

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**FOR MORE INFO CONTACT:**

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**THE REPUBLIC BANK FIRST FRIDAY HOP IS FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4<sup>th</sup>!**

**Louisville, KY** – The Republic Bank First Friday Hop is **Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015**, featuring a Repeal Day celebration at Evan Williams Bourbon Experience on Main Street, as well as holiday open house festivities in several shops and galleries along the Hop route. Start your Hop at Evan Williams Bourbon Experience for free distillery tours, complimentary hors d'oeuvres, educational bourbon tastings, a variety of bourbon-themed door prizes, and a cash bar serving Prohibition-themed cocktails.

Downtown Louisville is the place to be on **Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015**. Hop on any ZeroBus for a FREE ride to the 50+ unique boutiques, artists, and restaurants along the Republic Bank First Friday Hop route on Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 PM – 11:00 PM.

**FEATURED REPUBLIC BANK FIRST FRIDAY HOP EVENT:**

**Evan Williams Bourbon Experience's Repeal Day Celebration**

**When:** Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015, 5:00 PM – 9:00 PM

**Where:** 528 W Main St, Louisville, KY 40202

The Evan Williams Bourbon Experience® invites you to travel back in time to 1933 to celebrate the end of Prohibition in Louisville. The visitor's center, located on Louisville's historic "Whiskey Row," is hosting a Repeal Day Celebration on Friday, Dec. 4, 2015 in conjunction with the Downtown Louisville First Friday Hop. Festivities will take place from 5:00pm – 9:00pm inside the Evan Williams Bourbon Experience Prohibition Era Speakeasy Bar. The first 50 people to arrive in Prohibition Era style costumes will receive a free gift.

Guests will gain access to the basement Speakeasy through a faux safe door in the wall. Once inside, attendees will enjoy complimentary hors d'oeuvres, educational Bourbon tastings, a variety of Bourbon-themed door prizes, and a cash bar complete with an assortment of beverages and specialty Prohibition cocktails. While Prohibition Era attire is not required, it is certainly encouraged, with prize packages being awarded to the most popular male and female costumes of the night. The event is free to attend and no reservations are required. Guests must be of legal drinking age to enter the Speakeasy.

Very close parking is available via street parking on Main Street between 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> St (free after 6 PM), and paid parking at the PARC Market Street Garage (536 W Main St).

**ADDITIONAL EVENTS FOR THE HOP INCLUDE:**

**Holiday Exhibition at Block Party Handmade**

**When:** Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015, 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

**Where:** 560 S 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Louisville, KY 40202

Block Party Handmade Boutique will host a reception for their holiday exhibition. Join ceramic artist Candy Wheat and the Faith & Art Center for The Nativity Show. The exhibition will feature a variety of ceramic work including nativity scenes and ornaments. A portion of all sales will benefit the Trinity Center for Faith & Art.

**Candy Wheat's Artist Statement:**

"I fell in love with clay and the spiritual process of ceramics under the Master's hand in the North Carolina Mountains. Holding on to a dream of spreading God's grace and love through the ceramic process, I was blessed six years ago because Trinity Presbyterian Church believed in my dream. The Trinity Presbyterian Faith and Art Center was born. Through God's grace, it was turned into a mission of the church for people with developmental disabilities. I am honored to serve as Director. When I am not

spending time with our wonderful students, you can find me sitting on the deck of my lake house combining my love of God, nature and clay which I try to reflect in my work.”

**Holiday Open House at CRAFT(s) Gallery**

When: Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015, 6:00 PM – 10:00 PM

Where: 572 South 4<sup>th</sup> St, Louisville, KY 40202

CRAFT(s) will be offering special discounts and holiday hospitality-and who knows what else?! Come on down!

**Meet Santa at St. John United Church of Christ**

When: Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015, 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM

Where: 637 E Market St, Louisville, KY 40202

St. John United Church of Christ will host Santa from 4:00 – 5:30 pm. The first 50 children get a bag of Muth’s candy! Special music will be played on the organ by Guy Younce.

**Free Concert at St. John NuLu Theatre**

When: Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015, 7:00 PM

Where: 629 E Market St, Louisville, KY 40202

The St. John NuLu Theatre will have a free concert featuring The Empty Room and Silver Spoons at 7:00 pm.

