



Located in the NE corner of the East Village
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In this edition of the newsletter:

- **Classic sodas have arrived at RFTC!**
- **Historic East Village Holiday Promenade**
- **Wapello Jim's Pick of the Month: vintage tin toys**
- **New inventory: pedestal, recording scale, corner cupboard**

Classic sodas have arrived at RFTC!

The first shipment of classic sodas has arrived! RFTC offers Blumer's Blueberry Cream, Bubble Up, Cheerwine Cola, Dad's Root Beer, Double Cola,

and Howdy Lemon Lime. Stop in and enjoy an ice cold bottle of classic soda and a free bag of popcorn from our retro popcorn machine while you browse!

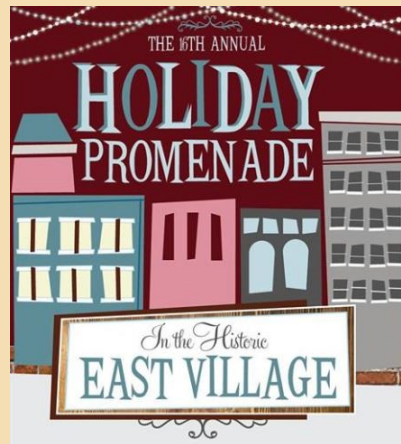


Historic East Village Holiday Promenade

The 16th annual Historic East Village Holiday Promenade, on the evening of Nov. 17, is the holiday kick-off event with something for everyone.

Most East Village shops, including RFTC, will have extended hours and treats, making it the perfect time to start your holiday shopping.

Holiday Promenade also includes free horse-drawn trolley rides from 6 PM to 8 PM., carolers, ice skating, and live ice sculpting and tree lighting at Brenton Plaza. Santa will be at Brenton Plaza from 6 PM to 6:30 PM and then head over to LifeServe Blood Center until 8:00 p.m.



Bring a friend, and don't miss the Holiday Promenade in your favorite district!

Wapello Jim's pick of the month: Vintage Tin Toys

Wapello Jim ("The Agent"), a direct descendant of the Indian Agent Joseph Street, who traded with the Winnebago Indians of Wapello County, specializes in select "smalls" glassware, pottery and china. Each month, Wapello Jim highlights an intriguing item in RFTC's carefully curated inventory.

Tin toys were made from thin sheets of steel plated with tin. They were a cheap and durable substitute for toys made of wood. And since tin is very lightweight, tin toys were easier to ship than heavier cast iron toys.

The toys were originally made by hand. After colorful designs were printed on the metal, they were formed by dies and assembled with small tabs.



Spring-activated tin toys originated in the 1850's in Germany, which continued to be the world's major producer of tin toys into the early 1900's. The most famous German maker was Ernst Paul Lehmann.

But by the 1920s, U.S. companies had risen to the top. The largest and most successful firm was Louis Marx and Company, which made a vast number of designs and relied on high sales volumes to keep prices down. Tin toy production stopped in the U.S. during WWII to free up steel for the war effort.



Post-WWII, tin toys were produced in large numbers in Japan. The idea was to give Japan low-profit, labor-intensive manufacturing, and U.S. companies could

sell the imported toys. The strategy worked and Japan became a tin toy manufacturing force until the end of the 1950's. Using a similar manufacturing model, China has become the world's largest maker of tin toys.

New inventory: pedestal, recording scale, corner cupboard

RFTC has recently added some excellent new items to its carefully curated inventory. Some highlights include a marble pedestal, porcelain recording scale, and walnut corner cupboard. For questions about items pictured below, please contact us at 515-809-1715 or raccoonforks@gmail.com.



Late 19th Century Marble Pedestal—Beautiful grey and white hand-carved Italian marble pedestal with heavy center rod construction. This 47-inch tall

piece was used in the living rooms and entry halls of finer homes to display statues, ceramic pottery, flowers or plants.



Porcelain Recording Scale—Manufactured by the Sanitary Scale Company in the mid-1900's, these scales were commonly found in stores, labs, and hospitals. The heavy and sturdy two-foot long scale with a 10-inch plate is coupled with a detailed and articulate meter. This piece would be a useful and aesthetically pleasing asset to those both historically and precision oriented.



Walnut Corner Cupboard—Featuring stained glass inlay windows on double doors, this corner cupboard has many possible uses. With its imposing stature, this piece filled corners in parlors, dining rooms, and kitchens, and can display fine china, figurines, and spices, making it a useful accent piece in any home.



Founded in 1812 by Emile Dobby (a French Canadian-Scots Irish fur trader) at the forks of the Des Moines and Raccoon Rivers, our mission for over 200 years has been to bring choice goods in from the wilderness to trade with the local population for whatever valuables they possess (including cash, checks, and credit/debit cards).

Emile immigrated to the U.S. in the early 1800s

after being driven out of Scotland for his rogue and wile ways, which had led to charges that included horse thievery. After spending many years fur trapping in the American West, he started the original RFTC near our current location, at 621 Des Moines St. (in the NE corner of the East Village).

In our present incarnation we pledge to provide our loyal customers with high quality, carefully researched and curated antique and vintage furniture, furnishings, art, prints, etc., etc., etc.



Raccoon Forks Trading Co. is an Optima LifeServices small business. Optima creates jobs for individuals with disabilities and mental illness by developing and operating small businesses that provide high quality goods, services and economic benefits to communities. For more information, please click here:

<http://www.optimalifeservices.com/our-services/raccoon-forks-businesses/>



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Forward

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Store hours:

Sun: 12 pm to 6 pm

Mon: 10 am to 6 pm

Tues-Sat: 10 am to 9 pm

Our mailing address is:

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