

RURAL TEXAS TOURISM LLC

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Fayetteville Shines with History, Antiques, Music, and Art as Celebrations of Summer Slowly Sizzle Away



As summer winds to a close, old and new traditions (and sometimes a pinch of renovations) are reflected with events and venues in this historical National Registry community of Fayetteville.

History and the traditions of the German and Czech heritages never take a back seat to this fun-loving community and Sunday, September 4 is no exception as St. John the Baptist Catholic Church of Fayetteville (located at 209 East Bell Street) hosts a very special annual feast in the mix of those colorful cultures. Stemming from the mid-1800's, the visitor will have a chance to catch a glimpse of the "way it was" as this parish kicks off their annual celebration at 10 am Mass with Polka music.

While inside the church, view the incredible paintings by Ignaz Johann Berger, a famous Moravian painter born July 8, 1822 and died June 29, 1901. A "not to miss parish feast" will be served up featuring *home pit* barbeque beef, pork, and sausage at the Recreation Center from 11 am until 1:30 pm with plates to go and drive thru line served from 10:30 am until 1:00 pm. Barbecue beef and sausage sandwiches will be served beginning at 2:30 pm. And, the locals and parish will carry on that "hometown" tradition of celebrating with

games for children (including train rides and a water slide), country store, auction (under the pavilion beginning at 1:30 pm and to include antiques), grocery wheel, plant wheel, cake walk. Add a tad of munching on Kolaches (if you don't know what one is, now's the time to find out!), pastries and ice-cold refreshments to this recipe of fun. Bingo will be held at the air-conditioned hall beginning at 2:00 pm. And just for the "inquiring mind", Bingo was altered by the Germans in the 1800's using a version to create a child's game thus helping students learn their math, spelling, and history.

If you're having a celebration in Fayetteville, music is a must and St. John's parish (off the square by just a few blocks) is clearly preparing the way for a toe-tapping time as Larry Sodek and the local Parish Musicians kick off under the pavilion at 11:00 am and a free dance after the auction until 10:00 pm with music by the Lost Cause Band will be showcased. During lunch, inside the air-conditioned hall, expect to hear music by the Lost Cause Band DJ Services (from 11 am until 1:30 pm). Now is a great time as well to introduce the family to "polka" music, a very upbeat style of dancing and singing. All ages are welcome. Go to www.stjohnfayetteville.com for questions or call 979-378-2277.

Taking care of those precious old buildings is a must for everyone and Arts for Rural Texas on the Square at 114 North Live Oak is no exception. Bringing the circa 1920's building up to code (thanks to major benefactors Sanford & Mannie Schmid and Bluebonnet Electric) while ensuring the beauty, safety, and energy efficiency are connected brings a post renovation re-opening of ARTS on Saturday, September 17 at 6 pm. Dedicated to fulfilling a need in the educational experience of local youth, ARTS sends out its' thanks to the many volunteers and benefactors that enabled the offices and main gallery to experience those needed renovations. The temporary office is located at the Mannie Schmid Educational Building around the corner from the square in Fayetteville at 105 E Main Street. For more information on events and programs go to www.artsforruraltexas.org or call 979-378-2113.

Fayetteville Picking Park (don't forget the new name change still reflects that traditional acoustic venue) bluegrass jam is scheduled to reconvene Saturday, September 10 with Chris Hirsch conducting a banjo workshop at 3 pm. And expect the same familiar faces from the past with loads of "newbies" or newcomers! Jams including musicians and singers will be held the second Saturday of each month, January through November on the square in the future. Musicians begin arriving Friday and most of the music is showcased late Saturday afternoons, going on into the night. Everyone is welcome to bring a lawn chair, sit back, and enjoy great tunes. Questions may be directed to Debbie Stepan at 512-914-6640.

Art is always celebrated with a passion in Fayetteville and running through August 27 are Fayetteville Posters by Jerry Herring at the Red & White Gallery on 102 West Main. Additionally, the Summer Group Show features works showcased by: Sally Maxwell, Mark

Kohler, Laura Wilson, Ed Larson, David Michael Kennedy, and Mary Quiros. Saturday, September 10 celebrates "Three at the Table", an art opening spotlighting Pat Johnson, Kathleen McShane, and Amy Newland. Gallery hours are Friday 4-8 pm, Saturdays 10 am - 8 pm, and by appointment at www.redandwhitegallery.com.

Fall Antiques on the Square (yes it's that time again!!!) runs 9 am Saturday, September 17 to 9 pm and closes Monday, September 26. Packing up sale is conducted Tuesday, September 27 starting at 9 am. The fun of shopping a wide selection of quality merchandise in a relaxed atmosphere allows the visitor to pace themselves. The popular on-site auction kicks off at 6 pm on Monday at the Historic Fayetteville Square and the Old Firehouse with Teel Auction Services conducting. Hours are generally from 9 am - 9 pm and expect vendors from Louisiana, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas, and Tennessee. Shopping ranges from fine art to primitives, silver, outdoor garden, furniture, quilts, tools, and more. Call 318-465-1603 for more information.

"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. "Country at its finest".

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Cathy Chaloupka--

Rural Texas Tourism, LLC