# Ludlow



**Express** 

Issue No. 8

## **FALL EDITION**

October 2023

# Plans for New Museum Center Move Ahead

by Ruth Bamberger



Storehouse interior, 1915; www.nkyviews.com

Ludlow's claim to fame in Northern Kentucky revolves around the extensive railyards built in the 1870s by the Cincinnati Southern Railway for servicing the new route from the "Queen City" to Chattanooga. The Ludlow we know today is the result of that rail line. Today at least three dozen trains travel through Ludlow, but the railyards are gone except for one grand building at the head of Carneal St. known as the STOREHOUSE, where rail supplies and offices were housed. This structure is a beautiful Victorian brick building erected between 1890-1892. The Ludlow Heritage Museum negotiated a ten year lease in late 2021 to renovate the interior and exterior as well as the surrounding grounds for the new Museum Center. It will enable the Museum, now located in the Public Works Building, to expand

its exhibitions and provide space for community programs and events. Since the STOREHOUSE lies in an industrial zone, the Museum is required to go through all the hurdles of securing the necessary permits. This is a lengthy process, but with the expertise of local architect Andy Corn, an important hurdle was surmounted when the Kenton County Board of Adjustment recently approved the use of a museum in this building. The Museum Board has laid out a multi year plan for fundraising and renovation of the building. Already have cleaned volunteers out equipment and supplies that were left when the railyards shut down in the 1970s. Installing a new roof on the building is the immediate need and bids have come in between \$45,000-\$60,000.

## Upcoming LHS Events

Saturday, October 14, 2023 3–5 PM • Second Sight Spirits

Join LHS for a free, family-friendly **Scavenger Hunt** exploring historic Ludlow! Find all the pumpkins and get a special prize. **FREE** 

**Tuesday, November 14, 2023** 6:30–8:30 PM • Bircus Brewing Co.

Join the Ludlow Historic Society for **Ludlow Trivia Night**! Doors will open at 6 PM for an evening of story telling and riveting Ludlow trivia. Come solo or with your trivia team. Max team size is 6 people and prizes will be awarded for the three top scoring teams!

See LHS Facebook for more details and bircus.com for advance tickets! Limited tickets available at the door.

\$5 per person or

\$25 for 2, with 12" pizza and two sodas

Preserving and creating a valuable use for this building will bring many benefits to Ludlow. It will keep Ludlow connected to its history, enrich residents and visitors about the city's unique history, and provide a distinctive exhibit and event space.

A new Museum e-commerce web site is in the works, but donations are being accepted now by cash or check made out to LUDLOW HERITAGE MUSEUM STOREHOUSE, P.O. Box 16192, Ludlow, KY 41016. The Museum (next to the City Bldg.) is open every Saturday from 11–3.

# A Message from the Mayor

**Bravo Ludlow Schools:** I want to begin this Message from the Mayor by acknowledging our amazing school district! Recently, Cincinnati Magazine ranked Ludlow Independent Schools as the third best district in Northern Kentucky. A huge congratulations to the students, staff, leadership, and board of education for the amazing work they do. I feel very fortunate to have had many relationships with Ludlow Independent Schools in my life: as a student grades K-12, as a teacher for 11 years, and now as a parent to two students attending Mary A Goetz Elementary. I've shared numerous times that, when Ashley and I were deciding where we want to raise our family, the quality of the public school district was one of the absolute top factors. We couldn't be happier with the decision that we made years ago and are equally as excited for other families that come to town for the similar experience. Way to go Ludlow Schools, keep doing an amazing job Building Tomorrow: Once a Panther, Always a Panther!

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#### Next, a reminder that on November 7th, voting will occur at the Ludlow Community Center. As a registered Ludlow voter, your ballot will include the following races: Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, Auditor of Public Accounts, State Treasurer, Commissioner of Agriculture, Ludlow City Council (One Unexpired Term), Ludlow School Board (One Unexpired Term).

Park Vandalism Issues: There have been some recent incidents of destruction of property at Memorial Park, specifically the restrooms. Our park went a significant amount of time without working restrooms until the recent renovations. In short, if

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you see vandalism, don't hesitate in calling Ludlow Police.

