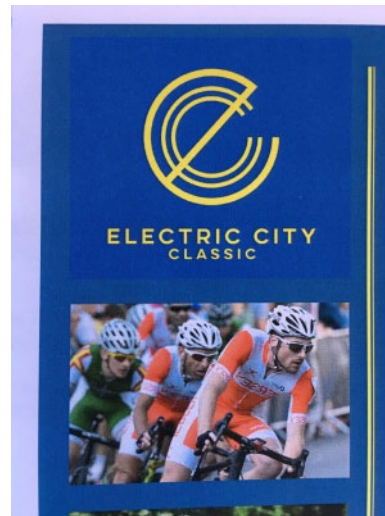


Electric City Classic high-speed bicycle race and hill climb coming to Scranton

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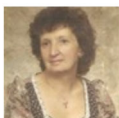
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Close-up of promotional material for the Electric City Classic bicycle criterium "crit" race in downtown Scranton on Aug. 24, and the Electric City Classic Hill Climb on Aug. 25 on the steep part of Olive Street in the Hill Section. JIM LOCKWOOD/STAFF PHOTO



BY JIM LOCKWOOD, STAFF WRITER / PUBLISHED: JUNE 27, 2019

SCRANTON — A new bike race and hill climb will loop through city streets in August, testing the mettle of pedalers.

The inaugural Electric City Classic will feature two race events: a short-circuit course Aug.

24, lapping about a dozen blocks downtown;

and a hill climb Aug. 25 on the steep, bricked part of Olive Street in the Hill Section. [Scranton Tomorrow](#)

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High School Sports Blog

No one injured in warehouse fire in Scranton

SCRANTON City firefighters fought a blaze at a warehouse at Capouse Avenue and Poplar Street on Thursday afternoon. No one was injured. (read more)

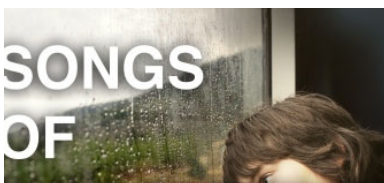
Special promotion in the works for next year's Lackawanna County heritage fair, air show and all-star baseball game

SCRANTON — A special promotion is in the works for those wanting to attend next year's Lackawanna County Heritage Fair, Triple-A All-Star game at PNC Field and Northeastern Pennsylvania Air Show. (read more)



Longtime Tunkhannock mayor stepping down

TUNKHANNOCK After serving borough residents for 44 years, the last 2 1/2 as mayor, Norman Ball is stepping down. (read more)



, a nonprofit downtown economic development organization, announced the event Wednesday at the Creative and Performing Arts Academy at the Ritz Theater, 222 Wyoming Ave. The [Wright Center for Community Health](#) also is a partner in the event.

That block of Wyoming Avenue will host the start and end of the Aug. 24 main event race.

Known as a criterium race — or “crit” — the main event will take place on a flat course lapping several blocks of Wyoming, Penn, Lackawanna and Franklin avenues and Linden and Spruce streets.

Hundreds of professional and amateur bicyclists will pedal multiple laps on the course that will have 10 right-angle turns, including seven left turns and three right turns. The professional-caliber cyclists could hit speeds of up to 45-mph and jockey for positions just inches away from each other.

A crit race, with a specific number laps on course using public roads closed to traffic, tests riders’ strength, skill, speed and endurance.

Each lap of the downtown race route is 1.1 miles. It should take expert cyclists about 70 minutes to complete 45 laps, organizers said.

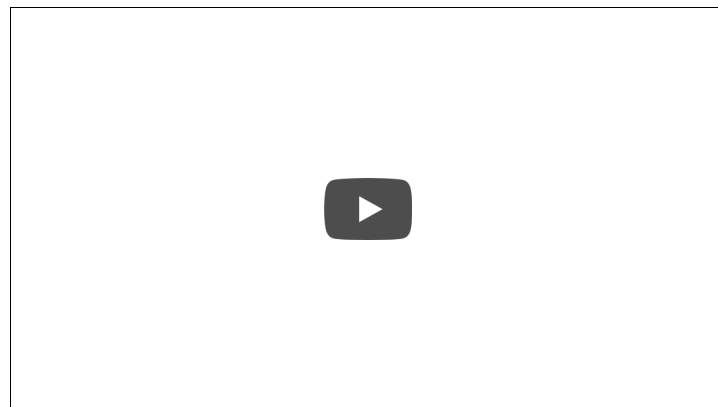
Amateurs will pedal 20 laps, which should take about 40 minutes.

The following day, Aug. 25, the event will switch gears with the Electric City Classic Hill Climb on the steep, bricked part of Olive Street in the Hill Section.

The hill climb will have cyclists racing up the hill, which should take professionals about 30 seconds per climb. Each climb will eliminate riders. Those remaining will go back to the bottom and climb again to eliminate more riders, and then repeat several times until there’s a winner.

The event will attract local and out-of-state amateur and professional bicyclists.

The cycling events, which also allow spectators to get close-up views of the action, also are expected to draw thousands of people to the region during the Aug. 24-25 weekend, said Scranton Tomorrow Executive Director Leslie Collins.





Friday Playlist: Songs of Discontent

Welcome to this week's edition of Friday Playlist where members of the Times-Tribune staff submit their music picks based on a theme. (read more)



100 Years Ago - International Correspondence School announces plans for Women's Institute in Scranton

The International Correspondence School announced it had purchased the Price & Howarth property on Wyoming Avenue for its proposed Women's Institute. (read more)



Daylight gunfire shakes Scranton downtown; no injuries in shooting

SCRANTON — City police are continuing to investigate a Wednesday afternoon shooting in the city's West Side (read more)



"We expect the Electric City Classic to have a substantial economic impact in the region," she said. "We look forward to showcasing the best our city has to offer and promoting the benefits of cycling and healthy living."

The races are open to the public.

For information or to register, see electriccityclassic.org.

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