

Texas Polka News

POLKA ★ COUNTRY ★ WESTERN SWING ★ CAJUN



Oktoberfest Guide 2017

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From the Publisher



By Theresa Cernoch Parker
theresa@polkabeat.com

Willkommen to the 3rd annual *Texas Polka News* Oktoberfest Guide. It was great working with all of the towns and organizations to help them get the word out about their festivals.

Welcome new event - the 30th Annual Hogeeye Festival in Elgin. It sounds like a really fun event, with all kinds of piggy puns and word plays. My kinda fest! See page 22 to learn more.

Also welcome Victoria Czech Heritage Festival on page 15. This group is always coming up with new ways to get young people involved, and *Texas Polka News* is proud to sponsor the sing-along segments of the event.

And what started out as a way for the Rotary Club in La Grange to raise scholarship funds, has now become one of the premier Oktoberfest events in Central Texas, as they get ready for their third fest. Read more on page 20.

Glad to see that Oktoberfest in Paris, Texas is not only back to promote its second annual event, they've expanded it to

two days!. Find out what they have to offer this year on page 26.

Congrats to Forth Worth Oktoberfest (page 7) and Westfest (page 19). Both were mentioned in a July article on travelmag.com as two of the best festivals in Texas.

TPN is also proud to sponsor the dance floor at the La Grange Ford Hospoda during Heritage Fest at Texas Czech Heritage & Cultural Center. I do so in memory of my dad, Bill Cernoch, who loved to dance. The center, celebrating its 20th year, always puts on a great fest and show honoring bands of the past. I think everyone will love the choice this year of celebrating the legacy of **Bobby Jones** and the **Bobby Jones Czech Band**. Find out more on page 8.

Congrats to Czhlispriel on an anniversary milestone, celebrating 45 years. The fest is another prime example of starting out as a way to raise funds for a specific need in the community, and ending up with a festival that people from across the state enjoy coming to. Check out all the things planned for this year on page 30.

I was happy to hear that **Mollie B, Ted Lange, and Dana Linblad**, aka **Squeezebox**, will be the headliner at the Tomball German Christmas Market. I consider this event the finale of the Oktoberfest season, and it never disappoints! See page 24.

I wish you all safe travels as you festival hop around the state. Polka On!

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Ads/Media

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1/2 page: \$225	3/16 page: \$75	

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Combo deals available for ads in TPN and polkabeat.com.
Contact Theresa Parker for information.

On The Cover

Mark Hiebert captured this image of Valina Polka at the Riverwalk Bier Garten in San Antonio on Sun., Oct 2, 2016

About Texas Polka News

The *Texas Polka News* was started by Julius Tupa of Houston in 1987 with the mission to preserve and promote polka music and dance. When Julius passed away in 2002, his wife, Marie, continued as publisher, and his friend, John Rivard, took the reins as volunteer editor. John's wife, Marlys, was a regular contributor to the paper, and the couple were always on the floor at dance

halls throughout Texas and the U.S. John stepped down as editor in June 2014 to care for Marlys' failing health. Marie sold the paper to Theresa Cernoch Parker, who resumed publishing the paper in September 2014. Theresa also founded polkabeat.com in 2010 to honor the memory of her dad, Willie "Bill" Cernoch, to promote polka music and heritage.

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Continue the polka tradition! Give your children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces and nephews a subscription to Texas Polka News. We'll extend your current TPN subscription one month for each subscription you designate as a family gift. Published monthly. One year (12 issues) for \$25.
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Climb Aboard the Brave Combo Space Ship Polka

By Gary E. McKee

Brave Combo's Space Ship Polka (SSP) is loading up to set out on a fall tour of Texas. The Denton-based nuclear polka band uses polka music as a jumping off platform to cross rock, jazz, and dozens of world-beat rhythms (cha-cha-cha) to provide some of the finest energetic dance music on this planet.

A quick glance at the galaxy-wide set list possibilities includes *Sugartime*, *A Little Bit Irish*, *Chopsticks*, *De Colores*, *What A Wonderful World*, *Wooden Heart*, and *The William Tell Overture*.

Interspersed are polka standards such as *A Ja Sam*, *The Chicken Dance*, *The Denton Polka*, *No Beer in Heaven*, and the band's unique and most requested *Hokey Pokey*. And of course, *Flying Saucer* will probably be performed.

FIRST STOP: PLANET AUSTIN

The space ship first lands in Austin, August 19th, with a gravity defying show at the famed Antone's Nightclub, which just recently celebrated its 42nd anniversary. Brave Combo will join Max Baca and **Los Texmaniacs**, and **The Gulf Coast Playboys** for a Summertime Psychedelic Tex-Mex Polka Party. It's sure to be an evening of San Antonio, Cajun, and world polka music that will send the dancers into orbit. Following a city concert in Arlington, Labor Day weekend has the Combo at their decades-long "house band" gig, WestFest, for two days of interstellar dance fun.

IN THE O FEST GALAXY

The Combo then sharpens up their German language skills for a series of Oktoberfests in Fort Worth, McKinney, Austin, East Texas, the Denton area, and the Texas suburb, Tulsa Oklahoma. Please see the ad for dates and locations.

In lightyears past, the Combo's fall tours have found them in many different states. Band leader, Carl

Finch, sadly reports that a couple of major Oktoberfests in other states have gone kaput. However, the opposite is happening in Texas with venues (many city sponsored) and festivals on the rise.

As the SSP is powered infinitely by dilithium crystals, this increase of venues closer to home works well for them as travel logistics, costs, and as Carl puts it: "Being on the road for almost forty years has lost some of its charm."

This writer was once told by an East Texas native, "We don't dance." Which is an overstatement, but not by much. Brave Combo has been slowly infiltrating the Pine Curtain, by being asked to return to festivals this fall in Paris, Crockett, and Nacogdoches, and people are dancing.

This fall tour will be one of the best, as the SSP allows the band to be refreshed and ready to POLKA at each show. If a person was lucky, the SSP might perform an alien abduction, and that person can experience an out-of-this-world, two-plus months of Brave Combo music fun. Carl wants everyone to know that Brave Combo is superthankful for the love and support they have given the band since 1979.

Even if you come for the party, you'll leave with a musical education for Brave Combo's motto is, "Everything (music) is sacred. Nothing is sacred (if treated with respect)."

Everybody scream!



Carl Finch at the Denton Arts & Jazz Festival/
Festival photo. Band photo by Jane Finch.



BRAVE COMBO

SAT AUG 19 ANTONE'S (AUSTIN, TX) WITH THE TEXMANIACS
FRI SEPT 1 LEVITT PAVILION (ARLINGTON, TX)
SAT SEPT 2 WESTFEST (WEST, TX)
SUN SEPT 3 WESTFEST (WEST, TX)
SAT SEPT 16 INTERNATIONAL FEST (PEARLAND, TX)
THU SEPT 21 OKTOBERFEST (FT. WORTH, TX)
FRI SEPT 22 OKTOBERFEST (McKINNEY, TX)
SAT SEPT 23 OKTOBERFEST (FT. WORTH, TX) AFTERNOON
SAT SEPT 23 OKTOBERFEST (McKINNEY, TX) NIGHT
SAT SEPT 30 SCHOLZ GARTEN (AUSTIN, TX)

FRI OCT 6 OKTOBERFEST (PARIS, TX)
SAT OCT 7 POLKAFEST (CROCKETT, TX)
THU OCT 12 STATE FAIR (DALLAS, TX)
FRI OCT 13 CITY CONCERT (EULESS, TX)
SAT OCT 14 BONNIE AND CLYDE DAYS (PILOT POINT, TX)
SUN OCT 15 PEACE LUTHERAN OKTOBERFEST (HURST, TX)
FRI OCT 20 OKTOBERFEST (TULSA, OK)
SAT OCT 21 PUMPKIN PALOOZA (CORINTH, TX)
SUN OCT 29 POLKAPOCALYPSE (AUSTIN, TX)
SAT NOV 4 KRAUSE'S (NEW BRAUNFEL'S, TX)
FRI NOV 10 THE OLD CHURCH (NACOGDOCHES, TX)

For more information (times, locations, etc.) about any of our live performances or to order some of our fabulous merchandise, please visit our website, bravecombo.com. Now, let's polka!



OKTOBERFEST

29 SEPT - 1 OCT
6 OCT - 8 OCT

BIERGARTENRIVERWALK.COM

BIERGARTEN

ON THE RIVERWALK

Polka on the River In San Antonio

Have a sausage, raise a glass, dance a polka

The atmosphere, music, spectacle, festivities and of course THE BEER from the world's largest Oktoberfest in Munich, can be sampled right in San Antonio, at the Riverwalk Bier Garten every day of the year, but special emphasis is placed on the German tradition during Oktoberfest on Sept. 29-Oct. 1, and Oct. 6-Oct. 8.

The Riverwalk Bier Garten launched its first Oktoberfest in 2015 with much acclaim and standing room only. The grand festival of German entertainment includes polka bands, sing-alongs, and contests in stein hoisting, dancing, baby-bottle chugging, and yodeling. A parade and ceremonial tapping of the keg is held each day of the fest.

Das Ist Lustig is back on opening weekend. Valina and Ross are celebrating the band's 10th anniversary, and as the name of the band implies, you're going to have fun! Also in the music lineup for the first weekend are the **Chris Cruz Band** and **Jericho Band**, infusing some rock into the festivities.

The second weekend features the **Austin Polka Band**. Established in 2002, the band is an ensemble of musical veterans who love playing, performing, and doing their part to preserve and share polka and traditional German music in Central.

More music on the second weekend includes **Craig Meisslei**,

Mike & Vince Band, and the **Jericho Band**. See schedule, next page.

ABOUT THE BIER GARTEN

Welcome to a taste of Bavaria and the historic Oktoberfest, right here in San Antonio! The San Antonio Riverwalk is one of the top tourist attractions in the U.S. San Antonio is a multicultural city, which includes a strong German heritage. Now you can experience rich German culture and hospitality at one of the Riverwalk's most entertaining attractions – the Riverwalk Bier Garten.

Close to the Alamo, shaded by live oak trees, the Bier Garten offers authentic Bavarian fare, including sausages, pretzels, kraut, and ice cold beer. The bar has one of the largest selections of import and craft beer on the Riverwalk. Wine is also available, and while you might have a hard time finding margaritas in Germany, you can find them here—after all, this IS San Antonio!

Relax with friends and have a fun-filled Oktoberfest experience right here in the River City. Enjoy the beautiful outdoor setting with umbrellas, waterfalls, beautiful foliage, and the San Antonio river. Or if you prefer, come inside for air-conditioned comfort.

The Bier Garten's beautiful beer maidens will take care of you in a festive atmosphere, accompanied by German and local music on weekends, including Oktoberfest karaoke. Savor the Riverwalk experience! Have a sausage, raise a glass with friends, and immerse yourself in the rich German heritage of this beautiful city. Bier Garten awaits you! PROST!



Oktoberfest Musik

Friday, September 29

Das Ist Lustig 4-8 pm

Dance competition 5:15 pm
 Yodeling & Baby Bottle Chugging
 competitions 6:30 pm
 Parade, Tapping of the Keg 7 pm
 Chris Cruz Band 8 pm-12 am

Saturday, September 30

Das Ist Lustig 2-6 pm

Dance competition 3:15 pm
 Yodeling & Baby Bottle Chugging
 competitions 4:30 pm
 Parade, Keg Tapping 5 pm
 Stein Hoisting 6 pm
 Chris Cruz Band 8 pm-12 am

Sunday, October 1

Das Ist Lustig 2-6 pm
 Parade, Keg Tapping 5 pm
 Stein Hoisting 6 pm
 Jericho Band 6-10 pm

Friday, October 6

Austin Polka Band 4-8 pm

Dance competition 5:15 pm
 Yodeling & Baby Bottle Chugging
 competitions 6:30 pm
 Parade, Keg Tapping 7 pm
 Mike & Vince Band 8 pm-12 am

Saturday, October 7

Craig Meisslei 2-6 pm

Dance competition 3:15 pm
 Yodeling & Baby Bottle Chugging
 competitions 4:30 pm
 Parade, Keg Tapping 5 pm
 Stein Hoisting 6 pm
 Mike & Vince Band 8 pm-12 am

Sunday, October 8

Craig Meisslei 2-6 pm
 Parade, Keg Tapping 5 pm
 Stein Hoisting 6 pm
 Jericho Band 6-10 pm



Czech Out Kolache Fest in Caldwell

The 33rd Caldwell Kolache Festival is set for Sat., Sept. 9. The festival is an annual celebration of the revitalization of Burleson County's Czech heritage.

