

Downtown lawyers restore building

IN RECENT YEARS, residents of Dothan have seen many changes take place at the intersection of South Oates and Main Street. With the renovations to the Houston County Courthouse, the dedication of Justice Park and the completion of the renovations done on the old cosmetology school, the intersection has once again become the heart of Downtown Dothan.

In a continued effort to capture the faded beauty and integrity of Downtown Dothan, Sam Cherry and Keith Givens have recently completed the restoration of yet another building. It wasn't that long ago that the first block of South Oates Street was the home of Frenchie's College of Cosmetology. Now, over a decade later, the two Wiregrass natives have made this building the new home of The Cochran Firm Call Center, the law firm of Jacoby & Meyers, L.L.C., and U.S. Legal Management.

"The timing was just right for the entire project. With the expansion needs of the Call Center and the opening of Jacoby & Meyers and U.S. Legal, we felt like there was no other location that would better serve all of our needs," said Sam Cherry. "It also provides an appealing backdrop for our last downtown project, Justice Park."

The Cochran Firm Call Center occupies the bottom floor of the newly renovated building and is the National Call Center for all 23 office locations of The Cochran Firm. On average, The Call Center fields close to 350 calls a day from every state in the country. With the help of a dedicated staff, the Call Center is able to interview prospective clients and redirect the information to the different Cochran Firm offices.

The second floor of the renovated building is occupied by the law firm of Jacoby & Meyers, L.L.C., and U.S. Legal Management. For over 30 years, Jacoby & Meyers has been



America's most familiar full-service law firm with offices throughout the nation. Jacoby and Meyers recognizes the need for a full service law firm designated to handle the legal concerns of their clients and prides itself on focusing on the client and the client's needs, while providing quality, full-service representation.

U.S. Legal Management is a legal management company which provides support services for some of the America's most well known brands. U.S. Legal provides national law firms with the tools to market and manage their firm by providing services such as local and national marketing strategies, access to a national call center, administrative support, Information Technology support staff, as well as state-of-the-art information systems and case management systems.

"The new tenants in the building represent a group of the most progressive legal companies currently on the national scene," said Keith Givens "and we are pleased to have them in Dothan."



Dr. C.D. Denney and his son, Dr. Dan Denney, operate the nation's largest optometry center in downtown Dothan. The DenneyVision buildings take up 45,000 square feet and the seven doctors on staff see nearly 35,000 patients each year.

DenneyVision proud to call downtown home

THERE IS A RICH HISTORY in Downtown Dothan dating back to the 1800s. Downtown was the center of commerce and it was a meeting place for the citizens of Dothan. Through the years the downtown area prospered as businesses filled the city blocks with places to shop, eat, meet and greet.

Dr. C.D. Denney told me the proud history of his building which is now known as DenneyVision, located at 151 Main Street. The building once housed a shoe shop, a furniture store, a drug store and several retail establishments.

Dr. Denney went into practice with Rollins Tindell back in 1958 in one small section of the huge building he now occupies.

Tindell and Denney offered services not available at other establishments in Dothan. In 1982 Tindell and Denney became simply DenneyVision and that's when this eye care empire began to expand and flourish.

"The buildings were empty in the 80s when we purchased them. They were run down, terrible and we had to completely remodel them," says Dr. Denney. "I'd like to see all of these buildings downtown renovated and occupied with viable businesses in them. And it would cost too much to move to the circle

and have what we have here."

And what exactly does DenneyVision have in its downtown location? For one thing 45,000 square feet, an inventory of more than 6,000 frames, fifty employees, seven Optometrists and state of the art technology. Dr. Denney says that DenneyVision is the largest Optometric Practice in the country. Imagine, all this in downtown Dothan.

More than 35,000 patient-visits per year are handled by the seven doctors on staff. Some of the services they receive include glaucoma and eye disease treatment, prescription eye wear and pre and post cataract care.

Dr. Denney's son, Dan, worked in the lab as a teenager and returned from college in 1988 to join his father at the practice. Dan has been instrumental in expanding the framewear product line. "People go for style and what's in vogue," says the younger Dr. Denney. "We order quality and variety from brands such as Prada, Escada, Ralph Lauren, Coco Song, Miu Miu and Dolce and Gabana."

DenneyVision is just one more reason to come downtown. You can get your eyes examined, eat lunch and go back to DenneyVision to pick up your eye wear prescription that same day.

New tenants on East Main seek downtown renewal



Louise Motzenbecker, Ashley Motzenbecker and Rose Blakely are opening a wellness center in a building downtown at 148 East Main Street which they have rechristened "ReNew."

IF YOU THINK the spirit of downtown has vaporized, you're mistaken. 148 East Main has a new owner and she is a bright light. Meet Louise Motzenbecker, downtown Dothan's newest building owner and entrepreneur. Louise purchased the brick front building on East Main Street next to Porter Hardware, and she is busy transforming blight into brilliance.

Louise purchased the building to bring a new Wellness Center to Downtown Dothan, with Licensed Professional Counselor Rose

Blakely and Childbirth Support Services with Ashley Motzenbecker also operating out of the building.

When asked what drew her to this new location, Lousie says, "We all have a vision of what downtown will look like, shops and eateries, people walking - that's a good vision. Downtown appeals to anyone with a dream about a business and downtown is right for development." Louise will call her new building ReNew in keeping with the theme of downtown development.

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