What Does Harrisonburg Have to Offer?

By Cory Anderson
News Editor

With the relatively new commercial area on the east end of Harrisonburg continuing to attract a large portion of consumers in the vicinity, the central business district has seen a gradual downward trend of economic activity for the past several years. More and more locally-owned chains and family-owned businesses have to close shop because of the difficult competition presented by well-known chain stores on the opposite end of town.

A homemaker and mother of six once asked, "If ladies like me do not like shopping at Wal-Mart and other stores like it, then why do we still end up going there?" The answer to this question is not an easy one. Some factors may seem to play a role such as price and location, but this still does not explain the reasoning when downtown prices might be lower and the location might be closer.

One possible explanation for the problem is a simple lack of awareness of what kinds of shops are in downtown. The detailed map on this page and the topical directory of many of the shops in Harrisonburg's central business district will hopefully provide consumers with a more educated view of what is available in this area, and thus save on trips all the way across town while at the same time supporting local businesses and shop-keepers.

ARTS, CRAFTS, BOOKS, MUSIC
1 Shen-Valley Band Instruments Service
2 Hess Furniture- Hess Doll Shoppe
3 Dance and Company
4 A Touch of Earth (pottery, etc.)
5 Whitesel Music
6 Center for American Places- Editorial Office and Gallery of Center Books and Art
7 Oasis Art Gallery
8 Massanutten Regional Library
9 Classique Designs, Inc- New, used & rescued furniture, art, and accessories
10 You Made It! Paint your own pottery
11 Town and Campus Records (New and used CDs, tapes, etc.)
12 Downtown Books
13 Playhouse (theatre performance center)

BARBER SHOPS
14 Howdy's Barder Shop
15 Lou's Barber Shop
16 Pufferbarger Bros
17 Downtown Barber Shop

GIFFTS & FLOWERS
18 Wettels'e Seeds (wind chimes, garden, outdoor barn, many plants, and of course seeds)
19 Blue Ridge Florist and Gift Shop
20 Glen's Fair Price Store- (Candy, figurines, cards, heads, party needs, ceramics, toys, etc...)
21 Gift and Thrift
22 Dollar General
23 Polly's Curiosity Shop
24 The Laughing Dog (Pottery, tapestries, cards, custom-made t-shirts, etc.)
25 Pamela's Too! Gifts and Accessories- trail Info
26 Victoria Floral

CLOTHES & SHOES
27 Ragtime Fabrics- Fabrics in Bulk (Sewing materials, fabric, buttons, etc.)
28 Gift and Thrift
29 Miss Maggie's Tailoring and Alterations
30 Dollar General
31 Valet Dry Cleaners
32 Granny Longlegs (General clothing)
33 The Runner's Corner (Sports clothing)
34 The Laughing Dog (See "Gifts, Flowers, Curiosities")
35 Jack Collin's Shoes
36 A&N (Clothes and shoes)
37 L&S Diner- Eat in or carry out
38 George's Soda, Sandwich Shoppe- lunch, soda
39 Daily Grind (coffee shop)
40 Jess' Lunch
41 Harrisonburg (See restaurant review in this issue)
42 Spanky's Restaurant- deli
43 Water Street Café- Home cooking & baking

CHURCHES
44 First Presbyterian Church
45 Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church
46 Christ Tabernacle United Pentecostal Church

LATINO
47 Smart Shopper
48 Various shops- Salon, Mexican food, and clothing.

CAR & BICYCLE
49 Dove's Car Wash (Three self-serve stalls)
50 Parts Inc (Car parts)
51 Ray Carr Tires Safety Center Service Station
52 Future Site of Liberty Park
53 Shenandoah Bicycle Company- repairs- accessories- trail Info

BANKS & FINANCIAL ELECTRONICS/PHOTOGRAPHY
54 Us Post Office
55 Bank of America
56 Wachovia- First Union
57 Planters Bank
58 First National Bank

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38 Burger House- Drive thru
39 Pizza Hut Delivery
40 Kline's Dairy Bar
41 Smokin' Pig Co: BBQ and rotisserie
42 George's Soda, Sandwich Shoppe- lunch, soda
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