CITY NEWS

**Independence Day Closures and Hours:** City of Dodge City facilities will be closed to observe the 4th of July holiday on Monday, July 4.

Mariah Hills Golf Course will close at 3 pm on Monday, July 4, to prepare the fireworks display area. That evening, Matt Down Lane and Comanche St. will be closed near the golf course on this day to allow for ease of access for the emergency vehicles assisting the display.

The Visitors Information Center will be open its regular summer hours from 7:30 am to 6:30 pm. If you need information about activities in the community over the 4th of July weekend, visit the Convention & Visitors Bureau website at [www.visitdodgecity.org](http://www.visitdodgecity.org).

Public Transportation will not be offering transportation services on Monday; regular transportation hours will resume on Tuesday, July 5.

Sanitation services normally provided on Monday will be scheduled for Tuesday, July 5. Please have polycarts placed at the curb by 7:00 am.

Have a safe 4th of July holiday weekend.

**Temporary Suspension of Fireworks Ban:** The City of Dodge City Commission adopted Resolution No. 2022-23 on Monday, June 20, allowing for the temporary discharge of fireworks in the city limits on the dates of July 3, 4, and 5, 2022, during the hours of 10 am to 11 pm each day.

Fireworks cannot be discharged on public property, including but not limited to public parks, public recreation areas such as ball fields and soccer fields, school grounds including school playgrounds and athletic facilities, and any public rights-of-way or public parking areas.

The Dodge City Fire Department advises residents to handle fireworks safely and supervise children. When the ban is in place, it is illegal to store fireworks within the city limits. Residents are encouraged only to purchase what can be used in the three days it is allowed to clean up and dispose of fireworks debris and litter properly.

**Community Fireworks Display:** The Old Dodge City 4th of July Celebration community fireworks show will take place on Monday, July 4, 2022, at 10 pm. The display will once again be launched from the northeast corner of Mariah Hills Golf Course, and the official watch location will be in the Boot Hill Casino & Resort Conference Center Parking lot. Accompanying music will play on 97.3 FM

**150th Celebration Founder’s Weekend:** As part of Dodge City’s 150th Anniversary Celebration, Dodge City hosted Founder’s Weekend, a three-day commemoration honoring our city’s founders, from June 17 through June 19. The event included a concert in Wright Park, a five-mile run, an all-day celebration at the Boot Hill Museum, and the dedication of the Bat Masterson statue at the Home of Stone. See the attached release for more details.
Eisenhower Park Mural Ribbon Cutting:
Main Street Dodge City celebrated the unveiling and ribbon cutting of the murals at Eisenhower Park during the 11th Annual Main Street Festival. The project came to life thanks to a grant from the Kansas Creative Arts Commission and the following sponsors: The Victory Electric Assn., Inc., Nick and Andrea Hernandez, Account Recovery Specialist, Inc. (ARSI), Quick Bail Bonds & Insurance Express, Fernando Flores, Los Sombreros Mexican Restaurant – Familia Flores, G&G Insurance & Income Tax Services – Cindy R. Soriano, UFCW District Union Local Two, Broce MFG Co. Inc., Wessel Iron & Supply – Nancy, Linda, John

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Parks & Facilities: Parks and Facilities staff repaired the canopies at Eisenhower Park while hanging the new Murals. Landscape and Grounds staff refreshed the planter beds with mulch and river rock. Parks and Facilities staff and Golf staff removed and then repaired water-damaged stucco on the patio at Mariah Hills. Construction staff safely relocated a bull snake that found its way under the patio at Mariah Hills.

Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB): Tourism season is in full swing, and the Historic Trolley has been running daily since Memorial Day weekend. The Mueller-Schmidt House/Home of Stone has been having a fantastic season, seeing visitors from 37 states and international travelers from France, Canada, Puerto Rico, and the Netherlands.

PROJECT UPDATES

Iron Rd., Ave. A to 6th Ave.: Iron Rd. between Ave. A and 6th Ave. was open to traffic on Tuesday, June 21. There are still a few items to complete, such as seeding along the roadway and raising an inlet top. These will be done shortly. Victory Electric is also installing Street lights along the roadway. Lanes will be closed temporarily as all this work wraps up.

