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(Please email or call for photos, advance interviews, etc.)  
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**For Immediate Release:**

**H-E-B Presents Fireworks on the Brazos**

Celebrate national independence at the very site where Texas gained its independence in 1836: [Washington on the Brazos State Historic Site](#), between Brenham and Navasota.

Presented by H-E-B, the annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration at this 293-acre state park includes a day filled with family activities from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Friday, July 4, 2014. Highlights of the celebration are the free music concert by [Cody Bryan Band](#) from 7 to 9 p.m. in the park's amphitheatre, followed by a fireworks extravaganza with patriotic music at approximately 9:30 p.m. Buses will run constantly from 1 to 10 p.m. to shuttle guests to the different areas of the park, at no charge.

Food vendors will offer a variety of items for sale throughout the event. Located near the Visitor's Center, Blue Bell Creameries will give out free ice cream at 5:30 p.m.; H-E-B will give away sodas. Visitors can bring picnics and are encouraged to bring blankets, lawn chairs and flashlights for the fireworks viewing. However, state park rules apply; alcohol is prohibited. As always, admission to the park and parking is free. KTEX/KWHI will broadcast the fireworks display live.

Visitors can also tour the historic sites within the park during the day, including the Star of the Republic Museum (administered by Blinn College) from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; the Barrington Living History Farm from noon to 8 p.m.; and Independence Hall from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.—all at regular admission fees. The site's gift shop, with its wide array of gift items and snacks, will be open from 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. It will also be the site for a book signing from 2-6 p.m. with author Garlyn Wilburn for three of his novels: "Father Forgive Them, the Rachel Plummer Story," "Return to the Pinery" and "The Donkey Boy."

“Now is an excellent time to join the Washington on the Brazos [State Park Association](#) so that you can enjoy the park during the spring with its vibrant wildflower displays, and summer when the children are out of school,” says Jim Kolkhorst, president of the park association. “Those joining before July 4<sup>th</sup> at the Patriot or higher membership level also get the added perk of VIP parking at ‘Fireworks on the Brazos,’ with VIP seating to view the fireworks from the Museum’s upper deck.”

The public can call 936-878-2214 ext. 221, email [Washington.Brazos@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:Washington.Brazos@tpwd.texas.gov) or visit [www.birthplaceoftexas.com](http://www.birthplaceoftexas.com) for more information. For lodging information, please contact the Brenham Visitor Center at [www.visitbrenhamtexas.com/](http://www.visitbrenhamtexas.com/) or 1-888-BRENNHAM, or the City of Navasota at 936-825-7055 or [www.navasotatx.gov](http://www.navasotatx.gov).

Sponsors thus far include H-E-B, Blue Bell Creameries, KTEX, Germania Insurance, Del Sol Food Company and Brenham National Bank.

[Washington on the Brazos State Historic Site](#) is located at [23400 Park Road 12](#) in Washington, Texas, off State Hwy. 105 on FM 1155 (between Brenham and Navasota—approximately one hour northwest of Houston).

**MORE ON JOSH WARD:** According to his website bio: “Country music traditionalist Josh Ward has a unique, almost untouchable voice that grabs your attention. Through tenacity and hard work Josh has grown into one of the most respected and appreciated musicians in the state. His honest and emotive delivery of every song compels audiences to feel his lyrics with him as he takes them on his musical journey. Josh Ward released his 3rd album ‘Promise’ in June 2012. The first single ‘Get Away’ reached #18 on the Texas Regional Radio Chart – almost unheard of for a debut artist. Josh’s second single ‘Rainout Hangout’ quickly moved up the Texas and Regional Radio charts – reaching Top 5 status. The third single ‘Sent Me You,’ a ballad written by Scott Brown (Scooter Brown Band), gave Ward his very first Number 1 on both the Texas Regional Radio Report & The Texas Music Chart in April 2013. He followed with another #1 on his 4th single, ‘Promises’ in Sept 2013. Josh’s most recent single ‘Hard Whiskey’ was released in November 2013 and reached #1 on the Texas Regional Radio Report and #3 on the Texas Music Chart.”