

THE MORNING SUN

# 2024 LITTLE BALKANS DAYS



LABOR DAY WEEKEND AUG. 26TH – SEPT. 1ST

# Little Balkans Days Schedule

NOTE: Several Little Balkans Days events are Passport exclusive, meaning that the purchase of a passport is required to attend those special events. Passports cost \$5 and can be purchased at TOAST, 401 North Broadway Unit D Ron's Supermarket, 310 East Centennial Pittsburg Area Chamber of Commerce, 117 West 4th Street Memorial Auditorium, 503 North Pine

## Monday, Aug. 26

**Little Balkans Cooking School**  
Location: Lincoln Center  
Time: 6:30 p.m.  
Get ready for a delicious hands-on cooking experi-

ence! Learn how to make classic Southeast Kansas ethnic dishes with local volunteers. With two hands-on experiences and one demo, you'll get to taste everything you make and take home the recipes. Samples and recipes are included. Class will begin at 6:30 p.m. at Lincoln Center. This is a Passport exclusive event. The fee is \$10, which includes a Festival Passport. Advance registration is required. To register, visit [www.littlebalkans.com](http://www.littlebalkans.com). This event is sponsored by Labette Bank

## Tuesday, Aug. 27

**Little Balkans Quilt Hand Piecing Class**  
Location: Lincoln Center

Time: 6:30  
Learn how to hand piece a beautiful Grandmother's Flower Garden Block. Fabric, needle and thread are provided. Participants can take their creations home. This event begins at 6:30 p.m. and is free for Passport holders. Sponsored by George Barberich and Woodbury Financial Services, LLC

## Wednesday, Aug. 28

**Little Balkans Pasta School**  
Location: Lincoln Center  
Time: 6:30 p.m.  
Join Little Balkans Days for the Inaugural Pasta School. This Passport-exclusive event begins at 6:30 p.m. in Lincoln Cen-

ter. The class will feature two hands-on segments in which attendees will be able to experience hands-on learning about pasta preparation. One additional demonstration-only item will also be presented by volunteers. All recipes will be included and samples will be provided as well. The event fee is \$10, which includes a Festival Passport. Registration is required. To register, visit [www.littlebalkans.com](http://www.littlebalkans.com). Sponsored by Ron & Robin Brock

## Thursday, Aug. 29

**2nd Annual Night at The Friendly Tavern**  
Location: Frisco Event Center, 210 E. 4th Street

Time: 6:30 p.m.  
Reminisce and learn about the history of southeast Kansas from local celebrities at the 2nd Annual Night at the Friendly Tavern! The event begins at 6:30 p.m. in the Frisco Event Center, 210 East 4th Street. Participants will receive a souvenir for attendance. Sponsored by Bradshaw Collision Repair, Gordon & Bev Elliott Family Foundation, and the Frisco Event Center.

## Friday, Aug. 30

**Chamber Coffee**  
Location: The Pritchett Pavilion, 2nd & Broadway  
Time: 8 a.m.  
Start your morning with coffee at the Pittsburg Area Chamber of Com-

merce Chamber Coffee. This event will be held at the Pritchett Pavilion, 2nd and Broadway and is sponsored by the Greenbush Culinary Program.

**Little Balkans Quilt Guild Quilt Show**  
Location: Memorial Auditorium Lower Level, 5th & Pine  
Time: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Experience the artistry and craftsmanship of stunning quilts at the Annual Quilt Show presented by the Little Balkans Quilt Guild. As a long-standing highlight of the festival, don't miss this opportunity to immerse yourself in the intricate world of quilting. This is a free event

SEE **SCHEDULE, 5C**



## All Aboard!

Watco and the South Kansas & Oklahoma Railroad are ready to celebrate Little Balkans Days.

We look forward riding the rails with ticketholders on August 31.

For more information:  
[littlebalkansfestival.com](http://littlebalkansfestival.com)





# Bev Corcoran, Nita Laing would be thrilled

By J.T. Knoll

I'm guessing Bev Corcoran and Nita Laing — who launched the Little Balkans Folklife Festival to provide southeast Kansas craftsmen, artists, poets and musical performers with an opportunity to showcase their talents — would barely recognize it today.

But I'm sure they'd be thrilled.

Back in the day there was one small stage for me to emcee at one end of Lincoln Park and a little 'poets' corner' at the other end. Now there's

a state-of-the-art performance stage and sound system for both.

I dropped out when the festival moved to the downtown Pittsburgh asphalt, but returned in 2017 when I got a call from Angela Meyer requesting I return to emcee the festival's Folklife Stage, which was being moved back to Lincoln Park.

Of course, we'll see our usual stellar lineup of local artists performing blues, polka, folk, rock & roll, bluegrass and poetry. And Ernest James Zydeco will again come down

from K.C. as well. Sadly, no Orin Weiss on bagpipes. He's off performing and competing at an event in Wisconsin, one of many he's competing in this year in his quest for a Grand Champion Supreme title.

