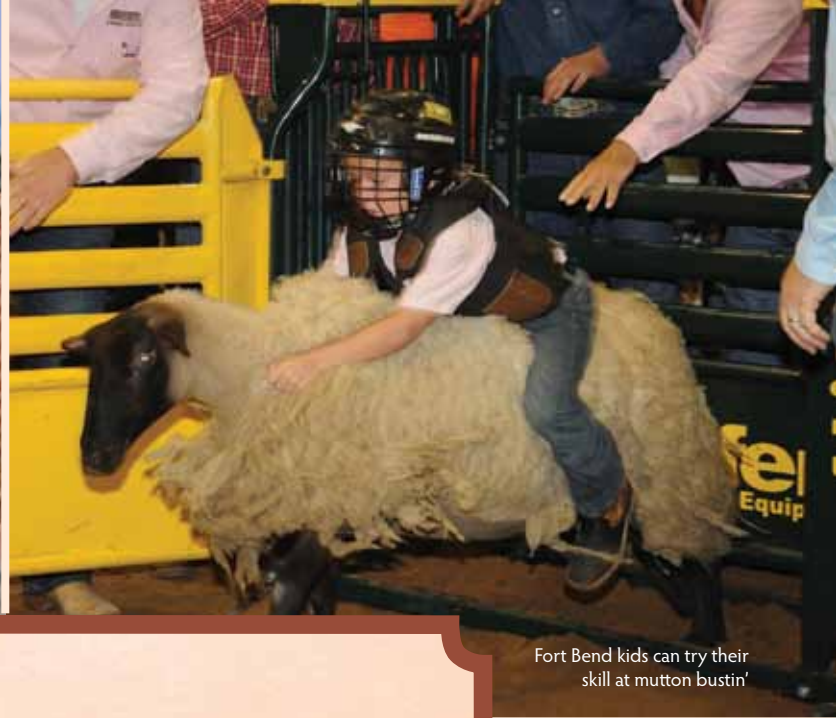
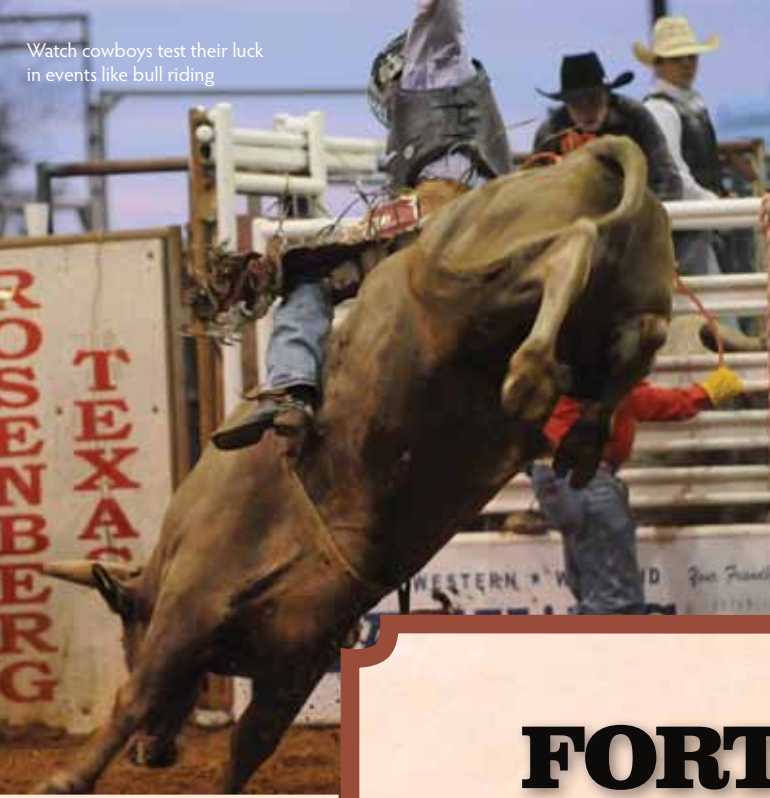


Watch cowboys test their luck in events like bull riding



Fort Bend kids can try their skill at mutton bustin'



Ashlee Bartee is the reigning 2009 fair queen

FORT BEND FAIR TIME!