See the technique of quilting, woodcraft, carving, and sculpturing. Dance to the polka, and sing the songs of the musician. Taste the true ethnic food and lend your soul to the fulfillment of the Czech cultural heritage.

The Burleson County Czech Heritage Museum invites you to start the party Friday night, Sept. 8, at the County Expo Center with a dinner and dance to the music of the **Dujka Brothers**. Dinner is served from 5:30-7 pm, and the dance will be from 6-10 pm. Celebrating their 30th year in the polka music biz, John and Mark Dujka are truly a Texas polka power duo. Their recording of *Church Picnic*

Polka from their latest CD, *Let's Have a Party*, received a Favorite Song Award from the International Polka Association, and the pair was inducted into the Polka Hall of Fame at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Hallettsville earlier this year.

On Saturday, enjoy all things Czech – food, drink, music, and art. The day starts at 9 am with an opening prayer, flag ceremony, and singing of Texas Our Texas, and national anthems for the US and Czech Republic. Next comes the crowning of Miss Kolache Festival Burleson County, followed by a performance by the SPJST Youth Beseda Dancers.

The entertainment lineup features the **Shiner Hobo Band**, **The Moravians**, and **Jodie Mikula Orchestra**. On the North Stage (off Fox Street just down from Echols St) the Hobos start playing at 10 am. They'll take a break at 11 am for the annual Kolache Eating Contest, and resume playing around 11:30 am until nearly 1 pm. That's when The



BURLESON COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PRESENTS

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OFFICIAL KOLACHE FESTIVAL SPONSOR

33rd ANNUAL KOLACHE FESTIVAL Sept 9 2017

Downtown Caldwell
"on the square"

BurlesonCountyTX.com/kolachefestival



Moravians from Ennis take over and play until 4 pm. Their set is followed by the big announcement of the winners of the 2017 Kolache Bake Show.

On the South Stage (located off Buck Street in the BB&T drive thru), the Jodie Mikula Orchestra,



celebrating its 50th anniversary, will play from 11 am to 3 pm.

There's something for everyone in the family at the Kolache Festival – quilt show, street rod and classic cars, antique machinery and tractors, and, of course, kolaches!

Oktoberfest Returns to Fort Worth

Oktoberfest is back in Fort Worth! The fest, recently featured as one of the best festivals in Texas in a July 18, 2017 story by travelmag.com, starts Thurs., Sept. 21st and runs through Sat., Sept. 23rd at Panther Island Pavilion.

According to the e-zine, "The German tradition of Oktoberfest has spread like wildfire across the world and the Fort Worth edition, which brings a mouth-watering slice of Germany to Texas, is celebrated with as much fervor as anywhere."

The three-day festival, presented by Spaten, will stay true to the traditional, Munich-style Oktoberfest with authentic German food, music, and entertainment. Enjoy the indoor and outdoor biergartens including a main hall where authentic German beer, Spaten, will serve its Oktoberfest brew, and a craft biergarten that will serve fall and Oktoberfest craft beers from around the country.

New this year, patrons can enjoy a midway area featuring carnival rides for the young and the young at heart!

Join us on Thursday in the Spaten Main Hall for the opening ceremonies. The Keg Tapping Committee will officially tap the first kegs of Spaten by ham-

mering a bronze spout into the kegs with a wooden mallet. The trick is to do so without spilling any bier!

Entertainment includes **Brave Combo, Alpenmusikanten, Das Ist Lustig, Terry Cavanagh and Alpine Express, Walburg Boys**, and more. After you're through dancing, enjoy the dachshund races, a keg-rolling contest, chicken dancing, stein-lifting competition, and dancers of all ages performing traditional Bavarian folk dances.

The German food menu will include bratwursts, pretzels, strudel, crepes, and roasted nuts. For more information, go to OktoberfestFW.com or call 817-698-0700.

Witajcze K'nam to Serbin

The Texas Wendish Heritage Museum and historic St. Paul Lutheran Church – one of the painted churches of Texas – will present the 29th Annual Wendish Fest on Sun., Sept. 24.

Enjoy a fun, family-oriented day in Serbin (six miles southwest of Giddings) featuring traditional Wendish foods like sausage, sauerkraut, and those famous homemade noodles. Experience folkways and folklife demonstrations and exhibits, competitions like the Coffee Cake Bake-

Off, children's activities, vintage machinery and automobiles, plus POLKA music!

Featured entertainers this year will be the **TubaMeisters**, a group of four extremely talented musicians and singers from San Antonio. They'll get the music going about 12:45 pm. You'll want to be around at 2 pm, where you can bid on winning coffee cake entries!!! Auction proceeds are designated for Texas Wendish Heritage Scholarship Fund.

English church service will be held at 8:30 am, and German service at 10:30 am.

ABOUT THE MUSEUM

The Texas Wendish Heritage Museum

preserves the history of the Texas Wends, Slavic immigrants from Lusatia, an area in eastern Germany. Today the Wends of Lusatia are called Sorbs. Wendish families began arriving in Texas in 1849.

The museum is a complex of buildings connected by porches. In the center is a new facility with a display interpreting the history of the Wends. It also houses the offices, gift shop, library, and archives. To the right and left are the old St. Paul school buildings. Exhibits include relics from the old country and Texas. Outdoor exhibits include two log buildings and farming equipment.

Texas Wendish Heritage Museum

Located next to Historic St. Paul Lutheran Church in Serbin - One of the Painted Churches of Texas

Open 1-5 pm every day except Mondays and holidays

www.TexasWendish.org • 979-366-2441

Wendish Fest

Always the 4th Sunday in September!

September 24, 2017

Featuring music by
the TubaMeisters

1011 CR 212, 6 miles SW of Giddings



Fort Worth Oktoberfest is set for Sept. 21-23.



TubaMeisters will provide music at the Wendish Fest.

OKTOBERFEST

Fort Worth RETURNS SEPT 21-23

Presented by **SPATEN** AT PANTHER ISLAND PAVILION

Produced by **TRINITY RIVER VISION** and **PANTHER ISLAND PAVILION**

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LIVE MUSIC FROM

BRAVE COMBO DAS IST LUSTIG

ALPINE VILLAGE BAND WALBURG BOYS ALPINE DANCERS

OFF THE GRID BAND TERRY CAVANAGH AND THE ALPINE EXPRESS

ALPENMUSIKANTEN und MORE!

OKTOBERFESTFW.COM

THE SHACK AT PANTHER ISLAND PAVILION
395 Purcey St. Fort Worth, TX 76102 817.698.0700

Czech Heritage Fest Has it All!

*Muziky Performance to Honor
Bobby Jones Czech Band*

The Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center in La Grange will host the Heritage Festival & Muziky on October 20 and 21. The Fest will begin at 4 pm on Friday with chicken and dumplings served while it lasts in the Hanslik

Banquet Hall beginning at 5:30 pm.

Oktoberfest on the Deck will begin at 6 pm with music by the **Dujka Brothers** till 9:30 pm. Mark and John Dujka have been making music together for over 30 years and have several acknowledgements, including being inducted into the Polka Hall of Fame at the KC Hall in Hallettsville, and receiving a Favorite Song Award from the International Polka Association for their recording of *Church Picnic Polka*. The song is featured on their latest CD, *Let's Have a Party*, which celebrates the duo's 30th anniversary.

Saturday, the day kicks off with an opening ceremony at 10 am. The La Grange Ford Hospoda will be filled with cold pivo and musical entertainment by the **Red Ravens** and **Bohemian Dutchmen** from 11:30 am to 6 pm. Plenty of room to dance on the *Texas Polka News* dance floor!

The Red Ravens, from El Campo, date back to 1969, and is still one of the most sought-after bands on the dance hall circuit. The band's popularity comes from their philosophy of "play what the people want," including polka, waltz, and country tunes, featuring that famous line dance. Band leader Lawrence Svetlik has been with the band since the beginning, and plays his grandfather's tuba that stills deliver that great oom-pah sound.

The Bohemian Dutchmen from New Braunfels is led by Roy Haag. His wife, Theresa, is also in the band, which started in 1978. The name comes from Theresa being mostly Czech heritage and Roy being 100% German – thus, Bohemian Dutchmen.

tavern, sawmill, and general store. Demonstrations of early life for the immigrants will take place throughout the grounds all day, including working in the saw mill, blacksmithing, corn shelling and grinding, hay pressing, peanut thrashing, and the making of textiles, noodles, sausage, and wine. Children activities are sponsored by the KJT and SPJST.

An antique farm equipment and antique car show will spread through the village. Vendors and craft booths will be available for your shopping pleasure. Visit the country store for some good buys, including fresh, stone-ground corn meal for cooking. Plenty of food and cold beverages will be available as well. The Janak Barn & Texas Czech Agricultural Museum displays farm practices and implements from the late 1800s to 1940.

The Czech Village houses two music museums. The Czech Music Museum of Texas, located in the Kalich House, features four genres of Czech music – classical, folk, polka, and liturgical. The Polka Lovers Club of Texas Museum, located in the Hoelsher House, features a display of Texas polka bands, as well as memorabilia and photos of the Polka Lovers Klub of America, Texas Chapter.

Inside the TCHCC main center, stop by the Czech Gift Shop to browse the brand new stock of authentic Czech items, T-shirts, caps, crystal, periodicals, music CDs, and new Christmas decorations for 2017. Watch textile demonstrations of spinning and looming, crochet, and knitting, and enjoy the pictorial display of the past 20 years of TCHCC.

Have you always wondered about your Czech roots? The spacious Melnar Library will offer help with genealogy research. The Hanslik Hall will be the site of the KJT State Taroky Championship. Swing in there and they'd be happy to teach you this fun card game. Plenty to do for the entire family! Come out and Czech out the fun!

Book your hotel rooms at the Best Western or Hampton Inn and ask for the TCHCC Fest room block and discount before Oct. 1.



Heritage Festival & Muziky October 20th and 21st

250 West Fairgrounds Road, La Grange, Texas

Friday, Oct. 20th

~ **Octoberfest** ~
on the Deck

4:00 PM to 10:00 PM

**Chicken & Dumplings
will be Served!!**

Music 6:00 - 9:30 PM



**The Dujka
Brothers**

**Saturday Night
Fireworks Finale**

Proudly
Sponsored by **H-E-B**

1-888-785-4500 • czechtexas.org
info@czechtexas.org

Saturday, Oct. 21st

Opening Ceremony - 10:00 AM
KJT State Taroky Tournament
Museums & Czech Gift Shop
Antique Farm Equipment & Car Shows
Arts & Crafts • Children's Activities
Heritage Demonstrations
SPJST Kolache Eating Contest
Czech Village Tours

La Grange Ford
Hospoda "Beer Garden"



Shiner Beer Stage

11:30 AM – 6:00 PM

Red Ravens

The Bohemian Dutchmen



~ **Amphitheater** ~

Muziky, Muziky

7:00 PM - 9:30 PM

"THE LEGENDS SERIES Part V"

Featuring

**The Legacy of Bobby Jones
and the Bobby Jones Czech Band**



THE LEGACY OF BOBBY JONES

Enjoy more music at the Muziky, Muziky event from 7-9:30 pm in the Sanford Schmid Amphitheater. Always a popular part of the Heritage Fest, this year's Legends Series will feature The Legacy of Bobby Jones and the **Bobby Jones Czech Band**.

Bobby Jones, from Wharton, was one of the most popular musicians and entertainers in the polka world during the 1990s and early 2000s. Polka fans were shocked in June 2007 when it was announced that Bobby had gone missing. Tire tracks and the license plate from his car were found on the banks of the rain swollen Brazos River in Wharton.

Ten years later, several of the musicians who shared the stage with Bobby, including Bob Suttie and Joe Zetka Jr., will gather Saturday night to pay tribute to the charismatic band leader. The performance will be followed by a huge fireworks finale, sponsored by HEB.