I know I said 2022 would be my last year as emcee ... but I'm back. If you're familiar with the 'tar baby' metaphor, you know why. If you're not, ask Dr. Google.

I'll again go over to the Republic and get a box of Italian Hard Crust Bread from Frontenac



Jamming with Buddy Leveritch between Folklife Stage acts around 1990

Bakery, and put together WHO WANTS TO WIN A LOAF OF HARD CRUST BREAD? quiz questions to test audience

knowledge of local history.

At 6 p.m. on Friday, there's a block party / street fair in downtown Pittsburgh

with a pep rally, a PSU football team and cross-country team meet and greet, appearance by Gus

SEE **KNOLL, 11C**

## CLOKE printing

406 Victorian Drive, Pittsburg, Kansas | 620-404-9180



**GIVE US A  
CALL AND LET  
US ASSIST YOU**

- ◆ Labels ◆ Catalogs ◆ Business Envelopes
- ◆ Brochures ◆ Thermal Transfer Ribbon
- ◆ Checks ◆ Business Forms
- ◆ Pressure Seal Forms ◆ And Much More!



**We're your Shield.  
We're your Shelter.**

• Auto • Home • Life

**"Highest in Customer Satisfaction Among Auto Insurers in the Central Region" for 6 out of 7 Years in a Row!**

**Cheryle Moore**

Cheryle Moore Insurance Agency, LLC

208 S. Broadway ST.

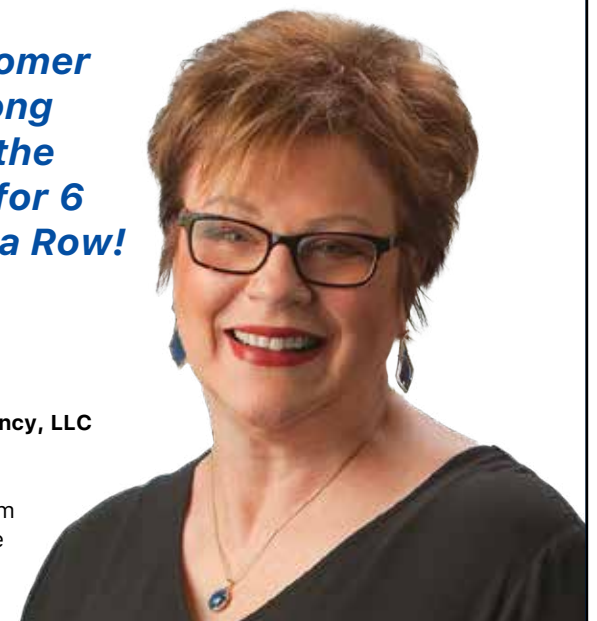
Pittsburg, KS 66762

CMoore@ShelterInsurance.com

ShelterInsurance.com/CMoore

P 620-231-4580 (call or Text)

F 620-231-7749







# Your regional healthcare provider for generations to come.

- Level III Trauma Center & Stroke-Ready Facility
- Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Pediatrics, OB/Gyn, Cardiology, Endocrinology, Wound Care, Pulmonary & Sleep Medicine
- General Surgery, Urology, Neuro/Spine
- Orthopedics, Sports Medicine—Including Foot & Ankle Specialist
- Laparoscopic & Robotic Surgery—including General Surgery, Gynecology & Urology
- Ear, Nose & Throat, Ophthalmology, Podiatry, Oncology, Dermatology
- Award-Winning Home Care
- Accredited Diabetes Program
- Imaging Center—including 3D mammography, MRI, CT, Ultrasound and more!
- Outpatient Therapy Center-Including a Fitness Center and Indoor Pools
- Inpatient Rehabilitation Center
- Brand new ICU, orthopedic/surgery center, medical unit and birthing center—including private patient rooms!
- And More-Centered Around You.



**PITTSBURG CLINIC \* 620.291.1101**  
 2309 S. Tucker Terrace  
 —  
 Stephanie Wagner, APRN-C  
 Family Medicine



# SCHEDULE

CONTINUED FROM 2C

for Passport holders. It is sponsored by Brenner Mortuary, Community National Bank, and Security 1st Title Company.

## Senior Bingo

Location: Meadowbrook Mall 202 Centennial  
Time: 1-3 p.m.

Enjoy an afternoon of Bingo at Meadowbrook Mall. Entry fee is \$1 for participants over the age of 65 or facility resident. Passport required for participants under the age of 65. Prizes to be awarded! Sponsored by Guest Home Estates; Medicalodges, Inc., of Frontenac; and Craw-Kan Telephone.

## Oldies & Rock & Roll Dance w/Area 51

Location: Meadowbrook Mall South Broadway & Centennial  
Time: 8-10 p.m.