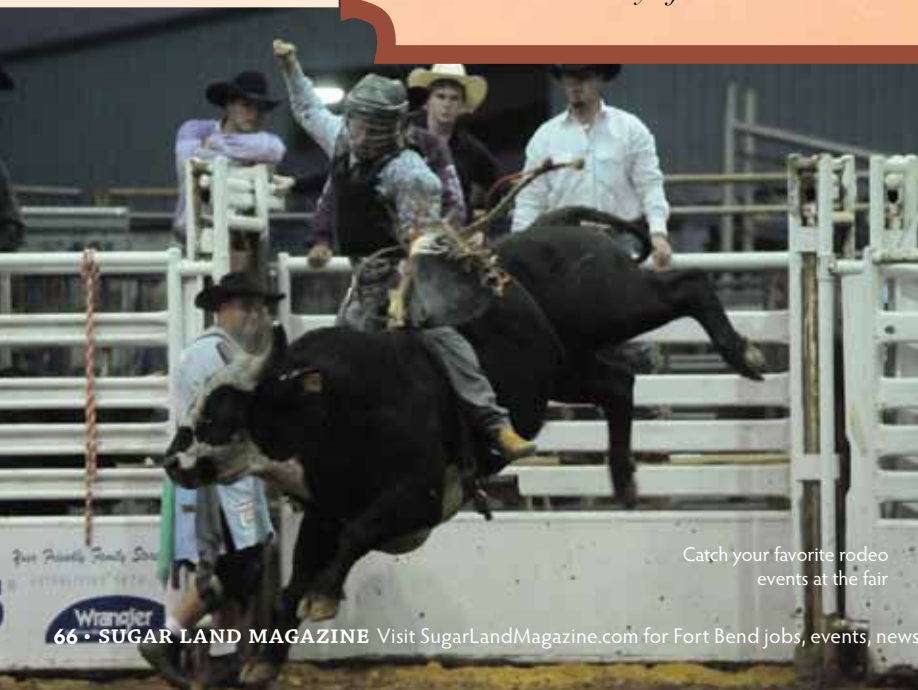
County Fair Rounds up Fun While Supporting Students

Written by Christie Zimmerman

Photos Courtesy of the Fort Bend County Fair Association



Country music artists like Jack Ingram have graced the fair's main stage



Catch your favorite rodeo events at the fair



The stick horse rodeo is a tried and true fair favorite

A family tradition for many, the Fort Bend County Fair celebrates 74 years of fun-filled, kid-friendly entertainment when it kicks off Sept. 24. First held in October 1933, the fair has since grown to be one of the largest and most successful county fairs in Texas, with a variety of great events for cowboys and cowgirls of all ages. Fort Bend residents come back year after year for the fellowship and to support students in the community.

A True Texas Tradition

Not only is the county fair a tradition in Fort Bend, it also continues gives back to the community. The theme of this year's fair is "conserve our resources, provide for our future." The theme highlights the main goal of the county fair, which is to focus on youth education. "The fair association will be taking measures to recycle as many materials as possible to help keep our community green," says Susan Sillavan, Fort Bend County Fair manager.

Each year, the fair helps support Fort Bend students with numerous scholarships. Last year, the fair awarded \$2,000 scholarships to 30 qualifying students, and since 1979, it has awarded 460 total scholarships to students. In addition, several local non-profit organizations, like the Terry High School Band Boosters, Fort Bend Lions Club, and Richmond Rotary Club, earn a large portion of their funds during fair time.

The Fort Bend County Fair would not be a real fair without a queen. To earn the honor, contestants must complete a number of requirements, including selling tickets and participating in fair events. Contestants receive scholarships based on ticket sales and where they place in the contest. Then, on opening day of the fair, the queen is crowned in a coronation ceremony and assumes her role as the official fair representative and hostess at all functions.

A Boot-Scootin' Schedule

Opening day, on Sept. 24, begins with a parade at 9 a.m. from the county courthouse in Richmond to Jeanetta St. in Rosenberg. Fair honorees, Mason Briscoe II and Marshal Michael Garfield, the "high-tech Texan," will lead this year's parade. Afterward, Fort Bend students can play old-fashioned games, with the chance to win fun prizes, during the fair's student fun day. Admission is free for all students in Fort Bend County until 7 p.m.