STROLL THE VILLAGE

In addition to enjoying the great music, you're invited to stroll the Czech Village, an early 1900s recreated village complete with residential houses, barns,

Heritage Demonstrations, Muziky, Czech Village Tours, & More!



It's Czech Heritage Month in Austin

Join the Austin Czech Historical Association at the 23rd Annual Cesky Vecer for an evening of fun, laughter, dancing, and fellowship on Sun., Oct. 8. New venue this year – VFW Post 8787.

Doors open at 3 pm, and the delicious Czech buffet dinner will be served at 5 pm. Dance to **Kovanda's Czech Band** from 6-9 pm, and bid on the treasures in the silent auction. Tickets are only \$25, but don't wait to get your tickets at the door; none will be sold then. Contact Virginia Pargmann at 512-863-3785 or robparg@aol.com to order your tickets and help this association with its annual fundraiser.

The mission of the association is to preserve Czech culture. ACHA meetings are held the 4th Tuesday of each month (except during the summer) at Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Austin. Visit AustinCzechs.com to learn more. Everyone (Czech or just wanting to be Czech!) is welcome to come.

Austin Czech Historical Association 23rd Annual Cesky Vecer *A festive evening of Czech culture* Sunday, October 8

VFW Post 8787
500 VFW Rd, Austin
(Right off I-35E between E Braker & E Parmer Ln)



Doors open @ 3 p.m.
Dinner served @ 5 p.m.
Silent Auction

Dance to the music of
Kovanda Czech Band
6-9 p.m.

Tickets \$25/person
No tickets sold at door.
BYOB / Bar will be open for
wine, beer, & set-ups

To order tickets
Virginia Pargmann
512-863-3785 robparg@aol.com
Dotty Davis
512-663-6592 ddavis201@austin.rr.com

Biers, Brats, & Bavarian Fun!



Saturday, September 30th
11:00am-6:00pm

Enzian Buam - Auf Gehts
Eurofest - Yodel Blitz - Folk Dancers



Water Works on Buffalo Bayou
105 Sabine Street, Houston, TX, 77007

Compete in the Olympiad Games,
Best Dressed, Yodeling, and
Chicken Dance Contests!

Buy your tickets today!
OktoberfestHouston.com

Houston O Fest

A Beer Fest with a German Twist

Put on your lederhosen and dirndls! It's time for Oktoberfest Houston on Sat., Sept. 30. The fest will be held from 11 am-6 pm at The Water Works at Buffalo Bayou Park near downtown.

Oktoberfest Houston features live music from some of the best polka bands in Texas, including **Enzian Buam, Auf Geht's, Eurofest, and Yodel Blitz**. Enjoy a wide variety of German and Texas beers to sip on while enjoying bratwurst or other tasty German food from one of several food vendors.

Upgrade your ticket to VIP for complimentary beverages and food from the one and only King's BierHaus, as well as expedited entry, preferred seating and

toilets, and more!

All attendees have the opportunity to compete for prizes in the 6th Annual Oktoberfest Olympiad games, sponsored by Houston Sports and Social Club. Games include the Stein Race, Dizzy Bat Barrel Roll, Stein Hoisting, and the legendary Brat Toss. There is no cost to participate in the Olympiad Games. Other fun games at the Houston SSC Fun Zone include cornhole, giant Jenga, and giant Connect 4.

New this year, Oktoberfest will host the 5th installment of Houston's only Tournament of Champions in Beer Pong and Flip Cup competitions! There is an extra cost to compete in the Tournament of Champions. Visit HoustonSSC.com for more information.

General admission tickets are \$25 and VIP tickets are \$100. Oktoberfest Houston encourages responsible drinking. Please choose a designated driver. Purchase tickets at OktoberfestHouston.com.



Continuing Harvest Fest Tradition in Anhalt

If the walls of Anhalt Hall could talk, you no doubt would get an interesting history lesson about the Germans who settled this area between New Braunfels and Boerne in the late 1800s. You can take pride in knowing that you are continuing the fall harvest tradition on Sat., Oct. 21, and making your own history during the hall's 142nd Oktoberfest.

Doors open at noon when they begin serving the \$10 all-you-can-eat pot roast and sausage meal. The **Ennis Czech Boys** will get the party started at 2 pm and play until 6 pm. Ennis Czech Boys have been playing traditional polka and other Texas dance hall music since 2005. The young Ennis Czech Boys are surprising many people with their 8-man, full-sounding Czech Polka Band.

In addition to playing the traditional polka they grew up with, they play classic country, western swing, and rock - adjusting the tunes to their audiences. They have recorded five CDs, and their latest, *Cheers to 10 Years*, celebrates the band's anniversary.

At 7 pm, **Justin Trevino** and his band take the stage to play their brand of True Texas Country until 11 pm. Originally from Brownsville and now living in Brady, Justin lists **Johnny Bush, Tony Booth, George Jones, Darrell McCall, and Buck Owens** among his influences. Since recording, producing and releasing his first album, *Texas*

Honky Tonk, on his own in 1998, Justin has released another 12 albums. The albums reflect more than his signature vocals. They showcase his versatility and talent as songwriter, bass player, sound engineer, and producer - as well as his passion for traditional music.

His latest album, *A Salute to Ray Price & The Cherokee Cowboys*, pays tribute to one of the greats in country music.

Admission to the hall is \$7 until 3 pm. After 3, admission is \$15. Advance tickets are available at AnhaltHall.com.

NOW FOR THE HISTORY

Anhalt is 28 miles west of New Braunfels in western Comal County. According to information on the hall's website by Oscar Haas, the town was settled by German pioneers in 1859 and became known as Krause Settlement. The Germania Farmer Verein (German Farmer's Club) was established in 1875 as a social and benevolent organization. In 1879 the first hall was erected, and in 1880 a dance floor was added for the first Maifest. The hall has been expanded several times over the years. In 1951 the beer garden was added and in 1953 the kitchen was built. Today, the Verien has approximately 350 members.

Two explanations have been offered for the name Anhalt: one, that it derives from the German word for "stopping place" since most travelers from New Braunfels would stop there on their way to Boerne; the other, that it refers to a region of the same name in Germany. Either way, stop on in and make some more history!





SATURDAY

October 21, 2017

142nd Annual Oktoberfest

Noon-10pm

Historic Anhalt Dance Hall

Featuring Music By

Ennis Czech Boys 2-6pm

Polka, waltz & variety





Justin Trevino 7-11pm

Country Music

Tickets \$7 before 3pm • \$15 after 3pm

Pot roast/sausage meal served Noon-7pm • \$10 all you can eat

830-438-2873 | AnhaltHall.com

Anhalt Hall is off Hwy 46, between Boerne & Hwy 281. From Hwy 281, go west on Hwy 46 for 4 miles and follow signs to Anhalt - A stop in the road.

Fredericksburg Family Friendly Fest

The Knights of Columbus in Fredericksburg invite you and your family to the 8th Annual BestFest at Marktplatz on Sat., Oct. 21. After enjoying the fall foliage drive, you will be able to enjoy a family-friendly celebration of German favorites – beer, sausage, and polka music!

The gates open at 11 am, and with the \$10 dollar admission fee, you can dance all day AND eat all the sausage, sauerkraut, and German potatoes that you can handle. What a deal! Eat, dance it off, eat some more, dance that off, eat even more, and keep on dancing, with maybe drink a few unique beers from Texas breweries to wash down the chow and lubricate the joints.

You'll be dining on some of the best sausage in Texas from Opa's

Smoked Meats in Fredericksburg, Slovacek's in Snook, and Kiolbassa in San Antonio. And drinking some of the best Texas brews from Real Ale, St. Arnold's, Pedernales, and Spoetzel.

For your working-off-dinner music, **Dutch Treat** will play from 11 am-1 pm, and **Fritz Hodde and the Fabulous Six** will play from 1:30-5:30 pm. **Felix Truvere & The Open Road Band** (voted Best Country Music Band at San Antonio Music Awards), will take the stage from 7-11 pm.

The kids will love the games and activities designed especially for them. Take some chances on drawings for the 21-Gun Salute (21 rifles and shotguns) and 2017 Kawasaki Mule, along with other assorted bucket raffles.

BestFest is sponsored by Fredkericksburg KC Council 9765. Proceeds benefit the council's charitable giving in the community.





8th Annual KC BestFest
Saturday, October 21
11am - 11pm
Marktplatz
in Fredericksburg

Music by **Fritz Hodde/Fabulous Six, Dutch Treat** Noon-5:30pm
7-11 pm Felix Truvere & The Open Road Band, (covered pavilion)
 KC BestFest is a family-friendly celebration of German favorites
 – beer, sausage & polka music!
Admission \$10 (Ages 14 and up), **\$5** (Ages 5-13), **under 5 free**

- Includes polka music and all the sausage, sauerkraut and German potatoes you can eat!
- Featured sausage: Opa's Smoked Meats (Fredericksburg), Slovacek Sausage (Snook) and Kiolbassa (San Antonio)
- Beer tickets are \$4 for 16 oz.

- Includes offerings from brewing companies Real Ale, St. Arnold's, Pedernales and Spoetzel.
- Kids' area & activities throughout the day
- Big raffle. Great prizes include a 2017 Kawasaki 4x4 mule and a "21-gun salute" (21 rifles & shotguns).

Sponsored by Fredericksburg KC Council 9765
 Proceeds benefit charitable giving of the Knights of Columbus.



**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**

KCBestFest.com



All Are Willkommen in Round Top

The Rifle Association Hall features two events this fall that you will just love. The 145th Annual Schützenfest celebration and dance on Sun., Sept. 17, and OktoBierFest on Sat., Oct. 28.

Schützenfest is a shooting contest that results in the crowning of the könig (king), who is the Rifle Association member with the best score after three rounds of shooting. That evening, the members and public gather for the crowning of the könig. At 6 pm, the new könig is escorted into the hall by a procession of all the members.

Following his introduction to the crowd, he receives his crown of cedar and a gold medal from the previous king. At that point, some members (usually youngest and strongest) hoist the new König into the air three times to the shouts of "Hoch sol er leben, hoch sol er leben, drei mal hoch." The new könig does have responsibilities

though, the first of which is to treat the RTRA members and their guests to a nice cold keg of beer!

All of this pageantry is followed by a free dance from 6:30-8:30 pm with music by **Donnie Wavra & The Hi-Liters**.

The könig then has the honor of tapping the first keg at OktoBierFest on Oct. 28. The event will be held from 11 am-8 pm, and the traditional *Fassanstich* (keg tapping) for the 5th annual fest will be held at 12 noon sharp in the covered pavilion!

The bier is presented in gravity fed-style requiring no CO2, just as it has been done in Germany for centuries, and will be served free to all while it lasts. Enjoy authentic German food, bier, and music. This year's lineup will feature **Enzian Buam Alpine Yodelers** and the **Round Top Brass**.

And Rifle Hall is proud to announce a special dance on Sun., Jan. 21, 2018 featuring **Squeezebox** with Mollie B and Ted Lange. Call for tickets: 281-788-3278.

ROUND TOP RIFLE ASSOCIATION Cordially Invites You To:

145th Annual – Schützenfest

Sunday, September 17, 2017

Come see the Schützenkönig receive his Crown of Cedar & Gold Medal!

(Tradition says the könig buys his subjects a keg of bier!)

Hall opens at 5:00 p.m.

Schützenkönig (Shooting King) crowned at 6:00

Free dance from 6:30 to 8:30



Music by
**Donnie
Wavra**
& The Hi-Liters

OktoBierFest

Saturday, October 28, 2017

11:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m.

Official Keg Tapping Ceremony at 12 noon

Quality German Biers

Authentic Sausage and Kraut

**All are
Willkommen**



Free German Musik by Enzian Buam Alpine Yodelers & Round Top Brass Band

www.roundtoprifle.com | 710 FM 1457, Round Top, Texas



Save the Date!
January 21, 2018
Squeezebox
with Mollie B & Ted Lange
Ticket info: 281-788-3278

McKinney Celebrates 10 Years of Oktoberfest

Historic Downtown McKinney celebrates its 10th annual Oktoberfest in 2017, closing off the square Sept. 22-24 to create a 14-block beer garden. It's a family favorite event offering authentic German food and drink, and boasting attractions

for all ages set in one of the largest, most authentic historic downtowns in the state. Guests will get the sense of being right in the middle of Munich, enjoying authentic German fare like brats, strudel, pretzels, and beer from Franconia, TUPPS, and Hofbrau.

