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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Great Outdoors Day and the Opening of The River Trail and Louise Hays and Lehmann & Monroe Parks June 13, 2015

Kerrville, Texas (May 12, 2015) – The City of Kerrville will be hosting an opening event for The River Trail and Louise Hays and Lehmann & Monroe Parks with *Get Outdoors Day*, on Saturday, June 13, 2015 from 9:00 a.m. - noon. The ribbon cutting for the trail and parks will begin at 8:00 a.m. The event is part of a national effort every spring to encourage healthy and active outdoor fun for all ages. *Get Outdoors Day* will offer opportunities for families to experience traditional and non-traditional types of outdoor activities, with the primary goals of reaching first-time visitors to public lands and reconnecting our youth to the great outdoors. Attendance to the event is free to the public and everyone is invited to celebrate this exciting occasion.

“Louise Hays and Lehmann & Monroe Parks have transcended beautifully with these improvements and are truly remarkable assets for the community,” said Mayor Jack Pratt. “The dancing water and sparkling lights of the new fountain plaza are sure to

captivate and we are delighted to add even more to the substantial beauty of our community. This will be a place for many generations to play, enjoy, and make lifelong memories.”

The event will offer a mix of hands-on demonstrations, displays, and activities where park guests can experience new trends in outdoor recreation. Activities will include kayak, canoe, and stand-up paddleboard demonstrations; bike tour of The River Trail; a tyke hike; nature walk; an outdoors craft project for kids; discount coupons for rentals and activities; and the opening of the dog park and the interactive fountain. Additionally, all overnight camping fees at Kerrville-Schreiner Park (2385 Bandera Highway) will be half price for the evening of June 13th.

The *Get Outdoors Day* was launched in 2008 by proclamation of the President of the United States in a nationwide effort focusing on a single day to connect Americans, and especially children, with nature and active lifestyles. Kerrville is one of 155 official *Get Outdoors Day* sites across the nation that will welcome an estimated 60,000 new faces to the joy and benefits of the great outdoors. “We are very fortunate to be located in an area of the country where numerous outdoor opportunities are so easily accessible. We hope that Kerrville takes advantage of the *Get Outdoors Day* and the much anticipated opening of The River Trail and the re-opening of Louise Hays and Lehmann and Monroe Parks. These events are a significant part of Kerrville’s rich history and we are excited to showcase the improvements,” said Malcolm Matthews, Director of the Kerrville Parks and Recreation Department.

In addition to the planned activities, the public will enjoy the new park improvements that include an interactive fountain plaza; shade structures; new

playscape; new restrooms; improvements to the large pavilion and an additional new pavilion; improvements to the Centennial stage including a shade canopy and dance floor; addition of a new covered playscape; new dog park with large dog and small dog areas; improved parking located throughout the park; including shaded parking under the Sidney Baker Bridge; and the four mile long River Trail from Kerrville-Schreiner Park to the Riverside Nature Center. Trailheads are at Kerrville-Schreiner Park, G St., Lehmann & Monroe Park, Louise Hays Park, and the Riverside Nature Center.

For additional information contact Ashlea Boyle, Special Projects Manager at (830) 258-1153 via e-mail to ashlea.boyle@kerrvilletx.gov or visit the city's website at www.kerrvilletx.gov.



