



# The Band Steele is back for July 4 spectacle

BY THADDEUS IMERMAN  
FORT HOOD HERALD

Bo Steele and Ben Rubino, the duo that comprise The Band Steele, are excited to be back at Fort Hood.

“We know that the Fourth of July is a huge celebration there at Fort Hood,” guitarist Rubino said. “We’re honored to be able to play it.”

Thanks to the popularity of their single “Sit Awhile,” the band is on a tour of military bases. The tour has taken them across the country to more than 15 military posts, including a previous stop to Fort Hood in January.

“I think Fort Hood was the first (stop on the tour),” lead singer Steele said.

After their first stop on Fort Hood, the military community here was appreciative of what the band was doing.

The lead actor for the official music video for “Sit Awhile” is a veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

“It’s a dedication to our military,” guitarist Rubino said of the video. “It’s a story of two soldiers who go into battle together, and one of them is lost.”

Many veterans com-

mented saying the song and video helped them through tough situations, such as dealing with PTSD or losing a friend or loved one in combat.

“It’s a dream come true, as songwriters, for it to be helping so many people,” Rubino said.

To view the music video for “Sit Awhile,” go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3gzvmTurAv0>.

They band will open for Andy Grammer Thursday at the Fourth of July celebration at Fort Hood Stadium. The Band Steele is scheduled to go on at 6:30 p.m. and will play for approximately 30 to 45 minutes.

Entry to the concert is free, and people may start arriving at 4 p.m. The performances will be followed by the 1st Cavalry Band and a fireworks display choreographed to patriotic music.

Members of the general public in privately owned vehicles must enter and exit the event through the left visitors’ lane of the Clear Creek Gate or obtain a pass from the Marvin Leath Visitors Center. Drivers and passengers 18 and older must have a valid photo ID.



Guitarist Ben Rubino, left, and Bo Steele, will open for Andy Grammer at 6:30 p.m. Thursday at Fort Hood Stadium.

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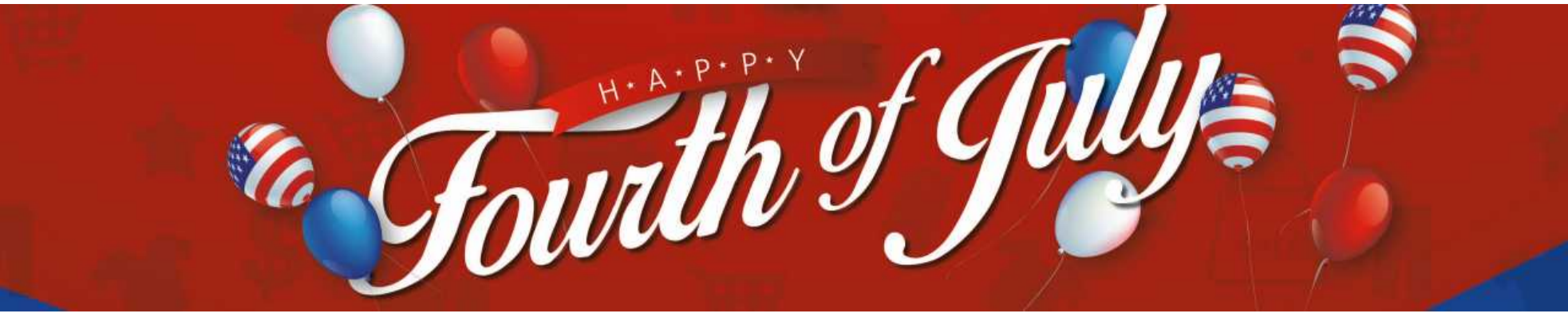
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# Area events and closings for the upcoming Fourth of July celebration

HERALD STAFF REPORT

Patriotic Central Texans are getting ready to celebrate Independence Day with numerous events around the region, but all city offices will be closed Thursday and garbage collection will be disrupted for some customers. Here is a look at Fourth of July events and closings in the area:

## FORT HOOD

The Fort Hood Fourth of July Spectacular likely will live up to its name this year with live music, food and beverage vendors, family fun and, to top it all off, 30 minutes of fireworks. The fun starts at 4 p.m. at Fort Hood Stadium and lasts into the evening with The Band Steele, Andy Grammer and the 1st Cavalry Division Band playing. Fireworks begin at 9:30 p.m.

