

## Downtown Huntington Partners

### Officers:

President: Paul Davis  
Vice President: Dave Coster  
Secretary: Amy Howat  
Treasurer: Terri Priddy

### Directors:

Paul E. Davis (exp. 12/13)  
Dave Coster (exp. 12/14)  
Amy Howat (exp. 12/13)  
James McClelland (exp. 12/13)  
James W. Brumfield (exp. 12/13)  
Elizabeth M. Buffington (exp. 12/14)  
Sherry Houvouras (exp. 12/13)  
Mike Wilson (exp. 12/14)  
Amy Ward (exp 12/13)  
Tyson Compton (12/13)  
Tom Bell (12/14)  
Terri Priddy (exp 12/14)  
Blaine Crabtree (exp 12/13)  
Kim Lake (exp 12/14)

### Members:

Adell's Antiques  
Ashland Daily Independent  
Bottle & Wedge  
C. F. Reuschlein's Jewelers  
Cabell - Huntington Convention  
and Visitors Bureau  
Cabell-Huntington Coalition  
for the Homeless  
Cabell County Public Library  
Center for Appalachian  
Philanthropy  
Crumpets & Tea and Custom  
Framing by Jenks  
Etromay  
Eve Inc  
Frederick Management, LLC  
First Sentry Bank  
George H. Wright  
Gino's Pizza  
Glenn's Sporting Goods  
Greater Huntington Parks  
and Recreation  
HADCO  
Huntington Chamber of  
Commerce  
Huntington City Mission  
Huntington Municipal  
Parking Board

Jim McClelland  
Jim's Steak & Spaghetti House  
Kay Earles — WilliKaye  
Keith Albee Foundation  
Mack & Dave's  
Magic Makers  
Mountain State Centers for  
Independent Living  
Mug and Pia  
Paula Vega Cakes  
Pullman Plaza Hotel  
Pullman Square  
Richards Hallmark  
Saad's Oriental Rugs  
Savannah's Restaurant  
Southwestern Community  
Action  
Star Credit Union  
Sullivan Webb PLLC  
The Herald Dispatch  
Tri-State Transit Authority  
Tropical Moon  
Unlimited Futures, Inc.  
United Way of the River  
Cities  
Veronica Hordubay  
WV Business Products  
WCHS / FOX TV

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DOWNTOWN  
HUNTINGTON  
PARTNERS, INC.



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# What's Next for Downtown ?

In this issue of the DHP Newsletter we highlight some events and people that are making a difference in the downtown and the city.

While we are not a big organization, we are the type of group that tries to set a standard. We have too many citizens in this country and elsewhere today who think the only answer is more government, and for government to provide everything that we think we "deserve" instead of what we "earn".

That is fallacious and dangerous thinking, and the history of every great nation tells us that when a society reaches the point where it

no longer can rely on its own initiative and ability it is in big trouble. And, make no mistake about it, the signs today, including the ongoing budget and deficit crisis in the U.S., are clear and powerful indicators for all of us to contemplate.

DHP continues to support the efforts of any and every individual and organization that seeks to enhance the social and economic viability of our downtown and city. It also supports those who believe that we can and should do the maximum with our own resources versus those of an entity a million miles away, in thought and process.

An example of this point is found in the highly successful efforts of Amy Ward and her brainchild: "etromay". We all can learn from this example what is possible when you really want to do something good for all. One of our newest members, Kaye Earles, also provides a similar example for all "downtowners". Ed.

*... Eat, Shop,  
& Play in  
Downtown  
Huntington*

## President's Corner, by Paul Davis



It is hard to believe that another month has come and gone, and we are in March already. When I was a young boy, I would hear my parents talk about how time flies as you get older, but my goodness I never dreamed that it would go so fast.

There are a few items that I would like to draw your attention to this month. First, DHP member Tom Bell will make a presentation at our March 7<sup>th</sup>

meeting to discuss "Huntington in Bloom". He's working on expanding the group, creating constant synergy to keep it going, and keeping it out of the political arena. He is also meeting with *The Herald-Dispatch* editorial board with the hope of recruiting more volunteers.

In addition to the beautification efforts, the city announced that one of the next construction stages of the Old Main Corridor will start this Spring. The block between 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> Streets is under contract and should

be complete in July or August.

