



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Media Contact: Daniel Arthur

765.962.1638

daniel@waynecountyfoundation.org

Forward Wayne County Announces Mystery on Main Trail

Wayne County, Indiana– Forward Wayne County (FWC) is pleased to announce the launch of Mystery on Main – a new historical trail created in partnership with Wayne County’s Main Street Coalition and the Richmond-Wayne County Convention & Tourism Bureau.

Mystery on Main will take participants on an adventure across four Main Streets in Cambridge City, Centerville, Hagerstown, and Richmond. Those looking to complete the trail will visit five buildings in each community (20 total) in order to crack the case.

“This has been a project more than nine months in the making,” said Acacia St. John, Program Director for Forward Wayne County. “We are very grateful to the Coalition, the Tourism Bureau, building owners, and our local historians for their input, as well as Lilly Endowment Inc. for providing the necessary funding.”

“With travelers craving deeper, cultural and community-based attractions, Mystery on Main is an appealing experience,” said Nancy Sartain, Leisure Marketing Director for the Richmond-Wayne County Convention & Tourism Bureau. “Mystery on Main is a fun way to showcase Wayne County’s historical Main Street buildings and the unique stories each of them hold.”

The trail begins with a brochure that can be picked up at the Old National Road Welcome Center in Richmond (5701 National Road East, Richmond), or at the public libraries in Cambridge City, Centerville, Hagerstown, or Richmond. The 20 locations on the trail are listed inside, with a brief description of each building.

From there, participants will travel across Wayne County to each of these locations. At each building, a sign with a QR code will be displayed in a window, doorway, or on a yard sign. Scanning these QR codes will direct individuals to a web page that contains a historical account of the building, as well as the answer needed to solve the Mystery on Main.

“The cities of Wayne County have such rich history,” said Cambridge City historian Leah Huddleston. “This project will help our residents and visitors appreciate the history of individual buildings.”

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While on the Mystery on Main trail, participants are urged to take some time to explore the four Main Streets across Wayne County and visit some of the shops, restaurants, and more that now inhabit the buildings found on the trail.

“Communities are the backbone of our Nation. Whether it be communities in large cities or communities in small towns, communities give us a sense of belonging,” Joe Smith, a contributing historian from Hagerstown said. “The Mystery on Main tour is a wonderful opportunity for all of us to learn from the past stories of buildings and people.”

“This is perfect excursion for families, friends, visitors, and more. It can be done in a day or over the course of a few days. It’s really up to the individual,” St. John added

“Centerville, and the other Wayne County Main Streets, have so many interesting things to explore!” said Shari Markley, President of Main Street Centerville. “We look forward to folks learning about and discovering new places in Wayne County!”

St. John ended. “We would be remiss to not thank our local historians that brought the history of these buildings to life. Their passion for preserving Wayne County’s history is front and center.”

The Mystery on Main trail will launch to the public on Tuesday, July 26th.

About Forward Wayne County

Forward Wayne County, an umbrella unit of the Wayne County Foundation, serves as a county-wide backbone organization to convened coalitions to foster a vibrant economy and promote prosperity in Wane County, Indiana.

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