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Danville City Commission covers DCA Honors, Shakertown zoning controversy

BY JOSELY LABARRERE
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The Danville City Commission tackled a marathon agenda during its April 14th meeting, covering everything from local sports recognition and zoning disputes to multi-million-dollar sewer upgrades, stormwater infrastructure, and a new fireworks contract.

The meeting opened with a

moment of silence for western Kentucky communities devastated by what meteorologists classified as a “1,000-year storm.” Paducah received nearly 16 inches of rain over four days. While Danville was spared that level of rainfall intensity, commissioners acknowledged the challenges recent storms created for local infrastructure.

DCA BASKETBALL TEAMS HONORED
The meeting’s first highlight came in the form of community

celebration. The Danville Christian Academy boys and girls basketball teams were recognized for making school history. The boys finished 29–4 and reached the Sweet 16 for the first time, while the girls went 27–8 and advanced to the state Final Four. Both teams won All “A” State Championships, marking the first time in tournament history that a single school captured both titles in the same year.

SHAKERTOWN ZONING RECORD

ACCEPTED, VOTE DELAYED

In one of the most closely watched items on the agenda, the commission formally accepted the Planning and Zoning record related to a proposed zone change on Shakertown Road, despite the Planning Commission failing to provide a recommendation within the required 60 days.

City Attorney Stephen Dexter clarified that the commission now serves as a quasi-administrative

body, meaning commissioners may not accept new public input unless the current record is found legally insufficient.

“You are now judge and jury,” Dexter said. “The only two questions that matter: Does it comply with the Future Land Use Map? Does it meet the goals and objectives of the Comprehensive Plan? If not, a new hearing must be held.”

See **CITY**, on 2

Brass Band Festival adds funk, soul, and hip-hop swagger to the mix

2025 festival coming up May 29-31

SPECIAL TO THE ADVOCATE-MESSENGER

The Great American Brass Band Festival has grown deep roots over the past 35 years, but you may notice it has been sprouting some new branches as well.

The festival’s evolution doesn’t leave behind the musical styles on which it was founded, but does add fresh elements for new generations of music fans who like to groove to brass music melded with hip-hop, rock, pop, funk, and soul.

Much like 2024, the festival will feature a variety of acts and genres that will attract people from all walks of life. The lineup celebrates brass band traditions, but also features horns you don’t get to see every day. For 2025, the music features bands from all over the country, exploring genres never seen before on the Brass Band Festival stage.

This year’s festival explores the theme “Brass in the Bluegrass,” celebrating the festival’s 35-year history in Kentucky and exhibiting some of the phenomenal groups in the state. Thursday, May 29 will feature

Downtown Downbeat at the Weisiger Park stage, presented by Farmers National Bank, and will feature two area groups. Danville’s own PowerPlay returns to kick the weekend of music off with horn band hits from the ’60s and ’70s that will have you up dancing from the get-go. Later, Lee Carroll’s C the Beat from Lexington brings you original tunes with worldly inspiration, rooted in the blues. Come downtown early for the Gallery Hop, then settle in at Weisiger Park to enjoy these two talented groups.

Bayou and Brass returns on Friday, May 30, on the grand lawn at Centre College, with the sounds of New Orleans.

Circle City Sidewalk Stompers will kick off the evening with their always popular act, followed by LowDown Brass Band of Chicago and the Brass Queens from New York (an all-female group) who

bring lots of energy to the stage.

The Glen David Andrews Band and Rebirth Brass Band hail from New Orleans and bring the bayou with them. Glen David Andrews is no stranger to the Brass Band Festival stage. Playing at the festival with The Stooges for many years, he now brings his own band and sound to the event. Rebirth Brass Band caps off Bayou and Brass with their 35+ years of creating and performing their legendary hits and will show off their legacy at the end of our night of Danville’s own slice of NOLA.

Come back Saturday for the final and longest day of music and you’ll hear wind bands, chamber ensembles, and big bands, all from the bluegrass. The 202nd Army Band returns at 9 a.m. Saturday and is followed by the Lexington Brass Band. After the parade at 11 a.m., the hometown favorite Advocate Brass



Music at the 2024 festival. (Advocate-Messenger file photo)

Band will get things cranked up again as Main Stage music resumes.

