



# Batesville Main Street

# Annual Report 2025



Prepared By  
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# Message from our Executive Director

As I wrap up my third year with Batesville Main Street, I have spent time reflecting on what a whirlwind these past three years have been. Together, we have accomplished so much, hosting great events, advancing meaningful projects, and most importantly, building relationships with people who share a true passion for the City of Batesville and our downtown district.

2025 was a strong and impactful year for Batesville Main Street. We took on several significant projects to boost economic development within the Main Street District, including the revitalization of the Historic Ward School. This project honors the building's history while reactivating the space as a future retail incubator to help address the need for additional downtown retail. Our goal is to foster small businesses that are not yet ready for a full brick-and-mortar location and guide them so they are prepared to move into their own storefronts as opportunities become available. Since beginning this effort, it has been heartwarming to hear stories from former Ward School students, and we are committed to keeping that spirit alive while honoring the building's rich history.

Internally, we made organizational adjustments to strengthen our impact on the economic environment of Downtown Batesville, including the creation of an Economic Vitality Committee. This committee focuses on business retention and recruitment. We have also made strides in working toward capital improvements that support community development and revitalization, helping strengthen the economic standing of downtown and the businesses that thrive there.

In 2025, we also introduced a new community event, the Batesville Music Bash, which brought the community together for a fun-filled downtown block party, with Magic Bus headlining the evening. Bringing live music back to the downtown district was a repeated community request, and we were proud to make that vision a reality.

I extend my sincere thanks to our community members, local businesses, the City of Batesville, and, most importantly, the many volunteers and donors who keep Batesville Main Street thriving. Your generosity and dedication help create a downtown that residents can proudly call home and where visitors are welcomed with open arms. Our vision and success would not exist without your support.



I am always here to listen. Downtown Batesville belongs to the entire community, and meaningful growth depends on continued input and collaboration. Please feel free to reach out anytime with suggestions, comments, or simply to talk about downtown. Let's do this together.

In Community,

*Amy Pretzer*

**Amy Pretzer**  
Executive Director



# Message from our Board Chair

As we put the finishing touches on the 2025 calendar year and look at the blank canvas that is 2026, our Board of Directors wishes to express our gratitude for your interest and support in Batesville Main Street over the past year. Your time and interest in reviewing this annual report is evidence of your support and recognition that our Main Street District is vital to our community.

2025 was another benchmark year for Batesville Main Street with continued growth of our organization and improvement in the quality and quantity of our offerings to the Batesville community. Internally our organization has activated new committees, including the initiation of our Economic Vitality Committee to help focus on how our organization can supplement, enhance, and promote the economic environment of the District. Batesville Main Street improved our well-known existing events such as Touch-A-Truck, Tap and Chisel Craft Brew & Spirits Fest, Food Truck Festival, and Mainopoly Bar Crawl. Further, this year we welcomed the addition of the Batesville Music Bash which brought a live music event back to downtown Batesville.

Batesville Main Street continuously aims to make capital improvements to our Main Street District and in 2025 we made more progress than ever before. Thanks to the City of Batesville, our organization is now the proud owner of the Ward School located on South Street. An extensive rehabilitation effort is now under way and, upon completion in 2026, the space is intended to operate as a new retail incubator space. Additionally, following the successful adoption of the Downtown Vision Plan in 2024 spurred by our organization, we are now in pursuit of grant funding to complete a substantial reactivation of a parking lot in the downtown area consistent with the adopted plan. If successful, the total funds immediately available for the project would be \$625,000 and would be utilized to create an expansion to Women's Inspiration Park. The goal of the project is to provide an additional community gathering space and enhance pedestrian connectivity across the square aimed to attract patrons to the downtown area.

As we move into the 2026 calendar year, we will focus on our continued goals of optimizing our Main Street District through improvement of existing offerings, seeking out new opportunities, and improving our organization's efforts to collaborate, assist, and advocate for growth and development of businesses in the Main Street District.

While our organization and dozens of volunteers pour our stewardship into the Main Street District, all of those efforts rest in your hands as community members who must continue to support our organization and the Main Street District. You are the life blood to our District at our events, in the stores and visiting our restaurants. Our community depends on you to make a conscious effort to prioritize shopping local over big box or A-to-Z online stores. Our Board and the Main Street District challenge and encourage you to continue to prioritize your pride and passion for the Main Street District – whether that is volunteering, shopping, dining, or simply spending time downtown.

