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## Famed suffragist invoked for museum presentation

Known to have a voice that could reach 3,000 people, Susan B. Anthony is coming back to Leavenworth.

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By Tim Linn  
Oct. 24, 2012 9:51 a.m.



Zoom

Jeanne Gehret, dressed as Susan B. Anthony, examines artifacts during a visit Tuesday to the Leavenworth County Historical Museum's Carroll Mansion.

currently has an Anthony family exhibit, with historical artifacts on display. The museum is located at 1128 Fifth Ave. in Leavenworth and tickets cost \$25.

**Leavenworth** -- "Failure is Impossible" was delivered in 1880 against the backdrop of the first failed suffrage vote in the state. Anthony was 60 at the time, though Gehret said she would stay active until her death in 1906, with about 75 speaking engagements each year.

**Leavenworth** -- "She was out campaigning, even then, at age 86," she said.

**Leavenworth** -- The 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution that extended the right to vote to women was not fully ratified until 1920, but Kansas this year will celebrate 100 years of women's suffrage, having voted in 1912 along with Oregon and Arizona to extend the vote and become one of the first eight states to approve such measures.

**Leavenworth** -- Gehret said Anthony's affection for the Sunflower state extended beyond its 1912 vote, however. Her brother, Daniel Read Anthony, was the longtime publisher of the Leavenworth Times and he, along with other members of her family, lived here. Carol Crossed, president of the Susan B. Anthony BIRTHplace Museum in Adams, Mass., said Kansas was also at the bleeding edge of social movements at the time — in 1867 the state held the first referendum on a women's

**Leavenworth** -- Known to have a voice that could reach 3,000 people, Susan B. Anthony is coming back to Leavenworth.

**Leavenworth** -- The famed suffragist's voice itself might not be heard, but her famous words will return Friday as Jeanne Gehret presents a historical account in character of Anthony's last suffrage speech, called "Failure is Impossible," first delivered in the 1880s and later to become a sort of rallying cry for the women's suffrage movement. The presentation and reception is scheduled from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday at the Carroll Mansion, home of the Leavenworth County Historical Society that also

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suffrage amendment, an effort that failed due in some part to a split in the Republican Party over support for women's suffrage and voting rights for blacks. In 1887, Kansans did give women the right to vote in municipal elections and the city of Argonia would elect the nation's first female mayor ; in 1892, Kansas allowed females to homestead and by proxy rights to property; and in 1894 the state conducted the second of three elections for suffrage.

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**Tom Mach** · Top Commenter · Works at Author

I wrote a book this year about the suffragist movement called "Angels at Sunset," the details of which may be found on [www.TomMach.com](http://www.TomMach.com) I would sure like to be there to make my book available to anyone who wants to read it. Incidentally Angels at Sunset was recently nominated for the 2013 Nobel Prize in Literature.

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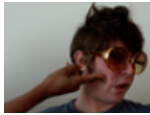
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