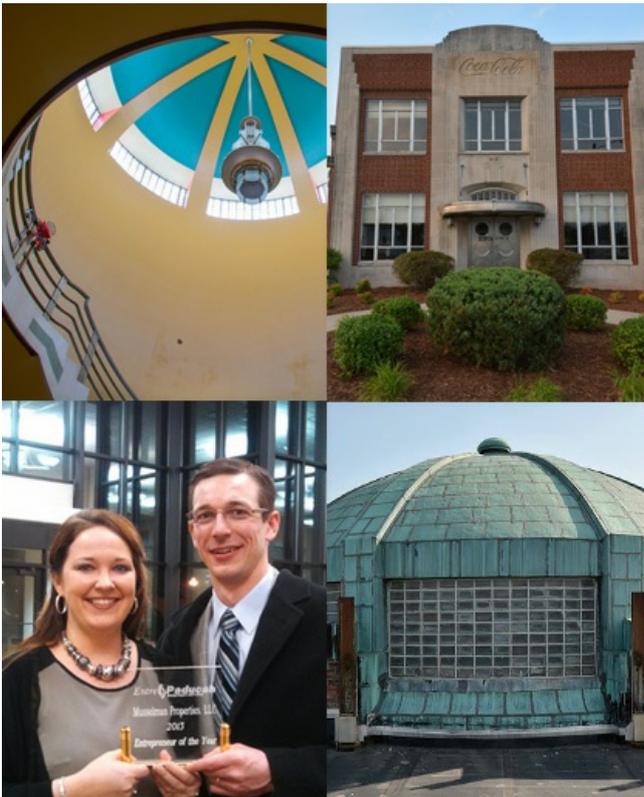


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A **REFRESHING** new future for Paducah's Coca-Cola Bottling Plant!



One year ago, the former home to Luther Carson's Paducah Coca-Cola Bottling Company was primed for rapid deterioration. Ed and Meagan Musselman to the rescue!

At the 75th annual dinner of the [Paducah Area Chamber of Commerce](#), this daring duo was honored as the Chamber's Entrepreneurs of the Year. Good move!

In 2010 [PADUCAH LIFE Magazine](#) asked the question, "Can the Coke plant be saved?"

We could not be MORE happy to say that our question has been answered by two visionary people who have invested their belief in the future of this landmark Paducah building.

"Having the Coke plant included on the National Register of Historic Places was a critical goal for this project from its onset," said Ed Musselman. "On July 30, 2013, after an eight-month process facilitated by preservation consultant Melinda Winchester that goal became a reality. Also critical to our project's successful kickoff was restoring the neon lights in the dome to working order. Greer Neon was able to make the necessary repairs that enabled the lights to be relit for the first time in over three decades on September 21, 2013!"

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In October, Jim Turner, an expert on Fenestra steel window restoration, was brought in from Detroit, Michigan to train local contractors in a 2-week boot camp. The front windows of the Coke plant were restored under Jim's direction, and local contractors became proficient at a new trade that was then put to use on the remaining windows.

The rotunda, such an amazing feature in this building, has recently undergone plaster repairs and painting and is once again a beautiful sight upon entry. Currently, restoration work continues in the offices that flank the rotunda, additional restrooms are being built, and the freight elevator will soon be replaced with a passenger elevator, says the entrepreneurs.

The Musselmans' focus for the future occupancy of the building will be to find the right combination of tenants to occupy space inside this repurposed landmark building. "It begins with the right anchor tenant that sets the tone for the rest of the building," Ed added. "There are several desired tenants currently being pursued."

Project photos and updates are being shared by the Musselmans on Facebook at [The Coke Plant](#).

6:30 p.m.
Thursday,
March 6
2014

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