



Electronic Newsletter for The Englewood Arts District: E Winner Road from Sterling through Ralston Avenue, Indep., MO 64052 englewoodartsdistrict.net If you would like to receive an electronic newsletter, please send an e-mail request to Kara Paris, the editor/owner of the ES Express.

e.s.express@att.net 816-682-5622

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News Release! Englewood Theater & Ben Franklin to be Purchased



The historic Englewood Theater and adjacent Ben Franklin store will be purchased by a newly formed Missouri non-profit.

Friends of Englewood Theater have signed a real estate contract to acquire the two properties from the estate of Wade Williams II, who owned the two properties which anchor the south side of the Englewood business district.

The Englewood business district has seen a resurgence in the past decade through the efforts of local business owners and the opening of the Englewood Arts Center.

Englewood Arts is not directly involved in the transaction.

"Our immediate plans were to acquire the two properties, work on financing the purchases and slowly figure out the adaptive reuse of the two buildings," said Brent Schondelmeyer, president of Friends of Englewood Theater.

Englewood Theater Continued

This is the first step in a long journey to restore these beloved spaces and breathe new life into the Englewood business district!

WHAT'S NEXT:

- ◆ Secure financing and finalize the purchase
- ◆ Work to list the Englewood Theater on the National Register of Historic Places
- ◆ Complete a feasibility study for future uses of the buildings

💡 DID YOU KNOW? 💡

The Englewood Theater, once known as KC Opry, hosted many artists, including Garth Brooks, who immortalized it in his song "The Old Stuff"

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

Make a tax-deductible donation to Friends of Englewood Theater through the [Truman](#)

[Heartland Community Foundation](#) online <https://thcf.fcsuite.com/erp/donate/create/fund...>

We're excited to see how the future of Englewood unfolds and what new possibilities these historic spaces will bring!

LEARN MORE HERE::: <https://www.englewoodtheater.org/>

[#EnglewoodTheater](#) [#HistoricPreservation](#)
[#SupportLocal](#) [#IndependenceMO](#) [#CommunityMatters](#)



Englewood Arts Announces a New Executive Director

After a thorough and deliberate selection process, Englewood Arts is proud to announce that Teresa Dorsch has been chosen as the new full time Executive Director. Teresa is an accomplished artist with roots in Independence, and she has a proven track record in strategic operations and organizational growth for both local and national entities. Her passion for the arts, combined with her firsthand knowledge of our community, makes her the perfect leader to build on the success and guide Englewood Arts into the future.



"Stepping into the role of Executive Director after serving as Interim is both an honor and an exciting opportunity. I'm truly grateful to continue leading this incredible organization. Together, we've already achieved so

much, and I'm eager to build on our momentum, creating even more opportunities for the arts, and ensuring accessible housing in our community. I can't wait to see what we'll accomplish together moving forward!"

- **Teresa Dorsch, Executive Director of Englewood Arts**



Englewood Arts will be open come out and enjoy glass blowing demonstrations, share the stage for open mic night at 7 PM with King Dari, and the current exhibit "Because of Black History Month" by resident artist KE Griffin.

Englewood Café is open until 8:00 PM serving great comfort food and drinks.

Frannie Franks Coffee Cakes will be open and selling coffee cakes!

Highview Hemporium will be open, tired of all of the white outside? Come on in, We have plenty of green! "cannabis fannabis" and organic hemp products.

KC Property Solutions will have local art in the front foyer.

Nirvana Coffee & Games, will be open and participating in our 3rd Friday Pop up Market! Karaoke night starts at 8 pm to midnight!

Three Trails Trading Post and Artisan Gallery will be open with a unique pumpkin patch and beautiful Christmas ornaments and carved Santas, and Christmas jewelry. Featuring several of local Artists! **Sylvia Tanner**, beading Artist, **Judy Bliss**, artwork mostly paintings, fused glass Art and dishes by **Vira Dobbins**, ceramic vases, bowls, and cups by **Deb Sipes**, native American Style art/flute music by **TerryLee Whetstone**, and Silversmithing, and jewelry by **Kara Paris**, business owner.

WestInd Connection at the Inclusion Center, Are you a queer artist looking to connect with the community? Stop by WestInd Connection for a pop-up-style night of art, conversation, and connection! No formal setup, no pressure—just an open space to share your work, meet fellow creatives, and engage with community members. Bring your art, your voice, or just yourself! 10908 E Winner Rd.

Wine Down 109 will be open with live music from Frank Reardon, from 6:30 - 9:00 pm, come on in enjoy cocktail, or check out the mocktails. Check out the art from house artist, **Karen Ann Polk**.