From opening day through Oct. 2, the rodeo arena will come alive with professionals competing in events reminiscent of the Wild West. Crowd-pleasing favorites like mutton bustin' and the calf scramble will be back again this year. Fort Bend students will compete with their livestock, art, and home economics exhibits in hopes of being named a grand champion. Top exhibits will qualify for auction, which raised over \$760,000 for the youth of Fort Bend last year.

In addition to these events, the Grapes on the Brazos is back by popular demand, featuring a variety of wines from Texas, Argentina, California, and Australia. Get your fill of delicious, true-to-Texas barbecue during the cook-off from Oct. 1 to 2, where teams will compete for top honors in culinary and barbecue divisions. Don't miss the fair's other longtime traditions, like the talent contest, stick horse rodeo, children's tractor pull, ag mechanics show, and special citizens' day.

Saddle up for Fun

No matter what corner of Fort Bend you're from, the county fair has tons of great activities your whole family will enjoy. So head 'em up and move 'em out to see all the fun the fair has to offer as you help students achieve their dreams. For a complete schedule of events, call the fair office at 281-342-6171 or visit fbca.org. SLM

CHRISTIE ZIMMERMAN is a high school English teacher who graduated from Houston Baptist University. She lives in Sugar Land with her husband, Ryan, and puppy, Mason.



Students can exhibit livestock for the chance to earn scholarships



Student fun day includes a host of old-fashioned, kid-friendly activities



Show off your furry friend during the fair's pet show

Professional
Automotive Care & Repair

For 20 years, we've been providing full service auto repair for Fort Bend and SW Houston

- Foreign & Domestic Experts
- Free Shuttle Service
- Family-owned
- Fleet Accounts Welcome

Call 281-499-9684

Open Mon.-Fri. 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.



2526 FIFTH ST. STAFFORD, TX 281-499-9684 WWW.AUTOCENTRAL.BIZ

© 2010 Sugar Land Magazine



The fair kicks off with a parade through Richmond and Rosenberg



Top livestock exhibitors qualify for the fair's auction

ANOTHER TIME  SODA FOUNTAIN & Café
WED - SUN. 11:00 - 5:00

Old-Fashioned Family Fun!



© 2009 Sugar Land Magazine

Burgers Ice Cream Shakes & Malts

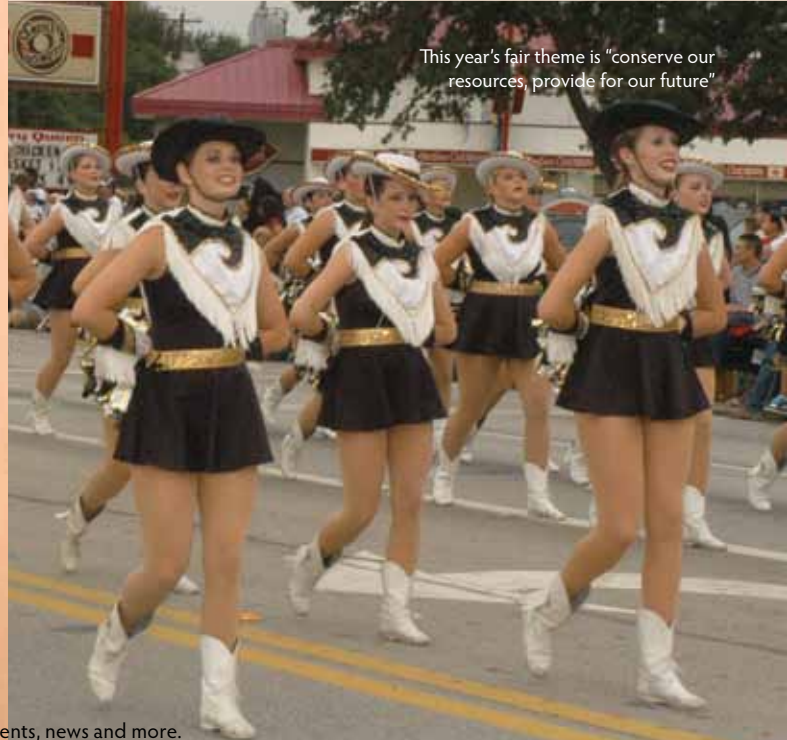
Try our 1 Pound Banana Split!



