



M E D I A R E L E A S E

**Leavenworth Main Street
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Buffalo Bill Days Return to Leavenworth, Kansas!
Hosted by Leavenworth Main Street
September 9 & 10
Haymarket Square, 7th & Cherokee
Leavenworth, Kansas**

"Buffalo Bill Days...beginning of a new era!" will aim to recreate some of the magic of one of Leavenworth's most successful legacies, Buffalo Bill Days.

Meredith Thompson, Leavenworth Main Street President said, "There has been an overwhelming community response to bring Buffalo Bill Days annual festival back, and this, was decided is a great year to do so. We are celebrating the 150th anniversary of the State of Kansas, of which Leavenworth is the First City, and this September will be the 100th anniversary of Buffalo Bill Cody's last speech in Leavenworth. The tag line, beginning of a new era, signifies not only the new beginning of Buffalo Bill days in Leavenworth, but also represents the changes that downtown has gone through since the festival was last held in downtown Leavenworth. There has been much improvement and investment in downtown since the Leavenworth Main Street organization started 16 years ago. There is much opportunity for all to be involved in the festival or just enjoy!"

Leavenworth Main Street had originally intended to produce a transitional western fall festival and bring back Buffalo Bill Days next year in Leavenworth. However, there has been overwhelming feedback from the community to make the September celebration reminiscent of the original event that began a hiatus in Leavenworth almost 20 years ago. Buffalo Bill Days...the beginning of a new era will take the place of the previously named events, the First City Festival and River Fest that have been held on the second weekend of September in past years. Organizers of the original Buffalo Bill Days event will be asked to consult and the Leavenworth Community is invited to send suggestions to this year's coordinators working with Leavenworth Main Street, Terra Matra Events, through its Facebook festival fan page "Leavenworth Main Street Wild West Weekend" or contact the Leavenworth Main Street office.

Contests will include pie eating contests, period costume contests, the historic outhouse races, and beard growing contests designed to pay homage to the great wild-west showman. In fact, men without the classic beard and moustache combination risk being taken off to the Festival's "jail" in an effort to raise funds for local not for profits.

The Festival will invite artists, merchants and concessionaires that provide goods and services complimentary to 1861 Leavenworth and will provide living history reenactments by local performing groups.

Each evening, the program will “burst the bubble” of the old west theme by welcoming bands like country-rock band County Road Five, an area favorite with a loyal following. There will be live entertainment scheduled throughout each Festival day: Friday September 9th from 3pm-10pm and Saturday, September 10th from 10am to 10 pm.

Wendy Scheidt, Main Street Director said, "Main Streets many volunteers provide the glue that provides a great quality event. Sponsorship, community and civic organization participation are also key ingredients as Leavenworth Main Street hosts the only community festival for Leavenworth."

Local civic organizations, businesses and individuals will be asked to return to their posts as Festival volunteers, concession providers, donors and ambassadors as preparations get underway for Leavenworth's only annual community festival. Check out our website, www.leavenworthmainstreet.com for updated information and vendor applications.

"This program is supported in part through an agreement with the Kansas Main Street Program, Kansas Department of Commerce"

Wendy Scheidt

Executive Director

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