

The Verde Valley Independent

& Camp Verde Bugle

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Downtown Clarkdale projects have big plans in 2025

By **VYTO STARINSKAS**
THE VERDE INDEPENDENT

CLARKDALE — Community Development Director Ruth Mayday said there are a lot of tradesmen coming and going in downtown Clarkdale these days, and several big private projects are in the works.

And she said, to help out developers in 2025, the Town is working on a downtown historic preservation ordinance which will go to council on Jan. 14.

The ordinance sets the guidance for the rehabilitation of buildings downtown. If a business signs up to be in the district, the council has the option of waiving permit fees.

She said they look forward to getting some of these buildings that are still in the demo phase to move along more quickly.

Clarkdale Classics

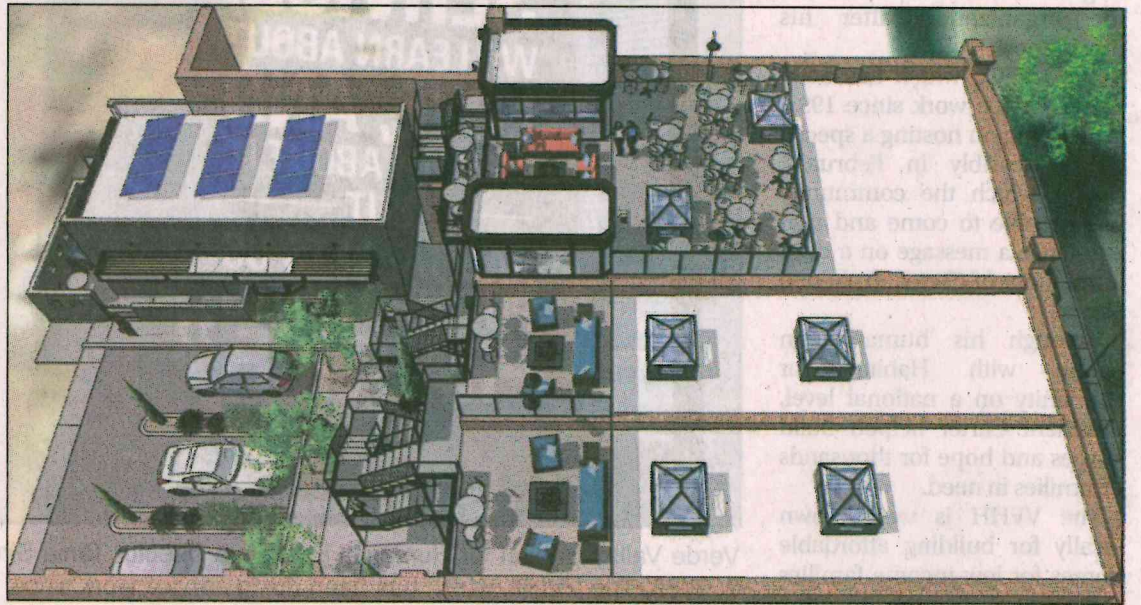
The new owner of the former and historic gas station, which is called the Clarkdale Classic Station and is located across from the Smelter Town Brewery, is finalizing design plans, Mayday said Thursday, Jan 2.

The town will be meeting with the owner in the next couple of weeks to go over final plans.

Mayday said it's her understanding that it will be the home for the Clarkdale Kayak Co., but she's not sure what else.

The owners said they have plans to bring the building back to its former glory, she said.

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Community Development Director Ruth Mayday said there are a lot of tradesmen coming and going in downtown Clarkdale these days, and several big private projects are in the works. The owners of the former Newstand are keeping the name, Mayday said, as renovations are underway of this historic building. They are rebuilding it so there is now a rooftop bar and deck. (VVN/Vyto Starinkas)

• Clarkdale projects progressing

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"We looking forward to that coming back online as a productive property," she said. "It's the key to our downtown. It's one of the first things you see, is that Clarkdale Classic gas station."

She's excited something will happen soon and they will preserve as much of the interior of the structure as they can. It's part of the Historic District.

Newstand

The owners of the former Newstand are keeping the name, Mayday said, as renovations are underway of this historic building.

"They are undergoing substantial rehabilitation," she said. "They took it down to the brick."

They are rebuilding it so there is now a rooftop bar and deck. "We don't have anything like it."

It will be a bar/restaurant and retail space. The second floor will be apartments.

Mayday said they put a lot of structural steel in



The historic Clarkdale Classic Station is undergoing a transformation with new design plans coming forward this year. (VVN/Vyto Starinkas)

the building with a huge crane to put in the rooftop bar. "We're really looking forward to that. It will really

boost downtown."

Copper Museum/ Miller Building

The successful Arizona

Copper Art Museum is renovating the historic Miller grocery store building across the street,

but it's taking years.

They are replacing some of the huge glass windows that are cracked and they

are doing paint abatement, Mayday said.

The museum is working on grants for interior restoration because it's a huge building that has been vacant for 40 years, she said.

The preliminary plans are very much community-orientated with demonstration cooking classes, Mayday said. The museum also talked about using it for an extension for its museum and retail space.

She thought they were two or three years out from finishing. It has 10,000 square feet of space, and the owners have had to reinforce a lot of the building.

Main Street Café

At the former Main Street Café, there is significant rehab of the structure. The building owners have a demolition permit, Mayday said, and they are preparing to make repairs.