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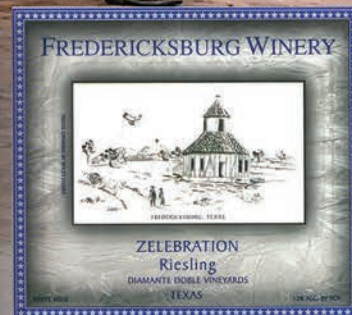
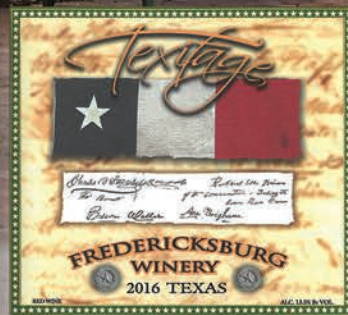
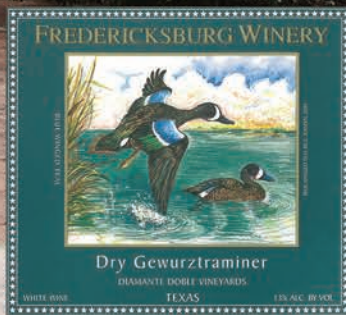


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Craft Beer Festival attendees singing along to the live music played in the Marktplatz, celebrating our town's "wet" history.

A DESTINATION FOR THE SEASON

Families and crowds routinely come into town to get the feel of Fredericksburg in spring. It's a season of nature, nectar and romance.

A lot of the appeal of our small Burg has to do with its plentiful bluebonnets, peaches, wine and beer. Many people make our town their home away from home with extended stays in one of our 1,000-plus B&Bs or guest houses.

Fredericksburg draws more than 1.5 million visitors each year. Some come because we're an agricultural and viticultural destination, while others come for our beautiful outdoor attractions and numerous celebrations hosted in our city and county.

As an agricultural and viticultural destination, Fredericksburg businesses have flourished. That includes, of course, the grapes one might enjoy while visiting a vineyard or winery. But the hordes of visitors began with the roadside peach stands that can still be found today, with thousands seeking those sweet and juicy treasures that come from our peach farmers.

Hunters also have come to the Hill Country for decades to harvest deer in what is a multi-generational tradition for many Texas families.

B&Bs began in the late 1970s. Shopping, the beautiful outdoors, music and festivals reflecting local

culture drove even more people to Fredericksburg as the years progressed.

We want this magazine, which began publishing in 1978, to reflect most all of what makes Fredericksburg special. We're pleased that our efforts have been recognized by the Texas Press Association on multiple occasions. Our company's sister magazine, *Rock & Vine*, explores more of what the Hill Country region has to offer.

A SIP OF LOCAL HISTORY

Fredericksburg has been a "wet" city, not for the rain that falls, but of the German spirit where suds and good times went together naturally.

Our wine industry is booming now. But before Prohibition hit Texas in 1918, Fredericksburg had three breweries.

Captain Charles Nimitz, the grandfather of our World War II hero, Admiral Chester Nimitz, ran the Nimitz Hotel. It had a copper-tank brewery in the basement, but supply shortages during the Civil War forced him to close it in 1861.

Frederick Probst paired up with Dr. Adolph Assig to brew at a property at 310 West Austin Street which had a brewery with three cellars where they made a popular *weissbier*. Assig later moved to Blanco, but Probst continued to serve local patrons.

John Knopp opened a saloon at the corner of Main and Milam streets and began to import cheaper beer from San Antonio (5 cents a glass, versus 10 for the Probst brew). Frugal Germans made their choice and Probst closed his brewery in 1895.

Henry Warner and John Mauer owned a brewery in Marlin, but located here in 1875. They operated a lager beer brewery in the 400 block of East Creek Street for nine years. It's believed Warner died in 1877 and Mauer likely headed west to El Paso.

Today, Fredericksburg boasts operations ranging from the castle-like Altstadt Brewery, which is an amazing place to visit, to Main Street's Fredericksburg Brewing Company, which has tasty brews and was one of the fathers of the current craft beer boom.

Don't forget about the June 8 Fredericksburg Craft Beer Festival, the third annual event that helps out local charities. Plan a return trip and join us in a toast.

For those of us who enjoy the suds, we're glad this is a "wet" town. *Prost!*

Ken Esten Cooke
Publisher



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Go Fredericksburg

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SPRING AND SUMMER WEATHER FORECAST

Spring and summer are typically defined by gradually warming weather conditions during March, April, and May.

June, July, and August are characterized by the hottest temperatures of the year and erratic rainfall patterns that are usually dictated by afternoon heating storms and potential tropical systems.

MARCH WEATHER

March is typically drier than the rest of the months.

The 30-year rainfall average for the month of March is 2.50" and can vary from a trace up to 10 inches of rain in extreme cases.

Rainfall in March typically comes from cold fronts moving through in squall lines and periodic fog and drizzle situations.

There are usually one or two bouts of severe weather that can produce some hail and strong winds.

Speaking of winds, it is usually one of the windiest months of the year and it is breezy fairly often during March.

Average temperatures are in the 30s at the beginning of the month, warming to the 40s by the end of the month.

Highs generally warm into the 70s and 80s with sharp cold fronts still possible at times.

A few mornings are susceptible to frost during the month.

In rare cases, it can still snow in March, but that's not common.

APRIL WEATHER

April is one of the more volatile weather months of the year.

Severe weather is common across Texas during the month of April as humidity values increase from the Gulf of Mexico.

Storms can produce heavy rainfall, hail, and isolated tornadoes in isolated cases.

30-year rainfall averages for April are 2.55".

In between storms, it is usually warm with highs in the 70s and 80s, with lows in the 40s early in the month followed by 50s at the end of the month.

Extremes can include lows near or below freezing some years, and highs near 100 in rare cases.

MAY WEATHER

May is one of the two wettest months of the year on average.

May averages 4.26" of rain over the past 30 years.

Lack of rainfall in May can lead to very hot soil temperatures and hotter daytime highs in the summer.

Severe thunderstorms peak in May with cold fronts being the main culprit, along with the West Texas dry line.

Large hail can fall with some of the May storms.

Although storms are possible, the weather in May is usually more humid, and highs warm into the 80s and 90s late in the month.

JUNE WEATHER

June is when things start cooking.

Rain chances continue sporadically before summer patterns settle in.

Highs warm into the 90s often and we can see 100s at times, especially late in the month.

June average rainfall totals are 2.98".

Summer storms can produce lightning and strong wind gusts.

JULY WEATHER

July is simply very hot for the most part.

Lows hold in the 60s and 70s with highs in the 90s and possibly 100s on occasion.

Storms usually pop up in nature with the 30-year average at 1.88".

AUGUST WEATHER

The first part of August is usually the hottest time of the year.

Highs warm into the 90s daily with a few 100s possible.

Lows hold in the 70s and maybe a few 60s.

Stray storms can produce lightning and strong wind gusts.

The 30-year rainfall average for August is 2.42".

Markhas Rose of the Harper Longhorns football team enjoys a reward of slip and slide at Harper High School after a hot week of summer football workouts for the Harper Longhorns last August.





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GETTING BACK TO THE BASICS

LUCKENBACH, TEXAS AND ITS LAID BACK ATTITUDE

Above, local songwriter and performer Jake Martin was among the lineup of Texas artists featured at the second annual “Back to the Basics” event. – Photo by Russell Viers

To the left, Luckenbach celebrated the 50th anniversary of Jerry Jeff Walker’s live album, “Viva Terlingua,” last year with a lineup of guest musicians, including Todd Snider.

The phrase “Everybody’s Somebody in Luckenbach” defines the culture of the popular destination popularized in the 1977 song by Willie Nelson and Waylon Jennings.

With its store, dance hall and picnic tables underneath arching live oak trees, Luckenbach is a popular destination for music fans, bikers and those interested in the fame of the tiny town.

Open daily at 9 a.m., the family-friendly store offers visitors an old-fashioned experience and merchandise ranging from the nostalgic to items bearing the town’s famed oval-shaped logo.

The town also hosts regional and national acts. During quieter times, guests can sit and listen, or join in, to a picker’s circle where musicians mingle and swap tunes.

With nearly daily performances on

the outside stage or in the dancehall, visitors can sit back and enjoy a beverage of choice while enjoying the musicians who provide tunes with a Texas flair.

HISTORY

Luckenbach began in 1852 when Jacob Luckenbach and his brothers, William and August, moved to the area from Fredericksburg and began farming.

William Luckenbach opened a post office under the name of South Grape Creek in 1854 and it operated for 11 years.

In 1886, August Engel Jr. reopened a post office for the community along with a general store in the Engel homestead. It was named Luckenbach by Minna Engel, who had just married Carl Albert Luckenbach.

Engel and his descendants later moved the post office and general store down the street and added a

blacksmith shop, dance hall and cotton gin.

In the 1970s, the Engel family sold the town to Hondo Crouch, Kathy Morgan and Guich Koock.

During the years that followed, Luckenbach gained national attention as a “metropolis of mirth,” thanks in a large part to Crouch’s far-reaching humor and charismatic personality.

Jerry Jeff Walker, a friend of Crouch, further enhanced the town’s reputation by recording his live album there, “Viva Terlingua.”

From 1995 through 1999, Willie Nelson held his storied Fourth of July Picnic at Luckenbach.

Today, one can find local and traveling musicians on stage or at a Picker’s Circle, a weekend dance in the hall or one of the many special events the town has scheduled.

Check luckenbachtexas.com for current performer and event info.

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The National Museum of the Pacific War's Pacific Combat Zone features living history reenactments for visitors to watch from an up-close perspective.



MUSEUM HONORS SACRIFICE, SERVICE OF WWII PACIFIC VETS

The National Museum of the Pacific War tells the story of how World War II was won in the Pacific. It interweaves histories of America, China, Japan and Korea.

The museum, formerly known as the Nimitz Museum, for Fredericksburg's own, Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, is located at 340 East Main Street.

Exhibitions honor the more than 100,000 Americans who gave their lives in the war by "truthfully and

respectfully telling the story of their struggles, their sacrifices and their triumphs."

The eight million Americans who served in World War II are honored, as well. It preserves the memories of all who served and never returned home.

The museum's 33,000-square-foot exhibit area features 40 media installations, approximately 900 artifacts in 97 climate-controlled cases, 15 macro-artifacts and hundreds of

photographs.

An eight-foot bronze statue in Nimitz Platz memorializes Nimitz and greets visitors at the front of the building. The Admiral Nimitz Museum houses the Cailloux Education Center, Admiral Nimitz Grand Ballroom and Mezzanine.

The six-acre museum includes the Admiral Nimitz Museum, George H.W. Bush Gallery, Japanese Garden of Peace, Memorial Courtyard, Plaza

of Presidents, Nimitz Education and Research Center and the Pacific Combat Zone.

Exhibits in the George H.W. Bush Gallery convey the shock and destruction of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. An HA-19, one of the five Japanese two-man submarines that took part in the attack, is in the gallery.

The museum teaches the history and lessons learned from the Asiatic-Pacific Theater of Operations during World War II and offers educational platforms that consider current and potential national security issues.

The Memorial Courtyard remembers the soldiers, ships and units in the Pacific Theater.

The archives of the National Museum of the Pacific War hold thousands of manuscripts, official documents, photographs and recorded interviews with Pacific War veterans. The Nimitz Education and Research Center, where the archives are, is open to the public by appointment.

EXHIBITIONS

The PT 309 boat exhibit allows guests onto the deck of a boat tender equipped for a mission.

This exhibit includes video displays and oral histories of PT 309 “Oh Frankie,” the boat on display, and others.

The TBM Avenger exhibit takes museum-goers below deck of an aircraft carrier ready for a mission.

Visitors can test their skills on tabletop games stationed in front of the plane.

They can launch torpedoes at enemy ships, defend a ship from enemy attack by manning an anti-aircraft gun, and land the pilot safely on the deck by waiving him in on his approach.

This exhibit also includes video displays, information panels about flight missions and artifacts.

PACIFIC COMBAT ZONE

Two blocks east of the main museum, at the Pacific Combat Zone, living history reenactments put viewers on the front line. The WWII Pacific Combat Program features 60-minute shows that immerse visitors in battle. They show equipment, weapons and tactics of the U.S. Army and Marines and the Imperial Japanese Army.

The Pacific Combat Zone, one of the museum’s most popular venues, is a unique two-acre indoor and outdoor exhibit.

The live reenactments are staged eight times a year on the weekends and feature history and details on weapons used during the war, as well as a display of the weapons being used.

Guests can spend as long as they

would like exploring exhibits in Phase 1.

In March 2017, the museum finished its \$8 million renovation to the complex.

Admission for the show is \$10 for adults; \$5 for students and children; and free for children five and under and WWII veterans. Ear plugs are provided.

Advance tickets are available at the George H.W. Bush Gallery or the Admiral Nimitz Museum. Walk-up tickets are sometimes available at the combat zone prior to the program.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The National Museum of the Pacific War is open Wednesday through Monday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., except for Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve and Christmas.

Admission is free for WWII veterans. Tickets for senior citizens 65 and older are \$14; adults are \$18; military members (active or retired) with an I.D. are \$12; children six and over and students who have ID, are \$8; children five and under are admitted free of charge.

For more information, call 997-8600 or visit the museum online at pacificwarmuseum.org.



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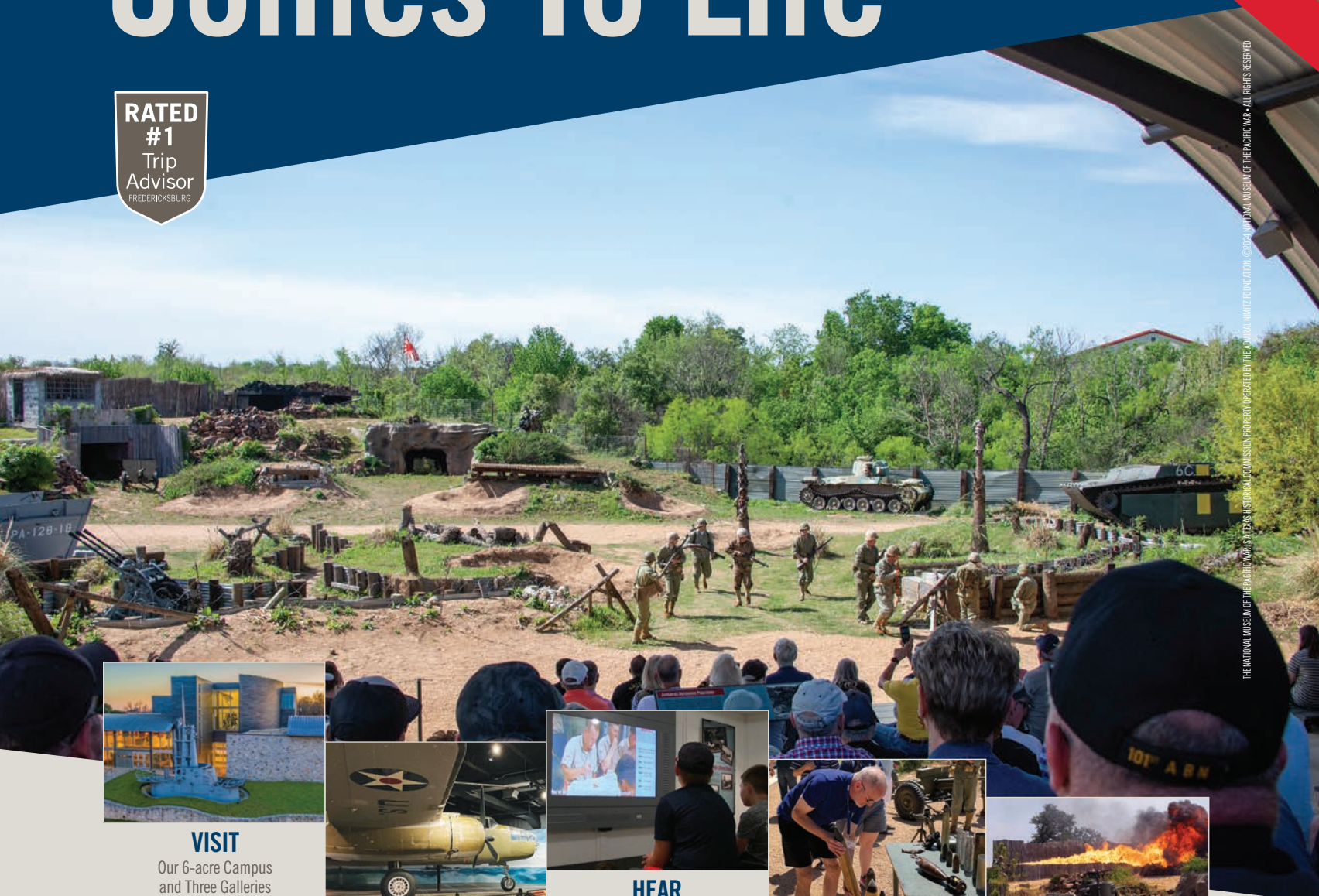
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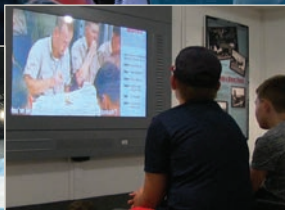
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Gillespie County Airport serves as a gateway to the Texas Hill Country for jet setters, aviation hobbyists and visitors, alike.

Corporate jets, single engine aircraft and pilots of a variety of other types of aircraft are all accommodated at the facility, located at 191 Airport Road, just south of downtown Fredericksburg on Texas Highway 16. (The facility sits between the Gillespie County Fair Grounds and Lady Bird Johnson Municipal Park.)

Classed as a general aviation airport, it features a 5,000-foot-runway and full-length parallel taxiway and has runway lights and a beacon that operate from sunset to sunrise, giving the airport a 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week, operational capability. During daylight hours of limited visibility, the lights can be turned on by the approaching pilot.

