

Partial List of 2020 ACCOMPLISHMENTS & ACTIVITIES

HMP continued working to serve our neighborhood during these unprecedented times

MARCH

Produced a **coloring book** titled **"Coloring JOMO: Women Who Made Their Mark"** featuring 12 women from Joplin history who made significant contributions; funded in part by HMP, Post Art Library, and Visit Joplin MO. If you want some, please ask.

MAY

HMP's W. R. Corley Memorial Trust grant request was rejected in favor of COVID centered initiatives, but they encouraged us to apply again next year.

JUNE 2019 & 2020

Sponsored the **Joplin Regional History Special Prize** for students entered in the *National History Day in Missouri Contest*; Joplin Globe printed article on HMP's involvement both years.

JULY

Submitted a grant application to the Joplin Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) for **Murphysburg Sesquicentennial Commemoration events**. September 4, 2021 is the 150th Year Anniversary of the incorporation of Murphysburg, which is two years before the 150th year anniversary of the City of Joplin.

Entered into a conversation with the City and Joplin Museum on the possible exploration of **Crystal Cave** (4th & Gray Avenue) using an underwater camera system.

Moved HMP's inventory to a better location at the Empire Market.

AUGUST

Purchased 10 new utility pole **holiday wreaths** with safer, modern wiring and sockets for **\$7,590**. It will cost approximately **\$600** to put up around Thanksgiving and take down after New Years Day.

OCTOBER

Parkway Trees planted at *some* Murphysburg & North Heights Neighborhood Houses; sponsored by Spire Energy, Forest ReLeaf of Missouri, City of Joplin, HMP, and North Heights Neighborhood Group.

Started working with Bywater Development regarding their proposed acquisition of **The Olivia Apartments (circa 1910)**. Bywater applied for ***Missouri and Federal Senior Low-Income Tax Credits and Historic Tax Credits** as the main funding source for the restoration of the Olivia. On October 29th The Olivia was named one of Missouri's 2020 **Places in Peril** by the Missouri Alliance for Historic Preservation. Downtown Joplin Alliance considers the Olivia a priority for its **Endangered Properties Program**.

Murphysburg activities were highlighted on Shannon Bruffett's **KKOW radio show**.

Hosted the **annual meeting** at Bookhouse Cinema; guest speakers were Michael Griffin and Brad Belk of Joplin Historical Neighborhoods, Inc.

NOVEMBER

Met with romance novelist, Regina Jennings regarding her historical research on Joplin and Murphysburg. She has already written some of her series called "[The Joplin Chronicles](#)." To borrow a hard copy of the book, contact Paula or Mary Anne. Visit www.reginajennings.com to learn more information about this Oklahoma author.

Helped design and install the ****Christmas window display** at the CVB's office in City Hall. The main portion of the display showcases "glamour photographs" of six Murphysburg District homes, five of which are on Sergeant and one on Moffet.

Mary Anne Phillips represented HMP at the **Public Hearing Webinar** in support of Bywater Development's rental production application for **The Olivia Apartments** with low-income housing tax credits and loan funds through the ***Missouri Housing Development Commission**. Also speaking in favor was Chuck Copple, Zone 2 Joplin City Council Representative, Mayor Ryan Stanley, and Marsha West Eichler, Senior Paster of First United Methodist Church.

DECEMBER

Accepted a \$1,500 grant from the Joplin CVB for the marketing of **Murphysburg Sesquicentennial** Commemoration events to be held at the end of August and or first of September 2021.

****Downtown Joplin Alliance Holiday Window Display Contest Results:** City Hall window won "**Best Use of Theme**." Photos are on Murphysburg Facebook page.

Tragically, **The Olivia Apartments suffered significant fire** damage on December 7th. Ten days later the ***Missouri Housing Development Commission** announced that The Olivia would NOT receive funding, causing Bywater to withdraw from the project. Therefore, HMP has partnered with Downtown Joplin Alliance, the City of Joplin, Scott Tillman (owner), Michael Griffin (preservation architect), Post Art Library, Connect 2 Culture, Josh Shackles and concerned citizens to create a proactive plan to **SAVE THE OLIVIA**. Using emergency/intervention grant funds from the National Trust for Historic Preservation, DJA paid a structural engineering firm to conduct an assessment. They determined the *fire damage* was limited in scope to the roof structure and the first-floor area below the lower roof.

The James Lawrence House (circa 1905) at 111 South Moffet sustained significant fire damage on December 10th due to old electrical wiring. No one was in the house at the time and there were no injuries. Plans for the property are unknown at this time.

ONGOING

- Manage Pinterest, Instagram, Twitter, Facebook, Mail Chimp, and HMP website
- Manage communications - inquiries about houses for sale, Joplin history, media inquiries
- Historical research using Ancestry.com, Find-a-Grave, Newspapers.com, etc.
- Interface with One Joplin Neighborhood Committee, Downtown Joplin Alliance, City of Joplin, Joplin Historical Neighborhoods, Inc., and many other community organizations
- Welcomed new Murphysburg homeowners with historical documentation regarding their houses and general HMP membership information.