COMMUNITIES

THINGS TO DO

Carnival: 4-11 p.m. today, noon-11 p.m. Saturday, noon-10 p.m. Sunday, Tippecanoe Mall, 2415 S. Sagamore Parkway. Rides, vendors and many carnival classics.

Third Fridays Downtown

Lafayette: 5-8 p.m. today, downtown Lafayette. Extended shop hours in downtown Lafayette. Make it a night of shopping, eating and gallery hopping. Free. Call 765-742-4044. Send email to enelson@greaterlafayettecommerce.com.

Lafayette Parks Summer

Bowling: noon to 3 p.m. today, Arrowhead Bowl, 2331 Brothers Drive. Children ages 17 and younger bowl for free. Registration begins at noon. Shoes and lanes provided at no cost. Children ages 10 and younger must be accompanied by an adult. For more information, call McAllister Recreation Center 765-807-1360 or visit www.lafayette.in.gov/ mcallister.

Reading to the Dogs: 2-3:30 p.m. today, Tippecanoe County Public Library/Downtown Branch, 627 South St. Dogs of Caring Paws will listen to children read books. Children can borrow a book from the library, or bring one from home. Registration required. Call 765-429-0119. www.tcpl.lib.in.us

Ballroom Dance Lessons: 7-8 p.m. today, Columbia Ballroom, 625 Columbia St. Class is from 7-8 p.m and a dance will be held from 8-10 p.m. Cost is \$10.

Camelot Dance Club: 7-11 p.m. today, Golden Steps Studio For the Performing Arts, 3000 US 52 West, West Lafayette. The dance varies each month. Visitors are welcome. Cost is \$10 per person, \$5 for students. Yearly membership is \$60 per year \$30 per student. Fees are applicable for membership. Call 765-497-4504.

Cruise-In Car Show: 5-10 p.m. today, Culver's, 1855 S. U.S. Highway 231, Crawfordsville. Door prizes will be awarded. Dash plaques to the first 50 cars. Hosted by Lafayette Kroozers. Call 765-296-8464.

"Beauty and the Beast Jr.": 7:30 p.m. today, The Vanity Theater, 122 S. Washington St., Crawfordsville. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$8 for youths 17 and younger.

"Red, White and Tuna": 7:30 p.m. today. Civic Theater of Greater Lafayette, 313 N. Fifth St. Call 765-423-7529.

SATURDAY

Taste of Tippecanoe: 4 p.m.

Saturday, downtown Lafayette. With a wide variety of musical tastes on five stages and the best food from 36 restaurants. Fireworks display at 10 p.m.. Advance tickets are available for \$5 at Lafayette, West Lafayette, and Monticello Pay Less Super Markets or the Federation's Box Office or for \$5.50 online at http:// tippecanoearts.org/TASTEtickets.html. Tickets at the gates are \$10, ages 12 and younger free with adult. Visit www.tasteoftippecanoe.org.

Email calendar events to calendar@jconline.com at least 10 days in advance. For full listings, see TGIF in Friday's Journal & Courier.



A youngster plays on a swing (in the background) next to a row of hollyhocks Tuesday in Centennial Park. BY JOHN TERHUNE/JOURNAL & COURIER

Flowers, history add to festival's appeal

By CHRISTEN GALL cgall@jconline.com

Hollyhock flowers of various hues of pink-everything from fuchsia to salmon—line the playground at Centennial Park on Sixth and Brown streets.

With Lafayette's cobblestone streets and homes dating back to the late 19th and early 20th centuries surrounding the park, this is the picturesque location for a summer celebration — one that calls to attention the abundance of flowers in

the area. These flowers will be highlighted as the Historic Centennial Neighborhood Association hosts the sixth annual Hollyhock Festival at Centennial Park from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday.

Barbara Dixon, who lives in Lafayette and is on the board of the Historic Centennial Neighborhood Association, has been involved with planning the festival since it started in 2006. According to Dixon, the festival began "to meet our neighbors and involve our community." Centennial Park was newly equipped in 2007, a year after the festi-

IF YOU GO

The Hollyhock Festival will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday in Centennial Park at the corner of Sixth and Brown streets. It's free.

val's start, so it's been an ideal spot for community members to come togeth-

Food, such as barbecue sandwiches and ice cream, live music by J.T. Hickman playing acoustic guitar and children's games are all familyfriendly events featured at the festival. The playground, a coloring contest, and crafts are all free activities. There will also be opportunities to make hollyhock dolls from the flowers.

"We get a mixture of both (returning guests and newcomers). Some see it as a tradition and come back year after year," Dixon said. West Lafayette resident Ariane Shumway regularly at-

tends the festival with her four children, who range in age from 6 to 11.

"I think we have gone every year since they have started it," said Shumway. "It's fun for the kids to go."

Her children have enjoyed activities such as corn husk and hollyhock doll making, while Shumway has enjoyed getting to know the community members of the downtown Lafayette neighborhood over the years. "We've just gone every year because it's a fun family activity.'

In the midst of free food and games, the Historic Centennial Neighborhood Association will give out free hollyhock seeds to everyone at the festival. The festival's name comes from the numerous hollyhock flowers in downtown Lafayette.

But Dixon said the name of the festival is about much more than a pretty pink flower. "We chose the hollyhock flower because it's a very



Barbara Dixon fills a packet with hollyhock seeds that will be given away during the upcoming Hollyhock Festival. BY JOHN TERHUNE/JOURNAL & COURIER

hardy flower," said Dixon. "We thought that would be a good symbol for our neighborhood because we are strong and vibrant."

The downtown historical neighborhood contains land from the original plat of Lafayette from 1825, making it one of the oldest

neighborhoods in Lafayette.

The flowers have a deep root and don't need much attention to start growing, according to Dixon. Some grow in vacant spots and even in the cracks of sidewalks in the neighborhood.

COMING SUNDAY

The content you don't want to miss.

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Get an in-depth look at how the different sectors of the economy are doing locally.



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