

# RURAL TEXAS TOURISM LLC

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### *Magical May Flourishes in Fabulous Historic Fayetteville*



Fundraisers, art, musical events, and more art are all part of an incredible spectrum of activities as the captivating, historic community of Fayetteville swirls into the sultry days of spring. This includes the traditional tribute to local firefighters via a fire department fundraiser enjoyed by flocks of visitors and locals alike.

Plan on a busy weekend....Festivities kick off on the Fayetteville Square with ArtWalk 2016 (a free event) on Saturday, May 7 from 10 am - 5 pm and Sunday, May 8 from 11 am - 4 pm. ArtWalk, a juried fine art show sponsored by ARTS, is yet another tradition woven into the history of this community and has successfully proven year after year that an incredible showing of fine art for all ages can indeed be showcased in a small hometown historic community. Artists showcased are local, regional, and national with over 60 participants, musicians, children's instructions, and activities included in the mix of the weekend lineup. Award money is distributed by the judges panel, and it's clearly a "win-win" for all (included the kiddos of the community that benefit from this event). The festival includes wine tasting, food booths, and other attractions that make this Hometown

Experience "picture" perfect. For additional information, go to [www.artsforruraltexas.org](http://www.artsforruraltexas.org) or call 979-378-2113.

Clearly a "not to miss" event right off the square at the Red & White Gallery (102 W. Main) Saturday, May 7 from 4-7 pm and running through June 11 (with artist talk that day at 3 pm) is the opening and book signing of a world-renowned artist--Sally Maxwell. Sally will be signing her new book "Scratching the Surface". Words cannot begin to explain the creativity which engulfs this incredible nature artist. Maxwell has helped define scratchboard as a fine art medium. She is indeed a "master" that captures the beauty and emotion of wildlife in a way that truly grabs the viewer's heart. Maxwell has discovered inspiration in animals and her garden since childhood and her spirit resonates in the deep colors and details as she explores the senses. She works from her countryside studio in La Grange and recently was selected by the International Society of Scratchboard Artists to be designated as one of seven in the world with the status Master Scratchboard Artist and is already a Signature member in the Society of Animal Artists, and a Silver Signature member of Artists Changing Tomorrow, plus an Active member of American Women Artists.

Sally has created over 20 scratchboard kits for Ampersand Art Materials and authored 3 books on scratchboard technique, including "How To Draw Pets" and "How to Draw Zoo Animals". In 2007, Sally was honored to have one of her pieces chosen as the label for Ampersand Art Materials's Scratchbord product. Scratchboard is a 100 year old medium that consists of a rigid surface covered by white Kaolin clay which is sanded smooth and then a layer of black India ink is applied using an airbrush. This surface is cut through using anything from a sharp pin to dental tools or doctors' scalpel, specific tools are made and sold for use on the board, plus artists are continually experimenting to find new things which remove the black ink surface. The Red & White Gallery may be reached at 713-818-9766 or [www.RedandWhiteGallery.com](http://www.RedandWhiteGallery.com).

As Saturday's part of ArtWalk concludes at 5:00 pm, the "torch" of activities is passed on to the 22nd Annual Volunteer Fire Department Fundraiser and Dance at the St. John Catholic Church Pavilion with kid's activities from 4:30 - 7:30 including a bounce house, barrel train and music for all as Central Texas Sounds Polka Band is showcased. Mass is at 5:00 pm (as well as a bake sale) and good ole' country BBQ beef, pork, and sausage will be served from 5 - 7:30 pm (catered by Fayetteville KC's). Plates are to go or eat in with free will donations. A silent auction commences from 5 - 8:30 pm and the live auction gears up at 6:30 pm. Bring the dancing shoes (or boots) as after the auction, there is a dance under the pavilion to the sounds of the Anthony Moreno Band. This is a tradition, an annual event in thanks of those great volunteers in the area and as always, funds go towards a true necessity--a grass truck. Donations are welcomed.

Chamber Music is showcased in May and an enormous "score" for these "not to miss" performances. The annual Fayetteville Chamber Music Festival is scheduled for Friday May 13 at 8 pm, Saturday May 14 at 3 pm and 8 pm, Friday May 20 at 8 pm, and Saturday May 21 at 3 pm and 8 pm--all at the Country Place Hotel on the square. Expect a warm, intimate sound by violin, clarinet, cello, and piano with classics by Brahms, Mozart, Beethoven, and other favorites--beautiful compositions performed by world-renowned artists. For more information, go to [www.fayettevillemusic.org](http://www.fayettevillemusic.org) or call 979-966-8251.

Bluegrass and jammin' music will be showcased on the historic square on Friday, May 13 and Saturday, May 14 (always the second Saturday April thru November). Live all-acoustic music with Texas Pickin' Park (another wonderful free event) returns for all ages to enjoy. Enjoy jammin' with others while making new friends or fly "solo". Free workshops are usually conducted around 11:00 am (on Saturday) and the visitor or "newbie" is encouraged to dress comfortably, bring a chair, and enjoy the warm spring breezes under the trees with new friends. Contact Tom Duplissey for information at [www.texaspickinpark.com](http://www.texaspickinpark.com) or call 512-415-3177.

“This great community of Fayetteville (thanks to many volunteers) continues to showcase our history, heritage, and cultures through arts, music, and festivals for all ages,” states Mayor Ronnie Pflughaupt. “Our restaurants, lodging, shopping, and businesses extend their hometown hospitality to welcome all visitors and locals that come to share these experiences”. Fayetteville is located on Highway 159 a short distance from La Grange and zip code 78940 for GPS.

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*Cathy Chaloupka*

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