



**DOWNTOWN
LEXINGTON
MANAGEMENT
DISTRICT**

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This e-newsletter, sent biweekly, details updates on the work of the **Downtown Lexington Management District** (DLMD) to maintain and improve the safety, cleanliness and overall quality of life in the District.

250LEX Announcement

Talk about a Big Birthday!

Lexington will be 250 years old next year, and the city plans to celebrate all year long.

Mayor Linda Gorton will announce some of the details of 250LEX at a press conference at 5 p.m. Thursday at the Fifth Third Pavilion in Tandy Park, prior to the start of Central Bank Thursday Night Live. Each calendar month in 2025 will have a theme with special events planned. The fun starts New Year's Eve.

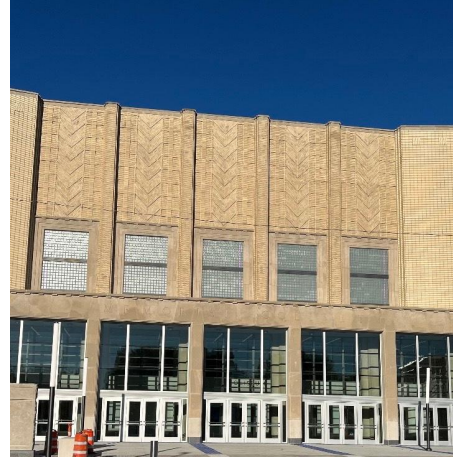
Several local institutions will celebrate with big anniversaries of their own next year, and the city's joining in, said city spokesperson Susan Straub. Not only will Downtown Lexington Partnership's Central Bank Thursday Night Live turn 30, but Lexington will also be celebrating the 150th anniversary of The Red Mile (1875), 120th of the Lexington Public Library (1905), 75th of Memorial Coliseum (1950), and 10th of the Lexington Theatre Company.

The public is invited to the Mayor's **press conference** for a preview of the fun. Then stay for TNL!





In 2025, the Lexington Public Library will celebrate 120 years of providing books to the community.



Memorial Coliseum will be 75 years old next year when Lexington celebrates the 250th anniversary of its founding.

Phoenix Park Update

In May, the city broke ground on a reimagined Phoenix Park, a complete makeover of this downtown space at the crossroads of Main Street and Limestone.

Exciting new features will include:

- Performance stage
- Playground
- Synthetic turf dog park
- Enhanced lighting
- New landscaping
- Fogging system with LED lights
- Public restrooms

Phase One, which removed underground utilities, concrete walls, sidewalks and pools, is complete. Crews are now leveling the ground, installing utilities and irrigation. Work on the concrete infrastructure will begin later this month.



The \$4.6 million project is on track to be completed in the spring 2025.

Fayette Cigar Store



Fayette Cigar Store is a fixture on Main Street and if you haven't shopped there – you're missing a treat! There's so much there besides cigars.

The store opened downtown in the early 1920's. Current owner Dale Ferguson's father bought it when the original owner left in 1942 to serve in WWII. At that time Fayette Cigar Store was at 151 West Main where 21C Museum Hotel is now. In 1977, the Fergusons bought and moved the business to its present building at 137 East Main Street.

What immediately catches your eye when you walk into the Fayette Cigar Store – even before you see the cigars - is a double-sided display rack of greeting cards that stretches down the center of the store, from the front door to the back. Doing a little quick math, Ferguson figured, "Ninety cards in each 4-foot section of the rack, 15 sections – 1,440 cards." It's the best selection of cards in town.

But cigars are his primary business. More than 200 brands of cigars, many packed in beautiful handmade wooden boxes, are stacked floor to ceiling in the Cigar Vault. Naming it the vault refers back to when the building was built as the Phoenix Bank and the back room, with three-foot thick brick walls – was the bank vault.

After he sells the cigars, Ferguson sells the boxes – all sizes and shapes – hundreds of beautiful boxes stacked on shelves taller than most people can reach, for sale for a bargain price of \$5 each.

There's so much more to the Fayette Cigar Store than just cigars. It has laundry supplies, office supplies, real food like peanut butter and canned Dinty Moore Stew, party supplies, wrapping paper and ribbon, gift items, cough medicine, pain relief medicine like Aleve, newspapers, books, The Daily Racing Form, pipes and pipe tobacco. And on and on.

Fayette Cigar Store is a downtown treasure. Pay it a visit!



The Downtown Lexington Management District is a property tax improvement district responsible for improving the downtown area. It puts tax dollars to work to enhance downtown through beautification and safety. The goal of the District is to foster economic growth, renew interest in the area by businesses, residents, and visitors, and ultimately increase property values. You can find DLMD ambassadors in purple polos working to improve the downtown area every day to create a Safe Clean Beautiful Lexington.

As you may be aware, the Downtown Lexington Management District (DLMD) has been implementing improvements since May 2015. We want to thank you for your support, tell you about some of the District's accomplishments, and make you aware of some changes that will enhance the District even more.

Beginning February 2017 Downtown Lexington Partnership (DLP) was contracted to begin managing the district. DLP is a membership-based organization working to promote Downtown as a unique and vibrant place in Lexington for business, residential life and entertainment.

If you have any questions, concerns, comments or ideas we want to hear them! The DLMD administrative office is located at 333 W. Vine St., Ste. 206, and can be reached at (859) 407-2227 or by email at allen@downtownlex.com.

For questions about the reauthorization of the Downtown Lexington Management District, please contact Beverly Fortune at 859-222-0345 or by email at beverly@downtownlex.com.

Newsletter by Beverly Fortune

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