Opening night festivities feature the traditional Oktoberfest march of flags followed by the ceremonial tapping of a 200-year-old keg of McKinney-brewed beer, Franconia. Festival officials then fill a limited

number of large souvenir glass steins and hand them out to lucky festival-goers.

Authentic German music groups such as **Brave Combo**, **STV Almrausch**, and **Alpenmusikanten** entertain on two stages as part of opening day festivities and throughout the weekend.

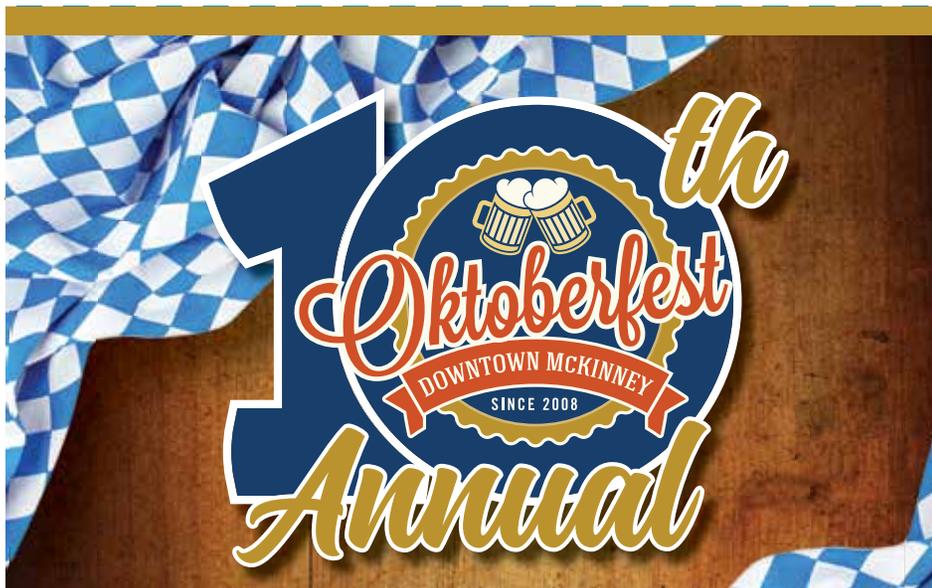
On Saturday and Sunday, the celebration continues with a stein-holding contest, live band performances, German dancing and plenty of activities. Families will find plenty of activities for kids including carnival rides, petting zoo, face painting, Bier barrel races and the ever-popular and crowd-pleasing weenie dog (and "wanna be a weenie dog") races.

The 10th anniversary McKinney Oktoberfest will feature a few new and exciting vendors, as well as special commemorative pins, mugs

and t-shirts.

"We are pleased to have one of Texas' oldest food institutions, Fischer's Meat Market in Muenster, Texas, bringing its German menu and offerings to this year's event," said Geoff Fairchild, McKinney Special Events Coordinator. "We're thrilled, too, that Oma's German Treats will be a first-time participant. The German mother and daughter will provide some traditional German treats including *Kaiserschmarrn*, *Quarkkeulchen*, *Waffeln am Stab*, and *Buttermilchplinse*."

McKinney Oktoberfest admission and parking are free. Those wishing to consume adult beverages will need to present an ID to buy tickets for beer. For detailed information on McKinney Oktoberfest, please contact 972-547-2661 or visit mckinneyoktoberfest.com.



SEPTEMBER 22-24
DOWNTOWN MCKINNEY, TEXAS

FRIDAY
4-11 P.M.

SATURDAY
10 A.M.-11 P.M.

SUNDAY
12 P.M.-5 P.M.

Authentic German music, food and drink, traditional costumes, dancing, weenie dog races, carnival and children's activities!



Live Music by Brave Combo



German Food & Drink



Family Fun Activities

PRESENTED BY

Pat Lobbs
Toyota of McKinney
.com

MCKINNEY
TEXAS
Unique by nature.™

WWW.MCKINNEYOKTOBERFEST.COM
#MCKINNEYOKTOBERFEST



Victoria Shares Czech Heritage

When the Victoria Czechs say they are celebrating all things Czech, they mean it! From accordion music to singing, to Tarok playing, polka, food, and history, you can find it all at the 32nd Annual Victoria Czech Heritage Festival on Sun., Sept. 24, at the Victoria Community Center, 2905 E. North St. The festival, sponsored by the Victoria County Czech Heritage Society (VCCHS), has consistently drawn about a thousand people each year.

The festival begins promptly at 10 am with five musical events held throughout the day. **Shelia Lee**, internationally known accordionist, arranger, composer, and teacher from Galveston, will perform first engaging the crowd in traditional Czech entertainment. The **Shiner Hobo Band** takes over at 11 am and entertains until 1 pm, followed by the **Leo Majek Orchestra** from Corpus Christi. Then the **Red Ravens** will join the Majeks at 4 pm for a one-half hour jam session. The Red Ravens continue with good dancing music until 7:30 pm.

New this year, Texas country artist, **Curtis Grimes**, will perform from 3-5 pm in the Community Center Annex. Curtis was a semi-finalist on NBC-TV's *The Voice*, and has taken off as a country artist with five number one hits on the Texas music charts.

LEARN HOW TO PLAY

The festival organizers not only want you to enjoy all that's Czech, but learn the traditions as well. Attendees can learn the art of playing the accordion and Tarok card game, and how to sing Czech songs, all for free.

Shelia will teach piano and diatonic, or button, accordion lessons in the Annex Foyer from 11:15 am to 3 pm. She encourages you to bring your accordion or try one of the extras she'll have on hand. Learn to play *A Ja Sam*, *Julida Polka*, *Prune Song*, and more. This class is for ages 8 to 100 at all levels – beginner to TIMID!!! Even intermediate players will learn a few

tricks!

Joe Pustka of Victoria, one of the founding members of this festival, will be teaching how to play the Czech card game known as Tarok or Taroky in Annex 3, at 10:30 am-noon, and from 1-2:30 pm.

New this year, Kenneth Kristynik of the Red Ravens, will lead a sing-along in Annex 2 from 1:30-2:30 pm. Learn the words to 10 Czech songs. A youth sing-along also will be held in an Annex Conference Room from 1-2 pm, where ages 4-18 will learn the words to three Czech songs. All will be provided song sheets thanks to *Texas Polka News*.

Spaces are limited for all the lessons, so be sure to call 361-649-2243 by Sept. 22 to reserve your seat!

CZECH OUT THE MUSEUM

The Czech Heritage Museum will again be available at the festival in Annex 4 from 10 am-3 pm. Come see numerous old Czech items your great-grandparents used in their daily lives. And back by popular demand is the State Czech Heritage Traveling Genealogy Library with loads of books and research files to trace your family history onsite.

LET'S EAT!

The festival will serve its famous Czech Stew and Sausage lunch plate for \$10 from 11 am-1 pm. Also enjoy Czech fruit-filled kolaches and klobasniky, or pig in a blanket, along with homemade chicken noodle soup throughout the day. Sausage wraps will be available after lunch.

Other activities include children games, pastry wheel, arts and crafts, country store, live and silent auctions, raffle, and numerous exhibit booths for all to view.

Come join in the fun! There is something for everyone! And, you don't have to be Czech to attend!

Admission is only \$8 per person for all four bands and activities, with youth under 15 years old always free. For more information visit victoriaczehs.org or facebook.com/victoriaczehsociety, or call Donald Dusek at 361-578-6730.



VICTORIA COUNTY'S

32ND ANNUAL CZECH HERITAGE FESTIVAL

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 24, 2017

Music By

Accordionist Shelia Lee 10-11am

Shiner Hobo Band 11am-1pm • Majek's Polka Band 1-4pm

Curtis Grimes: Texas Country Music Artist (in the Annex) 3-5pm

Jam Session: Majek's Polka Band & Red Ravens 4-4:30pm

The Red Ravens 4:30-7:30pm

Czech Sing-Along with Kenneth Kristynik Sponsored by Texas Polka News 1:30-2:30pm

Free Lessons in Accordion & Tarok Card Game

Call 361-649-2243 by Sept. 22 to reserve your space!

Exhibits • Country Store • Czech Heritage Museum

Arts & Crafts • Pastry Wheel • Live & Silent Auctions • Face Painting

Czech Stew & Sausage Lunch \$10/plate 11am - 1pm

Kolaches, Homemade Chicken Noodle Soup and Sausage Wraps also available

Also featuring Czech Republic imported wine by-the-glass for sale

Admission ONLY \$8 per person - under 15 years old - ALWAYS FREE!

Sponsored by: Victoria County Czech Heritage Society | facebook.com/victoriaczehsociety

Info: www.VictoriaCzechs.org or Donald Dusek 361-571-4777 ddusek@suddenlink.net

Victoria Community Center | 2905 E. North, Victoria, Texas

Oktoberfest

DEPOT

OktoberfestDepot.com

**Beer Boots & Steins, Apparel & Accessories,
Personalized Pub Signs, Cookbooks,
Christmas Ornaments & more!**



FOLLOW US ON THE ROAD:

Sept 14-17 - Addison Oktoberfest

Sept 22-24 - St Charles Oktoberfest

Oct 19-22 - Linde Oktoberfest Tulsa

Dec 8-10 - Tomball German Christmas Market & Festival

10% OFF
YOUR ENTIRE PURCHASE AT
ANY OF OUR 3 STORES!

Coupon Code: POLKABEAT

www.TSGwarehouse.com
www.TexasCeltic.com
www.OktoberfestDepot.com

\$49.99 minimum purchase



*Discount only valid when coupon code is provided. Not valid with any other coupons or discounts. One-Time Use Only. Expires December 24, 2017



It's Cool to Show Pride in Your Roots

Two stores make it easy to do

Texas Slavic and German Warehouse (TSG Warehouse) is owned and operated by Denise and Jason Gouge. Both grew up in the tiny Polish town of Bremond, Texas where Polish pride and traditions abound. Being Texas-born and from Polish/German families themselves, pride was not lacking, though traditions were becoming more diluted with each passing generation. TSG Warehouse is helping keep these traditions alive and kicking in the great state of Texas and across the good ol' USA.

SECOND BUSINESS LAUNCHED

Denise and Jason launched Oktoberfest Depot last September just in time for Oktoberfest season. "We attend so many Oktoberfests across Texas and there is so much German heritage in Texas that it just made sense to create a flagship store for that audience," Denise said. "Our road team has been to tons of Polish,

Czech, and German festivals across the state, and we will continue to take our road shows to certain key festivals," she said.

As a matter of fact, Oktoberfest Depot has been traveling out of state to Tulsa and St. Charles, Missouri. Hauling collectibles like heavy, breakable steins is no easy setup. They basically set up a small store. They are usually the first vendor to arrive and the last vendor out. "So we now only attend larger festivals that are multiple days," Denise explained.

ONLINE, IN STORE, UNDER TENT

Both Oktoberfest Depot and TSG Warehouse are housed under one tent when on the road for efficiency. The same goes for the storefront and warehouse in Bremond, which is between Bryan/College Station and Waco (45 minutes from each location). The storefront is also centrally located among Austin, Houston and Dallas (about 1.5-2 hours from each).

"While we try to list everything online, our Polish pottery selection is more extensive at our store than online at TSG Warehouse, so it might be worth a trip if you are into Polish pottery," Denise said.

TSGWarehouse.com and OktoberfestDepot.com are sister



Jason & Denise Gouge welcome you to the TSG Warehouse in Bremond. Right next door is the White Eagle Dance Hall, which is always filled with music and dancers during Polish Days in June. The hall is also available for rent for your special occasions.

companies and overlap some, but they are very different shopping experiences with different product selection. TSG Warehouse focuses on Polish, Czech, and German heritage. Thus TSG Warehouse carries authentic Polish pottery, the famous mouth-blown Christmas ornaments from Poland, and hand-crafted wooden trinket boxes from Poland, along with Czech and Russian hand-painted nesting dolls.

