



THE Marquee

From the Desk of Vonnie Corsini, Executive Director

September 2021 / ISSUE FIVE / VOL 3



Make a Past Getaway.

Little Balkans Days Festival! Starting on August 28th and extending to September 5th, Little Balkans Days is jam packed with events. Festival buttons can be purchased for a \$5 donation at the following locations: Celebrations by Lori, KTCCU, Pittsburg Chamber of Commerce and Ron's Supermarket. The button will give you admittance to a range of events from a polka dance, live music, and a quilt show to events at the Crawford County Historical Museum. For more information: <https://www.facebook.com/littlebalkansdays>.

The job of renovated historic theatres is to rebuild & re-energize Downtowns.

The historic Granada Theatre in downtown Emporia, KS is a case study for how renovated historic theatres are used to rebuild and re-energize America's downtowns. Let's take a look:



More than \$125 Million has been invested in new downtown construction since the Granada Theatre's renovation and opening 12 years ago. For instance, the opening of the Theatre was followed by the construction of a new 16,000 sq ft art center (above right), which was followed by the construction of the Granada Plaza, the Kellogg Lofts (right) and the Roosevelt Plaza & Suites. Each incorporated street level, commercial space with apartments and condos above.

The historic Granada Theatre's ability to drive tens of thousands of visitors downtown annually, and the increased foot traffic downtown which followed, has led to the opening of numerous other small businesses,



either through renovation or new construction: the Radius Brewery, Casa Romas, Sweet Granada, Granada Coffee Company, Gravel Grinders.

Additionally, professional offices, restaurants and breweries have been added, as well as more than 700 apartments: Preston Lofts (right), Chelsea Lofts, Citizens National Lofts; most through new construction. Another plaza and suite begins construction this Fall.

Renovated historic theatres attract attention. People are drawn to an exciting urban atmosphere couched in the charm of a small town environment. Renovated historic theatres add investment motivation for that kind of redevelopment in America's downtown districts.



The adorning feature of the Colonial Fox grand entry is the 1920 ticket booth. Unfortunately, the booth's ornate crown was damaged beyond repair. After consulting with numerous restoration professionals, we decided the crown needed to be recast and the intricate details resculpted. Happily for us, a gifted sculptor, Jessica Heikes, had just moved back to Pittsburg after earning an M.F.A. from the University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth. With her strong art and sculpting background to draw upon, Jessica started by creating a mold directly from the

damaged crown. "It was a very interesting project and one that utilized a lot of my skills. Although, I have to admit, as an artist and a sculptor, I had never imagined that I would be using my skills in this direction," smiled Heikes.

We extend our deepest sympathies to the families of our dear friends Vernon Pearson, Della Monsour, Tom Marshall, Lucida Sullivan, Victor Sullivan, Elaine Sauer, and Louise Spears. They will be sorely missed by their families and by our community.

Did you know? Dodge City, KS may not be known as THE Windy City but with an average wind speed that clocks in at 14 miles per hour. It is actually the windiest city in the entirety of the United States.

QUESTIONS?

Please call us at (620) 235-0622 or e-mail us at info@colonialfox.org
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The MARQUEE is provided to individuals and businesses who help advance the cause of philanthropy through the renovation and operation of the Colonial Fox Theatre.