Iron Rd., 6th Ave. to 14th Ave.: Dirt work and installation of Utilities have started on this section of Iron Rd. It is anticipated that this project will take 210 calendar days to complete, depending on the weather. Once completed, it will mirror Iron Rd. between Ave. A and 6th Ave. being a three-lane road section.
West Comanche St., 14th Ave. to the west of Walmart Drive: Reconstruction on this portion of West Comanche St. started on Monday, June 20. The asphalt pavement has been removed. The Contractor will be prepping the subgrade by incorporating fly-ash shortly. Placement of concrete on Phase 1 could be as early as late next week. If not, shortly after the July 4th Holiday.

2nd Ave. Bridge Repairs: This project has been completed. New expansion joints in the driving lanes have been installed. Repairs have also been done to the rockers that the bridge rest on and pier cap #3.

UPCOMING EVENTS & MEETINGS

Dodge City CVB’s Whisker Roundup: The Dodge City CVB will be hosting the first Whisker Roundup Mustache Competition as part of its National Day of the Cowboy Celebration. The event is sponsored by the Rusty Edge Tonsorial Parlor and will be held on Saturday, July 23, at 2 pm at the Depot Theater. Contestants will flaunt their pruned, shaped, and waxed upper lipholstery in an intense mustache showdown to be named Dodge City’s Mr. Mustache and have their dental drapes immortalized on the Dodge City Convention and Visitors Bureau’s 2022/2023 Mustache Fan.

A performance of the Boot Hill Museum Medicine Show will proceed the competition. Warm peach cobbler and vanilla ice cream will be served during the event. Seating is limited and is first-come, first-serve. Contests can register at https://forms.gle/Cc9f5aU9wWXhe1M87.

St Mary’s Football Wall of Fame Dedication: The City of Dodge City will honor the 1988, 1989, 1990, and 1991 Saint Mary’s of the Plains Football teams on Saturday, July 23 at 10 am with the distinguished Wall of Fame Award. These teams, led by Coach Rick Trestrail, were Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference Champions and National Collegiate Playoff Teams. The Kansas Sports Hall of Fame will honor the 1989 team with the Distinguished “Pride of Kansas” award for its season and National Team Records. A storyboard will be placed on the northeast corner of Hennessey Hall to recognize the teams, and an interior exhibit will be placed on the ground floor of the former Saint Mary’s of the Plains College.

Wheat Shock Sculpture dedication: The High Plains Journal and City of Dodge City invite the public to the Ribbon cutting for the “Kansas Wheat Shock” by Artist Hoss Haley at 10:00 am Wednesday, August 3, 2022. The Ribbon Cutting is hosted by the Dodge City Area Chamber of Commerce at the Sitka Depot, Boot Hill Museum Parking Lot, 500 W. Wyatt Earp Blvd.

The Wheat Shock is a gift from the High Plains Journal in honor of HPJ’s current and past employees. There will be a reception immediately following at Boot Hill Museum Mariah Gallery.

WHY NOT DODGE EVENTS, FACILITIES & NEWS

Why Not Dodge Night: The Dodge City A’s hosted the “Why Not Dodge” Night on June 5 at Cavalier Field. This was the kick-off weekend for the A’s. In addition, the past CFAB Board Chair Ryan Rabe, Vice-Chair Michael Martinez and Vice-Chair Michael Burns were recognized for their service to the Board.

To check out the Dodge City A’s schedule, visit http://www.dodgecityas.com/season-schedule.html.

Long Branch Lagoon: Summer is in full swing, and the Long Branch Lagoon is the place to cool off. The western-inspired water park is open Monday-Saturday 12-7 pm and Sundays from 12-7 pm. Night swim is every Tuesday from 7 pm-9 pm through the end of July. For more information and admission prices, visit http://www.lblagoon.com/27/Admissions.

Dodge City Raceway Park: The National Tractor Pullers Association Wild West Grand Nationals will be at Dodge City Raceway Park Friday, July 8 and Saturday, July 9. Pit gates open at 3 pm, and gates open at 6 pm. Racing starts at 7:30 pm. To purchase tickets, visit https://dodgecityracewaypark.com/schedule/.