Thank you again for being a part of our community, supporting Batesville Main Street, and reviewing our 2025 Annual Report. We cannot wait to see what we all can accomplish in 2026.



**Blaine Timonera**  
Board Chair



# About Us

Batesville Main Street is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to strengthening and revitalizing our historic downtown. We are proud to be an Indiana State Accredited Main Street and an Affiliate member of Main Street America.

Guided by the Main Street America Four-Point Approach®, our work focuses on Economic Vitality, Design, Organization, and Promotion to fulfill our mission and vision of creating an economically sound, thriving community for all. We adhere to the standards and best practices established by Main Street America to ensure our efforts are inclusive, sustainable, and community-driven—fostering both a strong sense of community spirit and long-term economic growth.



## Vision

Batesville Main Street envisions a charming, clean and vibrant downtown district, where friends new and old, join to become part of the fabric of our community. Our historic buildings are revitalized and serve as storefronts for a variety of unique shops and eateries, and our inclusive and progressive atmosphere encourages investment in new buildings and businesses while providing a place that all are proud to call home.

## Mission

A volunteer-driven endeavor, Batesville Main Street strives to preserve Batesville’s illustrious history while continuously looking for ways to transform and cultivate inviting community gathering spaces and promote investment in our downtown district so that it thrives as a place to live, shop, and own a business.





# Our Board of Directors



**Blaine Timonera**  
Board Chair  
Organization Chair



**Amanda Garcia**  
Board Vice-Chair  
Social Media Director



**Ella Dudley**  
Board Treasurer



**Carly Fitzpatrick**  
Board Secretary



**Gretchen Burkhart**



**Tricia Hutchison**



**John Irrgang**  
City Liaison



**John Kuhlman**



**Christy Ludwig**  
Farmers Market Director



**Travis Scheibler**  
Design Chair



**Pam Thomas**  
Promotion Chair



**Jason Walke**  
Economic Vitality Chair

# Advisors to the Board



**Dana Cassidy**



**Anne Raver**



**Lisa Tuveson**



# Community Spotlight



## Community Profile

Based on the US Census Estimates

**7346**

Population

**2.01%**

Growth rate since 2020 census

**\$66,806**

Median Household Income (2023)

**38.9**

Median Age

## Main Street District

Batesville Main Street strives to boost the economic impact to the Main Street District by creating a good balance of business types and encouraging public and private investment into the district.

**130**

Businesses

**\$174,929**

Public Investment

SERVICE - 76

RETAIL - 30

**\$2,209,506**

Private Investment

OTHER - 14

FOOD - 10

**\$12.63:\$1**

ROI on \$1 Public vs Private Dollars



# 2025 Impact by the Numbers

Batesville Main Street tracks the impact on the Downtown District to help gauge success through financial investment, partnerships, events, business growth and reach.

**11,860**

People Engaged Through Main Street Programming

**15**

Events

**12**

Organization Partnerships

**130**

Downtown Businesses Served by BMS

**84**

Community Volunteers = \$76,034 Value Of Volunteer In-Kind Donation

**2**

Net New Businesses

## Social Media



4361 followers



1041 followers

**\$25,000**

Grants Administered by BMS Downtown Businesses for Interior Improvements

**\$327,500**

Grants Received to be Reinvested into Downtown



# Committee Highlights

## ORGANIZATION

- Website Launch & User Experience Improvement - The Organization Committee launched a new website designed to be more intuitive and user-friendly, improving access to information and engagement for residents, visitors, and businesses. The updated site also provides enhanced analytics to better track website activity and support data-driven decision-making.

## PROMOTION

- New Event: Batesville Music Bash - The Promotion Committee launched the Batesville Music Bash, a long-requested community event designed to bring live music to downtown Batesville while creating a block-party atmosphere. The event featured children's activities, vendors, and expanded food options, increasing downtown vibrancy and community engagement.
- Business Input Session - The Promotion Committee hosted a Business Input Session in partnership with the Economic Vitality Committee and the Batesville Area Chamber of Commerce. This collaborative effort gathered valuable feedback from local businesses to help inform planning and goal-setting for 2026.
- Holiday Decorating Contest - The Promotion Committee launched a Holiday Decorating Contest to encourage small business participation, increase downtown activity during the holiday season, and promote local shopping through festive engagement.

