

AREA EVENTS MAKE MOST OF THREE-DAY WEEKEND

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This weekend offers a golden opportunity to fill three leisurely days with parades, performances and special programs. Here's a look at a handful of options in and around the Bluegrass:

Today

The Heart of Kentucky Festival in Richmond heats up, with opening ceremonies at 3 p.m. From 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., there will be an arts-and-crafts sale, entertainment and a quilt show. Other festival highlights: Coon Creek Girls at 6 p.m. Saturday; a light-show parade at 9 p.m. Saturday; gospel music at 2 p.m. Sunday; and a parade at 10 a.m. Monday. It's free. Information: (606) 623-0759.

Exile and The Greg Austin Band will perform a street concert at 8 p.m. on West Main Street near Broadway as part of the May Festival of Arts and Heritage.

Saturday

Put your workout to good use in the "Remembrance Run" downtown. Family Fun Run starts at 8:30 a.m.; five-kilometer race is at 9 a.m.; and a kids race is at 10 a.m. Entry fee: \$10. Proceeds benefit the Nathaniel Mission. Information: 255-0954.

Possibilities Unlimited will benefit from a three-day arts-and-crafts exhibit at Heritage Hall in Lexington Center. The sale, with more than 100 exhibitors, runs from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday; and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday and Monday. Admission is \$2.

Tour 19 private gardens during the Ashland Park Spring Tour from 2 to 4:30 p.m. in historic Ashland Park. A guided tour with Meg Southerland will be from 1 to 2:30 p.m.; the group is limited to 25 people. Tickets for the guided tour are \$7.50 each; general admission is \$4, with children 12 and under free. Tickets and refreshments will be sold after 1 p.m. in the Hanover Avenue median at Central Avenue and Fincastle Road. No pets allowed.

Balloonfest '89 marks the season opening of Coney Island in Cincinnati. The three-day event, with more than 50 hot-air balloons in daily flight competitions, also features entertainment, sports clinics and water activities. Admission is \$4 for ages 4 and over. Hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily.

Take a trip back in time at the Kentucky Renaissance Festival at Shelby County A & M Fairgrounds in Shelbyville. You'll see everything from jousting knights to sword swallowers. Crafts and food will be sold at the three-day event, modeled after a 16th-century English fair. Gates open at 10 a.m. and close at 6 p.m. daily through Monday. Admission is \$7.50 for adults, \$4 for children ages 5 to 10, and free to those under 5. The festival continues every weekend through June 25.

Sunday

Take advantage of the good weather -- if it prevails -- at the Fresh Air Arts Fair from noon to 6 p.m. in Shillito Park. Features include music, games, dancing, juggling, pony rides, arts and crafts. It's free.

If you're ready to hit the road, catch Ronnie McDowell in concert at 1 and 5 p.m. at Tombstone Junction at Parkers Lake. Tickets are \$12. Information: (606) 376-5087.

Monday

Hear the smooth saxophone sounds of Kenny G. at 8 p.m. at Riverbend Music Center in Cincinnati. Tickets are \$15 lawn and \$20 pavilion. Information: (513) 232-6220.

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LEADERSHIP LEXINGTON CLASS TO LEARN ABOUT ISSUES AFFECTING COMMUNITY

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The 1989-90 class of Leadership Lexington will concentrate on issues of growth, land use education, low-cost housing and transportation needs.

Thirty-five people were selected for the 10-month program sponsored by the Greater Lexington Chamber of Commerce.

Those in the program learn about the community through speakers, panels tours, demonstrations and class discussions.

The participants and their businesses or organizations are:

Brenda Ackinson, Community Bank, Steve Albert, Steven M. Albert, AIA; Steve Campbell, First Security National Bank; Laurie Conley, Jordan-Chiles Inc.; Ralph Currie, Peat Marwick; Bob Eckert, Transylvania University; Lana Gibbons, Bank of Lexington; Nick Glancy, Greenbaum Doll & McDonald; Al Grasch Jr. Stoll, Keenon & Park; Sam Halley, Omni Architects; Lyle S. Hanna, Mercer, Meidinger & Hanson-Mark Harbison, First Security National Bank, Debbie Inboden, United Way of the Bluegrass; Gary J. Kleine, Office Automation Center; Kim Lacy, St. Joseph Hospital; Mark T. MacDonald, Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs; Laura T. Miel-carek, First Security National Bank; David Moore, Central Bank & Trust; C. Harris Myers, Jefferson-Gibson Kentucky; Mark E. Nabity, Panel Tech Inc.; Pat Nickell, Fayette County Public Schools; Dick Nowel, Commerce National Bank;

Lee Pollard, Rector-Hayden Realtors; Forrest Ragsdale. Jerrico Inc.; Tim Reimink, Bank One; Lynn Rice, Transylvania University; Jim Richardson. Merrill Lynch; John S. Roberts, Lexington police; **George Ross, Possibilities Unlimited;** Valeria Cummings Swope, WKYT-TV, Linda Talbott, Kentucky Department of Travel Development; Cheryl Truman, Lexington Herald-Leader Leslie Wainscott, Junior League of Lexington; Mike Warner, WKA Development Co.; and Wayne Wilson, Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government.

