

The Bandera PROPHEET

September 4, 2019

Laissez les Bon Temps rouler

by Vicki L. George
The Bandera Prophet

Letting the good times roll is what the Cajun Festival is all about. The festival brings the music, food and culture of Louisiana to the Hill Country, featuring topnotch Louisiana Cajun and Zydeco music, the best homemade Cajun food this side of Louisiana, and the Great Gumbo Cook-off. The festival has been rated the best festival of its kind in Texas and has received state and national recognition.

The 39th annual Cajun Festival will take place Saturday, Sept. 28, from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., at the Lakehills Civic Center, located at 11225 PR 37. Tickets are \$12; children 10 and under get in free.

Sponsored by the Medina Lake Betterment Association, the festival benefits the Lakehills Civic Center and is the center's main fundraiser.

The Civic Center is a non-profit facility and serves about 600 people every month, with programs for all ages.

The Cajun Festival will showcase five bands on two stages. In the Fais Do Do Pavilion festival goers will dance to the music of the CaVaBien, C.O.D. Cajun on Demand and also Rusty Metoyer and the Zydeco Krush.

On the Gazebo Stage attendees will move to the music of LaRecolte Cajun Band, CaVaBien as well as Randy Toman and his Country Western Band.

Once again the Cajun Festival is sponsoring the Great Gumbo Cook-off. The gumbo is the “hub” of the festival and is much in demand by the visitors. Prizes will be awarded for first and second place in three divisions: Professionals, Amateurs and Culinary Students. Everyone enjoys the decorations and costumes of those who strive to win the Showmanship trophy. Entry fee is \$40 and the cooks may sell their gumbo to the public and visitors can vote for their favorite in the People’s Choice Award. For rules and entry forms, go to www.cajunfestival-medinalake.com or call Michelle Reichle at 210-854-3060.

Food preparation is underway for the Cajun Festival every Thursday in the Lakehills Civic Center, beginning at 9 a.m. The last day to help prepare food for the festival is Thursday, Sept. 27. To volunteer, call Gerry at 830-751-3219 or Barbara at 830-751-2727.

Donations are needed to help defray the costs of the festival. Non-perishable food and paper items can be dropped off at Cutaway Salon, 9650 FM 1283. Call the salon at 830-751-2727 to find out what is needed. Monetary donations may be mailed to PO Box 404, Lakehills, TX 78063.

In addition, the festival hosts many vendors with their arts, crafts and games for the entire family during the family friendly event.

Parking is free and the festival provides shuttle service from satellite parking lots in Lakehills. Handicap parking is available, as is motorbike parking. ATM machines are on the grounds.

For more information, go to cajunfestival-medinalake.com.