Instrument approaches are available at both ends of the runway, and precision approach path indicators provide pilots with visual assistance during night landing operations.

A fully automated weather system (AWOS) informs pilots about local conditions.

Operated under Gillespie County government, the facility has seen constant upgrades and expansions as it services more and more pilots.

The airport's terminal building provides a comfortable environment for pilots, crew members and passengers waiting on aircraft.

An additional convenience is available with the credit card-operated refueling system that provides aviation gasoline (100LL) and jet fuel 24 hours a day.

Airport manager Tony Lombardi can provide information on all airport operations. The airport has 80 tie-down positions for public use. Long-term T-hangar spaces are available through three different entities.

A unique characteristic of this non-metropolitan airport is the adjacent Hangar Hotel and Conference Center which boasts 50 upscale guest rooms, an officer's club, meeting facilities for large groups and a classic 1940s-style diner.

Businesses at the airport include the Phippen-York Flying Machine Company, which provides avionics installation and repair, and Tac-Aero, which provides major and minor airframe

and engine repair.

The Gillespie County Airport also features the Fredericksburg FBO, a full-service fixed-based operator that provides fuel service, information and service to pilots and crews. It also has three 12,000-square-foot and two 10,000-square-foot corporate aircraft storage hangars. FBO is planning to add additional storage space within the next months.

Ground transportation options include rental cars from The Motor Pool at Fredericksburg FBO.

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The airport also hosts events like the "Texas Roundup." AT-6 "Texan" pilots taxi back to base after flying the "Missing Man" formation at honor those who've "Gone West" over the past year. - Photo by Lindy Segall

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The Historic Jail gives visitors a chance to see the Fredericksburg of yesteryear. Tours of the jail are offered through the Gillespie County Historical Society and as part of Haunted Fredericksburg Ghost Tours

A PIECE OF HISTORY BEHIND BARS

The Historic Jail is a glimpse back in time into Fredericksburg's history. The jail sits at 117 W. San Antonio St. and is the fourth Gillespie County Jail, built in 1885.

The county's first jail was built in 1852, six years before the founding of Fredericksburg and was located near the current City Hall.

A second jail was built in 1859 and was located behind the first Gillespie County Courthouse.

By 1870, plans were underway for yet another Gillespie County Jail. In 1874, the third Gillespie County Jail was completed, but in 1885 completely burned in a fire.

The Historic Jail was built

immediately after and was completed in 1885. It is 25 feet wide, 35 feet deep, and 20 to 22 feet high with two stories.

The ground floor has four rooms. One was used for lockup and others for the jailer. On the second floor are steel-clad cells. The jail has a heavy solid steel plate door and another one with bars at the front entrance.

Cells in the jail include the lockup cell on the ground floor, later used for female inmates. The upstairs also includes a maximum-security cell in the back portion of the second floor.

Surrounding the jail is a five-foot stone wall, originally embedded with broken glass to discourage prisoner escape.

The last inmate of the Historic Jail was transported to the fifth Gillespie County Jail, located in the third Gillespie County Courthouse upon its completion in 1939.

Today, the Historic Jail is owned and maintained by Gillespie County under the care of the Gillespie County Commissioners Court. The Gillespie County Historical Society provides public access and interpretation of the building.

Haunted Fredericksburg Ghost Walk and Jail Tour also provides a unique tour experience of the historic building.



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Pioneer Memorial Library, located in downtown Fredericksburg, offers a variety of reading, education, and children's programs for both visitors and residents.

LIBRARY SPEAKS VOLUMES

PIONEER MEMORIAL LIBRARY OFFERS QUIET HAVEN AWAY FROM THE BUSTLE OF MAIN STREET

Located next to the Gillespie County Courthouse at 115 West Main Street, the library welcomes guests of all ages to read and explore thousands of items in its collection.

SERVICES

Adults and children age 6 and above who live in Gillespie County can obtain a library card at no charge. All children must have their card signed by a parent or guardian when filling out a card application.

Visitors to Gillespie County who stay for three months or longer can enjoy library privileges after paying a \$5 fee. Non-residents of Gillespie County (residents of Blanco, Kendall, Kerr, Kimble, Llano and Mason) can obtain a card for a \$5 fee.

Books may be checked out for two weeks, and if not requested by another library user, may be renewed for another two weeks.

YOUTH

Young readers can find their own exclusive area on the first floor. Picture books, stories for children, and fiction and non-fiction reads for older kids are featured.

Special events for children are often held, and a schedule of programs can be found at the library's central desk or on the library's website: <http://www1.youseemore.com/pioneer/>

ADULTS

Adult fiction and non-fiction books, reference materials, the Texas collection, magazines and periodicals are located on the second floor, accessible by stairs or elevator.

LIBRARY 'FRIENDS'

In addition to being a department of the County of Gillespie, the library is supported by the Friends of Pioneer Memorial Library.

Annual membership in the Friends of Pioneer Memorial Library is open to all at a nominal cost.

LIBRARY HISTORY

Pioneer Memorial Library is housed in a former Gillespie County Courthouse, which was designed by Alfred Giles.

The historic building served as the courthouse from 1882 until 1939, when the courthouse shifted to its current location next door.

Various governmental organizations occupied the building until it was closed in 1963.

Two years later, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene McDermott of Dallas funded the preservation of the building so that it could be used as a public library. It was dedicated in May 1967.

In 1983, Mrs. McDermott provided a challenge for a matching grant so that renovations and expansion to the second floor could be accomplished. The community responded, and the renovated library was dedicated in December 1984.



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A STEP BACK IN TIME

PIONEER MUSEUM FEATURES EXHIBITS ON EARLY LIFE

In the mid-1840s, Germans looking for a different life were reading and hearing about Texas as a land of opportunity, and they risked everything to get here, faced every obstacle and created a unique German colony in the heart of the Texas Hill Country.

The Pioneer Museum is a combination museum and historical site on 3.5 acres. It features historic homesteads and buildings donated by founding families of Gillespie County.

Among the structures is a one-room school house, log cabin, Sunday house, bath house, barn and a smokehouse. Artifacts and architecture help to preserve and tell stories.

The Fredericksburg Volunteer Fire Department Museum, which displays pieces of early 20th century fire-fighting equipment, is also housed at the location.

VEREINS KIRCHE MUSEUM

Just two blocks away from the main grounds is the Vereins Kirche (Society Church), in the middle of the town square, Marktplatz. The building is a replica of the first that was constructed by pioneers.

The original, built in 1847, served as a combination church, school and community center for decades. The replica was built in 1935, and launched the Gillespie County Historical Society.

HISTORIC COUNTY JAIL

The Historic Jail was completed in December 1885. The building is 25 feet wide, 35 feet deep, and 20 to 22 feet high with two stories. The jail is open on the first Saturday of each month from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

KIDS' PROGRAMS

Little Pioneers programs bring Gillespie County history to life for children with hands-on, interactive activities like blacksmithing, quilting, weaving, animal husbandry, stitching, baking and candle making.

The museum also celebrates the holidays with Kinderfest at Christmas time, and an Easter Egg hunt in spring.

There's something for kids every month during the school year and weekly in summer.



With a variety of historic structures on the property, Pioneer Museum gives visitors an opportunity to glimpse the old ways of Fredericksburg.





Living History days and various kids' programs, such as Little Pioneers, give guests a chance to get up close and personal with the historic tools and gear used by the early settlers in the area.

ARCHIVES AND RESEARCH

The Gillespie County Historical Society (GCHS) houses archives pertaining to the life and culture of German settlers in Gillespie County. GCHS encourages the public to take advantage of the resources, which includes almost 70,000 individual items. The museum also sells copies of historic images and research materials for various projects.

LIVING HISTORY DAYS

Pioneer Museum hosts Living History days monthly and as program events throughout the year.

Living history presenters from the Frontier History Company Foundation are at both the Pioneer Museum and the Historic Jail on the first Saturday of every month, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. A Pioneer Museum Day Pass provides access to both locations and the presentations.

Handworkers are on museum grounds on these first Saturdays from 10 a.m.-noon, working on handwork projects like needlepoint, bobbin lace, embroidery, cross stitch, knitting and crochet.

The most popular Living History days are Founders Day (early May) and

Spring Break week (mid-March).

These museum programs showcase the living history presenters from the Frontier History Company Foundation, as well as blacksmiths, rope makers, chuckwagon cooks, spinners, handworkers, corn shellers and more.

PLAN YOUR VISIT

Day passes are exclusively sold at Pioneer Museum and the Vereins Kirche Museum and are good for 24 hours from the time of purchase. They provide entrance to the Pioneer Museum, Vereins Kirche Museum and Historic Jail (when open for programs).

Guided tours give groups of 15 or more an elevated Pioneer Museum experience with guides that interpret the historical relevance of each structure and, provide information. Guided tours are about an hour and a half.

The Pioneer Museum store offers a varied selection of historical books by Texas Hill Country authors, locally made sauces, jams, candles and Texas-themed home decor, aprons, hand towels, pillows, signs, toys and memorabilia.

ADMISSION - DAY PASS

General Admission is \$12, Military and Senior \$7, Student \$5, Children age 5 and under are free.

EVENTS

- **March 2:** First Saturday Living History Days
- **March 11-26:** Spring Break - Living History Days
- **March 30:** Community Easter Egg Hunt
- **April 6:** First Saturday Living History Days
- **April 20:** Little Pioneers Program – “Get Ready for Hummingbirds”
- **April 30:** Lenz Fest Celebration and Pioneer Spirit Awards
- **May 4:** Founders Day celebration, First Saturday Living History Days
- **June 1:** First Saturday Living History Days
- **June 6, 13, 20, 27:** Little Pioneers Summer Series
- **July 11, 18, 25:** Little Pioneers Summer Series

Check the Events page at pioneermuseum.org to see the dates and details for these programs.

A LANDMARK AND SYMBOL

The Vereins Kirche (Society Church) is a unique landmark in the center of downtown Fredericksburg. The octagonal building is owned and managed by the Gillespie County Historical Society (GCHS).

The Vereins Kirche features the history of the building in a permanent exhibit that begins with German immigrants' trip to Texas in the 1840s.

In January 1934, GCHS was formed to rebuild the Vereins Kirche. Since then, it has continued to preserve the history and culture of Fredericksburg and Gillespie County through exhibits and educational programs, and outreach. The building last underwent extensive restoration in 2019.

HISTORY

The original Vereins Kirche served as the town's first church, school and public meeting place, in addition to being a lookout building for protection against invaders.

The replica of the Vereins Kirche has been used as a library, home to the Fredericksburg Chamber of Commerce, a one-day post office and a museum.

The original Vereins Kirche was used primarily as a church and school for Catholic and Evangelical Protestants. School districts were created in Gillespie County in the 1850s and students stopped using the Vereins Kirche. As with the schools, church congregations began building their own churches in town and slowly leaving the Vereins Kirche empty most days.

By the town's 50th anniversary in 1896, the stone walls were removed to make the Vereins Kirche a pavilion for the celebration. The building was torn down in 1897 after it fell into disrepair.

For many years, local citizens had the vision of building a replica of the Vereins Kirche.

In 1934, GCHS received its charter and began working to rebuild the Vereins Kirche as a pioneer memorial. Fundraising by citizens and help from the New Deal Public Works

Administration supported the construction of the Vereins Kirche. A celebration was held in May 1935 and the Vereins Kirche Pioneer Memorial officially opened.

The first use of the new Vereins Kirche was to house Pioneer Memorial Library and a small historical museum. The first exhibits included memorabilia and collectibles from early pioneer days.

When the Gillespie County Historical Society purchased the Kammlah Homestead in 1955, most of its artifacts were moved and displayed in the Kammlah House. A small exhibit space remained in the Vereins Kirche.

In 1967, after the second courthouse had been refurbished by Eugene and Margaret McDermott of Dallas, Pioneer Memorial Library left the Vereins Kirche and took up residence in the McDermott Building, where it remains today.

For a few years, part of the Vereins Kirche was home to the Fredericksburg Chamber of Commerce, with GCHS exhibit space occupying some of the building. It was during this time that the GCHS began archiving and organizing its collection.

When the Chamber moved out of the Vereins Kirche, the space became an area for the GCHS Archives and Collections (now located at the GCHS offices in the historic First Methodist Church at 312 West San Antonio Street).

Hours of Operation

The Vereins Kirche is open six days a week, year-round, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., closed on Sundays.

There is an admission fee of \$5. Tickets can be purchased at the Vereins Kirche or at Pioneer Museum, 325 West Main Street.





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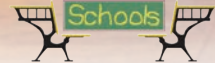
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Visit our website for open house events, self-driving tour map, scheduling group tours, rentals, and more information. All our historic schools and community centers available for reunions, meetings, auto/bike tour rest stops, weddings, and more. Lodging and accommodations available at VisitFredericksburgTX.com.



The Friends of Gillespie County Country

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Fort Martin Scott was the first U.S. Army post on the Texas Frontier.

HISTORIC FORT MARTIN SCOTT CELEBRATES 175 YEARS SINCE ITS STORIED FOUNDING

Fort Martin Scott, on the eastern edge of Fredericksburg on the old Pinta Trail, has a rich history of diverse groups of people that shaped Fredericksburg, Gillespie County and the Texas Hill Country.

This year the fort celebrates its 175th anniversary with special events honoring its heritage.

On the eastern edge of Fredericksburg and adjacent to the Texas Rangers Heritage Center, Fort

Martin Scott was the first U.S. Army post on the Texas frontier. Apache and Comanche tribes, Spaniards, Anglo settlers, Latter-day Saints, Texas Rangers and the U.S. Army have all left their footprints at the fort.

With outbreaks of attacks between early settlers and Native Americans, in 1823, a group of frontiersmen was formed to act as “rangers” to protect the citizens, starting what became known as the Texas Rangers.

When Texas became a state in 1845, the Comanche remained north of a site that the Rangers are thought to have used as a camp, on the banks of Barons Creek and the Pinta Trail.

John O. Meusebach and German settlers established the town of Fredericksburg just west of this site in 1846. Latter-day Saints (Mormons) started a town called Zodiac east of Fredericksburg in 1847.

The Germans, Latter-day Saints,

Native Americans and Rangers established a cooperative society, supporting each other. The Latter-day Saints started the first lumber and grist mill and were instrumental in helping build the fort and town. The Germans signed a peace treaty with the Comanche in 1847 allowing trade with them for food and supplies.

U.S. Army units arrived in 1848, settling on the Barons Creek site, naming it Camp Houston. This became the first in a string of frontier forts established to help protect Anglos moving west. The camp was renamed Fort Martin Scott in December 1849 after Lt. Col. Martin Scott, who died in the Mexican-American War. Infantry units were followed by horse-mounted dragoons, who led scouting patrols and escorts for the settlers.

In 1850, Indian Agent John Rollins, Army, and Rangers representatives and interpreters met with a group of chiefs on the banks of the San Saba River and forged the Fort Martin Scott Treaty of 1850. Today, the Treaty Stone recognizing the pact is displayed in the fort visitor center.

By 1853, the frontier had moved

west and so had the Army. Fort Martin Scott became a supply depot and was permanently abandoned by the Army in 1866.

But the story of the fort doesn't end there. In 1870, John Braeutigam bought acreage that included the fort guardhouse, their home for 90 years. He created Braeutigam Gardens, which included a saloon, store, race track and the area's first dance hall. The first four Gillespie County fairs were held in the gardens. But the fairs and gardens ended with the robbery and murder of Braeutigam and his saloon in 1884.

The Braeutigam family farmed the land until 1959 when they sold it to the City of Fredericksburg.

The Fredericksburg Heritage Federation started restoration of the fort that continues today.

This year Fort Martin Scott celebrates its 175th year since its founding with a day full of commemorative events on March 8. A replica of an 1850s Army field hospital was set up on the grounds. The 323rd Army Band performed a concert under the stars. German choirs performed

music including both the U.S. and German National Anthems.

A memorial stone made by Llano Memorial Works was made for the event and was presented during a ceremony in which names were read of every known soldier to have died at the fort, followed by the playing of "Taps" by the Army Band.

