

The Chapel Art Gallery Occupies a Restored 1900s Church By Beverly Seese



On Delphi's Main Street, in an historic church building, twenty area artists have come together to form a guild and create an attractive gallery shop. This artists' cooperative has been promoted and made possible by the generosity of local businessman, Bill Bradshaw, through his company Delphi Properties. The goal of the guild is to organize an affordable, attractive venue for local artists to display and sell their work. Delphi Properties supports our community and wants to promote Delphi as a unique, up-and-coming spot on the map. The gallery, located at 321 W. Main Street, was originally St. Mary's Episcopal Church. The land was originally procured in 1843. The first St. Mary's Church succumbed to inclement

weather and fire. The current building was built in 1901 and consecrated on April 25, 1904, by Reverend John H. White. The current Arts and Crafts edifice is as unique as the former sanctuary was ancient, with an exterior composed of contrasting architectural forms including a shake-shingled gable, a stucco base, and a corner bell tower. The bell is from the original structure, purchased in New York and shipped to Delphi via the Wabash & Erie Canal by way of Toledo, Ohio. It was a gift from the famous Trinity Church in New York City. The interior is distinguished by an exposed beam ceiling and commemorative stained-glass windows which were imported from Europe. The depiction of Jesus in the rose window over the front built-in alter is of "The Ascension" by Heinrich Hofman (1824-1911). This beautiful work of art was funded by Catherine Schermerhorn Brackenridge in honor of her father, Bernard Schermerhorn.

In addition to serving the St. Mary's congregation for over 150 years, there was a period of time that the building was shared by the developing flock of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, prior to constructing their own worship space on Highway 421, across from Delphi High School. Following the disbanding of the St. Mary's congregation, Sally Ashton operated a unique gift shop there named "The Church Mouse." The most recent use of the building was for the services of the Community Church of God congregation. Mr. Bradshaw and the Chapel Gallery have received two awards in the past year: A Heritage award at this summer's Old Settlers Gathering Annual Meeting and the 2019 Church Restoration Award from the Delphi Preservation Society.

New Business Opens in DOH Building

Empire Consignment, LLC now occupies the former Martha Rose space next to the Delphi Gallery of Contemporary Art in the Delphi Opera House building. Business owners, Inger Cowan and Cynthia Lashley, have transformed the space into a designer label consignment shop that rivals chic boutiques. Specializing in designer-label-only new and slightly-used items, the store is a perfect addition to the downtown area. With plans to be open in the evenings during Opera House events, the store gives patrons to Opera House shows an opportunity to take a moment to shop and find that perfect item or gift. The Delphi Preservation Society, as the lessor of the space, is very happy to welcome them to 105 South Washington Street.



DOCENTS FROM INDIANA LANDMARKS TOUR DOH AND DOWNTOWN

By Anita Werling

More than two dozen volunteers from Indiana Landmarks traveled to Delphi September 28 on what might be considered a busman's holiday. All were active docents at Indiana Landmarks' headquarters in Indianapolis. Each year these volunteers take a tour together to other heritage treasures throughout Indiana. This year brought them to Delphi for an architectural tour of the downtown followed by a tour of the Delphi Opera House.

In the late morning, the group participated in a walking tour of the Delphi Courthouse Square Historic District. Tour guides Anita Werling and Joe Mayfield led the tour pointing out architectural features interspersed with touches of Delphi history. Following a catered lunch in the Banquet Hall, the group toured the Delphi Opera House led by Executive Director Sara Daly Brosman with assistance from Anita Werling. As the group left Delphi in the late afternoon, many vowed to return in the future with family and friends.



Delphi Native Returns and Revitalizes Historic Building

By Tom Atkinson

Artemis Color Lounge and Lifestyle Studio serves clients in the historic building that was originally home to City Hall and the Fire Department at 107 North Union Street. Delphi native and DCHS graduate, Erin Jubril, opened the salon October 25 with a full day of scheduled clients. Starting as a young teen working in a local beauty shop, Erin launched a career in hair care that's been going for twenty-three years. She earned her beauty license shortly after graduating from DCHS, where she was in the Entertainers, ran track, and was "artsy." Like many, Erin left town after graduation. "When I was 18, I couldn't wait to leave Delphi," she said.

Erin spent more than a decade in Atlanta building up Aura Hair and Make-up, transforming the salon into a multi-site business with 60 employees. She also worked as a Redken artist educating salon owners all over the country. In July 2017, with her two sons, Kaden (age 8) and Mason (age 4), Erin moved back to Delphi. Prior to opening her new salon in Delphi, Erin worked at Element Salon & Day Spa in West Lafayette.

The decision to start a shop happened about six weeks prior to its opening. "Things lined up. I knew I did the right thing," she explained about her decision to begin a business in Delphi. Several local people -- some family and some not -- stepped up to help give this ancient Delphi property a decidedly stylish look, part of Erin's vision for the space. A grand opening was held Saturday, November 16, featuring a silent auction to support the Delphi Education Foundation and highlighting the community's vendors.

Although the focus of Artemis is hair color and design, the salon also offers Yoga, Barre, Tabata, and more. What a transformation from 1911, when an old-time fire engine was parked inside! Erin and her sons live in an 1850s home at the corner of Union and Franklin Streets, footsteps from her salon.



Mears Family receives Arnold Award for Rural Preservation

By Hannah McIlrath

The Mears family, of rural Delphi, was honored at the Indiana State Fair this past August with the Arnold Award for Rural Preservation. This award is presented from Indiana Landmarks and Indiana Farm Bureau to recognize preservation and current use of farm-related buildings. To be considered for the award, there are several criteria that need to be met. One item is that the buildings still be used in a farming operation, although they don't need to serve their original purpose. Buildings need to possess historic integrity and the farms managed by the property's owner. The Mears family operates two historic farms in Carroll County and has included three generations. Both farms are part of the Deer Creek Valley rural historic district that is part of the National Register of Historic Places. Sherry and Lois purchased the 275-acre farmstead in 1949 and spent over 60 years there. Then, in 1966, they purchase an 80-acre farm down the road where their son John and daughter-in-law Mary reside today. Both properties include multiple outbuildings including barns, poultry sheds, and concrete block buildings that are used in their farming operation. The Mears family strongly believes in preservation and is glad these buildings and farms will be around for generations to come.



Union Center becomes The Parish House on Union

By Joe Mayfield

Soon after the July 2019 sale of the Union Center, a transformation of the historic former Methodist church began. New owners, Patricia and Lee Strayer, are working tirelessly to transform the space into a beautiful wedding venue. In April 2020, The Parish House on Union will be able to accommodate up to 200 wedding and reception guests. Phase II plans include a Honeymoon suite and a Bride's-getting-ready room. The Bride's room, when not being utilized for a wedding, will provide a wonderful Airbnb room. Phase III plans are for a 2-bedroom, 2-bath apartment and 2 additional Airbnb "hotel rooms." Indiana Landmarks holds an external covenant ensuring that the Parish House on Union will forever look like the historic Methodist Church on the outside and allow for a wonderfully renovated space on the inside! Visit www.theparish.house for more information and pictures.

