Seneca OKs $34,400 for events

BY ANDREW MOORE
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SENECA — City council approved the use of more than $30,000 Monday to bolster events in Seneca.

After voting to formally name Dr. John Martin the curator of the Lunney House Museum, council went on to approve $19,400 in Hospitality and Accommodations Tax money for future events at the Lunney, including a black tie New Year's Eve event to coincide with a special event on Ram Cat Alley.

Council then approved without dissent $15,000 in HAT money for two events being orchestrated primarily by coordinator Riley Johnson.

The city's Halloween event at Norton-Thompson Park and in downtown Seneca will begin at 3 p.m. Oct. 31 and will include a 3K run, a pumpkin painting contest, candy from local merchants and hayrides, Johnson said.

At 5 p.m. Dec. 4, Ram Cat Alley will be blocked off for the city's Christmas event, in which a stage will be erected at the corner of Ram Cat Alley and Townville Street to showcase the musical talent of various church choirs and chorus groups, who will sing Christmas carols. Santa Claus will also be present at the event to greet children and families, while storeowners are expected to participate in a storefront decoration contest.

"Any choir or chorus group that might be interested in participating can definitely call us," Johnson said.

Those interested in the opportunity can call (864) 723-3910.

Much of the money allotted for the city events will be spent on advertising, Johnson said.

Meanwhile, Martin said he's expecting an exciting slate of future events at the Lunney that could include a party to coincide with the Kentucky Derby, more ice cream socials and themed gatherings at the Seneca landmark.

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