Members of the general public in privately owned vehicles must enter and exit the event through the left visitors' lane of the Clear Creek Gate or obtain a pass from the Marvin Leath Visitors Center. Drivers and passengers 18 and older must have a valid photo ID.

A priority parking area will be open to all DoD card holders as well as a general public parking area open to all. Both parking sites will be at the stadium and will be first come, first served. For more information, visit [www.home.army.mil/hood](http://www.home.army.mil/hood) or call 254-287-9909.

## COPPERAS COVE

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8577 and Auxiliary will host the Annual Bell Ringing, beginning with a ceremony at 11 a.m. July 4 at 1506 Veterans Ave., Copperas Cove. The event is open to the public. For more information, contact VFW Post 8577 Jr. Vice Commander Lisa Hunter at 512-277-0034.

Robertson Avenue Baptist Church will

host their annual Picnic on the Grounds event from noon to 4 p.m. July 4 at 305 East Robertson Avenue. There will be food, games, a bounce house and the second annual chili cook-off. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact 254-368-2530.

## TEMPLE

Folks can bring their red, white and blue gear to Miller Park in Temple for All American Fourth of July Fun Fest, sponsored by H-E-B. Celebrations start at 4 p.m. for food, entertainment and fireworks at 9:30 p.m. Bring your lawn chairs and blankets and get ready for free entertainment.

Fireworks will be visible along North Third Street, at the Mayborn Center, and in nearby neighborhoods. For more information, visit the City of Temple website at [www.templetx.gov](http://www.templetx.gov).

## BELTON

Many people in Central Texas celebrate American independence with an old-fashioned rodeo and parade during a three-day affair from July 4-6 at the Bell County Expo Center.

People can take in the sights of cowboys riding broncs and bulls. General admission is \$14 for adults and \$11 for children 12 and under, with discounts for military members and their families.

The parade, a tradition that's a century old this year, starts at 10 a.m. in downtown Belton, at 101 Central Ave.

Also part of the celebrations is the Festival on Nolan Creek, which starts at 11 a.m. at Yettie Polk Park at 101 South Davis.

The event will offer live music headlined by Shevi Love, shopping, food and children's entertainment.

To end the evening, many people head over to the Backyard Party at Schoepf's for bands and fireworks following the

show.

Gates open at 6 p.m. and music starts at 7 p.m. The barbecue restaurant is located at 702 E. Central Ave.

For more information and to see a schedule of events, visit [www.rodeobelton.com](http://www.rodeobelton.com).

## SALADO

The Salado Historical Society will hold its annual free "potluck picnic" in the Salado High School auditorium, 1880 Williams Drive, Salado, beginning at noon on July 4.

Two local politicians will be speaking, with Representative Brad Buckley as the keynote speaker and Senator Dawn Buckingham also making an appearance.

The Salado Community Chorus will provide patriotic music as people chow down on fried chicken provided by the historical society.

People are encouraged to bring side dishes or desserts to share.

For more information, call Sandi Wicker at 254-760-9655.

## GATESVILLE

The City of Gatesville will host a fireworks display from 9:30 to 10:30 p.m. Seating is available at McKamie Stadium at the high school, 205 Lovers Lane.

## Closings

### KILLEEN

City Hall is closed but emergency services and garbage collection will operate without interruption.

The Family Aquatics Center at Lions Club Park will be open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Long Branch Pool will be open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The Family Recreation Center at Lions Club Park, Killeen Community Center, both senior centers and all libraries will

be closed.

All city offices will reopen Friday, July 5, for normal hours of operation.

## HARKER HEIGHTS

Harker Heights City Hall will be closed July 4 but will resume normal business hours on July 5.

Garbage services will run one day late after the holiday through July 6 and the normal schedule will resume the week of July 8.

## COPPERAS COVE

City offices will be closed and garbage collection for residential customers will be on a different schedule. Areas 1 and 2 trash collection was July 1; Areas 3 and 4 trash collection will be July 2; Areas 5 and 6 will be July 3; and Areas 7 and 8 will be July 5. The schedule can also be seen on the city's website. For more information, call the solid waste department at 254-547-4242.

## TEMPLE

City offices will be closed. Garbage pickup for Thursday will be on Wednesday, July 3.

## BELTON

City offices are closed and garbage service will be delayed one day for the remainder of the week.

## SALADO

City Hall will be closed. Garbage services will not be affected because the Village of Salado does not provide garbage services on Thursdays.

## LAMPASAS

City offices and the library will be closed. Garbage pickup will be the next business day following the holiday.

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