United Wireless Arena: Roller Skating has returned to United Wireless Arena Friday, June 24 and Saturday, June 25, from 5-7 pm and 7:30 pm for $7 a session. Also, be sure to get you tickets for Jon Pardi, the official Dodge City Days concert on Saturday, July 30 at 7:30 pm. For more information on all the great events at United Wireless
CITY OF DODGE CITY IN THE COMMUNITY

“There’s a New U.S. Citizen in Town!”: Just in time for Dodge City’s 150th Anniversary, Tuesday’s naturalization ceremony saw (nearly) 150 candidates for citizenship raise their right hand as they delivered the Naturalization Oath of Allegiance before U.S. District Court Judge Eric F. Melgren at United Wireless Arena. Attended by 148 candidates and their families, June 21’s ceremony featured staples of our community such as Miss Kitty and some new faces like keynote speaker Oscar Gonzales, assistant secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Far from being Dodge City’s first rodeo celebrating its new community members from far-flung places like Burma, Cuba, Ghana, Germany, Mexico, etc., naturalization is a significant milestone for our immigrant neighbors, serving as a reminder of their continued contributions to Dodge City’s vibrant cultural footprint, colorful neighborhoods, and economic success. We are incredibly proud of our newest compatriots, welcome home!

In addition to the naturalization ceremony, USCIS mobile services returned to Hennessy Hall this Tuesday through Thursday to provide biometric services and interviews for naturalization and status adjustment for area residents.

COMMISSION MEETING CALENDAR

Tues., July 5 - 7 pm City Commission Meeting, Commission Chambers at 806 N 2nd Ave.

OR Watch live online at www.facebook.com/cityofdodgecity or www.vimeo.com/cityofdodgecity

Mon., July 18 - 7 pm City Commission Meeting, Commission Chambers at 806 N 2nd Ave.

OR Watch live online at www.facebook.com/cityofdodgecity or www.vimeo.com/cityofdodgecity

View the meeting agendas the Friday prior at https://www.dodgecity.org/78/Agendas
For Immediate Release

**Founder’s Weekend Concludes Successfully**

DODGE CITY, Kan. (June 22, 2022) – As part of Dodge City’s 150th Anniversary Celebration, Dodge City hosted Founder’s Weekend, a three-day commemoration honoring our city’s founders, from June 17 through June 19. The event included a concert in Wright Park, a five-mile run, an all-day celebration at the Boot Hill Museum, and the dedication of the Bat Masterson statue at the Home of Stone.

The five-hour concert featured seven bands playing a variety of music, from face-melting surf punk to soulful country. The crowd swelled as the sun went down. By the last performance of the evening, concertgoers filled the area in front of the stage. Some concert attendees lingered in Wright Park long after the concert had concluded.

“This was a great event. Everyone from the musician, the vendors, and attendees had a great night,” said Coral Lopez, Main Street Director, and Dodge City 150th Anniversary Events Chair. “We estimate nearly 400 people attended the concert throughout the evening. The crowd even sold out two of the food trucks. We couldn’t be happier, and hope bring back this event!”

Saturday’s festivities started with the Whiskey Run, a five-mile run that took runners past some of Dodge City’s most historic sites. The fun continued at the Boot Hill Museum with Hoover Day, an all-day celebration of George Hoover, one of the founders of Dodge City. At least 1,200 people flooded the museum throughout the day to enjoy medicine shows, gunfights, can-can lessons, deputizings, an ice cream social, the chance to meet Buck Taylor, and mini-performances of the Long Branch Variety Show and a concert from the Dodge City Cowboy Band.

The weekend concluded on Sunday, June 19, at the Mueller-Schmidt House/Home of Stone with the unveiling and dedication of the Bat Masterson Statue. In addition to a crowd of over 75 spectators, the statues sculptors, Carson and Charlie Norton and family, Ken Masterson, the great-great nephew of Bat Masterson, and Buck Taylor and his wife Goldie, attended the ceremony.

Upcoming events for the Dodge City 150th anniversary include the first Whisker Roundup on Saturday, July 23 at 2 p.m. in the Depot Theater, Dodge City Days beginning July 28 and running through August 7, and the return of Ham Bell’s Pioneer Picnic in September in Wright Park. To get involved or for more information about Dodge City’s 150th Anniversary, visit [www.dodgecity150.com](http://www.dodgecity150.com).
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For more information, contact the FHSU Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at 785-628-5366.

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FHSU Department of Social Work
785-628-4755
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