• L&T staff report The Kansas Sampler Festival ... • Provides the public a sample of what there is to see, do hear, taste, buy, and learn in Kansas.

• Is a traveling festival that is hosted by a different Kansas community every two years.

• Is a project of the Inman-based Kansas Sampler Foundation. The Foundation's mission is to preserve and sustain rural culture.

• Is a celebration of the Sunflower State that every Kansan should attend!

HISTORY OF THE FESTIVAL In 1990, Milferd Penner and his daughter, Marci Penner, hosted a booktosigning party on the family farm near Inman for their book, Kansas Weekend Guide. Communities from around the state filled one tent on a frigid November day. The response was so overwhelming that the event was given a name, the Kansas Sampler Festival, and became an annual affair. In 1993, the Kansas Sampler Foundation was formed and became the overseer of the festival. This Kansas celebration was held on the Penner Farm though 1997, when 8,000 people attended.

The decision was made to make more people aware of what Kansas has to offer by literally taking the festival on the road.

Pratt, Ottawa, Independence, Newton, Garden City, Concordia and Leavenworth have each hosted the event on a two-year rotation prior to Liberal's selection as the 2012 and 2013 host.

Ten entertainment acts have been announced in previous editions of the Leader & Times. Here is the two-day schedule of entertainment acts only:

SATURDAY – MAY 4

10:30 to 11:00
Ann Zimmerman

11:15 to 11:45 – Andy Newbrey & The ElectrotoBluesytoGrass Band

12:00 to 12:30 – Natvie American Studies Program by Dennis Rogers

12:45 to 1:15 – Jami Amber Lynne

1:30 to 2:00 – Cayton & Brown

2:15 to 2:45 – Lindsborg Folkdanselag

3:00 to 3:30 – Norman & Clark

3:45 to 4:15 – Willis Pracht

4:30 to 5:00 – Informal Jam Session

SUNDAY – MAY 5

10:00 to 10:30 – Jami Amber Lynne

10:45 to 11:15 – Cayton & Brown

11:30 to Noon – Norman & Clark

12:15 to 12:45 – Lindsborg Folkdanselag

1:00 to 1:30 – Willis Pracht

1:45 to 2:15 – Ann Zimmerman

2:30 to 3:00 – Native American Studies Program by Dennis Rogers

3:15 to 3:45 – Andy Newbrey & The Electro-Bluesy-Grass Band