

WHAT'S NEXT?

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Carnahan Hall plans Market Square move



DOMENICA BONGIOVANNI/JOURNAL & COURIER

The main stage area contains two projectors in the Market Square space where Carnahan Hall will move.

Owner's decision to relocate venue downtown makes financial sense offering larger space, more opportunities

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After a little more than two years at 800 Main St., Carnahan Hall will move to Market Square.

John and Seema Warner decided it was financially best to relocate their business — which hosts live music shows, private events, weddings and other entertainment — to the new spot. Carnahan Hall, which became fully functional in August 2014, will hold events in its current space until Dec. 17.

The Warners plan to have the new space, at 2200 Elmwood Ave., fully operational Jan. 1, Seema Warner said. They are giving tours of the new facility now to book events.

The duo looked downtown but wasn't able to find a usable space that matched their needs and was up to code, she said. They'll miss being there and think they've made a positive impact. Joanna Retherford, who owns the building with her husband, Dean Retherford, said the venue has been a good business for the space.

"We love that block," Warner said.

Moving ahead, Seema Warner said they look forward to joining the businesses in Market Square, including Arni's and Legendary Games.

"I think it's going to be a really great place, and we're excited to add value to the area," Warner said.

She said the overall space opens up more possibilities. Carnahan Hall will now have 11,000 square feet of space — 7,000 of which is in the main stage and cocktail area, Warner said. At the Main Street location, 5,634 square feet of space was available on the first floor, with 2,500 in the main area.

More room allows them opportunities to expand their business and add to their team.

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W. Laf. considers land-use concept

Proposal presented for downtown district rules

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The city of West Lafayette is considering a new downtown land-use plan.

A concept presented by the Tippecanoe Country Area Plan Commission to the West Lafayette City Council outlined residential, commercial, recreational and conservation districts within downtown, with rules specific to each district. The map presented to the city council may yet change as the land use plan is developed. In a general sense, "downtown" West Lafayette begins in the east along the Wabash River and continues west toward Purdue University Campus.

The plan proposed on Thursday afternoon was only a concept and has no binding legality to it.

"This is just a concept we're using as a discussion point," Ryan O'Gara of the Area Plan Commission said. "Every discussion has to lead off with something to start it."

District 2 Councilman Peter Bunder initially raised concerns over the lack of detail and public input regarding the plan.

"I am sensitive to the concern that will come from this conversation," Bunder said. "I think underlining the word concept makes me less nervous, and the residents less nervous."

West Lafayette city staff requested a land-use plan from the Area Plan Commission at the instruction of the mayor's office, O'Gara said.

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USA TODAY



CLINTON LAUNCHES QUEST

Hillary Clinton came a step closer to possibly becoming America's first female president on Thursday. USA TODAY, 1B