## ECONOMIC VITALITY

- Business Input Session Collaboration - The Economic Vitality Committee partnered with the Promotion Committee and the Batesville Area Chamber of Commerce to host a Business Input Session, helping establish a clear path forward for committee planning and future initiatives through collaborative business feedback.
- Downtown Business Outreach - The committee members conducted in-person visits with downtown businesses to check in, better understand what is working, and identify areas where additional support is needed, strengthening relationships and communication with local businesses.
- Re-Envision Grant Administration - The Economic Vitality Committee administered the Re-Envision Grant program for interior improvements aimed at enhancing the consumer experience and supporting the development of new retail, restaurant, and specialty shop locations within the downtown district.

## DESIGN

- Historic Ward School Building Revitalization - The Design Committee began the revitalization of the Historic Ward School Building, supporting its transformation into a productive community asset that addresses downtown development needs and long-term economic vitality.
- Downtown Development & MSRP Grant Support - The Design Committee and BMS assisted the City of Batesville with downtown development efforts, including support through the application process for the Main Street Revitalization Program (MSRP) grant to advance strategic downtown improvement projects.

## FARMERS MARKET

- Junior Market Program - The Farmers Market created a Junior Market program to introduce youth to entrepreneurship. Participants shadowed mentor farmers market vendors before operating within the Junior Market tent, where they marketed and sold their products. The program culminated in a Junior Market "Shark Tank" event, allowing participants to present their products and gain valuable business feedback.
- Music at the Market - The Farmers Market was enhanced by increasing live music, creating a more vibrant and welcoming atmosphere for enhanced visitor engagement and market attendance.
- Farmers Appreciation Breakfast - The Market hosted a Farmers Appreciation Breakfast to recognize and thank farmers, market vendors and patrons for their contributions, strengthening relationships and reinforcing support for local agriculture.



# Project Outcomes

Batesville Main Street is proud to show the impact and outcomes of our events and projects in 2025.

## • Website Launch & Enhanced Analytics

BMS launched a new website, providing improved access to analytics that will guide website activity and better support organizational goals and community needs through data-driven decision-making.  
[www.batesvillemainstreet.org](http://www.batesvillemainstreet.org)

## • Downtown Music Event

BMS created a highly requested downtown music event, bringing the community together for live music, children's activities, and block-party fun. This new event strengthened community engagement and increased downtown foot traffic.

## • Business Input & Strategic Planning

BMS hosted a business input session in collaboration with downtown businesses and the Batesville Area Chamber of Commerce to help shape organizational goals for 2026. Due to strong participation and positive feedback, these sessions will continue on a quarterly basis in 2026.

## • Re-Envision Grant Program

BMS administered five Re-Envision Grants for interior improvements to downtown business locations. These grants enhanced the consumer experience and supported the white-boxing of underutilized spaces to encourage new retail and restaurant development.

## • Downtown Trail Extension

BMS successfully created the Downtown Trailhead, connecting downtown Batesville to the existing trail system while integrating shopping and dining into the trail experience. The project includes a trailhead map at Inspiration Park and sidewalk markers guiding users through the Main Street District, enhancing connectivity, supporting local businesses, and improving access for residents and visitors.

## • Historic Ward School Revitalization

BMS began the revitalization of the Historic Ward School Building, pursuing its transformation into a business incubator to address the community's need for additional downtown retail options.

- Awarded \$300,000 through the Lilly Endowment as part of the READI Region "Rural School Reimagined" project.
- Awarded \$25,000 from the William A. & Martha H. Hillenbrand Foundation to further support the development of the retail incubator space and revitalization of the Ward School.

## • Downtown Development Initiative

BMS assisted the City of Batesville in applying for the Main Street Revitalization Program Grant through the Office of Community and Rural Affairs under their CDBG funds provided by HUD. If awarded, this grant will support a \$625,000 project to create a downtown walkway and green space, providing a safe connection between businesses and a revitalized community gathering area.

## • Junior Market Program

BMS created a Junior Market program to introduce youth to entrepreneurship and develop future farmers market vendors. The program culminated in a "Shark Tank"-style presentation where students showcased their products.

## • Economic Vitality Committee

BMS established a stand-alone Economic Vitality Committee focused on business retention and recruitment in 2025. The committee actively engaged with district businesses to strengthen communication and collaboration, laying the groundwork for future economic development.





