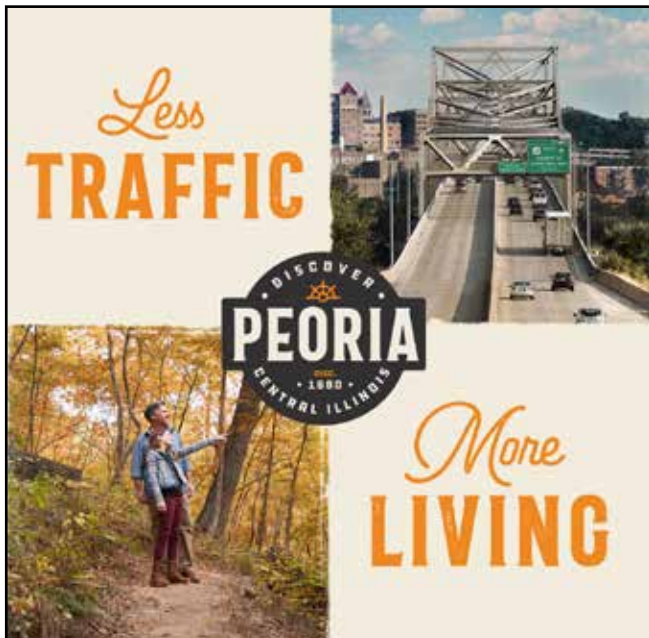


DOWNTOWN PEORIA NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2021

DDC Activities

Greater Peoria 2030



The DDC is one of many partner organizations working together to promote the diverse, creative revitalization efforts within the communities of the Greater Peoria Area.

The goals of GP2030 are: increase the population and talent of the Greater Peoria Region; attract businesses to the area who need a talented workforce; highlight the Greater Peoria Area amenities that make it a desirable place to live, work and play; communicate the

positive quality of life attributes of the Greater Peoria Area; and improve the Greater Peoria Area's reputation in local and national circles. GP2030 is a major ad campaign launched worldwide in the form of two 3-month media flights with the first launched last month and the second launching March 2022 via digital/social and display advertising.

Wayfinding Implementation Committee

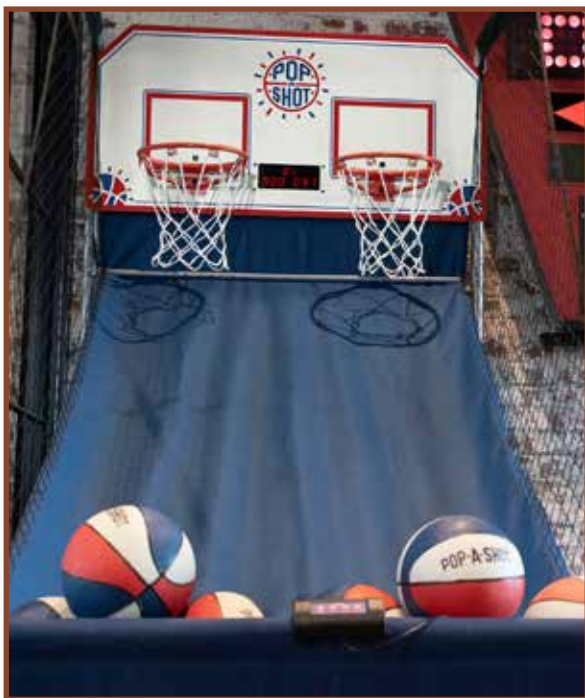
The DDC is spearheading the Downtown Wayfinding Implementation Committee to lead an effort for installing wayfinding signage in the downtown. In collaboration with the City of Peoria, Peoria Riverfront Association, Discover Peoria, and major corporations in the downtown, we are working on a pilot program to install wayfinding signs along the riverfront and ultimately throughout all districts in the downtown. Current plans are to present a pilot proposal to the Downtown Advisory Commission (DAC) in November 2021 and to the City Council shortly thereafter. We will keep you apprised of our developments in this much-needed initiative to help people acclimate more quickly to the amenities our downtown has to offer.

DDC 2021 Fundraising Campaign

Our 2021 fundraising campaign is underway. As a nonprofit organization, we want to thank our founders and loyal contributors who have sustained us since our inception in 2014 and hope that we can count on you once again in our efforts to revitalize Downtown Peoria. You will receive a call soon from one of the DDC board members asking for your support.

Contributor Spotlight

Pop-A-Shot



We recently caught up with Tony Stucker, owner of Pop-A-Shot. Pop-A-Shot, celebrating its 40th anniversary, created the Arcade Basketball game. Over time Pop-A-Shot introduced electronic scoring, arcade versions, infrared scoring, steel frames a litany of firsts in the industry. That's why Pop-A-Shot is synonymous with electronic basketball shooting games.

To learn more about their story and their products, visit their website at www.popashot.net/.



The business moved here in the fall of 2020. Located in the Warehouse District on SW Adams Street, Pop-A-Shot is a welcome addition to this growing, iconic hotspot.

As a new business in downtown Peoria, we were interested in knowing Tony's thoughts about the downtown in general. Here is what he had to say:

DDC: What do you think about the new development and new businesses opening in the Warehouse District? How will that affect/benefit you and your business?

