



DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT DIVISION MONTHLY REPORT

Downtown Bloomington News and Information

January –February 2018



The purpose of this newsletter is to keep you connected with Downtown Development Division’s ongoing efforts to support and enhance the vibrancy of our historic city center.



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Indoor Farmers Market

10 a.m. to noon

Third Saturday Dec-April
Grossinger Motors Arena
Front Street Entrance



Fresh Produce, Choice Meats, Eggs,
Savory & Sweet treats, Cheese, and Art

The indoor season of our Award Winning Farmers Market officially opened with the Thanksgiving Market in November, 2017. Our market has grown, now featuring 18 vendors, and attendance continues to steadily increase. In January, we broke a record, welcoming almost **800 people** in just 2 hours, thanks in part to our LINK Double Value Program which allows families to double their buying power. A grant from LINK UP ILLINOIS makes this program possible.

DOUBLE VALUE COUPONS NOW AVAILABLE!!



With the support of Link Up Illinois, we are now able to match your LINK Card purchases for fruits and vegetable up to \$20.

Get yours at the Downtown Bloomington Farmers Market
information tent!



FIRST FRIDAYS

5-8pm every month

it's art. it's action.
it's entertainment.
see and be seen,
every first friday.
main | center | front

Despite the Cold temperatures, Downtown Businesses continued to extend their business hours and offer a warm welcome to guests on Friday Friday! The DBA created this fun monthly event in 2008— Over the past decade we've enjoyed many themes and made countless new friends Downtown.

HANDS ON ART was the theme for January's First Friday. Guests were invited to create their own piece of unique art, encouraged by the artist in residence.



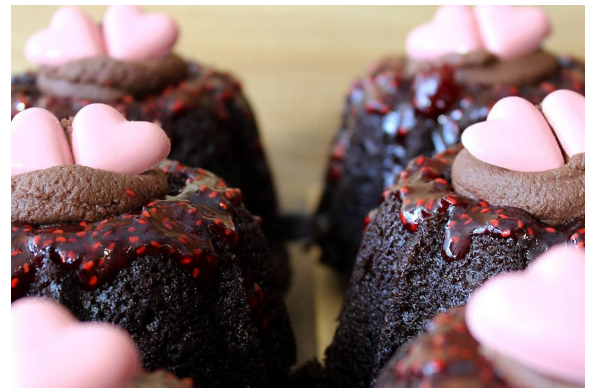
**Tour de
Chocolat'**
5-8 p.m. 02.02.18

Downtown Bloomington
First Friday

www.downtownbloomington.org



And everyone's favorite, The **TOUR DE CHOCOLATE** was held in February. Hundreds of visitors indulged their senses by spending an evening Downtown.





A group of fifteen gathered at the Osborn Room On February 1 to learn more about Neighborhood watch, and how we can work together to create an active network Downtown. This effort is in keeping with the established priorities of City staff and Council—to create a safe and welcoming environment in our city center. The group was a blend of residents, property and business owners and fans of the Downtown. Officer Elias Mendiola and the DDD will continue to work together on this initiative.



Downtown Development Division Spring Event Calendar at a Glance

February 17, 10 am—noon Indoor Farmers Market at the Grossinger Motors Arena

February 13 - Fat Tuesday Downtown (various locations)

March 2 , 5-8 pm—First Friday /Artist Trading Cards

March 17—10 am—noon—Indoor Farmers' Market at the Grossinger Motors Arena

April 6 5-8 pm— First Friday/ Area Artist Invitational

April 20—5:30—10 Downtown Trivia Night at the Eagles

April 21— Indoor Farmers' Market at the Arena

May 4—First Friday /Spring Into Art

May 5—Opening Day of the Outdoor Farmers Market

WELCOME NEW BUSINESSES

Half Hazard Press
105 W. Jefferson
Opened December 6, 2017

Refined Barbershop
409 N. Main, Suite A
Opened December, 2017

Blackwater 13
626 N. Main
Opened December 2017

2 FruGALS Thrift
413 N. Main
Opened December 2017

Vera & Buck Florist
320 N. Main
Opened February 2018