Listen to local favorite Area 51 playing classic rock and roll hits inside Meadowbrook Mall during this FREE community concert! This event is sponsored by Kanas Crossing Casino, SEK Urgent Care and Carrington Place.

## Paint the Town Red Block Party

Location: Downtown Pittsburg  
Time: 6 p.m.

Come kick off football season with the PSU Gorillas! Pep Rally starts at 6 p.m., includes meet and greets with the football team, cross country team and Gus the Gorilla! Kids Fun Run with Gus, performances and tons of vendors. This event is sponsored by the Pittsburg Area Chamber of Commerce and various community sponsors.

## Members Only Tribute Band

Location: Downtown Pittsburg

Time: 8-10 p.m.  
Enjoy the music of the 1980s at the Block Party with regional band Members Only! Feel free to bring your lawn chair, shop the vendors and downtown merchants! This event is sponsored by: Black Dog Productions, Explore Crawford County and Cox Communications.

## Saturday, Aug. 31

### St. John Lutheran Church Pancake Breakfast

Location: St. Johns Lutheran Church Activity Center 304 West 3rd St  
Time: 8-11 a.m.  
Satisfy your morning appetite with freshly made pancakes! This event will take place in the St. John Lutheran Activity Center. Please enter from the West Parking Lot; donations appreciated.

### Farmer's Market

Location: 11th Street (Off Broadway)  
Time: 8 a.m. - noon  
Satisfy your appetite for fresh-picked fruits and vegetables by visiting the City of Pittsburg's Farmer's market. You'll find vendors selling farm-fresh fruits, vegetables, meats, baked goods, while several vendors also sell flowers, small gifts and hot prepared foods to go. Live music by Arlecia Elkamil from 9:30-11:30 a.m.! This event sponsored by Brett Dunbar, D.O.

### Pittsburg Public Library Annual Book Sale

Location: Pittsburg Public Library courtyard 308 N. Walnut  
Time: 8 a.m. to noon  
The Annual Friends of the Library Book Sale will be held on Saturday, August 31st in the library's courtyard. Books of all genres and for all ages at bargain basement prices. Proceeds from the Book Sale benefit the Friends of the Library, an organization that purchases

library materials and sponsors programs and special events throughout the year, including the Summer Reading Programs for all ages. Shop for a great cause!

### Little Balkans Days 3-Person Scramble Golf Tournament

Location: Four Oaks Golf Course - Lincoln Park  
Time: 8 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Two-Day, 3-Person Golf Scramble on August 31st & September 1st. Four Oaks Golf Course - Lincoln Park. Cash Prizes! Contact Four Oaks Golf Course at 620-231-8070. Forms Available online.

### Dog Show

Location: Astra Stage, Lincoln Park  
Time: 8-9 a.m.  
The finest pooches of all breeds and sizes. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. Prizes Awarded. This event sponsored by PetSense.

### Arts, Crafts and Food Fair

Location: Lincoln Park  
Time: 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.  
This signature event includes more than 120 exhibitors and vendors, including artisans who are skilled in crafting wooden kitchen utensils, jewelry and other unique items. About 20 food vendors will offer everything from sweet and salty snacks to full meals. Whether your tastes lean toward gourmet oils and vinegars or toward wine slushies on a late summer day, there's something for you at the Arts, Crafts and Food Fair. Sponsored by GN Bank.

### Little Balkans Photography Contest

Location: Memorial Auditorium  
Time: 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.  
The Little Balkans Photography Contest features images created by photographers from around our local area, sharing visions that inspire, inform, and awe.

This free contest not only has multiple categories but has categories to include all age groups! It is sponsored by Ryan Insurance.

### Train Rides

Location: Monroe and Elm Streets  
Time: 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.  
Step back in time for a leisurely train ride. Trains leave promptly at the scheduled times and are not handicap accessible. The roundtrip is 1 hour. Limited seating is available. Tickets are \$5 each, prepayment only. Tickets are sold at the Pittsburg Area Chamber Office, by phone at 620-404-5111 and at www.littlebalkans.com. Remaining tickets will be sold at the loading location. NO food or drink on the trains, please. This event is sponsored by the South Kansas & Oklahoma Railroad, the Heart of the Heartland Railroad Club and Watco Companies, LLC.

### Little Balkans Car Show

Location: Lincoln Park Aquatic Center Parking Lot  
Time: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
This is a Passport event. Prizes awarded. Sponsored by Jay Hatfield Chrysler Jeep Dodge Ram.

### Little Balkans Quilt Guild Quilt Show

Location: Memorial Auditorium lower level  
Time: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Craft and art come together in this annual show. This Passport event is sponsored by Brenner Mortuary, Community National Bank and Security 1st Title Company.