TS: Being that our business is not open to the public (such as a restaurant or housing), we're a bit of an oddity for a renovation project in the Warehouse District. However, I think the same things that will attract residents to the area also make it a great place to work—the restaurants, unique entertainment offerings, and shops.

DDC: What improvements would you like to see in the downtown?

TS: You can feel the momentum—Covid put things on pause, but the energy has returned. I think it's most important to help developers who want to continue projects and begin new ones. And more parking.

DDC: What new businesses and services would you like to see in the downtown?

TS: Having recently stayed in the Warehouse District, I think some type of convenience/grocery store would be very popular and an important addition.

DDC: What effect has the DDC had on downtown improvements and/or you and your business?

TS: As a relative newcomer to Peoria, where I've most seen DDC efforts is in its cohesive marketing efforts for the downtown area.

DDC: What is your vision for downtown Peoria?

TS: A vibrant neighborhood with residential, commercial, and entertainment options and a destination for year-round visitors. I would also love to see more done with the riverfront. It's such a nice environment during the warm weather months.

We welcome Pop-A-Shot to downtown Peoria as commercial and residential momentum begins to build in the Warehouse District. For more information on development in the downtown, contact Michael J. Freiling at (309) 369-6038 or visit our website at www.downtownpeoria.us.

Business Spotlight

Craft 309 Kitchen + Bar



On September 14th, Craft 309 Kitchen + Bar proudly reopened their doors at 500 Hamilton Blvd., in the Four Seasons Hotel. Try out their chef-driven American classics, some of their 30 beers on draft, and specialty drinks. The caramel apple martini sounds pretty delicious! Happy hour is 4-6 p.m. The owners say they have 309 in their name to prove that YOU make Craft 309 Kitchen + Bar, and they are eager to serve you. Follow

their Craft 309 Facebook page to support this local, community-minded business. You'll be glad you did!

Property for Sale

Packard Plaza Building

211-213 NE Adams St.



The Packard Plaza building is located downtown Peoria in a prime location! This building offers 3 stories, plus full basement. Square footage for the first and second floor is 5,325 SF, and the third-floor square footage is 4,365. This building features 8 bathrooms, a commercial kitchen with walk-in cooler & freezer, a full bar, plus much more! Call Ryan Blackorby, listing agent, at 309-698-0099. (Located in the TIF District)

Property for Lease

Cooperage 214 - Loft/Office Space

214 Pecan St.



Cooperage 214 is a fully renovated historic building converted into a mixed-use development. Currently, 6,100 SF of unique loft office space is available for lease in the beautiful Warehouse District. Detailed attention to the historical preservation of the original architectural design was a primary focus of the developer. The second and third floors consist of 18 one- and two-bedroom apart-

ments with original maple flooring, barn-door style doors and many other custom features. The apartments are currently 100% leased. The main floor commercial space is set up with a large open work area, eight private offices, break room and a men's and women's restroom. Brick & timber loft space with exposed concrete floors and tall ceilings allow for an upscale yet historic workspace. For information contact Will Hayes at Joseph & Camper: E-MAIL: Willhayes@josephcamper.com | CELL: 309-643-0717.

Downtown Activities

HALLOWEEN Live at the Five Spot



Contemporary Art Center

305 SW Water St.

On October 22, 6:30 – 9:30 p.m., mask up and come to the party! Plan your costumes because there will be lots of competition to win a blown glass pumpkin by local glass artist Jeremie Draper. 2nd Prize is a blown glass wine stopper also by local glass artist Jeremie Draper. Everyone can vote by ballot for their favorite costume.

Music will be provided by the Brazilionaires; their music is an exciting

blend of Latin and pop with a jazzy feel. For more information and tickets for this popular event, see the website page at: <https://309tix.com/events/halloween-live-at-the-five-spot-10-22-2021>.

Peoria Riverfront Museum



Plan a visit to the Peoria Riverfront Museum. Along with the T-Rex exhibit, check out “Railroaders: Jack Delano’s Homefront Photography”, October 9, 2021 through January 2, 2022. “Railroaders” takes visitors on a striking visual journey into the 1940s through a series of stunningly beautiful black-and-white and color photographs of railroad workers. Their stories are presented through biographies

that were meticulously researched and thoughtfully crafted, providing a rare glimpse into the inner milieu of railroaders and the yards and shops in which they operated. Find out about these exhibits and more at <https://www.peoriariverfrontmuseum.org/>.

Special Interest



In recognition of the 20th anniversary of September 11, 2001, the Murray Baker Bridge was lit in blue as a sign of allegiance with cities across the United States participating in the “Tribute in Light” with the National September 11 Memorial & Museum. This began in New York City on the first anniversary of 9/11 when two beams of blue light were illuminated where the Twin Towers once stood and has

continued on every anniversary after. Peoria Riverfront Museum worked with the City of Peoria and developer Kert Huber to collaborate in lighting the city in blue in remembrance and salute to first responders and the victims on the 20th anniversary of the attacks on 9/11.



Photo credit: www.chriskhouryproductions.com

www.DowntownPeoria.us

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