Secondly, the planning for our next Progressive Dinner is well underway. Amy Ward reports that people have already been calling her to reserve tickets. The dinner is set for the evening of April 25, 2013, so mark your calendars and get your ticket early. There is little doubt that the tickets will sell out as soon as they are available. Stay tuned for more information.

**DHP meetings:  
First and third Thursday  
of every month.**

**“Think  
Downtown”**



**“Amy Ward  
and etromay,  
with strong DHP  
support, have again  
put Huntington on the  
“downtown  
development map.”**



## Upcoming Events

**DHP continues to set the pace for new Downtown development initiatives.**

Melanie Griffis, Senior Director of Development at The College of Fine Arts at the Marshall University Foundation, has invited members of Downtown Huntington Partners to an “After-hours” event on March 22 at 5:30 pm at Huntington’s Kitchen. At this function the University will provide information about the new Visual Arts Center now under construction in the former Stone &

Thomas Building, with drawings and artist renderings. Members of the college staff, volunteers helping with the campaign, and other key leaders on the project will be present to meet DHP members and others from the Downtown. This meeting should provide everyone in the Downtown with information and food for thought on the impact the project will have on the Downtown.

*Progressive Dinner*  
Another DHP initiative, the Downtown Progressive

Dinner, organized by DHP members and several well-known and respected restaurants in the Downtown, has done much to enhance cooperation. This and other similar events are and will be important to further expand interest in enhancing the downtown experience and expand the collegiality and interaction so necessary for any local economy, especially with the many challenges that exist today. The Progressive Dinner is planned for April, 25, so put it on your calendar.

## Member Spotlight: Amy Ward

Amy Ward, and her groundbreaking smartphone app, etromay, have made quite an entrance on to the downtown Huntington stage. To say that it is revolutionary may be an understatement, so let us try to put some background in place for this remarkable “downtowner”. Amy came here in 1974 with a WVU degree and a background in corporate finance, is also a successful real estate broker as owner of Realty Advantage, Inc. , and a long-time member of DHP. Now, one might say that what else could someone do for our downtown? The answer is found not only in Amy’s brick and mortar de-

velopment work for Huntington but the recent capstone addition of etromay as part of Amy’s A.Connexion LLC. If you have not used this wonderful program now is the time because if ever there was a unifying theme and program for downtown Huntington, other than DHP, this is it. “Etromay” was an idea that came to fruition with the support of DHP. It is a mobile finding guide that allows users to “Tap into Downtown” Huntington. It is a free mobile application that may be downloaded through a smartphone’s app store. “Etromay” is a fun word, pig Latin, for Metro. How Clever!

Covering the geographic area from 1st Street to 20th Street, River to Rail, every business in this area is listed with name, address and geocodes for location. The difference etromay brings to the business community is the ability to tell the users why and how their business stands out, is unique, and answers the question “why shop/dine/play/do business with me?” Bringing together images, contact information, searchable categories, personal stories and social media connections that can be accessed with the tap of a customer’s finger on their smartphone. This is a powerful reason to take a business listing to the star level for pennies a day!

## New Member Spotlight: Kay Earles



Kay Earles is an Entrepreneur and a avid Downtowner. She believes in a process that is as Huntington as anything: A sense of class and history, and brings new ideas to the downtown every day. As a resident of Huntington since 1978, she is a licensed real estate agent in WV and KY, an estate sales coordinator and a certified re-designer and color consultant. These are activities that would

enhance any downtown. In addition, she is passionate about the future of downtown Huntington.

Kaye’s store, “WilliKaye”, located on the 9<sup>th</sup> Street Plaza, is open Monday through Friday from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm and on Saturdays 11:00 am to 3:00 pm and has a constantly changing and beautiful showroom full of unique, gently used home furnishings and other treasures. What could be more “downtown”?

Kaye is an expert in helping

homeowners achieve a complete transformation by using the furnishings already on site, or by adding some new pieces for a dramatic change in the look of a room or an entire home. At WilliKaye, as Kaye points out, you can redefine, redesign and revitalize any home for a fraction of the cost. She not only offers downtown shoppers great finds and affordable home furnishings, but also offers an optimal experience for consignors.