



**FIRST CITY FESTIVAL**  
**FRIDAY, SEPT 10 AND SATURDAY, SEPT. 11, 2010**  
**DOWNTOWN LEAVENWORTH**  
 Leavenworth Main Street Program, Inc.  
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Sponsored by:



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**DATE: July 8, 2010**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Celebrating Our Past, Present and Future**

*What: First City Festival*

*Who: Presented by Saint John Hospital and Sponsored by Leavenworth Main Street, the City of Leavenworth and the Leavenworth Times*

*When: Friday, Sept. 10 and Saturday, Sept. 11, 2010*

*Where: Downtown Leavenworth*

*Why: To celebrate the past, present and future of living in the Leavenworth area*

When Leavenworth was founded in 1854, people travelled by horse and wagon on dirt paths. A letter to someone in St. Louis could take several weeks or even months to reach its destination, if it reached them at all. Most of us today can't imagine living in a world without electricity, cars, cell phones, television, computers or the Internet. We also can't imagine that the Centennial Bridge wasn't there to cross the Missouri River. To remember all the changes of the past, celebrate what we have right now and welcome what comes in the future, Leavenworth Main Street and the City of Leavenworth are again hosting First City Festival, Sept. 10 and 11.

This year's festival theme is "Well into the future", designated by Presenting Sponsor, Saint John Hospital. The hospital will offer a mini health fair during the event. "As a part of the Leavenworth community for almost 150 years, Saint John Hospital is proud to be the Presenting Sponsor of the First City Festival," says Dan Sheehan, Saint John Hospital Administrator. "By hosting this health fair we want to bring additional health education to our community."

Business, food, artisan and not-for-profit vendors are currently being accepted. Festival co-directors Jeanne DeRuyscher and Cindy McGuire encourage local organizations to get involved with *the* community festival for Leavenworth. "We are planning old festival favorites as well as exciting, new events," says DeRuyscher. "Leavenworth Main Street is celebrating its 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, and the festival will include birthday cake and a past favorite, The Giant Ice Cream Sundae."

Other festival activities include: Kids' Zone, Midway Games, Military Zone, live music, vendors, street entertainers, exotic animal petting zoo and fireworks. "We are also working with the VFW on a 9-11 ceremony and they are providing a laser shooting range," adds McGuire. "We are excited about hosting an event that celebrates Leavenworth in the past, present and well into the future."

Sponsorship opportunities are also available. For more information, please check the link to the Festival web site at [www.leavenworthmainstreet.com](http://www.leavenworthmainstreet.com), or call the Main Street office at 913-682-3924.

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