

Baltimore Street 'Steppin' Out'

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By Tom Fontana

For the Gettysburg Times

Historic Baltimore Street will strut its stuff this Saturday, May 14, when Main Street Gettysburg and businesses along President Lincoln's walk to Evergreen Cemetery present "Steppin' Out in Lincoln's Footsteps."

Many fun and free activities are planned along the route south Lincoln followed from the Gettysburg Train Depot to dedicate the new Soldier's National Cemetery on Nov. 19, 1863.

The event is primarily the first step toward revitalization of Baltimore Street which would include brick sidewalks, Victorian street lighting, and other improvements.

"This is a fundraising event," said Deb Adamik, Main Street Gettysburg director. "We'll have various sites along the route where participants have the opportunity to drop a penny, or any amount, in donation cans marked 'A Lincoln for Lincoln.' "

Funds collected will help finance a master plan, the first step in bringing Baltimore Street's historic significance to the forefront.

"This is really a grassroots project, a neighborhood coming together," Adamik stressed. "We need to complete a master plan before we can move to the next step of applying for grants and other funding."

Volunteers will be stationed along the route as tour guides, to answer questions, and offer information about the various activities of the day. A brochure and map will be available showing where to stop for giveaways and discount specials.

The 49th Pennsylvania Regimental Band will provide music on the steps of the Adams County Public Library as a living historian Lincoln conducts a stroll to the cemetery starting at noon at the David Wills House on Lincoln Square. A free tour of Evergreen Cemetery will be offered at 1 p.m.

Along the way, children may want to stop at 'Land of Lincoln' near Mr. G's Ice Cream parlor, for log cabin and stove pipe hat crafts throughout the day. Free carriage rides will be available up and down the street, as well as wine tasting, church and history tours, and food samplings.

A day-long raffle opportunity will be stationed at 122 Baltimore St., where visitors can take chances on winning assistance with living wills, tax preparation, free online advertising, and a corn hole game set.

Event headquarters at Wade Street will provide detailed information about all of the events of the day. More information about "Steppin' Out" can be found online at www.mainstreetgettysburg.org.