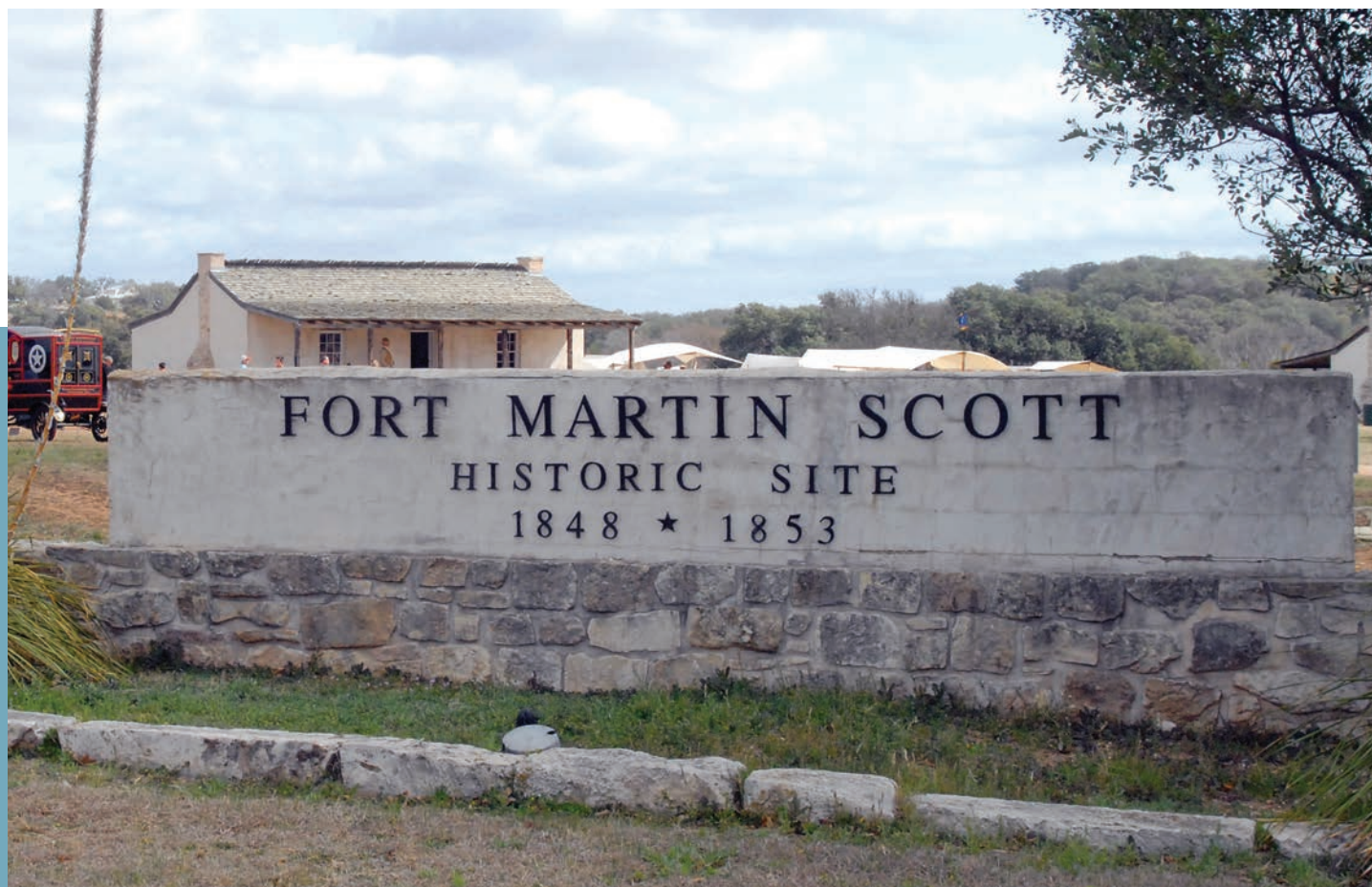
Several guests spoke at the event including Fredericksburg Mayor Jeryl Hoover.

The fort is a park owned and operated by the City of Fredericksburg. Today, the site includes a visitor center/barracks, restored officer's quarters, the guardhouse (the only original building), a blacksmith shop and stone foundations of many of the buildings.

Throughout the year, the fort comes alive with reenactments, storytelling, education days for schools and special events.

For more information about Fort Martin Scott, contact Director of Parks and Recreation Andrea Schmidt at 830-990-2078, or by email at aschmidt@fbgtx.org.

This year Fort Martin Scott celebrates its 175th anniversary with special programs and events.



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Even though the majestic pink granite dome brings visitors to the Enchanted Rock State Natural Area, it's the site's expansive views and native wildlife that keep visitors coming back.

The unique natural attraction towers 1,825 feet in elevation and attracts hundreds of thousands of hikers, campers and outdoor enthusiasts each year.

In addition to hiking, Enchanted Rock SNA offers opportunities to rock climb, boulder climb and stargaze.

It is one of the best places in the area to see the night sky and is one of only a few Texas Parks and Wildlife Department properties that are certified "Gold Tier" Dark Sky Parks.

This designation means that Enchanted Rock complies with the International Dark Sky Association requirements, which not only conserves energy for the natural area, but also guarantees visitors will have an undistracted view of the night sky. It helps the area cut down on light pollution, and promotes low-impact

ecotourism as one of the surrounding area's most sought destinations.

Along with protecting the natural area from light pollution, Enchanted Rock also asks visitors to protect the property from unintentional pet-inflicted damage.

In the natural area, pets are only allowed in the designated day-use picnic areas, the campgrounds and on the Loop Trail. Pets are not allowed on any other trails.



MYTHS AND LEGENDS

Enchanted Rock has fascinated humans for thousands of years. It has inspired many stories that endure today, most rooted in fancy rather than fact.

Tonkawa Indians thought that ghost fires flickered on top of the dome. The rock glitters on clear nights after rain and scientists now think the glittering is reflections from collected water or wet feldspar.

Odd creaking and groaning noises scared the Tonkawa Indians, inspiring the rock's name. Geologists claim the dome creaks and groans as temperatures warm and cool.

THINGS TO KNOW

- The Rock sits at just 1,825 feet. Hikers can be challenged due to the steep incline of the climb to the summit.
- The main campground has restroom facilities, but there are more remote sites scattered along the trails. Due to a critical water shortage, the restrooms may also be closed but portable toilets will be made available.
- Even though drinking water is available for purchase, visitors are highly encouraged to bring their own water and enough for the visit.
- Trails, varying in length and difficulty, can be found in the natural area. The Loop Trail winds around the natural area a lengthy 4.5 miles, while the trek to the summit of the Rock is only a three-quarter mile climb, but strenuous.
- Enchanted Rock's peak season ranges from September through May,

The State Natural Area features scopes at the bottom of the climb, along with entrances to the nature trails around the main rock.



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[enchanted-rock/park_events](https://tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/enchanted-rock/park_events).

Those interested in technical rock climbing or bouldering can find more information online at tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/enchanted-rock/more-info/rock-climb.

Updates and reservation status of the natural area can also be found on the

facebook page: [@enchantedrock](https://www.facebook.com/enchantedrock).

Enchanted Rock State Natural Area is located at 16710 Ranch Road 965, 18 miles north of Fredericksburg.

More information is available by calling 830-685-3636 or by visiting the Enchanted Rock SNA website at tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/enchanted-rock.



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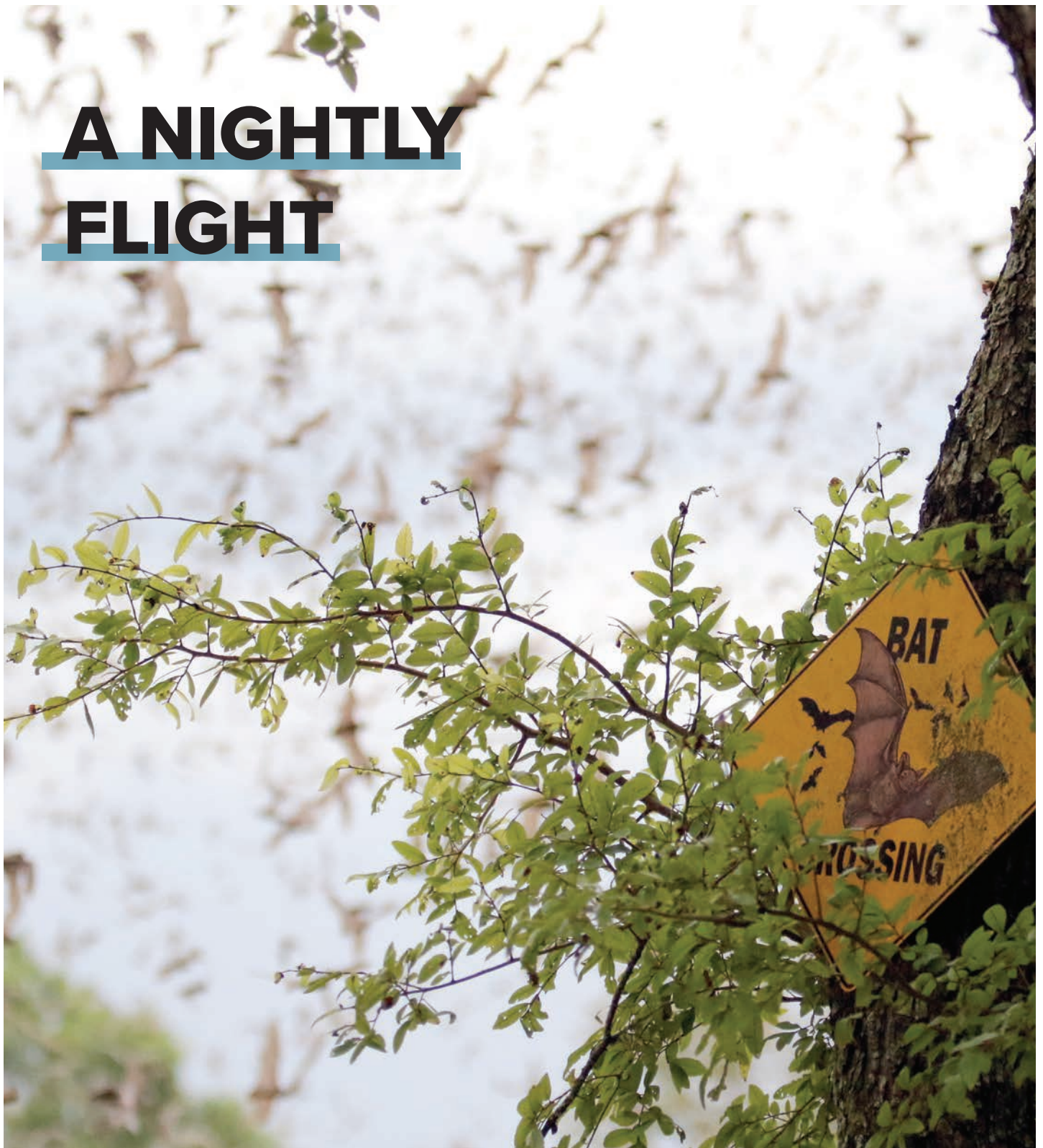
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An old abandoned railroad tunnel is home to up to three million bats from May through October. During those months, visitors can watch the bats emerge from the tunnel nightly.

The tunnel, built in 1913, was used

by the Fredericksburg and Northern Railway until its abandonment in 1941.

Permits for entry into Old Tunnel State Park and fees for the bat viewing must be purchased online. No permits are sold onsite. Entry is limited.

The tunnel is located at 10619 Old

San Antonio Road, and is open from sunrise to 5 p.m. Hours are extended depending on the times the bats emerge in the summertime.

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CROSS MOUNTAIN OFFERS HILL COUNTRY VIEWS

Cross Mountain Park is getting a new cross this year. The old cross (not the original) was installed in the 1940s and was in poor condition.

The City of Fredericksburg, in partnership with the Nimitz Rotary Club, is replacing the old cross and will install a new one this spring with similar characteristics.

Cross Mountain Park is home to Cross Mountain, a marl and limestone hill with an elevation of 1,951 feet.

The park offers several trails, three picnic areas, an overlook and restrooms.

The park is open from dawn until dusk and there is no fee to enter.



Above, the old cross was removed by the City of Fredericksburg in January, to be replaced with a new cross by spring that will have similar characteristics.

To the right, Cross Mountain offers an overlook of Fredericksburg and the surrounding area after a short hike up the mountain.



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All Parks, All Play

Lady Bird Johnson Municipal Park reveals the beauty of the Hill Country

Just three miles from downtown, the 150-acre Lady Bird Johnson Municipal Park is the crown jewel of the City of Fredericksburg's parks system. It's a recreational getaway for locals and visitors, alike.

There is no admission charge to enter the park, southwest of town on Texas 16 South.

DAY USE ACTIVITIES

Daytime visitors to the park can use picnic tables (available on a first-come first-served basis) and four playgrounds at no charge.

Three nature trails take hikers across Live Oak Creek and give nature lovers a chance to be up close and personal with the natural habitat.

The pathways were established by the

Friends of the Fredericksburg Nature Center.

A 17-acre lake offers plenty of spots to wet a line. Motorboats, however, are prohibited, as are trotlines and swimming.

Play a pickup game on the outdoor basketball courts or a volleyball match on the sand court. Baseball and softball fields can be reserved or used casually. Take a splash in the park's swimming pool during the hot summer months, or catch a tennis or pickle ball game at the courts nearby.

RENTAL FACILITIES

Visitors who plan large gatherings may want to look into using one of the park's five large outdoor covered pavilions or one of two indoor sites,

including the Tatsch House or the spacious Pioneer Pavilion.

Each of the five outdoor pavilions is available on a first-come first-served basis or by reservation.

Information about the facilities and reservation opportunities is available from the City of Fredericksburg's website at fbgtx.org.

OVERNIGHT CAMPING

Camping under the stars is available at the park camp grounds, which accommodates both RVs and tents.

In all, there are 98 RV spaces available for travel trailers with 30-50 amp electrical hookups, water and sewer, cable TV, free wireless Internet and shade trees.

A fee schedule is listed on the city's



site.

All campers must check in at the park office to receive a camping permit.

There are nine comfort stations to serve visitors, and three bathhouses.

Pets are welcome but must be kept on a leash.

Reservations for camping, use of the park's pavilions or other facilities can be made by calling the park at 830-997-4202, online, by email at ladybirdpark@fbgtx.org or by writing Lady Bird Johnson Municipal Park, 432 Lady Bird Drive, Fredericksburg, TX 78624.

AMENITIES:

- Five outdoor pavilions
- Baseball field
- Golf course
- Softball field

- Practice field
- Volleyball court
- Basketball court
- Tennis courts
- Swimming pool (open summer months only)
- Fishing at Live Oak Creek
- Restrooms adjacent to Lady Bird Johnson RV Park

DOG PARK

The City of Fredericksburg and the Fredericksburg Dog Park Association (FDPA - a 501(c)3 non-profit organization) joined together to create a city dog park within Lady Bird Johnson Municipal Park.

The 5-acre park was completed in December 2018 and was funded by the City of Fredericksburg and the

Fredericksburg Dog Park Association.

It is located at the front of the park, with prime views of takeoffs and landings at the Gillespie County Airport.

A separated small dog area is available for dogs 25 pounds or under. Trash bins and dog-waste bags are provided. The park asks everyone to use common courtesy and clean up after their pets.

All dogs must be up to date on vaccinations, as required by the City of Fredericksburg code of Ordinances.

For more information, go to FbgDogPark.org.

KEEPING IT COOL

NEW SPLASHPAD GIVES KIDS A COOL SPOT TO ESCAPE SUMMER HEAT

The City of Fredericksburg has a new splashpad located behind the Coach Tony Knopp Town Pool between West Schubert and West Travis streets.

Entry to the splashpad is free. It is open seasonally, operating Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday hours noon to 5 p.m. The splashpad is closed for cleaning on Mondays.

Hours are subject to change, based

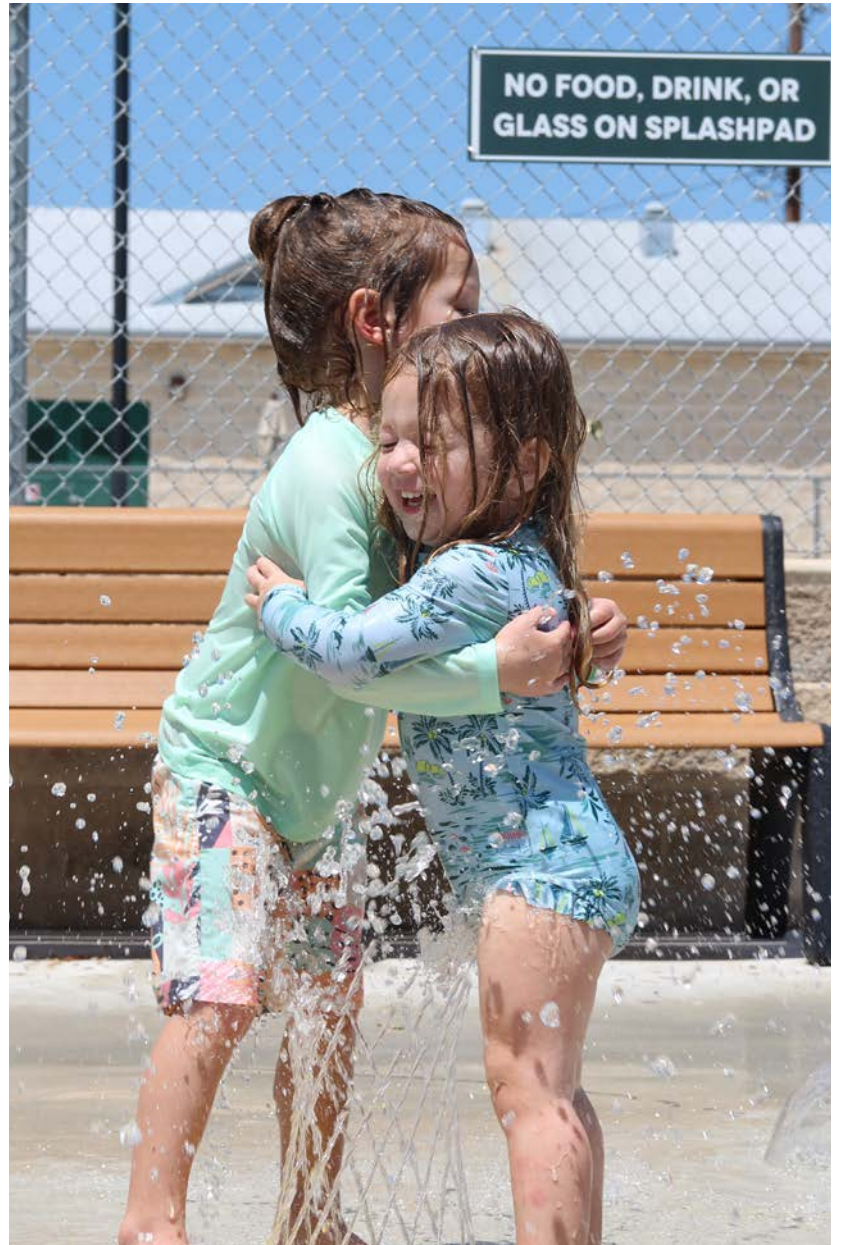
on staff availability. Holiday hours may vary, as well.

The restrooms at Town Pool will be made available during splashpad hours. The splashpad is expected to be open through September, weather permitting.

Follow the city's social media channels for updates.

Town Pool entry will remain \$2 per person, and hours of operation will be released later this month.

"The splashpad construction was fully funded by a donation from Fredericksburg Morning Rotary Club and their generous community-minded benefactors," said a spokesman for the city. "The City of Fredericksburg would like to thank the Morning Rotary Club for their continued support for parks projects."