# Moving Forward to 2026



## GREAT EVENTS

- TRAVELING TRIVIA
- CHERRY THING-A-LING HOSPITALITY
- MAINOPOLY/TOUCH-A-TRUCK
- BAR CRAWLS
- BATESVILLE FARMERS MARKET
- BATESVILLE MUSIC BASH
- BATESVILLE FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL
- TAP & CHISEL BREW FEST
- HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING & PARADE
- COUNTY WIDE 5<sup>TH</sup> SATURDAY PROMOTIONS
- AND MORE!!!

## EXCITING PROJECTS

- COMPLETION THE REVITALIZATION OF THE HISTORIC WARD SCHOOL
- CREATION OF A SMALL BUSINESS INCUBATOR AT THE WARD SCHOOL
- QUARTERLY BUSINESS INPUT SESSIONS
- VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN AND APPRECIATION
- CONTINUED ASSISTANCE FOR THE POSSIBLE MSRP GRANT PROJECT
- CONTINUED ANALYSIS OF THE DOWNTOWN VISION PLAN FOR OPPORTUNITIES
- RE-ENVISION GRANT AWARDS
- EXPANSION OF THE JUNIOR MARKET WITH ADDITIONAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES
- AND MORE!!!



# Supporters, Sponsors and Donors

**Batesville Main Street would not be able to accomplish its goals and vision without the generous support of our donors and sponsors. We extend our sincere gratitude to each and every one of you for your unwavering commitment and continued generosity. Your support plays a vital role in strengthening our downtown and building a vibrant community.**

Affinity Graphics & Tees  
 Batesville Area Arts Council  
 Batesville Tool & Die  
 Bedel's Marathon  
 The Bookshelf  
 Gretchen Burkhart  
 Candyland Creations and More  
 City of Batesville  
 City of Batesville Economic Development  
 Mike and Janet Borst  
 Creek Bottom Brewery  
 Commonwealth Engineering  
 Copper Willow Salon & Spa  
 DPW Financial  
 Daniel Fayette  
 Carolyn Dieckmann  
 Ella & Alex Dudley  
 Enneking Painting  
 Enneking Properties  
 FCN Bank  
 First Financial Bank  
 Fishin' Commission  
 Carly Fitzpatrick  
 Fraternal Order of the Eagles  
 G&R Event Rentals  
 The Garrett Group  
 Lance and Ronda Green  
 H&R Block - Batesville  
 HWC Engineering  
 Harmeyer's Market  
 Health Markets  
 Kyle Huntman  
 Tricia & Steve Hutchison

John and Janna Irrgang  
 John and Joan Kuhlman  
 LAND Fish Productions  
 Lone Wolf & Friends  
 Christy & Lucas Ludwig  
 McDonalds - Batesville  
 Medmizer  
 The Napoleon State Bank  
 Nuhring Appraisal Services  
 Odyssey Insurance & Investments  
 Premier Anesthesia Associates  
 Rick and Shelly Prickel  
 Pulskamp Flooring Plus  
 Anne & Joe Raver Family  
 Ripley County Community Foundation  
 Michael and Kim Ryan  
 Scheibler Design Build  
 Schmidt Bakery  
 Southeast Indiana Title  
 Southeastern Insurance  
 Sunshine Sisters Plant Shop  
 Susan Glaser Designs  
 Timonera Law Office  
 Todd Siebert Memorial Foundation  
 Pam & Jody Thomas  
 Total Tech Connection  
 Voegele Auto Supply/Napa Auto  
 Jason and Stacey Walke  
 Toby Walsman Family  
 Weigel Funeral Home  
 Neal & Deb Wessling  
 Widener Automotive

**\$23,283**  
 Donations/Sponsorships  
 received in 2025

**\$50,000**  
 Generous Amount of  
 Government funds  
 given in 2025

**\$5,100**  
 In-Kind Donations  
 received in 2025



# Contact Us

At Batesville Main Street, we lead efforts to revitalize, support, and celebrate our historic downtown through community events, strong business partnerships, and meaningful connections.

## Phone

407-625-7911

## Email

[batesvilleinmainstreet@gmail.com](mailto:batesvilleinmainstreet@gmail.com)

## Website

[batesvillemainstreet.org](http://batesvillemainstreet.org)

## Location

132 S Main St.  
Batesville, IN 47006

