



**BIGGER
BETTER
TOGETHER**

Let's Get MOVING

Your Monthly Guide to Move-Related Events, Issues and Happenings

Bon Appetit!



Rendering by 360 Architects

H&R BLOCK®

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H&R BLOCK®

IN ADDITION TO BEING SURROUNDED BY NUMEROUS RESTAURANTS,

the H&R Block Center will offer associates a convenient and exciting option: The Chopping Block, our own cafeteria located east of the atrium space on the main level of the low-rise at H&R Block Center.

The Chopping Block is spacious and open, with several seating options: a hip, fun area with plasma screen TV's, another that's more private and quiet, away from the main flow of traffic, and an outdoor patio that overlooks the entertainment district. The cafeteria is arranged "marché" style, with several food stations offering a variety of selections, made

and prepared to order right in front of you. (Much like the American Century cafeteria some associates at the WHQ building visit today). And diners at The Chopping Block will use real china and flatware.

Diners will have a first-rate dining experience. In addition to the ambience, there are two "main ingredients" in a high quality corporate cafeteria and catering operation: the kitchen facilities and the chef. The Chopping Block will have increased meal preparation space and equipment for preparing food on site, including a pizza oven! Selection of a food service vendor is still pending, but an

Continued on page 5.

Watch the Monitor!

Viva le difference! That's what a panel comprised of some Associate Advisory Board members said when they had the opportunity to review various flat screen monitors last month. "The screen was very clear and easy to read, but eliminating the glare with the lights around me was one of my favorite things. If you consider the floor to ceiling windows that will be all around us at the new building, this will be very important", remarked Karen Yeager, Director Tax Research.

The remarks from the Associate Advisory Board members who piloted the flat screen monitors were overwhelmingly positive. In their evaluations they commented that the sleek, state-of-the-art monitor would function beautifully within the redesigned workspace. The obvious benefits were that the flat-screen monitor provides a clearer image, allows you to view more of your work at one time and takes up less of your valuable work

surface. But there's more. Using the sliding doors between workstations, the design of a flat screen monitor makes collaboration easy . . . just slide the door open, turn the screen around and you and your team members can view the information on your screen.

So now, beyond the building, the furniture and our downtown neighbors, the 'new' will also include brand new 19-inch flat screen monitors in every workstation, and the enthusiastic remarks by the Associate Advisory Board members was a factor in the decision to make this investment.

At this point, you may be wondering, "What are we going to do with the existing monitors?" We are pleased to announce that the "win" for the associates at H&R Block Center is also a "win" for associates in the Field. The existing monitors will be deployed to the



field, giving those colleagues a much-needed equipment upgrade.

Our thanks to the associates who participated in the pilot. Throughout the long term space planning process, the time, thoughts and opinions of the many associates who have participated in so many ways have been extremely helpful and much, much appreciated!



The Kansas City Public Library's Central Location. Photography by Alise O'Brien.

DOWNTOWN NEIGHBOR PROFILE:

From the rooftop terrace to the lower level Film Vault, the Kansas City Public Library's Central Library location is a treasure. A meticulously restored, 1904 marble building, the former First National Bank is located at 14 W. 10th Street, near the H&R Block Center.

"There are two key elements to the library's future," says Crosby Kemper III, Chief Executive, Kansas City Public Library and Chief Executive Officer of The Kansas City Public Library Foundation. "One is to become active in the community by engaging it with programming and activities. The second is aspirational, to promote the library as a place where people come for inspiration,"

The Block Business and Information Center project, dedicated to small business

development and funded in part by the H&R Block Foundation, is located on the second floor. It will provide a club-like atmosphere, with sofas and easy chairs, a fax machine, copier, and workstations with wireless Internet access. "We've been able to provide this because of H&R Block's vision," says Kemper. "Entrepreneurs and people seeking career opportunities will be helped by this generous gift. This will be a place to do business, as opposed to just another part of the library. It will be a rich resource in terms of business literature for those interested in various business disciplines."

The Helzberg Auditorium, off the terrace, has become a popular spot for meetings, presentations and receptions; other rooms available for meeting space include the elegant President's office and Bank Boardroom.

Complex, Integral and Happening Now! Moving the Data Center

By John R. Leek Mgr.,
Service Management



First, some facts. The new data center is 10,000 square feet of raised floor, with two AS/400s, 100 UNIX servers, and 743 windows servers, four of which are e-mail servers. It will have higher availability and capacity than the current facility and will position our company for continued growth and add new space at minimal cost. Now, how, exactly, does that affect you, and H&R Block as a whole?

