

Welcome to the

CITY OF SELMA



Whether you're visiting friends or family, enjoying the many wonderful attractions located in the region, or just passing through, thank you for choosing Selma!

Our region is growing by leaps and bounds, and Selma is no exception! Located between San Antonio and New Braunfels, Selma is in a prime location for our residents and businesses. With this location comes a responsibility to everyone who visits Selma. We strive to provide a superior quality of life, complete with parks, trails, and annual events for all ages. We are committed to providing top-notch services that include Police, Fire, Public Works and Infrastructure. In Selma, the focus is on creating a welcoming and exciting environment to live, work or play, with the understanding that the City's role is to serve others, not the other way around.

The City of Selma is focused on providing opportunity not just for the individual, but for our businesses as well. Our singular vision is to ensure that each business in our City succeeds, which will ensure that the City succeeds. Our prosperity is tied to this vision, which drives our pro-business approach each day.

As we continue to grow, the City of Selma is dedicated to the safety, prosperity and quality of life for our residents, businesses and visitors. Whether you are just stopping by, or if you have lived here for decades, we hope you enjoy your time here in Selma!

- Mayor Tom Daly & City Council



Mayor
Tom Daly



Mayor Pro Tem
John T. Sharp



Councilwoman Place 3
Becky Harris



Councilman Place 4
Kevin Hadas



Councilman Place 5
Jim Parma



Councilman Place 6
Ken Polasek



Mayor	Tom Daly
Mayor Pro Tem	John T. Sharp
Councilwoman Place 3	Becky Harris
Councilman Place 4	Kevin Hadas
Councilman Place 5	Jim Parma
Councilman Place 6	Ken Polasek
City Administrator	Johnny Casias

CITY DEPARTMENTS***

Administration	(210) 651-6661
Animal Control	(210) 651-7868
Development Services	(210) 651-7827
Chipper Service	(210) 651-7800
Code Enforcement	(210) 651-7862
Fire Department	(210) 651-7832
Municipal Court	(210) 651-7801
Non-Building Permits	(210) 651-7806
Police Department	(210) 651-7865
Public Works	(210) 651-7830
Utilities	(210) 651-7800

***The number to call on weekends, holidays and after normal business hours for City Offices is Live Oak Dispatch @ 210-653-0033



City Administrator
Johnny Casias

DEMOGRAPHICS 5 minute drive time | Numbers reflected below are approximate


Population
14,285


Average Age
36.8


Growth Rate
13.16%


Household Income (Median)
\$68,983


Number of Households
5,989


Household Income (Average)
\$82,586

History

SETTLEMENT - Like many Texas communities settled in the 19th century, Selma began with origins from Europe, especially Germany. Many pioneers and settlers came from across the globe to stake their claim on new, unsettled land that offered an exciting, and hopefully, lucrative new start for their families. These German pioneers first settled what is now known as Selma in 1847. This new community became one of the first new settlements in the San Antonio area following Texas’ entry as the 28th state in 1845.

