September Main Street Mtgs:
Sept. 1—Tower View Team 10 a.m.
   Promotions 11:15 a.m.
Sept. 8—Design 10 a.m.
   Organization 4:30 p.m.
Sept. 11—Mahanay Tower Poem 2 p.m.
   at Historical Museum
Sept. 14—Pedal Jefferson 5:30 p.m. at Homestead
Sept. 15—Tower View Team 10 a.m.
   Promotion 11:15 a.m.
   Economic Vitality 12:30 p.m.
Sept. 18—Fall Fest on Square
Sept. 21—JM:MS Board Mtg. 4:15 p.m.
Sept. 26—Retail Scapes Committee 1 p.m.

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Find us on Facebook!

CDBG Update: Architect Peter Franks of Franks Design Group of Glenwood will be meeting with City, Main Street and other committee members on Sept. 1 to plan the course of the coming year for the Community Development Block Grant for Downtown Revitalization. Each of the sixteen building owners will meet individually with Pete this fall to work on final design plans. Contracts for construction will go out in Jan. & Feb. with construction to begin in the spring. There will be buildings on all four sides of the square involved so this will make a major impact on the downtown.

Historical Nomination Plaque Walk
The seven nominees for plaques on the downtown pillars will be portrayed by live actors and actresses on Sunday, Sept. 18 at 2 p.m.

Pictured here is Victor Hugo Lovejoy, one nominee. This event begins at the Greene County Historical Society with guides taking the groups to the nominees around the square to hear their stories. Those attending will vote for their preference to receive the plaques as money becomes available. A Greene County Community Foundation grant was received for $1,600 for one new plaque. The committee hopes all seven will eventually be completed.

You Are Invited!
Poet David Williamson invites the community to work with him on the creation of the Mahanay Memories and Moments poem for the 50th Anniversary of the Mahanay Tower. David will open the square boxes full of memories submitted throughout the summer. Those attending, along with David, will participate in weaving the power of words into this special piece. He will read our finished poem at the 50th Anniversary Celebration on Sunday, Oct. 16.

Jefferson, IA App is Live!
If you have a smartphone, you can download the free app called “Jefferson, IA” and find out all that Jefferson has to offer. With our many visitors who may only have their cellphone with them, this app is perfect for finding out hours, services, and events in Jefferson. You’ll find this app by searching Jefferson, IA at the App Store on iPhones and Google Play on Android. Download it for free! Tell your customers, tell your friends, tell your visitors! To update information on the app, please email Deb McGinn at mandd@netins.net or Angie Pedersen at angiervp1875@gmail.com Thanks to these two ladies for populating this and keeping it updated as volunteers!

Retail Scapes follow-up
The initial Retail Scapes Committee will meet again on Sept. 26 at 1 p.m. but will request information from all who participated in the Iowa State Retail Scapes Studio class through a Survey Monkey survey. A number of creative ideas and projects were generated by ISU students through this class. Jefferson’s Main Street wants to gather thoughts from those who participated to prioritize and share with the Jefferson City Council. The Council will be working on a Comprehensive Plan this next year.
IOWA ART SUMMIT

Deb McGinn and Amy Roberts of Tower View Team received scholarships from the Iowa Art Council to attend this year’s Iowa Art Summit held in Des Moines in August. From attending seminars led by leaders in their fields on how to create and sustain an artist in residency program, to getting the community involved in public art making and creative placemaking, they received lots of innovative and up-to-date information to bring back to our community and share with others on the Tower View Team.

Pillar Planters are Gorgeous!

The Design Committee has spent numerous hours investigating planters for the 12 pillars in the downtown and chose these stainless steel planters designed by Olson IronWorks. Jean Walker, Karen Lawton and Kathy Milligan are heading up the planting of these for all seasons. The first plants look gorgeous and will stay through the fall. Fifteen volunteers planted these in one hour on an early August morning. Thanks to all!

Who’s on the lift?

* Chris Heisterkamp clocked over 55 hours painting the upper story of Riley Hall in July. The result is stunning!
* Susan Fray of the Design Committee spent a morning painting the window openings of the Kendall Building at 111 E. Lincoln Way. Cross bars were also painted and placed to look like windows by Mike Palmer and Bill Raney. Imagine what a great view someone would have from those windows?
* Chris, Susan, Peg and Deb Kucerak of the Design Committee spent a morning painting around the front windows and upper framework of Angie’s Teagarden to give them a fresh look. This paint was purchased through our Main Street’s Mini-grant program and these volunteers offered to paint it!