We are within 2 weeks of placing equipment in the 13th and Main data center. That means systems that you use every day will soon be hosted downtown. Someone recently asked: “What’s the big deal? You just shut off the server and move it to the new building.” Oh, if it were just that easy! Think about the connections H&R Block has with other companies and service providers, and the relationships between systems and the supporting facilities. This is what makes the Data Center Migration such a complex project.

And it’s not an optional one. The data center at 4400 Main will be vacated this fall. What does that mean to the average user of IT Services? It means ALL systems will experience outages this summer. While most of these will be planned, scheduled and communicated, some will take longer to return to full operation than others. But don’t panic! We have a well thought-out plan designed to minimize disruption to your work processes. The data center move team has five move events planned, from June 16th through August 18th. To minimize disruption, all moves will take place on weekends, between 5 PM on Friday and completed by 7 AM on Monday.

Working together, we will develop processes to ease us through the migration.

- Your IT management team will contact each department’s key contact to communicate when moves are scheduled for the key systems you use.
- A communication to users will be sent

out two weeks ahead of each move, letting users know which systems will be unavailable on key weekends. A reminder will be sent out to users two days in advance of each weekend.

- Please watch for communications with “DCM” in the subject line. This will be your clue that the email is about the Data Center Migration (DCM) and that your work processes may be affected. The purpose of the communication is to give you a “heads-up” so that you can plan for how you will perform key activities should there be outages. For instance, if the corporate e-mail system is unavailable, how can you make sure you communicate effectively? You might have a copy of your contact list so that you can call contacts on the phone.

On behalf of the data center migration team, thank you for your cooperation and patience. We all depend on many system applications to perform our jobs, and we know that serving our clients and creating shareholder value depends on access to these applications. We promise that throughout the migration process we will be good stewards of the trust you have imparted to us.

KANSAS CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY’S CENTRAL LIBRARY

The staff can provide all audio/visual needs, as well as food and beverage services. Associates can also walk to the library for lunch in the new The Nine Muses Café, just off the Kirk Hall Lobby, featuring fresh sandwiches, soups and pastries.

“The library has a changing role in our community. It is perceived as a receptacle of books, and it’s a place for people to gather and connect,” said Laura Aquino, Chief Operating Officer, The Kansas City Public Library Foundation.

The Library sponsors a wide variety of exhibits, lectures, programs and events for different audiences, including children, teens and seniors. The upcoming calendar includes “Paint and Brush: Art of Watercolor,” “Calypso Music in Postwar America,” “Silent Film and Piano

Accompaniment,” “30 years of Rock & Roll” and more! During the summer, on the third Friday of every month, the “Off the Wall” film series is run on the Rooftop Terrace; the family-oriented Dewey Decibel Music Festival will be held on May 27th. Details about these programs, and more, can be found on the Library’s website, at www.kclibrary.org.

A full Calendar of Events and other brochures, notices and literature on topics and events at the Library and of interest to the community, are available in Kirk Hall. Have lunch, see the beautiful space, check out a movie or a book, and meet a neighbor with close ties to H&R Block and a partner in the renaissance of downtown KC!



A rendering of the Block Business and Information Center

RUMOR PATROL

RUMOR

I've heard that parking at WHQ will be re-assigned as people move. For example, people who park in the American Century lot will be re-assigned to Blue parking as spaces become available.

FACT

Parking will not be reassigned at WHQ as associates move to the new H&R Block Center. According to the high-level migration schedule, most of the people at 4400 Main will move later in the process. If it's cost-effective to give up some of the spaces we lease from American Century, we will re-visit that decision when the detailed migration schedules are completed.

RUMOR

If I have a meeting at the H&R Block Center with someone who has already moved to the new location, there will be no parking available.

FACT

People who have moved to the new location will park according to the zone they selected during the PERKS plus process. Other associates will need to park in the visitor spaces in the H&R Block garage. They will need to pull a ticket and have it validated. Remember, the building will continue to be a construction area until mid-October. For safety reasons and to avoid interfering with construction, only associates with official business will be given access to the new building. (For more details, read "Under Construction" on page 5).

RUMOR

Parking Zones C and D will not be completed until October.

FACT

The rumor is true. Zones C and D are located in the city parking garage; construction of this garage is behind schedule. We have worked with the city to develop an interim solution that meets the commitment we have made to our associates. As promised, associates who have chosen either Zone C or D will have free covered parking, within one block of the new building. Parking space in the Town Pavilion parking garage, immediately northeast of our building, will be available for H&R Block associates who selected Zones C or D.