Vivilore has upstairs open for your perusing pleasure, two floors of art, antiques and gifts, check out the pumpkin patch, plus dinner and drinks.

Up Coming Events

Feb 22, Nirvana Coffee and Games, Open RPG Night 6 PM.

Feb 23, Nirvana Coffee and Games, Cozy & Retro Game Sunday, 5 PM.

Feb 25, WestInd Connection, Queer Kung Fu and Allies too Weekly Tuesday's, 6 PM.

Feb 25, Nirvana Coffee and Games, Casual Commander, 5 PM.

Feb 25, Nirvana Coffee and Games, BYOC -Bring Your Own Crafts Social , 6 PM.

Feb 26, Nirvana Coffee and Games, Art Journal Club, 6 PM.

FEB 27, Nirvana Coffee and Games, Board Game Night 5 PM.

FEB 27, Nirvana Coffee and Games, Trivia Night 7 PM.



Up Coming Events

Complimentary drink!
PAINT & SIP!
 Wine Down with
 ArtBliss
 THURSDAY, FEB 27
 6:00-8:00 pm
 PURCHASE TICKET BY FEB.24
 Sign up with code or call 816-209-3036



FULL BAR IS AVAILABLE!
 10914 E WINNER RD,
 INDEPENDENCE, MO 64052

Feb 27, Wine Down 109, W/Art Bliss, Paint & Sip! 6 PM

Jan 24, Nirvana Coffee and Games, Casual Commander, 7 PM.

Feb 28, Nirvana Coffee and Games, Karaoke Night, 8 PM.

Mar 5, Englewood Arts - Allan Winkler: A 50 Year Survey, Opening Reception.

Mar 8 Nirvana Coffee and Games, International Women's Day, 11AM.

Mar 8, Wine Down 109, BINGO, 5:30 PM.

We will call this ETB (Englewood Theatre Bingo). \$12 to play...\$2 will go towards the theater renovation. Come and have fun and be a part of NEW history being made. Payouts will be based on number players. 5 games total. Share this with your friends. This will be fun!

Mar 9, WestInd Connection, Food Forest Connection 4PM




Shopping, Workshops, Entertainment, and *Puppet Shows*****

Admission \$5.00per person
 reservations are requested,
 as seating is limited.

Feb 22 and Mar 1, 11:00 am
Tiger Tales and More
 By L. Frank Baum
 Performed by Anita Steele



Puppetry Arts Institute
 11025 E Winner Rd., Indep., MO 64052
www.puppetryartsinstitute.org
 To Reserve seats call 816-833-9777 or e-mail
pai@att.net

Thank You, West Ind Connection
 For a Loving February!



Join the Independence Chamber of Commerce, Englewood Arts District, and Finnegan Tax & Accounting at their Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting

Ribbon Cutting

FINNEGAN TAX & ACCOUNTING

NEW DATE & TIME

Wednesday, February 26, 2025
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Finnegan Tax & Accounting
10618 East 18th Street South
Independence, MO 64052

The graphic features a large pair of scissors cutting a ribbon with the Independence Chamber logo. Confetti is scattered around the scene. The Finnegan Tax & Accounting logo is a sunburst design. A green banner contains the event details.

Join in on the Grand Opening and Independence Chamber of Commerce Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on Wednesday, February 26, at 12:00 PM. Finnegan Tax & Accounting is a new business to the Englewood Arts District, but owners Torrance and Rachel Kelley have been building it for several years. As a small family-owned tax firm, and they understand that every client is more than just one name on a list. Your growth is their growth, and your success is their success! At Finnegan Tax & Accounting they believe that an accountant should be more than just another vendor. They are dedicated partners, committed to

working in your best interest and ensuring your financial success. With them, you're not lost in the crowd of a big firm; You are valued and appreciated as a vital part of Finnegan's extended family. Let them help you navigate the complexities of tax planning, accounting, and financial management - so you can focus on what matters most.

WE'RE OPEN!!!

www.FinneganTax.com

- Mondays > Closed
- Tuesday~Friday > 10am-7pm
- Weekends >10am - 4pm

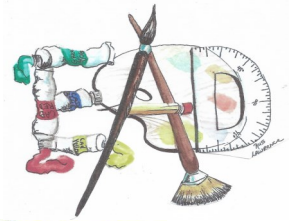
Appointments available!

816.284.6233 10618 E. 18th St. Independence, MO

The block has a dark blue header with the 'WE'RE OPEN!!!' text in white. Below is the Finnegan Tax & Accounting logo. The main body is orange with a list of hours. A photo shows the building's exterior with a sign. The footer is dark blue with contact information.

