

The World's Only St. Paddy's Pickle Parade and Palooza returns for 2019

The **Mansfield Pickle Queens** take a giant leap as they present **The World's Only St. Paddy's Pickle Parade and Palooza** on March 15-16, 2019 in historic downtown Mansfield, the official Pickle Capital of Texas.

The theme of the 8th annual event is **Moon Rocks!** to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the NASA moon landing. The free family-friendly event gets rolling on Friday, March 15, 2019 as the popular **Pet Parade** trots down Main Street at 5 p.m. New to the Pickle Palooza this year is a **Cornhole Tournament**, at Smith and Oak Streets also beginning at 5 p.m. Friday. That's followed by the unique **Beer Keg Races** at 6 p.m. on Main Street. At 7 p.m., the King David Band takes the Main Stage for a free concert. Vendor booths will be open Friday evening, offering food, drinks and hand-crafted goods.

Saturday's activities start at 8 a.m. with the Pickle Runs at St. Jude Catholic Church, 500 E. Dallas St. in Mansfield. **Run 4 Cover** plays a free concert at 9 a.m. on the Main Stage. At 10 a.m., the Pickle Playground, Community Stage, Food Court and Vendor Market open. At 11 a.m. Saturday, the **Baby Parade**, featuring children from 6 months to 4 years old, dressed adorably to reflect the Pickle Parade theme, rolls down Main Street.

At 1 p.m. Saturday, the weekend's main event -- **The World's Only St. Paddy's Pickle Parade** -- cruises through downtown, capped by the floats carrying the **Pickle Queens** in their green thrift store gowns, red wigs, shiny tiaras and a load of sass and attitude!

Phineus Reb hits the Main Stage at 2:30 p.m. Saturday with live music, and at 4:30 p.m., contestants put forth their best efforts in the Pickle-eating, Pickle Juice-drinking and Fried Pie-eating contests. Lauren Corzine wraps up the event with a free concert on the Main Stage starting at 5:30 p.m. Saturday. The affable Pickle Dude, a 6-foot-tall dancing and smiling mascot, will be on site throughout the event.

Admission is free, and free parking is available at Legacy High School, which offers free shuttle service. Free parking is also available at R.L. Anderson Stadium, Rogene Worley Middle School, Alice Ponder Elementary School, Phoenix Academy and Geyer Field.

The World's Only St. Paddy's Pickle Parade and Palooza is produced by the all-volunteer non-profit Pickled Mansfield Society.

Schedule of Events

Friday, March 15

5 p.m.: Pet Parade on Main Street; Cornhole Tournament at Smith and Oak streets

6 p.m.: World's Only St. Paddy's Beer Keg Race on Main Street

7 p.m.: Free concert by the King David Band on the Main Stage

Saturday, March 16

8 a.m.: Pickle Runs begin with 10K, followed by 5K and Kids K, 500 E. Dallas St. , Mansfield

9 a.m.: Free concert by Run 4 Cover band on the Main Stage

10 a.m.: Opening of vendor market, food court, children's Pickle Playground, Community Stage

11 a.m.: Baby Parade on Main Street

1 p.m.: Pickle Parade on Main Street

2:30 p.m.: Phineus Reb on the Main Stage

4:30 p.m.: Pickle eating and pickle juice-drinking contests and pie eating contests on Main Street

5:30 p.m.: Free concert by Lauren Corzine the Main Stage

For Calendar listings:

World's Only St. Paddy's Pickle Parade and Palooza, March 15-16 in Mansfield: The Pickled Mansfield Society and Mansfield Pickle Queens present the eighth annual World's Only St. Paddy's Pickle Parade and Palooza in downtown Mansfield, the official Pickle Capital of Texas. The event, highlighted by a 1 p.m. Saturday parade down Main Street, includes a Baby Parade, Pet Parade, Pickle Runs, Pickle Playground, Cornhole Tournament, Beer Keg Races, pickle-themed eating and drinking contests, free live entertainment, vendor market, food court, community stage, the wildly popular Pickle Dude and, of course, the nationally renowned Mansfield Pickle Queens, a group of well-preserved ladies known for their red wigs, tiaras, green thrift-store gowns and plenty of attitude. www.pickleparade.org, www.facebook.com/pickleparade, www.twitter.com/RealPickleDude.

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