

Summer Motion entertainment schedule released

BY LEE WARD THE DAILY INDEPENDENT

ASHLAND A variety of free music will be offered during Summer Motion 2025, set for July 2-4 at the Ashland Riverfront.

But first, the Summer Motion 10K and 5K run will be at 8 a.m. June 28 at Park Place at 17th Street and Central Park. Onsite registration will begin at 7 a.m. Pre-reregistration is available.

Cost for the 5K before June 16 is \$25; between June 17 and

26 is \$30; day of the race is \$35. Cost for the 10K is \$30 before June 16; between June 17 and 26 is \$35; and day of the race is \$40.

Awards by age group will be presented for the 5K and 10K. To register, visit summer-motion.com.

Other scheduled events include:

July 1 5 p.m. — Carnival.

July 2 (Bluegrass Night) 4 p.m. — Gates open;

food vendors, children’s inflatables, games, specialty booths.

5 p.m. — Carnival opens.

6 p.m. — VIP entrance opens.

7:30 p.m. — Wilson Banjo Co.

9 p.m. — The Infamous Stringdusters.

July 3 (Contemporary Christian Night) 4 p.m. — Gates open; food vendors, children’s inflatables, games, specialty booths.

5 p.m. — Carnival opens.

6 p.m. — VIP entrance opens.

7:30 p.m. — Worship Collective.

9 p.m. — We Are Messengers.

July 4 (Country Music Night) 4 p.m. — Gates open; food vendors, children’s inflatables, games, specialty booths.

5 p.m. — Carnival opens.

6 p.m. — VIP entrance opens.

7 p.m. — Barry Frazee.

8 p.m. — Patriotic tribute

program.

9 p.m. — The Frontmen (Richie McDonald formerly of Lonestar, Larry Stewart of Restless Heart and Tim Rushlow formerly of Little Texas) 10:15 p.m. — Fireworks.

Those attending may bring seating, blankets, service animals and strollers.

Not allowed are coolers, alcohol, dogs, and tents/shade canopies.

Packages are subject to search.

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Several girls alongside instructors smile for a photo during the Julie Ditty Qualls Free Tennis Lessons in 2024.

‘It’s an emotional thing’ Ditty Qualls tennis, pickleball clinics in June

BY AARON SNYDER THE DAILY INDEPENDENT

ASHLAND Two weeks of free tennis and pickleball lessons are coming up in early June.

The Julie Ditty Qualls Foundation clinics are scheduled for June 2-6 and June 9-13 at the Ashland Tennis Center.

Ditty Qualls started this yearly tradition in 2019 — giving free lessons to 150 children that summer.

The event carries on in her memory. Ditty Qualls died at age 42 in August 2021.

Dr. Jack Ditty, Julie’s father, loves to look back at photographs from that 2019 clinic. While the children’s smiles touch his heart, one smile fulfills his soul.

“What jumps off the page is Julie’s smile,” Dr. Ditty said. “It’s



The late Julie Ditty Qualls is pictured.

inspirational.”

Ditty Qualls excelled in tennis from a young age, launching an illustrious high school career in second grade at Russell. She went on to star at Vanderbilt and enjoy a memorable 10-year professional career.

Then, she was ready to give back to the community by teaching.

Dr. Ditty wanted to add pickleball to this year’s clinic because of the sport’s skyrocketing popularity.

“It’s the fastest-growing sport in the world,” he said. “It’s a major thing happening culturally. The kids coming up are not going to know tennis like we knew tennis. ... So, we need to be teaching pickleball along with tennis. I think there will be varsity pickleball teams within two years. All

the big schools will have it, and we should be right on the forefront of that.”

Now 76, Dr. Ditty said it’s extremely important to carry on this tradition. He’s coached for years, always enjoying coaching his own children but also others.

Amy Ditty Lochow, Julie’s sister and Jack and Juanita’s daughter, is a professional pickleball player. Julie’s other siblings are Jay Ditty, Jenny Kang, Christy Hajjar and Kramer Ditty.

She was married to Josh Qualls and was the mother of Atreyu Qualls.

“This foundation and these lessons are a substitute for Julie not being here,” said Dr. Ditty, who is now 76. “It’s an emotional thing.”

The lessons are June 2-6 and June 9-13, from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. each day for ages 7-11, and 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. each day for ages 12-18.

Instructors are adult, high school and college tennis players.

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Participants from a past Julie Ditty Qualls Foundation tennis clinic are pictured.

Greenup audit includes minor findings

BY MARY JANE EPLING THE DAILY INDEPENDENT

GREENUP Although a recent audit report of Greenup County’s financial performance for fiscal year 2024 show the county completed the year within their budget, a few findings were issued involving e-cigarettes and a posting error in a quarterly report.

According to the audit, the county initially planned to bring in a little more than \$5.7 million in taxes to the general fund but ended up collecting \$6.35 million — which in combination with charges for services and other revenues brought the general fund amount to just over \$8 million for 2024.

In combination with the previous year’s fund balance, the general fund totaled about \$11 million and roughly \$3.9 million remained in the ending fund balance after accounting for yearly disbursements including general government, health and sanitation, recreation and culture, capital projects and administration expenses.

As far as financial statement findings, the auditor concluded that the fiscal court did not have controls in place to prevent an error in financial reporting and determined the county jail had not properly obtained bids before purchasing electronic cigarettes and did not have adequate segregation of duties over jail commissary transactions.

According to audit documents, the fiscal court improperly recorded an approved budget amendment on a quarterly report.

“The budget amendment of \$1,982,000 was properly obtained by the fiscal court; however, the amount was posted twice to an expenditure account on the county’s ledgers instead of to a corresponding receipt account,” the document reads.

While the budget was amended, the error was missed before the county issued the quarterly report to the Department for Local Government, as required by law.

The document states it was the first time the county’s treasurer had accounted for a budget amendment and incorrectly posted it resulting in adjustments to budget assessments.

While no money was technically missing or unaccounted for in that report, the auditor highlights the issue as the county’s lack of control in seeing the error before submitting the quarterly report.

“The fiscal court relies on information presented in the quarterly financial reports, and inaccurate information could

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