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City Update –October 2,2023 **View PowerPoint slides**

The First Thursday ArtWalk is being held this week on Thursday, October 5. And October is also National Arts and Humanities Month, which will be recognized through a Proclamation from Joplin Mayor Doug Lawson. He will present this at 4:50 in the Main Lobby of City Hall. The public is welcome to attend. Musician Dwayne Smith will be performing.

The 16-year-old Joplin's ArtWalk joins thousands of arts organizations and communities across the nation to celebrate National Arts and Humanities Month. This month's Art Walk offers activities that honor the efforts of artists and musicians in 8 locations in the downtown area from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Visit First Thursday ArtWalk's Facebook page for details.

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Sticking with the theme of art and music, there will be a lot of both at this year's North Heights Porchfest on Saturday, October 7. With a record-setting 47 bands this year, this music festival will offer something for everyone. The event runs from 12 noon to 7 pm and will be held in the area of C Street to Glenview and Joplin Avenue to the west side of Sergeant Avenue. Parking is available on the outer parameters of this area, and carpooling is encouraged. To help those not able or wanting to walk a lot that day, organizers have established the Moffet Megablock, offering the artists' booths, some food trucks, and a full 7 hours of music in this area. More information can be found on their Facebook page: Northheightsporchfest.

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Changing gears a little – Joplin Health Department will offer CPR training on Friday, October 13 at the Joplin Public Library. The Friends and Family® CPR class is from 1 to 4 p.m. and is great for members of the general public interested in learning this life-saving skill. No medical background is needed, with this class costing $25 a person.

Also offered that same day from 10 to 11 a.m. is the HeartCode® BLS Skills Check-off. This course is appropriate for those who have completed the HeartCode® BLS online course: The cost for this class is $20 a person

CPR classes will also be offered in November and December. Preregistration and pre-payment are required to attend either of these classes. Participants can complete these steps by going to the Joplin Parks registration website of their online catalog. Classes are listed under the **Adult**

Programs division of the registration site. Citizens can also call the Health Department at 417-623-6122, ext. 1258 for more information.

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Join Joplin Parks & Recreation on Friday, October 20 for their annual Old-Fashioned Hayride! This FREE event will be held from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at McClelland Park, located at 44th Street and McClelland Boulevard.

The event will feature family-friendly activities, including a hayride, making s'mores, and bounce houses. This year features a new addition with The Hay Bale Trail guests can enjoy.

S'mores kits will be handed out on a first-come, first-serve basis. Guests are encouraged to bring sticks to roast their marshmallows over the bonfires. The Salvation Army will be on hand, providing hot chocolate to event guests.

For more information, call Joplin Parks & Recreation at 417-625-4750 or visit www.joplinparks.org.

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For more information about these announcements or other items related to the City, please visit the City's website and Joplin's Facebook page. I also encourage residents to keep an eye on Joplin Parks and Recreation's page as well as Visit Joplin page. There are a lot of different events and activities being planned, whether looking for kids programs and athletics or events for adults, Parks and Rec posts their events regularly. The Visit Joplin page is a great resource for a number of events and such offered by other organizations and things going on around town.

And as usual, tonight's announcements can also be found on our website at www.joplinmo.org/PIOnews

Thank you. I'd be happy to answer any questions...