A Simpler Time
Step back in time to the days of soda jerks, meals made from scratch, and blue plate specials. Dine in our historic 1900's building for a truly retro feel.

anothertimesodafountain.com

800 THIRD ST. < DOWNTOWN ROSENBERG > [281] 232-2999



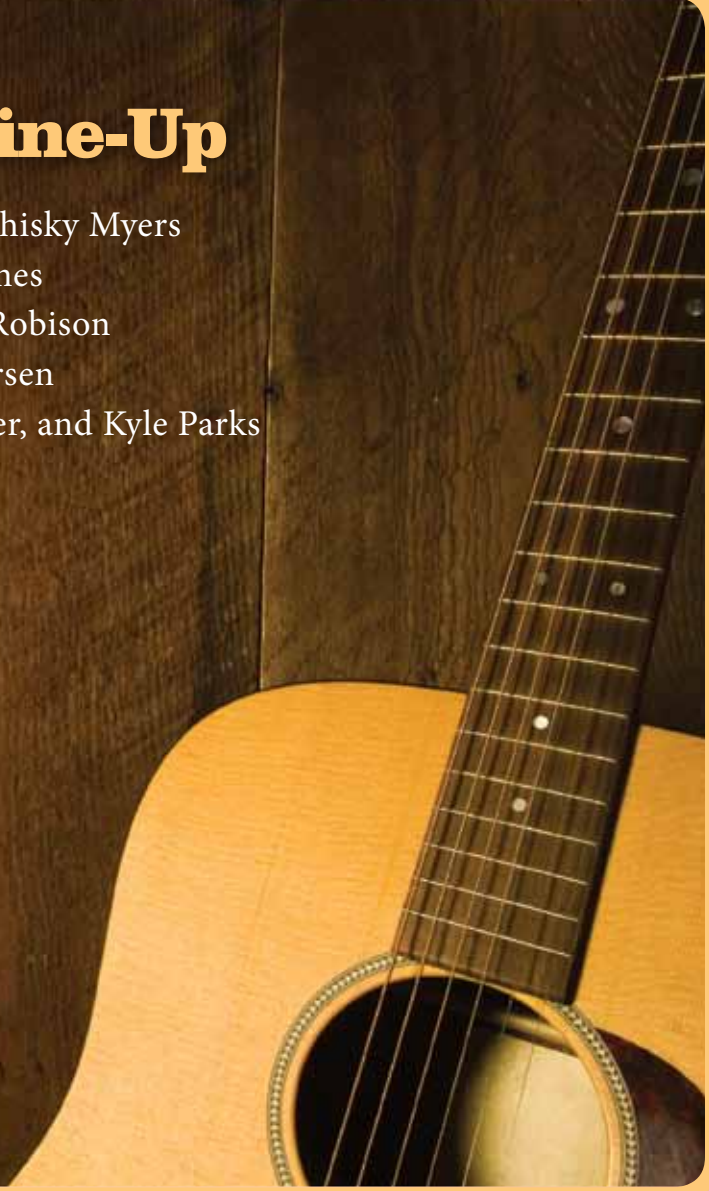
This year's fair theme is "conserve our resources, provide for our future"

Country Music Line-Up

- Sept. 24** – Randy Rogers Band and Whisky Myers
- Sept. 25** - Reckless Kelly and Zona Jones
- Sept. 30** - Cody Canada and Charlie Robison
- Oct. 1** - Mark Chesnutt and Blaine Larsen
- Oct. 2** - Cory Morrow, Brandon Rhyder, and Kyle Parks

Pre-Fair Events

- July 17** - Go Tejano Kick-Off Dance
- Aug. 28** – Style Show and Luncheon
- Sept. 12** – Fair Royalty Pageant
- Sept. 20** – Senior Citizen's Day



Storm Cheer



★ New Location!

★ All-Star cheer team for every ability level

★ Tumbling class instruction

★ Tumble Tots classes



12620 W. Airport Blvd. Suite 170 Sugar Land, TX 77478
Ph. (281) 240-8833 www.stormcheer.com