

JACKSON

OFFICIAL CITY OF JACKSON NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2019

CRUISE INTO SUMMER FUN IN DOWNTOWN JACKSON

Jackson families won't have to travel far this summer to experience all the season has to offer.

With a packed 2019 schedule, there's something to do nearly every weekend this summer in Downtown Jackson.

The Jackson Downtown Development Authority is behind all the action, launching its Endless Summer Event Series.

It's a collaboration between the DDA, Michigan Theatre of Jackson and Jackson Symphony Orchestra.

The convertibles, tail fins, and shiny chrome returns to Downtown Jackson this summer, with Cruise In happening the fourth Friday of the month May to September in the evening hours.

The classic car shows bring thousands of people downtown to see beautiful rides of the past.

While you check out the cars be sure to follow your ears to the music coming from CP Federal City Square in Horace Blackman Park.

That's where a variety of music acts will be performing the same nights as

Cruise In for the summer concert series.

CP Federal City Square is also where you can watch movies under the stars this summer for the Friday Film Festival.

Family-friendly films are being shown at the City Square on the first Fridays of June, July and August.

The Cruise In, concert series, and films are all free to attend!

The music continues with the International Music Festival, which is happening July 12-14. The music festival will feature a diverse range of music acts performing at the Michigan Theatre of Jackson.

All this summer fun is sure to work up an appetite.

Food trucks are returning to Downtown Jackson for Food Truck Tuesday.

While you peruse the tastes and smells around Horace Blackman Park, music will also be in the air.

First and Third Tuesday Live is happening in conjunction with the food truck offerings. It's a chance for local singer songwriters to shine while downtown visitors chow down. The food trucks and music events



are happening the first and third Tuesday of June, July and August.

If you're looking for food that goes from local farms to your table, the Grand River Farmer's Market is here for you! Located along the Grand River off Mechanic Street, the farmer's market offers a wide array of locally grown produce and handmade products.

The market is open from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Tuesday, Friday and Saturday from June to the end of October. To make sure everyone has access to fresh food, the market accepts WIC Project Fresh, Senior Project Fresh, and Bridge Card, along with cash or

credit.

After a successful first year, the Gus Macker Tournament is coming back to Downtown Jackson, taking place July 26-28.

Courts will be set up all over the downtown area for the 3-on-3 basketball event.

Teams of all ages are welcome to participate and basketball fans are encouraged to watch and cheer them on.

Since these are a lot of dates to remember, the DDA says all you have to do is "like" the Endless Summer Event Series and Downtown Jackson pages on Facebook to get the latest information about all of the events mentioned.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS TAKING SHAPE



Francis Senior Lofts on MLK Dr.



The 200 development on Jackson St.

The skyline of Downtown Jackson is undergoing a dramatic transformation.

Two mixed-use developments are currently under construction, with several others still in the planning stages.

Construction is now underway on The 200 following an official groundbreaking in May.

The four-story building is rising up on N. Jackson Street, between W. Pearl Street and Louis Glick Highway.

It will feature 86-market rate apartments with retail space on the first floor.

Local senior citizens can also take advantage of the downtown living boom with the Francis Senior Lofts.

The four-story, 45-unit senior housing development is taking shape on

S. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive between E. Wesley Street and E. Franklin Street.

Both projects will be completed over the next year.

Construction is set to start later this summer on a low-to-moderate income apartment development at the site of the former Jackson Citizen Patriot building on S. Jackson Street.

The existing building will be re-purposed for the development, and a large addition will be added.

The development will offer 73 apartments.

Another apartment development for low-to-moderate income residents is still in the initial planning stages on W. Michigan Avenue near N. Blackstone Street.

LIGHT UP THE CITY



Light Up the City is returning this summer to various community services.

The goal of Light Up the City is to make neighborhoods safer by providing light bulbs for front porches and to help homes become more energy-efficient.

The City of Jackson is working with local law enforcement and Consumers Energy to provide free energy-efficient light bulbs to homes all over the City.