11th and Walnut, 1950.

Downtown Memories

"I grew up in Kansas City and loved to go shopping downtown ... riding the bus at Christmas, the suspended crowns on the street corners, looking at all the shop windows with

animated Christmas scenes and riding the train to the North Pole at the Jones Store and visiting with the real Santa. The first movie I saw in a theatre was "The Sound of Music" at the Midland, complete with opening and closing of the curtains at the beginning, intermission and after the credits."

Diana Snowden Caraher, Project Manager, Training, Knowledge Development



Caraher



Barker

"I remember shopping downtown in the late 50's and early 60's. The store that fascinated me was Emery Bird & Thayer. It had an elevator with an operator who had to manually close the door. It had one of those brass grill doors with a handle that had to be pulled hard to close it. I thought that was the neatest job ever! My mom, grandmom, brother, and I shopped at least once a month downtown and never had enough time to do it all!"

Ronda Barker, Human Resources-Performance Support

"I used to work downtown and there was very little to do there. I've seen major changes to the look and feel of downtown ... abandoned buildings renovated and converted into condos ... a vacant parking lot converted into a parking garage for the Library ... the people in yellow cleaning up the area. Once the Sprint Center is finished and there are more shops, the downtown area will be a fun place to go again!"

Dan Sixbury, Infrastructure Engineer, Enterprise Technology



Sixbury

"Downtown was a booming metropolis! There was no where else to shop. Emery Bird & Thayer was a beautiful Victorian building, which spanned the entire block from 11th & Walnut to Grand Avenue. The wood and stained glass ceiling from that store is in E.B.T.'s restaurant on I-435 and State Line now. On Saturdays we'd meet in front of The Jones Store and across the street from King



Monaco

Joy Lo's Chinese Restaurant. We'd have lunch at The Forum Cafeteria, on Main between 12th & 13th Streets. We'd "window shop" and go to a movie at the Midland or the Roxy." I can hardly wait to see the return of that 'Booming Metropolis.'!"

Carol Monaco, Executive Assistant to Bill Meyer, Vice President, Client Experience.

"When I was a kid, downtown was very family oriented. My friends and I would play pinball at a penny arcade, then we'd walk past Helzbergs and window shop and dream of wearing a diamond ring one day! I worked at Macy's at 12th and Main as a hostess; when I was 18 I worked at Commerce Bank on 11th & Main as a file clerk. We used to go to Skaggs Drug Store during lunch time or on our way home. You got to know the workers and they would call you by your first name. That was such a warm feeling."

Renee Buffington-Jones, Operations Specialist I



Buffington

Under Construction

A QUICK GUIDE TO LIVING, WORKING AND VISITING “UNDER CONSTRUCTION”

Using and visiting a workplace under construction is like living at home during major remodeling. Normal habits and uses are curtailed, procedures are adjusted and everyone is patient until it's over, keeping in mind how much better everything will be! Combining a construction zone with a functioning work space creates even more complexities.

The first group of associates (the Data Center) will soon begin the move. Last month's "Let's Get Moving" noted that, for safety, the names of vendors and associates in the new space will be placed on a pre-approved list, and those people must wear protective gear – a hard hat and safety glasses – to enter the Data Center.

Starting July 7th, as each floor is completed, the rest of us will begin our move to the tower. Most of the surrounding area will still be a construction zone. Certain protocols will keep us out of the way of the construction crews, allow you to work with as little interruption as possible and keep us all safe! The following building access process will start July 7, extending through October 15:

- You'll receive a "Moving Packet" prior to your move weekend. Included will be parking and access badges, which will be activated the Monday following your move. If your move weekend is Friday, July 7th, your badge will be activated on Monday, July 10th.
- If you have a meeting at the H&R Block Center prior to your move weekend, access to the building will be similar to that of a visitor. Park in the visitors section of the H&R Block garage and check in with the security guard at the front desk.
- The new scheduling software system will provide the security guards with a daily list of people attending meetings in the H&R Block Center meeting rooms.
- Your name must be on this list to enter the tower. If your meeting is in a private office, you or the resident of the private office will need to add your name to the list via the Long Term Space Planning email box (LTSpacePlanning@hrblock.com).
- Visitor parking during this time will require pulling a ticket when entering the garage and having a validated ticket to exit. The security guards will be responsible for validating parking tickets for associates visiting the new building during the migration. You will need to present your H&R Block associate badge and have your name recorded on a visitor log.