**Paul Paletti Gallery participates in Louisville’s Photo Biennial**

When: Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Where: 713 E Market St, Louisville, KY 40202

Forms of Japan by Michael Kenna will be on display at the Paul Paletti Gallery during the 2015 Louisville Photo Biennial. Known for his intimate landscape photography, devoid of people but containing evidence of humanity, Kenna has become one of the world’s best-known landscape photographers. He only photographs using film, mainly medium format (120mm), preferring the square images produced, and always in black and white. His work is characterized by its quiet elegance and pristine photographic qualities.

Michael Kenna’s work has been shown in Korea, Japan, China, Italy, Israel, India, United States, Germany, United Kingdom, Switzerland, France, Spain, Russia, The Netherlands, Belgium, Australia, and Mexico.

**MORE ABOUT DECEMBER’S REPUBLIC BANK FIRST FRIDAY HOP:**

The Republic Bank First Friday Hop event is **Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015** and includes downtown art galleries, retailers, and restaurants that will be open extended hours with specials/discounts and refreshments.

Ride the First Friday Hop in style by “hopping” on our brand new, eco-friendly, zero-carbon ZeroBuses, which replaced the old trolleys in February.

Each First Friday night, the new ZeroBus drops you off at all the best shopping spots downtown has to offer. Riding the Republic Bank First Friday Hop is fun - and it's FREE!

This family-friendly and open-to-the-public event takes place on **Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 PM – 11:00 PM** along the Main/Market St corridor and South 4<sup>th</sup> Street.

[Click here to download your Hop map.](#)

[Click here to join the official Facebook event.](#)

These are the PARC garages that have entrances right next to ZeroBus Hop stops.

· [Brown Hotel Garage](#)

- [1st & Main Garage](#)
- [3rd & Liberty Lot](#)
- [Glassworks Garage](#)
- [Market Street Garage](#)
- [4th Street Live! Garage](#)

**Hop on over and visit our member businesses:**

Republic Bank (Title Sponsor)  
 Action Graphics  
 Actors Theatre of Louisville  
 Actors Theatre Gallery  
 Against the Grain Brewery  
 Ah, Whatta 'Bout Mimi!  
 Al J's at the Conservatory  
 Bistro 301  
 Block Party Handmade  
 Bluegrass Brewing Co. (3<sup>rd</sup> & Main)  
 Bristol Bar & Grille  
 Brown Hotel  
 Copper & Kings  
 CRAFT(S) Gallery  
 Cressman Center for Visual Arts  
 Design Enterprises  
 Doc Crow's Southern Smokehouse & Raw Bar  
 Down One Bourbon Bar  
 Evan Williams Bourbon Experience  
 Feast BBQ  
 Flea Off Market  
 Fleur de Lis on Main  
 Galaxie Bar  
 Galt House Hotel  
 Garage Bar  
 Garner Narrative  
 Ghyslain on Market  
 Gifhorse  
 Green Building Gallery  
 Harvest Restaurant  
 Honest Home  
 Hubbuck & Co.  
 Kentucky Museum of Art and Craft  
 Local Speed  
 Louisville Conventions and Visitors Bureau  
 Manny & Merle's  
 Mayan Café  
 Milkwood  
 Muth's Candies  
 Old 502 Winery  
 Park Community Federal Credit Union  
 Patrick O'Shea's  
 Paul Paletti Gallery  
 Pix Shoes  
 Please & Thank You  
 PYRO Gallery  
 Regalo  
 Revelry Boutique Gallery  
 RYE  
 St. John United Church of Christ  
 Stevie Ray's Blues Bar  
 Swanson Contemporary  
 Why Louisville Two  
 Zephyr Gallery

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**MORE ABOUT THE REPUBLIC BANK FIRST FRIDAY HOP:**

Every First Friday of every month, downtown Louisville art galleries, shops, boutiques, restaurants, and entertainment hot spots are open extended hours with specials, discounts, refreshments, and live music. Hop on the ZeroBus for a free ride to a stop near each member location. A special thank you to our title sponsor, Republic Bank, for their generous support of the First Friday Hop.

**MORE ABOUT THE ZEROBUSES:**

The ZeroBus is powered by batteries located under the bus floor. The ZeroBus can travel for up to two hours and fully recharge on route in less than 10 minutes. It recharges automatically by connecting to an overhead system that links to a high-capacity charger. The ZeroBus vehicles travel downtown circulator routes in place of the outdated trolleys – the highest polluting vehicles now in TARC's fleet. Like the trolleys, they arrive at stops frequently and all rides are fare-free. The ZeroBus is also the new mode of transportation for the popular Republic Bank First Friday Trolley Hop on Main, Market and Fourth streets. A special thank you to our friends at TARC for their generous support of the First Friday Hop.