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SHUTTING OFF SUPPLIES WON'T STOP THE PROBLEM, LEXINGTON ADDICT SAYS

Lexington Herald-Leader (KY) - September 7, 1989

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Nathan Watson used to think that the way to attack America's drug problem was to try to shut down the supply.

But now, having watched President Bush's Tuesday night speech announcing a new "war on drugs," Watson thinks more should be spent on reducing demand through education and treatment.

Watson, 22, knows about demand for drugs -- he's been addicted to cocaine for three years.

"If you have a lot of people who don't want to use the stuff, who's going to buy it?"

Watson, who is in a treatment program at the Charles Schwartz Chemical Dependency Treatment Center in Lexington, said stopping the flow of drugs into the United States from abroad "is going to be nearly impossible. It's everywhere. . . . Right here in Lexington, you can pull up down on Third Street and get just about anything you need. I think the president has some good ideas, but it's not really going to stop drugs from coming into the country.

"What you need to do is give more money to the treatment centers, especially for those that help people who can't afford to get help any other way."

Those sentiments were echoed yesterday by several administrators in local drug treatment programs. They praised Bush's willingness to make dealing with drugs a national priority, but they said more needs to be done to support treatment and education.

About 70 percent of the money Bush plans to devote to battling drugs will be used for interdiction programs, prisons and other law enforcement measures.

"The amount of money he wants to spend on treatment is not enough," said Randy Hignite, director of the Schwartz Center, Lexington's only program that accepts indigent clients. Most of the center's funding comes from federal programs administered by the state Cabinet for Human Resources.

In contrast, three- and four-week private residential drug programs at St. Joseph and Charter Ridge hospitals cost about \$8,000 and \$14,000, respectively. **A two-year program at Possibilities Unlimited, another Lexington treatment center, can cost up to \$10,000.**

The waiting list for the Schwartz Center's 17 beds sometimes grows to 30 people, who have to wait as much as a month. For an addict in crisis, Hignite said, that can be an eternity.

"When a person who's on drugs or alcohol makes that decision to get into treatment, if you can't get that person in within five or six days, a lot of times they change their minds," he said. "They end up relapsing and going on drugs again."

Barb Jefferson, director of the Center for Chemical Independence at St. Joseph Hospital, said more funds were needed for programs for adolescents. And Ted Godlaski, addictive disease program administrator at Charter Ridge, said there needed to be "a great deal more support for programs of all kinds that operate more in the public and non-profit sectors."

For example, he said, there are "virtually no true transitional facilities that use a phased treatment program for people who are recovering."

Still, Godlaski said, the money to be spent on law enforcement might be necessary. "No matter what we say about treatment and prevention, the fact is that some inner-city areas are essentially war zones. You're not going to do much prevention and treatment when you have people doing drive-by shootings."

But Suzanne Post, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Kentucky, called the Bush plan "a quick fix. . . . If all you're doing is just putting people in prison, it isn't going to solve anything. You're treating the symptom, not the problem."

Possibilities Unlimited Director George Ross called Bush's speech "an excellent starting point" in the fight against drugs, "with some of the toughest language I've heard from a president."

But Ross said he was disappointed in the speech because of its emphasis on foreign drug imports, ignoring the major domestic producers of marijuana, including Kentucky. "It's ludicrous to think we're going to stop drugs from coming from outside when we have a multibillion-

dollar industry right here in this state."

He also criticized the president's failure to address what Ross called "the real No. 1 problem -- alcohol, particularly among young people."

Ms. Jefferson agreed.

"Even if they're successful with stopping the illegal drugs, they're still going to have massive numbers of people turning to legal drugs such as alcohol," she said. "They're not going to eliminate addiction by eliminating the supply of illegal drugs. You've got to work on demand."

Watson called himself a case in point. A thin young man -- he was down to 130 pounds recently but is now back to 155 -- Watson talked yesterday of his three-year struggle with cocaine addiction.

"I was going downhill, I was going nowhere, I was a druggie," he said. About two weeks before he came to the Schwartz Center, he had stayed up nine days without sleep, injecting about 14 grams of cocaine in a nine-day period. He legs began to stiffen from cocaine poisoning.

"I almost died," he said. Later, trying to buy more cocaine downtown, drug dealers hit him on the forehead with a board, knocking him out. He woke up an hour later disoriented, his money gone.

"That really was the straw that broke the camel's back," he said. "I really felt from then on that if I didn't change my life, if I didn't get some help, I was going to die."

He called the Schwartz Center, got in quickly -- because of a cancellation on the waiting list -- and now says he is on the path to recovery.

"I'm learning to know myself a little more, to understand what life's about without drugs, to know that there's a world out there that's fun to get involved in without getting high all the time," he said. "I got lucky. If it weren't for this program, I'd still be out there. I had no money. And as far as most of these treatment programs go, if you don't have money, you're out of luck."

- **Caption:** Color Nathan Watson

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