

SELECT



Schnitzelburg property owner plans to rebuild office, may add blues bar

By **CAITLIN BOWLING** | October 4, 2016 12:00 pm

The corner of Milton and Hickory streets is getting a facelift and possibly even a blues bar.

This year, the building at 1100 Milton Street caught on fire, said



The building at 1100 Milton St. prior to the fire earlier this year. | Courtesy of Jefferson County PVA

John Murrow, whose family has been entrenched in the Germantown and Schnitzelburg neighborhoods for decades.

His parents, Dr. Joseph T. Murrow and Cheryl Murrow, own Check's Cafe, which John Murrow currently manages, as well as the property on Milton Street, where his wife, Sarah Murrow, ran her business, **Germantown Chiropractic**, until the fire. The Murrow family owns a number of other properties as well.

The plan is to rebuild and expand the chiropractic offices, as well as add apartments and a second commercial space. John Murrow recently purchased the adjoining lot at 1102 Milton Street, with the hopes of constructing a two-story, 5,323-square-foot building across the two parcels. Currently, the two existing one-story buildings are only a total of 2,600 square feet.

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“My wife has been looking to expand, maybe bring in another doctor and offer some other health care options,” Murrow said. “It just seemed obvious that we needed to tear it down and build something newer and nicer.”

Current plans include a nearly 1,600-square-foot doctor’s office, with an 848-square-foot commercial space behind it on the first floor, and three apartments on the second floor. The idea is to open a blues bar in the back space, given the general lack of blues venues in Louisville.

“What better place to have a blues bar,” he said, noting the annual **Germantown Schnitzelburg Blues Festival** is held just down the street.

However, he emphasized that plans for the commercial space are preliminary, and it could be used for retail as well.

“We love the neighborhood. We have been part of it for a really long time. It’s just a really great spot,” Murrow said. “Whether the blues bar happens is really just an afterthought.”

Before anything happens, the property must be rezoned to traditional neighborhood from residential. Germantown Chiropractic was able to operate at 1101 Milton St. under the incorrect zoning previously, but plans to build a new, larger space after the fire require the zoning change. Without it, Germantown Chiropractic could not reopen there.

A neighborhood meeting about the proposed rezoning is set for 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 18, in the cafeteria of St. Elizabeth’s Church, 1020 Burnett Ave. Nick Pregliasco, a lawyer with Bardenwerper, Talbott & Roberts, is representing the Murrows in the rezoning process.

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