"Polish heritage is heavily emphasized because we are located in Bremond, the little Polish capitol of Texas. My husband, Jason, and I grew up here, with Polish and German roots but we were both raised in Polish traditions so we are quite familiar with it all, she said.

STEIN SHOPPING

A small selection of steins can be found online at TSG Warehouse but the vast selection of steins is at Oktoberfest Depot, which specializes in authentic steins and glassware from Germany.

"We carry a large variety of hand-selected steins from two of the top manufacturers in Germany. All authentic and all German," Denise said. "We also import the very collectible Hofbrauhaus line of products and many specialty Oktoberfest mugs and barware direct from Germany. We are expanding rapidly, and based on popular demand we will be getting into the handcrafted German nutcrackers in the coming months.

"We pride ourselves in personalized service and quality products. We are a small mom-and-pop shop that hopes to earn your business over this Oktoberfest and holiday season," Denise said.

So... whether you are of Polish, German or Czech decent or whether you just enjoy celebrating with family and friends with your favorite beverage, Oktoberfest Depot and TSG Warehouse is the place for you.

Cheers! - in whatever language you like to say it in: Na zdrowie! Na zdravi! Prost!

THE General Store for Polish, Czech & German Texans!

FOLLOW US ON THE ROAD:

Sept 14-17 - Addison Oktoberfest
 Sept 22-24 - St Charles Oktoberfest
 Oct 19-22 - Linde Oktoberfest Tulsa
 Dec 8-10 - Tomball German Christmas Market & Festival

210 South Main - Bremond, TX 76629
 Wed - Fri 11:30am - 5:30pm, Sat 10am - 3pm
 SHOP ONLINE 24/7!!!

★ Polish, Czech & German T-Shirts, Hoodies, Hats & Other Apparel & Accessories! ★

Authentic Polish Pottery ★ Nesting Dolls ★ Collectibles ★ Christmas Ornaments & Decorations

★ Barware, Authentic German Beer Steins & Growlers, Personalized Pub Signs & More! ★

SHOP ONLINE TODAY!!! TSGWAREHOUSE.COM

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www.TSGwarehouse.com
 www.TexasCeltic.com
 www.OktoberfestDepot.com

\$49.99 minimum purchase

*Discount only valid when coupon code is provided. Not valid with any other coupons or discounts. One-Time Use Only. Expires December 24, 2017

Island Oktoberfest Set in Historic Galveston

Galveston's premier fall festival - the 36th Annual Island Oktoberfest - kicks off Fri., Oct. 27 from 5-11pm; and continues Sat., Oct. 28 from 11 am - 11 pm. This fun, family weekend will feature continuous live entertainment on two stages, authentic German food and libations, cake wheel, fine arts, crafts and gifts, an exciting auction, fun family and children's activities, and much more. Oktoberfest will be held on the grounds of and streets adjacent to First Lutheran Church, 24th and Winnie - in historic downtown Galveston. Admission is free. German costumes encouraged.

Island Oktoberfest, hosted by First Evangelical Lutheran Church and co-sponsored by Del Papa Distributing Company, will open Friday evening with themed-Bier Garten venues-featuring a variety of both German and domestic brews and a variety of German-style wines from nearby Haak Vineyards. New this year, Oktoberfest will host a special wine-tasting event with Haak Winery and a beer-tasting event with Del Papa.

In addition to great music and dancing, there will be superb food and drink including smoked sausage, bratwurst, knockwurst, and *Wurstabendessen* - a sausage dinner comprised of German-style and Polish-style wurst with all the traditional German side dishes. This special German Dinner will be available both Friday evening and on Saturday.




36th Annual Galveston Island

OKTOBERFEST

HOSTED BY
FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
Galveston Island, Texas

October 27-28

Continuous live entertainment on two stages both days!

Friday, October 27 ★ 5pm - 11pm

Valina Polka and Das Ist Lustig, Midlife Crisis, TubaMeisters, Alpenmusikanten, Keine Kunst Folk Dancers, Becky and Klaus

Saturday, October 28 ★ 11am - 11pm

Chris Rybak, AufGehts, Valina Polka and Das Ist Lustig, Alpenmusikanten, Keine Kunst Folk Dancers, Becky and Klaus Kevin Anthony, TubaMeisters, Deer Park Folk Dance Group, Fanfare! The Lutheran Music Academy, Rathcamp German Folk Dancers

- Authentic German-Style Food & Wine
- Quality Arts/Crafts & Gift Booths
- Texas Craft & German Beers
- Exciting Kids' Activities

FREE ADMISSION!

24th St. & Winnie (In Historic Downtown Galveston)

409-762-8477 | GalvestonOktoberfest.com



Co-sponsored by
Del Papa Distributing Co.

For a sweet finale, homemade Helmut's strudel (freshly baked on site), will be offered in addition to a variety of tempting homemade desserts - specially prepared by congregation members from recipes handed down from generation to generation.

Hand-made pretzels, freshly-popped popcorn, and a variety of soft drinks will also be sold at the festival.

The historic and beautifully-renovated circa 1860 Lyceum will again be open from 5-9 pm Friday and from 11 am-7 pm on Saturday with vendors showcasing exceptional hand-crafted arts, crafts, and gift items for those festival goers eager to get a head

start on holiday shopping. Because Oktoberfest continues to be one of the vendors' most enjoyable and popular venues, regular attendees can look forward to shopping at their long-time favorite booths - each featuring Christmas and other special gift items. Shoppers always look forward to knowing that their favorite vendors have returned to showcase their best products.

For more information, visit www.galvestonoktoberfest.com, call 409.762.8477, or follow the event on Facebook at Island Oktoberfest. All proceeds benefit programs and outreach for First Lutheran Church in Galveston.

(Photos by Robyn Bushong.)

Westfest at 42

Westfest is an event held every Labor Day Weekend that salutes the town of West's Czech heritage, featuring constant entertainment, authentic Czech music, food, and a plethora of family-oriented activities. The festival, celebrating its 42nd year, was featured as one of the best festivals in Texas in a July 18, 2017 story by travelmag.com.

According to the e-zine, "Offering a friendly welcome to all-comers - Czech or otherwise - visitors can enjoy authentic Czech food, arts and crafts, live music and energetic polka dancing."

This year's three-day extravaganza kicks off Fri., Sept. 1, with a Texas-size Preview Party featuring **Roger Creager** and **Kevin Fowler**. The new Miss Westfest will be crowned Saturday at 9:30 am, followed by one of the most colorful parades on the festival circuit.

Westfest is toe tappin' fun with some of the best polka bands in the area playing at two locations on the grounds. If you don't know how to polka, then just ask the first person who walks by. Before you know it, you'll be skipping along with some of the best dancers around.

The **Dujka Brothers** and **Chris**

Rybak start off the weekend of polka mania at noon in the east and west pavilions. At 4 pm, the **Jodie Mikula Orchestra** and the **Praha Brothers** pick up the polka baton for four hours. At 8 pm **Jerry Haisler and the Melody 5** start the evening dancing in the west pavilion, and Westfest favorites **Brave Combo** perform in the east pavilion at 8:30 pm.

Those of you whose legs aren't too sore from almost 12 hours of polka can join others at 8 am for the Kolache 5000 run through West Sunday morning.

Combine your love of polka and God at the Polka Mass in the amphitheater at 10:25 am. At the same time beer goes on sale, **The Czechaholics** will take the stage to shake out the cobwebs for those who didn't make it to the race (or church). And speaking of shaking, **James L. Wages** will channel Elvis, at 12:15 pm, for those preferring a hunka, hunka dancing pleasure.

At 3:15 pm, Brave Combo returns to the stage with its unique brand of polka along with crowd favorites Hokey Pokey, chicken dance, the twist, and conga line. (Everybody scream!) Local favorites **Czech & Then Some** bring their brass-driven polka, waltz, and country music to



the stage at 4 pm. The **Ennis Czech Boys** take the stage at 6:30 pm. The Sunday Night Shutdown Party will feature more great Texas country music with Sundae Driver and Sam Riggs. Contests include kolache eating and kolache baking, horseshoe

and washer pitching, and a Taroky tournament.

Westfest was founded in 1976 as a means for the West community to raise funds for a variety of projects. To date, Westfest has raised over three quarter a million dollars for the community.

FRIDAY PREVIEW PARTY

8 pm Roger Creager
10 pm Kevin Fowler

SATURDAY

Bud Light Stage
12-4 pm Dujka Brothers
4-8 pm Jodie Mikula Orchestra
8:30 pm-12:15 am Brave Combo

Coors Light Stage
12-4 pm Chris Rybak
4-8 pm Praha Brothers
8 pm-12:15 am Jerry Haisler/Melody 5

SUNDAY

Bud Light Stage
12-4 pm Czechaholics
4-7:30 pm Czech & Then Some
Sunday Shut Down Party
8 pm Sundae Driver
10 pm Sam Riggs

Coors Light Stage
12:15-2:15 pm
James L. Wages - Sincerely Elvis
2:30-6:30 pm Brave Combo
6:30-8 pm Ennis Czech Boys



Fri, Sat & Sun
Sept. 1-3 | West, TX

Held on the West Fair & Rodeo Grounds, one mile south of WEST on Main St.
The town of West is located 14 miles north of Waco.

2 STAGES SAT & SUN

Brave Combo, Czechaholics, Dujka Brothers, Chris Rybak, Jodie Mikula Orchestra, Praha Brothers, Ennis Czech Boys, Jerry Haisler & Melody 5, Czech & Then Some

Friday Preview Party: **Roger Creager 8PM • Kevin Fowler 10PM**
Sunday Shutdown Party: **Sundae Drivers 8PM • Sam Riggs 10PM**

- Miss Westfest Contest 9:30AM, Parade 10AM Saturday
- Kolache Eating contest Sunday 12:30 - 2PM
- Arts & Crafts, Dancing in two pavilions, authentic foods
- Polka Mass Sun 10:15am, Taroky Tournament, Kolache Baking, Antique Tractor Pull, Horseshoe/Washers, more.
- Carnival Ride Armband Packages Available Friday & Sunday Nights

Call 254-826-5058 or Westfest.com for more details!
Sat & Sun 11AM -12:30AM Admission \$10 adults;
\$5 children age 6-12; Children < 6 free with adult.
All Parking \$5 per car. Exit 353.



Rotary Club of La Grange presents

Oct. 7, 2017

Oktoberfest in La Grange

Saturday, October 7, 2017 | 3pm-7pm
Fayette County Courthouse Square
151 N. Washington Street, La Grange, TX 78945

-  **AUTHENTIC GERMAN CUISINE**
Schnitzel, Sausage on a Stick
-  **LIVE MUSIC**
Los Kolaches and Praha Brothers
-  **KIDS ACTIVITIES**
-  **Over 100 different types of CRAFT BEER**

TICKETS \$25 in advance | \$30 at the door
Ticket price includes 12-2oz craft beer samples,
2 live bands, and commemorative beer mug.
www.VisitLaGrangeTX.com Questions? 979-968-3017

SPONSORS

GOLD Ginger Petroleum

HERITAGE Country of La Grange

OVIEDO Jeep

SILVER COLORADO VALLEY Communications, Edward Jones, **MBT** National Bank & Trust, THRIVENT FINANCIAL Connecting faith & business for good

BRONZE Central, Walmart, Walmart

Polka On! Store
polkabeat.com
CDs, T-shirts, koozies, baby gifts,
bumper stickers & more!

Oktoberfest to Remember

La Grange Gears Up for 3rd Annual Event

La Grange Rotary Club members invite you join them for an Oktoberfest to remember on Sat., Oct. 7 from 3-7 pm, at the Fayette County Courthouse Square. With over 100 different varieties of craft beer, authentic German cuisine, and live music, you can't afford to miss out!

The \$25 ticket price (\$30 at the fest) includes 12 samples of craft beer along with a commemorative beer mug.

Underneath the event tents, you will find live music provided by **Los Kolaches**, from Shiner, and the **Praha Brothers**, from Temple, along with authentic German cuisine of sausage and pork schnitzel. Children's activities, sponsored by Camp Lone Star, will be held on the courthouse lawn.

The Rotary Club of La Grange raised \$10,000 from last year's event. The funds were used for local scholarships and Early Act First Knight, a character-building program, in both La Grange and Round Top/Carmines ISDs.

