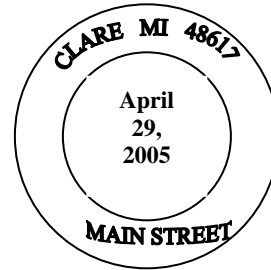


POSTMARKED: MAIN STREET



By Abigail Kulick, Main Street Manager

Greetings from Main Street! From a Main Street perspective downtown is the ideal place for a library. Downtown is the center of the community, the heart of the city, a gathering place for citizens and visitors. Downtown represents history, culture and tradition. Clare Main Street is not just about the success or failure of independent businesses and special events, it is about the community coming together to appreciate the downtown. It is about recapturing the handsome eloquence of a simple life. On Clare Main Street it is likely that you will be addressed by your first name and given a handwritten receipt with your purchase. Its quaintness provides security; it eliminates the overwhelming opinions and customs of big city life and a web-driven society and provides a relaxing, hometown experience.

Downtown Clare represents home. Why wouldn't we want our library to be part of that scene? A library is a resource to the entire community; it has an open invitation to all and draws no limits among friends. The library is an educator, like our downtown it provides history, culture and tradition not to mention science, technology, literature, imagination and discovery. Clare Main Street is very fortunate to have those attributes as part of the downtown.

With our library located in the Main Street district, patrons are able to experience a walkable community; it is part of the downtown's solid infrastructure. The library, City Hall, Post Office and banks are all within footsteps of one another, with the school only a few blocks away. Among these important government and community buildings, the library is also close to magnificent, one of a kind retail, dining and entertainment. The library contributes to and benefits from the charm of the downtown; it is a family-orientated establishment, it focuses on character and learning. The library teaches our children and our adults how to be part of the community. Its presence makes a difference.

The library provides Clare Main Street with the accessibility of the World Wide Web, the sophistication of Hemingway and the silliness of Dr. Seuss. The library draws people downtown where they are able to experience a one-stop shopping, reading, eating and letter mailing experience. The new library will also provide more parking for the downtown, a community meeting room for all to use and a yard that will tempt you to kick off your shoes and curl up in the grass with a good book. The library is one of Main

Street's biggest assets. We recognize what it has done for the downtown and fantasize about what it has yet to do.

Check out our website! www.mainstreetclare.com