

## DDC ACTIVITIES



### DDC Board Changes

Caterpillar Inc. is one of the DDC's founding members, and we have been very fortunate to have great leadership from our Caterpillar board members. Henry Vicary recently returned to the DDC board but has elected to resign due to scheduling conflicts preventing him from giving the DDC his dedicated attention. Michael Hatfield will fill Henry Vicary's seat on the DDC Board.

Mike works for Caterpillar Inc. and is also co-owner of Zion Coffee at 803 SW Adams St. in the Warehouse District. He has a vested interest in downtown development, and we are glad to have him join the DDC board of directors. Thank you, Henry, for your dedication to the growth of downtown Peoria, and welcome, Michael Hatfield to the DDC board!

### Coming Soon!

The DDC will be partnering with the Peoria Housing Authority (PHA) and the Illinois Housing Development Authority in late spring to sponsor a low-to-mod-income housing seminar for interested developers.

The housing study done in March 2018 shows the need for such housing in downtown Peoria, and the seminar will provide details on how to proceed with this type of

development. More details to follow in future newsletters. If you would be interested in attending the seminar, please contact us via the DDC web site: <https://www.downtownpeoria.us>.



**DOWNTOWN**  
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
*of Peoria*

DOWNTOWN  
Business and Developer

**SPOTLIGHT**

### New features in the DDC Newsletter!

We will highlight one available property and one established business each month. If you are a downtown business that would like to be featured or have property for sale or lease, contact us at [info@downtownpeoria.us](mailto:info@downtownpeoria.us). These features are at no charge to you.

## DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT

### Ronald McDonald House® "Pathway to Hope"

One of the most important and exciting new developments in downtown Peoria is the Ronald McDonald House®. Many charity events are taking place to continue raising the remaining \$1.5M needed to fully fund the new House that will serve several hundred families each year upon opening in late fall. One of these charity events is

"The Pathway to Hope." Find out how you can purchase a personalized brick to help pave "The Pathway to Hope." These bricks will line the walkway leading up to the main entrance of the House. Purchase your brick here: <https://secure.qgiv.com/for/rmhccoci>. To stay up-to-date on progress at the site, check out the live construction cam at <https://rmhc-centralillinois.org/peoria-house-build-live-feed/> or Like the RMH Facebook page @rmhcci to watch regular LIVE updates.



### Peoria Marriott Pere Marquette

The Comeback of a Classic! New ownership, new management, and an elevated experience like never before. Rediscover the iconic Peoria Marriott Pere Marquette Hotel and Courtyard by Peoria Downtown, and relive its famed stature with a contemporary new attitude. Discover the historical elegance of one of the most premier hotels in

Peoria. The Peoria Marriott Pere Marquette Hotel invites guests to experience the \$70M renovation which has retained the essence that made this hotel in Peoria, IL a favorite choice among celebrities and dignitaries. To get more information or to make reservations for a hotel stay or event, check out their website at <https://www2.reservationdesk.com/hotel/6124fa2/peoria-marriott-pere-marquette-peoria> or find them on Facebook.

### Are You Our Next Downtown Developer?

It is an exciting time for downtown Peoria and there are several properties available for residential and mixed-use development. If you would like to get in on the action down on the iconic Peoria riverfront, visit the DDC web site to find out about available properties at <https://www.downtownpeoria.us>.



## CO.STARTERS

### Are you a CO.STARTER?

CO.STARTERS is a platform to help communities grow local business. This nine-week program equips aspiring entrepreneurs with the insights, relationships, and tools needed to turn business ideas into action. If you are an aspiring entrepreneur, or a seasoned entrepreneur looking

to launch a new product or service, CO.STARTERS is for you. The only real prerequisites are: (1) having an idea you are ready, willing, and excited to share and pursue and (2) a willingness to study, shape and fine-tune that idea in a supportive, collaborative, and welcoming environment. If you are creative and community-minded, and you are serious about turning your passion into a sustainable business, CO.STARTERS wants you. CO.STARTERS is open to applicants from Peoria County and several surrounding counties.

To learn more about this nine-week transformative program, visit the CO.STARTERS web site at: <https://www.startupggp.org/costarters/>.



## PROPERTY SPOTLIGHT

### 411 Hamilton Blvd.

Office space for lease  
in Peoria, Illinois.

13,471 sq. ft., Suite #1200  
Lease price: \$15.25/sq. ft.

In the heart of Downtown Peoria,  
across the street from the Peoria  
County Courthouse;

Two on-site restaurants including  
Subway; fantastic views of the  
Illinois River and Downtown

On-site post office; full-time, on-  
site maintenance and manager

Attached parking

GROSS leases—includes  
common area maintenance, utilities and janitorial for no additional charges.

Contact Jim Grube at (309) 696-9110 or [jim@jimgrube.com](mailto:jim@jimgrube.com) for your private  
tour of this great building and all it has to offer!

## Venue Chisca & Heaven on Earth Design Studio

On Thursday, March 28th, the DDC hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony to help celebrate the opening of Venue Chisca and Heaven on Earth Design Studio, located in the Warehouse District at 1009 SW Washington Street.

The wedding-party enterprise is part of "The Block" undertaking with local builder and developer

Casey Baldovin, an effort that seeks to renovate five buildings on Washington Street. Venue Chisca is yet another locally owned business in The Block.

