



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Taste the Blues

NACOGDOCHES – Taste buds are sure to be blue at this year’s Texas Blueberry Festival. The festival will be held on Saturday, June 9 and promises tasty blueberry fun for those that love to cook and those that love to eat. Downtown will be filled with fresh blueberries, ice cream, cobbler and traditional summer fares like funnel cake and tator twisters.

“Many of our vendors serve freshly-prepared foods, ranging from kabobs to boudin, barbecue, turkey legs, kettle corn, onion blossoms and of course shaved ice and ice cold lemonade,” said Sherry Lovell, Chamber staff and festival organizer.

The festival officially begins at 8 a.m. with the Nacogdoches Kiwanis Club Blueberry Pancake Breakfast. This mouth-watering carbo-loading is held on the downtown square at Main and Fredonia Streets and features the famous Kiwanis blueberry batter. Pancakes are \$5 per plate and will be served until there’s not a pancake left.

Pie eaters have more opportunities this year to eat their way to success! The downtown square on Pillar Street will be the site for eight pie eating contests. Between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., two contests an hour are planned and are sure to offer laughs for both contestants and onlookers. Registration takes place prior to the events.

The Blueberry Sweet Shoppe at Regions Bank is another essential part of the festival. Regions turns its lobby into an old fashioned soda shop filled with blueberry cobbler, ice cream, lemonade and coke floats. It’s the perfect place to briefly retreat from the warm June weather and enjoy some scrumptious treats.

The Texas Blueberry Marketing Association will be on hand with fresh blueberries from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., or until they run out. Grab a pint of Big Blues for \$2.50 or a flat (12 pints) for \$25. Blueberries freeze well, so stock up! There are also shuttles to and from The Blueberry Place, a local farm bursting with berry fun. The shuttle rides will be free to visitors, but the you-pick-em blueberries cost \$1.25 a pound. No pre-picked blueberries will be available at the Blueberry Place the day of the festival and visitors should be ready practice their picking skills. The farm is open only to festival shuttles on the festival day, June 9.

Visitors can let their inner chef out at the Brookshire Brothers' pie baking competition. Prior to the competition, participants must fill out a Blueberry Pie Competition form available at Brookshire Brothers and www.texasblueberryfestival.com. Participants must bring this completed form and their entry to the Brookshire Brothers booth on the square by 10 a.m. Entries are judged on taste and presentation. Winners will be announced at 2 p.m. and will receive cash prizes donated by Brookshire Brothers. Bon Appetit!

A separate cobbler and ice cream contest is scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. at the entrance to Commercial Bank. There is a \$5 entry fee for this contest and visitors are asked to bring entries in non-returnable containers. The winners will be announced at the Chamber of Commerce information booth on the square and awards will be presented to the winners in each division.

The Texas Blueberry Festival is a production of the Nacogdoches County Chamber of Commerce. For more information visit the festival's website at www.texasblueberryfestival.com or call (936) 560-5533.

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