

**SAVE YOUR**

*town.*



Photo by Becky McCray

**Filling  
Empty  
Buildings  
and Lots**



Electrolux plant to close



Photo by Brendan Hoffman

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**Factory Here and Gone**







Photo by Deb Brown



**I didn't do it alone**

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Photo by Deb Brown

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**No asking for permission**



# Coffee Clubs



Photo by Deb Brown



Photo by Deb Brown

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Not everyone plays



**12 Buildings toured**

**10 filled!!**

Photo by Deb Brown







Photo by  
Deb Brown

# Secret Sauce





Photo by Deb Brown

# Results of the tour and follow up

## *One year later*

A new plumbing company  
A new health related business  
A Hispanic church  
Two new clothing stores for  
teens  
A new Mexican grocery store  
A vintage store  
a tattoo shop

And two new projects came  
out of the tour





Photo by Deb Brown

# Incubator project





Photo by Deb Brown

# Italian restaurant





Photo by Deb Brown

# Mexican restaurant





Photo by Deb Brown

# New and Used Store





Photo by Deb Brown

# Clothing Store





Photo by Deb Brown

**Save the  
Theater**





Photo by Deb Brown

**Open  
Call**





Photo by Daily Freeman Journal

**Be creative**



# HEROS



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Photo by Tiffany  
Larson



# Economic Development

GUARDIANS  
OF THE  
GALAXY 3D

RED CARPET SEPT 19  
GRAND OPENING  
SEPT 20

Photo by Deb Brown

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# Encouraged others

Natchez, MS

Jewell, Iowa

Fairpoint Harbor,

OH

Charleville, AU

Hondo, TX

Henderson, KY

Oglesby, IL

Abandoned Detroit

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# THE POSSIBILITIES TOUR

"Turning Deserted Spaces Into Dynamic Places"



Showcasing Properties on both sides of the River!



November 10, 2018

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm



Your next big thing could be happening in Crowsnest Pass, Alberta.

# CROWSNEST PASS EMPTY BUILDING TOUR





# Vacancy Tour Vineland, NJ



Photo by nj.com



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**Why do owners keep the buildings empty?**



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**Last Resort Solutions**



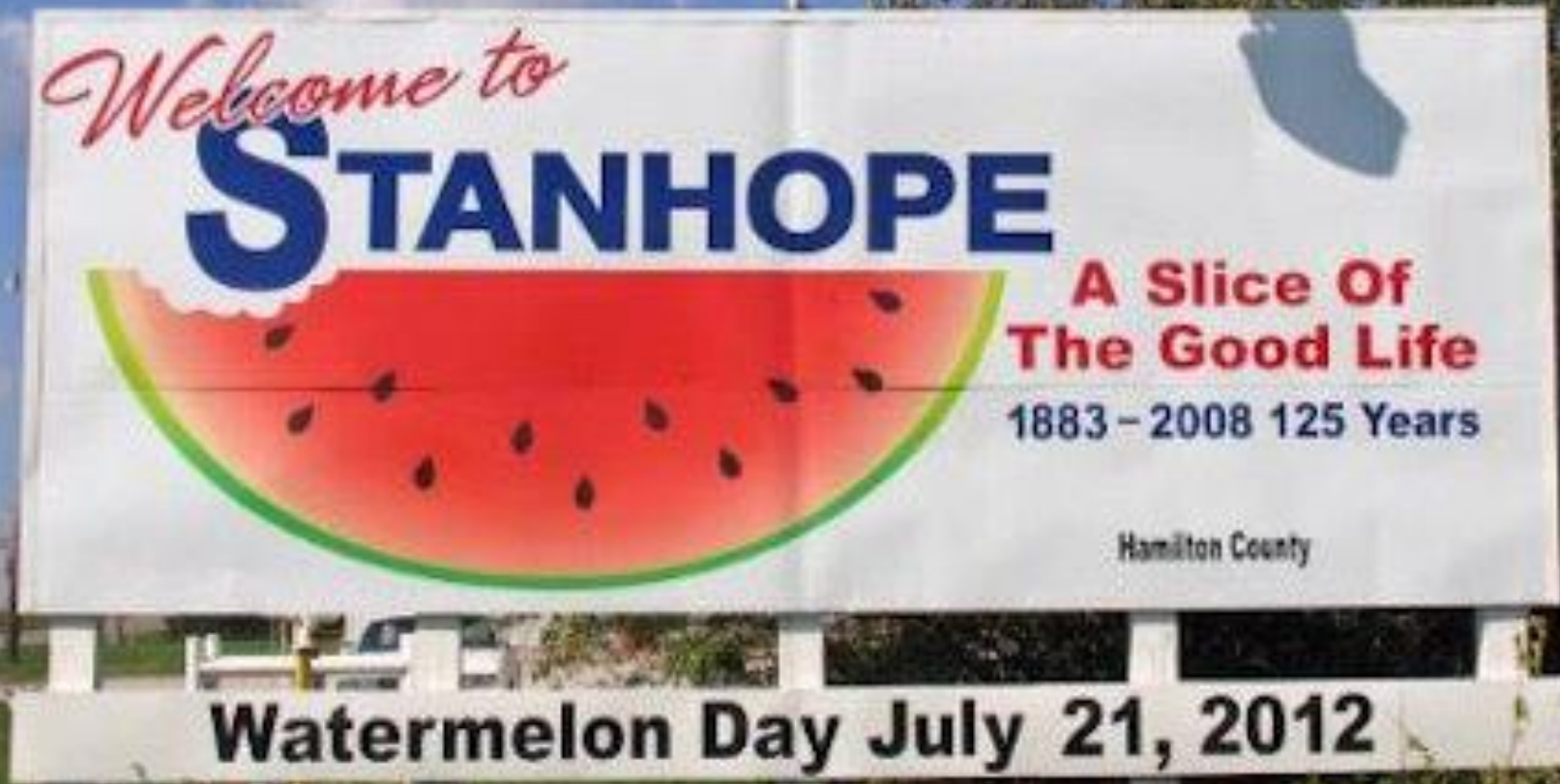
Photo by Tom McLaughlin The Bouncing Czech

