Main Street Program Looks Back To Move Forward

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Beginning in 1991, the Main Street Program was started to improve Barnesville’s appearance and the business community. Currently, a large base of volunteers continue to move the program forward each year for the benefit of the community.

Over the years, the program has had part-time or full-time staff managing the day to day functions, but primarily relies heavily on volunteers. A seven member board and two standing committees, Design and Promotion, meet monthly to review, plan, advise, and implement all aspects of the program. Two additional events, Sh讴osque and Fall Area-wide, are the responsibility of specifically focused committees that meet for a short period of the year.

Events are a large and very visible part of the Main Street Program. They currently include: Annual Meeting, Feast of the Town, Membership Drive, Sh讴osque, Spring and Fall Area-wide, Raise Money Sales, Show N Shine Car Cruise Nights, Golf Tournament, Community Picnic, Miss Barnesville Pageant, Fall Farmers’ Market Day, Miracle On Front Street activities, for all to enjoy.

A Yard of the Week program, started in 2013, offers a chance to highlight the efforts of residents that work hard on developing their yard or all to enjoy.

Throughout the year 2015, many downtown beautification efforts will be seen due to the generosity of a local family and the work of the Design Committee. Friendship Park will become a focal point of our community and a gathering spot for those wanting a quiet spot to sit and relax for a moment.

Services of the Main Street Program that are not as evident but are ongoing include development of the Barnesville Board, Welcome Bags, brochure racks, Business Incentive Programs, business information, assistance to businesses, new and existing, networking and training opportunities for businesses, quarterly community newsletters, Business of the Month, and a variety of resources for businesses.

The Main Street Program is fortunate to be featured in each week’s edition of the Barnesville Record-Review. A weekly Main Street News column and feature stories are ways in which the public can learn more about how to get involved with Main Street. Volunteers are always welcome and Main Street coordinators will help you find your niche. Whether it be an advisory role, a leadership role, an event volunteer or an office volunteer on occasions, each is a valuable addition to the work of the program to make it all happen.

The Main Street Program uses a looking back, moving ahead approach to its everyday functions. Learning from our past and moving forward in our future only provokes to keep our organization alive. But it remains a strong volunteer dependent organization dedicated to serving the entire community, businesses and residents alike.

Each group has its own needs, but both are interdependent. All involved work toward the purpose to strengthen Barnesville’s ‘small town’ sense of community by enhancing the interdependent relationships between residents and businesses. The Main Street Program unites them for the benefit of both and strives to make Barnesville a better place to live, to work and to play.

Every July, members of the community gather at the annual Main Street Community Picnic. There are events for all ages. From the dance competition, to a water balloon toss, to inflatables and climbing wall, participants are sure to find something fun at the Community Picnic.

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