Left, Cade and Abigail Shamburger brought water toys to the splashpad while playing in the water. On the right, Santiago Sanchez, age 5, and Paloma Sanchez, age 2, cooled off at the new splashpad.

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A property that originally housed an 1800's flour mill has gracefully evolved into a thriving winery, complete with a bustling tasting room and a picturesque vineyard estate.

Named for its creativity and imagination, Invention Vineyard's newly renovated tasting room (with industrially chic architecture) was intentionally designed to enhance guests' experiences while sampling old-world style wines. Several tasting bars overlook the expansive vineyards while another faces a window giving a look into the production facility with tanks and wine barrels in view.

Those that desire to take their wine venture beyond the tasting room can reserve a winery tour where they'll learn about the winemaking process from the tank room, taste aging wine straight from the barrels, then finish with a sampling of Invention Vineyard's current vintages. Six wines of which scored 90+ points in their very first vintage.

Owners Brian and Jennifer Heath are not new to the Texas wine industry. Invention Vineyards is the latest addition to Heath Family Brands, known for its quality, innovation, and excellence in the wine industry.

The family-owned company boasts a rich legacy rooted in crafting exceptional wines with over 150 90+ point scores across their brands which include Grape Creek Vineyards, Heath Sparkling Wines, Jenblossom Cellars, and now, Invention Vineyards.



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So why add another? "Invention Vineyards is a great addition to our wine experiences, giving members and guests a new opportunity to enjoy excellent wines in a beautiful vineyard setting in the Texas Hill Country. And only five minutes from Main Street!" says owner, Brian Heath.

"Every guest can truly savor the essence of our wines, enjoy the stunning surroundings, and feel like they're part of our winemaking family."

Heath Family Brands offers a unique wine club membership, granting exclusive access to patios and lounges at all locations. Other membership perks include discounts on wine, invitations to Member events, and access to the vineyard dining experience and wine country cuisine served at Stout's Signature at Grape Creek. Anyone can enjoy tastings and tours at their properties with no membership required.

Seeking a Napa-style wine adventure closer to home? Drive down Highway 16 to discover Invention Vineyards, where vineyard vistas, exceptional wines, and a captivating winery experience await.



THE STORY CONTINUES AT [INVENTIONVINEYARDS.COM](https://www.inventionvineyards.com)

ADVERTISEMENT

LBJ STATE PARK IS A MUST-SEE DESTINATION



LBJ State Park and Historic Site gives visitors a glimpse of the childhood home of Gillespie County native Lyndon B. Johnson, the 36th President of the United States.

Over 80,000 people visit the LBJ State Park and Historic Site annually for a glimpse of where Gillespie County native Lyndon B. Johnson, the 36th President of the United States spent his childhood.

Located two miles east of Stonewall, visitors to this day use park can enjoy historical sites, picnicking, fishing, swimming, nature trails and wildlife.

It's home to the Official Texas State Longhorn Herd and the grounds routinely offer sightings of buffalo, wild turkey and white-tailed deer.

The state park also houses the Visitor Center, which is a part of the Lyndon B. Johnson National Historical Park.

Attached to the Visitor Center is the Behrens Cabin, a two-room dogtrot cabin built during the 1840s by German immigrant Johannes Behrens.

There's also an outdoor amphitheater used for a variety of programs.

Numerous shaded picnic and rest areas (some with restroom facilities) are available at the state park.

From early June throughout the summer, a large pool facility —

complete with children's wading pool and a covered pavilion — is manned by certified lifeguards.

Nearby are two lighted tennis courts.

The park's dining hall and group picnic area, located on the banks of the Pedernales River, as well as a separate baseball diamond facility are available by reservation.

Fishing is allowed without a license from the banks of state park lands. However, those who go into the waterways, for example, on a boat, must have a fishing license.



The state park property includes the Sauer-Beckmann Farm where demonstrations are given by living history staffers on early farm life.

MORE INFORMATION

More information on specially planned park events, as well as rental of the park facilities, is available by contacting the park headquarters at 830-644-2252 or visiting the park's website: https://tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/lyndon-b-johnson/park_events.

Reservations are suggested for day visits and camping by going to <https://texasstateparks.reserveamerica.com/>. For updated information, visit <http://tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/lyndon-b-johnson>.

NATURE TRAILS

Elsewhere in the park, a winding 2.1 mile nature trail leads walkers to a larger-than-life bronze statue of the former president overlooking the Pedernales River.

The trail also winds near a wildlife enclosure housing American bison and other areas with members of the Official State of Texas Longhorn Herd.

Another trail approximately a mile long is handicapped accessible and suitable for wheelchairs and strollers. It departs the Visitor Center and travels through fields of wildflowers and past the Texas Longhorns' pen to the Danz cabins.

Every trail in the park is marked with directional signs and strategically placed markers giving a brief description of highlights along the path. Leashed pets are welcomed but are not allowed inside buildings.

BACK TO SCHOOL AT HISTORIC COUNTRY SCHOOLS

While diving into the history of Gillespie County and Fredericksburg, one stop history buffs must make is at one of the many Gillespie County country schools.

Gillespie County is home to 17 historic country schools, each with its own story to tell. Many of the schools were one-teacher schools, teaching up to 10 different age groups at one time.

A great way to view multiple schools is a historic 120-mile bicycle trail that covers all 17 schools, which span as far back as 1847. The trail is divided into four

quadrants of varying ride lengths.

The historic buildings have features unique to the Hill Country, including limestone, framed wood and tin exteriors.

Many of these schools are now available as rental buildings for weddings, reunions, groups and more.

Free maps of the trail are available at the Fredericksburg Visitor Information Center or for download at <https://www.historicschools.org>.

Gillespie County's Historic Country Schools serve as gathering spots for many club meetings and events. A map of the school locations can be picked up at the Fredericksburg Visitor Information Center.





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MEET IN THE MIDDLE

MARKTPLATZ CENTERS TOWN'S PAST AND PRESENT

Located in the center of downtown Fredericksburg, Marktplatz offers a place to take in a bit of local history as well as relax.

Marktplatz is also home to many festivals and events throughout the year.

The iconic Vereins Kirche, widely recognized as the symbol of Fredericksburg, stands in the center of the square and is a replica of the first house of worship, meeting place and fortress built soon after the city's founding in 1846.

Today, the building displays mementos and information on the city's history.

Marktplatz was originally known as Market Square until the area was redeveloped to its present state in time for the city's 150th anniversary in 1996.

The area was originally designated by the city's founder, John O. Meusebach, as a place for people to gather and enjoy themselves.

Today, the area is primarily a showplace, far from the days when it was home to filling stations, used car lots and a variety of other structures, including a youth baseball field.

The "Marktplatz Service Building" is located at the corner of Main and Adams streets and houses a substation for the Fredericksburg Police Department, where bicycle patrols and citizens' police volunteer organizations can operate out of.

Public restrooms are located on the Adams Street side of the building, with additional restroom facilities located in the adjacent building.

In 2023, construction began on another restroom facility at a building on the corner of Austin and North Crockett streets. The newly renovated structure also includes an indoor event space.

One of the most active areas of the square is a shaded playground, where parents can often be seen socializing while their children run, climb and slide.

Events are often held in one or more of the three covered pavilions – Adelsverein Halle, the Oktoberfest Halle and the Kinder Halle.

Also at Marktplatz are brick walkways, numerous arbors and a History Walk that honors the pioneers of the community, including President Lyndon B. Johnson, Admiral Chester W. Nimitz and the men and women who have served in the armed forces, along with Jacob Brodbeck, a pioneer resident of Fredericksburg who significantly impacted early aviation.

A statue of Fredericksburg-born composer Frank Valentin van der Stucken is located in the Pioneer Garden on the square.

Also in the Pioneer Garden near the water wheel is a near-life-size bronze statue of Meusebach's yet-unbroken peace treaty with the Comanche Indians. Dedicated in 1997, the memorial was placed by the city's 150th Anniversary committee.

Near the Adelsverein Halle is a Maibaum, or Maypole, erected in 1991 and designed by John W. Schulze, that tells the history of Fredericksburg's founding and early development through symbolic representations on each tier of the pole. It stylistically mirrors similar installations found in major town squares in Germany.

Brick walkways in the area include engraved bricks recognizing donors who have purchased them to help finance the redevelopment of the square and to perpetuate their names in the community.

At other places, there are benches, lamps and other fixtures.

A bust of the city's founder, John O. Meusebach, stands in front of the Vereins Kirche.

A historical marker, facing Main Street near one of the pathways to the Vereins Kirche, tells of the historical significance of Marktplatz and invites residents and visitors to make use of the historic square.



Mirroring similar ones found in major city squares throughout Germany, a Maibaum, or Maypole, stands in Marktplatz with arms symbolically telling the story of Fredericksburg's founding and development. The Maibaum was erected in 1991 and is one of several representations commemorating the town's history.

Marktplatz is commonly used for many of Fredericksburg's festivals and events and often serves as a meeting space for residents and visitors to share and enjoy.





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Last August, The Texas Rangers celebrated two centuries of service to the Lone Star State at the Texas Rangers Heritage Center. The event featured actor Wyatt Earp portraying Ranger Captain Bill McDonald, who served in the early 1900s. On the right, one of the several bronze sculptures on the grounds of the Heritage Center.

TEXAS RANGERS HERITAGE CENTER HONORS STATE'S HISTORIC LAWMEN

Keeping in line with Fredericksburg's dedication to historic preservation, the Texas Rangers Heritage Center brings the story of the state's famous lawmen to life.

The TRHC site includes a 12-acre campus that features a 350-seat open-air pavilion with a full catering kitchen and a Lone Star Stories Campfire Ring. The amenities support a wide range of event opportunities.

Phase I of the Texas Rangers Heritage Center is complete. The project on the town's eastern edge was about 14 years in the planning.

In September 2013, then-Gov. Rick Perry and other dignitaries attended a groundbreaking ceremony on the land between Fort Martin Scott and the Hill

Country University Center.

The site also includes a campanile (bell tower) and a Ring of Honor, and a 30-foot simulation of a Ranger badge, which memorializes Rangers who lost their lives in the line of duty.

The foundation has begun fundraising for Phase II, which will feature a museum building. There, visitors will learn about well-known Rangers and episodes in Ranger history and see a historic flintlock rifle used by Mexican Texas colonist and elder statesman Ben Milam during the Siege of Béxar. Construction is slated to start soon.

Museum planners promise an immersive experience which will include interactive exhibits, a theater, galleries associated with the character

traits of the Texas Rangers, and episodes of Rangers who battled bootlegging, counterfeiting and murder, and the man who stopped the University of Texas Tower shooter in 1966.

Youth will be taught the five Ranger traits of courage, determination, dedication, respect and integrity.

The Former Texas Rangers Association welcomes new memberships. Get more information about the organization at www.TRHC.org.

Contact the Texas Rangers Heritage Center office and the Former Texas Rangers Foundation at 830-990-1192.

The property is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thursday through Monday.



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The banquet room has a wall of

windows and high open-beam ceilings that provide lush views of the native landscape.

The golf course spans over 6,600 yards. Lady Bird offers challenges for golfers of all skill levels. The first nine holes features up and down play.

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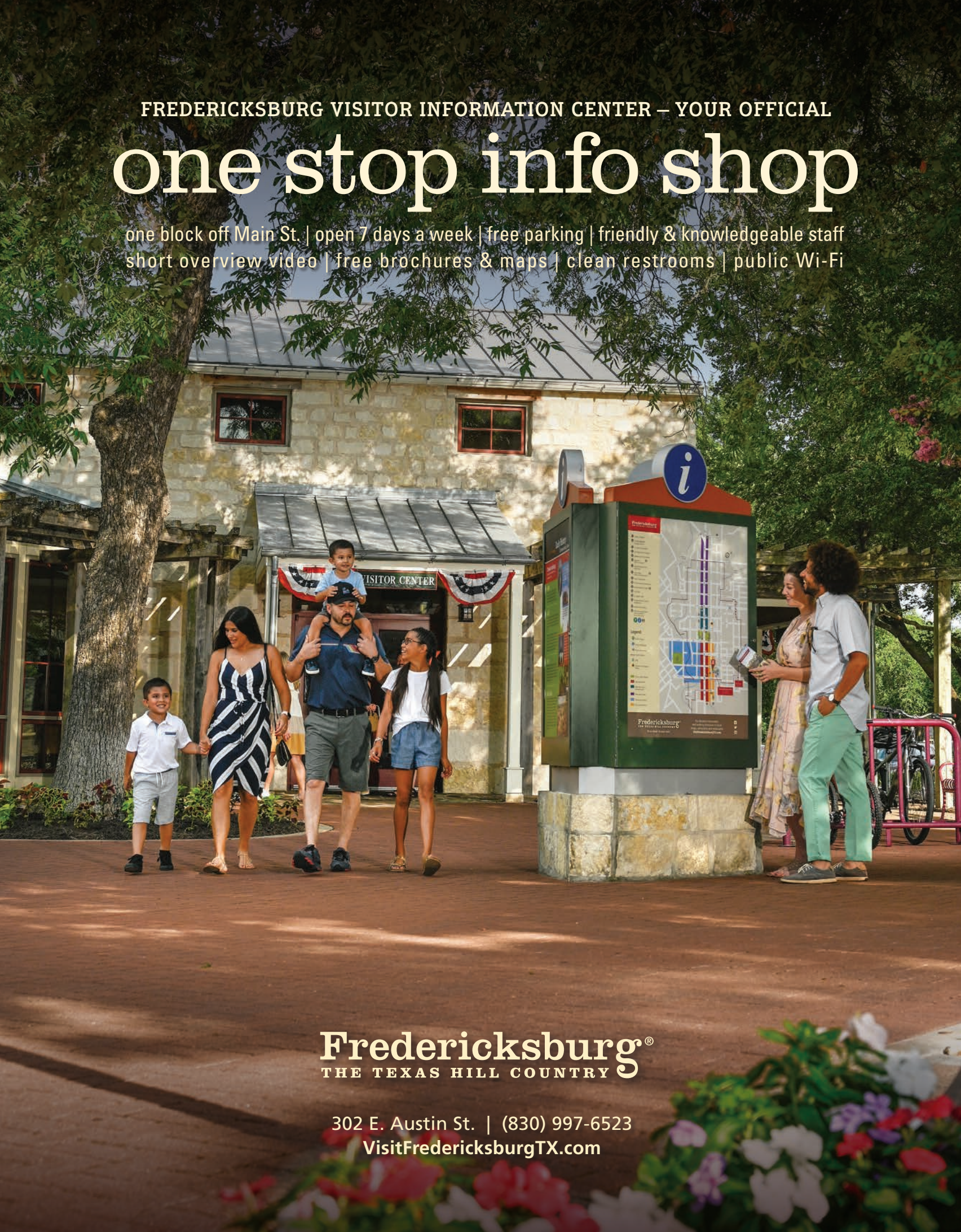
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Local oil painter Barbara Mauldin demonstrates her painting technique at Charles Morin Fine Art.

FREDERICKSBURG FEATURES FINE ART

Nationally celebrated artists such as Daniel Gerhartz, Billy Schenk and Nancy Bush are shown in Fredericksburg, as well as widely collected Hill Country artists, such as Charles Beckendorf, Porfirio Salinas and G. Harvey. Fredericksburg is filled with Western and Native American art.

The galleries are located along Main Street, across other parts of downtown, and some a short drive from town.

The first Friday of each month is the Friday Art Walk, when many local galleries open for extended hours. Visitors have the opportunity to view art demonstrations and meet artists.

The following are galleries worth a visit for art enthusiasts:

Charles Morin Fine Art

244 West Main | 830-307-3019
vintagetexaspaintings.com

Morin's gallery displays some of Texas' most collected historical artists, with an emphasis on early Texas oil paintings. Morin has been a collector of vintage items since he was 14 years old.

Charles Morin Fine Art is a must-see for art and vintage collectors. Morin's collection includes a display of pottery, Native American and European art.

Fredericksburg Art Guild

308 E. Austin | 830-997-4949
fredericksburgartguild.com

The Fredericksburg Art Guild is a non-profit organization with a mission to

educate, encourage, promote and cultivate the creation of fine arts throughout the Texas Hill Country.

Many local artists are members of the guild. Each month, the Art Guild features an artist.

The gallery also features an all-member show during the year. Dates for their events can be found on the gallery website.

Vaudeville Gallery

230 East Main Street
vaudeville-living.com

In the heart of Fredericksburg is Vaudeville, a renovated three-story historic landmark with a third-floor gallery looking onto Main Street. The Hill Country artists presented work in contemporary and modern styles.



Fredericksburg Art Guild shows the works of many local artists, and every month chooses one to feature. During First Friday Art Walk, visitors have the opportunity to interact with many of the artists.

Vaudeville also has a bistro, gourmet market, wine club, supper club and a home and giftware showroom. Artisan jewelry and accessories are available on the main floor, featuring periodic designer trunk shows, including the likes of Vannesa Tosoni.

Good Art Company

218 West Main | 830-997-1111
goodartcompany.com

Good Art Company opened its doors in 2008 and predominately shows contemporary Western and landscape paintings.

Located in the historic Schmidt-Dietz building, the gallery features a highly diverse collection of paintings in both traditional and modern styles.

The gallery also maintains an assortment of home décor pieces.

InSight Gallery

214 West Main | 830-997-9920
insightgallery.com

InSight Gallery represents Texas artists — many of whom are based in the Hill

Country. The gallery represents about 40 artists and regularly rotates the works in the showrooms.

With a variety of styles from still life to figure, InSight features an esteemed inventory of Western art from some of the industry's top artists, such as Robert Pummill, Billy Schenck and Michael Ome Untiedt.

The historic building features 8,000 square feet of viewing space.

**Larry Jackson
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201 East San Antonio St. | 830-997-0073
larryjacksonantiques.com

The Larry Jackson gallery features a collection of original fine art, from oil paintings to sculpture. The gallery carries a significant inventory of collectible antiques, home décor, heirloom furnishings, silver and crystal items and one-of-a-kind treasures.

