



MEDIA
RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FIRST CITY FESTIVAL: DANCIN' IN THE STREETS
MUSIC FILLS THE STREETS OF DOWNTOWN LEAVENWORTH

“Callin' out around the world
Are you ready for a brand new beat?
Summer's here and the time is right
For dancin' in the streets...
...All we need is music, sweet music
There'll be music everywhere
There'll be swingin', swayin' and records playin'
And dancin' in the streets....”

The lyrics of the popular song, recorded by Martha and the Vandellas and released by Motown in 1964, are the inspiration for this year's First City Festival: Dancin' in the Streets, Sept. 10-12. “There will be plenty of music throughout downtown for people to listen and dance to,” says Wendy Scheidt, Leavenworth Main Street Executive Director and Festival Coordinator. “Music is such an important part of any festival. It brings people together and adds to the fun atmosphere.”

First City Festival: Dancin' in the Streets
Sept. 10-12, 2009

Live Music Schedule

Thursday, Sept. 10

- 6-8 p.m., Haymarket Square: *Metro Big Band*

Friday, Sept. 11

- 6-9:30 p.m., Jazz at Haymarket Square:
 - 6 p.m., *Chris Burnett Quartet*
 - 7 p.m., *Toni Gates Ensemble*
 - 8 p.m., *Roger Wilder Quintet*
- 6-8 p.m., Delaware Street Dance, 1950s-theme, DJ *Loud & Clear*, 400 block, and *True Country*, 100 Block
- Music at the Main Stage (Cherokee and Esplanade Streets):
 - 6:30-8 p.m., *County Road 5*
 - 8:30-11 p.m., *Hole in the Wall Gang*

Saturday, Sept. 12

- 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Music at Haymarket Square
- 10:15 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Music on Three Mile Creek Trail
- Music at the Main Stage:
 - 12-1 p.m., *The Doo-Dads* (Kid Cool Rock)
 - 2-3 p.m., *Starlit Platoon*
 - 4-7 p.m., *Four Fried Chickens and a Coke*
 - 8:30-11 p.m., *Poison Overdose* (Poison tribute band)

Leavenworth Main Street and the City of Leavenworth invite area residents to enjoy all the music at this year's community celebration, beginning with a concert on Thursday night, Sept. 10, from 6 to 8 p.m. by *Metro Big Band*. The group was formed by the trombonists, Bob Cowan (Co-Founder/Musical Director) and Ted Holdahl (Co-Founder/Band Administrator), to primarily serve as a big band music reading ensemble and performance opportunity for musicians. Metro Big Band has developed a positive musical reputation with audiences and clients, while serving as an artistic performance outlet for a variety of jazz musicians based in the Kansas City metropolitan area.

The music and dancing continue Friday night, Sept. 11, with *Jazz at Haymarket Square*, featuring the Chris Burnett Quartet, the Tony Gates Ensemble and the Roger Wilder Quintet. 1950s-style rock and roll is the theme for the Delaware Street Dance from 6 to 8 p.m., plus classic 50's Country by True Country at the opposite end of Delaware. The music continues with concerts by country/rock band County Road 5 and Hole in the Wall Gang at the Main Stage, located at Cherokee and Esplanade Streets. A fireworks display will follow the concert.

"Saturday's schedule is filled with even more music throughout the day," adds Scheidt. "We wanted to offer a variety of styles that would appeal to a wide audience. We have everything from fun children's music, Christian rock and hard rock to solo instrumentals, country and Dixieland jazz, with everything in between." Saturday night will be rocking back to the 1980s with *Poison Overdose*, a Poison tribute band. The festival concludes with another fireworks display. All of the festival's concerts are free and open to the public.

Scheidt says that local residents Chris Burnett and Andrew Crawford, members of the First City Festival Planning Committee, coordinated all of the musical entertainment. Burnett is a musician himself. He is a member of Metro Big Band and also has his own jazz group performing Friday evening at Haymarket Square. Crawford owns a screen printing company and also has ties to the local musicians. "They have done a tremendous job of contacting groups to perform and organizing all the schedules. We are fortunate to have two volunteers who belong to the talented music community in the Kansas City area."

More information about the bands and music schedules are available on Leavenworth Main Street's web site at www.leavenworthmainstreet.com.

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