### Folklife Festival

Location: Astra Stage, Lincoln Park West End  
Time: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
A Little Balkans original.  
9 a.m. - Barley Brass  
9:30 a.m. - Byron Boldrini  
10 a.m. - Leeper & Simpson

11 a.m. - John Ziebert Polka Band  
12 p.m. - Ernest James Zydeco  
2 p.m. - White Buffalo  
3 p.m. - Neosho River Boys  
4 p.m. - Fun Club  
This event sponsored by Astra Stages, All Seasons Flooring, the Coleman Family Foundation and Marrone's, Inc.

### Homemade Ice Cream

and Pie Social  
Location: First United Methodist Church Holy Rock Café, 5th & Pine  
Time: 10 a.m. until sold out  
Enjoy a slice of homemade pie and a scoop of ice cream.

### Bocci Tournament

Location: Lincoln Park by Shelter House #1  
Time: 1 p.m.  
Registration begins courtside at 12:30 p.m. This event is sponsored by Pittsburg Noon Kiwanis and the Italian Heritage Society.

### Gorilla Football, PSU vs. Ferris State

Location: Carnie Smith Stadium, PSU  
Time: 7 p.m.  
GorillaFest tailgate begins at 4 p.m. Kickoff at 7 p.m.

## Sunday, Sept. 1

### Little Balkans Days

3-Person Scramble Golf Tournament  
Location: Four Oaks Golf Course - Lincoln Park  
Time: 8 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Two-Day, 3-Person Golf Scramble on September 2nd & 3rd. Four Oaks Golf Course - Lincoln Park Cash Prizes! Contact Four Oaks Golf Course at 620-231-8070. Registration Forms Available online.

### Polka Dance & Chicken Dinner

Location: Meadowbrook Mall  
Time: 1-4 p.m.  
Looking for the best-fried

chicken in town alongside some amazing polka music? Then make sure to stop by our Annual Polka Dance & Chicken Dinner event to taste some lip-smacking food from SIX of our area's restaurants to satisfy your cravings while enjoying music from the Johnie Zibert Polka Band. Food to be served from 1:30 PM until sold out. Meadowbrook Mall, 202 Centennial Drive. This is a free event for Passport holders. Sponsored by: Arvest Bank & Bath Naylor Funeral Home & Crematory

### Fishing Derby

Location: Lakeside Park  
Time: 5-7 p.m.  
Kids 15 years of age and under can enjoy a FREE fishing derby at Lakeside Park; there are lots of prizes available! We highly recommend arriving early for sign-up. Registration will be at the Northwest Corner of the park. Sponsored by Backyard Discovery, Cafe Del Rio, and Albers Marine.

### COX Community Concert: Featuring Conway Jackson

Location: JJ Richards Band Dome, Lincoln Park  
Time: 6:30-8:30 p.m.  
Join us at Lincoln Park's JJ Richards Band Dome on Sunday, September 1st, for the Cox Community Concert with opening act, The Retro Rockerz, and featuring headline performers, Conway Jackson. This 4-hour concert is not to be missed! This is a Passport exclusive event. Festival Passports are \$5 and provide access to several additional activities throughout the week of events. Sponsored by: Cox, Mazurek Law Firm, Pairott Head Liquor, and the Miller & Coleman Family Foundations.



# Arts, Crafts, and Food Fair expands

Staff reports

news@morningsun.net

From the very beginnings of Little Balkans Days, the Arts, Crafts and Food Fair has been a major feature of the festivities. This year, the event is bigger and better than at any time since the Pandemic.

Organizers say they have more than 120 vendors signed up for the event, which takes place from 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 31, in

Lincoln Park.

About 20 of those registered are food vendors, offering everything from snacks and tasty lunch and dinner options to wine slushies, sweet treats and gourmet oils and vinegars.

Many of the participants are new to Little Balkans Days, including a number of craftspeople skilled in making everything from wooden kitchen utensils to jewelry.

# Cooking, pasta school offered at Little Balkans Days



The Little Balkans Festival is offering two popular events that highlight the region’s culinary history – A cooking class and pasta school. Both offer hands-on cooking experiences, samples and recipes. The classes are both passport events and are held at the Lincoln Center. The cooking school is scheduled to take place at 6:30 p.m. on Aug. 26 while the pasta school is slated for 6:30 p.m. on Aug. 28. AARON PYLE / THE MORNING SUN

## Meyer Law Firm, LLC

Angela M. Meyer  
Attorney at Law  
Serving  
Southeast Kansas

CRIMINAL LAW  
CIVIL LITIGATION  
FAMILY LAW

1315 N. Broadway,  
Pittsburg, KS 66762  
(620) 404-5111

www.angelameyerlaw.com



**HAVE A BLAST AT  
LITTLE BALKANS DAYS!**

**Midwest  
Minerals**  
"Rock Solid Since 1947"  
709 N Locust St, Pittsburg, KS | (620) 231-8120

Proving crushed limestone aggregates and agricultural lime throughout Southeast Kansas, Northeast Oklahoma and Southwest Missouri since 1947!