The Bluegrass Area Jazz Ambassadors from Lexington will present their big band program, followed by Bourbon & Brass Company, a spectacular brass quintet from Louisville. If you can’t hear them perform Friday night at Shaker Village, their Main Stage performance is sure to be a great show.

The festival is proud to present the return of the USAF’s Airmen of Note as Saturday afternoon’s featured ensemble. The Airmen of Note will cap off the first half of the day, performing their program of outstanding big band music, featuring swing, jazz, and improvising from some of the finest musicians in the country.

Saturday afternoon will bring a variety of the nontraditional sort, exploring genres of Asian influence, hip hop, rock, pop, soul & funk, and jazz fusion. The Soul Juice Band brings their original funk hits from Las Vegas, Lowdown Brass Band from Chicago has original rap tunes, and No BS! Brass returns after a smashing headlining performance last year.

The Brass Band Festival is thrilled to feature two new bands to the stage this year. Red Baraat from New York brings groove, rhythm, percussion, and brass to the stage with electrifying bhangra music with a little punk rock energy. Capping the night Saturday night is Huntertones, a 7-piece band featuring a horn section front and center as the star of the group. Featuring their jazz/funk fusion sound, the horn players share moments as a section and as soloists with lots of improvisation, not to mention beatboxing.

Huntertones is not a group to be missed!

All of the Brass Band performances are free and open to the public. For more information, check the Brass Band Festival’s website – gabbf.org – as well as the Facebook page.

SCHEDULE

- Breakout Box:
Thursday, May 29
Downtown Downbeat at Weisiger Park
7 p.m.
– PowerPlay
8:30 p.m.
– C the Beat
Friday, May 30
Shaker Village
4-5:30 p.m.
– Bourbon & Brass Company
Bayou & Brass at Centre College
4 p.m.
– Circle City Sidewalk Stompers
5 p.m.
– Lowdown Brass Band
6:15 p.m.
– Glen David Andrews Band
7:30 p.m.
– Brass Queens
8:45 p.m.
– Rebirth Brass Band
Saturday, May 31
Centre College
First block
9 a.m.
– 202nd Army Band
10 a.m.
– Lexington Brass Band
11 a.m.
– Break for Parade
Noon – Advocate Brass Band
1 p.m.
– Bluegrass Area Jazz Ambassadors (BAJA)
2 p.m.
– Spanish Brass
3 p.m.
– Airmen of Note
Second block
5 p.m.
– Soul Juice Band
6:15 p.m.
– Lowdown Brass Band
7:15 p.m.
– Red Baraat
8:30 p.m.
– No BS! Brass
9:45 p.m.
– Huntertones

Ethics commission addresses SOFI policy updates

BY JOSELY LABARRERE
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The Boyle County Ethics Commission convened Wednesday, April 16th, for its quarterly meeting, discussing ongoing and upcoming initiatives, including changes to ethics training and updates to Statements of Financial Interests (SOFI) policies.

Held at 9:30 a.m. in the Grand Jury Room of the Boyle County Courthouse, the meeting opened with a call to order, invocation, and a welcome to attendees.

Commission members began by approving minutes from previous quarterly and special meetings before Chairperson updates and reports were shared. In the category of old business, the group reviewed the status of the 2024 ethics training, which is available online to the public. Joe Myers led the discussion on that item, as well as other lingering topics from past meetings.

The commission’s attention then turned to new business, with County Administrator updates followed by a detailed review of SOFI-related procedures and policies. Denise reported on record retention and destruction, while Myers led a discussion on enforcement procedures and penalties for the 2024 SOFI filings. This included the potential setting of daily fine rates and a cap on total penalties, as guided by Section 22B of the county’s ethics code.

The commission also considered improvements to the SOFI form for the end of the 2025 reporting year, with Teresa heading up that portion of the discussion. Transitioning to an online SOFI filing process was also proposed.

Further deliberations included exploring alternative review processes for SOFI filings and brainstorming ideas for 2025 training sessions and projects.

The next quarterly meeting date has yet to be finalized, though members also discussed the possibility of holding a special meeting in the interim.

The commission concluded its meeting with an executive session under KRS 61.810 (1)(f), followed by formal review and decisions on SOFI 2024 forms.

The meeting adjourned shortly after the final agenda items were addressed.