**RAISE Grant Awarded To River** Cities: Now, I'd like to provide an update on the RAISE Grant. The river cities of Ludlow, Covington, Bromley, Newport, Dayton, Bellevue, Silver Grove, and the Campbell County Fiscal Court were collectively awarded a nearly \$3.8 million grant to use towards the engineering of the Riverfront Commons Project.

Riverfront Commons is a vision for a continuous riverfront corridor along the southern edge of the Ohio River through a safe and efficient active transportation system connecting communities to vibrant riverfronts,

downtown business districts, and public green spaces to improve economic development and quality of life in the region.

## ② Did you know...?

The first full week of each month, Ludlow residents may place up to 3 large items like furniture at the curb on their collection day?

That videos and minutes of past city council meetings are available on the city website? www.ludlow.org

Sign up to have my full quarterly newsletter delivered to your email inbox: https://shorturl.at/duyS1

doing a thriving business, none more

enjoyable than the Buffalo Bar.... From

the pot-bellied stove to the potbellied spittoon to the pot-bellied

beans to the pot-bellied cash register

to the pot-bellied customer, it was a

-Mayor Chris Wright

## Welcome Back, Buffalo Bar



Owners Dave, Roxanne Blank with two Ludlow railfans

#### by Ruth Bamberger

The Buffalo Bar has been a fixture in Ludlow since the heyday of the Ludlow Railyards. The original bar, built near the turn of the 20th century, gave way to a popular 1960s style at the corner of Carneal and Elm Sts. But like the decline of the railvard, the Buffalo Bar suffered a decline in business as well.

Thanks to owner Dave Blank, the renovated Bar is now back in business big time. Ludlow folks packed into the grand opening in September. It is now a popular hangout to play pool, watch sports events, or just relax on the couch with a drink from the cocktail bar. This 21st century Bar and its surroundings differ greatly from

railroad days. Mary Ann Kelly, who wrote MY OLD KENTUCKY HOME, GOOD NIGHT, vividly describes the old Buffalo in its heyday:

The town's economy hinged on the railroad and railroad payday. Just one look up the street and anyone could tell the day the Southern paychecks arrived. Everybody was out cashing checks, paying bills, shopping, talking on street corners. And the saloons especially were

#### **Community Calendar** ....

TRICK OR TREATING Tues. Oct 31 • 6 - 8 PM

**ELECTION DAY** 

**Tues, Nov 7 • 6 AM - 6 PM** Ludlow Community Center

**LIGHT UP LUDLOW** Sat, Dec 9 • 5:45 PM Parade, lighting of the city tree

**CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS** First, Third Thursdays • 7 PM Ludlow City Building

> See City Event Calendar at www.ludlow.org

lively place. And it hardly ever closed Ludlow continues to preserve one more piece of its railroad history. And Dave Blank will soon be adding nuggets of that history to the décor of the Bar.

**Bircus Brewing Co.** New Release Linden Mead, made with Ludlow honey

Leeta Ruth Tues, Oct 25 • 7 - 9 PM Poetry reading + open mic with Whitney Ellison at Second Sight

Ludlow Tavern Oct 28 • Halloween Party

Oct 22, Nov 5 • Breakfast Pop-Up Dec 9 • Christmas PJ Bar Crawl Dec 16 • Customer Appr'n Party

**Second Sight Spirits** New Fall Menu Available, Available for private rentals

**The Ludlow Express Team** 

Ari Knight Layout, Content Editor,

Writer; Ruth Bamberger Researcher,

Writer; Julie Wartman Copy Editor,

This issue of the Ludlow Express is brought to you by our friends...



630 Elm Street Ludlow, KY

Sat: 8AM-12PM

## @ludlowkycoffee

Ludlow Coffee is a small, community-centric coffee shop featuring Deeper Roots Coffee and local baked goods. Join for Coffee with Mr. Borchers on First Wednesdays, and Coffee with Mayor Chris Wright on the Third Thursdays.

Scan the QR code to subscribe to our enewsletter, follow us

on FB, and access

member benefits.

Sponsorships



Logo art courtesy of Jeff & John Winkle

Location

Hours Mon - Fri: 6AM-2PM