# ENJOY LITTLE BALKANS DAYS!

FROM YOUR FRIENDS AT:



THE SPIGARELLI  
LAW FIRM

[SPIGARELLI-LAW.COM](http://SPIGARELLI-LAW.COM)



# If these walls could talk

*Friendly Tavern back for second year*

**Staff Reports**

news@morningsun.net

The Friendly Tavern returns as a Little Balkans event this year, following a hugely successful beginning in 2023. The event, at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 29, in the historic Frisco Event Center, is named after the original Friendly Tavern at the corner of Adams and Broad-

way in Pittsburg and evokes memories of the family-friendly environments in local beer joints of decades ago. In these memorable places, stories (sometimes true and often embellished) were swapped with friends and strangers alike.


Emcee Devin Gorman will lead Q. & A. and dialogue with locals J.T. and Linda Knoll, Susie Thom, Gordon and Bev Elliott, Susie Boldrini and Joe Beauchamp, John Zibert and his mom, Luella.

Expect stories


about characters and locations in Arma, Cherokee, Chicopee, Franklin, Girard, Mulberry, Weir City, Scammon, 50 Camp, Carona, Radley and South Radley, and all parts of the Little Balkans area.

As an added plus, every attendee will get a souvenir.

This event is sponsored by Bradshaw Collision Repair, Gordon & Bev Elliott Family Foundation, and the Frisco Event Center.



**A Special Thank You to all the Little Balkans Day Festival Organizers & Volunteers!**  
insurewithryan.com



## Jay Hatfield Auto Group

WE KEEP YOU MOVING



- Chevrolet
- GMC
- Ford
- RAM
- Chrysler
- Jeep
- Dodge

**WE'RE NOT JUST ABOUT SELLING CARS  
WE'RE ABOUT BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS  
BASED ON TRUST AND SERVICE**





1025 US-69, Frontenac, KS   1021 US-69, Frontenac, KS   1015 US-69, Frontenac, KS



MALL & SHOPPING COMPLEX  
202 E. CENTENNIAL, PITTSBURG, KS 66762 - (620) 231-9240

**Pittsburg's Premier Shopping Destination!**

Shopping, movies, and events year-round  
"There's always something happening At Pittsburg's Meadowbrook Shopping Complex!"



**There's Something for Everyone In The Family**



# Little Balkans Photography Contest accepting entries

Staff Reports  
news@morningsun.net

PITTSBURG, Kan. — Submissions are officially open for the Little Balkans Festival's Photo Contest, sponsored by Ryan Insurance.

The annual celebration invites photographers of all ages to showcase the county's people and places for the chance to win a prize. According to the contest rules, this year's contest features five categories, which are:

- People and Portraits — Expressive

photographs of persons or groups;

- Animals and Pets — Photos featuring animals or pets;

- Black and White — Monochrome images that highlight texture and contrast;

- Nature and Landscapes — Capturing nature's breathtaking beauty;

- Abstract and Artistic — Compositions that are creative and artistic.

Those who can compete in the contest are split into four age divisions — eighth grade or younger,

high school, college, and adult.

The contest is limited to five entries per person and the photos are limited by size to 9 by 12 inches. The photos must also be mounted on a matte board for display including name, address, phone number, and division along with photo category.

The photos are requested to be dropped off during the regular business hours of Memorial Auditorium, located at 503 N. Pine St., open from

SEE PHOTO, 13C

*Serving families from Southeast Kansas with caring, dignified service at affordable prices!*



*The Reasonable Choice Since 1883*

**B** **Brenner Mortuary**  
Funeral & Cremation Services  
114 E 4th St. Pittsburg KS 66762 (620) 231-5600

**Evans Heating & Air**

620-231-6220 | 107 W Lindburg St, Pittsburg, KS

**Fast, Reliable Service**

TAKING CARE OF ALL YOUR  
**COOLING AND HEATING NEEDS!**

- INSTALLATIONS
- REPAIRS
- SERVICE
- FILTER CHANGE
- ANNUAL INSPECTIONS

**LOCALLY OWNED  
& OPERATED  
SINCE 1976!**



little shop of  
**flowers**  
AND GIFTS

*We specialize in the following services:*

- Fresh flowers
- Plants
- Silk arrangements
- Weddings
- Funeral designs
- Candles



*For the best and freshest flowers in Pittsburg, The Little Shop of Flowers has exactly what you're looking for!*



# Members Only to rock downtown

**Staff Reports**

news@morningsun.net

PITTSBURG, Kan. - Broadway Street will come to life Aug. 30 with a rocking performance by Members Only, a 1980s tribute band.

This regional "high-energy" band will blast hits from artists such as Michael Jackson, Def Leppard, Journey, Bon Jovi and others from 8 to 10 p.m. Friday, Aug. 30, in downtown Pittsburg. Attendees are invited to bring lawn chairs or dance in the street.

Members Only, based out of Spring-

field, Missouri, has been entertaining audiences for the past 15 years and has become regular performers in Pittsburg.

