

March 25, 2018 - FOR IMMEDIATE  
RELEASE

Contact: Jane Keeley, 608-632- 2720  
www.gaysmillsfolkfest.org

**The Gays Mills Folk Festival of Music and Dance  
May 11,12 & 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
Featured Performers: The Corn Potato String Band, The DL Cajun Band and  
Kendra Swanson**

GAYS MILLS, WI - Spring is here and the Gays Mills Folk Festival of Music and Dance is just around the corner. The festival happens every Mother's Day weekend and the upcoming 26<sup>th</sup> annual festival will take place May 11th, 12th, & 13<sup>th</sup> in beautiful Gays Mills, Wisconsin.

This year's festivities will start off with a Square Dance at the Gays Mills Old Town Community Building on Main Street, Friday Night, May 11th at 7:00pm. The Folk Fest String Band will be providing the tunes, and live callers will be leading the dances: Circles, Squares, Contras, Reels. All ages and all experience levels welcome.

Saturday's events will take place in the Park on Main Street and at the Old Town Community Building on Main Street downtown. Join us for Parking Lot Picking, Maycrown Making, Maypole Dancing, Square Dancing, Open Stage, and Music Workshops led by Saturday evening performers. Family-friendly food will be available for purchase during the afternoon at the park and at the annual Chili Dinner in the evening, sponsored by the Kickapoo Exchange Food Co-op. The Lion's Club Shelter will ensure the afternoon's fun, rain or shine. Help support our Folkfest by participating in our SILENT AUCTION.

Saturday's affair will continue with a 7:00 evening concert at the Old Town Community Building on Main Street in Gays Mills with performances by **The Corn Potato String Band, The DL Cajun Band, and Kendra Swanson.**

A Sunday Morning Gospel Sing, by the banks of the Kickapoo River, will wrap up the weekend's events.

**The Corn Potato String Band** have delighted audiences with their driving fiddle tunes and harmonious singing across the US, Canada, Europe, Mexico, and India. They are all seasoned multi-instrumentalists dedicated to continuing the music and dance traditions of the Central and Southern US. In addition to being champion fiddlers they play banjo, guitar, bass and mandolin and deftly handle many different antiquated styles including ballads, "ho-downs," country "rags" and southern gospel, specializing in twin fiddling and double banjo tunes.

<https://cornpotato.com/>

**The DL Cajun Band** plays Cajun music from the prairies and bayous of SW Louisiana: two steps, waltzes, blues with Cajun accordion, fiddle, guitar, triangle, snare, bass and French vocals. The group draws from the time when the Saturday night dance was the community's main form of entertainment and socialization. Before electricity and amplification, the acoustic instruments and voice were the only way of making music. This band seeks to recall that time and feeling in its music.

<http://www.dlcajunband.com/>

**Kendra Swanson** is a song-writer and performer of lively, folksome music: frailing, clawhammer banjo, rigorous guitar, soulful strings, and hearty vocals to boot. Her music distinctly embodies a truly Americana sound from (and about) the heartland, with intimate reflections on its flora, fauna, and people. She has independently produced and released three all-original albums, "Kendra & Kin, Live in Rockford" (2013) , "Go Down to the Low Down" (2015), and "Without, Within" (2017). A troubadour and professional naturalist, she blends stories and ecology into one-of-a-kind performances of laughter and truth.

Also, be sure to check out all the concurrent Gays Mills Spring Festival events, antique tractor pull, Sunday pancake breakfast, and much more ([www.gaysmillswi.com](http://www.gaysmillswi.com)).

**Ticket prices for the Gays Mills Folk Festival are \$7 for the Friday night dance (\$2 children), \$17 for the Saturday night concerts (\$5 children).**

**All park activities are free will donation.**

**More information may be obtained by calling 608-632- 2720**

**or visiting the festival website at**

[www.gaysmillfolkfest.org](http://www.gaysmillfolkfest.org)

The Gays Mills Folk Festival is a project of the Kickapoo Cultural Exchange.  
WDRT 91.9fm, WORT 89.9 fm and Organic Valley are proud supporters.

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