

DOWNTOWN FREEPORT IN THE LOOP



June 2022



2022 SCHEDULE:

Keeping Things Tidy

While construction will begin soon on Chicago Avenue, that should not deter us all from trying to keep our downtown looking as clean and welcoming as possible! Please help pick up any loose trash items or pull weeds that creep up around your property. Quick little gestures by each of us can add up to make a big difference!

The next clean-up day has been scheduled for July 10-17. The Partnership will again be working with local businesses, civic groups and volunteers to identify special areas that need attention pulling weeds and picking up trash. Please contact Katie if you are aware of any groups willing to participate or special areas that should need dedicated attention.

Speaking of volunteers, we would like say a special thanks to CareerTEC students and instructors who helped clean-up and pull weeds at the city lot on Main Street. What an amazing difference it made! They also spent time cleaning up behind Sullivan's Foods which was another overdue area of town. Efforts like this not only beautify our spaces, but builds engagement and pride for all we can do as a community to make a difference!



Downtown Business Web Site

Not surprising downtown businesses are special! That is why there is a special web site dedicated to the communication with downtown business owners and property owners. The web site includes all meeting information, schedule of upcoming events, archives of these newsletters, posters and handouts. If there is anything you need or have a question about, it is on the web site!

greaterfreeport.com/dtbusiness

Reminder: All meetings are open to ALL business and building owners! Please join us!

JUNE DOWNTOWN MEETINGS

Downtown Design & Placemaking

- June 14, 7:30 AM
@ Greater Freeport Partnership

Downtown Promotions Meeting

- June 9, 8 AM
@ Greater Freeport Partnership

Young Professionals Network

- June 8, 5-7 PM
@ Grand River Hall

Downtown Business & Building Owners

- July 13, 7:30 AM
@ Hilldale Deli
30 W. Stephenson St.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- June 3
Festival District Day/Food Truck Fri.
Music on Chicago
- July 1
Festival District Day/Food Truck Fri.
Music on Chicago
- July 21
Business After Hours
Stewart & Assoc.
- August 5
Festival District Day/Food Truck Fri.
Music on Chicago

Music on Chicago Returns to Art Plaza

We look forward to the return of downtown outdoor music with more than 20 years of Music on Chicago! The event will continue to be held in the Freeport Art Plaza (still on Chicago Avenue 😊) the first Friday of June, July and August. You will notice that this also falls in line with the first Friday of the month, as a Freeport Festival District day. In addition to purchasing beverages at downtown bars and restaurants during these months, beverages from Music on Chicago will also

apply to the festival district rules. Great bands have been booked to bring faithful and new audiences downtown.

June 3 - Dirty Fishnet Stockings with opening act, Rockabilly Kid.

July 1 - Big Daddy Woo Woo with opening act, Better Late Than Never

August 5 - High Stakes with opening act, Free Fall.

We hope to see you there!



Chicago Avenue Construction Update

The Chicago Avenue reconstruction project will revitalize the aesthetics of our downtown core and we are all excited to see it begin this year! The City of Freeport is still working to solidify all aspects of the timeline, but it should be available in the next few weeks. The Partnership will be helping to facilitate communication between the construction project and business/property owners. A thorough marketing campaign is also established that will keep residents and visitors informed so they continue to frequent businesses as usual! More information will be forthcoming with beautiful graphic detail!



Stephenson County Farmer's Market

The farmer's market has returned to the municipal lot on Saturday mornings from 8 am to noon bringing great crowds and a diverse array of vendors! We are excited to have the group continue to make their home in downtown as another attraction for residents and visitors. When setting your hours for the summer, please remember that this event draws significant attendance and can make an impact on the traffic you see in your store.

Festival District Continues



The Freeport Festival District is consistently gaining traction with residents and visitors!

As a reminder, patrons can purchase their beverage at a downtown bar or restaurant and walk into retail establishments who have opted-in to participate. To opt-in, a location must display the festival district decal on their door alerting patrons that they are welcome to enter with their beverage. Please let us know if you need a decal!

Thank you!

Thanks Deininger's! The hanging baskets and planters look beautiful!!



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