"We have such a great fan base in Pittsburg," a band representative said in a social media message. "We have played at bars, events, casinos, etc. Pittsburg is always a memorable experience for us! Every time we play there is always great!"

The band consists of six members with Sarah Marie LaBeau as the lead singer, Jake Simpson as the keyboardist and lead

singer, Jim Vannoy as the bassist, Steve Mason as the drummer and Zach McCleese as the guitarist.

A band representative said that the band's favorite song to play, at the moment, is "Don't Tell Me You Love Me" by Night Ranger.

According to their website, after the Little Balkans, the group will be back in Pittsburg November 30 at Kansas Crossing Casino.

This event is sponsored by: Black Dog Productions, Explore Crawford County and Cox Communications.




## Marrone's Inc.

Food Service Distributor

800 E 14th St, Pittsburg KS | (620) 231-6610 | marronesinc.com

**Committed to serving the Four-State Region for over 90 years!**

HAVE A GREAT TIME AT  
**LITTLE BALKANS DAYS**




**COMMUNITY NATIONAL BANK & TRUST**

www.mybankcnb.com



**YOUR COMMUNITY.  
YOUR BANK.  
YOUR RELATIONSHIP.**

4097 Parkview Dr. Frontenac, Kansas (620)-232-6900	401 E. Centennial Pittsburg, Kansas (620)-235-1288
--	--



**KNOLL**

CONTINUED FROM 3C

the Gorilla, kids fun run, and tons of food and crafts vendors. From 8 p.m. – 10 p.m. Members Only, an '80s Tribute Band, will be there to rock the downtown party (from 4th Street North).

You can get in the groove for Friday night's and Saturday's music on Friday evening 6-8 p.m. at the Meadowbrook Mall, listening to oldies rock & roll by Area 51. There's also a dance floor to provide an antidepressant to people of a certain age — to quote James Brown, "Get up offa'

that thing. Dance, you're gonna feel better. Get up offa that thing. Try to relieve that pressure."

The Saturday, August 31st music lineup at the Folklife Stage in Lincoln Park's west end (following the 8 a.m. dog show) is as follows: 9 a.m. – Barley Brass Call To The Post by PSU brass; 9:30 a.m. – Byron Boldrini (Acoustic Expressions); 10 a.m. – Leeper and Simpson (Delta Blues); 11 a.m. – John Zibert Polka Band; 12 p.m. – Ernest James Zydeco; 2 p.m. – White Buffalo (Poetry/Folk); 3 p.m. – Neosho River Boys (Bluegrass); 4 p.m. – Fun Club (1930s

Swing).

New to the stage this year is Byron Boldrini. I drafted him — and his 'Artistic Expressions' — after hearing him at the monthly Open Mic at T.J. Lelands. Also new are Tim McGeorge and Nancey Konek performing as Fun Club. I've been listening to them build their act at the Open Mic as well. Every time they perform, I flash back to a small jazz club I used to visit on Rush Street in Chicago 50 years ago.

Also on Saturday, Arlecia Elkamil will be back in town with an excellent playbill of gospel, reggae and

contemporary music 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. at the Pittsburg Farmer's Market, 11th and Broadway.

On Sunday, you can have a traditional Little Balkans experience by attending the polka dance & chicken dinner at Meadowbrook Mall 1-4 p.m. John Zibert will play classic southeast Kansas polka tunes on accordion and fried chicken, potato salad and slaw (from Little Balkans chicken joints) will be served from 1:30 until sold out.

Rounding out the music will be Pittsburg's own country / rock band, Conway Jackson, who will

appear with opening act Retro Rockerz 6:30 – 10:30 PM Sunday at the J.J. Richards Band Dome in Lincoln Park.

Woven through all this music (in large part thanks to generous contributions by local businesses) are crafts booths, a cooking classes, a car show, a golf scramble, a train ride, a fishing tournament, bocci tournament, food vendors, quilting instruction, a fishing derby, and the finest quilt show in the midwest. Go to [littlebalkansfestival.com](http://littlebalkansfestival.com) for more info.

Some of these events require you to purchase a Pass-

port for \$5. This one passport allows you entry into all of them. You can purchase them at the venues, or in advance at the Memorial Auditorium, Equity Bank, Pittsburg Chamber of Commerce, Ron's Supermarket and TOAST.

Not only does a \$5 Passport get you in events, but it could also win you some moola. One passport holder will be chosen at random to receive a \$500 cash prize that is sponsored by MPIX; a second passport holder will be chosen at random to receive \$100 Chamber Dollars from the City of

SEE KNOLL, 13C



**HAPPY**  
*Little Balkans*  
**DAY**

**AUG 26 - SEPT 1 | 2024**

**PAIROTT HEAD LIQUOR**

620-231-2309 | 1812 N BROADWAY, PITTSBURG, KS

YOUR ONE STOP SHOP  
FOR BEER, WINE,  
LIQUOR, AND TOBACCO

VOTED THE  
BEST ALCOHOL  
SELECTION 2023  
★★★★★

ICE COLD  
BEER!

