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Issue
TEN

July-August 2024

City Matters

Informing and engaging residents of Versailles and Woodford County, Kentucky



What a Wonderful Celebration of the Opening of the Versailles Downtown Market & Entertainment District!

On Thursday, June 13th, hundreds of people came down to hear remarks from elected officials (including from the governor), listen to music, eat local food and just check out the new pavilion at the corner of Rose Hill Avenue & South Main Street, the entertainment stage and the cool ADA-compliant pedestrian walkway down to a water feature and Big Spring Park!

Pages 3-6 in this newsletter are all about events! Print or pull them out & hang them on your refrigerator! Or, visit the City of Versailles, KY's FB page or the NEW Versailles Downtown Market & Entertainment District Woodford County KY's FB page for event info.

And a special shout-out to the following businesses for donating food/beverages, services and staff time:

- Caroline's Creamery
- Tap Truck
- Versailles Brewing Company
- VIP Truck TLT Suites

good things happening in the community >>>

The ADA-Compliant Walkway!



As you're facing the new entertainment stage in the Downtown Market & Entertainment District, look to your right. Directly under the large elm tree is the start of the walkway that takes you to the water feature (where you can learn a little bit about the history of Woodford Reserve) and to a new city parking lot with 22 spaces and then down to Big Spring Park.

The walkway is ADA-compliant because it is accessible for those who use wheelchairs to get around. The slope is gentle, and the walkway is wide. It's good for strollers, too! It's important that everyone feels welcome in all public spaces; this is an example of steps the city is taking towards this goal.

Did You Know?

That you can take care of a lot of business via the City's website?

The city's website at versailles.klc.org gives residents and business owners options to take care of things online rather than making a trip to city hall. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

For residents:

- *Sign up for utility services or discontinue service
- *Pay your water/sewer/trash bill
- *View city job opportunities and complete an application
- *Learn about city-issued "Request for Proposals"; read studies and reports; take surveys; find out about city-sponsored grant opportunities; and learn about non-emergency changes to city services

For businesses:

- *Register for a business license or close a business
- *Complete net profit license fee returns
- *Complete employer's quarterly returns

Questions? Visit City Hall in person or call 859-873-5436. Someone will be happy to help you!



Nonprofit Spotlight: The Woodford County Nonprofit Roundtable!

If you're not involved with a nonprofit in Woodford County as a staff person, a volunteer or a client, you may not be aware that there are many local nonprofits here doing very good work! Some serve a more regional audience and may be based elsewhere (often Lexington), but serve Woodford Countians as part of their mission.



With nonprofits, it's easy to become focused only on what your own organization is doing because of the time and energy it takes to work with clients, train staff and volunteers, and raise money. Sometimes this means not knowing about other local organizations you might learn from, share resources with, or partner with at events.

Thus, the Woodford County Nonprofit Roundtable was born in 2023! The Roundtable meets every 2nd Thursday from 9-10 am at the library; everyone who is part of a nonprofit (staff or volunteer) is welcome to attend. In addition to great networking, the group shares their events, hears from speakers on topics of interest, and works together to spread the word to county residents about volunteer and giving opportunities.

What might this mean for you? If you're part of a nonprofit (charitable) organization, you are welcome to attend the Roundtable's meetings. If not, maybe you wonder where you can find out more about volunteer opportunities, how to make a donation, or where you can get assistance.



Volunteer Fair / June 22nd

To find out more, please email woodfordnonprofits@gmail.com. You can also visit the Woodford County Chamber of Commerce's website to find out more under "Chamber Programs." The Nonprofit Roundtable is a program under the chamber.

July Happenings in the “District!”*

JULY

VERSAILLES

DOWNTOWN MARKET & ENTERTAINMENT

DISTRICT

WOODFORD COUNTY, KY

8TH

SUMMER READING MAGIC SHOW ON THE STAGE

6PM

13TH

OPENING EVENT FOR
MAKERS MARKET/FARMERS MARKET

RIBBON CUTTING

VENDORS, LIVE MUSIC

KIDS ZONE

SO MUCH MORE

2PM-5PM

25TH

THURSDAY NIGHT CONCERT

7PM-9PM

27TH


MAKERS MARKET/FARMERS MARKET

VENDORS & BAND


2PM-5PM

*At the time of newsletter publication.

August Happenings in the “District!”*



VERSAILLES DOWNTOWN
MARKET & ENTERTAINMENT
DISTRICT
WOODFORD COUNTY, KY



AUGUST

AUGUST 16TH
VMA BLOCK PARTY

23RD 6PM-10PM
FLOOD WITH LOVE

24TH 3PM-10
FLOOD WITH LOVE



Flood with Love is a nonprofit whose mission is to raise money to FLOOD KIDS WITH LOVE (and resources). Funds go towards afterschool programs, weekend food to families of students, musical instruments and lessons, whatever the child or family's needs are. The organization gives most of its funds to children in Appalachia but keeps some money for needy families in this area.

*At the time of newsletter publication.



LET'S CELEBRATE

4th of July

VERSAILLES AND WOODFORD COUNTY

JULY 4TH • 6:00 PM

DJ TIM GOINS 6PM-10PM
MUSIC ON DEMAND BAND @ 7PM
BOUNCE HOUSES/FACE PAINTING
FOOD VENDORS
CONTEST FOR KIDS AND ADULTS
FIREWORKS AND MORE

EXCLUSIVE VETERANS TENT
FIREWORKS SPECTACULAR AT DARK

VERSAILLES
est. 1792

275 BEASLEY ROAD, VERSAILLES, 40383



WOODFORD COUNTY
FARMERS MARKET & MAKERS MARKET

GRAND OPENING
VERSAILLES DOWNTOWN FARMERS MARKET
PAVILION

JULY 13TH
2PM-5PM



LOCALY
GROWN
FRUITS &
VEGETABLES
CRAFTS
BAKED GOODS
MEATS
JAMS
SO MUCH
MORE

LIVE MUSIC
BOUNCE HOUSE
FOOD VENDORS
KIDS CRAFTS

LIVE
MUSIC

Farmers
Market

VERSAILLES
est. 1792



Road and Sidewalk Safety (and Walkability) the Focus of a few Federal Grant Applications!