Tickets can be purchased online or at the La Grange Visitors Bureau, 254 N. Jefferson Street. For more information, please call 979-968-3017.



Los Kolaches (top photo) and Praha Brothers will provide the music for this year's fest.

Oktoberfest on the Square in La Grange



3KX 2018

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Elgin Hogeye Fest Celebrates 30 Years

The Sausage Capital of Texas outdoes itself once again with the 30th Annual Hogeye Festival, celebrating in a small town with a huge appetite for family fun and a tremendous spirit for honoring pigs.

Fri., Oct. 27 from 6 to 10 pm enjoy the free Hogeye Depot Street Dance with **Sean Orr and The Texas Gold Band** and **The Shop Dawgs**. On Sat., Oct. 28 from 10 am until 6 pm,

the free festival features live music and entertainment on three stages, handmade arts and crafts, children's activities, a children's costume pet parade, a carnival, Road Hog Car Show, BBQ Pork Cook-Off, In a Pig's Eye Corn Hole Tournament, Hogalicious Dessert Contest, Cow Patty Bingo, the Pearls Before Swine Art Show, and great festive food!

What sets this festival apart from so many others is the combination of humor and history. The day begins with the Elgin Sowpremes, our infamous singing group, riding in

on "hogs" (Harleys) to serenade the crowd with porky tunes. It sets the stage for a day filled with pig puns, eating sausage on a stick with an appreciation of the real deal, admiring and acquiring handmade arts and crafts, and enjoying the great tunes by local musicians on three stages. Find yourself hanging out on Main Street, a National Register Historic District, with the other little piglets hamming it up. This is a day filled with community

spirit and piggy pride, and a unique Texas festival experience that should not be missed.



34th Annual Needville HARVEST Festival

Friends of Harvest Park is a 501 C3 organization. All proceeds go directly back into the park.

**BBQ COOK-OFF • LITTLE MR. & MISS CONTEST • QUEEN CONTEST • TALENT SHOW
CARNIVAL • CAR SHOW • FOOD & CRAFT VENDORS • BARN QUILT SHOW
KIDZ ZONE • DJ MUSIC • LIVE AUCTION • KARAOKE CONTEST
HOT DOG EATING CONTEST • 4X4 GATOR & 52" GRAVELY LAWNMOWER GIVE-AWAYS
PERFORMANCE BY LONG STAR GUN SLINGERS**

281-468-9314 | Harvest Park • 3001 Violet St. • NeedvilleHarvestFest.org

**Friday
October 20th
6pm-Midnight**
**Saturday
October 21st
7:30am-11pm**

**Tickets: \$6
Entry fee includes both days
- Children 6 and under free -**

It's Harvest Time in Needville

The 34th Annual Needville Harvest Festival is set for Oct. 20-21 at Harvest Park. Tons of stuff to do and see – barbecue cook-off, hot dog eating contest, karaoke contest, and a car show. The park will also feature food and craft vendors, live auction, and a special Kidz Zone.

Don't miss the annual Queen contest, Little Mr. & Miss contest,

talent show, and back by popular demand from last year – the Barn Quilt Show. Raffles will be held for a Gator 4x4 and 52-inch Gravely lawnmower. Enjoy DJ music both days.

Proceeds benefit the development of Harvest Park and the community center, as well as helps other community projects, and fund scholarships for Needville High School grads. So head out to Needville and enjoy this great community event.



October 27 & 28, 2017
hogeyefestival.com

Friday, 6-10pm
Free Street Dance
Sean Orr & The Texas Gold Band
& The Shop Dawgs

Saturday, 10am-6pm
Free festival features live music and entertainment on 3 stages, handmade arts and crafts, children's activities, children's costume pet parade, carnival, Road Hog Car Show, BBQ Pork Cook-Off, In a Pig's Eye Corn Hole Tournament, Hogalicious Dessert Contest, Cow Patty Bingo, Pearls Before Swine Art Show, and great festive food!

Free Festival Shuttle available at the Hwy 95 North Park and Ride.
Elgin is located 19 miles east of Austin on Hwy 290.
The Hogeye Festival is sponsored by the Elgin Main Street Board

Top 10 Reasons to Attend Muenster Oktoberfest

The Muenster Chamber of Commerce invites you to spend the weekend in its fair city during Oktoberfest, Oct. 28 & 29. While there are many reasons to attend, we've narrowed it down to the top 10.

10. The food! German sausage, sauerkraut, schnitzel, potato salad, hearty cheeses, German pizza, and scrumptious apple strudel are on the menu. The festival also offers a wide variety of American food.

9. The bier! Tapping of the Keg ceremony will be held at noon on Saturday. And of course, the coldest and finest in German and Texas brews will be available all weekend.

8. The Wurst Race 5K and Half Marathon. Before you feast on all the great food and bier, run the streets in the Wurst Race on Saturday morning. Registration begins at 7 am, half marathon runners take off at 8 am, and 5K runners follow at 8:30 am. All proceeds from this event will benefit education for Sacred Heart Catholic School.

7. Masskrugstemmen, (beer-stein hoisting). This traditional Bavarian endurance contest challenges the contestants to hold a one-liter stein of beer in one outstretched arm for as long as possible. The filled stein weighs roughly five pounds and must

be kept parallel to the ground at all times. Finals will be held at 5:30 pm on Saturday.

6. Weiner dog races. In the too-cute category, you've got to see this event on Sunday at 2 pm. A little history: the dachshund breed was developed in Germany and has existed since at least the 16th century. The name dachshund comes from the German words *dachs* (badger) and *hund* (dog).

5. Best Dirndl and Lederhosen Contest. Dress up for the occasion and maybe win a prize!

4. Kids' activities. There's an area of the festival reserved just for kids. They'll love the rides, games, balloon sculpting, and face painting.

3. Arts and crafts. Tons of vendors will be on the grounds offering unique items to help you get a start on your Christmas gift list.

2. Room to roam. This 68-acre park houses a 72,000 sq. ft., indoor pavilion with indoor stage and room enough to accommodate thousands of people.

1. The entertainment! Live music all weekend will feature the best in polka and Texas country music, along with performances by the Whitney High School German Dancers.

Hours: Saturday 10 am -12 am and Sunday 10 am-6 pm. Admission on Saturday is \$5, Sunday \$5, ages 8 and under free. Visit oktoberfestmuenster.com or contact the Muenster Chamber of Commerce for more information at 940-759-2227.



Oktoberfest

MUNSTER 2017

Tapping of the keg
Saturday @ noon

October 28-29

Heritage Park Pavillion, 301 N. Ash St

Tickets \$5 • Children 8 and under are FREE

www.oktoberfestmuenster.com

Live Music! Check our website for entertainment schedule.

Stein Hoisting • 5K & Half Marathon • Kids' Area • Rides & Games • German Dancers
Weiner Dog Races • Arts & Crafts • German Food & Beer

Located 1 1/2 hours from DFW Metroplex 13 miles west of I-35 on Hwy 82

Weihnachtsmarkt, Texas Style

*Rated #3 magical
Christmas market
in USA*

Herzlich willkommen, y'all! It's a Texas German celebration Dec.

8-10, on the old downtown streets of Tomball. Come and enjoy the family-friendly ambience - *Gemütlichkeit* - of Tomball's unique music/street festival with four stages of live continuous music, and an open-air market along with antique shops in the old town area.

Squeezebox, with Mollie B and Ted Lange, will headline the music

all three days. Mollie B loves Texas! "Any chance I get to perform in Texas, I am a happy girl," Mollie said. "Not to mention, I love Christmas. I also enjoy playing in new locations, and I have never been to Tomball."

Mollie said it's really going to be a good gig! The band's regular drummer, Dana Lindblad, will be joining the duo. "Folks have gotten to know (and love) Dana for he has done three Texas winter tours with us, and was part of the Mollie B Polka Party team at the April/May 2016 taping in Texas," Mollie said.

"And Ted, well, I think everyone knows him and his incredible skills on accordion. He also enjoys playing for the good folks in Texas," Mollie said. "We're looking forward to adding another Texas experience to our list."

Of course, music can be heard throughout the festival all weekend long, featuring **Chris**

Rybak on his own party stage, **Auf Geht's**, **Eurofest**, **Das Ist Lustig**, **TubaMeisters**, **Mike Stroup Trio**, and the **Armstrong Family Bluegrass Band**. You also can't help but get into the festive spirit with the sounds of strolling Christmas carolers.

DANCING & SHOPPING

Enjoy folk dancing by the Rathkamp German Folk Dancers, Keine Kunst German Folk Dance Troupe, high school German clubs, and local clogging groups.

Sinterklaas (the original Dutch Santa) will be strolling the marketplace, along with Elf, a live Christmas tree, entertainers, and Santa Claus himself. These characters welcome free photo requests, so bring your camera.

An estimated 200 unique and interesting street vendors will line Market and S. Walnut Streets, selling German Christmas items, arts and crafts, and much more.

TOMBALL GERMAN CHRISTMAS MARKET & FESTIVAL

WEIHNACHTSMARKT TEXAS STYLE

DECEMBER 8-10

FRIDAY 6-10 PM SATURDAY 10 AM-10 PM SUNDAY 10 AM-6 PM

FEATURED ENTERTAINERS

**SQUEEZEBOX WITH
MOLLIE B & TED LANGE**
ALL 3 DAYS!
**AUF GEHT'S
CHRIS RYBAK
EUROFEST**

**DAS IST LUSTIG
TUBAMEISTERS
MIKE STROUP TRIO
ARMSTRONG FAMILY
BLUEGRASS BAND**

**4 MUSIC STAGES
200+ STREET VENDORS
GERMAN FOOD,
BEER & WINE
STROLLING CAROLERS &
OTHER ENTERTAINERS
FOLK DANCERS
CARNIVAL RIDES**






Ted Lange, Mollie B, and Dana Lindblad, aka Squeezebox, can't wait to see you in Tomball!

"Listed #3 of Top 10 magical German Christmas Markets in the USA! German Embassy, Washington, D.C"

The Festival is sponsored by the City of Tomball, Tomball Sister City Org., and German Heritage Festival
TOMBALL, TEXAS, OLD TOWN NEAR THE HISTORICAL TRAIN DEPOT, 201 S. ELM
TOMBALLGERMANFEST.ORG FREE ADMISSION, PARKING & SHUTTLE

Visit the *Weihnachtshaus* inside the Community Center at 221 Market Street at the corner of Cherry Street, which will be filled with German clothes and souvenirs for sale.

Three German tents with music stages will house biergartens decorated with German themes and Christmas lights. Tables and chairs will allow you to relax with your *dunkles bier* (dark beer), or a warm cup of *glühwein* (mulled wine).

KINDERFEST RULES!

Kinderfest (kid's area) will provide entertainment and fun for the young visitors. It includes carnival rides, bungee-jump, rock wall, petting zoo, pony ride, walk on water, and more.

Food vendors will include traditional German food and drink, *glühwein*, beer, Christmas *stollen* (fruit bread) and other homemade breads, *kaffee und kuchen* (coffee and pastry), bratwurst, red cabbage, schnitzel, apple strudel, etc. The menu also features festival foods like funnel cake, corn dogs, hot dogs, hamburgers, kettle corn, and barbecue.

The festival is sponsored by the City of Tomball, Tomball Sister City Org., and German Heritage Festival, and is proud to continue to offer FREE admission, parking, and shuttle. Shuttle parking is in the east lot of Tomball Regional Hospital with shuttles running continuously on Saturday and Sunday.



Paris Oktoberfest Expanded to 2 Days!

The folks in Paris, Texas had such a good time at their first Oktoberfest last year, they decided to add another day of fun. The 2nd Annual Paris Oktoberfest, brought to you by Everett Toyota, will be held at the historic Gibraltar Hotel Grounds on Oktober 6 and 7, with a host of vendors, REAL LIVE German

music, authentic German food, and a beautiful biergarten that puts most biergartens to shame.

BEER. BRATS. BANDS.

The festival gets underway at 3 pm on Friday with the ceremonial tapping of the keg, followed by bands to be announced at 4 and 5 pm. **Brave Combo** helped usher in the first Paris Oktoberfest, and will return to play on Friday from 8-10 pm. That little ol' polka band from Denton, led by

International Association Polka Hall of Famer Carl Finch, plays a little something for everyone! Don't worry, they never forget their polka roots!

