

Discover a Healthy Life KANNAPOLIS MATTERS



DISCOVER ENTERTAINMENT AT THE GEM AND SWANEE THEATRES



The historic Gem and Swanee Theatres are booming with the sounds of music, theatre and first-run movies. The Gem and Swanee Theatres have been restored and are thriving as exciting venues of entertainment in downtown Kannapolis. Both are within walking distance of free parking, restaurants and shopping.

The Gem has been the star of downtown for more 80 years. A fully restored 1930s art-deco movie theatre, it features a beautiful two-story auditorium, new comfortable seats, historic displays and the best popcorn in the region. Visit us this summer for blockbuster movies. Admission prices are under \$5 and summer movie matinees for children are weekly fun outings you need to attend.

The historic Swanee Theatre in Kannapolis opened in 1940 as one of four movie theatres in the City. Over the years it has been the home to many great movies and live performances, such as Hank Snow and the Grand Ole Opry.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL

- 11 Run Kannapolis: Robert Tucker 5K** | 8 a.m.
Downtown Kannapolis
- 11 Cruise In** | 1 p.m. | NCRC
- 25 Earth Day Shred Event**
9 a.m.-noon | Village Park

MAY

- 4 CPR Class** | 1-3 p.m. | City Hall
- 7 Farmers Market** | 4 – 7 p.m.
Corner of Vance and Dale
Earnhardt Blvd.
- 9 Cruise In** | 1 p.m. | NCRC
- 16 Run Kannapolis: Towel City Tavern 5K** | 8 a.m.
Downtown Kannapolis
- 26 Blood Mobile** | 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Big Red Bus | Kannapolis City Hall
- 30 Run Kannapolis: Gaelic Alley Pub Run 5K** | 8 a.m.
Downtown Kannapolis

*Free Admission. No pets or smoking, please.
More at kannapolisnc.gov.*



FARMERS MARKET OPENS MAY 7



The Kannapolis Farmers Market will open for the season on Thursday, May 7. The market will be held every Thursday, 4–7 p.m., at the corner of Vance St. and Dale Earnhardt Blvd.

The market will continue through September. Returning and new vendors offer a wide variety of fresh, local produce as well as plants, eggs, baked goods, skincare products, crafts and prepared foods.

Sign up for text message reminders and updates about the farmers market and vendor specials. Text MARKET to 704-704-4335. You may unsubscribe at any time. For customers' convenience, most vendors accept credit/debit cards.

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Today, the theatre is once again thriving as a live music and event venue. You can purchase tickets to a great variety of live music concerts, comedy and entertainment events in an intimate setting. Shag and line dancing happens weekly.

Both unique historic venues are available for rental. The Swanee provides a memorable setting for private celebrations, corporate events and special entertainment gatherings. The main auditorium can host more than 150 guests with banquet-style seating or up to 360 with theatre-style seating. Several smaller meeting rooms are also available. Rental options include add-on services, such as AV support, bartending, event staff, kitchen access and use of the green room. The Swanee's iconic lighted marquee can also be rented for custom messages starting at \$50.

For details, visit swaneetheatre.com/rent-the-swanee or email swanee@kannapolisnc.gov.

The Gem Theatre is available for private movie screenings and special movie rental events, with pricing and availability depending on movie showtimes. The theatre's lighted marquee can also be rented for personalized messages starting at \$50.

For more information, email gem@kannapolisnc.gov or visit gem-theatre.com.

Both theatres are owned and managed by the City of Kannapolis. To see upcoming concerts, movies and events, visit DiscoverKannapolis.com and sign up for the monthly e-newsletter.

RUN KANNAPOLIS UNDERWAY



The 2026 Run Kannapolis Season is underway! Don't miss this year's great lineup!

Runners and walkers are encouraged to participate in the Run Kannapolis Race Series! Register now at www.runkannapolisnc.gov.

Run Kannapolis is a part of the City's

Discover a Healthy Life brand. Good luck with the 2026 race schedule! We will see you at the finish line!

Discover Kannapolis

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STORIES UNDER THE STARS SERIES RETURNS FOR 2026

The popular Stories Under the Stars program returns to Kannapolis in 2026! Get ready for another series of unique storytelling and performing arts events.

All events are free and will begin at 7 p.m. Events will take place at the Kannapolis Library (850 Mountain St.) and Afton Library (6095 Glen Afton Blvd.), unless otherwise noted. Programs are geared toward families with children of all ages and do not require advance registration.

