# Who is Main Street





Main Street is a
Nationwide, grass roots
movement that blends
preservation, activation,
and coordination to
harness the power of
Character-Based
Economic Growth.

West Branch has been a state and nationally accredited Main Street community since 2006.

Our Home. Our History. Our Future.



The Main Street way is to inspire and engage the property owners, business owners, leaders, friends and neighbors to create a shared value in the character of the community. **Imagine having people believe their place matters.** That is true community support. That is what Main Street is all about.

#### It's Simple. It's People loving their Place.

Main Street West Branch is a non-profit volunteer-driven organization working through the combination of public, private, and commercial interests to strengthen our historic Main Street district for the benefit of our community as a whole. **Your support is crucial to this success!** 



1,675
Volunteer Hours
Recorded in 2023

7,650 Event Attendees in 2023 \$294,560 Grant Funding Secured since 2020

#### **MSWB BUDGET:**







## Main Street Alive

OUR STRATEGIC EVENTS
BRING VIBRANCY TO THE
COMMUNITY & DISTRICT

"Our most profitable days of the year align with Main Street events! The opportunity to engage new customers is so valuable as a small business."

> -Tiffany Frederick Owner, The Honey De









**OUR EVENTS SUPPORT BUSINESS, SHAPE PERCEPTIONS, & MAKE PEOPLE FALL IN LOVE WITH DOWNTOWN** 

















# We are Main Street

Our volunteer Board of Directors drives our organization in making meaningful change in our historic downtown district



MAIN STREET
WEST BRANCH
BOARD OF
DIRECTORS





**NICKI BRICK**Board President



**STEVEN GRACE**VP & Organization Chair



CAROLYN ANDERSON
Treasurer



**PAULA ROGERS**Secretary



**STACY WATERS**Promotions Chair



**JOHN FULLER**Board Member



MANDA FRAUENHOLZ
Board Member



JENNIFER WALKER
Economic Vitality
Co- Chair



**JUSTIN STINSON**Board Member



ANTHONY "TJ" CAPPEL
Economic Vitality
Co-Chair



**SAM DRELLA**Board Member



**SCOTT THOMA**Board Member

# We are Main Street

Our Advisory Board includes key community leaders who support the Main Street mission through guidance and collaboration.



MAIN STREET
WEST BRANCH
ADVISORY
BOARD





JESSI SIMON

Main Street

Executive Director





ROGER LAUGHLIN City of West Branch Mayor





**PETE SWISHER**National Park Service
Superintendent





MUNDI MCCARTY
Hoover Presidential
Foundation





AARON SHINEBLAUM Hoover Presidential Library & Museum



# What's the **Plan?**

Main Street is results oriented with a multi-layered approach to economic sustainability

#### **Our Vision**

West Branch will thrive with an eclectic mix of old and new as a desirable visitor's destination and a place of nometown pride that shows in the vibrant downtown & unique offerings.

#### **Our Mission**

To improve the social and economic well being of our community & the historic downtown by:

- Preserving and sharing our history and unique identity.
- Attracting and supporting small businesses.
- Engaging and connecting the community.

#### **Our Top Strategies**

**Strategy 1**- Downtown will be celebrated as a *multigenerational-friendly* hub and heart of the community. Enhancing family-oriented events and activities, strengthening collaborations with local businesses to cater to the needs of family members at all ages, and maintaining our unique heritage will help create and sustain an inviting and inclusive environment for people of all ages to live and work.

**Strategy 2**- Attract and engage *visitors and tourist*. We aim to establish West Branch as a destination to eat, shop & explore with a focus on increasing traffic to Main Street. This requires consistent collaboration with other local partners including the Hoover campus, school and City.

#### **Big Ideas**

- As our community grows it's crucial to create meaningful opportunities for family members of all ages to feel
  welcome, engaged, contented and entertained in order to build and sustain deep roots in West Branch.
- West Branch has potential to attract more visitors by combining efforts to promote our 3 major attractions:
   the National Park, the Presidential Museum and the historic Main Street district.
- Main Street West Branch plays a valuable role in economic development and community building. Our
  organization's operations are expanding and support, funding and volunteerism must also grow.

#### **Main Street Four Point Approach**

DESIGN

**ECONOMIC VITALITY** 

**ORGANIZATION** 

**PROMOTION** 



**Action-Oriented Work Plans** 

## Why Main Street

Be a part of the difference. We are the people who make the place better.



### IMPACT SPOTLIGHT



"We could not have done this project without the help of Main Street West Branch"

-- JENNIFER WALKER,
OWNER OF THE SERVING CAFE

### **Project Highlight**

In 2023 Main Street West Branch helped The Serving Cafe secure major funding via two Main Street lowa grants. The Challenge Grant provided \$100,000 to assist with the transformation of a long-time vacant building, previously a gas station and auto shop, into a beautiful full-service cafe and coffeeshop to better serve our community and visitors. The Open 4 Business Grant provided an additional \$10,000 to assist with The Serving Cafe's expansion by offsetting expenses related to equipment, inventory and marketing.

This project demonstrates the impact of powerful partnerships and aligns with MSWB's mission. This investment has had a significant economic impact within our district and we were thrilled to partner with the property owners, Jennifer and Todd Walker, to bring this project to life.

### Social Connection





**76,507**Facebook Reach @mainstreetwb



+216
NEW Instagram Followers
@mainstreetwestbranch

#### Volunteer Connection





**1,675**Volunteer Hours in 2023



**\$53,265**Volunteer Value in 2023



**\$1.4M**Volunteer Value
Program to Date

### In the Numbers (\$<

#### Income



Expenses

- \$201,255
- Grant Funding
- Fundraising Events
- Event Sponsors
- City Support (Hotel/Motel Tax)
- Individual Donations
- Grant Projects
   (Building Restoration, Biz Expansion, Placemaking)
- Program Operations
- Community Events
- Fundraising Expenses
- Business Support
- Downtown Beautification