



DEEP IN THE HEART OF BANDERA BY GENIE STRICKLAND

You've just got to come to Bandera, Cowboy Capital of the World on Labor Day Weekend. Well known as a small Texas town with real Texas flare, Bandera's history runs deep. It began in the late 1800's; Bandera was a critical gathering place for over 7,000,000 head of Longhorn cattle that where gathered from around the state to send up the famous Western Trail to Oglala, Nebraska and railheads north. Larry McMurtry wrote about this trail in his book Lonesome Dove. Yep, Bandera is about that trail. Each year Bandera remembers its roots at the annual Labor Day Event, Celebrate Bandera!

a breakfast taco at Lowe's Market parking lot where the excitement begins building at Cow Patty Bingo. Great Prizes and cash to boot all determined by the proper drop of a cow patty! Then hurry and grab your spot 'cause at 11am folks will be clamoring to see the Longhorn Cattle Drive right down the Main Street!



Following behind is an awesome parade with wagons, Native American Indians, horses, and all those that love the western heritage Bandera champions so well. Bandera will be transformed into a magical time machine. Check out the arts and crafts on the Court House lawn right after the parade. Visit Rattle Snake Ridge for shoot out performances



What else will you find at Celebrate Bandera? Everything having to do with Cowboys and Indians!

At City Park beginning on Friday night, September 2nd ,and all day and night the 3rd & 4th, Celebrate Bandera proudly



Friday night September 2nd, kicks off our Celebrate Bandera weekend with a Ranch Rodeo. Just like rodeo's originally started, a Ranch Rodeo is a competition between ranches with ranch skills! Featured ranch rodeo events at Celebrate Bandera are derived from original ranch skills with a little "fun" thrown in. Local ranches will enter teams of four and compete in skills like a rescue race, pony express race, stampepe race, hide race, and the hilarious girdele race. A Cowboy Mounted shooters exhibition will round out the evening.

Saturday mid-morning, folks will be gathering in town to get a good spot to view the morning events. About 9:30am you can grab

presents the Circle of Life Inter-tribal Powwow which includes Native American dancers from all over the U.S. Gates open Friday evening and admission is just \$5! Children under 12 are free. Featured events include dance competitions; exhibition performances and special Hand and Drum and flute demonstrations. Native American artisans will be selling their wares and Indian fry bread will be abundant!

At the Powwow you can visit the camps of Mountain Men, and the 1800 Pioneer Camps. Powwows have always been an integral part of Native American history. The Circle of Life Powwow is a place to enjoy the company of old friends and meet new ones. Special presentations are made possible in part with a grant from Humanities Texas, the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities as well as Texas Commission on the Arts.

Don't miss a chance to participate in the Hoof n Foot Horseless Ranch Rodeo. This is fun for the whole family and includes cowboy skills and creative team work to boot. You might even get to dress a goat! There will goat ropin, chicken ropin, storytelling, music the kids can participate in, well you get the picture, there is plenty for them to do.

On Saturday night, head out to Mansfield Park. Gates open at 6:30 pm and admission includes World Champion Trick Roper, Kevin Fitzpatrick followed by THE

HOTTEST 8 SECONDS OF THE YEAR at the National Professional Bull Rider's Challenge.

Sunday morning eat your Wheaties because we start all over again! First we gather at the Medina River in City Park for a Cowboy Breakfast offered up by the Western Heritage Cowboy Church, followed by some great preaching and cowboy gospel music. There will also be gospel music at the Courthouse, as well as the Arts and Craft Show and a lot more of the Bandera Cattle Company. And don't forget to go back to the Circle of Life Powwow and the finals of the National Professional Bull Rider's Challenge and hold on to your seats.... more excitements with the added South Texas Bull Fighting Tour at intermission.

Celebrate Bandera is all about Cowboys and Indians – come live it with us. For event schedules and ticket information, go to www.celebratebandera.com, or call 830-796-4447. Yee-Haw, Ya'll!




CELEBRATE BANDERA LABOR DAY WEEKEND

SEPTEMBER 2ND, 3RD & 4TH 2016






**LONGHORN CATTLE DRIVE & PARADE, CIRCLE OF LIFE POWWOW,
HISTORICAL REENACTMENTS, NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL BULL RIDER CHALLENGE,
SOUTH TEXAS BULL FIGHTERS TOUR, COWBOY CHURCH SERVICES,
GOAT ROPIN', MUTTIN BUSTIN' AND MORE!**

WWW.CELEBRATEBANDERA.COM 830.796.4447
A Bandera Community Foundation Project