

RURAL TEXAS TOURISM LLC

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*Sharing the History and Making Memories an Enormous  
Part of the Fayette County Fair Culture Staged in La Grange  
Thursday, September 1-Sunday, September 4*



Mixing traditions/history with venues, music, events, and hometown entertainment is the crux of a successful program that connects visitors to the Fayette County Fair in La Grange decade after decade..they just keep coming back creating more memories--a very big part of this exceptional experience. Always held on Labor Day weekend, the Fayette County Fair (held Thursday, September 1 through Sunday September 4) dazzles the young and charms the old into a peaceful, loving era of the good ole' fashioned fair.

Of course showcased names like Charley Pride, Gary Allan, Randy Rogers Band, Wade Bowen, Six Appeal, The Triumphs with special Guest BJ Thomas and Roy Head draw many visitors but that local talent captures the hearts of all pretty quickly as well. Such is the case of Josh Tiemann and local gospel favorite D'Vine Testament. Tiemann grew up with open spaces, pick-ups, and pastures as country classics molded his sound while shaping his character and strength hauling hay and working cows. Raised on a cattle ranch in La Grange, Josh's childhood was a country boy's dream with his roots small town strong and Texas deep. In 2014 his band opened for Roger Creager and during that time Josh competed in the discus for the nationally ranked Aggie Track and Field Team, earning him a two-time All Big 12 athlete and competition at the NCAA National Championship in his senior year. He is based out of La Grange and is a career firefighter and full-time family man...perfect country with that no-to-miss music! Josh is scheduled to entertain on Sunday, September 4.

Another local group not to miss is gospel singing D'Vine Testament. This group includes Bruce Lebeda, Chris Janca, Dennis Stryk, David Machac, and Byron Wren, all hailing within and surrounding the Fayette County area. Singing and bringing the word of God through their music is a dream come true for these incredible gentlemen as music has always been a part of their upbringing. Bruce, Dennis, and David reign from Schulenburg, Chris from La Grange, and Byron from Lexington and are yet another "do not miss" act. Their performance will be held 11:00 a.m. Sunday, September 4 in conjunction with service.

The carnival isn't the only place for the kiddos (no matter what age). The Exotic Resort Zoo of Johnson City will grace the Fair for all four days. With over 20 years in business with over 700 animals and 80 different species, these critters promise to put a smile on faces young and old alike. And, if you love variety, then welcome back some real fun entertainment. Bruce Manners returns with his comedy and juggling--a fun "showstopper" that is an entertaining blend of stand-up comedy, audience participation, and stunts. He's currently based in Houston and thrills audiences every chance he gets.

Clean, safe, and family/friend fun atmosphere are just some of the traits of Talley Amusements, who are returning to the Fayette County Fair Thursday through Sunday. Thursday, Friday, and Sunday hours run from 6 pm to midnight and Saturday 6 pm to 1 am with pricing on all you can ride wristbands on Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday at \$35.00. No wristbands are available on Friday--only tickets. And if you prefer all four nights unlimited, get the PASSPORT-TO-FUN for \$75.00 (fair admission is included in this price). Only a limited number of these tickets are available from the Fair Queen Contestants, Gardenia Janssen Animal Shelter, World Travel, and Electric Motor Service.

The variety of venues showcased at the Fayette County Fair is endless..this is the place to be if you, your friends, and family like different kinds of entertainment, parades, children's activities bar-b-que cookoff, carnival, horseshoe and washer pitching contest, livestock shows, culinary events, creative competitive venues, awesome music---all for the price of one ticket--a real win-win.

History of this incredible venue traces back to before World War I and was considered a flower and Industrial fair sponsored by the La Grange Casino Gesellschaft. Gesellschaft is a German word illustrating community and society (emphasizing also that this was considered a "county-wide" venue. By 1924, there was a La Grange Fair Association with a purpose to encourage agriculture/horticulture and maintain public fairs with the exhibition of stock and farm products. The first association actually sold stock and had 40 members. Relocation to the meadowlands of Fayette north of La Grange occurred with the purchase of 81 acres from Alex Von Rosenberg and the rest was history. The fair today takes many dedicated volunteers as well as sponsors. This is a year-round endeavor that draws many scholarships for the local kiddos, a clear win-win. Many food vendors return their monies back into local scholarship funds as well.

Food and drink can clearly be found throughout the area and includes chicken fried steak burgers, fries, gorditas, enchiladas, fajitas, tacos, hot dogs, pizza, hamburgers, cheeseburgers, funnel cakes, ice cream, pork rinds, kettle korn, sausage on a stick, baked potatoes, gumbo, shaved ice, roasted corn, bar-b-que, sliders, ribs, brisket, nuts..in other words, loads of food..and, there's no reason to have to leave the grounds to find food!!

Fayette County Fair tickets are available from any of the queen contestants with pre-sale season tickets a nominal \$40.00 (good for ALL concerts), daily passes for Thursday, September 1 is \$15.00, for Friday, September 2 is \$15.00, Saturday, September 3 is \$30.00, and Sunday, September 5 is \$40.00. Children 11 and under are free. These passes are general admission to the grounds and all activities offered within, carnival tickets and wristbands are sold separately.

To contact a contestant to purchases tickets or to obtain more information/registration forms on the Fayette County Fair in La Grange from Thursday, September 3 through Sunday September 6, go to [www.fayettecountyfair.org](http://www.fayettecountyfair.org) or call 979-968-3911. La Grange is 65 miles east of Austin, 80 miles north of Victoria, 125 miles south of Waco, and 90 miles west of Houston with zip code of 78945 for GPS users.

*Cathy Chaloupka*  
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