



May 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.



Colorful Blooms Decorate Texas State Parks

Media Contact: Steve Lightfoot, 512-389-4701, steve.lightfoot@tpwd.texas.gov, or Stephanie Salinas, 512-389-8756, stephanie.salinas@tpwd.texas.gov

April 8, 2015

AUSTIN – Texas State Parks have gone Technicolor this spring; rolling waves of bright blue, deep red and rich yellow blanket Texas' hills and plains.

Texas is blessed with more than 5,000 species of wildflowers and this spring has seen a proliferation of wildflower populations.

“More and more, visitors are reporting this spring is a much better wildflower season than they’ve seen in years,” said Paul Hendrix, the assistant park superintendent at Lyndon B. Johnson State Park and Historic Site.

Hendrix said LBJ has seen an abundance of Texas bluebonnets along the park trails, with a good mix of Indian paintbrush and Engelmann daisy.

More than 90 Texas State Parks present some of the best and safest places to view and photograph nature's bounty of wildflowers and blooming shrubs and trees.

In Central Texas state parks, visitors can expect to see bluebonnets, Engelmann daisies, beeblossoms, Carolina woollywhites, blue-eyed grass, Texas yellowstars, Dakota vervain, Drummond's skullcaps, four-nerved daisies and plateau bladderpods.

Click here to read the entire article > <https://tpwd.texas.gov/newsmedia/releases/?req=20150408b>

Featured May Events in the Texas Hill Country

Georgetown

Palace Theater Presents: Spamalot

810 S. Austin Avenue (512) 869-7469 GeorgetownPalace.com

Lovingly ripped off from the classic film comedy MONTY PYTHON AND THE HOLY GRAIL, the story retells the legend of King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table, and features a bevy of beautiful showgirls, not to mention cows, killer rabbits, and French people. Weekends, 04/17 – 05/17: Friday & Saturday at 7:30pm, Sunday at 2pm. For more information and tickets, visit the website above.



New Braunfels

Historic Cemetery Walking Tour

May 15 @ 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm \$16.00

Take a guided walking tour through two historic New Braunfels cemeteries. Hear the stories of our founders', their struggles and triumphs in building a new life for themselves and their descendants. Refreshments provided. Participants must have their own transportation to travel from Comal Cemetery to New Braunfels Cemetery. Age: 12+ Fee: \$16 per person Location: Comal and New Braunfels Cemeteries

Phone: 830-221-4350

301 Peach Ave., New Braunfels, TX 78130 United States

See more at: <http://innewbraunfels.com/event/historic-cemetery-walking-tour-4/> - sthash.CDHeWnYQ.dpuf



Llano

Blue Bell & Bluegrass Festival 2015

<http://llanochamber.org/civicrm/event/info?reset=1&id=683>

Memorial Weekend: May 22-25, 2015: Blue Bell & Bluegrass Festival.

This weekend of ice cream, music & family fun converges on the Llano Courthouse Square to kick off summer! Join us for a great time. Call the Llano Chamber at 325-247-5354 or Llano Main Street at 325-247-4158, ext 209 for more information.



HILL COUNTRY HAPPENINGS....

The Texas Hill Country Trail Region partners met in March at The McNay Art Museum in San Antonio for a wonderful time of networking, an exquisite tour of the museum, and a delicious lunch with wonderful door prizes provided by the San Antonio Convention & Visitors Bureau. We also conducted our regular bi-monthly meeting too! <http://www.mcnayart.org>



JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT MEETING....



Texas Hill Country Trail

May Meeting

Thursday, May 21, 2015

1:00 p.m.

Meeting Location:

Museum of TX Handmade Furniture

1370 Churchill Drive

New Braunfels, TX 78130

830-629-6504

[Optional Dutch Treat Lunch](#)

Time: 11:30 a.m.

McAdoo's Seafood Company
196 North Castell Avenue

They have chicken and cheeseburgers too for the non-seafood eaters! :)

Please RSVP so I can get a table(s) large enough for us all to eat together!

hctrail@verizon.net

NOTE - A map of the property is included as a separate email attachment.



Texas Historical Commission Texas Heritage Trails Program Update

Websites:

We continue to promote the Texas Heritage Travel Guide and Texas Time Travel Tours mobile app on the THC and Texas Time Travel websites.

We have secured a budget to move forward with website usability enhancements. We are still working on the implementation plan and timeline for the updates, and will send an email with detailed information on the updates as soon as it is finalized.

Regional web calendars were updated with events from the THC's state historic sites.

HT Product Development Projects:

Hispanic Heritage Travel Guide

The English language version of the travel guide is currently at the printer. A Spanish version will launch later.

WHAT'S COOKING IN THE TEXAS HILL COUNTRY?

Fredericksburg Recipe

BLACKENED CENTER-CUT PORK LOIN CHOP

4 (8-ounce) center-cut boneless pork loin chops Your favorite Cajun-style seasoning

Sauce

| | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| 3/4 cup dry white wine | 1/4 teaspoon salt |
| 1/4 cup honey | 1/8 teaspoon ground white pepper |
| 1/4 cup plus 1 Tablespoon Dijon-style mustard | 1 Tablespoon butter |
| 2/3 cups whipping cream | |

To make the sauce, combine the wine, honey, and mustard in a heavy saucepan and bring to a full boil. Lower heat and cook until the mixture is reduced by half. Stir in the whipping cream and season to taste with salt and white pepper. Simmer for an additional 15 minutes. While the sauce is simmering, liberally season both sides of the pork chops with Cajun seasoning, patting the seasoning into the meat with your fingers. Heat a cast-iron skillet over medium-high heat until very hot. Add the pork chops and cook until an instant-read thermometer inserted into the thickest part of the meat registers 145 degrees. Set aside and keep warm. Remove sauce from heat and whisk in the butter. Serve the chops topped with a portion of the sauce. Yield: 4 servings



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