Saturday, April 18 | Porkchop Productions | **Kannapolis Library**
The Ant and the Grasshopper

Join us for a fun twist on the classic fable! When a hardworking ant and a social-media-obsessed grasshopper become unlikely roommates, chaos ensues. Can they learn that hard work and teamwork make the dream work? Find out in this lively, modern adaptation perfect for kids and families!



Saturday, May 16 | Story Ship | **Afton Library**
Diggery's Dinosaur Adventure



Travel back in time with Paleontologist Diggery and the DinoSauroScope 3000! When a mysterious egg hatches, dinosaurs everywhere start coming to life! Only you can help save the day! Packed with magic,

music and interactive fun, this dino adventure will keep kids on the edge of their seats!

Saturday, June 13 | Sparkpoint Innovations | **Afton Library**
Orbit Earth Expo

Ever wondered why we have seasons or moon phases? Come find out with GIANT inflatable planets! Kids will help move Earth and Moon to uncover the secrets of our solar system in this hands-on, high-energy program. Big fun, big planets, big discoveries!



Saturday, July 18 | B-Rad Kids Magicians | **Kannapolis Library**
B-Rad Kids Magicians

Get ready for a magical, laugh-out-loud experience with B-Rad! This kid-friendly show combines amazing tricks with hilarious comedy, all designed to spark excitement about reading. Kids and parents become part of the magic, making this an interactive event you won't want to miss!



Saturday, August 15 | Gravity Check | **Kannapolis Library**

Gravity Check

Join Ken and Kyle for a high-energy show packed with laughs and jaw-dropping tricks! From balls and clubs to Chinese yoyos and surprise props, this performance is full of amazing skills and hilarious banter you won't want to miss!



ENVIRONMENTAL TIP

Recycling is very important, so let's learn how to #RecycleRight! Are you still crushing your cans and flattening juice cartons? No need! The recycling machinery recognizes the items by shape and size, ensuring they are recycled properly.



SUMMER HOURS ANNOUNCED FOR VILLAGE PARK CAROUSEL, TRAIN AND SPLASH PAD AMENITIES



As warm weather approaches, we are excited to announce the Village Park Carousel, Train and Splash Pad schedule and hours of operation.

Beginning Saturday April 4, the Carousel and Train will operate on weekends only. Weekend hours will be

Saturday (10 a.m. – 7 p.m.) and Sundays (noon – 6 p.m.). Weekend hours will continue through Memorial Day.

Beginning Memorial Day weekend, Saturday, May 23, the Village Park Carousel, Train and Splash Pad will operate daily. Hours will be Monday –

Saturday (10 a.m. – 7 p.m.) and Sundays (noon – 6 p.m.). The Village Park Splash Pad offers fun all summer long with water cannons, geysers, jets and more! Daily hours will continue through August 15.

Beginning Saturday, August 15, the Village Park Carousel, Train and Splash Pad will return to its weekend-only schedule. Weekend hours will be Saturday (10 a.m. – 7 p.m.) and Sundays (noon – 6 p.m.). Weekend hours will continue through September 6.

Tickets for the Carousel, Train and Splash Pad are \$1.50 per person, per ride/entry.

FAIR HOUSING INFORMATION SESSIONS SCHEDULED

The Cities of Kannapolis and Concord, along with Cabarrus County in collaboration with El Puento Hispano, Legal Aid of N.C. and Prosperity Unlimited, Inc., are coming together to offer two free fair housing information sessions.

Sessions will be held in Spanish, in-person on Tuesday, April 21, and in English, virtually on Thursday, April 23. Anyone interested in learning more about fair housing laws, their rights and protections against discrimination are encouraged to attend.

Event: Fair Housing Laws and Tenant Rights (*In-Person, Spanish Session*)
Address: El Puento Hispano | 335 Ann St., N.W., Concord, NC 28025
Date: Tuesday, April 21, 2026
Time: 6 p.m.
Register Online: www.kannapolisnc.gov/fair-housing-espanol

Event: Fair Housing Panel Discussion (*Virtual, English Session*)
Address: El Puento Hispano | 335 Ann St., NW, Concord, NC 28025
Date: Thursday April 23, 2026
Time: 6 p.m.
Register Online: www.kannapolisnc.gov/fair-housing-english

Both sessions are free and open to the public.

Renters, homebuyers and homeowners, housing advocates, landlords, property managers and anyone who is interested in learning more about equal access to housing is encouraged to attend.

For more information,

contact Sherry Gordon, City of Kannapolis Community Development, at sgordon@kannapolisnc.gov.

THE CITY OF KANNAPOLIS
401 Laureate Way | Kannapolis, NC 28081
704.920.4444
www.kannapolisnc.gov



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