JULY 4th HOLIDAY SCHEDULE: City of Henderson Municipal Center and all other administrative offices will be closed on Thursday, July 4, for the Independence Day holiday. For details of your holiday week trash collection schedule visit and scroll to the schedule link: www.cityofhendersonky.org/224/Sanitation-Collection.

News Highlights

Back to school coming soon  Sure it seems like the summer break just started, but it will be time to return to the classroom in the blink of an eye.

John James Audubon State Park will host its third-annual “Party in the Park” Back-to-School Event from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 3. It takes place in Lakeview Shelter.

It’s for the entire family and will include carnival-style games and activities, ceramicist Albert Bauman offering turns on his potter’s wheel, live animal encounters and more. Bring a blanket, pack a picnic and get in one last summer outing at this free event before school starts again.

Lone Star Rodeo at Henderson County Fairgrounds for holiday weekend  Call it a Summer Roundup.

The Lone Star Rodeo presented by Audubon Chrysler is coming to Henderson County Fairgrounds on July 5 and July 6. Events take place at 7 p.m. each night. Tickets are $10 for adults and $5 for kids in advance ($15 and $10 at the gate). Children 3 and younger are free.

Farm to Table packed with local flavor  The Chamber of Commerce (powered by Kyndle) and Henderson Farmers Market Association will team up with local restaurants to present it Farm to Table dinner on Monday, July 15. The popular event that takes place in the Cates & Porter Pavilion at Henderson County Fairgrounds is an excellent way to sample locally grown produce prepared in delicious recipes by the local restaurants. Tickets are $30 per person and comes with a $5 coupon that can be used at the Henderson Farmers Market. Proceeds benefit agricultural projects in the community. Call (270) 826-7505 for tickets.

Historic Downtown Walking Tour to feature food  It was a popular tour last August, so for its monthly guided walking tour on Aug. 3 The Depot Community Room will reprise the “Flavor of Henderson” tour. It’s part of the series of downtown walking tours that take place on the first Saturday of each month, April through November, at 10 a.m. Other themes for the rest of the tour season are:

- Downtown History (September)
- Undertakers and Funeral Homes (October) and Breweries, Distilleries & Speakeasies (November.)

Writer’s festival back for 10th year

SONGFEST

It started in 2010 as a one-night event to bring Nashville songwriters to town to tell stories about their songs and the inspiration behind them.

Now the Sandy Lee Watkins Songwriters Festival is a four-night festival that brings in many more of Nashville’s award-winning singer/songwriters to perform while enjoying Henderson’s small-town ambience and flair for good old-fashioned hospitality.

While sitting “in the round,” attendees receive an up-close and personal experience while hearing stories about how and why their favorite songs were written, including many that have become No. 1 hits.

Each year, proceeds from Songfest benefit local non-profit organizations. They have included Audubon Kids Zone, Brain Injury Adventure Camp, Henderson County High School FFA “Shark Tank” Scholarship Fund, Henderson County Diabetes Coalition, Henderson Area Arts Alliance and others.

The dates for this year’s Songfest are July 24-27. “Listening Rooms” will be set up at HomeTown Roots’ Gatsby Room, Rookies Banquet Room and other venues that are still being finalized. There’s a single 7 p.m. show on Wednesday and Thursday nights, July 24-25, and shows at 6:45 p.m. and 9 p.m. on Friday and Saturday nights, July 26-27.

Tickets are on sale at SandyLeeSongfest.com.

In support of Songfest, Downtown Henderson Partnership is hosting the free event “Songfest on the River” at 5 p.m. on July 13, in Audubon Mill Park on the Henderson Riverfront.

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July Fourth means it is time to celebrate our nation in the loudest way possible: fireworks. The Henderson Police Department wants everyone to enjoy the July Fourth holiday by keeping some of the following things in mind.

Here's a list of the ones that HPD deals with the most:

1. Fireworks must be handled, stored, used, possessed, and sold in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local law.
2. Fireworks may be used, ignited, fired, or exploded between 10 a.m. and 10 p.m. except on July 3 and July 4 when they can be used, ignited, fired or exploded between 10 a.m. to midnight.
3. No person may use, ignite, fire or explode any fireworks if they are under the age of 18, are within 200 feet of any structure, motor vehicle (whether operational or non-operational), or any other person.

Other things to remember:

- Please be aware of your neighbors. Do not allow your fireworks to land on their property and keep in mind that not everyone gets to take off work on the holiday.
- Keep all items away from young children and pets.
- Be safe and Happy 4th of July!