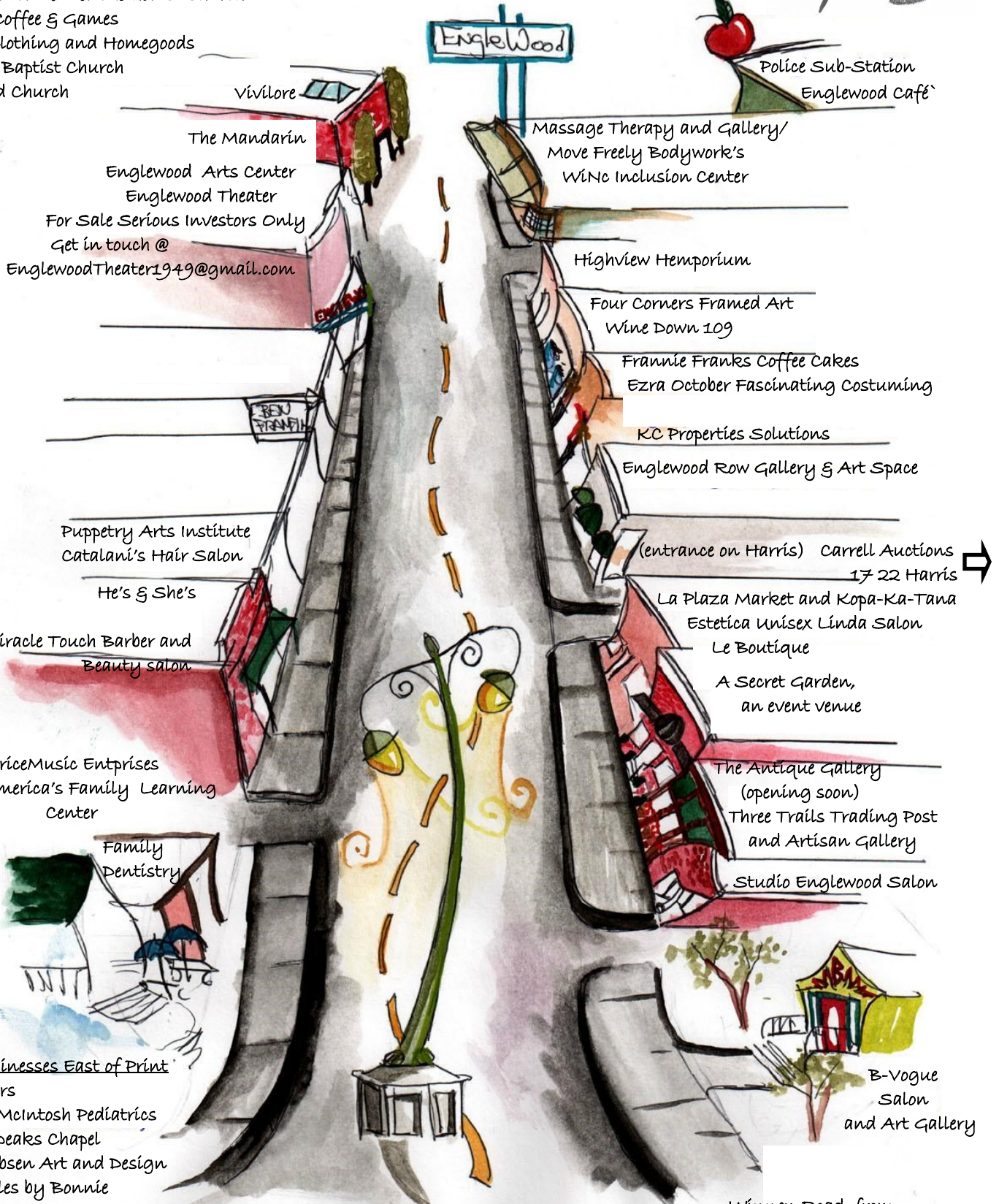


Englewood Arts District



Other Businesses West of Print

Northern Blvd United Methodist Church
 Nirvana Coffee & Games
 Parami, Clothing and Homegoods
 Maywood Baptist Church
 Englewood Church



Other Businesses East of Print

Hill Flowers
 Cockerell McIntosh Pediatrics
 Carson-Speaks Chapel
 Amie Jacobsen Art and Design
 Estate Sales by Bonnie

Where the Arts Live

Winner Road from Sterling to S. Ralston Ave.