

Legacy and History Collide as ZZ Top Graces the Stage in La Grange at the Fayette County Fair Saturday, September 5





It was a matter of timing and scheduling and it's finally happening--the iconic group----**ZZ Top**--will make their appearance in the one and only **LA GRANGE** at The 88th
Fayette County Fair in La Grange (held Thursday, September 3 through Sunday
September 6). The Fair Board of Directors and its volunteers would be patting themselves
on the back; however, time is at an essence because loads of preparations need to be
intact before they even grace the stage on Saturday, September 5 (under three months
from now). And a reminder--this concert is part of the ticket price of the Fair itself.

"That Little Ol' Band From Texas" is indeed the longest running major rock band with original personnel intact and folks, that's right at 45 years of rock, blues, and boogie on the road and in the studio. This legacy formed with its' early days in Houston and were catapulted into world-wide fame with their *Tres Hombres* album in 1973 which included "La Grange". This song remains one of the band's signature pieces today. For decades, it didn't seem to matter what part of the world you were in; when queried on your residency, if the response was "La Grange, Texas", heads popped up with an immediate reply of "**ZZ Top**".

This captivating group has managed to rouse millions of smiles with their albums ZZ Top's First Album, Rio Grande Mud, Fandango!, Deguello, El Loco, Eliminator, Afterburner and with their success built during their first decade, they topped it off with the legendary "World Wide Texas Tour", a production that included a longhorn steer, buffalo, buzzards, rattlesnakes, and a Texas-shaped stage. They have entertained millions of fans in throughout North America, and overseas from Slovenia to Argentina, from Australia to Sweden, from Russia to Japan and a whole lot in between. The iconography of beards, cars, girls, and that magic keychain transcend all bounds of geography and language.

ZZ Top (Billy, Dusty, and Frank) found a visual outlet with MTV highlighting their smash singles of "Gimme All Your Lovin', "Sharp Dressed Man", and "Legs" and MOVED with the times while bucking trends that crossed their paths. They are indeed a **certified rock institution.** Billy is clearly one of America's finest blues guitarists in the rock industry. Dusty is a bass virtuoso in his own right but so much more--simply awe-inspiring, while Frank keeps the beat of this great tradition as a roots and progressive drummer.

What the Fayette County Fair Board of Directors and volunteers are undertaking is phenomenal in itself. An enormous portable separate stage will be brought in via 18-wheeler to accommodate the needs of **ZZ Top** and their entourage. Additional seating, toilets, food, parking, shuttle buses, and fencing are all part of the planning process for this concert. Thank them when you see a member of the Fair Board and offer to be a volunteer!

The Annual Fayette County Fair is indeed a menu of tradition, fun, and entertainment while showcasing an incredible preserved heritage that has encompassed this community. Volunteers to the Fayette County Fair work hard throughout the year fine tuning a multitude of projects ensuring that the locals and visitors alike will have a truly memorable time with family and friends (old and new alike). Expect the best when coming to the Fayette County Fair in La Grange (always Labor Day weekend) and you will never be disappointed with the entertainment, parade, children's activities bar-b-que cookoff, carnival, horseshoe and washer pitching contest, loads of food, livestock, culinary, creative competitive venues—an incredible array of events wrapped in the cultures of the community that promises to keep all ages busy. The spirit of tradition, and competition continues to be the driving force behind the Fayette County Fair, all thanks to an incredible Board of Directors and volunteer base.

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 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 Rural Texas Tourism, LLC