# Ordinances and Inspections

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Property Maintenance Codes





# Historic and Adaptive Reuse Codes



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**Single Best Strategy  
for filling large buildings**



Photo shared by Cathy Lloyd

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**Too big?**





# Try it out





# Seasonal use



Photo by Deb Brown



# Old Geezers Club



Photo by Deb Brown



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Photo by Deb Brown

**Temporary Art**



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2<sup>nd</sup> story art





Photo by Deb Brown

# Columbiana, OH



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Photo shared by Columbiana city manager





**Anyone can  
do it**





Photo by Harmon County Forward

**Is it real?**



# Wall For Rent





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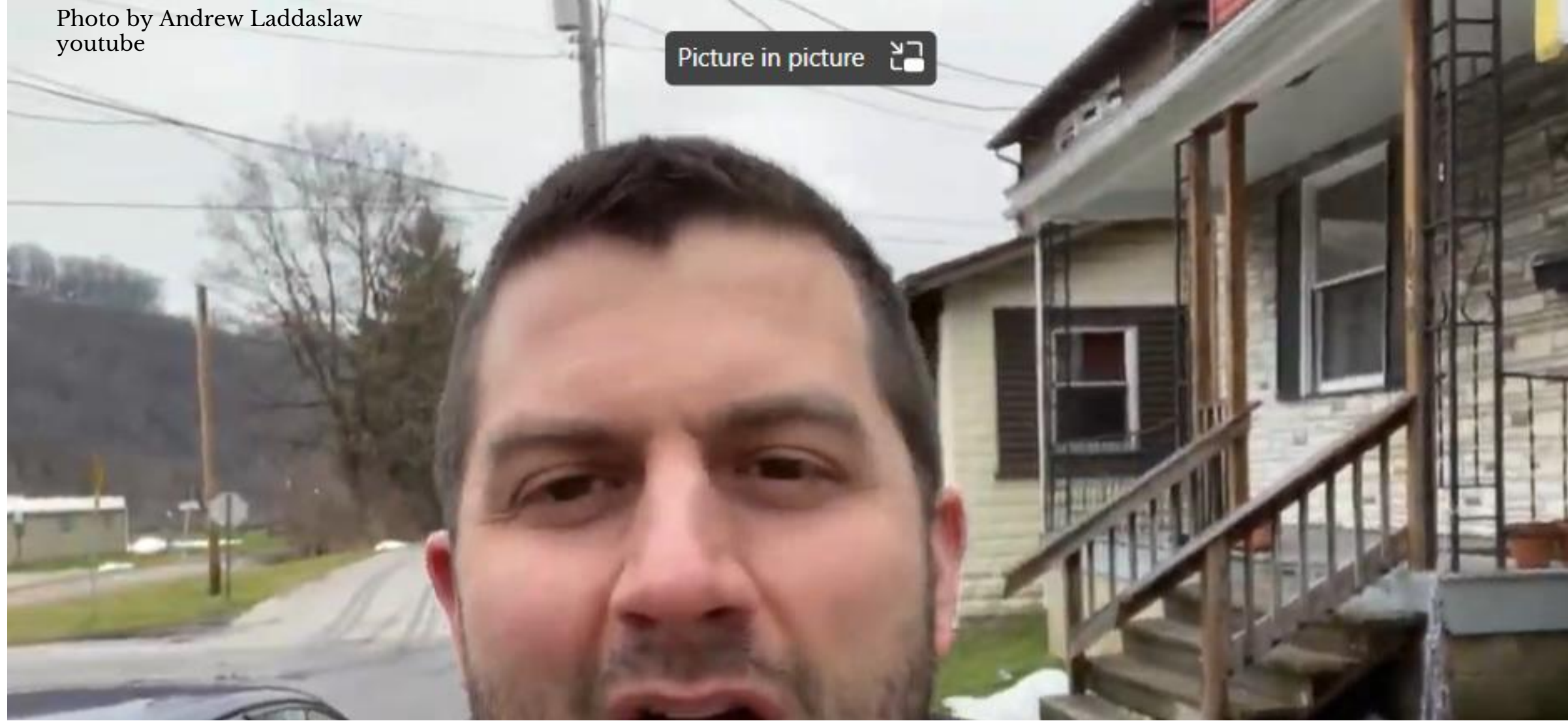
Photo by Deb Brown