**PARKS & RECREATION**

**‘Movie in the Park’ series**

The City of Henderson’s Parks & Recreation Department has one last film to go in its summer movie series. In a social media poll, the public selected “Mary Poppins Returns” to complete the series and it will show on July 25 in Audubon Mill Park. The movie starts at dusk. It’s free, but bring your own blanket or chair.

**Audubon Mill Park hosting roots music**

**BLUEGRASS**

The 34th-annual Bluegrass in the Park Folklife Festival is set for Aug. 9-10 in Audubon Mill Park.

In addition to two action-packed days of free bluegrass music, the riverfront festival includes children’s activities, 5K run/walk, food, folklife displays, artisan market, antique tractors and antique cars show and more.

The music lineup will include both traditional and progressive bluegrass acts starting at 4 p.m. Friday, Aug. 9.

On Saturday, the day kicks off with Breakfast in the Park at 7 a.m. hosted by Downtown Henderson Partnership.

Entertainers include:
- King’s Highway, The Alex Leach Band, Dave Harvey & Music Crew,
- Keith Vincent, Becky and the Butler County Boys, Shade Tree Players,
- Ridgetop Ramblers, Southern Flavor and Five Mile Mountain Road.

The festival is organized by a committee of community volunteers.

**Plenty of baseball left for Flash**

The Henderson Flash played the first half of its home stand in June at its home base — B.T. Wayne Field at Henderson County High School.

But there’s still plenty of baseball left in July before Ohio Valley League Playoffs at the end of the month.

To refresh, the Henderson Flash is the local team in the collegiate wooden bat league that competes against teams in Dubois Co., Franklin (new this year), Paducah, Madisonville, Muhlenberg Co., Owensboro, Fulton and Hopkinsville.

Remaining games: July 4, Paducah, 6 p.m. with fireworks show; July 5, Owensboro, 7 p.m.; July 7, Hopkinsville, 7 p.m.; July 11, Dubois Co., 7 p.m.; July 13, Muhlenberg, 7 p.m.; July 14, Fulton, 6 p.m.; July 17, Madisonville, 7 p.m.; July 19, Hopkinsville, 7 p.m. and July 21, Fulton, 6 p.m.

FIRST FRIDAY will be on hiatus in July because of the holiday weekend but will return in Aug. 2 with Chloe and the Blind Silence in Audubon Mill Park. Live music, food vendors available.
Take a walk downtown and find the 10 images pictured on this page and the next collected from somewhere in the Central Business District. Email your answers to: DSTinnett@CityOfHendersonKy.org
Correct entries will be entered into a drawing for a gift card from a downtown Henderson business.
Central Business District

PHOTO SCAVENGER HUNT

6

7

8

9

10
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

PITCHING IN

World Changers make home improvements

In the third week of June, youthful volunteers arrived in Henderson for the 14th non-consecutive year to pitch in with exterior home improvement projects coordinated through Tammy Willett-Speaks, Community Development Specialist for the City of Henderson. It was World Changers Week.

There were about 150 youth and their leaders from Alabama, Kentucky, Indiana, Wisconsin, Illinois, South Carolina, Missouri, Arkansas and North Carolina working at 17 locations.

The opening ceremony and rally took place June 17 at South Middle School (where the workers stay during their time visit.)

Willett-Speaks said that over the years the World Changers have contributed work valued at $1.120 million.

“The benefit that moves me the most is the enthusiasm and sincere kindness of kids/adults/coordinates that choose our small community and work so hard during the week especially during our summer heat and never complain...,” she said.

Sometimes the weather can be brutally hot (or feel like it) or it can be raining. But inclement weather doesn’t stop the volunteers from “trying to do what they can to help fix these eligible homeowners’ homes whom we know we are improving their home as well as strengthening neighborhoods from deteriorating,” Willett-Speaks added.

Breaking ground

On May 24, Habitat for Humanity of Henderson broke ground on the Letcher Street project, a three-home development in partnership with the City of Henderson across from East End Park. The first home, Habitat’s 65th, will be occupied by the family of Habitat ReStore employee Crystal Butler.

Grant cycle open

Partnership of Women, known as POW!, has launched the 2019 grant cycle. This is the seventh year for POW! One successful Henderson organization will be awarded a single grant of $15,000 in November at the annual dinner. POW! will award two other non-profits with $3,000 grants. Find the application at www.POWFund.org.

