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# News Release

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## Annual Maize Days community festival set for Sept. 30

MURPHY (July 24, 2017) Murphy Maize Days has definitely found its new home, as the annual community festival will return to the spacious and welcoming Murphy Central Park for the second year.

“Central Park, on the northern edge of the Municipal Complex, is perfectly suited for the festival,” says Special Events Coordinator Kayla McFarland. “Not only is the area roomy and breezy, it also provides the perfect set of amenities for the festival.”

The ninth annual Maize Days is set for Saturday, Sept. 30 starting at 10 a.m. and ending with a spectacular fireworks display at 8:15 p.m. The free festival will take place at Murphy Central Park, 550 North Murphy Road. Limited parking is available on the grounds of the Municipal Complex, but festival organizers have arranged for free parking and all-day shuttles from Tom Kimbrough Stadium, 700 North Murphy Road.

Murphy Central Park’s collection of modern playground, splash pad, specially-designed amphitheater, dedicated food truck plaza, concession stand, large open spaces and easy access makes it perfectly suited for the annual fall celebration. The amphitheater stage will serve as the focal point for both professional entertainment and community performances.

In addition to vendors, exhibitors, food booths and food trucks, a four-hour classic car show is scheduled to start at 10 a.m. Attendees will be treated to two main performers this year as well as numerous local talent presentations. The local talent will perform in the morning and early afternoon.

Opening the professional portion of the afternoon’s entertainment will be Bri Bagwell ([www.bribagwell.com](http://www.bribagwell.com)), who will take the stage at 4 p.m. for a 90-minute set. Then, Cody Canada and the Departed ([www.thedepartedmusic.com](http://www.thedepartedmusic.com)) will close out the festival from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Cody Canada was the lead singer/songwriter of the Oklahoma based rock- country band Cross Canadian Ragweed from their inception in 1998 to their dissolution in 2010. In that time, they sold over a million albums. Cody Canada has returned to vintage Cross Canadian form, seizing the opportunity to take the lead of his four-piece band, The Departed, with a newly energized inspiration to get back to his roots. The time he spent pursuing new creative paths with the Departed allowed him time to develop a rejuvenated appreciation for Ragweed’s legendary body of work and the connections it makes with fans.

“Maize Days has retained its role as our community’s annual gathering spot,” said McFarland. “We think this year will be among the best yet.” More information can be obtained by visiting [www.murphymaizedays.com](http://www.murphymaizedays.com)

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ABOUT MURPHY -- Murphy is a fast-growing community located in Collin County. The population is approximately 19,330, generally characterized as highly educated with a median household income above the state average. With more than 70 percent of the land developed, the community is dominated by single-family residences. City planners strive to preserve a country feel while exhibiting an aggressive economic development stance. Money Magazine has dubbed Murphy as the 27<sup>th</sup> Best Place to Live in America for small cities, and D Magazine placed Murphy as the fifth best suburb in the 2014 list, where it has consistently ranked in the top 10.