

A Powerful New Way to Communicate



In these days of fragmented media ranging from newspapers to websites to Facebook and now Tik-Tok — it is tough to reach our citizens in any organized way.

The US Postal Service provides “Every Door” delivery at a very affordable cost, so this is Issue #1. Your feedback will be appreciated. The goal is shared awareness about projects and plans. Although we’ve focused the newsletter on Union City **Progress**, we will also share the challenges. My heartfelt hope and prayer is a sense that “we’re all in this together.”



The most visible revitalization effort. More on Page 2

Supporting Our Downtown Businesses

As we discuss revitalization, we should pause for a moment and recognize the role of our downtown businesses. A successful city will have an appealing, increasingly successful downtown. So during revitalization, our businesses are joining us as partners in a brighter future, not simply as business people intending to make a profit.

They invest their own money, time, and energy for a purpose we should all believe in. Group Therapy is a wonderful example. And soon, just across the street, we will have Luz Pollos Rotisserie Chicken, occupying what would otherwise be a vacant lot after demolition at 228 E Oak. The sketches below show two sides of the building. The owner will be the great team that brought us Luz Tacos.

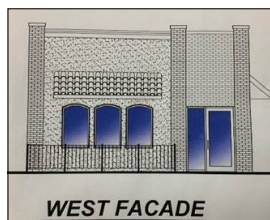
There are many examples, such as Roots, Hometown Coffee, Abby’s Crazy Snack and Old Time Antiques.

Bottom line: When it’s possible, let’s do business with our local merchants. It’s a classic Win-Win-Win!

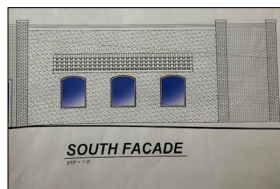


NEW ...
< Abby's Crazy Snacks

Old Time > Antiques



Two sides of Luz Pollos Rotisserie Chicken



Fighting Back from Adversity

Those who live in Union City and those who love Union City from afar do not need to be reminded that the city was devastated by the 20th Century plant closing era. It is also true that, over the years, many revitalization efforts have been disappointing.

Here’s a “wise old saying” that applies: **It is what it is**, the only question is what we do about it.

It’s a lot like a basketball game where the first half didn’t go well. Down 14 points. We all know the steps, beginning at halftime: Revise the game plan, turn the momentum, gain momentum of our own, and execute until the final buzzer.

It’s a process, and we’re right in the middle of it, but there are all kinds of signs, that we now have momentum in our favor, and we are recognizing that it’s a team effort.



Progress, Plans Visions



Group Therapy Is in Business

After a long, challenging restoration-related build, Group Therapy is open. The decision of Group Therapy to develop the storefronts on Columbia, coupled with the new restaurant are visual steps forward.



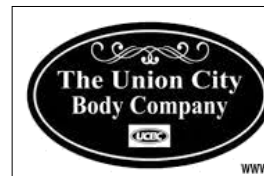
NW Corner, Columbia & Pearl

The old police and City Building at 115 N Columbia is slated for removal. The vision is a railroad car, serving as a visitors center, and adding to our history story: line of sight to the Rail Tower and Depot.



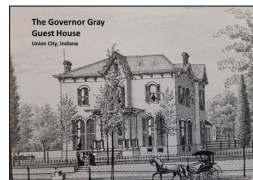
Rail Tower Update

We have assured historical preservation with necessary permits in hand. Supply chain problems slowed finalization of the interior, now slated for October.



Body Company Museum

The old Union City Motors Building, located in the alleyway behind, Roots Deli, has been secured as the home of the new museum. A committee is working with the Adelsperger family for future plans of the



Downtown Lodging Restoration Project

Property is secured and temporary plans are prepared for a downtown Bed & Breakfast facility. An important part of a comprehensive revitalization plan. Financing will come from historical preservation grants.

The Role of Our Corporations

Our large corporations are providers of jobs and economic activity. They are also **proof positive that successful businesses can operate, build and grow with Union City headquarters.**



New leadership, corporate structure and strategy, positioned for engagement in the revolutionary change to electric vehicles.



With Union City roots tracing to 1903, FML is now providing fine hardwood worldwide and positioned to be part of the trend toward lumber in skyscrapers.



With roots that trace to manhole covers, Structured Solutions is now positioned to participate in many parts of America's infrastructure build.



From small town roots to big-town expansion Wasson's is operating nurseries in Muncie and Fishers (a northeast suburb of Indianapolis).



A regional powerhouse in providing rodeo animals and supplies, 3 Bar J Rodeo also supplies award-winning bucking bulls.



A major player in equipment sales, Road Builders Supply also provides professional expertise in fields such as asphalt or concrete product and soil remediation.



Coming soon, a pioneer in overcoming supply-chain problems by physically producing key parts for major manufacturers.

Working on Housing

Our long-term goal is new homes and new families in our town, as housing is a critical element of a growth plan. It won't happen overnight, but the Governor Gray subdivision is underway on North Plum.



Vision Corner: A Symbol of Revitalization, an Engine of Economic Progress

It was critically important that we remove the stigma of the "green monster" from downtown, and the sigh of relief could be heard all over town. Vision Corner will become a center of career-focused education, partnering with the school and also providing educational opportunity for adults seeking career improvement and companies seeking improved workforce readiness. Collaborations are already in place with Ivy Tech, Ball State and Randolph County United. **Visit <https://visioncorner.org>**

The Arts, Music and Entertainment Initiative



The City has formed a separate not-for-profit organization devoted to lifestyle enhancement. Funded by grants, donations and sponsorships, the UCAME operates year round. The recent Rodeo night with concerts at Artisan crossing are an example.

Remember the City Website is an active part of our communication efforts, both internal and external.

External: The website tells the Union City story to individuals and companies that are considering relocation. We put best-foot-forward for those considering our grant applications.

Internal: Extensive coverage of the activities and events that are lifestyle options and "get involved" options. The **Resident Hub** and **Biz/Org Hub** are handy references AND provide feedback opportunities that reach all city leaders. The Mayor's Blog brings new information while archiving past blog posts.



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