



Pioneer Bluffs Historic Chase County Ranch Headquarters Fall Festival Saturday

Dedication and ribbon cutting for the new sidewalk Pioneer Trail kicks off the seventh annual Fall Festival, Saturday, Oct. 4, at Pioneer Bluffs, north of Matfield Green in Chase County.

"On the National Register of Historic Places, Pioneer Bluffs is the original homestead of the Rogler Ranch, and now a nonprofit organization with a mission to respect the land, preserve history, and engage community," according to Lynn Smith, executive director.

"The public is welcome to attend all of the Fall Festival activities free of charge throughout the afternoon, beginning at 1 o'clock," Smith invited.



Advertised on 580 WIBW, and promoted on www.WIBWnewsNow.com, www.KansasAgNetwork, and 580-94.5 websites and Facebook, festival feature activities are to include music, horse-drawn carriage rides, old-time games, caricatures, a fleece-to-shawl demonstration, car show, kettle corn, historic performance, silent auction, arts and crafts fair, and more.

A Ranching Heritage Prairie Talk will be presented at 1:30, by Frank Buchman of Alta Vista, who will share his own ranching heritage, along with stories he has written about other cowboys. Buchman will have his Marvelous Mae there to provide free rides in an antique fringed-topped buggy from 3 to 4 o'clock.

An introduction to geocaching will be at 4 o'clock, taught by Wes Matson of Emporia. "Geocaching is a real-world, outdoor treasure hunting game using a GPS device. Participants should bring their GPS device, and they will learn how to navigate to a specific set of coordinates," Smith informed.

Historic performances begin at 5 o'clock, featuring Billy Morgan portrayed by Tom Thompson, Strong City.

Afternoon music schedule includes: 2:30, Bluestem Swingers, square dance performers from Emporia; 3:30, Flint Hills Balladeer Annie Wilson, along with Carl Reed (shown) ; 4:30, Zach Garland Foster and his father, Chris Foster, Liberty, Missouri, jazz standards, classics, and contemporary music; 5:30, The Tom Page Trio from Wichita, eclectic originals with local themes; 6:30, Kelly Werts of Fairway, old-time folk songs with guitar accompaniment; and 7:30, The Skirts from Chase County, Bluegrass music with rock and pop influences.

"A hog roast with locally grown and homemade foods will be served at 6 o'clock, and at dusk, a fireworks extravaganza will conclude the festivities," Smith said.

Additional information can be found at www.pioneerbluffs.org. Supper reservations should be made with Smith at lynn@pioneerbluffs.org, or 620-753-3484. Pioneer Bluffs is located one mile north of Matfield Green, or 15 miles south of Cottonwood Falls on the Flint Hills National Scenic Byway K-177.



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Padre says:

"Never talk defeat. Use words like hope, belief, faith, victory."