



Susan Gouveia

From: Lashway, Lisa
Sent: Thursday, October 10, 2013 1:06 PM
To: Canning, Sean; Susan Gouveia; Natafalusy, Catherine; VanNess, Scott
Subject: FW: Headlines: The latest on vacant, abandoned and problem properties

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Sent: Thursday, October 10, 2013 12:24 PM
To: Lashway, Lisa
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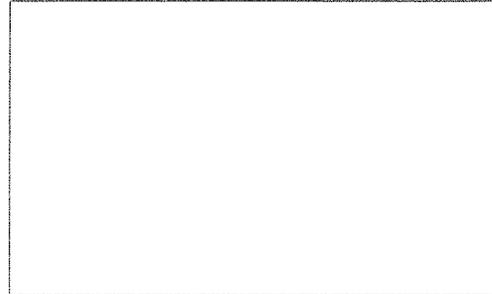
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**Headlines: The latest on vacant, abandoned and
problem properties**

This email kicks off Community Progress' new, twice-monthly round-up of the top stories about vacant, abandoned, and problem properties.

We're scouring the web so you don't have to - but if you have a headline to share, feel free to **email us!**



National

U.S. government shutdown threatening housing recovery

If it is prolonged, the government shutdown could have substantive negative impacts on the nation's recovering housing market.

John Gittelsohn | *Bloomberg* | October 2, 2013

Abandoned homes are the future: Imaginative homes turn blight into beauty

A general overview of vacant and abandoned property issues nationwide, as well as the role of land banks in effectively managing these properties.

Henry Grabar | *Salon* | October 5, 2013

District of Columbia

Lawsuit challenges District's tax-lien program, seeks compensation for families

Victims of DC's often dysfunctional tax lien system filed a class-action suit to stop tax-lien investors from taking homes through foreclosure in DC, possibly having implications nationwide.

Michael Sallah, Debbie Cenziper, Steven Rich | *Washington Post* | September 24, 2013

Indiana

To sell her city, Gary's mayor pitches \$1 houses and blight tourism

Karen Freeman-Wilson, mayor of Gary, Indiana, is trying to turn the tides of her struggling rust belt city with innovative new programs utilizing the city's abandoned properties.

Edward Mclelland | *Next City* | October 1, 2013

Michigan

Most properties in Wayne foreclosure auctions repeat cycle of unpaid taxes

Nearly 80 percent of the properties bought at the controversial foreclosure auctions in Wayne County are now delinquent on taxes, with Detroit alone losing about \$70 million.

Christine Macdonald | *The Detroit News* | September 23, 2013

Beyond the blight: Detroit ponders a future for its abandoned blocks

This piece examines the attempt to alleviate blight in Detroit, particularly the pull between demolition and reuse.

Michelle Maynard | *Time* | September 30, 2013

300 million in Detroit aid but no bailout

Obama traveled to Detroit pledging 300 million in aid, a far cry from what the city needs to overcome its fiscal crisis.

Jackie Calmes | *The New York Times* | September 27, 2013

Nebraska

Pace of vacant house demolition picks up in Omaha

The City of Omaha has decided to more than double its allotted money for demolitions of vacant properties in 2013, having already demolished more than 3 times as many structures as the previous year.

Christopher Burbank | *Omaha World Herald* | September 30, 2013

New York

Change in land bank law designed to fill more vacant properties

New York recently amended its land bank law to allow counties and municipalities to purchase properties without judicial authorization.

Ashley Hirtzel | *WBFO* | October 3, 2013

Ohio

Cuyahoga County selling up to \$25 million in property tax liens

The Cleveland City Council approved the sale of \$25 million in tax liens to a private company, Woods Cove III, LLC, retaining the full value of the liens, but allowing the company to profit off of extra fees.

Andrew Tobias | *The Plain Dealer* | September 25, 2013

Pennsylvania

Philadelphia raises stakes with plan to reverse blight

An overview of the drive to establish a land bank in Philadelphia in an effort to more effectively manage many of the city's 40,000 vacant properties.