FINANCE

New fiscal 2020 budget approved

The Board of Commissioners finalized a $30 million general fund budget on June 11 for Fiscal Year 2020 that is 6 percent decrease over the previous year. It eliminates nine full-time positions and contains capital expenditures of a new pumper for the Fire Department, three new police cars, replacement of 19 computers, repaving 27 sections of streets, updating bathrooms at The Gathering Place, a rear-compacting truck for the Sanitation Department and a bus for Henderson Area Rapid Transit.

PUBLIC WORKS

Recycling trailer

Students at Henderson County High School recently completed design and artwork on a recycling trailer that will be used at special events in the community and at events to promote recycling education. It debuted at W.C. Handy Festival.

PARKS & RECREATION

‘The Bridges’ Golf Course to open

A restored 18-hole golf course owned by the City of Henderson is scheduled to open July 24 on the site of the former Player Club Golf Course. The course will be operated by a contractor. The Bridges pro shop and driving range are already open.

Upon opening of the new course, the nine-hole Henderson Municipal Golf in Atkinson Park will close. The Board of Commissioners members have already been receiving citizen suggestions about a new use for Municipal. A new use is required to be recreational in nature.

ADMINISTRATION

Mayor to deliver ‘State of City’

Mayor Steve Austin will deliver his annual “State of the City” address on Thursday, July 25, at a luncheon hosted by Kyndle. This year, Kyndle is combining the Mayor’s address and the “State of the County” address by County Judge-executive Brad Schneider at the same luncheon rather than hosting separate events a week apart. For registration information call (270) 826-7505.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

New Fairness Ordinance on books

Following a request by citizens, the Board of Commissioners reopened a discussion of putting a Fairness Ordinance on the books, which prompted a Town Hall Work Session on the topic on May 6. The commission passed with a 3-2 vote a first reading of the Fairness Ordinance on June 11 and finalized it on June 25. The City of Henderson passed a Fairness Ordinance in the late 1990s but it was repealed 18 months later when a new commission took office.

Want to download 42420?

Find it at:
www.CityofHendersonKy.org
‘CROSSING CLOUDS’ Exhibit
Artist David Wischer
Through July 12
OVAL Citi Center Gallery

‘A FRESH PERSPECTIVE’ Exhibit
Through July 28
John James Audubon Museum

‘ART ON THE VINE’ SALE & FESTIVAL
1 p.m. July 6
Farmer & Frenchman Winery

WALK IN THE WETLANDS
10 a.m. July 6
Audubon Wetlands

AUDUBON BIRD STATUES “LISTENING TOUR”
10:30 a.m. July 6
Audubon Museum Theater

MOVIE IN THE PARK: “MARY POPPINS RETURNS”
Dusk July 25
Audubon Mill Park

TWO RIVERBOATS VISIT
July 11
Downtown Riverfront

DOWNTOWN SUMMER SALES
July 12-13
Downtown Henderson Partnership

SONGWRITERS ON THE RIVER
5 p.m. July 13
Free. Audubon Mill Park

‘A NATURAL WORLD’ Exhibit
July 16-20
OVAL Citi Center Gallery

SANDY LEE WATKINS SONGWRITERS FESTIVAL
July 24-27
Various downtown venues

HISTORIC DOWNTOWN WALKING TOUR
10 a.m. Aug. 3
Audubon Mill Park Lakeview Shelter

PARTY IN THE PARK, Back to School
10 a.m. Aug. 3
Depot Community Room

BREAKFAST IN THE PARK
7 a.m. Aug. 10
Audubon Mill Park, Riverfront

BLUEGRASS IN THE PARK FOLKLIFE FESTIVAL
Aug. 9-10
Audubon Mill Park, Riverfront

‘FOR THE LOVE OF DRAWING’
Artist Chris Thomas
Aug. 12-Oct. 11
Henderson County Public Library

July 3rd

Downtown Henderson Partnership and Independence Bank are this year presenting their annual Independence Day Celebration in the late afternoon and evening of July 3. DHP Executive Director Lindsay Locasto said the DHP board had a long discussion about the pros and cons of changing the date before deciding several months ago to give Fourth of July Eve a try.

Some of the pros:
- Families who are out late to watch the Fireworks show don’t have to worry about a late night preceding work the next day.
- Having the show on July 3 allows people to attend other fireworks show in the area, including the show following the Henderson Flash baseball game at Henderson County High School’s B.T. Wayne Field.
- Securing a firework vendor on a day other than July 4th is less expensive.
- Having the fireworks show a day early offers more opportunity for a rain date should the weather turn inclement.
- Downtown restaurants that are open for business on July 3 would benefit from potential diners coming downtown for the fireworks show, which is in keeping with DHP’s mission of promoting downtown commerce.

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