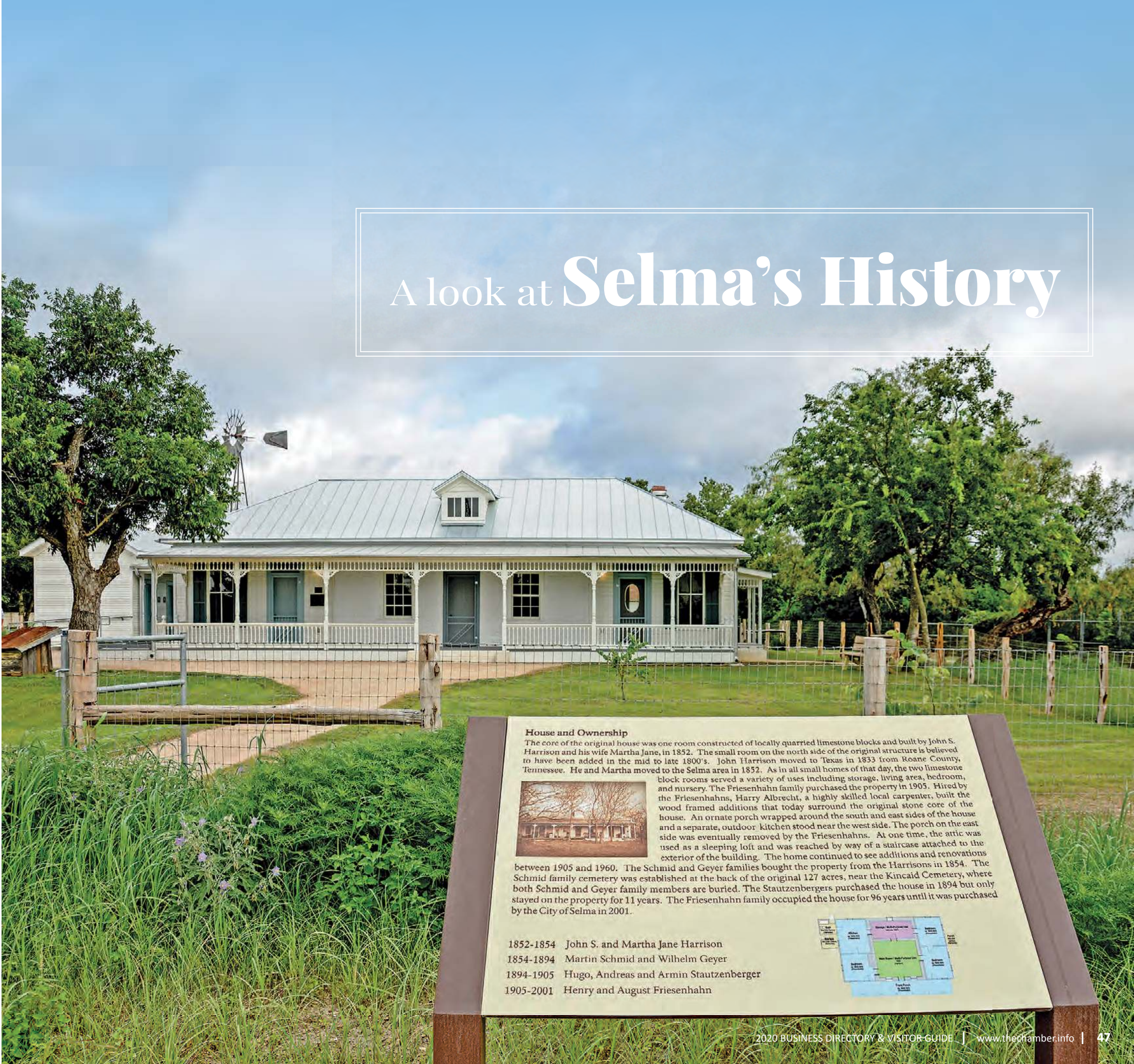
GROWTH - The Selma area was so sparsely populated at first that some of the first settlers, John B. Brown and William Davenport ran herds of cattle on the open range until almost 1860. By 1849, despite its low population, Selma became an important location. In that year, the Harrison & Brown Stagecoach Stop was created to transport passengers and freight between the communities of Central, South, and East Texas. This historical landmark can still be seen today while traveling on Interstate 35.

Within the next decade, Selma began a steady growth as more immigrants flocked to the area. A post office opened in 1856. By 1885, Selma had a variety of businesses to serve the area, including two general stores, two cotton gins, three blacksmiths, a saloon, a school, and a wagon maker. At the same time, the population of Selma had grown to 145 residents, plus a large number of families that settled in the more rural areas outside of town.

DECLINE & RESURGENCE - By 1890, the population grew exponentially, reaching over 600 residents in 1896. However, Selma began to decline after 1900 due to a variety of circumstances. The post office closed in 1906 and was replaced by rural delivery from Bracken and San Antonio. By 1940, the decline had reached a disastrous level, with Selma reporting only a church, a school, three businesses and a population of roughly 100 residents.

As you can probably tell, Selma has reversed out of this decline. The City of Selma officially incorporated in 1964. By 1980, the population had rebounded to over 240 residents. With the commercial and residential growth increasing along Interstate 35 (formerly known as Old Austin Road), the population of Selma reached 520 by 1990, and 788 in the year 2000.

Recently, Selma has been one of the fastest growing cities in Texas. Selma’s population grew over 600% from 2000 to 2010, with a population of 5,540 residents as of the last census. Population projections show an estimated population of over 11,000; an increase of over 98% in less than 10 years. Thanks to the residents who managed to persevere during the 1900’s, as well as the development of the Interstate 35 corridor, Selma is positioned to play a major role in the area for decades to come.



A look at Selma's History

House and Ownership

The core of the original house was one room constructed of locally quarried limestone blocks and built by John S. Harrison and his wife Martha Jane, in 1852. The small room on the north side of the original structure is believed to have been added in the mid to late 1800's. John Harrison moved to Texas in 1833 from Roane County, Tennessee. He and Martha moved to the Selma area in 1852. As in all small homes of that day, the two limestone block rooms served a variety of uses including storage, living area, bedroom, and nursery. The Friesenhahn family purchased the property in 1905. Hired by the Friesenhahns, Harry Albrecht, a highly skilled local carpenter, built the wood framed additions that today surround the original stone core of the house. An ornate porch wrapped around the south and east sides of the house and a separate, outdoor kitchen stood near the west side. The porch on the east side was eventually removed by the Friesenhahns. At one time, the attic was used as a sleeping loft and was reached by way of a staircase attached to the exterior of the building. The home continued to see additions and renovations between 1905 and 1960. The Schmid and Geyer families bought the property from the Harrisons in 1854. The Schmid family cemetery was established at the back of the original 127 acres, near the Kincaid Cemetery, where both Schmid and Geyer family members are buried. The Stautzenbergers purchased the house in 1894 but only stayed on the property for 11 years. The Friesenhahn family occupied the house for 96 years until it was purchased by the City of Selma in 2001.