Saturday activities include a Brat Eating Contest sponsored by the local Sonic Drive-In, and the Masskrugstemmen, Stein Holding Contest at 6 pm, sponsored by Buffalo Joe's Bar & Grill. Preliminary rounds are being held at Buffalo Joe's, leading up to the finals on the 7th. *Masskrugstemmen*, hard to pronounce, harder to win, is the real Bavarian strong man and woman competition. The contestant who can hold the beer-filled stein, parallel to the ground for the longest time, wins!

The Royal Klobasneks will provide the music Saturday afternoon, beginning at 2 pm. This group from Dallas is dedicated to preserving the traditional American polka sound of the 1920s, 1930s, and 1940s for modern audiences. Closest in sound to the Dutchman-style bands popular in the American Midwest, the Klobasneks have a lively sound that always get the crowd going.

Ross on all sorts of instruments. The English translation of the band name is "That's Fun," and that's what you'll have at their show. Guests are invited to play bells, try their hand at the boombas, or play various other hand-held instruments, and of course, dance!

GIBRALTAR HOTEL

The Gibraltar Hotel was once Paris' shining glory, a testament to its growth, according to texasescapes.com. Built in 1915 by Richard H. Blyth, Edward Buford Norment and B.P. Bailey, it accommodated passengers on the St. Louis-Dallas rail line – a time when towns had street cars and real train service. Though damaged in the 1916 fire, the owners were optimistic enough to add a seventh story upon restoration. But like most downtown hotels, it fell out of favor with the traveling public, who wanted their lodgings close and convenient to the highways. The building is now used for special events, like Oktoberfest!

On the first weekend in Oktober, the Gibraltar will make you swear you were in Munich. The amazing outdoor biergarten will host a great VIP area with live German bands all day. Food vendors will be on site doling out Bavarian pretzels, sausage, and more! The indoor marketplatz will feature vendors selling German fare, gifts, and other items.

Tickets are only \$10 and available at parisoktoberfest.com. For sponsorship and vendor information email info@parisoktoberfest.com. And check out the fest's Facebook page to keep up with plans as they unfold.

Brought to you in part by
EVERETT TOYOTA
OF PARIS

PARIS
Oktoberfest

Oktober 6-7
Paris Texas

Brave Combo
Das Ist Lustig
Royal Klobasneks
and more!

Shopping
& Food for
the whole
Family!

Biergarten
with all your
favorites!

For More Information:
parisoktoberfest.com



Das Ist Lustig will take the stage after the stein-holding excitement and play until 11 pm. Celebrating its 10th anniversary as a band, **Das Ist Lustig** features the mucho talented Valina and

Paris Oktoberfest



FESTIVALS - EVENTS

AUGUST 19 SUMMERTIME PSYCHEDELIC TEX-MEX POLKA PARTY!

Max Baca Y Los Texmaniacs, Brave Combo, Gulf Coast Playboys
Antone's Nightclub, 305 E. 5th, Austin
512-814-0361 Doors 6:30P Show 7:30P
See Brave Combo story, page 3.

SEPTEMBER 1

Brave Combo @ Levitt Pavilion
100 W Abram St, Arlington, 7P
817-543-4301 See BC story, page 3.

SEPTEMBER 1-3 42ND WESTFEST WEST, TEXAS

9 polka bands, 1 Elvis impersonator, lots of great country music by Roger Creager, Kevin Fowler, Sundae Driver, and Sam Riggs. See ad, page 19.
254-826-5058 / WestFest.com

SEPTEMBER 8-9 33RD KOLACHE FESTIVAL CALDWELL, TEXAS

Friday night dinner & dance with Dujka Brothers. Saturday music by Shiner Hobo Band, The Moravians, and Jodie Mikula Orchestra. See ad, page 6. 979-567-0000
BurlsonCountyTX.com/kolachefestival

SEPTEMBER 15-16 5TH INTERNATIONAL FEST PEARLAND, TEXAS

Brave Combo headlines on Saturday, 8P
2423 S Houston Ave
281-993-8817 / PearlandFest.org

SEPTEMBER 17 145TH SCHÜTZENFEST ROUND TOP, TEXAS

Traditional crowning of shooting king at Rifle Association Hall at 6 pm, followed by dance with music by Donnie Wavra & The Hi-Liters. See ad, page 13.
281-788-3278 / RoundTopRifle.com

SEPTEMBER 21-23 OKTOBERFEST FORT WORTH, TEXAS

Brave Combo, Alpenmusikanten, Walburg Boys, Off the Grid, Das Ist Lustig, Nick Ballarini, Alpine Village Band, Terry Cavanagh/Alpine Express, Third Generation. See ad, page 7.
817-698-0700 / OktoberfestFW.com

SEPTEMBER 22-24 10TH OKTOBERFEST MCKINNEY, TEXAS

Brave Combo performs Friday, 8P. Also featuring Alpenmusikanten, STV Almrausch. See ad, page 14.
972-547-2660/McKinneyOktoberfest.com

SEPTEMBER 24 29TH WENDISH FEST SERBIN, TEXAS

TubaMeisters, 12:45P. See ad, page 7.
979-366-2442 / TexasWendish.org

SEPTEMBER 24 32ND CZECH HERITAGE FESTIVAL VICTORIA, TEXAS

Shelia Lee, Shiner Hobo Band, Leo Majek Orchestra, Red Ravens, Curtis Grimes. See ad, page 15.
361-571-4777 / VictoriaCzechs.org

SEPTEMBER 29-OCTOBER 1 OCTOBER 6-8 RIVERWALK OKTOBERFEST SAN ANTONIO

Das Ist Lustig, Austin Polka Band, Chris Cruz Band, Mike & Vince Band, Jericho Band. 126 Losoya St - Riverwalk Level
See ad, page 4.
210-212-7299 / BierGartenRiverwalk.com

SEPTEMBER 30 OKTOBERFEST HOUSTON

Water Works on Buffalo Bayou
105 Sabine St. Enzian Buam, Auf Geht's, Eurofest, Yodel Blitz. See ad, page 10.
OktoberfestHouston.com

Continued on back page

Oompah At Its Best!



oktoberfestinfbg.com

37th Oktoberfest Stage Is Set

*The tradition
steeps*

Oktoberfest, the family-oriented German event taking place in the center of Fredericksburg on Oct. 6-8, is poised to again attract 1,300 volunteers and 20,000 visitors in its 37th year.

As a result, the oom-pah-pah echo of 36 previous years will carry over in the hearts and minds of people who have made the event an annual tradition, many who traversed hundreds of miles to attend. And for others, the event reminds them of Gillespie County organizations and young people who accomplished artistic endeavors thanks to Oktoberfest proceeds.

Oktoberfest Event Producer Debbie Farquhar said she's looking forward to the fun, excitement, and the *gemütlichkeit*. "It will be a great time for all age," she said.

The engaging sights and sounds of the annual event are of Fredericksburg's German heritage, harkening to the first Oktoberfest near Munich in 1810, and to 1981, when Oktoberfest was first held in Fredericksburg.

Among a wide array of activities, included are:

- Ok-tuba-fest Friday
- Saturday morning Hauptstrasse Chicken Dance
- Fredericksburg Morning Rotary Oktoberfest Kraut Run
- Enjoying Bratwurst - and lots of it
- Ringing the Bell at The High Striker (plus a junior-size striker and kiddie striker for kids)
- Polkas and Waltzes
- KinderPark games for children
- Fredericksburg Akkordion Klub
- Eating our legendary potato pancakes and funnel cakes
- Samuel Adams Beer Hoist Contest Saturday

- Beer & Hymns Saturday sponsored by Pedernales Brewing Co
- Hofbrau Lederhosen Contest Sunday
- 42 Tournament Sunday afternoon
- Oompah at its Best! On four stages all weekend long
- Partaking of a wide variety of domestic, Texas, and German beer
- Shuttle Service - Park & Ride (from the Gillespie County Fairgrounds to MarktPlatz)

LET'S DANCE!

Four covered stages host a continuous parade of entertainers. The focus is the German favorites of oompah, polka, and waltzing, with a Lederhosen and Stein Hoist contest, and plenty of opportunities for dancing - including the irresistible "Chicken Dance!"

Bands scheduled to perform this year include **Oma & The Oompahs, Sound Connection, Red Ravens, Arion Maennerchor, Comal Community Band, Jodie Mikula Orchestra, Austin Polka Band, German Schuhplattlers, Seven Dutchmen, Walburg Boys, Polkamatics, Boerne Village Band, Ennis Czech Boys, Hermann Sons Choir, Cloverleaf Orchestra, Czech Melody Masters, Czechaholics, Czech & Then Some, Chris Rybak, Alpine Village Band, Off The Grid, Tubameisters, Fredericksburg Filharmonik, Akkordion Klub of Fredericksburg, Yodel Blitz, Herschel Moody, Shirley Johnson, Beer & Hymns**, and more.

HOLIDAY SHOPPING

Oktoberfest attracts many visitors just for the shopping opportunities. Over forty juried artisans from across the state fill two big tents, offering their best arts and collectibles. In another tent, a select group of local Hill Country artists will be selling their fine art to the public in a rare showing. Many find it the ideal opportunity to start their holiday shopping with many unique, handmade gift items.

Of course the best part of any celebration in Fredericksburg is the hearty menu of delicious German

and American foods. Over a dozen vendors will be serving up a variety of sausage on a stick and plates with kraut, potato pancakes, plus other scrumptious goodies. Adventurous tasters can sample over 50 varieties of German, American, Texan and other imported beers.

Oktoberfest is a time for the youngsters as well. Kids can play to their heart's content on the bungee jump and slide, try their hand at three hi-strikers, or enjoy other fun games and activities, including a magician and face painter.

AN ANGLE ON THE ARTS

The Pedernales Creative Arts Alliance (PCAA) began and orchestrates the Fredericksburg Oktoberfest, and proceeds are used to fund youth arts and music scholarships, as well as community arts and music programs.

Oktoberfest started in Fredericksburg with the specific intent to support the arts and music, and it is the only fund-raiser PCAA has each year. Its success has enabled many young people to go to college and study the arts or music. The Oktoberfest proceeds also funds many local arts organizations.

Debbie has worked with volunteers to produce the charitable event since 1992. "Oktoberfest makes it possible for us to have 10 to 15 local students studying the arts each year. We provide scholarships to help pay for their education," she said. "It also enables us to support local arts programs."

TOOTING THE OKTOBERFEST HORN

Debbie said the event is also notable for how it comes together. "With 1,300 volunteers, we're able to greet our visitors and provide an experience that is remarkable. Local residents blend with guests to create a welcoming and lively event for everyone."

For more information, visit oktoberfestinfbg.com, or call 830-997-4810.



Time to Polka in East Texas!

It's that time again.... polka polka polka! OktoberFest with **Brave Combo** is Sat., Oct. 7 at the Houston County Airport. Come join the good folks of Crockett for authentic Czech food and beer, and dance to America's favorite polka band, Brave Combo!

Presented by the Piney Woods Fine Arts Association, this family-friendly event is fun for all ages. Kids under 18 get in FREE! Tickets are \$27. Buy tickets at pwfaa.org or call 936-544-4276. This event is back due to overwhelming response from last year's festival. Proceeds benefit area youth arts programs.

OktoberFest with Brave Combo is funded in part by a grant from The Texas Commission on the Arts and sponsored by Cutshaw Chevrolet and Crockett Insurance Service.

OktoberFest with Brave Combo is at the Houston County Airport on Hwy 7, just east of Crockett. The doors will open at 6 pm; show starts at 7 pm.



Piney Woods Polka Fest

Saturday, October 7

Houston County Airport
Hwy 7 just east of Crockett

Featuring
Brave Combo

Doors open 6 pm Show starts 7 pm

Tickets: \$27 Kids under 18 Free!

Dancing * Beer Garden *
Czech Food * Family Fun

Sponsored by

Piney Woods Fine Arts Association
936-644-4276 pwfaa.org

Flatonía Event, So Much More than Czhili!

