

breaking news

Historic Fairport Gas Station Awaiting New Tenant



By: Caroline Tucker

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On the corner of Main and Church Streets in Fairport sits an historic icon.

"It was designed in 1934 by August Peterson and it is one of six Pure Oil Buildings in the country," said Kal Wysokowski, Executive Director for the Village of Fairport Office of Community and Economic Development.

Peterson was known as the "father of gas station architecture."

"The building is unique because of its architectural lines, the bay window is very standard and the doorway is one of the features," said Wysokowski.

This January, the little white building got into the National Register of Historic Places.

"There was a chimney over there and one in back as well, they have been covered up," said Wysokowski.

It protects it from demolition and major exterior renovations.

The Fairport Office for Community and Economic Development bought the building last August.

"We wanted to control the future, the destiny of this historic building and that was the main reason for purchasing it," said Wysokowski.

Over the years, it has gone from a gas station to a dry cleaners to an insurance agency.

And now a new unnamed tenant is in the works.

"What it means for this building in my opinion is its highest and best use. It's a very visible building on the corner and this tenant will use that to their advantage :18

More gardens and grass will replace some of the parking lot.

It's all about improving the gateway into the village.

"I think it will increase the pride that many Fairport people have in the community that we are on the right track," said Wysokowski.

The OCED may be able to reveal the name of the tenant as early as next week.

The hope is to have the new business operating by the start of Canal Days which begin in June.

Correction: The video portion of this story incorrectly spelled "Cal" Wysokowski. It is correctly spelled "Kal".