- 1852-1854 John S. and Martha Jane Harrison
- 1854-1894 Martin Schmid and Wilhelm Geyer
- 1894-1905 Hugo, Andreas and Armin Stautzenberger
- 1905-2001 Henry and August Friesenhahn





Quality of Life

PARKS - The City of Selma is proud to offer a large variety of parks, trails and other recreational facilities. Selma's parks provide playgrounds, picnic areas, a full-size basketball court, and soccer fields. The Stage Stop and John S. Harrison parks provide rental pavilions that are available to residents and non-residents. All City of Selma parks are open to the public from sunrise to sunset daily.

- John S Harrison Park
- Stage Stop Park
- Davenport Park
- FM 1518 Park

ATTRACTIONS - John S. Harrison House – The recently renovated John S. Harrison House opened in 2016 and serves as one of Selma's newest and most sought-after attractions. The 13-acre property and surrounding land was first settled by John Harrison and his wife Martha in 1852 and stands as one of the few remaining structures that date back to the settlement period of Selma. The newly rehabilitated turn-of-the century house and farm complex is Selma's newest treasure, showcasing Selma's early history and is directly linked to the famous Selma Stage Stop. The Harrison property is listed as a State Archaeological Landmark and the house is listed on the National Registry of Historic Places.

The John S. Harrison House is available for private parties. For information, please visit our website at www.ci.selma.tx.us or call (210) 651-7827.

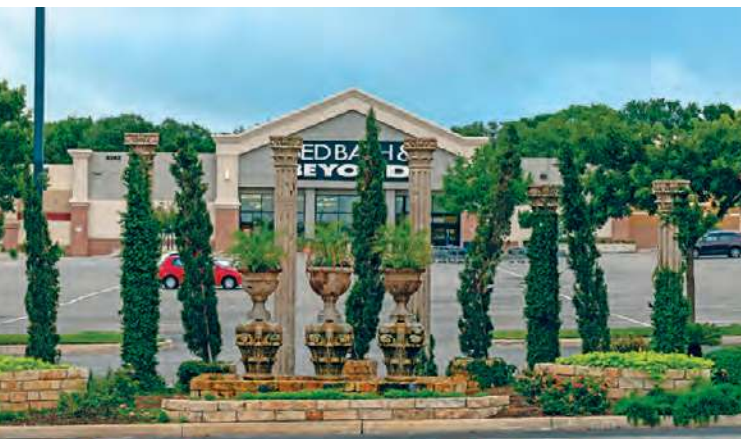
SELMA STAGE STOP - The Selma Stage Stop was established only three years after the founding of Selma, in 1847. Constructed between 1850 and 1852, the Stage Stop functioned as a stagecoach stop until no later than 1854 but remained as the Selma post office until 1906. The stagecoach connected the new settlement to the vital transportation lines that carried passengers to the interior of Texas. During its service as the post office, the Stage Stop legitimized the administrative, as well as physical, existence of Selma. The Stage Stop is one of the few remaining buildings in Selma left from the settlement period. Listed in the National Park Service's National Register of Historic Places, the Selma Stage Stop is a vital piece of Selma's history, and the Central Texas Landscape.

HISTORIC EVANS ROAD HIKE/BIKE TRAIL - On November 18, 2017, the City of Selma celebrated the culmination of many years of vision and hard work with the grand opening of the Historic Evans Hike/Bike Trail. The Evans Road Hike/Bike Trail follows the historic route of the original Evans Road, through what is now Stage Stop Park, a portion of Forest Creek Subdivision and the Harrison Property. The trail consists of two similar, but wholly distinctive segments. The Harrison segment runs from the Stage Stop Visitor's Center to the Harrison Property and is approximately 0.7 miles long. The FM 1518 segment runs from the Stage Stop Park, down through Cibolo Creek and up to the FM 1518 Park, spanning approximately 0.4 miles of largely natural terrain. The Historic Evans Road Hike/Bike Trail provides a historic and unforgettable walk through Selma's history.