Using the new space during construction will be a bit more complicated for all of us, but mark your calendar for October 15 – at that time, most of the construction will be finished, we'll all be moved into our new home, and every associate located in H&R Block Center will have received a badge that grants them full access to the office tower and to their parking zone.

Once we all get moved, we can begin to get settled in H&R Block's new home. Though the entertainment district area around us will still be under construction, we will enjoy a state-of-the-art workplace, a neighborhood rich in culture, history and opportunity!

continued from cover

Bon Appetit!

Executive Chef position is included in our evaluation of potential vendors. The chef will drive the menus, food quality, kitchen procedures, and manage the staff . . . all of which will make eating in the cafeteria a taste treat!

Opening in late October, the Dining Room hours will be from 7:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M., with take-home services available until 6:30 P.M. Lunch hours are from 11:00 A.M. to 1:30 P.M., with partial service throughout the day. Catering services will be available all day, with ordering done via an on-line menu and catering tool.

The Chopping Block, open to H&R Block associates and their guests, can double as meeting space in non-peak serving hours. A pick-up window in the cafeteria will be provided for call ahead lunch orders and take-out. The cafeteria overlooks a plaza area, with a fountain, green spaces, natural stone finishes, and informal seating . . . perfect for casual, impromptu meetings and outdoor functions. It can be reached from our Atrium or from the Dining Room. A grand exterior staircase descends from this plaza directly into the exciting, new entertainment district that forms the south end of the H&R Block Center. Yet another example of "Bigger, Better, Together."

Calendar of Events

May

- Let's Get Moving – Issue 5
- Detailed Migration Plan Announced

June

- Let's Get Moving – Issue 6
- Friday, June 23 – Downtown Merchants Fair at WHQ
- Dumpster Day
- Data Center move begins
- Floor plans issued for seat assignment: Floors 3-7 Published

July

- People Move Begins!
- Let's Get Moving – Issue 7
- Dumpster Day
- Floor plans issued for seat assignment: Floors 8-12 Published

August

- Floor plans issued for seat assignment: Floors 14-18 Published

September

- Dumpster Day

October

- People Move Completed!
- Grand Opening
- Open House

This calendar will be updated as dates are established and key events scheduled



H&R BLOCK®

This newsletter is produced by the Long Term Space Planning team, your partners in the big move!

Questions or comments should be directed to:
LTSpacePlanning@hrblock.com

4400 Main Street
 Kansas City, MO 64111



New Building— New Downtown— New Street Name!

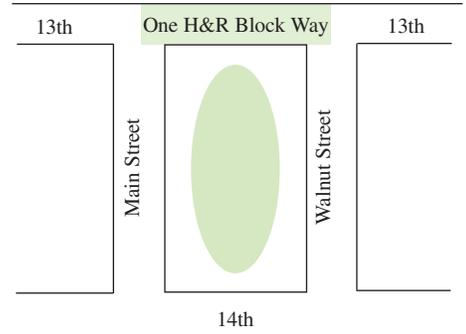
Introducing H&R Block's new address: One H&R Block Way.

H&R Block's move downtown was a major catalyst for the revitalization of downtown Kansas City. In recognition of our commitment to this development, Mayor Kay Barnes and the city council approved renaming the stretch of 13th Street where our building is located, between Main and Walnut Streets, ONE H&R BLOCK WAY.

Rita Kelly, Director of Space Planning & Analysis, tells us "Very early in the project, we thought that because our moving to downtown was so significant to the revitalization, it would be nice to have an address unique to H&R Block. We were very

pleased with the city's decision to rename part of 13th Street in our honor".

There you have it. Our own street! Now, let's get moving to One H&R Block Way!



Picture of Progress



Rendering by 360 Architects

The stage and seating areas of the KC Rep Theater, "as is" and as completed – one of the Midwest's premier theater companies to be located in the H&R Block Center!

Did Ya' Know?

- That approximately 4,671,824 feet of cable has been purchased for the H&R Block Center? That's 885 miles, or almost four trips from Kansas City to Columbia, Missouri - and back!
- Annually, the building will use approximately 13,800,000 Kwh of power. That's 575 times the amount of power that the average home uses in a year.
- There is 167,000 square feet of glass used on the exterior of the H&R Block Center. That's nearly three football fields!

Next Issue:

- How 'Green' is the new building?
- Time Capsule
- Sprint Center
- Downtown Merchants Fair at World Headquarters