorate your storefront window for each season
- Pick up trash when you see it

COLLABORATE

- Consider offering cross-promotions with other downtown businesses
(*Dinner and a Movie Specials, Downtown Valentine's Day Package, etc.*)
- Encourage patrons to check out other businesses while they're in town

EMBRACE OUR FAMILY-FRIENDLY STRATEGY

- Consider adding children's items to your inventory (toys, books, clothes, etc.)
- Create a space for kids to play while mom and dad shop
- Offer family discounts for products or services
- Host events that target families with children



*Encouraging the Economic Development, Historic Preservation,
and Continuous Improvement of Downtown Kendallville.*

Kick off "Month of Grace" with Inspiration's Grace Fest

Inspiration is celebrating the month of March with "Month of Grace," focusing on the Women's Program in DeKalb County, raising awareness and raising funds. The Grace Fest is our highlight event, where you'll have the chance to hear from

Michelle Harvey, Director of Operations for DeKalb Women, along with her staff, residents, and graduates about the transformation they have experienced through Jesus Christ. We hope you can join us for this event! More information below.

GRACE FEST

3/11/2023

**173 W. Oak St.
Butler, IN 46721**

12 pm to 5 pm

**Event Goals:
FUN
Awareness
Connection**

Raise \$30,000

5:30 pm

**Piano concert
with
Nic Patterson**

**Ministry presentation
by Michelle Harvey**



**Carnival Games
& Kids Activities**

Silent Auction
Ending @ 4 pm

Team Relay Event
Beginning @ 2 pm

Vendor Booths
representing local and
national businesses
and organizations

"Summer of Fun" in Downtown Kendallville!

Warm weather is just around the corner, and we've got LOTS of fun, family-friendly events planned in downtown Kendallville for the community to enjoy! Below are just a few of the upcoming events that are in the works.

Downtown Summer Skate Parties

COME ENJOY FOOD, YOUTH SKATING, CARNIVAL GAMES, AND MORE
IN BEAUTIFUL AND HISTORIC DOWNTOWN KENDALLVILLE!

MYAC: SATURDAY, MAY 6, 12-3PM

| COMMON GRACE: SATURDAY, JUNE 10TH, 5-8PM



4th Annual FAIRY, GNOME & TROLL FESTIVAL

Saturday, May 20 10am - 2pm
Historic Downtown Kendallville



FEATURING:

Variety of Entertainment
Balloon Art & Face Painting
Bubble Party Fun
Crafts and Creations
Food & Festive Treats
Fairy, Gnome & Troll Supplies
& Much More!



Vendor Booth Fees:

Sales/Retail: \$40

Non-profits: FREE

Register at:

www.kendallvillemainstreet.com



**FREE
CONCERT**



THE CITY OF KENDALLVILLE &
HISTORIC DOWNTOWN KENDALLVILLE PRESENT

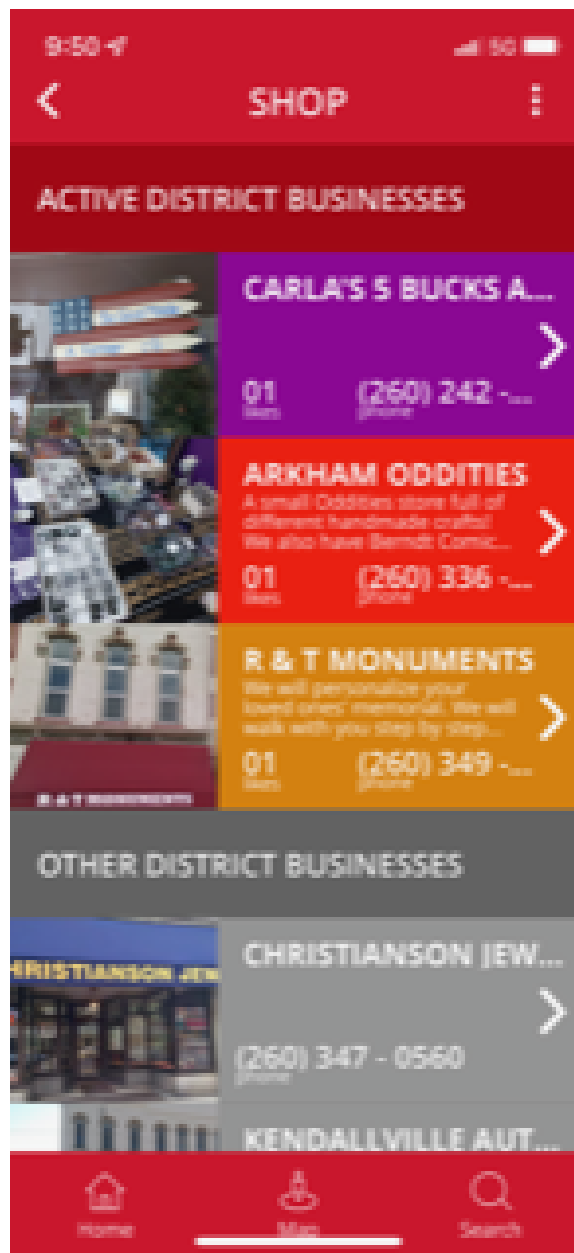
**JD3 & THE
JONDO TRIO**

Saturday, Jun 17th at 6:00pm
in the Kendallville Pocket Park
Live Music | Food Trucks

*"Jim Morrison meets Eddie Vedder, with a
spooky blues grit...a joyful mix of old and new.
Their rhythms draw you in, but the talent and
heart keeps you listening."*

*--Steven Ovadia
Blues Rock Review*

DISTRX: Have you Claimed Your Business Yet?
Main Street Businesses, Events, Walking Tours & More!



DISTRX is a free location-aware mobile app designed specifically for Main Street communities. As mobile users enter your district, they receive a welcome greeting, and the app opens to reveal everything a visitor wants to know about your community: area events, parking locations, local attractions, map, and a business directory by category.

Best of all, when the same visitor travels to another Main Street community, the same mobile app transforms to become the app for that community.

There is no cost to local businesses to participate.

Merchants can create comprehensive business listings and promotional offers, including in-app and web page listings - all at no cost to the business.

Ready to get started? Download DISTRX today and claim your business in the Kendallville Main Street district!

Once a majority of downtown merchants have claimed their business, we will begin promoting the app to the general public.



Historic Downtown Kendallville, 234 S Main Street, Kendallville, IN 46755, 260-318-0883

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