

LEAVENWORTH TIMES.com

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It's time to get mowing A2

FAST FACT: The geographic center of the 48 contiguous states is located near Lebanon, Kansas.

INSIDE TODAY



Celebrate

Leavenworth Garden Club celebrates 70 years. See A2.

SMILE OF THE DAY



Mark Clemens is smiling because KU is in the Sweet 16 and he hopes on their way to the Elite 8.

WEATHER



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High: 61 Low: 46 Mostly cloudy

BULLETIN BOARD

United Way to host meeting

The United Way of Leavenworth County will host its annual meeting April 17 at the University of Saint Mary.

The meeting will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Walnut Room.

Those interested in attending should register by April 13 by calling 913-682-2592 or email united-waylvco@gmail.com

For more information, visit www.unit-edwaylvco.org

Class slated for April 13

The Leavenworth County Council on Aging will host an acrylic landscape painting class with artist Nancy Bauder of Bauder Arts Inc. from 1-3 p.m. April 13.

Bauder will instruct on how to paint landscapes on canvas.

The class size is limited to 12 people. The \$30 class fee is non-refundable and due at registration.

Register at the agency, 1830 Broadway. Call 913-684-0777.

RESIDENTIAL LIVING SPACES

More apartments on the way

Abnerthany Building to be converted into upscale apartments

By MARK ROUNTREE
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A venerable building in north Leavenworth soon will be the site of new apartments.

The Abernathy Building, located at 1100 N. Second St., will be converted into a 130-unit apartment complex.

Seren Properties of Kansas City, Missouri, a division of Foutch Brothers, purchased the building in December 2017 and plans to convert it into upscale residential apartments.

Steve Foutch, owner of Foutch Brothers, said approximately 80 percent of the apartments will be one-bedroom units.

The four-story building, originally constructed in 1926, has approximately 109,000 square feet of space.

"The building is in really good shape," Foutch said.

He said rent will be between \$800 to \$1,000 per month, depending on the apartment.

Foutch said a property manager has not yet

been determined.

He said the building was purchased from Greenamyre Properties for a "sizable" cost.

He said the renovation will begin in May and take about 12 months. Construction costs will be about \$17 million and local contractors will handle the work, Foutch said.

The project is the most recent of several undertaken by the Foutch Brothers in Leavenworth.

Foutch said the company also renovated the original Abernathy Building on Second and Seneca streets to senior residential apartments. The company also renovated the Stove Factory Lofts in downtown Leavenworth and affordable family apartments on State Street.

The Foutch Brothers also have had a hand in other renovation projects in Leavenworth. Caleb Buland, an architect for Foutch Brothers, is the owner of Exact Architects which renovated the Ben Day School and

See ABERNATHY, A3



SUBMITTED

ABOVE: Shown is an artist's rendering of an outdoor courtyard and amenity space of the Abernathy Building, which is being converted into an apartment complex. BELOW: The project will include approximately 130 apartments, most of them one-bedroom units like the one depicted here in an artist's rendering.



'American Pickers' coming to northeast Kansas

By BETH KORNEGAY
Special to the Times

The quirky and popular television show "American Pickers" is coming to northeast Kansas this spring in search of antiques and other interesting pieces of history that might be hidden away in dusty recesses. The History Channel is looking to film some of those discoveries as future episodes of the show.

Known as "pickers," hosts Mike Wolfe and Frank Fritz scour the country and look for old barns, warehouses, junkyards, homes and just about anywhere else they think antique



SUBMITTED

Frank Fritz and Mike Wolfe from the History Channel's "American Pickers" are heading to northeast Kansas this spring to film episodes of their television show.

treasures might be hiding. They then negotiate the sale of the pieces they are interested in purchasing with the owner and take the items back to their Antique Archaeology store in LeClaire, Iowa, for resale.

The show debuted in January 2010 and garnered 3.1 million viewers. Ratings and popularity continue to soar as viewers watch to see what pieces of Ameri-

cana the pair will find hidden away and interesting characters they meet along the way. Of course, finding the forgotten treasure is only part of what they do. Before most items can be re-sold, they must be cleaned, restored or refurbished.

"Mike and Frank are on a mission to recycle and rescue forgotten relics. The pair hopes to give historically significant objects a new

lease on life, while learning a thing or two about America's past along the way," said Nora Walls, casting associate for "American Pickers."

While digging through building storage spaces that have accumulated items for decades, Wolfe and Fritz are willing to make an offer on just about anything that is

See PICKERS, A3

More candidates file for County Commission

By JOHN RICHMEIER
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The number of candidates for the Leavenworth County Commission continues to grow.

Two more people recently filed as candidates for a commission seat that is up for election later this year.

J. Glen Berry, rural Leavenworth, recently filed as a Democratic candidate for the County Commission's 1st District, according to information from the County Clerk's Office.

The 1st District includes much of the northern half of Leavenworth County including a portion of the city of Leavenworth.

Berry joins Nancy Bauder in the slate of Democratic candidates for the 1st District. Bauder currently serves on the Leavenworth City Commission.

Former Leavenworth City Commissioner Charles Raney also recently filed

See COUNTY, A3



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