The gallery is housed one block off Main Street in Fredericksburg's Warehouse District.

**Purple Shack
Makers Gallery**

7991 Ranch Road 965 | 830-321-7991
enchantedfredericksburg ranch.com

The Purple Shack Makers Gallery is located at the Enchanted Fredericksburg Ranch, north of town near Enchanted Rock State Natural Area.

The gallery features a collection of Texas artists, with an emphasis on functional art. Fiber art, jewelry, glass art, pottery and photography can all be found at this eclectic gallery.

Purple Shack Makers Gallery is a worthy visit during a drive to Enchanted Rock, or for anyone seeking a unique art experience. Visitors are encouraged to call to set an appointment for viewing.





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An elevated tasting room experience featuring English Newsom Cellars.

English Newsom Cellars is proud to be 100% Texas-grown, with one of the largest production facilities in the state. From the stem of the vine to the stem of the glass, each English Newsom wine is carefully crafted in the heart of the Texas High Plains.



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MORE THAN JUST WINES

CRAFT BEER AND DISTILLERIES OFFER VARIETY OF TASTES

While already home to a growing and thriving wine industry, Gillespie County and Fredericksburg are also home to distilleries and craft beer breweries.

Fredericksburg Brewing Company

830-997-1646 | 245 East Main Street
Fredericksburg, Texas

Fredericksburg Brewing Company began its operation in 1994 within months of the passage of legislation allowing brewpub operation in Texas.

Located right on Fredericksburg's Main Street, Fredericksburg Brewing Company is the oldest brewpub in the state, founded long before the craft beer craze of today.

Customers can enjoy a variety of German fare, pizza, burgers, salads and more while sipping on a variety of craft beers, including the popular Enchanted Rock Red Ale.

Altstadt Brewing

www.altstadtbeer.com

830-304-2337 | 6120 U.S. 290 East
Fredericksburg, Texas

Fredericksburg's biggest brewery is all about staying true to German authenticity.

Altstadt Brewing features a state-of-the-art brewing facility located on U.S. 290 East, and blends the latest in brewing technology with traditional German brewing practices.

The European-inspired brewery features a Tap Room, restaurant and Grand Hall for events and live music, a Bier Garten with a multi-level patio and a private garden with Hill Country views. In the basement is an authentic Rathskeller for a more intimate setting.

Their flagship beers are available in the Texas Hill Country, Austin, Houston, San Antonio, College Station, Corpus Christi, Dallas, Fort Worth, Waco, and the lower Rio Grande Valley.

Ogle Brewery

www.archrayresort.com

830-304-2900 | 312 Schmidtzinsky Rd.
Fredericksburg, Texas

Ogle Brewery is located on the property of Arch Ray Resort, a destination treasure on the east side of Fredericksburg that features award-winning Texas wines, craft beer and a luxury RV park.

Arch Ray is currently expanding its facility to include a restaurant, event venue, auditorium, coffee shop and hotel.

Elk Store Winery & Distillery

830-997-2665 | 327 E. Main Street
Fredericksburg, Texas

With a family heritage dating back to the prohibition era, owners Todd Smajstrla and Scott Hladky utilize a handmade Kentucky copper still to produce small-batch moonshine, gin, rum and whiskey.

The Elk Store's spirits are bottled on location and sold in the Main Street tasting room that provides a relaxed atmosphere and a selection of Texas and international wines.

Hye Cider Company

830-282-0143 | 10354 US 290 East
Fredericksburg, TX

Hye Cider Company specializes in producing cyser and ciders. Cyser is an apple mead differentiated from cider as it is fermented with honey rather than water.

Because of this fermenting process, Hye Cider's cysers are both very sweet with a dry flavor profile.

Recently Hye Cider Company relocated its tasting room to the property of Texas Wine Collective.



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WELCOME TO WINE COUNTRY

Ab Astris Winery

www.abastriswinery.com
830-644-8369 | 320 Klein Road

The tasting room and winery are open Thursday through Sunday noon-5 p.m., Saturday noon-6 p.m. and Monday noon-5 p.m. Last pour and sale are one hour before close.

Tastings are currently \$25 for five dry wines of their premium wines. They do take walk-ins but strongly recommend reservations on Saturdays. They require reservations for groups over six. Reservations may be made on their website, on Tock, or by emailing info@abastriswinery.com

Adega Vinho

Adegavinho.com
830-265-5765 | 1000 Ranch Road 1623
Stonewall

Hours are Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, 12:30-6 p.m.; Friday and Saturday 11 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sunday 12-6 p.m.; Wednesdays closed. They can take reservations of 10 or more.

Airis'Ele Vineyards

AirseleVineyards.com
830-304-1800 | 11290 U.S. 290 East
Hours are Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; and Sunday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

Reservations requested for groups of six or more; call directly 830-304-1800 or info@airisele.com.

Located in the heart of the Hill Country and only 10 miles from the city of Fredericksburg, Airis'Ele Vineyards is a perfect place for wine tasting. The tasting room was once a farmhouse set back off the highway, it is now renovated and welcomes visitors with panoramic views of large aged oak trees and abundant wildlife viewing.

Airis'Ele Vineyards offers comfortable tasting areas both inside and outside to accommodate all types of Texas weather. Crafted wines are offered by tastings, glass or bottle to enjoy on the property.

Alexander Vineyards

alexandervineyards.com

830-865-3975 | 6360 Goehmann Lane
(off U.S. 290 East)

The winery is open Sunday through Thursday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Friday and Saturday 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Reservations are recommended. Calls on the way to the tasting room are appreciated. Bottles of wine are sold in the tasting room.

Andreucci Wines

andreucciwines.com
830-307-9529 | 401 E. Main Street #1C
Hours are Sunday noon-7 p.m., Tuesday thru Thursday 11a.m.-7 p.m. and Friday thru Saturday 11 a.m.-8 p.m.

Seventh-generation vintners specializing in Italian wines since 1794.

Arch Ray Resort

Features: Ogle Brewery, Paul Bee Distillery, Arch Ray Winery, and 1894 Farm to Table Restaurant.

830-304-2900 | 4160 E US Hwy 290
Fredericksburg TX 78624

reservations@archrayresort.com

Hours are Sunday-Thursday 11a.m.-7p.m.;
Friday-Saturday 11a.m.-9p.m. Reservations
for parties of 6 or more are required.

Arch Ray Resort is unique as we offer
several different brands & experiences. If
you are a beer lover, we offer craft brews
made in house from our Ogle Brewery. If
spirits are more to your taste, come check
out Paul Bee Distillery. If you are a wine
connoisseur and want high quality 100%
Texas Wines, come do a tasting with Arch
Ray Winery. Are you wanting a nice place
to have lunch or dinner? Look no further
than 1894 Ranch to Table restaurant where
we feature our grass-fed Wagyu-Angus
beef. All of these experiences exist in one
place so no matter what mood you are in-
there's something for everyone to enjoy. We
take pride in serving our own chef-inspired
cuisine, hand-crafted beer, award-winning
wines and carefully curated spirits and can't
wait to share them with you!

Arrowhead Creek Vineyards

13502 E US 290, Stonewall TX 78671
830-307-7200

info@arrowheadcreekvineyard.com

Closed Monday and Tuesday

Open Wed: 3-8pm, Thur-Sat: 11-6pm
Sun: 11-5pm

Reservations are not required but desired.
Just helps us ensure we have time and
server available for a full tasting.

We are a family/veteran-owned and
operated vineyard on 14 beautiful acres
of the Texas Hill Country AVA right on
the Pedernales River. We are pet and kid
friendly and encourage our guests to take a
tour of the property with our award winning
wines! Cost of a tasting is \$25 for 5 wines.

Augusta Vin

Augustavin.com

info@augustavin.com

830-307-1007

140 Augusta Vin Lane Spring/Summer
(3/10/24 - 11/3/24)

Hours are Monday through Thursday
noon-6 p.m.; Friday noon-7 p.m.; Saturday
11 a.m.-7 p.m. and Sunday noon-7 p.m.
Last call/last pour is always 30 minutes
before closing. Reservations are highly
encouraged. Reservations can be made
through the website, phone or email. Call or
email to reserve a table in the tasting room
for groups larger than eight. Full estate and
production tours with tastings are offered
for groups of up to 12 and can be booked
through the website. Larger groups are
encouraged to call to discuss their options.
Bar is available for glass, bottle and food
service and outdoor seating on the green or
courtyard is available on a first-come, first-
served basis with no reservation necessary.

Barelle Vineyards

barellefbg.com

830-992-8547

Open 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Thursday-Saturday; 12
p.m.-5 p.m. Sunday-Monday

Taste through wonderful women-
crafted Texas wine and beer in an elegant
and relaxing atmosphere by fun wine-
educators in a historic old schoolhouse
built in 1902. A must-stop visit on the 290
wine road in Fredericksburg! Reservations
recommended for parties of 6 or more, but
not required.

Barons Creek Vineyards

Baronscreekvineyards.com

830-304-3000 | 5865 U.S. 290 East

Hours are Sunday through Thursday
noon-5 p.m. and Friday and Saturday 11
a.m.-6 p.m. Closed Easter, Thanksgiving and
Christmas Eve and Christmas day.

Reservations are required for parties
over six. Reservations are encouraged for
tastings.

Walk-ins are welcome depending on
availability.

Becker Vineyards

Beckervineyards.com

830-644-2681

Winery and tasting room:

464 Becker Farms Rd.

(off U.S. 290 East/Stonewall)

Tasting room:

307 East Main Street

The winery is open Monday through
Thursday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Friday and
Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; and Sunday, 11am-
6 p.m.

The Main Street tasting room is open
Sunday through Thursday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.;
and Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

Bingham Family Vineyards

www.bingham.wine

830-644-2081 | 11157 U.S. 290 West, Hye

The winery is open seven days a
week: 11am-6pm. The Bingham's are a
multigenerational wine-growing family that
produces 100% Texas grown and crafted
estate wines.

Blue Lotus Winery

Bluelotuswinery.com

830-379-9463 | 8500 U.S. 290 West (Hye)

The hours are Wednesday through
Sunday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

100% Texas Wine and Mead (honey wine).
Experience tastings in a barrel tasting room.

Blumenthal Farms

830-205-9930 | 9396 E US 290

Fredericksburg TX 78624

Info@blumenthalfarmstx.com

Wednesday: 3pm

Thursday- Friday: 12-7pm

Saturday: 11-7pm

Sunday: 12-7pm

We aim to bring people together
by creating a memorable and unique
experience that cherishes the historic charm
of Fredericksburg and marries it with our
signature fun flair. Blumenthal is a one-stop
shop providing beer, wine, cocktails and
cigars. We have amazing views of the river
and pickleball courts to entertain the family.
Whether you come for a good time or a long
while, we sure are glad you're here.

Brooke's Bubble Bar

830-998-7007 | 416 E MAIN ST

BROOKE@BROOKESBUBBLEBUS.COM

Hours are Wednesday-Sunday, noon to 9
p.m.

Reservations are available online, and
walk-ins are welcome. Pink Champagne Bar
focusing on all things Bubbly!

Calais Winery

Calaiswinery.com

830-213-2124 | 8115 U.S. 290 West (Hye)

Hours are by appointment Thursdays,
1-4 p.m.; Fridays, noon-5 p.m.; Saturdays, 11
a.m.-6 p.m.; Sundays, noon-5 p.m.

All tastings are available by reservation
only and can be made online. Appointments
are made on the hour. Tasting room is
located within our underground winery
building.

Chisholm Trail Winery

Chisholmtrailwinery.com

830-990-2675 | 2367 Usener Road

(off U.S. 290 West)

Hours are Friday and Saturday, noon-
4:30 p.m. Closed Sunday through Thursday.
Reservations are required for groups of 10
or more.

Cicada Cellars

cicadacellars.com

830-456-9324 | 14746 U.S. 290 East

Stonewall

Hours are Thursday-Saturday 11a.m.-
5:30 p.m. and Sunday noon-5 p.m.
Closed Monday through Wednesday. No
reservations are required.

Coordinates Vineyards-

www.coordinatesvineyards.com

830-307-7400

417 E. Main Street | 10120 US 290 (Hye)
Main St: Hours are Wednesday and
Thursday, noon-9 p.m.; and Friday through
Sunday noon-10 p.m. Closed Monday and
Tuesday.

Hye: Hours are noon-7 p.m. Wednesday-
Sunday.

For parties of eight or more, call ahead or

email at wine@coordinatesvineyards.com.
Reservations can be made by visiting the website.

Cross Mountain Vineyards

www.crossmountainvineyards.com
830-333-9931 | 308 E. Main St.
Hours are Sunday 11 a.m.-6p.m.; Monday-Thursday 12 p.m.-7 p.m.; Friday & Saturday 11a.m.-8 p.m.

No reservations required.

For up-to-date information, call or visit the winery's website.

Crown Hill Winery

crownhillwinery.com
830-542-9585 | 171 Crown Hill Road, Stonewall
Hours are Fridays through Sundays 11 a.m.-5 p.m.
Call ahead for groups larger than eight to ensure availability.

Fat Ass Ranch and Winery

fatasswine.com
Ranch/Winery: 830-644-2300
51 Elgin-Behrends Road
Tasting Room: 830-997-9095
153 East Main Street
Hours at both locations Sunday through Thursday 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Fridays 11 a.m.-6 p.m.; and Saturdays 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Reservations are not required.
Tastings are offered seven days a week at both locations. Wine, glasses and frozen sangrias are available at both locations.

Ferris and Fletch Wine Co.

ferrisandfletch.com
830-307-9290 | 409 E. Main St.
Hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday noon-5 p.m.; Friday noon-7 p.m.; Saturday 11 a.m.-7 p.m.; Sunday noon-5 p.m.
Reservations are not required.
Ferris and Fletch is a family-owned business that offers various wines and merch on their website as well as in their tasting room on Main Street.

Fiesta Winery

fiestawinery.com
Winery: 830-997-4466
6260 U.S. 290 East
Main Street: 830-307-3328
147 East Main Street
Main Street hours are Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Fridays, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m.-6:30 p.m.; Sundays, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.
U.S. 290 location hours are Monday through Friday, 10:30 a.m.-6 p.m.; Saturdays, 10:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.; Sundays, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.
Live music is featured on Saturdays from 3-6 p.m.

Call ahead for groups over 20.

Fredericksburg Winery

fbgwinery.com
830-990-8747 | 247 W. Main St.
Hours are Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, noon-5:30 p.m.
As it is a family business, hours and days may vary based on holidays.
Walk-ins are welcome. Space is limited.
Groups of six people or more by reservation only. It is best to call ahead for availability.

French Connection Wines

frenchconnectionhye.com
830-850-4091 | 1197 Hye-Albert Road, Hye
Hours are Thursdays, noon-5 p.m.; Fridays, noon-6 p.m.; Saturdays, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.; and Sundays 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Closed Monday through Wednesday.

Grape Creek Vineyards

grapecreek.com
Vineyard/Winery location on U.S. 290 East
830-644-2710 | 10587 U.S. 290 East
223 East Main Street
Open daily 11 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
Main Street Tasting Room
830-992-3373 | 223 E. Main St.
Open Daily 11 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
See the website to plan a visit.

Heath Sparkling Wines

heathsparkling.com
830-304-1011 | 10591 U.S. 290 East
Open daily 11 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
See the website to plan a visit.

Hilmy Cellars

hilmywine.com
830-644-2482 | 12346 U.S. 290 East
Hours are Monday through Wednesday 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Thursday through Saturday, 11a.m.-6 p.m. and Sunday, noon-6 p.m.
Hilmy Cellars is a family-owned, artisan Texas winery founded in 2012. The winery specializes in producing award-winning Texas Wines that include red, white, rose, and sparkling wines.

A bottle, glass or tasting can be enjoyed inside the Hilmy Cellar's tasting room or outside on the patio that overlooks one of the estate's vineyards.

Horn Winery and Azeo Distillery

hornwinery.com
844-HYE-HORN | 9953 U.S. 290 West (Hye)
Hours for the winery and distillery are Thursdays and Sundays 11 a.m.-5 p.m. and Fridays and Saturdays 11 a.m.-6 p.m.
Reservations for eight or more are recommended.

Hye Meadow Winery

Hyemeadow.com
830-308-8551 | 10257 U.S. 290 West (Hye)
Hours are Monday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Wednesday and Thursday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.; and Sunday, noon-5 p.m. Closed Tuesday.
The winery is offering tastings, glasses, bottles and serves food that can be enjoyed inside the tasting room, back patio, spacious pavilion, tree deck, or beautiful oak grove complete with games.

Inwood Estates Vineyards

inwoodwines.com
830-997-2304 | 10303 U.S. 290 East
General hours are Sunday - Thursday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; and Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.
Barrel Room Tastings and Wine Education Seminars, glasses, and bottles are available in the Reserve Tasting Room and Winery. Wine tastings, bottles, glasses, and food are sold in the Bistro. The Bistro, patio, and picnic grove are open for seating. Reservations for tastings and dining are required for groups of six and over with a small deposit to hold the time slot. Reservations are for Saturdays only. Visit the website to make a reservation or for information about cancellation policies. Visit the website for seasonal hour changes. Pet-friendly areas are patio and grove, and no outside food or drinks are allowed. The winery is a kid-friendly location.

Invention Vineyards

inventionvineyards.com
830-307-1258 | 4222 Texas 16 South
Open daily 11 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
See the website to plan a visit.

Kalasi Cellars

kalasicellars.com
830-992-3037 | 414 Goehmann Lane
Hours are Sunday through Thursday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.
Kalsi Cellars is a boutique winery, vineyard and tasting room based in Fredericksburg, just five minutes from the center of town and half a mile off Wine Road 290.

Kuhlman Cellars

kuhlmancellars.com
512-920-2675 | 18421 U.S. 290 East
Hours are Thursday through Saturday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.; and Sunday and Monday, noon-5 p.m.
Walk-ins are welcome. Parties greater than six require reservations.