WANTED: Home for painted piano available at end of October. FREE

New website in the works

Rob Hoyt of Impact Media of Scranton has been contracted with Jefferson Matters: Main Street to update our website. After viewing other Main Street websites and working with Rob, we will be proud to unveil this website sometime this fall. It is still www.jeffersonmatters.org

Design Assistance from Main Street Iowa

* The Jefferson Public Library requested Design Assistance from Main Street Iowa last winter and received the conceptual drawing created by Design Consultant Tim Reinders. Jane Millard of the library was very pleased with the results and has invited Tim to visit further with the Library’s Board on Sept. 12.
* The downtown building at 200 E. State houses Lawton Chiropractic with the rest vacant. The City of Jefferson acquired the building and will be putting on a new roof along with any asbestos removal. The Design Committee requested Main Street Iowa to take a look at the building and propose a design fitting for the historical character of this prominent building in our downtown. Maia Jessen is a Design Consultant with MSI and will putting together this conceptual for 200 E. State. This is a free service available to Main Street Iowa communities.

Saturday, Nov. 19 is the date for the first Family Feud-Jefferson Edition. A group from the Organization Committee is planning the event to be held at RVP~1875 on the evening of Nov. 19. Seating is limited with 120 seats so get ready to purchase the $25 tickets when available. Four teams will compete answering questions about Jefferson. Commercials of local businesses will make this an authentic “show” complete with host Doug Rieder. See our website for advertising opportunities!
Main Street Mini-grants
Several projects have been completed in the Main Street District using the Mini-grant program of up to $250 for exterior improvements. A door was replaced between Skeeter Creek and Uniquely Yours and painted by our volunteers. Riley Hall lettering was mounted to the top of the same building. Paint for windows at Angie’s Teagarden was purchased. The mini-grant was used to help with the huge investment Jefferson Telecom made in replacement of windows. Thanks for making all of these improvements to make our downtown look so nice!

Ring Out for Art sculptures will be for sale and available May 1, 2017. Let the Main Street office know if you are interested and we’ll get you in touch with artists. Resonance by Tim Adams $3,200; Resonance by Whitney Kibbie $3,500; Steel Rider by Greene County Motorcycle Charity $5,000.

Technical Assistance Challenge Grant for Wayfinding
Main Street Iowa has offered a new grant opportunity for professional services. A goal of JM:MS is to create a new “brand” that can be used on signage for visitors around the entire community of Jefferson. Our board will apply for this grant to work collaboratively with the City of Jefferson and Chamber of Commerce on this project.

Can You Picture Your Business Here?
Roger Aegerter created this window display at the City’s acquired building at 205 N. Wilson. It may be difficult to imagine, but this space would be a perfect spot for your business — either Retail or Service on the street level — and living quarters or meeting space on the 2nd floor. If interested, please contact City Hall at 386-3111.

Watch for new fall banners along Lincoln Way to be hung after Labor Day! Our Design Committee and City of Jefferson are working together to make this happen.

Pedal Jefferson
A group of interested citizens continues to meet monthly to promote cyclists to come to Jefferson. Pedal Jefferson signs are now available for $29 payable to Pedal Perry that would include 4 amenities you offer inside. Forms are available at the Chamber of Commerce office, Main Street office and on their website and should be left at the Chamber Office. Join us at the next meeting on Sept. 14 at 5:30 p.m. at Homestead!

SAVE THE DATE!
The 50th Anniversary Celebration on Sunday, October 16th at 2:00 p.m. on the Plaza.

City Council Quarterly Visit
Board members of Jefferson Matters: Main Street met on Tuesday, Aug. 23 with the City Council to update them on projects and plans from the past quarter and looking forward. This regular meeting has been well-received and keeps the lines of communication open between the two groups.

Iowa Downtown Conference
Main Street Director Peg Raney and Secretary Carol Ahrenholtz attended the two day Iowa Downtown Conference in Mason City on Aug. 3 & 4th. A number of sessions were held including use of technology, resources such as Iowa State Extension, downtown architecture, building strong towns, getting and keeping customers, importance of partnerships, and branding for the community. Look for ideas to be implemented through projects this next year.