



MEDIA RELEASE

Leavenworth Main Street
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CUSTOMERS PROVIDE INITIAL INFLUX OF \$35,000+ INTO LOCAL DOWNTOWN SMALL BUSINESSES WITH THE “TICKET TO SHOP” PROMOTION

Leavenworth Main Street was recently awarded a Union Pacific Recovery Grant and is utilizing the award in several ways to support downtown merchants and the downtown in general. “Ticket to Shop” is an initiative wherein customers utilize their receipts for in store purchases to be entered to win any of 4 drawings through September 12. 220 customers turned in tickets with receipts totaling \$100 or more during the 1st shopping event, June 15 – July 18, with purchases totaling more than \$35,000. Encouraging customers to return to brick and mortar stores is important to the economy and the merchants. They are clean and sanitized and offer a positive experience that we all need during these often stressful times. Laura Phillippi was the winner of our 1st Gift Basket valued at \$250+!

Shopping is encouraged at *all* downtown businesses – retail, restaurant, service, professional – and is a way for customers that are spending money to be rewarded via drawings for merchandise, gift certificates and Main Street Bucks, which recirculate downtown.

The 2nd shopping event dates are July 19 – August 15. Tickets are free and available at many downtown merchants and at the Leavenworth Main Street office (pick up & drop off outside or inside). Spend \$150 in any downtown business, attach your receipts to the ticket and you’ll be entered to win a gift basket of goodies valued at \$300. With over 250 businesses downtown it’s easy and fun to visit your favorites and get to know other merchants. Automotive work, hair salons, retail purchases, restaurant receipts, medical/dental visits and everything in-between qualify.

“Enjoy the many benefits for you and your community by living local. We are “full steam ahead” with “Ticket to Shop” and excited to help support downtown businesses in helping them ring their cash registers. We have the finest, knowledgeable proprietors with a wealth of merchandise, cuisines and expertise *anywhere*. Get to know them and frequent downtown often”, states Wendy Scheidt, LMS Executive Director.

“Ticket to Shop” is a valued partnership between the Leavenworth Convention & Visitors Bureau and Leavenworth Main Street. Dedicated positive support from our many partners and associates ensures success as indicated below.

“I’m so pleased to see the grants awarded to support great projects planned in these Main Street communities across Kansas,” Department of Commerce Secretary David Toland said. “The downtown district is the heart of the community, and that’s exactly what these projects aim to revitalize. In addition, these grant-funded initiatives will help bring new prospective businesses and professionals looking for a comfortable, modern location. This assistance is critical as we recover from the fallout of COVID-19 and return to a posture of growth.”

“I would like to thank Union Pacific for the \$3,000 recovery grant to get the Leavenworth Downtown ‘back on track’,” said Holly Pittman, President of the Leavenworth Main Street Program. “We will use these funds to promote and market our historical downtown in partnership with the Leavenworth Convention & Visitors Bureau.”

“We are thrilled to provide support to these Main Streets to help ensure Kansas downtowns and commercial districts remain vibrant in the months and years to come,” said Ben Jones, Senior Director of Public Affairs at Union Pacific. “Our employees live and work in these communities, and we believe these projects will have a positive impact, igniting the economy as we recover from the pandemic.”

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