

# RURAL TEXAS TOURISM LLC

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*History and Fun Mingles with Tradition and Heritage as Fayetteville's 38th Annual Lickskillet Days Celebrates German/Czech Heritage on the National Acclaimed Historic Square Saturday, October 18 and Sunday, October 19*



Lickskillet days have returned to Fayetteville and the checklist is enormous with every moment of this family fun package a true tribute to the heritage of this incredible fun-loving historic community. Think running, music, cook-offs, children's activities, loads of country-styled cookin', incredible music (local to international), pageant, arts, crafts, contests (including Skillet Recipe Contest), tours, games, train rides (for starters), pumpkin patch, and you have a mix medley of tradition that can't be surpassed. Special courthouse, jail, and heritage museum tours will be conducted in celebration of the array of culture and heritage to the area. The Texan Cheerleaders are even returning!

Fun kicks off for all Saturday, October 18 with the annual 5K Lickskillet Painted Fun Run/Walk at 8:30 am. This event starts and ends at the Fayetteville School, on 618 North Rusk. Every participant will receive a prize after completing the run. What better way to wake up and get "alive" to the activities of the day. For information, e-mail [runfayetteville@gmail.com](mailto:runfayetteville@gmail.com).

The ever popular Skillet Recipe Contest commences in the Old Fire Station on the square from 10 am until noon and guarantees good ole fashioned competition. It wouldn't be a celebration without a fierce Bean/BBQ cook-off and each year is a little bit better than the last. The SPJST's Bean & BBQ Cook-off will be held Saturday, October 18 at the SPJST Hall just down the road from the square. Live music by the "Sidewinders" will be furnished as the competitors battle it out. Contact Melinda Zajicek at 979-820-8793 for information. Also, the Texan Cheerleaders will be on the Square to meet and greet Saturday from 2-4 pm. (Look for the Country Butler tent and get ready to take your picture!)

Put away the jogging shoes from Saturday morning and get the dancing boots back on the rest of the weekend. Internationally-known Druha Trava (acoustic folk rock from the Czech Republic) will be performing on the main stage under the big tent at Historic Fayetteville Saturday October 18 from 8:30 - 11:45 pm. There will be a free preview of Druha Trava 8 pm - 10 pm at the Red and White Gallery on Friday, October 17.

This National Registry Historic District community will be embracing additional entertainment throughout the weekend including: Robert Herridge and Jason Keepers and their VolksMusik Bund will be playing music of Austria/Bavaria and Switzerland from 1 - 4 pm, Lickskillet queen and Court Pageant from 4 - 4:30 pm, Mike Stroup and the Wild River Band from 4:30 - 7:30 pm, Christiana Gentry (the 2014-15 Miss Czech Slovak and Miss Czech Slovak US 1st Runner Up and Grand Talent award) will make an appearance on the main stage under the big tent from 7:30 - 8:30 pm. She will sing "Hallelujah Song" and meet and greet.

Throughout the day's activities (Saturday and Sunday), ice cold refreshments and food will be sold. Arts and crafts vendors will be available (call 979-378-4021 for vendor space) and local businesses will be open to accommodate those "special shopping" needs. Children's activities, contests, and a special children's art area will be available for those "wannabe" artists (sponsored by Arts for Rural Texas).

**AND just for the fun of it, a 1 meal skillet contest will be held. History is clearly not on the back-burner as the historic tours of the courthouse, jail, and heritage museum will be available both days.**

**Traditionally, there has been a bake sale at the Old Firehouse and this year is no exception. On Sunday, October 19, expect to get the finest in kolaches, rolls, pies, pastries, and coffee and enjoy the annual cake walk from 8 am until 2 pm. The not-to-miss Lickskillet Parade (begins and ends at the Fayetteville School) will start up at 10:30 am with check in from 8-9:30 am and judging at 9:30 am. The annual Lickskillet Days Parade has become a central part of the festivities with a tribute to the cultures of the area. Parade and/or Family Fun Run/Walk forms may be obtained by going to [www.fayettevilletxchamber.org](http://www.fayettevilletxchamber.org). All ages are encouraged to attend and enjoy the fun. This year's Grand Marshalls will be Helen Mikus and Lillie Mae Brightwell, both icons of the community. VIPS will be members of the cast and crew of Dawn of the Crescent Moon (movie that was shot on location in Fayetteville).**

**Get those taste buds curling as a BBQ Beef & Sausage dinner with sides and tea will be served up for Sunday lunch from 11 am - 1 pm at the Old Firehouse. Kolaches, rolls, pies, and pastries will also be available. Sunday's entertainment includes the annual parade at 11 am, Fayette Czech Singers and Dancers from noon until 1 pm, and Jimmy Rohde, DJ wrapping up the historic gala from 11:30 - 4 pm. He will be playing all the favorites that made Gil Baca of Fayetteville so famous. Raffle drawing and silent auction winners will be announced from 2-3 pm.**

**This is a free event with free parking, no admittance fee, and drinks and food will be available as well as overnight lodging for visitors wishing to stay over. Additional information may be found at [www.fayettevilletxchamber.org](http://www.fayettevilletxchamber.org) or by calling 979-378-4021. Fayetteville is located on Highway 159 a short distance from La Grange and zip code 78940 for GPS users—“Great weekend getaway with dining, shopping, and lodging available for all.”**

*Cathy Chaloupka*

*Rural Texas Tourism, LLC*