



THE WORD ON THE STREET

OFFICE OF LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR PAT QUINN

April 2005 UPDATE

Max the Main Street Man arrives for the *Illinois Main Street Day at the Capitol.*



Max and Lieutenant Governor Pat Quinn

Lieutenant Governor Pat Quinn celebrated the event with over 60 representatives, including Main Street Executive Directors, Board, Committee, and volunteer members. Quinn said that Max would assist in promoting our Main Street assets for tourism and economic development. Max can be seen on the Lieutenant Governor's website, www.illinoismainstreet.org where he will take you on tour of the 58 Illinois Main Street Communities. He is your guide to discovering Illinois Main Street events, tours, sporting events, museums, shopping, and historic sites. Max will be visiting our Main Street communities, so look for him.



Illinois Main Street representatives gather on the Capitol steps with Max and the Lieutenant Governor



Joined by legislators at a rally in the rotunda, Lieutenant Governor Quinn said, "This is a great opportunity to showcase how the program works and how it brings new ideas, jobs, and tourist dollars to towns all across the state." As part of the day's activities each community was able to speak to their legislators about the benefits of the Main Street program, and educate them on the need to pass Senate Joint Resolution 10, sponsored

by Senator Debbie Halvorson (D-Crete), which would make the first Saturday in June of every year *Main Street Day* in Illinois. SJR 10 has since passed in the Senate and awaits action in the House.



Marion Main Street Executive Director Bob Stein, Lieutenant Governor Pat Quinn, Representative John E. Bradley, and Anne Stein



Colleen Brechon-Vancil from Dixon joined Main Street Executive Director Bonnie Kime, Lieutenant Governor Quinn, Mayor James Burke and Representative Lou Lang.

Let's bring Wi-Fi to Main Street!

Wireless Main Street is a collaborative effort between the Office of the Lieutenant Governor and a Main Street community which can use a *Wireless Main Street* grant of up to \$20,000 to develop a Wi-Fi broadband Internet pilot project.

If your Main Street town would like to take part in this pilot project, please submit a 2-3 page description of how *Wireless Main Street* could be organized in your community. **The deadline for submissions is Wednesday, June 1.**

Calendar for May and June

May 6 E-Bay Fundraiser Workshop in Rosemont, Illinois (Designated & Associate levels only)

May 8-11 National Main Street Conference in Baltimore

May 15 Monthly Reports due for April

May 15 Premier Program Applications Due

May 20 Schematic Streetscape Plan Grant Applications Due

May 20 Application Workshop - Springfield

May 23 Regional Board Training - Blue Island

May 24 Application Workshop - Crystal Lake

May 26 Application Workshop - Collinsville

June 1 Wireless Main Street applications due

June 2 – 4 Statewide Preservation Conference – Joliet

June 9 – 10 Basic Training – Mt. Vernon

June 14 Main Street Day in Chicago

June 15 Monthly Reports due for May

June 23 – 24 Basic Training - Batavia

The recent UPstairs DownTOWN workshop on developing the upper stories in downtown was a great success with attendees from all over the state. Information from the cutting edge was shared and will soon be available online. A very special thanks to the creative people at the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, Mike Jackson, Chief Architect; Anna Margaret Borntrager, Project Designer; Dan Carmody, Executive of Renaissance Rock Island and everyone who worked on this project.

Schematic Streetscape Plan Grants

Planning Grants to assist in the design of streetscapes and public places for federal Transportation Enhancement incentives are now available. To qualify you must be a designated Illinois Main Street Program in good standing. The grant application must be postmarked by May 20, 2005. For details, contact: mike_jackson@ihpa.state.il.us

"Most of the things worth doing in the world had been declared impossible before they were done."
- Louis D. Brandeis

New Main Street Executive Directors



On or about April 1, 2005 these individuals entered into a new world of excitement, long hours, working with the best people, direction clearly defined, extremely high pay, and benefits galore! They attended an all day workshop on the roles and responsibilities of an Executive Director. It gives us great pleasure to present to you (back row) Wanda Lee Rohlf of Lincoln, Barb Bellew of Prophetstown, (front row) Pam Myers of Aledo, Art Curtis of Plainville, and Rachel Baker of Pittsfield. ☺

Congratulations!

Main Street Day in Chicago

Main Street Day at the Capitol was such a success, we've decided to do a similar event at the James R. Thompson Center in Chicago. A display of "Scenes from Main Street" will be featured in the Atrium during the week of June 13 – 17. On Tuesday, June 14th, local programs are invited to bring a tabletop display to educate the many employees and visitors to the Thompson Center – estimated at 10,000 per day! Space is limited, so take time today to e-mail wendy_bell@ltgov.state.il.us to reserve your space.

Coming Soon... a simple way for you to raise funds for your program; a **statewide/program-wide e-bay auction**. Illinois Main Street will be promoting the auction including appearances by Lieutenant Governor Quinn, press releases, and a link from our website but all of the proceeds will go to your local programs. Our intent is for every associate and designated community to participate, to build a great Main Street Auction.

All of the details about how the program will work will be shared with representatives from Marketworks and MNetworks on **Friday May 6th** in **Rosemont**, Illinois. This will be part of the SmalleBusinessWorld event taking place on the May 6th and 7th at the Donald E. Stephens Conference Center. A specially customized training session just for Illinois Main Street will be held from 9:30 - 11:30. **This will be your only opportunity to learn directly from Marketworks and MNetworks on how to participate in Illinois Main Street's auction. Do not miss it.**

Registration for you and other representatives from your program is FREE! We encourage you to bring several people with you. Please e-mail wendy_bell@ltgov.state.il.us a list (even if tentative) of who will attend by **Friday, April 29th**

Also, you will be admitted to the Sponsor Showcase, can attend the additional free workshops in the afternoon, and be included in several special offers. You can find more information about the SmalleBusinessWorld event at www.smallebusinessworld.com

ILLINOIS MAIN STREET

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