

## BLUES AND BLUEGRASS JAM SESSION LEADS OFF FLATLAND BLUES FESTIVAL ON SATURDAY.

This weekend's third annual Flatland Blues Festival kicks off with a Blues and Bluegrass jam session starting at 1:00 pm in Russell's Memorial Park and County Fair Grasslands. Hosts for the event are Friends of the Deines Cultural Center, Russell Main Street and Russell Arts Council.

All area acoustic musicians are encouraged to take the opportunity to buy a ticket in advance, bring their instrument and lend their voice and talent to the opening event of the festival. Participating musicians do not have to be professional or have an organized band. All genres of music may be played at the jam session.

Bluegrass music, named such when Kentuckian Bill Monroe (being from the Blue Grass State), came onto the music scene. His original bluegrass band implemented elements of Gospel, work songs, folk music, Country, and Blues music, and showcased various types of vocal harmonies. So Bluegrass actually grew out of the Blues, and is being recognized as a member of the Blues family at this year's festival and jam session. The jam session lasts until 3:00 pm.

Tickets are available in advance for \$15.00 (adult) and for \$10.00 (ages 6-14) and are available at Dillons in Wichita, McPherson, Great Bend, Hutchinson, Salina and Hays. Doerfler's Harley Davidson in Hays and House of Sight and Sound in Salina also have tickets. In Russell tickets are available at USA Express, Klema Hometown Market, the Chamber of Commerce Office and The Deines Cultural Center. Tickets at the gate the day of the festival will be \$20.00 for adults, \$15.00 for ages 6-14, with children under 5 admitted free.

Major underwriters for the Festival include U.S. Energy Partners, Holland and Holland, AmericInn, Russell Vet Service, United National Bank, KRSL-KCAY, Russell County News, Steve and Kendra Trueblood. City of Russell and Russell County and in part by Sprint and the Kansas Arts Commission.