In the past month-and-a-half, the City of Versailles has submitted three grant applications for federal funding, each through the U.S. Department of Transportation. One is a Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant; two are Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grants. Read on to learn more.



**Wilson Avenue's
unconnected sidewalk**

Why does Versailles submit grants for federal money? Many desired municipal projects, particularly those that deal with infrastructure, are very expensive to implement. It would be difficult, if not impossible, for most cities to fund large projects with local tax dollars alone. It is typical for municipalities to pursue state and federal funding for these larger projects. In addition, the federal government invites municipalities to apply to fund projects it [the federal government] believes is a priority. An example might be ones that seek to mitigate the effects of climate change.

If successful, what kind of projects will be funded? The **SS4A grant** requests funds for “quick build” projects, which are temporary installations to test certain safety ideas for motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians. In our case, the projects will focus on Lexington Road from Woodford Plaza to Laval Heights, as well as Midway Road. Installation features will include temporary paint, signage, speed displays, etc.

The two **TAP grants** involve sidewalk, drainage and erosion control improvements on both sides of Lexington Road between Main Street and Locust Street as well as the length of Wilson Avenue (south side only). TAP grants fund projects to enhance transportation systems and provide safe alternatives for activities like walking and bicycling. Community improvements and environmental mitigation are also included in TAP funding.

How much money is the city asking for? If fully funded, the three projects total approximately \$3,663,800. Eighty percent would come from the federal government (in the form of a reimbursement – the money is not given upfront) and 20% from the local match.

What does a 20% local match mean? Depending on the grant, that could be a lot of money! The match can be in cash from a variety of sources – local and state money and private funds – or “in kind” in the form of (city) labor, supplies, equipment, real property, services, materials, or space – however, the value of these items must not exceed fair market value.



These are also Wilson Avenue.

Left photo: Sidewalk doesn't continue to Woodford Plaza.

Right photo: Sidewalk is uneven and low in spots.



Upcoming City of Versailles Meetings and Events >>>

Regular City Council Meetings (Everyone welcome)

1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 5:30 pm in council chambers at the Versailles Municipal Building (City Hall), 196 S Main Street

- July 2nd
- July 16th
- August 6th
- August 20th

Regular City Council Work Sessions (Everyone welcome)

2nd Tuesday at 5:30 pm at the Versailles Municipal Building

- July 9th
- August 13th

Holidays (City Offices Closed)

- Fourth of July, Thursday, July 4th

Community Events (that are supported at least in part by the city)

- Fourth of July festivities, July 4th, 6 pm
- Farmers Market & Makers Market Grand Opening, July 13th and 27th, 2-5 pm



City meetings, work sessions and committee meetings are open to the public. We welcome and encourage you to attend! You do not have to have a specific reason to be there, and you do not have to sign in, say your name, or speak, though if you wish to speak, you may only do so during public comment. (Public comment is an agenda item at council meetings only.) You may also submit comments in writing to the city clerk.

You probably won't find everything discussed at council meetings equally fascinating, but you may find it interesting to see how the local legislative process works.



Look What's New in Town!

The following "brick and mortar" business recently registered with the City of Versailles...

Chuerria La Coneja 2
Mami Chonita LLC
Trindy's LLC

Food Truck
Food Truck
Food Truck

Faded Man LLC

Barbershop

140 S Locust St #101

From the Mayor

Brian Traugott
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**2023-2024 Versailles
City Council >>>**

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This issue of the newsletter reads more like a tourism pamphlet or visitor's guide than a newsletter, but it is summer so there are more events to share with you, especially since the Downtown Market & Entertainment District held its soft opening on June 13th and – the very next day – Juneteenth organizers held a very successful celebration of this holiday.

This is an exciting time for the city. Public and private investments in downtown have brought a new energy to our historic little town, and I invite you to be a part of it. Shop, eat out, take a walk past our beautiful buildings, enjoy all the events. It's here for all of us. City events are always free and open to everyone, so invite your family, your friends and neighbors, too!

Finally, I'd be remiss to not congratulate Captain Josh Slone and Lieutenant Brian Arnett of the Versailles Fire Department for a wonderful 8th place finish (out of 35 teams from around the world) in an international rope rescue competition in Spain! They scaled a 300-foot-high dam and a near vertical embankment, hung off a catwalk, and navigated an 18" pipe to demonstrate their skills. You might have seen the nice article about them in the *Woodford Sun*. This is an achievement we as a city can be proud of. For a small community, we are lucky to have firefighters with the skills ours do.

Stay cool this summer and enjoy what Versailles has to offer!

Want to get the city e-newsletter directly in your inbox?

Simply click the "Subscribe" button below or email City Clerk Elizabeth Reynolds at ereynolds@versaillesky.com with "Newsletter" in the subject line. The newsletter is completed around the first of every other month, so the next one will arrive on or about September 1, 2024. If you'd rather not get an email, the newsletter will be available on the city's Facebook page and on the city's website. Past issues are archived on the website also.



City of Versailles
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