Jon Hurdle | *The New York Times* | September 22, 2013

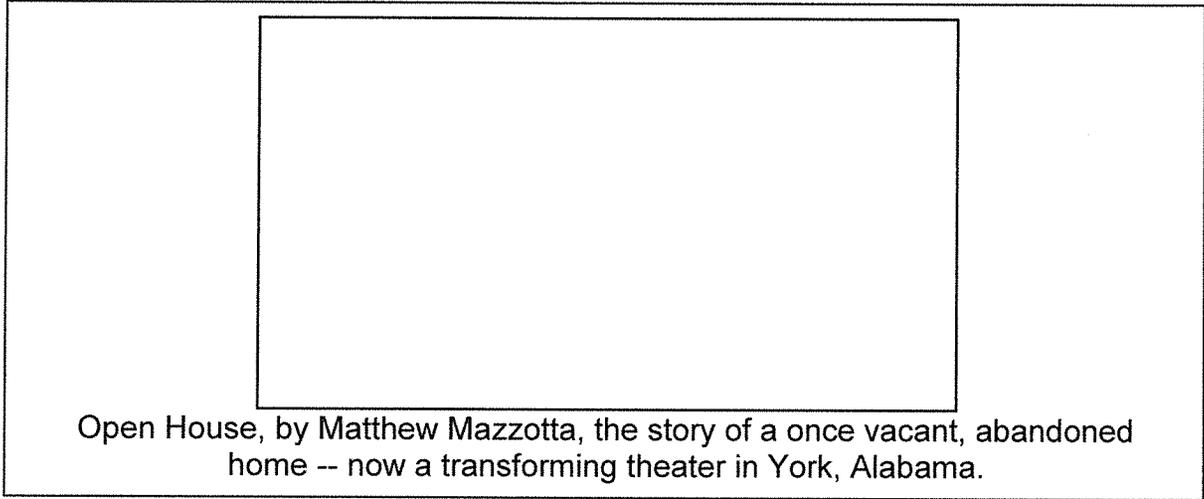
Tennessee

Memphis sets up new registry for vacant properties

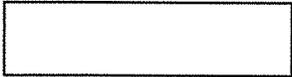
In an effort to more effectively track vacant properties and smooth out the code enforcement process, the Memphis City Council voted to approve a new vacant properties registry last week.

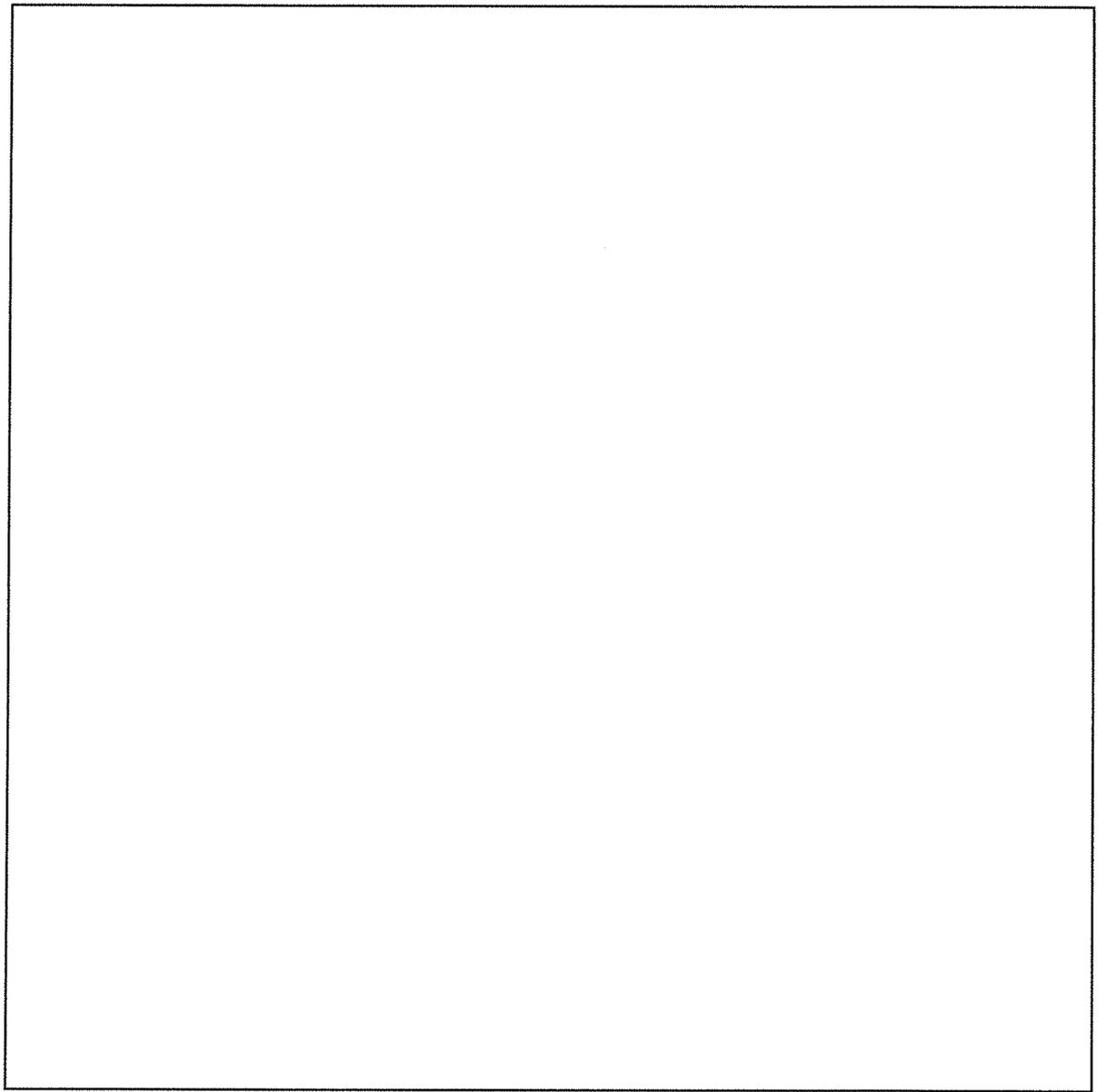
Associated Press | *The Tennessean* | October 4, 2013

Blight Bright Spot!

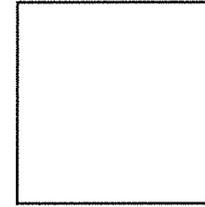
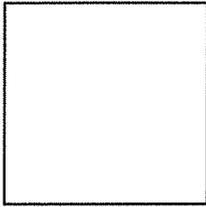


Open House, by Matthew Mazzotta, the story of a once vacant, abandoned home -- now a transforming theater in York, Alabama.





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