

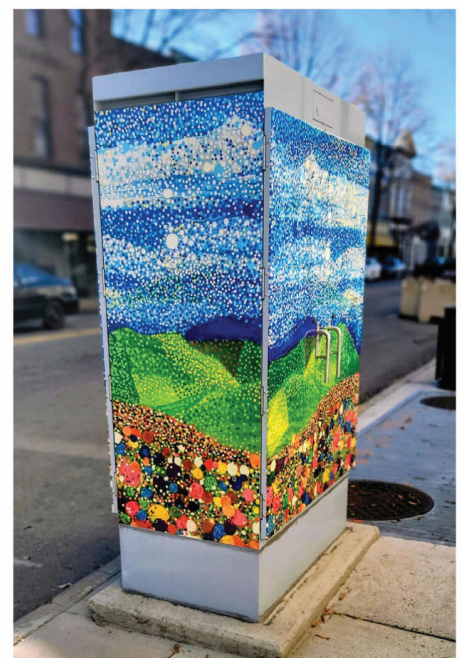


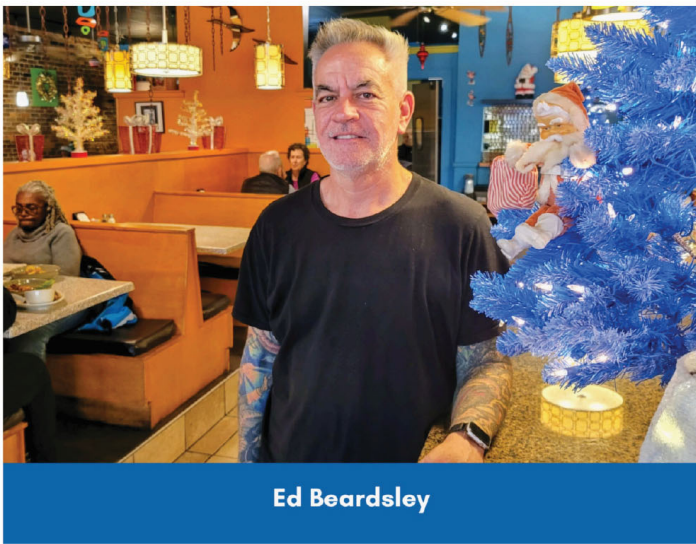
Ed Beardsley is on a mission to make downtown Suffolk more inviting. "We are recruiting local artists to paint drab utility boxes and turn walls into murals."

And City Hall is onboard, designating the area as an official Arts and Cultural District, rewarding businesses that invest with tax breaks and grants.

"We have established a non-profit called WATCH Downtown, which stands for 'Welcoming Arts Talent Culture History,'" says the Arlington native and W&M grad, "to attract more shops and visitors."

Frankly it also helps Ed, who has been a restaurateur for more than 15 years. His current eatery is the popular MOD Olive on Main Street, a successor to the Plaid Turnip that saw its better days pre-COVID but is still alive, co-habiting with the MOD.





“Some diners say they are eating at Plaid Turnip, others say the MOD,” which is the name on the door. “Restaurants have been my life,” says Ed. “I think I’ve done every job from dishwasher to chef.”

Open from 8am – 3pm for brunch, then until 8pm for dinner, there is something for everyone on the MOD/Turnip menus, from the Chicken and Waffle Stack, Hash Brown Casserole, Strawberry Pancakes and Scrambled Eggs with Bacon Baked Peaches to Lasagna, Braised Beef Short

Ribs and the hearty Rubenesque sandwich.



When he’s not in the kitchen, Ed is part of a team helping neighboring businesses spruce up vacant store windows and promote the virtues of a lively downtown.

“We want more art galleries, design firms, florists and of course restaurants.” So check out Ed’s website (www.themodolive.com) or his fellow restaurateurs’ and consider bringing your culinary or other creative concept to historic and always surprising Suffolk, where it isn’t just peanuts anymore.