Lincoln Street Wine Market

lincolninst.com
830-997-8463 | 111 S. Lincoln St.

Hours are Sunday and Monday, 1 p.m.-midnight; and Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m.-midnight. Live music every night.

Reservations are not required.

Enjoy the various wines, cigars, and food offered on the outside patio or inside the tasting room.

Longhorn Cellars

Longhorncellars.com

830-990-2990 | 315 Ranch Road 1376

Hours are Monday through Thursday from noon-4:30 p.m.; Friday, 11 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; and Sunday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Groups of six or more require reservations on Saturdays.

Lost Draw Cellars

Lostdrawcellars.com

830-992-3251 | 1686 US 290 (Johnson City)

Hours are Monday-Thursday 12pm-5pm; Friday-Sunday 10am-6pm. Reservations required for Fridays and Saturdays; encouraged other days of the week for tastings.

Mendelbaum Cellars

mendelbaumcellars.com

830-997-7000 | 10207 U.S. 290 East

Hours are Monday, Thursday and Sunday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, noon-5 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m.-8 p.m.

For more information, email info@mendelbaumcellars.com or visit the winery's website. They feature kosher wine from Israel and have vegan wine options as well.

Meierstone Vineyards

Meierstonevineyards.com

info@meierstonevineyards.com

830-644-2462 | 573 Meier-Stone Rd (Stonewall)

Hours are Thursday-Friday 1 p.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday-Sunday 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Reservations are recommended but not required. *Voted 2024 "Top Texas Wine" at the Houston International Wine Competition.*

Meierstone Vineyards is a boutique, family-owned winery in the Texas Hill Country with elevated wine and deep roots. The tasting room resides on the 555-acre Meierstone Farm and Ranch, a fifth-generation working farm and ranch in Stonewall that is steeped in history. Proudly supporting Texas viticulture, they make award-winning wines with 100% Texas grapes. Meierstone Vineyards promotes environmentally friendly farming practices, winemaking processes, and barrel aging programs. The wine portfolio showcases the terroir of Texas, which is celebrated

with every vintage. Pet and family friendly.

Variety Tasting: \$22 and

All Reds Tasting: \$25

Messina Hof Hill Country

Messinahof.com

830-990-4653 | 9996 U.S. 290 East

Hours are Tuesday through Sunday from noon-6 p.m.

Reservations recommended for Saturdays. Tastings, wine by the glass, bottles, and Lite Bites are offered any date of opening hours.

Narrow Path Winery

Narrowpathwinery.com

Winery and Vineyard:

830-998-1916

6331 Ranch Road 1623 South

Hours for winery and vineyard are Thursday through Monday, 11 a.m.-5:30 p.m. and Sunday, noon-5:30 p.m. Closed Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Reservations required for tastings on Saturday and Sunday. Reservations are recommended during the weekday.

830-644-2144

113 East Main Street

Hours are Thursday, noon-5:30 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, noon-6:30 p.m.; and Sunday, noon-4 p.m.

Reservations are not available for the Main Street tasting room.

Perspective Cellars

www.perspectivecellars.wine

512-423-7825 | 247 East Main Street

Hours are Monday through Friday, 1-8 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m.-9 p.m.; and Sunday noon-7 p.m.

Live piano bar evenings Fridays and Saturdays, 6-9 p.m.

Perspective offers educational wine flights from around the world, showcasing over 75 unique wines. A glass of wine can be enjoyed on their front patio or inside the birthplace of Admiral Chester Nimitz, with all original features from 1855.

Pedernales Cellars

Pedernalescellars.com

830-644-8186 wine club

830-644-2037 | 2916 Upper Albert Road Stonewall

Hours are Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; and Sunday, noon-5 p.m.

Reservations are highly recommended for all tasting experiences. The winery may not be able to accommodate your reservation if you are late.

Call for groups larger than six people. Cellar tours are available for groups up to six, inquire online or by calling the tasting room.

Children are welcome, but must be included in group size, and must stay with the group during the duration of the visit.

Unless you have a service animal, pets are not allowed inside our Tasting Room but are welcome on the lawn area on a leash.

Pontotoc Vineyard

Pontotocvineyard.com

512-658-0023 | 320 West Main Street

Hours are Friday & Saturday 12-8 and Sunday 12-5.

Reservations are recommended for groups of 10 or more.

Rhinory

Rhinory.com

830-992-9526 | 13112 U.S. 290 East

Hours are Monday through Sunday, 11 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Reservations are highly recommended on weekend and appreciated on weekdays.

Ron Yates Wines

Ronyateswines.com

512-585-3972 | 6676 U.S. 290 West (Hye)

Hours are 11 a.m.-6 p.m. daily.

Space is limited for large parties. Reservations are required for groups of 10 or more.

Safari Winery

Safariwinery.com

830-998-5956 | 5479 U.S. 290 East

Hours are Sunday, noon-6 p.m.; Monday through Thursday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Friday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.; and Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Reservations are preferred for parties of six or more.

The tasting room is open for tastings, by the glass or bottle service.

Santa Maria Cellars

Santamariacellarswines.com

830-998-8621 | 12044 Texas 16 South

Hours are Friday and Saturday noon-5 p.m. and Sunday noon-3 p.m. Closed Monday through Thursday.

Reservations required for groups of eight or more.

The winery offers tastings, glasses and bottles to be enjoyed on the patio. Wine can also be ordered online.

Signor Vineyards

Signorvineyards.com

830-304-7446 | 362 Livesay Lane

Hours are Sunday through Thursday, noon-5 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

The tasting room (located behind Joanna's Market) accepts reservations for members of the wine club and for private drivers and select tour companies. Reservations

for Elevated Tastings are available for all guests.

Walk-ins are accepted for non-members based on availability.

We only allow children and pets for our wine club members. We are not open to the public for kids and pets and we also do not accept any groups above 10.

Joanna's Market offers soups, sandwiches, grab-and-go items, non-alcoholic beverages.

Six Shooter Cellars

Sixshootercellars.com

830-428-0810 | 6264 U.S. 290 East

Hours are Thursdays noon-5 p.m.; and Friday-Saturday, noon-6 p.m. Sunday-Monday noon to 5pm; Tuesdays and Wednesdays closed

Six Shooter offers wine, mead, port, sparkling wine, wine-a-ritas, and souvenirs.

Tastings are offered for all alcohol.

No reservations are needed for tastings.

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Six Twists

832-818-7148 | 425 E Main St

Fredericksburg, TX 78624

Info@sixtwistssparkling.com

Hours are Wednesday-Friday 1 p.m.-9 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Reservations for parties of 8 or more. 21 and up inside. Pets and children on Patio only.

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Tastings cost between \$35 and \$50.

Slate Theory

Slatetheory.com

830-998-8306 | 10915 E. US 290

Tasting room hours are Thursday through Saturday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sunday through Wednesday, noon-5 p.m.

Reservations are not required for tastings or bottle and glass service, tables in the tasting room are on a first-come, first-served basis.

Reservations are required for production tours or tastings in the underground barrel facility.

Texas Heritage Vineyard

Texasheritagevineyard.com

830-992-3323 | 3245 U.S. 290 East

Hours are Sunday-Friday noon-5 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Call ahead and schedule for groups of eight people on the weekends. Weekday tours are offered upon request.

Texas Wine Collective

TexasWineCollective.com

830-997-7470 | 10354 U.S. 290 East

Hours are Sunday – Thursday 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.; Friday and Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Featuring wines from Brennan Vineyards, Lost Oak Winery and McPherson Cellars. We also feature Hye Cider.

Reservations are required for groups of six or more. Events can be found on the winery's website.

The Edge Winery

theresortatfredericksburg.com

830-308-7118 | 3567 US Highway 290 East

Hours are Sunday through Friday, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

Groups are advised to call or email on website in advance for reservations for tastings.

Food is available at the winery as well as live music on the weekends. Full menu everyday.

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Texas Vineyards and Beyond

texasvineyards@austin.rr.com

830-990-9199 | 329½ E. Main St.

Hours are Thursday 1 p.m.-6 p.m.; Friday and Saturday 11:30 a.m.-7 p.m. and Sunday noon-6 p.m.

Largest selection of Texas wines in the Hill Country, plus imports, large beer selection, cigars and local gift baskets.

Many wines available by the glass for sidewalk consumption.

Wedding Oak Winery

Weddingoakwinery.com

830-304-9333 | 6009 U.S. 290 East, No. B

Hours are Sunday-Thursday 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Friday-Saturday 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

The tasting room is open for flight tastings, on-premise consumption and wines to go. For reservations of seven or more, contact reservewow@weddingoakwinery.com.

Wildseed Vineyards

wildseedfarms.com/visitwinery/

830-990-6684 | 100 Legacy Drive

Hours are Sunday noon-5 p.m.; Monday through Friday 11a.m.-5p.m.; Saturday 10:30am-5pm

Full tastings as well as wine by the glass. Reservations are recommended but not required.

William Chris Vineyards

Williamchriswines.com

830-998-7654 | 10352 U.S. 290 East (Hye)

Hours are Sunday through Wednesday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Thursday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Reservations are recommended for tastings.

Call ahead, text or book online. For the latest information, go online or call the winery.



Photography by Vanessa

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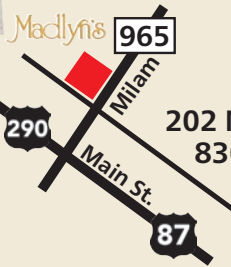
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LOCAL THEATER SPOTLIGHTS MUSICAL IN NEW SEASON

Fredericksburg Theater Company's production of "Ring of Fire: The Music of Johnny Cash" last August was a rousing, foot-stomping trip through the country music star's biggest hits, featuring Pierre Minjauw as Johnny Cash and Christy Brown as June Carter Cash.

For more than 20 years the Fredericksburg Theater Company (FTC) has been delighting audiences with professional-quality musicals, comedies and dramas.

The theater also hosts a variety of special events throughout the year, including guest artists, musicians, comedy acts and classic cinema.

FTC will close out its 27th season in May, with performances at the Steve W. Shepherd Theater, 1668 U.S. 87 South.

God's Megaphone: A Visit with C.S. Lewis, The Sweet Delilah Swim Club and James and the Giant Peach Jr. are the last three productions of Season 27.

SEASON 28

"We are excited and thrilled to announce the newest season," said an FTC spokesperson.

The theme for Season 28 is "In the Spotlight," and will include a big summer musical in June, a kid's theater camp in July and a cabaret style musical show in August, according to Artistic Director Courtney Lefan.

The spotlight shows include: The Wizard of Oz; Disney's Finding Nemo Jr.; Friends of FTC Cabaret; The Odd Couple: Female Version; The Gift of the Magi; Peter and the Starcatcher and Proof.

DONATIONS

Most of FTC's funding is from private donations, but the theater also receives grants and corporate donations.

Donation levels begin at \$250 with the Performer level and include Stage Manager (\$500), Composer (\$1,750), Playwright (\$2,500), Producer (\$5,000), Executive Producer (\$7,500) and Award Winner (\$10,000).

Each level of support comes with tickets, recognition, and other special features. Donors can also pledge support in the form of monthly donations, starting at \$25 a month.

TICKETS

Tickets go on sale for each production a full two weeks prior to opening night at the FTC Box Office at the Shepherd Theater.

Donors can order tickets three weeks prior to opening. Tickets can also be purchased by calling the FTC office at 888-669-7114 or online at the fredericksburgtheater.org.

Office hours are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Friday. Tickets may also be purchased online at the fredericksburgtheater.org.

All main stage productions are on weekends, with Friday and Saturday performances at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday performances at 2 p.m. The schedule of Main Stage productions and Special Events can be found on the FTC website.

Mar. 8, 9 at 7:30 p.m.,

Mar. 10 at 2 p.m.

God's Megaphone: A Visit with C.S. Lewis

The one-person show brings this legendary Christian apologist to life with all of his intellect, warmth, wisdom and humor intact. Using material from Lewis' own writings, his extensive correspondence and excerpts from dramatic texts, the play traces his life from best-selling author, to harbinger of WWII's resistance of evil, to loving husband and inspirational leader. (Rated G)

April 12-21

The Sweet Delilah Swim Club

The play is about five unforgettable women and friendships that last forever. Their friendships began while they were on their college swim team then blossomed into an annual gathering at the Sweet Delilah beach cottage on North Carolina's Outer Banks. The play focuses on four of those weekends and spans a period of thirty-three years. The touching comedy shows how these women increasingly rely on one another, through advice and raucous repartee, to get through the challenges (men, sex, marriage, parenting, divorce, aging) that life flings at them. (Rated PG for Adult Situations)

April 15-May 5

James and The Giant Peach Jr.

Based on one of Roald Dahl's most poignantly quirky stories, James and the Giant Peach Jr. is a brand-new take on this "masterpeach" of a tale. When James is sent by his conniving aunts to chop down



Ryder Buckelew as Spongebob Squarepants led a cast of talented kids in Fredericksburg Theater Academy's staging of "The SpongeBob Musical" Youth Edition last August at the Steve W. Shepherd Theater.

their old fruit tree, he discovers a magic potion that grows a tremendous peach, rolls into the ocean, and launches a journey of enormous proportions. James befriends a collection of singing insects that ride the giant piece of fruit across the ocean, facing hunger, sharks and plenty of disagreements along the way. (Rated G)

SEASON 28 – IN THE SPOTLIGHT
June 14- June 30

Summer Musical: The Wizard of Oz

The beloved tale, in which a Kansas farm girl travels "Over the Rainbow" to discover the magical power of home, has entertained audiences for generations. Dorothy "Follow[s] the Yellow Brick Road" as she encounters a host of whimsical characters: good witches, bad witches, animals that talk, scarecrows that walk and other wonderful things to behold. To make it back safely, Dorothy must learn an important lesson: there's no place like home.

July 25-28

FTA Summer Musical: Disney's Finding Nemo Jr.

In Disney's Finding Nemo JR. Marlin, an anxious and over-protective clownfish, lives in the Great Barrier Reef with his kid Nemo, who longs to explore the world beyond their anemone home. But when Nemo is captured and taken to Sydney, Marlin faces his fears and sets off on an epic adventure across the ocean. With the help of lovable characters such as optimistic Dory, laid-back sea turtle Crush and the supportive Tank Gang, Marlin and Nemo both overcome

challenges on their journey to find each other and themselves.

August 15-18

Third Summer Show: Friends of FTC Cabaret

Spend an evening at the theater filled with music and joy. Join members of the talented Fredericksburg Theater Company perform songs about community, love and friendship.

October 18-27

Fall Comedy: The Odd Couple: Female Version

Florence Unger and Olive Madison, that is, in Neil Simon's hilarious contemporary comic classic: the female version of The Odd Couple make sparks fly. Olive invites the recently single Florence to move in as her roommate. However, Olive and Florence have very different personalities. Olive's easy-going outlook on life soon clashes with Florence's highly strung neurotic tendencies, testing their friendship to the limit. When Olive organizes a double-date, their differences come to a head.

December 5-15

Holiday Show: The Gift of the Magi

O. Henry's classic Christmas story comes to life in this romantic musical adaptation, originally presented as a network television special. In turn-of-the-century New York, newlyweds Jim and Ella struggle to make ends meet. Despite their bleak circumstances, they each make sacrifices to

try and make Christmas special, leading to an ironic but heartwarming conclusion.

February 14-March 2, 2025

Winter Musical: Peter and the Starcatcher

This Tony Award winning play with music is based on the best-selling novels, and upends the century-old story of how a miserable orphan boy becomes the legendary Peter Pan. From marauding pirates and jungle tyrants to unwilling comrades and unlikely heroes, and with characters such as Black Stache and Smee, this highly theatrical production playfully explores the depths of greed and despair... and the bonds of friendship, duty and love.

May 2-11, 2025

Spring Drama: Proof

On the eve of her twenty-fifth birthday, Catherine, a troubled young woman, has spent years caring for her brilliant but unstable father, a famous mathematician. Now, following his death, she must deal with her own volatile emotions, the arrival of her estranged sister, Claire, and the attentions of Hal, a former student of her father's who hopes to find valuable work in the 103 notebooks that her father left behind. Over the long weekend that follows, a burgeoning romance and the discovery of a mysterious notebook draw Catherine into the most difficult problem of all: How much of her father's madness—or genius—will she inherit?

FRESH FOOD AND GOOD TIMES AT THE FARMERS MARKET

The Fredericksburg Farmer's Market (FFM) begins its seven-month-long schedule of bringing locally grown and produced foods to downtown Fredericksburg in late April.

The market will be celebrating its 15th year of operation throughout the season at the Adelsverein Halle at Marktplatz.

Every Thursday, rain or shine, from 4-7 p.m., from late-April to mid-August, shoppers can meet farmers and producers while shopping for fresh produce.

The producer and grower market consists of farmers, ranchers and

wineries located in Gillespie and adjacent counties. A wide variety of tomatoes, vegetables, peaches, blackberries and other fruits, mushrooms, meats, goat cheese, eggs, Gulf seafood, baked goods, wine, vinegar and herbs and flowers are offered.

Shoppers are invited to come for the food and stay for the family friendly atmosphere where they can purchase meals and snacks while listening to live music.

Wood-baked pizza, soups, salads, sliders, jams, jellies, gelato and pastries are all made with local ingredients to be enjoyed picnic-style under the

pavilion.

Wine from local wineries can be purchased by the glass or bottle. Non-alcoholic iced beverages are also served.

Visitors will find free samples prepared by local chefs using ingredients from the market. Chefs and volunteers are happy to "talk shop" and answer questions about how to cook the dish being sampled.

Meet the farmer, rancher, chef and artisan baker and support local agriculture and viticulture in Fredericksburg, the community way.

For more information, go to fredericksburgtxfarmersmarket.com.





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Vendors from all over the state show off and sell various collectibles and buyers have serious discussions about arrowheads

To the left, Oscar Duran holds a hatchet that he hand-made and sold at the Indian Artifact Show, held at Pioneer Pavilion at Lady Bird Johnson Municipal Park

INDIAN ARTIFACT SHOW BRINGS IN HOBBYISTS FROM ACROSS TEXAS

Native American artifact hobbyists have two chances to collect historic collectibles at the Hill Country Indian Artifact Shows.