Volunteers are going door-to-door to distribute bags that contain the light bulbs, along with safety information, tips on saving energy, and connections

AUGUST ELECTION



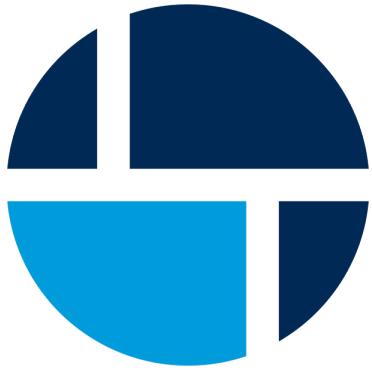
The August Primary Election is happening Tuesday, Aug. 6. then move onto the November General Election on Tuesday, Nov. 5.

In the City of Jackson, the only item that will appear on ballots is the primary election for the city-wide Mayoral Election.

Registered voters in the City of Jackson will vote for one of three candidates on the ballot.

The top two candidates with the most votes will

Go to the Michigan Secretary of State website, michigan.gov/sos, for more information about registering to vote and other voting information.



MAYOR

Derek Dobies

COUNCIL

Arlene Robinson

Ward

1

Freddie Dancy

2

Jeremy Alexander

3

Craig Pappin

4

Kelsey Heck

5

Colleen Sullivan

6

CITY MANAGER

Patrick Burtch

MEETINGS/IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday, July 4

City Hall Closed

July 16 • 6:30 p.m.

City Council Meeting

Tuesday, August 6

August Primary Election

August 13 • 6:30 p.m.

City Council Meeting

Monday, September 2

City Hall Closed

September 3 • 6:30 p.m.

City Council Meeting

September 17 • 6:30 p.m.

City Council Meeting

NEW FIREWORKS LAWS

As Jackson residents plan summer holiday celebrations, they will want to be aware of new rules about fireworks.

In December, 2018, Gov. Rick Snyder signed new rules for using fireworks in Michigan.

The Jackson City Council changed the City of Jackson's Fireworks Ordinance in April to reflect the new state laws.

The biggest change concerns the number of days the public can use consumer fireworks.

Consumer fireworks are large-scale aerial fireworks that shoot into the sky for a large visual effect.

Previously, residents were allowed to use consumer fireworks the day before, the day of, and the day after national holidays.

The City, in accordance with state law, now only allows the use of consumer fireworks on the following dates and times:

-11:00 a.m. on Dec. 31 until 1:00 a.m. on Jan. 1.

-11:00 a.m. until 11:45 p.m. on the Saturday and Sunday before Memorial Day.

-11:00 a.m. to 11:45 p.m. June 29 through July 4.

-July 5, if that date is a Friday or Saturday, from 11:00 a.m. to 11:45 p.m.

-11:00 a.m. until 11:45 p.m. on the Saturday and Sunday before Labor



Day.

This means consumer fireworks will not be allowed on Memorial Day or Labor Day.

This year, July 5 is taking place on a Friday, so consumer fireworks will be permitted on that day.

The State of Michigan says because these fireworks cause so much noise, the changes are necessary to not disturb people who have to return to work the next morning.

Additionally, the new changes mandate an increase in the amount of a civil fine for a violation of a local fireworks ordinance from \$500 to \$1,000.

The use of low-impact fireworks, such as small ground fireworks and hand-held sparkling devices, are not impacted by these changes.

FOLLOW THE CITY OF JACKSON ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

Stay up to date with the latest news from the City using:



Facebook



Twitter



Instagram



YouTube

BUSY ROAD CONSTRUCTION SEASON UNDERWAY



Fourth Street/Horton Road intersection under construction.

The summer road construction season is now in full swing.

This is proving to be a busy construction season, with projects big and small happening in Jackson's neighborhoods.

A street that's seeing major changes is Fourth Street on the City's southwest side.

Crews are resurfacing a long stretch of the street from Audubon Boulevard to the Horton Road intersection.

Along with the resurfacing,

crews will also redesign the West Avenue roundabout to make it easier to drive around, and realign the Horton Road intersection.

This project refreshes a key gateway to the City, along with improving road surfaces and updating intersections.

Construction is also under way in the Under the Oaks neighborhood, as Second Street receives a full reconstruction.

