

**UP, DOWN,
ALL AROUND**

Intrepid Star reporter goes to Six Flags for the first time, loses hat. 1C



A BIG BROTHER REMEMBERS

Brother of late Lt. Justin Roberts shares fond memories. 3A

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The Anniston Star

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ANNISTON

Stephen Gross/The Anniston Star

TRANSFORMING DOWNTOWN INTO A

DESTINATION

Anniston must figure out what will make people proud of the city

BY TIM LOCKETTE

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Toby Bennington thinks Anniston's downtown has plenty going for it but its true main attraction has yet to arrive.

Bennington and other city leaders have big hopes for the Noble Street corridor and other parts of the city's downtown — including West 15th Street, which intersects Noble and once functioned as a bustling Black-owned business

district in the segregation era. "Gadsden has its river, and Anniston is going to have the Ladiga Trail," said Bennington, economic development director for Anniston's city government.

Many of those hopes are pinned on things that have yet to be, but that are likely coming soon. Federal officials expect to open a new federal courthouse, now under construction, in 2022. The city is working to acquire the final stretch

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HOW OTHER CITIES DID IT



GADSDEN

Bill Wilson/The Anniston Star

Communal effort raises up Gadsden's downtown district

BY BILL WILSON

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GADSDEN — Teamwork. That's what Kay Moore, director of Downtown Gadsden Incorporated, credits for her city's thriving central business district.

"I honestly think it's everyone working together," said Moore, who has been at the helm of DGI — a nonprofit which

oversees the old downtown — since 2007. A city native, Moore grew up going downtown, then worked there for 30 years at a bank.

"I remember way back in the day thinking that I would never come downtown if I didn't work downtown. At that point it looked like a ghost town," Moore said.

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CARROLLTON, GA.

Ben Nunnally/The Anniston Star

Carrollton crams a lot to do in a small space

BY BEN NUNNALLY

Anniston Star Staff Writer

CARROLLTON, Ga. — City planners must have had weekends in mind while designing downtown Carrollton.

The Georgia city's heart lies in Adamson Square, named for a state representative who probably never expected his namesake public square to host digital

video studio Schiller Productions or raw juice bar Plant Wasted. But William Adamson, a Democrat who in 1916 championed the eight-hour workday for interstate railroad workers, would probably admit it pleasant to count both businesses among the 22 restaurants, 19 retailers, 15 services and slew of public and private offices that sit on or

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DISCOVER HOW COLUMBIA, TENN., ROME, GA. AND PADUCAH, KY. REVITALIZED THEIR DOWNTOWNS. PAGE 7A-9A

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