Amelia Fest planning eyes July dates

(KAIR)--Although the week began with a wintery feel, the calendar shows that Atchison's tradition of summer-The Amelia Earhart Festival-is only 4 months away.

Plans continue to be put in place for the wide variety of activities that accompany the annual, July celebration of famed aviator, and one time Atchison resident, Amelia Earhart.

Made public this past weekend was the schedule for the annual Afternoon Tea with the Authors, set for the afternoon of Saturday, July 20. According to organizers, tea and treats will be served as part of the event, set to start at 3:00 at the Atchison Arts and Cultural Center, located at 111 North 8th Street, in Atchison.

The tea will highlight the work of three authors who have written about Earhart, Beatrice Gormley, Stacia Deutsch, and Heather Stemp. They will share their books, visit with guests, and sign purchased copies of their books.

The Afternoon Tea with the Authors is free, and only one part of the Saturday, July 20 activities, which wrap up that night with the annual Concert in the Sky Fireworks Spectacular over the Missouri River.

The previous day, Friday, July 19, will serve as the kickoff for the weekend festival with the annual country music concert at the city's river front.

Named as the headliner is legendary country music group Diamond Rio. Prior to their performance, singer Meghan Patrick will hit the Riverfront stage after the evening's opener, Phil Vandel.

Advance tickets are \$20 (tax included) and will be \$25 (tax included) on July 19 at the gate.

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