The shows which feature Native American artifacts from Texas and the United States are typically held January, March and October. The shows run from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Pioneer Pavilion in Lady Bird Johnson Municipal Park, 432 Lady Bird Dr.

The \$5 admission fee allows visitors to view as many as 70 tables from collectors displaying arrowheads,

pottery, Trade Era beads, jewelry, etching, rocks, fossils, artifact cases and books.

Free admission will also be provided for Gillespie County law enforcement officers.

Children 14 and under will be admitted free of charge. Admission prices are subject to change.

Beverages, snacks and barbecue will be available to purchase.

Indian Artifact Show Dates

Jan. 13, 2024 (completed)
 March 23, 2024
 Oct. 26, 2024

Contact

www.hillcountryindianartifacts.com
 Phone 830-329-2636 rob@hillcountryindianartifacts.com.

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CYCLISTS TAKE BACK THE ROADS

Cyclists drive long distances to ride long distances during Texas Hell Week. From March 24-April 1 cyclists will take to the backroads of Gillespie County during the annual gathering that culminates with two race events.

Texas Hell Week has been an early season tradition since 1991 for cyclists. The Texas Hill Country offers some of the best spring riding in America. From mid-March to mid-April, the wildflowers are in bloom, making for a memorable riding experience.

Three daily rides are offered throughout Texas Hell Week, a 30-50-mile ride, a 50-80-mile ride and a 60-100-mile ride. Each ride is different.

Participants can ride as much as they want.

The week will conclude with two races, the Stampede 200 and the Longhorn 500, which is a RAAM (Race Across America) Qualifier. RAAM is a coast-to-coast 3,000-mile bicycle race that begins in June in Oceanside, California and finishes in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Evenings also feature a series of instructional seminars on coaching, nutrition and crew.

HISTORY

The event originated when Nick Gerlich, an avid cyclist and associate professor at West Texas A&M

Cyclists come to the area from across the nation to participate in Texas Hell Week, a multi-day event with daily rides and seminars. The annual gathering gives cyclists a chance to see the area's backroads during the spring wildflower bloom.

University convinced a few friends to meet in San Marcos for some early season warm weather riding, with hopes of getting into shape for the riding season.

They dubbed the informal gathering 'Texas Hell Week.' With increasing traffic in the Austin area, Gerlich moved the event to Fredericksburg in 1994. Texas Hell Week has seen steady growth and now attracts more than 300 riders from across the nation. Texas Hell Week took a two-year-hiatus after 2017 after which Fred and Rick Boethling acquired the event, combining Texas Hell Week with their Texas RAAM Challenge.

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A TOTAL ECLIPSE AT OUR PARKS

FREDERICKSBURG AREA OFFERS PRIME VIEWING FOR RARE CELESTIAL EVENT

Following an annular solar eclipse in Gillespie County on Oct. 14, 2023 (pictured), Gillespie County will be a prime viewing spot for a rare total solar eclipse on April 8, 2024. The event is expected to bring thousands of visitors to the area for the once-in-a-lifetime view.

Gillespie County is a prime destination this spring for viewing of the Great North American Eclipse, a total solar eclipse on Monday, April 8. Fredericksburg will be in the path of totality, part of a narrow path where viewers will see total coverage of the sun.

Because of Fredericksburg's optimal location for this rare celestial event, the area will likely see a significant

number of visitors on April 8 and the surrounding days. Area officials expect an additional 100,000 visitors during the day of the eclipse.

THE ECLIPSE

The Great North American Eclipse is a total eclipse, an event when the moon passes between Earth and the sun. Because of the moon's proximity to Earth, the moon's diameter will

completely block the direct light of the sun, causing darkness in the middle of the day.

On April 8, the eclipse will take place from 12:15 p.m. to 2:56 p.m. with the total eclipse taking place from 1:32 p.m. to 1:37 p.m. The time of total coverage of the sun is approximately four minutes and 30 seconds.

For those wishing to view the eclipse, eye safety is extremely important

as viewing an eclipse can cause permanent eye damage. Viewers are encouraged to only use eclipse glasses with a rating of ISO 12312-2, a darkness thousands of times darker than regular sunglasses. Eclipse glasses are available at many locations throughout the county.

This is the first total eclipse to be seen in the United States since 2017; it won't happen again until August 23, 2044.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Many of Fredericksburg's accommodations are booked to near or full capacity for dates around the eclipse. Visitors should be prepared for limited availability of rooms and possible increased costs.

The area is also likely to experience increased traffic, with the highest congestion expected in the hours immediately following totality, as visitors drive back home.

Drivers should expect long delays and be prepared with fuel and personal resources.

The City of Fredericksburg and Gillespie County have worked together to establish an Eclipse Task Force that

is working to prepare the area for the increased demands from visitors.

Additional trash receptacles will be placed throughout the county. Mesh trash bags will be available for pickup at key locations, including the Fredericksburg Convention and Visitor Bureau. These trash bags may be used by visitors to self-manage personal trash from their viewing location.

Additional portable restrooms will also be placed at key locations throughout the county.

The City of Fredericksburg is providing official viewing locations at both Lady Bird Johnson Municipal Park and the Marktplatz downtown square. Lady Bird Johnson Municipal Park is located three miles south of downtown Fredericksburg off U.S. Highway 16 South.

Lyndon B. Johnson State Park and Historic Site, Lyndon B. Johnson National Historic Park and Enchanted Rock State Natural Area are also viewing locations, but may require reservations.

Many other businesses in the area are hosting private events for the eclipse, including many of the wineries in the county. Neither the city nor the county

is hosting any official celebration. Visitors can visit visitfredericksburgtx.com/eclipse/events for a list of events planned in the area.

RESOURCES

Many resources can be found online at visitfredericksburgtx.com/eclipse/.

The website also contains lists of accommodations, locations for the purchase of eclipse glasses, and answers to frequently asked questions.

On the day of the eclipse, especially in the hours near and during totality, local radio station KNAF 910 AM will provide information to listeners on traffic conditions and any special announcements.

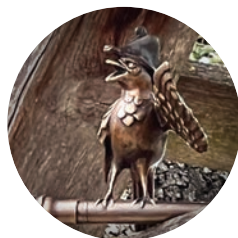
The city and county have also provided an informational video with details of the eclipse, recommendations on how to prepare and information about important resources. The video can be viewed at: youtu.be/2RR49lrZsfk?si=zJNOTz3ctm6Xcubn.

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VINTAGE MOTORCYCLES COME TO TOWN AT THE TEXAS FANDANGO

Texas Fandango, a vintage motorcycle event, will take place April 12-14 at the Gillespie County Fair Grounds.

The annual event is presented by the Cherokee Chapter of the Antique Motorcycle Club of America, whose members collect, restore and preserve vintage motorcycles in Texas, Arkansas and Oklahoma.

Event activities include a swap meet, bike show and races. Flat track, dirt drags and mini bike races will take place on Saturday morning with race finals at 4 p.m.

Sunday morning events

include the Xtrem Flattrack Races and the Vintage Road Run where pre-1986 motorcycles ride for approximately two hours with a stop at Luckenbach Texas.

General admission is \$20 per person at the gate. Active military or veterans are \$10 with a valid ID at the gate. Kids 12 or under are admitted free. No club colors are allowed to enter. A portion of the ticket sales benefits the Optimist Club of Fredericksburg.

For more information, visit www.thetexasfandango.com



Pedro Guadarrama takes a joyride through the grounds of the Texas Fandango with his daughter, Emerie.

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The Gillespie County Fair Grounds will be filled with the sounds of roaring engines on April 20 when Monster Truck Wars comes to town.

TRUCKS SMASH!

MONSTER TRUCKS REV THEIR ENGINES AT ANNUAL SHOW

Monster Truck Wars is returning to the Gillespie County Fair Grounds in Fredericksburg on Saturday, April 20.

The monster truck show will bring high energy and fun back to Fredericksburg.

The event features nationally recognized trucks such as “Outlaw”, “El Oso Loco” and “Sheriff.”

General admission tickets at \$20 gives fans access to the show, but other events held at the show include monster truck rides, chances to meet the drivers and the Kids’ Fun Zone. The event will also feature Powerwheel racing for kids ages three to nine years old.

Also featured is pro arena truck racing featuring non-stop racing from

professional drivers.

The event will be held at the Gillespie County Fair Grounds race track, which offers large, covered grandstands.

To purchase tickets to the event, go to <https://www.monstertrucks.fun/monster-truck-wars-tickets-events>. For more information on the races, call 480-881-2375.

Seating is limited in the venue.

WILDFLOWER RUN/WALK IN ITS 30TH YEAR

Runners can celebrate Texas Wildflower Day in the Hill Country by competing in the 30th Annual Fredericksburg Wildflower Run/Walk on Saturday, April 27.

Competitors will follow a scenic course in and around Fredericksburg that begins and ends downtown at Marktplatz.

There will be parking, restrooms and registration on race day.

There will be a 5K and 10K run and 5K walk this year.

RACE START

A pre-warm up stretch led by fitness professionals at The Perry and Ruby Stevens Wellness Center will begin at 8

a.m. near the race starting line.

Races are set to begin at 8:30 a.m. and the walk begins at 8:35 a.m. Chip timing will be provided by Athlete Guild.

AWARDS

Awards for 5K and 10K runners will be presented for male and female categories, for first, second and third place finishers.

Age divisions are 5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 11-14, 15-21, 22-29, 30-35, 36-41, 42-47, 48-53, 54-59, 60-65, 66-69 and 70+.

Final results will be posted on the Perry and Ruby Stevens Wellness Center Facebook page (Create Healthy Wellness Center) after the race.

Online pre-registration is \$35

per walker or runner. The race day deadline is 8 a.m.

PACKET PICK UP

There will be three opportunities to get the official race T-shirt and bib number before the race.

Runners can pick up packets Thursday and Friday, April 25-26, between 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at the Wellness Center, 1006 Texas 16 South. Packets can also be picked up on Saturday, April 27, at the same location from 7-8 a.m.

For more information, call the Wellness Center at 830-997-1355, or visit www.createhealthy.org/wellness.



Runners and walkers line up at Marktplatz in downtown Fredericksburg for the annual Wildflower run/walk every spring.



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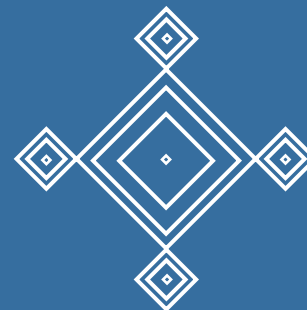


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AMAZING SELECTION! - IN FREDERICKSBURG SINCE 2007

FREDERICKSBURG GETS A CAJUN INVASION

The aroma of Cajun cooking will fill the air in Fredericksburg in late May, at the 2024 Crawfish Festival.

Sponsored by the Fredericksburg Jaycees, the 26th annual Crawfish Festival is held Memorial Day weekend every year at Marktplatz.

A family friendly event, the festival features a crawfish boil, complete with crawfish, potatoes, corn and sausage offered for different prices.

This year, the festival is scheduled for May 24-26, with prices starting at \$12 on Friday, \$15 on Saturday and \$10 on Sunday. Kids ages 6-12 can get tickets for \$5 and kids five and under are free. Two- and three-day passes are available.

The event will start at 6 p.m. Friday, run until midnight, start again on Saturday at 11 a.m., run through midnight and then wrap up on Sunday from noon to 6 p.m.

In addition to the food, the event will also feature live music, arts and crafts and a carnival for the kids.

Merchandise and information for the festival, as well as a schedule for the musical lineup, can be found at www.fbgcrawfishfestival.com.

Crawfish, corn, potatoes and sausage are cooked up every year at the Jaycees' Crawfish Festival held on Memorial Day weekend at Marktplatz in Fredericksburg.

Cajun-style music is performed at the festival along with Texas music headliners throughout the weekend.



IF IT AIN'T BROKE...

OLD TRACTORS AND FARM MACHINES KEEP CHUGGING AT ANNUAL ANTIQUE MACHINERY SHOW

The annual Antique Machinery Show at the Gillespie County Fair Grounds, Saturday, May 18, will show visitors how work was done during the early days of the century.

The show, sponsored by the Hill Country Antique Tractor & Engine Club, runs from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Much of the machinery on display is

expected to again attract enthusiasts from across Texas to the fair grounds where parking is free.

The cost for admission to the show is \$5. Children under 12 may attend for free.

Working exhibits will include demonstrations of wheat threshing, wood planing, corn shelling and

horse-drawn hay baling along with operation of an antique sawmill.

Tractor exhibitors will have an opportunity to parade their entries around the fair grounds.

More information is available from Kenneth Treibs at 830-889-0070.



Kwinn Burrow shows off the power of his antique tractor during the event's tractor pull.

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FILM FESTIVAL RETURNS TO FRITZTOWN

The Hill Country Film Festival celebrated its 14th anniversary last year. The event, slated May 30-June 2 at the Nimitz Museum Ballroom and the Great Hall at Hoffman Haus, will bring independent film and filmmakers to Fredericksburg for a weekend.

The annual Hill Country Film Festival event attracts top independent films and filmmakers for a weekend, at the Nimitz Museum Ballroom and the Great Hall at Hoffman Haus.

The 2024 festival will be May 30-June 2.

At the growing event, audiences can watch and vote on short and feature length films, documentaries, dramas, animations, art films, comedies and more.

Last year, 47 films were screened to 7,900 attendees and over 665

filmmakers and film industry professionals.

Typically, 30-35 percent of the films screened are from Texas, although the festival includes films from all over the world. The festival has shown 237 international films since its inception.

Organizers will offer awards in 10 categories, including a student film category. Past screenings have included an Oscar-winning short film and other critically acclaimed productions.

The Hill Country Film Festival announces its lineup and schedule in the spring and fans can learn inside

information about the events at hillcountryff.com.

On the website, visitors may purchase all-access badges and learn more about the event's history and past film selections. Individual showing tickets may be purchased at each screening venue during the festival on a first-come, first-serve basis.

All-access badges give access to a filmmaker welcome on Thursday night, panels, parties and then the Sunday send-off event at Pedernales Cellars.

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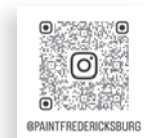
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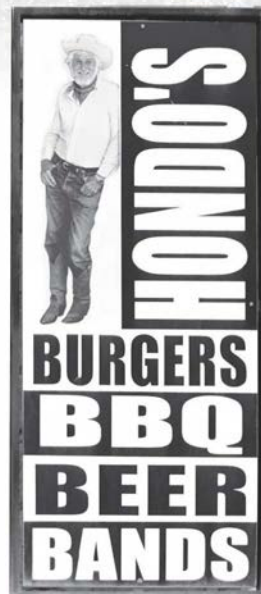
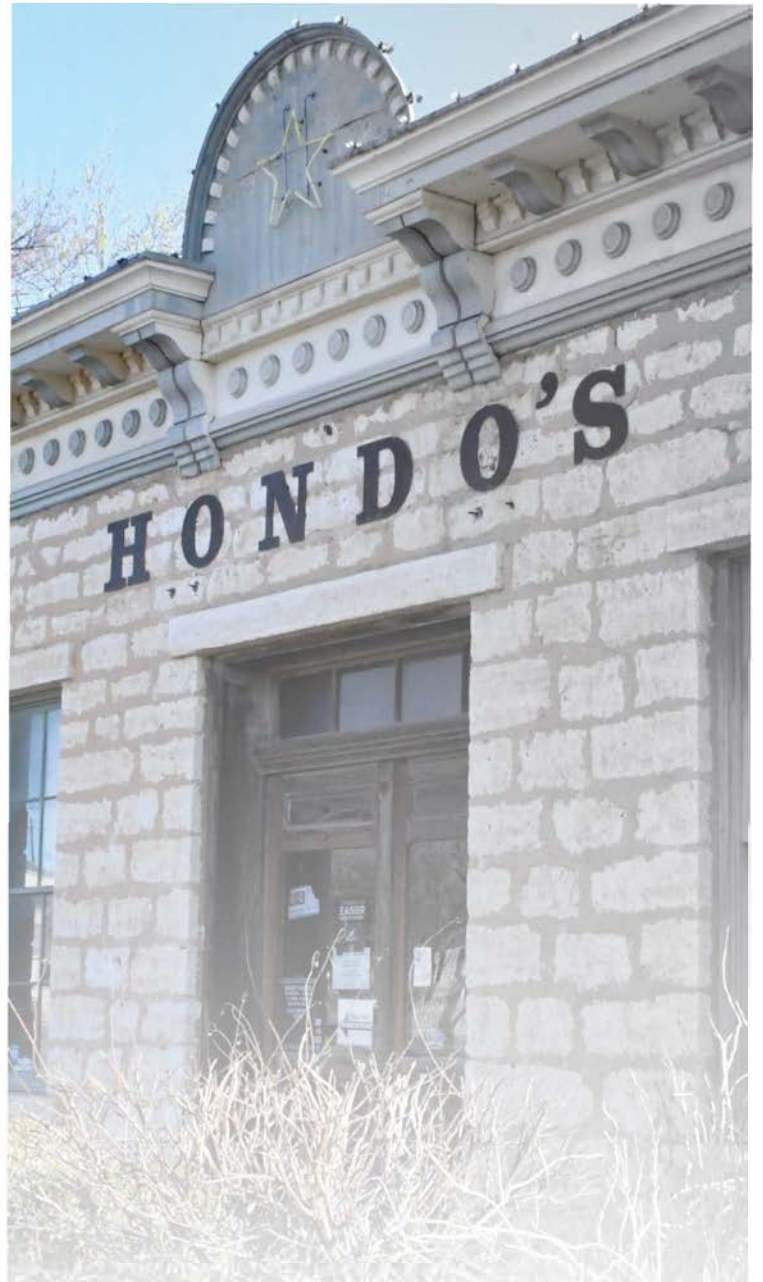
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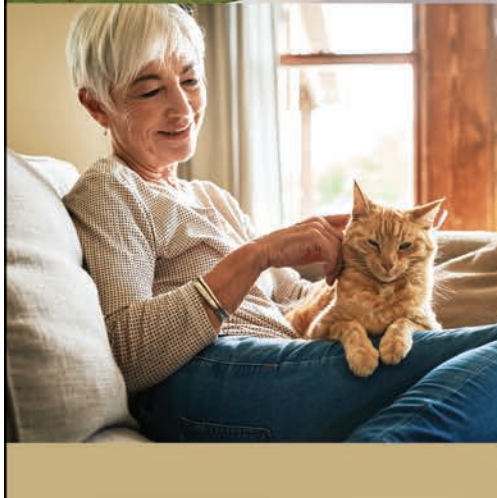
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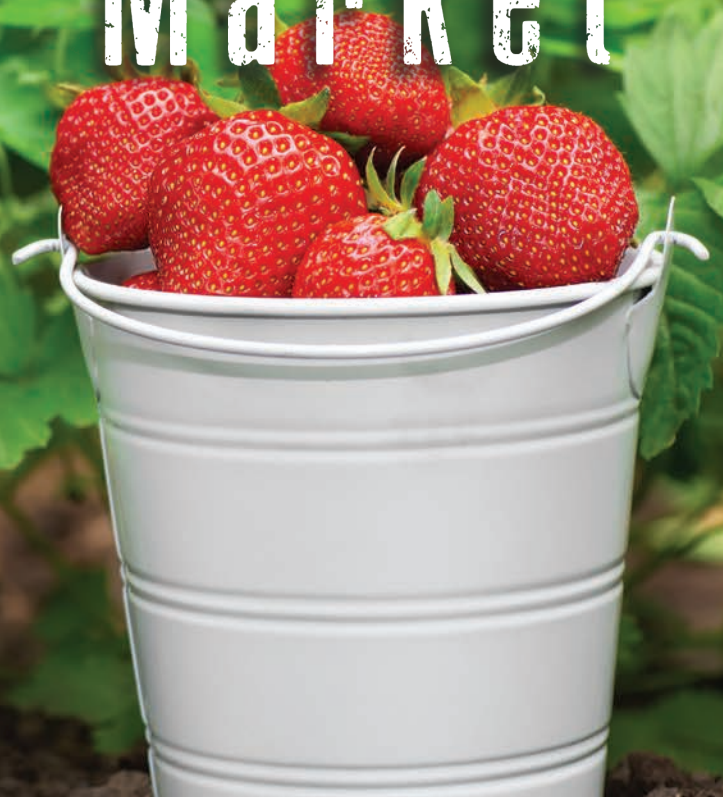
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A PARTY FOR PEACHES