Some smaller projects have already wrapped up, such as the resurfacing



Completed work on S. Thompson Street.

of S. Park Avenue and Elizabeth Street near the Train Station, and Madison Street on the City's north side.

A project that's taking place over the entire construction season is the effort to resurface three neighborhood streets on the City's west side.

Several blocks of Thompson, Durand, and Higby streets have already received new pavement, with more construction in other sections planned this summer.

The Greenwood Park area is set to receive major attention this construction season, with a new traffic circle planned around the park, and new pavement on Greenwood Avenue from the park to Morrell Street.

Lighting projects are also scheduled this year.

Playgrounds at Exchange and Loomis parks will receive new LED lighting, and new street lights are coming to Cooper Street the City's north side.

From the Desk of Mayor Derek Dobies

Rocky roads are turning into smooth rides, neighborhoods are improving, and our downtown continues to flourish.

But one priority of the City of Jackson is yet to receive substantial attention: gun violence.

That's about to change.

At our meeting on June 11, myself and the City Council voted to battle gun violence in Jackson by taking the first step in adopting a Group Violence Intervention program, also known as GVI.

Communities across the country and right here in Michigan have seen dramatic drops in gun violence by starting GVI programs.

Seeing as a small number of our population commits the vast majority of our gun crime, GVI takes a community-based approach to the problem.

Law enforcement, neighbors and community organizations work together to directly approach those committing gun violence, and look for direct solutions to stop-

ping them from participating in this destructive behavior.

While City officials work on getting that program going, we know that more than one solution is needed to fight this issue.

That's why the City is considering several more solutions to reducing gun violence and making Jackson a safer place to prosper.

We look forward to working with all of you to further insure the safety of our City.



Sincerely,

DANGEROUS LEAD PAINT COULD BE LURKING IN YOUR HOME...POISONING YOUR KIDS

THE CITY HAS MONEY TO HELP MAKE HOMES LEAD SAFE!

It's an unfortunate statistic.

The Jackson County Health Department reports that in 2016, 8.7 percent of children under 6 years of age tested in the City of Jackson had elevated blood lead levels.

This high rate of lead poisoning is believed to come from children living in and around homes with deteriorating lead paint.

The most common way to get lead in the body is from dust.

Lead dust comes from deteriorating lead paint and lead-contaminated soil that gets tracked into your home.

Normal hand-to-mouth activities like playing and eating (especially in young children) moves the dust from surfaces like floors and window sills into the body.

Thankfully, there is money available to help with this problem.

The City of Jackson received a \$2.9 million grant from the federal government to remove lead-based paint hazards in homes occupied by young families throughout the City.

Landlords, tenants, and homeowners are able to apply.

Eligible applicants receive a FREE lead paint inspection and risk assessment.

If lead-based paint hazards are found, a State certified contractor will stabilize the hazards using a variety of approved methods.

An average of \$10,000 per unit is available through an interest free, no payment loan.

Provided the program's guidelines are followed, the loan is forgiven at the end of three years.

For landlords, a co-pay of no less than 10 percent of the total project cost is required.



Units receiving work must maintain a three year period of affordability after completion, which includes charging no more than Section 8 Fair Market Rent, along with marketing lead safe units if they become vacant during the affordability period to low-to-moderate income families with children.

To find out if you're eligible, ask yourself these three questions:

- Was my residential property built before 1978? (90% of the City's housing stock was constructed before 1978)

- Are there children under 6 years old or a pregnant woman living in the home?

- Is my family's (or tenants') household income at or below the following amounts:

Number of People in Household:	Total Income Cannot Exceed:
1	\$36,200
2	\$41,400
3	\$46,550
4	\$51,700
5	\$55,850
6	\$60,000
7	\$64,150
8	\$68,250

If you answered yes to all, request an application!

Contact Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control Program Manager Michelle Pultz-Orthaus at 517-768-6436 or mpultz@cityofjackson.org.

City of Jackson
161 W. Michigan Ave.
Jackson, MI 49201

CITY NEWSLETTER

WHAT'S REALLY HAPPENING IN JACKSON, MICHIGAN