Wheeling Jamboree acquires downtown entertainment property

PRESS RELEASE

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WHEELING, WV:

Since the 2006 transition of the Wheeling Jamboree and formation of the Non-Profit Corporation, the Historic Country Music production has broadcast both regular live studio shows and live stage shows from some 15 locations in the greater Wheeling area. Including a onetime 2010 return to the Jamboree's most widely known venue at Wheeling's Capitol Theatre. After a 2 and half year run at Wheeling Island's showroom ended last year, brief plans developed to establish a Venue at the former Kaufman Building that were withdrawn when the availability of the property at 944 Main Street presented itself.

The Jamboree went under contract last Fall leading to this month's completed acquisition of the former Eagles Building on Wheeling's Main Street. For those who can't place the location of the property, it sits directly North and adjacent to the former Wheeling Hotel and the current Bridge Café. It is easily mistaken as part of the same building due to the close proximity, when in reality they are separate. Decades of locals frequented the lower level club at the Eagles building while not realizing the sizable Auditorium on the upper level which has accommodated audiences since the late 1930's but has fallen in to disrepair in recent years. Renovation plans are incomplete at this time pending further funding for design and major roof repairs.

Jamboree Board members received funding from private capital furnished to the Non-Profit 501-(c)-3 Wheeling Jamboree, Inc. and was provided to help reestablish the tourism and music entertainment aspect that has made the weekly program nothing short of Legendary. "Our company really believes in what is taking place here in Wheeling in terms of current transformation, and (the city's) appeal to many. People want to come to Wheeling to experience an authentic music environment that we have and is unlike anything you see in few other places."

The Wheeling Jamboree currently airs archived shows on its new FM Radio station WWOV 101.1 FM and on June 22nd presents a show dedicated to Jamboree Audio Engineer Tony Humphrey who lost his fight with Cancer in December. The show is a part of Wheeling's Waterfront Wednesday's and Free to the public at 7pm.

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