RETAMA PARK - Opened in 1995, Retama Park is San Antonio's only Class 1 horse racing venue, with live racing on Friday and Saturday from June through November. Retama Park is open for simulcast racing year-round, except for Christmas Day. Retama Park offers a relaxed, comfortable atmosphere for avid and casual horse racing enthusiasts. Also, home to the annual Big Texas Fun and Halloween Boil and Brew Festivals. Retama Park hosts a variety of local and national events throughout the year. Whether for horse racing or special events, be sure to check all of the excitement at Retama Park.

Shopping

THE FORUM AT OLYMPIA PARKWAY - Built in 2002, The Forum at Olympia Parkway is a major destination for shoppers from far and wide. With acres of premier restaurants and shopping options it is one of the largest outdoor shopping centers in Texas. With this massive size, The Forum offers a wide



variety of retail and culinary options for young and old alike. For more information, visit The Forum at Olympia Parkway's website at www.shoptheforumsa.com.

COSTCO – Located just across the street from The Forum at Olympia Parkway, Costco Wholesale offers a variety of shopping options under one roof. Opened in 2007, the Selma Costco Warehouse has served millions of shoppers from across the area.

Annual Events

SELMA-SCHERTZ SALUTE TO SERVICE MEMBERS 5K - Selma is a community driven and committed to engaging with its citizens, including its military veterans and their families. Each year, the cities of Selma and Schertz join forces for Selma-Schertz Salute to Service Members 5K Fun Run / Walk. Proceeds from this event are donated to Operation Comfort, a non-profit organization dedicated to support our Service Members who have been wounded in Afghanistan or Iraq and are receiving treatment at San Antonio Medical Center (SAMC) and Audie Murphy VA Hospital in San Antonio, Texas. This event continues to grow each year and we look forward to many future years of supporting our military and wounded warriors.

MOVIE IN THE PARK - In May and October of each year, the City of Selma hosts a "Movie in the Park" at the Stage Stop Park, featuring the newest family-friendly films. Movies start at dusk, but make sure to get there early to pick the best spot. Complimentary popcorn, drinks, and candy are provided. Make sure to bring a chair, a blanket, and a friend and join us for one of our Movies in the Park!

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT - National Night Out is a national community building campaign that promotes community-police relations and allows the community to get to know their neighbors. Members of the Selma Police and Fire Departments, as well as other City of Selma officials, visit with Selma residents, HOA's and local businesses. For more information, or to schedule your visit, please contact the Selma Police Department at 210.651.5368.

RE/MAX SKYLIGHT BALLOON FESTIVAL - The RE/MAX Skylight Balloon Festival features nightly balloon glows and morning competitions, tethered balloon rides, food trucks, Fun Zone, vendors and concerts by local musicians. The magnificent, colorful, hot air balloons will be the highlight of the weekend. In addition, the RE/MAX parachute team will perform Friday evening - jumping from their plane over the festival and landing right in the middle of the launch field. The event, organized

by The Chamber, is a partnership between the Cities of Selma, Schertz, and Cibolo.

CHRISTMAS AT THE HARRISON HOUSE - Hosted by the Selma Historical & Parks Commission, the "Christmas at the Harrison House" provides an opportunity for attendees to enjoy fellowship and fun at the historic John S. Harrison House. Visitors have a chance to view the 1800's home and grounds, learn a bit of the area's early history and enjoy drinks and snacks with a Texas Christmas flair!

EASTER EGG HUNT - Each year, the Selma Historical and Parks Commission hosts its annual Easter Egg Hunt at the Stage Stop Park. There will be two separate "hunts" based on age. Prizes will be awarded for specially marked eggs. Don't forget to bring your basket!

CITIZENS PUBLIC SAFETY ACADEMY - Each year, the City of Selma Police and Fire Departments host a Citizens Public Safety Academy. The Academy is open to Selma residents, 21 years of age or older, who are interested in gaining a better understanding of how their Police and Fire Departments function. Applicants will be exposed to the operations and administration side of each department. Attendees will learn about topics including administration, patrol functions, criminal investigations, Fire Department operations, Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT), and much more. Interested residents should contact Lt. Balderamas or Cpl. Ludy at the Police Department by calling (210) 651-5368.

THE TASTE - Selma is the proud host city for The Taste. Held at Retama Park, The Taste is an annual food sampling event featuring dozens of food and beverage vendors from Selma, Schertz, Cibolo and surrounding areas. Attendees are able to sample food from area restaurants, as well as wine and craft beers. Last year, the event drew more than 1500 attendees. The Taste is one of the most anticipated events each year in Selma. If you leave hungry, you didn't do it right!

JULY 4TH FIREWORKS AT RETAMA PARK - The City of Selma, in partnership with Retama Park, hosts an epic Fourth of July spectacular each year. Hundreds of area residents flock to Retama Park for the patriotic festivities. Be sure to bring the family for patriotic fun and fireworks this July 4th! God Bless America!