**HAVE A GREAT TIME AT  
LITTLE BALKANS DAYS!**



# Celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month

All events are FREE to attend and open to the public  
Todos los eventos son GRATUITOS y abiertos al público

**SEPT**  
**13**  
5 PM TO 8 PM  
**La Celebración**  
Live music, dancing, &  
food vendors  
@ Gorilla Village  
1705 S Joplin St  
(East of Carnie Smith Stadium)

**SEPT**  
**14**  
4 PM - 9 PM  
**Festival Hispano**  
Cabalgata (parade),  
folkloric dancing, food  
@ Our Lady of Lourdes  
Field House  
109 E 9th St

**SEPT**  
**15**  
3 PM  
**Pittsburg Hispanic  
Banda**  
Hispanic Music Festival  
performance  
@ Bicknell Family  
Center for the Arts  
1711 S Homer St

**SEPT**  
**18**  
7 PM  
**Salterio by  
Miguel Pacheco**  
Hispanic Music Festival  
performance  
@ McCray Hall  
1701 S Broadway St

**SEPT**  
**22**  
3 PM  
**Dueling Pianos**  
Hispanic Music Festival  
performance  
@ McCray Hall  
1701 S Broadway St

**SEPT**  
**25**  
7 PM  
**PSU Hispanic Recital**  
Hispanic Music Festival  
performance  
@ McCray Hall  
1701 S Broadway St

**OCT**  
**2**  
7 PM  
**South American  
Serenade**  
Hispanic Music Festival  
performance  
@ McCray Hall  
1701 S Broadway St

**OCT**  
**9**  
7 PM  
**Trumpet by  
Ignacio Cornejo**  
Hispanic Music Festival  
performance  
@ McCray Hall  
1701 S Broadway St

**OCT**  
**11**  
5 PM TO 7 PM  
**Connecting Cultures:  
Hispanic Family Night**  
Food, games, music,  
community resource fair  
@ Schlanger Park  
725 E 6th St

**GLOBAL FEST**  
**International Night Market**  
Friday, September 27, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.  
**Lindburg Plaza on Pittsburg State campus**  
Explore many regions of the world in this open-air market  
with street food, wares, games, music, and more



**KNOLL**

CONTINUED FROM 3C

Pittsburg's Chamber of Commerce.

Getting back to festival originators, Bev Corcoran and Nita Laing, no doubt they'd fancy 'Night at the Friendly Tavern,' an event launched last year that will be repeated at the Frisco Event Center on Thursday, August 29th at 6:30.

A panel of locals (Linda and I included) will answer questions and reminisce about people, places and 'happenings' we experienced growing up in the southeast Kansas.

In closing, here's one of the Hard Crust Bread quiz questions. Answer on page 14C.

According to Ken and Pat Peak, co-authors of "Kansas Temperance: Much

Ado About Booze," the raucous reputation of the "Kansas Balkans" led to: a) Alcohol being banned in Kansas 40 years before prohibition; b) Election of a liberal southeast Kansas man to governor; c) Laws to permit the making of wine and home brew for personal use; d) Alcohol being consumed at a lower rate in southeast Kansas.

**PHOTO**

CONTINUED FROM 9C

8 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday with the deadline of drop-off on Aug. 31. Judging is scheduled

to take place at 9 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 31.

Prizes for this year's photography contest are first and second in each division category along with grand and reserve overall and

people's choice.

For more information, visit [littlebalkansfestival.com/photography-contest](http://littlebalkansfestival.com/photography-contest) or email [littlebalkans-days@gmail.com](mailto:littlebalkans-days@gmail.com).

*Abundant Medicare Health & Life Solutions, LLC  
Helping You Maximize Your Financial Future*

*Need Help With  
Your Medicare?  
Let Us Help!*



**ABUNDANT MEDICARE**  
HEALTH & LIFE  
SOLUTIONS, LLC

*Licensed in Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Arkansas*

*You can reach us by phone or email for inquiries.*

*620-670-5613 | [mitzi@mitzidavisinsurance.com](mailto:mitzi@mitzidavisinsurance.com)*

# Frames & Lenses for eyes of every size



## KANNARR Eye Care

*The Clear Choice*

**COME SEE US AT THESE LOCATIONS**

**COMING SOON**

**PITTSBURG**  
2521 N. BROADWAY  
PITTSBURG, KS  
620-235-1737

**PITTSBURG**  
101 N BROADWAY,  
PITTSBURG, KS  
620-232-3277

**GIRARD**  
111 N. SUMMIT  
GIRARD KS  
620-724-4800

**FORT SCOTT**  
1711 S NATIONAL  
SUITE E  
FORT SCOTT, KS  
620-223-0850



# Need Custom Appareal?



- Screen Printing
- Embroidery
- Jerseys
- Hats
- Spirit Wear
- And MUCH MORE

**Leigh's Tees**  
 620-238-0965 | [www.leighstees.net](http://www.leighstees.net)

# Don't leave home without your Passport

## Staff Reports

[news@morningsun.net](mailto:news@morningsun.net)

Little Balkans Festival Passports will not only give you admission to specific Little Balkans events, they could win you cash!

