

Swinging Bridge Festival

July 29-30, 2016

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Swinging Bridge Festival? Presented last in 2012 by the Byram Business Association, the Swinging Bridge Festival fulfills many needs all of which seek to promote and support community relations. This is the second year the Mayor and Board of Aldermen have joined to sponsor and endorse the festival. It includes various activities throughout the day including free live entertainment highlighting local, regional and national performers.

Who are the sponsors? Swinging Bridge Festival is a city sponsored event. Several in-kind contributions are made and a number of other businesses in the area support the festival through monetary sponsorships and/or donations.

When is the festival? Friday, July 29 from noon-10pm and Saturday, July 30 from 10am-10pm.

Where is the festival? The 5K is at First Baptist Church, 7541 S. Siwell Road from 6am-9:45am. The festival is at the Jackson Dragway, 7557 S. Siwell Road. (First Baptist Church and the Jackson Dragway are in walking distance of one another).

Why are we having the festival? The Swinging Bridge Festival/5K is held annually and serves a multitude of purposes for businesses and residents of Byram. The promotion of a competitive fitness run and community festival helps create a sense of identity while assisting in building lasting comradery and relationships. Monies raised from this event are re-invested into the City supplementing efforts to establish and maintain viable parks and recreation areas for citizen and visitors.

Will the festival be canceled due to inclement weather? No. This is a rain or shine event. Certain events may be cancelled or re-scheduled depending on rain. Safety is always first. If the weather poses a safety risk to patrons and participants, the Festival will close and information will be announced as to the nature of the risk, exit instructions, and possible re-open times.

How do I get to the festival and where can I park? On-site public parking will be available in the parking lot of First Baptist Church and along Siwell Road. Golf carts will be used to shuttle people between the church and dragway.

Are there dedicated disabled parking and drop off areas? Yes, we have designated space inside the dragway and along the grass at the gate entrance.

Is there an admission fee? There is no admission fee to enter the festival. You will have access to all vendors, stage entertainment and the car show. There are fees involved if you wish to participate in some of the festival attractions.

Where can I find a festival site map, event guide, or schedule for the festival? A program or flyer will be available on site, on the city's website, and inside City Hall.

Are there any additional costs other than what has been announced? A variety of foods and beverages as well as arts and crafts are available for purchase from individual vendors at the festival. T-shirts will also be sold.

What is the schedule? A schedule of activities is available online or by calling 601-372-7746.

Who is the featured artist for this year's festival? This year's entertainment lineup includes Skylar Laine, Jarekus Singleton, Mojo Trio, Kaitlann Runnels, Shadz of Grey, Mojo Filter, and Dexter Allen. (see the schedule of events for more information).

Can I use my credit or debit card to purchase items at the festival? Yes. You may use a credit or debit card to purchase food and beverages (if accepted by independent food vendors).

How much is the concert and when does it start? All activities taking place on the stage are free of charge. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own lawn chairs.

Can I bring strollers, wagons, wheelchairs, lawn chairs to the festival and concert? Strollers, wheelchairs and lawn chairs are all allowed at the entrance.

Can I bring food and beverages into the festival/concert? You may not bring in outside food or beverages, except for the needs of babies.

Are pets allowed at the festival/concert? No. Be kind to your pets and leave them at home when you visit our festival. Only seeing-eye dogs and service dogs are allowed within the Festival site during Festival operating hours.

Do you have an information booth and where is it located? Yes, specific location to be announced.

Do you have a Lost and Found and where is it located? Yes, specific location to be announced.

What is prohibited on site? You may not bring in outside food or beverages. No unauthorized vending, sales, solicitations, or promotions. No weapons. No pets. (Service animals with proper ID are allowed).

Is First Aid available at the festival? If so, where is EMS located? EMS will be located close to the entrance. In addition, Byram Baptist Clinic will have a nurse and doctor on site in case of minor medical emergencies.

Press Inquiries: All press inquiries need to be emailed to rwhite@byram-ms.us or arichburg@byram-ms.us. 601-372-7746.

How do I become a volunteer at the Festival? Email ermamjohnson@gmail.com with your available days and times or call 601-372-7746.

Where do I get tickets? Armbands and tickets will be used for access to the games and rides. They can be purchased on-site. Armbands will be sold for \$20 and are good Friday 12-6pm or 6pm-close. Tickets will be sold Saturday and are \$1.25 for singles or \$20.00 for a pack of 20. (Rides take 2-4 tickets).

RULES

No outside food will be allowed to be brought into the Festival Area.

No coolers

No glass bottles

No bicycles, skate boards, roller blades, roller skates, scooters, or motorized vehicles (except wheelchairs) are allowed into the Festival area.

No grills or grilling will be allowed in the Festival area.

No camp tents or overnight camping will be permitted in the Festival area.

No tents may be staked into the ground.

No weapons of any kind.

No illegal substances of any kind.

No pets.

All bags are subject to search by Festival security.

The Festival reserves the right to decline admittance to anyone who violates the reasonable policies established for public safety.

Restrooms - Portable toilets will be available throughout the Festival area. They will be located at the main entrance and close to the stage. There are on-site restrooms which will also be available for use. Just ask a staff member; they can point them out for you.

I'm traveling from outside of the city, are there arrangements set up? No, there have been no pre-arrangements. All travel arrangements must be made by the individual. There are several hotels in Byram and the surrounding areas from which to choose.

What kind of food will be served? Vendors will be selling food and we have tried our best to ensure a menu full of variety.

Will you be selling t-shirts? Yes, festival t-shirts will be sold on site.

Is there an ATM? Yes. An ATM will be provided for your convenience.