**Partnerships**



Photo by Andrew Laddaslaw  
youtube

Picture in picture



**Andrew Laddaslaw from  
Kittanning PA**

**SAVEYOUR.town**





Photo shared by Weston Putnam

**You can do it in  
one weekend**



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Photo from Yes Magazine

# Neighbors in the Twin Cities



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Photo by Becky McCray



**Roofless Buildings and Empty Lots**



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Photo by Becky McCray

**Is it real?**



Photos via Teri Haler

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**Porterdale**



**SAVEYOUR.town**



Photo by Teri Haler

**Same place!**



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Photo by Deb Brown

**#lovethatlot**







Photo by Deb Brown

Be  
selfie-worthy





# Public bathroom

Photo by Cara Carson





# Outdoor museum



# Fitness Zone



Photo courtesy Daily Freeman Journal





# Living Room





**What's this?**



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Photo by Cosmic Films and CFRA

**Yes, that's  
a tractor**





Photo by Cheri Bedford

# Beer Garden in Paris



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Photo by Cheri Bedford

**Texas that is**





**20 years of  
improvements**





Photo by Jane S Reed



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Photo by Julia McCray



Photo by Julia McCray



# Tiny Market Village



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<https://buildingpossibility.com/emptybuildings/>

Thank you!



<https://squareup.com/us/en/dreams/webster-city>

<https://learnto.saveyour.town/tour-of-empty-buildings-toolkit>

<https://coppescommons.com/>

[https://www.agupdate.com/iowafarmertoday/news/state-and-regional/community-members-work-to-save-arts-businesses/article\\_ba779ce4-8f4c-11ec-8e10-6bfb5fe82b29.html](https://www.agupdate.com/iowafarmertoday/news/state-and-regional/community-members-work-to-save-arts-businesses/article_ba779ce4-8f4c-11ec-8e10-6bfb5fe82b29.html)

<https://buildingpossibility.com/articles/where-are-they-now/>

<http://www.yesmagazine.org/new-economy/neighbors-got-together-buy-vacant-buildings-renting-bike-shop-brewer>

<https://www.youtube.com/c/AndrewLaddusaw>

<https://saveyour.town>

Read more about vacant building registries, liens and takeovers in North Carolina here <https://ced.sog.unc.edu/maintenance-of-vacant-or-neglected-commercial-buildings-options-for-nc-local-governments/>

Brownfield booklet with before and afters [https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2019-06/documents/bf\\_booklet.pdf](https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2019-06/documents/bf_booklet.pdf)

Smart Growth <https://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/smart-growth-brownfields-and-infill-development>

<https://www.tucsonaz.gov/pdsd/AdaptiveReuse>

<https://ilsr.org/rule/adaptive-reuse/>

Phoenix has one city wide <https://www.phoenix.gov/pdd/services/permitservices/arp>

<http://www.yesmagazine.org/new-economy/neighbors-got-together-buy-vacant-buildings-renting-bike-shop-brewer>

Towns can learn from Vineland (New Jersey)'s vacancy tour | Editorial <http://buff.ly/22IY81v>

[http://www.nj.com/south-jersey-towns/index.ssf/2016/03/main\\_street\\_vineland\\_holds\\_tou.html](http://www.nj.com/south-jersey-towns/index.ssf/2016/03/main_street_vineland_holds_tou.html)



## Tour of empty buildings mentions

- <https://offenburger.com/index.php/empty-buildings-tour-will-leave-your-head-full-of-great-ideas/>
- [https://dnews.com/local/getting-creative-with-vacant-buildings-town-lots/article\\_fd60d408-70f8-5101-83ff-6d2c52c391b3.html](https://dnews.com/local/getting-creative-with-vacant-buildings-town-lots/article_fd60d408-70f8-5101-83ff-6d2c52c391b3.html)
- <https://www.thehistorybiz.com/blog/2015/12/3/ruin-porn-secret-spaces-and-the-tour-of-empty-buildings>
- <https://www.emergingprairie.com/social-tilt-explores-the-art-of-placemaking/>
- <https://frankjkenny.com/small-chambers-big-impression/>
- <https://frankjkenny.com/chamber-focus-show-70-with-debra-brown-and-ponce-duran-iii/>
- <https://www.strongtowns.org/journal/2015/10/8/interplay-entrepreneurism-urbanism>
- <https://realtorparty.realtor/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/Programs-Grants-Community-Outreach-Placemaking-Toolkit.pdf>