



LEAVENWORTH VIRTUAL SCHOOL VOICE

May 2017

Our neighboring town up the Missouri River from us, Atchison, KS, is the birthplace of Amelia Earhart, who was the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic on May 20, 1932. Five years later, along with her navigator, Fred Noonan, Amelia disappeared while trying to fly her twin-engine plane around the equator.

There are many theories about what happened to Amelia and Fred during that flight. The most popular theory is that Amelia's plane ran out of fuel, and crashed into the Pacific Ocean. Another theory for her disappearance, is that Amelia Earhart was on a photographic spy mission for the U.S. Navy focused on Truk Atoll, where Japan had a great buildup of arms and bases. Some believe the Japanese captured Amelia Earhart and held her prisoner or executed her.

Amelia Earhart's childhood home, which is located close to the Missouri River in Atchison, is open for tours. It would be a great place to take your family this summer. On Friday, July 14th and Saturday, July 15th, the town of Atchison will be celebrating Amelia Earhart Days, in honor of Amelia's birthday on July 24th, 1897. She would have been 120 years old this year.

Amelia Earhart Days offer activities the whole family would enjoy. Children will like Mad Science of KC and Reptiles Up close and Personal, and riding the 12-gauge train at the Atchison Rail Museum. The pedestrian mall downtown has arts and crafts, music, and unique food items. Pilots will perform stunts over the Missouri River before the fireworks begin. Warnock Lake, close by Atchison, hosts Lakefest the evening of July 14th.

CHARACTER TRAIT

Perseverance is the character trait for the month of May. To persevere means continued effort to do or achieve something, despite difficulties, failures and opposition along the way.

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

Touch-a-Truck is on Wednesday, May 3rd, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m., at the Landing Park parking lot, 123 S. Esplanade Street, Leavenworth. This is a free event.

Alive After 5 is held monthly in our community. Cinco de Mayo will be the focus on Thursday, May 4th, 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., in downtown Leavenworth. Cinco de Mayo is the celebration of the Mexican victory over French forces at the Battle of Puebla on May 5th. In the United States, Cinco de Mayo is a celebration of Mexican-American culture.

Lansing Daze is Friday, May 5th, and Saturday, May 6th, at Kenneth W. Bernard Park, 15650 Gilman Road, Lansing. Events feature a barbeque cook-off, craft show, car and cycle show, quilt show and children's inflatable rides.

The Leavenworth Farmer's Market opening day is Saturday, May 6th, 7:00 a.m. to noon, Haymarket Square, which is on the corner of Cherokee Street and 7th Street.

The Leavenworth Public Library, 417 Spruce Street, offers many activities each month for the whole family. One such event is a free family movie matinee on Saturday, May 13th, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Also on Saturday, May 13th, there is a First City Fishing Gala at Eighty Acres Park, 28013 167th Street, Leavenworth, for children ages 6 to 15. Fishing begins at 8:00 a.m.

Fourth Fridays in Leavenworth, on May 26th, there is an art walk, free children's crafts, food and fun. The place it all begins is 231 Cherokee Street.

The Second Annual Unity in the Community Youth Talent Show will be Saturday, May 27th, 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. This event, which is co-sponsored by the Youth Achievement Center and the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 94, will be held at the Dr. Hyman-Jarrett Fellowship Hall, 1708 5th Ave., Leavenworth. There will be two age categories for contestants; ages 5 to 11 and ages 12 to 17. First place winners will receive \$100. Call Jermaine Wilson, 913-617-3667, for more information.

Wollman Aquatic Center, 1300 Shawnee Street, Leavenworth, will open for the season on Monday, May 29th, 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

REMINDERS

School Day at the K is Thursday, May 4th. Channel 4 meteorologists will present weather demonstrations beginning at 10:00 a.m. and the Royals play the Chicago White Sox at 1:15 p.m. We have 6 tickets remaining, at \$12.00 each. The Virtual School will pay for our enrolled students. Families must R.S.V.P. to our office, 913-684-1540 ASAP, and tickets must be paid for and picked up by May 2nd. Available tickets after May 2nd will go to those on our waiting list.

Art Workshop will be Thursday, May 11th, 2:00 p.m., at Nettie Hartnett. We will be making gifts to give to our moms in celebration of Mother's Day, which is May 14th this year.

Our final Fun Friday will be on May 12th, 10:00 a.m., at Nettie Hartnett playground. We will have outdoor activities, weather permitting. In case of inclement weather, we will be inside in the gymnasium.

Our end-of-the year picnic will be on Friday, May 19th, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., at Hawthorne Park, 1177 Kansas Ave., Leavenworth. The Virtual School will provide hot dogs, buns, drinks, chips, and paper products. Families are asked to bring side dishes to round out our meal. It's time to celebrate our year of hard work and the beginning of summer.

The last day of school for students of Leavenworth U.S.D. 453 is Wednesday, May 24th. A few of our Virtual School families have already completed the Calvert curriculum, while others may continue doing lesson checkpoints through July. With August comes the beginning of the 2017-2018 school year, so students will need to be completed by then. It is a state law that students need to have 80 percent of the current school year's lessons completed in order to advance to the next grade level.