



June 2015 - Newsletter

MISSION

The Texas Hill Country Trail Region will preserve, protect and promote the cultural, historic and natural resources of its 19 counties.

VISION

The Texas Hill Country Trail Region will develop partnerships to protect our heritage and sustain our natural and cultural resources through promotion, preservation, education and tourism.

Before Central Texas Flooding, Officials Sounded Alarm

by Neena Satija May 26, 2015

photo by: Jorge Sanhueza-Lyon/KUT News

Residents of Wimberley survey the devastation after the Blanco River crested its banks along River Road in Wimberley on May 25, 2015.



When some residents of Wimberley woke up early Sunday morning to flooding inside their homes, the fear and surprise were palpable: The Texas Hill Country had been going through a record, multiyear drought.

But just three months earlier, local officials had voiced concerns about the rapidly growing region's vulnerability to devastating flooding.

"The more we know, the safer we will be when flooding occurs," Hays County Judge Bert Cobb said in a February news release after county commissioners voted to help pay for an ongoing study by the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority on flood risk for the area.

The region is one of the nation's most susceptible to such disasters, and a recent population explosion has made things even worse, with concrete replacing the soil and grass that once absorbed floodwaters. Hays County is the [fifth-fastest-growing county](#) in the country, and is home to San Marcos, the nation's fastest-growing city.

"They call this part of the world 'flash flood alley,'" Bill West, general manager of the river authority, said in an interview. "And the more rooftops you have on the watershed, the faster that runoff materializes down the river." West added: "When the Blanco River used to rise, you had pastures out there, and ranchers had to get cattle out of the river bottom. Now you've got people at the river bottom."

Click below to read the rest of the article:

<http://www.texastribune.org/2015/05/26/central-texas-flooding-fears-date-back-decades/>

Featured June Events in the Texas Hill Country

Kerrville

Kerrville Folk Festival

Thursday May 21, 2015 through Sunday June 7, 2015

Held every year at the **Quiet Valley Ranch**, 9 miles south of Kerrville on Texas Hwy 16. Beginning on the Thursday just before Memorial Day at the end of May, the entertainment carries on for 18 days with music by over 100 singer songwriters and their bands. Intermixed in between Saturday and Sundays are shops in songwriting, blues guitar, and harmonica.

<http://www.kerrvillefolkfestival.org>



Blanco

11th Annual Blanco Lavender Festival

June 12-14, 2015

Visit Beautiful Blanco - The Heart of the Hill Country
Lavender Market on the Square - Lavender Farm Tours
Local Beer & Wine - Live Music - Texas Specialty Packaged Foods
Friday: Noon - 6 PM Saturday: 9AM to 6PM Sunday: 10AM to 4PM
830-833-5101

<http://www.blancolavenderfest.com>



Boerne

Boerne Berges Fest

49th Annual Berges Fest

June 19-21, 2015

Wilkommen!

It doesn't have to be October for people to gather and celebrate German culture in America. The Boerne Berges Fest proves that! The 3-day, family-friendly festival centers around the German heritage of the Boerne area and commandeers Boerne's Main Street on Father's Day weekend. The Boerne Berges Fest is one of the City of Boerne's biggest festivals. Attracting people from all over Texas, the Boerne Berges Fest boasts music from one of Texas's best German folk bands, the Berges Fest Parade, dachshund races, carnival rides for people of all ages, and much much more!

<http://www.bergesfest.com>



HILL COUNTRY HAPPENINGS....

The Texas Hill Country Trail Partners met in May at the New Braunfels Heritage Village, Home of the Museum of Texas Handmade Furniture for a wonderful time of networking, a tour of the museum and a delicious lunch at McAdoo's before our regular bi-monthly meeting!

A tour of the Museum of Texas Handmade Furniture will introduce the visitor to the artistic beauty of handcrafted Biedermeier furniture as constructed by German cabinetmakers who settled in New Braunfels and nearby communities. Over seventy pieces of this furniture collected by the late Bill and Nan Dillen serve as the focal point of what was once their home. Although these primarily black walnut and pine pieces were crafted between 1845 and 1880, the simplicity of their design is timeless. Costumed docents (delete the word "will" guide you on a tour that will include the main house, the Reinger log cabin, the Cabinet Shop, the Summer kitchen/smokehouse and the soon to be restored Breustedt kitchen. Although most tours last approximately an hour, at your request a tour can be customized to fit your schedule.

<http://www.nbheritagevillage.com/index.html>



JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT MEETING....



**LUNCH AND TOUR
DETAILS TO COME!**

Texas Hill Country Trail

July Meeting

Thursday, July 16, 2015

1:00 p.m.

Meeting Location:

The Moses Hughes Ranch

7075 W FM 580

Lampasas, TX 76550

512-556-5923



Texas Historical Commission Texas Heritage Trails Program Update

HT Product Development Projects:

Travel Theme Tourism Development Project

Work is nearing completion in the three Bankhead Highway communities – Big Spring, Weatherford, Mount Vernon, with roll-out workshops scheduled and open for registration. Big Spring – May 15 & 16, Weatherford – June 5 & 6, Mount Vernon – June 25 & 26.

The April workshops featured lunch and learn-style meetings for approximately 35 participants from other communities. A follow-up survey was sent to as many contacts along the Bankhead we could gather – those who attended the meetings and others. Information on possible tourism offerings and general interest in a statewide centennial celebration in 2016 will be shared collectively to keep momentum going. I want to thank Forest, Lakes, Forts, Plains, Pecos, and Mountain Trail EDs for all their invaluable help at these meetings and in getting the word out to constituents. Much of the enthusiasm for heritage tourism efforts along the Bankhead comes from the ground work laid regionally over the last two years both regionally and through the Historic Highways Program work.

Please check with the HT team for more information. Work in these cities is expected to continue through July.

WHAT'S COOKING IN THE TEXAS HILL COUNTRY?

Lampasas Recipe

Yield: 6 servings

HOUSE SALAD

1 head romaine lettuce, cut into slices 1 1/2 inches thick
Sliced cucumber

Thin-sliced onion

House Dressing

2 green onions, minced
3 fresh dill sprigs, minced
1 1/2 cups whipping cream
1/2 cup whole milk

3 Tablespoons German white vinegar
1 Tablespoon sugar
1 teaspoon salt

Combine the green onions and dill in a medium bowl. Whisk in the cream and milk, then slowly whisk in the vinegar to form a smooth mixture. Whisk in the sugar and salt. If the dressing is too thick, add additional milk, a little at a time, whisking to blend. Adjust seasoning as needed. Cover and refrigerate at least 2 hours. To assemble the salad, place a portion of the romaine on each salad plate and drizzle a portion of dressing over the top. Arrange 3 or 4 cucumber slices on each salad and scatter a few of the thin-sliced red onions on top.



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