NEARBY STONEWALL CELEBRATES ANNUAL PEACH JAMBOREE

Every summer, the small community of Stonewall fires up the rodeo arena lights and the live music to celebrate its annual Peach JAMBoree, an event that will celebrate its 64th year in 2024. This year it will take place Thursday through Saturday, June 20-22.

The Stonewall Chamber of Commerce organizes the event at its grounds at 250 Peach Street in Stonewall. The JAMBoree features two days of music, rodeo performances, a parade, contests, peach show and auction, queen's contest, children's activities and more.

Guests can get a sneak-peek of the weekend to come Thursday, June 20 with a free slack rodeo at 8 p.m. Gates open at 6 p.m. and food, beer and wine will be available for purchase.

Peach JAMBoree activities get started

on Friday night, June 21, with an 8 p.m. rodeo performance and live music to follow. The gates open at 6 p.m.

Activities continue on Saturday, June 22, with entries for the baking, preserves and salsa contests accepted from 8:30-10 a.m. There is no entry fee.

The parade begins at 10 a.m., and barbecue by the pound will go on sale at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church following the parade.

A variety of foods from local vendors will also be available on the JAMBoree grounds, including peach ice cream and peach cobbler.

Afternoon activities include the Peach Patch area for kids, 42 dominoes tournament, goat roping, washer pitching tournament, peach show and auction, peach eating and pit spitting contest, mutton busting and more.

Girls competing for the title of Stonewall Peach Queen will take part in a pageant at 3 p.m.

The new queen will be crowned in a 7:30 p.m. ceremony just prior to the start of the 8 p.m. rodeo performance. Another live music performance will take place following the Saturday rodeo.

There will be mutton busting both nights beginning at 6:45 p.m., and during the rodeos.

Admission includes the rodeo and live music each night. Food, beer and wine will be for sale.

More information on the Peach JAMBoree as well as other activities in Stonewall is available online at www.stonewalltexas.com or by contacting the Stonewall Chamber of Commerce at 830-644-2735 or by email at stonewallchamber@gmail.com



Peaches are one of the main draws to Gillespie County and the annual Peach JAMBoree celebrates that fact. With a peach show, queen's contest, rodeo and live music, guests of the event get to enjoy all things peaches. Pictured, Kevin Fowler performs at the 2023 Peach JAMBoree.



Horses take to the track four times throughout the summer for horse races at the Gillespie County Fair Grounds.

AND THEY'RE OFF!

GILLESPIE COUNTY FAIR GROUNDS BRING HORSE RACING TO TOWN

The Gillespie County Fair Grounds horse racetrack will host four big weekends of live horse racing throughout the summer of 2024.

Race dates, rain or shine, are scheduled for July 6-7, July 20-21, Aug. 10-11 and Aug. 24-25.

Admission is \$10 per person, \$5 for

children 6-12, and free for children 5 or under.

Attendees can place bets on the horse they are pulling for and cheer them on as they race to the finish line. The track features two levels of seating, concessions and ground level access to the track.

The grounds also offer the Race

Barn, a restaurant viewing area that features 30 TV screens with races from the nation's top tracks year-round. Bet and cheer on races from around the country, all while enjoying a full bar and casual dining. The Race Barn is located on Texas 16 South at the entrance to the fair grounds.

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The night sky above Fredericksburg
lit for the Fourth of July fireworks
show at Lady Bird Johnson Municipal
Park in 2023



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**FREDERICKSBURG HAS A LITTLE
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INDEPENDENCE DAY**



At the annual Fourth of July Parade, antique tractor owners rode down Main Street, representing the Hill Country Antique Tractor & Engine Club Show. Locals and visitors lined the streets in droves for the festivities. The annual Kiddie Parade hosted by Fredericksburg's VFW Post 7105 gives kids the opportunity to dress up in their patriotic outfits and show off their decorations in downtown Fredericksburg on July 4.

Every summer, Fredericksburg residents host events showcasing America on the Fourth of July with experiences across the city, including free parades, a fireworks show and pari-mutuel horse racing.

The annual July 4th Kiddie Parade will kick things off at Marktplatz at 8:30 a.m.

Families donning patriotic outfits parade decorated bicycles, wagons, toy cars and strollers through the downtown square.

Hosted by Fredericksburg's VFW Post 7105 for more than 40 years, the annual event will award prizes for Best Dressed, Most American Pet, Best Decorated Bicycle, Youngest Female

and Male and more.

"It's a great event that seems to grow every year," said Jim Bisson, commander of VFW Post 7105. "It's amazing the number of parents, who have participated in the event are coming with their children and even grandparents, who were in the parade, are participating with their grandchildren."

Following the kiddie parade will be the annual Fourth of July Parade. The family-friendly event will take place on Fredericksburg's historic Main Street at 10 a.m. Thursday, July 4.

Fredericksburg Mayor Jeryl Hoover will commemorate the nation's founding at Marktplatz, Thursday, July

4.

The day culminates with the Fourth of July fireworks. The 15-minute display will begin at 9:30 p.m. at Lady Bird Johnson Municipal Park, 432 Lady Bird Drive.

In the event of inclement weather, the fireworks show will be postponed one week to July 11.

On Saturday and Sunday after July 4, the Gillespie County Fair Grounds will feature pari-mutuel horse racing, with races taking place on July 6-7.

For updates on the Fourth of July Parade, including deadlines for entries in participation of the parade, email specialevents@fbgtx.org.



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ANNUAL SWAP MEET DRAWS COLLECTORS AND CAR ENTHUSIASTS

The area's biggest swap meet returns this summer as the 2024 Hill Country Swap Meet will be held Friday through Sunday, July 26-28, at Lady Bird Johnson Municipal Park on Texas 16 South.

Vintage cars, hundreds of vendors showcasing parts and much more will pack the park.

Set up should begin at 8 a.m., Friday, July 26, and premises must be vacated by 3 p.m., Sunday, July 28.

Car enthusiasts can find just about anything at the swap meet — a “Car Corral” has vintage autos for sale in various states of restoration; there are flea market spaces; and a free trolley makes the rounds on the massive

event's grounds.

In addition to vehicles and parts, among the many items for sale are tools, auto accessories, hats, books, clothes and various souvenirs.

No food and beverage vendors will be present.

Fredericksburg Vintage Car Club, which had built a huge following for the event over nearly four decades, turned over the keys in 2019 to Earhart Productions.

ONLINE
earhartproductions.com

RV accommodations, call (830) 997-4202.
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Collectors and vendors gather at Lady Bird Johnson Municipal Park every year at the Hill Country Swap Meet to show off vintage and antique cars along with auto parts and other collectibles.



Texas swing performer Georgia Parker entertained the crowd at Marktplatz Sunday evening last July, as part of the Pedernales Creative Arts Alliance's Musical Evenings. Mark and Deborah Simmons spun around the dancefloor.

DANCE, DANCE, DANCE!

SUMMER MUSIC SERIES BRINGS OUT FAMILIES AND FRIENDS

Six concerts are scheduled during the spring and summer months as part of the 2024 Marktplatz Pedernales Creative Arts Alliance (PCAA) Musical Evenings Series.

There is no admission charge to the concerts, which are held at the Adelsverein Halle on Marktplatz.

Each concert will go from 6:30 to 8:15 p.m.

Everyone is invited to bring their lawn chairs, picnics, family and friends.

The series opens on April 28 with the Fredericksburg High School Jazz Ensemble and ends with Sister Golden Hair on Sept. 15.

The final concert is designed to “put everyone in the mood” for Oktoberfest, which will celebrate its 43rd celebration Oct. 4-6.

A repertoire that includes jazz, country, big band, western swing and variety dance will be performed at the concerts.

These PCAA concerts are funded by proceeds from Oktoberfest as a way of thanking the community for their support and for those who volunteer at Oktoberfest.

More information about the 2024 Marktplatz PCAA Musical Evenings Series is available by calling 830-997-4810.

2024 CONCERT SCHEDULE

APRIL 28 – Fredericksburg High School Jazz Ensemble (Big band classics)

MAY 19 – US Army Rock Before Dawn

JUNE 23 – Rocky King

JULY 21 – Fingerpistol

AUG. 25 – Joe King

SEPT. 15 – Sister Golden Hair

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FREDERICKSBURG CRAFT BEER FEST TAPS INTO SUMMER



Summer temps pair perfectly with cool brews, and the third annual Fredericksburg Craft Beer Festival is the perfect place to experience both.

Fredericksburg Rotary Club will sponsor the festival June 7-8.

The event includes a Friday evening VIP Awards Dinner for Texas craft breweries who entered its beer competition. Held at the Altstadt Brewery, the event features an awards

presentation in the grand beer hall, plus tours of the production center of the operation. Altstadt serves as a major sponsor of the event.

On Saturday, June 8, the festival moves to Marktplatz downtown with booths featuring pours of top Texas craft brews, a diverse selection of Texas music culminating with Alex Meixner's polka band, food booths, a "Suds and Tastes" food cooking demonstration tent, cornhole and other fun

attractions.

Proceeds from this year's event will go to the Hill Country Community Needs Council, which gives short-term assistance to locals in need for items ranging from help with utility bills, to school supplies, to tax filing.

For more information on sponsorships, call Creative Marketing Inc. at 830-997-8515.

Or learn more online at www.fbcraftbeerfestival.com.



The newly formed Craft Beer Festival celebrates one of Fredericksburg's oldest traditions, "bier." This year's event will take place at both Altstadt Brewery and Marktplatz in downtown Fredericksburg.



GROWING & GOING

OLDEST CONTINUOUS COUNTY FAIR HIGHLIGHTS LOCAL YOUTH

Gillespie County is coming up on the 136th year of its historic fair, which is set for Thursday through Sunday, Aug. 22-25.

Sponsored by the Gillespie County Fair and Festivals Association, the 136th Gillespie County Fair will include two days of live pari-mutuel horse racing, a carnival and midway, displays of agricultural and home products, a parade, queen's contest, antique machinery displays, musical entertainment, livestock shows and more.

With the exception of the parade, all activities take place at the Gillespie County Fair Grounds, located about 2 miles from downtown Fredericksburg, off Texas 16 South (Kerrville highway).

The fair opens on Thursday night, Aug. 22, with Tejano music and free admission to the grounds.

The carnival and midway will be operating, and judging will take place in the various agricultural and home products divisions.

The kickoff parade is on Friday, Aug. 23, at 10 a.m., on Fredericksburg's Main Street.

After the parade, activities shift back to the Gillespie County Fair Grounds, where three full days of events are planned, including dances on Friday and Saturday nights at the outdoor pavilion.

Entertainers and other plans are being finalized, and information will be announced in the regular issues of the

Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post.

Another highlight of the event is the crowning of the new Gillespie County Fair Queen and her court on Friday night, Aug. 23.

Pari-mutuel horse races will be run Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 24-25.

Post time for the races both days is 1 p.m.

Throughout the four-day weekend, the Exhibition Hall will be open for onlookers to take in the many displays of agricultural home products. Fruits and vegetables, grain, hay, wool and mohair, baked goods and canned foods along with arts and crafts, sewing, plants and children's items are featured.

Also, the Hill Country Antique



Top right, the Fair Queen Court for 2022 takes a breather on the Gillespie County Fair Association float. The Gillespie County Fair includes a carnival and midway with rides and games for kids and adults.

Tractor and Engine Club will offer displays and will host demonstrations.

There are also a number of commercial displays and educational booths.

Admission is charged Friday through Sunday.

A wide array of foods and drinks will also be available throughout the weekend.

The Race Day Classic Steer Show will be held before the fair on Aug. 5-7 (dates subject to change). The show is sanctioned by the Texas Junior Livestock Association.

History

Since its beginning before the turn of the century, the Gillespie County Fair

has been held at numerous locations, including the banks of Barons Creek, just east of the city on the site of Old Fort Martin Scott. Later, it was moved to where the Turner Hall was located on West Travis Street. (The Turner Hall was destroyed by a fire in June of 2016.)

From there, the fair was held on a knoll near the former location of the City of Fredericksburg Electrical Department, off of South Washington Street.

Years afterward, the fair was conducted at what people today call the old fair grounds, two blocks from Main Street on the Kerrville Highway.

The present facility, located off Texas 16 South, was dedicated in 1976 during

the U.S. Bicentennial.

The current site includes a 5/8-mile racetrack, grandstand, biergarten, exhibition hall, livestock barn, food court, restroom facilities, an outdoor dance pavilion and ample parking.

INFORMATION:

Mailing address: Gillespie County Fair and Festivals Association, P.O. Box 526, Fredericksburg, TX 78624.

Telephone number: 830-997-2359.

Website: www.gillespiefair.com.

TICKETS:

Can be purchased online at www.gillespiefair.com.

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HARPER COWBOYS UP

FRONTIER DAYS CELEBRATES THE OLD WAYS

Harper will celebrate its ranching roots this year at its 60th annual Harper Frontier Days & Rodeo at the Harper Community Park on Friday and Saturday, Sept. 27-28.

Frontier Days is a celebration of the old days of this western Gillespie County community.

The traditional small-town showdown kicks off at 6 p.m. Friday with the countywide team roping

competition.

On Saturday, families can participate in a variety of activities starting at 1 p.m. such as a washer toss tournament, a kids' fishing event, live music and a "42" dominoes tournament.

A barbecue meal is set for 6 p.m. in the park, followed by a rodeo at 8 p.m., produced by the Lester Meier Rodeo Company. Visitors can get to boot scootin' at a dance after the rodeo.

The Harper Community Park is at the east corner of U.S. Highway 290 and North Park Street in Harper.

Tickets are \$15 per adult for the rodeo and dance and \$5 for children ages 6-12. Admission is free for children under 6. Barbecue plates are \$15 each.

For more information, visit the park's website at www.harpercommunitypark.org.

Cowboy culture comes to life at Harper Frontier Days & Rodeo, a weekend-long annual celebration with rodeo, barbecue, games, music and more.



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- January 3-6Gillespie County Youth Livestock Show
- January 17-20Grandstand Sheep Show/Sale
- February 10-11Texas Gun & Knife Show
- March 7.....Fredericksburg Chamber of Commerce Banquet
- April 12-14.....Texas Vintage Motorcycle Fandango*
- April 20.....Monster Truck Wars*
- May 18.....Antique Tractor & Engine Show
- July 6-7Pari-Mutuel Horse Races*
- July 19-20Lone Star BBQ Cook-Off
- August 3-4Original Race Day Classic Steer Show
- August 10-11Pari-Mutuel Horse Races*
- August 10GCCFA Meat Goat Futurity & GCCFA Lamb Futurity
- August 22-25136th Gillespie County Fair*
- August 22Concert & Dance*
- August 23136th Gillespie County Fair Parade
- August 23Concerts & Dance*
- August 24Concerts & Dance*
- August 24-25Pari-Mutuel Horse Races*
- September 5-7Hill Country Dorper Sale
- September 2128th Annual Scholarship Fest*
- October 17-19Texas Gourd Society (Lone Star Gourd Festival)*
- October 26-27Texas Gun & Knife Show*
- November 23Wild Game Dinner*
- Nov. 29-Dec 1.....The Peddler Show*

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Schedule is subject to change without notice.



FOR MORE INFORMATION:
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