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Imagine Main Street Hosts Art, Displays, Tastings In Downtown Manchester Thursday

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4:07 p.m. EDT, July 30, 2012

MANCHESTER

Imagine Main Street continues its spotlight on the arts downtown with displays, tastings, a theater performance and other activities Thursday.

The group's mission, according to a news release, "is to incorporate the rich cultural and historic heritage of Manchester with a new and creative arts culture."

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Events are scheduled from 6-9 p.m. Program highlights are focused on the Johnson Block, 687 through 705 Main St. The large commercial and residential building was sold in the spring to Netz-Manchester LLC, part of **New Haven**-based Mandy Management. The new owners plan to spend about \$350,000 on repairs, mostly to the 27 apartments, a company representative has said.

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Imagine Main Street plans to use vacant storefronts in the Johnson Block for events Thursday, which are to include a "Bumper to Bumper Automobile Art Gallery," a tasting of locally-made Onyx Moonshine, an art and artisan display and sale, a chocolate tasting by Aruna Chocolates, music, wine and a presentation by the **Little Theatre of Manchester**. Attendees are encouraged to visit local restaurants for Imagine specials and visit downtown businesses open that evening.

This event is being coordinated with the 2012 Beller's Music Summer Concert Series in Center Memorial Park. Music in the park Thursday features The 9th Wave, an East Coast original instrumental surf rock group.

Imagine Main Street is a collaboration of representatives from the town, **Manchester Community College**, the Downtown Special Services District, local business owners, non-profit organizations, artists and involved citizens.

A full list of planned events scheduled from 6-9 p.m.:

- Center Memorial Park – Bellers Summer Concert Series featuring The 9th Wave
- 586 Main St. – Puppet Show by Lionheart Puppet Company in Howroyd Room at Mary Cheney Library, 6:30 p.m.
- 730 Main St. – Photography Exhibit by John Garaventa at Garaventa Photography
- 806-819 Main St. – Window Display of Textiles and Art
- 832 Main St. – Imagine Special at Antonio's Pizza Restaurant
- 623 Main St. – "Imagine Hour" at Corey's Catsup & Mustard
- 631 Main St. – Imagine Special at Rockhouse BBQ & Wings
- 681 Main St. – Al Fresco Percussion Performance; a revolving cast of percussionists/drummers performing in various styles: jazz, classical, rock 'n roll, etc.
- 687 Main St. – "Bumper to Bumper" Auto Art, Onyx Moonshine Tasting & Music by 'Go for Broke"
- 695 Main St. – Manchester Art Association Plein Air Painters at Katherine's Hair Design
- 697 Main St. – Complimentary Salsa & Chip Tasting & Imagine Specials at El Mariachi Loco
- 699 Main St. – "LTM on Main" - Wine and cheese, show tunes and monologues
- 705 Main St. – Art Exhibit and Sale & Chocolate Tasting by Aruna Chocolates
- 713 Main St. – Art and Artisan Marketplace, Face Painting & Temporary Tattoos
- 757 Main – Performance by Zen Lunacy in front of Minuteman Press
- 18 Bissell St. – Imagine Meditation Gift Bags (while supply lasts), Drawing for a Free Massage and Imagine Relaxation Specials at In Touch Personal Wellness Center
- 809 Main St. - Bread Sampling and Imagine "Sweets" Special at Great Harvest Bread Company
- 857 Main St. – Complimentary Blue Bom Dendrobium Orchid Blossoms, one per person while supply lasts at Designed to Order Florist

—Jesse Leavenworth

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