

BUSTLING

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142 storefronts, there are only 14 vacancies. Of those 14 vacancies, six are currently being renovated and another is already leased, according to figures provided by Burlew. So that means there are only seven storefronts that sit quiet at the moment.

The renovations of commercial space on Market Street often go hand-in-hand with the development of upscale apartments on the upper floor.

Ten years ago this November, the first such project was completed on the upper floors of 43-45 E. Market St. - coincidentally, right above where the new Hilfiger outlet will go. The building is owned by local businessman George Connors.

At the time, more than 500 people attended an open house to celebrate the opening of the first "market rate" apartments, and it launched a trend, recalled Corning architect Elise Johnson-Schmidt, who designed that project and many other upper floor apartments since.

Of the 77 apartments on Market Street, 40 have either been built new or completely renovated in

the past decade, with more on the way.

"It's really helped downtown businesses. It's brought a 24-hour presence to the street, and given it new vitality and life," Johnson-Schmidt said.

They rent for anywhere from \$1,000 to \$3,500 per month - or roughly \$1 per square foot - and are rarely available. There's waiting lists and some get snapped up months in advance.

A roundup of commercial-residential projects on tap, courtesy of Burlew:

■ At the former McClintock Hotel, developer Peter Krog is planning 2 to 4 apartments upstairs, with retail space below.

Krog is also building four new apartments above the Van Heusen outlet, expected to be ready in the spring.

■ Local businesswoman Uma Ramiah is buying the former Olive Branch at 20 E. Market St. She will have two new apartments built upstairs, and she plans to renovate the lower floor and move her Subway franchise there from its current spot on Market Street.

■ The vacant 40 E. Market St. building is being developed into an upper-floor apartment and commercial space downstairs. Barney Croft

is the developer.

■ The former Schoolhouse Country Store, at 22 E. Market St., was renovated for a new business, The Independent Artist, and two upstairs apartments will be ready next year. Ed Dollard is the developer.

■ At 10 E. Market, next to Tony R's, Dave Jacobs is planning a specialty deli, along with two new apartments above.

■ The Centerway Commerce Building is being renovated and will house a TV station, a law firm, and commercial office space. Attorney George Welch is the developer; his offices will be in the building.

About a half-dozen new businesses have been added in recent months, including the new Effin Texas Bar and Grill, about to open its doors. The BBQ joint will add to a diverse mix of eateries downtown - with very few chain restaurants.

Boosting business downtown has been a successful year of community events, said Mike Melaro, spokesman for Corning's Gaffer District.

He estimated attendance at the second annual GlassFest on Memorial Day at 5,000 over the four days of the event.

Race Fever drew thousands to Bridge Street in

August to kick off NASCAR weekend at Watkins Glen International, and a free concert by country singer Sammy Kershaw was a big draw during September's Crystal City Harvest Festival.

Then, the Wineglass Marathon brought out 3,000 runners and thousands more spectators in early August.

And in just a couple of weeks, the holiday events season will get under way with Holidazzle, a week-end of shopping promotions Nov. 11-13. Window of Gifts starts Nov. 19, in which \$2,000 worth of merchandise and gift cards go on display in a Market Street storefront and are raffled off just before Christmas.

The two biggest events, 17th annual Parade of Lights and the 37th annual Sparkle festival, are set for Nov. 26 and Dec. 3, respectively.

After that, there will be horse-drawn carriage rides on Market Street and photos with Santa Claus in Centerway Square throughout the holidays.

"We started planning for Christmas the day after last year's Christmas," Melaro said. "We're always looking for ways to expand our crowd and make things exciting for visitors."

REFLECTS

Continued from 1A

Obama on Thursday.

It's one of the nation's highest civilian honors.

Bloomquist, the founder of Food for the Needy and Christmas for the Needy, which led to the creation of Milly's Pantry and the Weekend Backpack Program, says, "The whole community got this, as far as I'm concerned."

Bloomquist traveled to Washington, D.C., on Wednesday, the day before the awards ceremony and returned to her Keuka Park home on Friday around 7 p.m.

"And I went right to bed," she says.

She and the other honorees had time together before the awards ceremony, and Obama spent about 20 minutes with them during a brief meeting. That's when she told him, "I'm not done yet," the comment he quoted during his speech before he presented the medals to the group.

"That's the way I feel. There are still other things that need to be done," she says, explaining that no matter what need comes up, someone in the community answers the call. "It's amazing how everyone works together," she says.

"I think it's wonderful that the president of the United States can take time out to talk to the ordinary citizens," she said, describing the other honorees as, "just plain, ordinary citizens."

That group of plain ordinary citizens were introduced to the waiting crowd in the East Room, and made their entrance from the State Room.

As they waited on the stage, the president was introduced, and he briskly strode toward the stage, where he spoke for a few moments, drawing

connections between Martin Luther King, the story of the Good Samaritan, and the work that the award winners have done.

"They come from different backgrounds and they've devoted their lives to different causes, but they are united by the choice that they've made. They could have made excuses for doing nothing. Instead, they chose to help," Obama said.

Later he said, "Then there's Milly Bloomquist from Penn Yan, New York. And for decades, she has personified the phrase, 'above and beyond.' At her 90th birthday party, one speaker said that Penn Yan has its own special system for handling emergencies. 'If you're out of food, call Milly. If your heat has gone out, call Milly. If you can't pay your electricity bill, call Milly. If you need a winter coat, call Milly.'"

Family members who accompanied Bloomquist to the White House were her daughter Becky and her husband Chris Holder, their daughter, Molly Holder, and Milly's son, John and his wife, Julie Bloomquist.

They all enjoyed a tour of the White House followed by a reception before the awards ceremony. John, who graduated from Penn Yan Academy in 1972 and now lives in West Virginia, took several photos during the tour and posted them on his Facebook page.

This was her first trip to the White House, and she says its an experience she wishes everyone could have.

A reception in Bloomquist's honor will be held at 1:30 pm. Thursday at Milly's Pantry/The Pinwheel Cafe on Main Street in Penn Yan.

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SEVEN-DAY FORECAST

Today	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Becoming partly cloudy	M. cloudy, shwrs., windy	Inc. clouds	M. cloudy, sct. shwrs., breezy	Cloudy, chance for showers	Cloudy, rain, breezy, cool	P. sunny
High 59 Low 37	High 58 Low 38	High 59 Low 35	High 61 Low 42	High 49 Low 40	High 45 Low 40	High 48 Low 33

National forecast

Forecast highs for Sunday, Oct. 23

Fronts: Cold, Warm, Stationary
Pressure: Low (L), High (H)

-10s -0s 0s 10s 20s 30s 40s 50s 60s 70s 80s 90s 100s 110s

WEATHER HISTORY

In 1918, the Canadian steamship Princess Sofia became stranded on Vanderbilt Reef off the coast of British Columbia in high winds. The strong northerly gale prevented rescuers from saving the 268 passengers and the 75 crewmen.

MOON PHASES

First Full Last New

NOV. 2 NOV. 10 NOV. 18 OCT. 26

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Sunset today 6:15
Sunrise Monday 7:31
Sunset Monday 6:13

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