"The Block" owner and developer Casey Baldovin stated: *"We are thrilled to be a part of the Warehouse District! It's a perfect location for this kind of project and we have been very pleased with the way it has come together! We enjoy the entire renovation process, from the planning stage through completion. We look very forward to being involved in many more developments in Downtown Peoria!"*

Welcome, Venue Chisca and Heaven on Earth Design Studio to the Warehouse District! To plan your special event, visit the web site at <https://heavenonearthfloraldesigns.com/venue-chisca/>. You can also find them on Facebook.



## BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

### Running Central updates identity to RC Outfitters

A downtown Peoria business is changing its entire brand and broadening its products and services it offers. The well-known Running Central can now be known as RC Outfitters. The store sells running shoes, apparel,

along with many other items, but the owners wanted to show the city of Peoria that they have much more to offer to people who might not consider themselves as die-hard runners.

The Riverfront building has also now gone through major renovations, changing the look of the interior part of the business by painting walls and rearranging items, and changing how its mobile van looks. *"That's why I think we need to be nimble; we can't just rest on our laurels and do what we've always done and expect that we're going to be able to be successful. We have to look at ourselves critically; we have to look at the landscape in a very mindful fashion and ask, "Are we being as strategic as we can be to stay relevant to the customersthat we serve?"* said co-owner of RC Outfitters Adam White.

*"Some people might ask us, are you getting away from running with this name change? No, we're doing even more with running. We're adding running ...*



## BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT cont...

groups across the board. People can find a women's only free running group on Monday nights, free fun-runs out of the store Wednesday mornings and Wednesday evenings, and free fun-runs every Saturday. This is 52 weeks a year." RC Outfitters is having a "happy hour" every Wednesday and Thursday from 4-7 p.m. where you can have an adult beverage while shopping". It will also offer its services in its mobile experience by

taking products to local businesses around the area that want them. To learn more about RC Outfitters, visit their web site at [www.rcoutfitter.com](http://www.rcoutfitter.com), find them on Facebook, or better yet, come on down to the store on the riverfront and support Adam White's Shop Local 365 plea, "Please try to purchase products where your home is, and thank you for choosing to support local businesses!"

## DOWNTOWN ACTIVITIES



### Peoria Riverfront Museum

The distillers may be gone, but today seems as good a day as any to remember when Peoria was the Whiskey Capitol of the World. Read all about those days and more Peoria history in The Street gallery at the Peoria Riverfront Museum. During your visit, you can also enjoy "American Decoy" with more than 200 of the world's rarest decoy masterpieces, and "10 Medical Inventions That Changed the World" featuring many life-saving, life-improving inventions created right here in our area! To find out more about the museum's attractions and offerings, visit the museum's web site at <http://www.peoriariverfrontmuseum.org/>.



### WTVP Annual Auction

April 25th-28th, 2019!  
"Watch, Bid, & Buy!" since 1974 - WTVP's annual televised auction is coming your way, live, with treasures galore to "watch, bid, and buy." From big-ticket items on our Big and Tonight Boards, to art and everything you need for home, office and life, the WTVP Auction has something for you. And what's more, all proceeds go to support WTVP and the programming you love and watch every day.



### Peoria Innovation Alliance Launch & Fundraiser

Come join us as we launch a collaborative movement to reposition the region and change our narrative to one of positivity and progress through the support and celebration of innovation, entrepreneurship, and startup activity. For more information and to view the agenda, visit the web site at: <https://changethenarrative.events/>.

- What: Peoria Inno - Launch & Fundraiser
- When: Wednesday, May 1st, 2019: 6:30 - 9:00pm
- Where: Venue Chisca, 1009 SW Washington St., Peoria, IL 61602
- Emcee: Greg Batton, The Greg & Dan Show
- Keynote: Trey Bowles, Dallas Innovation Alliance

# Activities

## Downtown Peoria

APRIL 2019

There is something for everyone in Downtown Peoria!  
See below for a few ideas of April Activities:

**Art & Pottery classes**

**Blarney Blitz 5K Run**

**Brew Pubs & Dining**

**Contemporary Art Center:**

Exhibits, Salsa Dancing

5 Spot Live Music,

Whisper & Shout

Open Mic Poetry

& so much more...

see website!

**Escape Games**

**First Friday Gallery Tours**

**Howlin on the Water -**

**Dueling Pianos**

**J. Draper Glass Blowing Classes**

**Live Music Venues**

**Obed & Isaacs - Paint Night**

**Peoria Civic Center:**

Alice in Chains

Central IL Auto Show

Easter Seals -

Passage to India

Peoria Symphony

Orchestra

RENT

Steve Martin/Martin Short

The Doobie Brothers

Zac Brown Band

& so much more...

see website!

**Peoria Riverfront Museum:**

10 Medical Inventions That

Changed the World

American Decoy -

the Invention

Dome Planetarium Shows

Giant Screen 3D

Movie Theater

Permanent Gallery exhibits

& so much more...

see website!

**RCO Fun Runs**

**Spirit of Peoria Cruises**

Murder Mystery Cruise

**Trivia Nights**

**World on Wheels Segway Tours**

(seasonal)

**WTVP Annual Auction**

**WTVP/State & Water Live Music**

**Yoga and Exercise Classes**

**Zagster - City Cycle Bike Share**

(seasonal)

Visit [www.downtownpeoria.us](http://www.downtownpeoria.us) for more details!



### Social media

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Linked-In! Social media is where it's at! In addition to our web site, make sure you follow The Downtown Development Corporation of Peoria (DDC) on social media. The DDC is your go-to spot for up-to-date development and activities in downtown Peoria. We like to be followed and welcome your comments!