If you think for one moment that the Czhilispiel 45 held in Flatonía from Fri., Oct. 27 through Sun., Oct. 29 won't "hold" the visitor, ask one of the 15,000+ guests that attended last year. They'll tell you, "It's so much more than the czhili."

Held in historic downtown Flatonía for decades, all ages have enjoyed the wide array of outstanding music and entertainment, the largest tented biergarten, arts and crafts, food booths, carnival, class reunions, adult and children contests, grand parade, loads of food, fun, drinks, and dancing--and this year is guaranteed to be no exception! And yes, it is indeed one of the largest Czhili Cook-offs in Texas (CASI sanctioned).

Friday is free admission, and gates open at 6 pm. Get ready for some big time dancing as the **Bret Mullins Band** hits the Main Stage from 6-8:30 pm, and **Grupo Emocion** wraps up the Main Stage from 9 pm-12 am.

Gear up for a very busy Saturday, as everything opens at 8 am (gate admission from 8 am - 2 pm \$15 and 2 pm-1 am \$20) with BBQ (IBCA sanctioned) cookers meeting under the tent and 5K registration at the Czhili Stage (the run/walk begins



on the north side of the tent at 8:30 am). And if you aren't a runner, head to the Flatonía Golf Course (east of town) and try your hand at the Golf Tournament beginning at 10 am.

CZECH OUT THE HISTORY

It's always great to add a bit of history to the venue. The Central Texas Rail History Center renders a view of the history, changing passenger and freight depots, and people that formed the community from 1873 to the present. The E.A. Arnim Museum links the memories of the past to the present with collections of goods, furnishings, farm implements, photos,

and an incredible heart-tugging tribute to Veterans.

Czhili Showmanship Judging will be from 11 am to 1 pm among the Czhili Cookers booths. BBQ and Bean judging (under the tent), the Lions Club Pie Auction (under the tent), and the Margarita Contest Turn-In behind the Czhili Stage, all kicks off at 11 am.

Class reunions will be in the CCA Center from 11 am until 1 pm. At noon, the carnival and the Texan Petting Zoo opens. Bobby Cordell will be available with his ever-popular Strolling Balloon Act along with other strolling acts. The Hometown Czhili Turn-In is behind the Czhili Stage at 1 pm, and CASI Czhili Turn-In is held behind the Czhili Stage at 2pm. From 1-4:30 pm, the **Shiner Hobo Band** graces the Main Stage under the tent.

LOTS OF PHOTO OPS

Registration of the Young Farmers Egg Toss in front of Migl's Food Market begins at 1:30 with the Toss at 2 pm.

Bring your cameras for the mid-afternoon laughs as the Jalapeno Eating Contest, Ladies Daizy Duke and Men's Hairy Leg Contests all kick off on the Czhili Stage at 3 pm. Every 5 years a Beard Growing Contest is held for those who enter clean shaven on a certain date, then are judged by color, length, and other measurements.

Musical entertainment for Saturday includes **Los Kolaches**, 1:30-4:30 pm, and **JD Clark**, 5-6:30 pm.

October 27-29, 2017

OCTOBER 27-29, 2017

CZHILISPIEL 45
FLATONIA, TEXAS

Flatonía Texas

BRETT MULLINS BAND GRUPO EMOCION LOS KOLACHES

CZHILI & BAR-B-Q COOK-OFF

Also Enjoy STREET MARKET BIERGARTEN CONTESTS & GAMES

More bands are being lined up for the evening.

SUNDAY IS FUN DAY, TOO

Don't even think about packing up and going home as Sunday (with no gate admission) is a wonderful way to enjoy yet more fun Texas hometown Flatonian activities. A special Sunday reflection venue will be held from 10 am-noon with **D'Vine Testament**, and then from 1 to 2 pm on Main Stage.

The Car & Truck Show registration will be held from 10:30 am-1:30 pm, and the Czhlispieler Grand Parade will fire up at noon. The Carnival and Petting Zoo open, and Washer Tournament registration begins, with the competition starting at 1:30 pm. Special events (with sign up at the Czhlispieler Stage) will include: Children's Halloween Costume Contest, Children's Tricycle Races, and Adult Back Seat Drivin' Mamma contests. Judging for the Car & Truck Show commences at 2 pm.

More entertainment graces Sunday's stage with live entertainment showcased from 1:30-4:30 pm and from 5-8 pm on the Main Stage. The WAGS Souvenir booth will be open with lots of great Czhlispieler souvenirs all weekend.

HOW IT ALL STARTED

And a little history on how and why this event now draws some of the best czhlispieler and bbq cook-off teams from across the state. Czhlispieler began as a fundraiser to help fund a local Flatonian student's medical school education. At the time, Flatonian needed a doctor, so the residents organized the Czech and German heritage festival and czhlispieler cook-off entitled. The student agreed to serve the community for at least five years after completing medical school, but ended up staying longer—a real win-win! Czhlispieler continues to use proceeds from the event to benefit local needs, whether for students or local community efforts.

Go to czhlispieler.com or call 361-865-3920 for more information. Flatonian is located on Highway 90 (off Interstate 10) between Houston and San Antonio, and a short 65 miles from Austin.

Welcome to Southlake Oktoberfest

This year will mark the 16th anniversary of the Oktoberfest celebration hosted by Southlake's Chamber of Commerce! Over 100,000 people visit throughout the weekend festival, located 22 miles northwest of Dallas! Attendance is completely free -- there are no admission or parking fees. There will, however, be a wide range of food, beverages, and booth items available for sale during the festival Oct. 6-8!

Come take a stroll in Southlake's beautiful Town Square while looking at the unique, handcrafted arts and crafts booths. Great food and live entertainment are also at your fingertips during this fun-filled event. The kids will have a great time in the excitement-packed children's area!

Don't forget to sign up your dog to participate in the popular wiener dog race! We can't forget to mention that we will be having a number of great bands that you won't want to miss! Join us at this year's Oktoberfest, where a good time is awaiting all!



FREE SHUTTLE SERVICE

Free parking and a shuttle service will be available at White's Chapel United Methodist Church (185 S. White Chapel Blvd., Southlake TX 76092) over the weekend. Shuttles will run continuously to and from Southlake Town Square.

Shuttle Hours:

Friday, Oct. 6 - 4 to 11 pm
Saturday, Oct. 7 - 9 am to 11 pm
Sunday, Oct. 8 - 1 to 5 pm
oktoberfestsouthlake.com




- ◆ Southlake Town Square, Southlake Texas
- ◆ Free Admission
- ◆ Arts & Crafts
- ◆ Famous Wiener Dog Race
- ◆ Kids & Sports Zone
- ◆ Great German Food & Beer
- ◆ Free Entertainment All Weekend

Oktoberfest Southlake

October 6-8, 2017

www.oktoberfestsouthlake.com








DANCES - FESTIVALS - EVENTS - LIVE MUSIC

SEPTEMBER 30 AUSTOBERFEST AUSTIN

Brave Combo, 5P; The Motts, 9P
Scholz Garten 1607 San Jacinto
See BC story, page 3.
512-666-7464 / Austoberfest.com

OCTOBER 6-8 37TH OKTOBERFEST FREDERICKSBURG, TEXAS

Oma & The Oompahs, Sound
Connection, Red Ravens, Jodie Mikula,
Ennis Czech Boys, Czech Melody
Masters, Chris Rybak, Czechaholics,
Czech & Then Some & more!
See ad, page 28.
830-997-4810 / OktoberfestInFbg.com

OCTOBER 6-8 16TH OKTOBERFEST SOUTHLAKE, TEXAS

See ad, page 31.
817-481-8200 / OktoberfestSouthlake.com

OCTOBER 6-7 2ND OKTOBERFEST PARIS, TEXAS

Brave Combo, Das Ist Lustig, Royal
Klobasneks. See ad, page 26.
ParisOktoberfest.com

OCTOBER 7 PINEY WOODS POLKAFEST CROCKETT, TEXAS

Brave Combo, 7P. See ad, page 30.
936-644-4276 / pwfaa.org

OCTOBER 7 3RD OKTOBERFEST LA GRANGE, TEXAS

Los Kolaches, Praha Brothers. See ad,
page 20.
979-968-3017 / VisitLaGrangeTX.com

OCTOBER 8 23RD CESKY VECER AUSTIN, TEXAS

Kovanda's Czech Band. See ad, page 9.
512-863-3785 / AustinCzechs.com

OCTOBER 12 STATE FAIR DALLAS

Brave Combo, TBA
214-565-9931 / BigTex.com

OCTOBER 13 MASTERWORKS CONCERT EULESS, TEXAS

Brave Combo, 7P
Texas Star Pavilion, 1400 Texas Star Pkwy
817-283-3406 / ArtsCouncilNortheast.org

OCTOBER 14 8TH BONNIE & CLYDE DAYS PILOT POINT, TEXAS

Brave Combo, TBA
BonnieAndClydeDays.org

OCTOBER 20-21 HERITAGE FEST & MUZYKY LA GRANGE, TEXAS

Dujka Brothers Friday night. Red Ravens,
Bohemian Dutchmen Saturday. Muziky
Legends Series honors Legacy of Bobby
Jones Czech Band. See ad, page 8.
888-785-4500 / CzechTexas.org

OCTOBER 20-21 34TH HARVEST FESTIVAL NEEDVILLE, TEXAS

DJ music, contests, raffles, quilt show,
more. See ad, page 22.
281-468-9314 / NeedvilleHarvestFest.org

OCTOBER 21 142ND OKTOBERFEST ANHALT, TEXAS

Ennis Czech Boys, Justin Trevino. See ad,
page 11.
830-438-2873 / AnhaltHall.com

OCTOBER 21 8TH KC BESTFEST FREDERICKSBURG, TEXAS

Dutch Treat, Fritz Hodde/Fab 6, Felix
Truvere. See ad, page 12.
KCBestFest.com

OCTOBER 21 PUMPKIN PALOOZA CORINTH, TEXAS

Brave Combo, 7P
940-498-3200 / CorinthPumpkinPalooza.com

OCTOBER 27-28 30TH HOG EYE FESTIVAL ELGIN, TEXAS

Street dance Friday night with Sean Orr
& The Texas Gold Band and The Shop
Dawgs. See ad, page 22.
HogeyeFestival.com

OCTOBER 27-28 ISLAND OKTOBERFEST GALVESTON, TEXAS

Das Ist Lustig, Midlife Crisis,
TubaMeisters, Alpenmusikanten, Becky &
Klaus, Chris Rybak, Kevin Anthony. See
ad, page 18.
409-762-8477 GalvestonOktoberfest.com

OCTOBER 27-29 CZHILISPIEL 45 FLATONIA, TEXAS

Brett Mullins Band, Grupo Emocion, Los
Kolaches, Shiner Hobo Band, & more. See
ad, page 30.
361-865-3920 / FlatoniaChamber.com

OCTOBER 28 OKTOBIERFEST ROUND TOP, TEXAS

Enzian Buam, Round Top Brass Band.
Rifle Hall. See ad, page 13.
281-788-3278 / RoundTopRifle.com

OCTOBER 28-29 OKTOBERFEST MUENSTER, TEXAS

Live music all weekend. See ad, page 23.
940-759-2227 / OktoberfestMuenster.com

OCTOBER 29 POLKAPOCALYPSE AUSTIN

Brave Combo, TBA
Elisabet Ney Museum 304 E 44th
512-974-1625

NOVEMBER 3-12 57TH WURSTFEST NEW BRAUNFELS, TEXAS

830-625-9167 / Wurstfest.com

NOVEMBER 4 KRAUSE'S CAFE NEW BRAUNFELS

Brave Combo, TBA
148 S Castell Ave

DECEMBER 8-10 GERMAN CHRISTMAS MARKET TOMBALL, TEXAS

Squeezebox, Chris Rybak, Das Ist Lustig,
Auf Geht's, Eurofest, TubaMeisters, Mike
Stroup Trio, Armstrong Family Bluegrass
Band. See ad, page 24.
TomballGermanFest.org

Visit polkabeat.com for listings of church
picnics and fall events across the country. Add
a dance/ festival: theresa@polkabeat.com

Go to PolkaBeat.com every week for
updates. Sign up for our free e-newsletter
delivered to your inbox every Thursday.

Be sure to call the venue before you head
out to the dance!