A number of select Little Balkans events are designated "Passport Exclusive," which means you can only attend if you have purchased a Passport. The Passports cost just

\$5 and may be purchased in advance at Equity Bank, 102 N. Broadway; Kansas Teachers Community Credit Union, 416 N. Broadway; Memorial Auditorium, 503 N. Pine; the Pittsburg Area Chamber of Commerce, 117 W. 4th Street; Ron's Supermarket, 310 E. Centennial; Toast, 401 N. Broadway, Unit D; and online at [www.littlebalkans.com](http://www.littlebalkans.com)

Show your Little Balkans Passport at Kansas Crossing

Casino from 8 a.m. on Friday, Aug. 30, until 10 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 1, and receive \$10 in Crossing Cash.

Attend at least four Passport events during the festival and drop your passport off at any place where Passports can be purchased by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 4, in order to be entered in a drawing for \$500 cash from MPIX. A second Passport entry will receive \$100 in Chamber Dollars.

## QUIZ ANSWER:

a) Alcohol being banned in Kansas 40 years before prohibition



702 W 4th St, Pittsburg, KS  
[www.midwestmedicarehelp.com](http://www.midwestmedicarehelp.com)

## LISA IS HERE TO HELP!

- Medicare Supplements
- Medicare Advantage
- Part D Drug Plans
- Cancer Plans
- Final Expenses
- Long Term Care
- Life Insurance
- Hospital Plans
- Dental, Vision, and Hearing
- Healthcare.gov Plans



*Lisa Hemby specializes in helping you understand when and how to enroll in insurance.*



**Locally Owned.  
 Locally Operated.  
 Community Focused.**





# Little Balkans Quilt Show marks 36th year

By **Dustin R. Strong**  
dstrong@morningsun.net

PITTSBURG, Kan. — A staple of the Little Balkans Festival, the Little Balkans Quilt Show, returns this year.

The 36th Annual Little Balkans Quilt Show will be held from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 30, and from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 31, during Little Balkans Days over the Labor Day weekend in the lower level of Memorial

Auditorium. Sponsored by the Little Balkans Quilt Guild, this year's theme is "Picnic in the Park." Admission is a Little Balkans Festival Passport, which is priced at \$5.

Visitors will be able to view hand-made quilts, wall hangings, home decor and wearable items as well as the Quilts of Honor. There will be a raffle for a chance to win the 2024 donation quilt, "Forrest Foliage," made by several guild members and quilted by Bobbie

Schroader. The proceeds from the raffle are used to bring in quilting professionals for programs and workshops in the coming year.

The guild is also setting up a quilt boutique with several vendors offering fabric, patterns, notions, and more. One vendor will be available to sharpen scissors and knives. Visitors can purchase opportunities to win a basket at the basket walk, which closes at 2 p.m. on Saturday. Each of the baskets.

## WHEELER & MITCHELSON

Chartered Attorneys at Law

*Southeast Kansas' Business Lawyers... Since 1935*

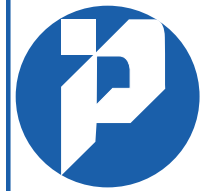


### PRACTICE AREAS

- CORPORATIONS • TAXATION
- ESTATE PLANNING • PROBATE • TRUSTS
- REAL ESTATE • MUNICIPAL LAW
- COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

**FOURTH & BROADWAY, PITTSBURG**

**620-231-4650 | [www.wheelerandmitchelson.com](http://www.wheelerandmitchelson.com)**



**INTEPLAST GROUP**  
*Pitt Plastics*

*Focusing on Quality, Service,  
and Consistency*

**Inteplast Group is the  
largest manufacturer  
of integrated plastics  
in North America.**



***YOUR COMPLETE SOURCE  
FOR MORE THAN JUST CAN LINERS***

- CAN LINERS DISPOSABLE
- GLOVES FOODSERVICE BAGS
- CARRY OUT BAGS
- AND MUCH MORE!

1400 E Atkinson Ave, Pittsburg, KS | (620) 231-4337

# Celebrate our Heritage!

I hope everyone enjoys a wonderful Little Balkans Days weekend!!

It's truly a privilege to serve an area of such rich culture and history.

In this ever changing market, a trusted, experienced agent is more important than ever!

**SHELLY  
HILDEBRANDT**

620-249-0526

[shelly@cobbrealty.com](mailto:shelly@cobbrealty.com)



(620) 231-8025  
4019 Parkview Dr.  
Pittsburg, KS 66762

