



City of San Marcos Sesquicentennial Year In Review

**January 28, 2002
Report to City Council**

★ **January, 2001 –**

- ✓ Sesquicentennial Logo – designed by 13-year old Samantha Gonzales is unveiled on banners and flags. City buildings begin flying the flag in year-long salute to founders
- ✓ The Daily Record runs the Sesquicentennial Logo on its banner at the top of each front page for the entire year.
- ✓ Martin Luther King Festival pays tribute to city in birthday celebration

★ **February, 2001 –**

- ✓ Celebrate San Marcos! 76 page commemorative newspaper brings history to life to honor 150th birthday – thousands of copies are distributed through local newspapers, libraries, city buildings, and schools.

★ **March, 2001 –**

- ✓ Historic Firebell Dedication – Sponsored by the Heritage Association of San Marcos, the 1890 firebell is placed in a permanent structure at the front door of City Hall. The City Council Chambers were filled with citizens welcoming the bell to its new home.
- ✓ Come Back Special – Roy Head and The Traits – San Marcos' most famous rock and roll band performs for local audiences in spite of torrential rains that cancel the Homecoming Celebration in the park.

★ **April, 2001 –**

- ✓ Bluebonnet Kite Festival flies birthday kites all over San Marcos in celebration of city's sesquicentennial celebration

★ **May, 2001 –**

- ✓ Texas Senate honors San Marcos Sesquicentennial with Senate Resolution 366, sponsored by Ken Armbrister and Gonzalo Barrientos.
- ✓ City celebrates birthday in full bloom with Senior Association Daffodil Days
- ✓ Viva Cinco de Mayo Celebration recognizes Sesquicentennial year in San Marcos

★ **June, 2001 –**

- ✓ Dedication ceremony for landscape clusters of native plants along the entryway to downtown San Marcos – Crepe Myrtles are the centerpiece of this xeriscaped project of the Sesquicentennial Committee and San Marcos Parks and Recreation Department

- ✓ Sesquicentennial Committee sells souvenirs at Summer in the Park concerts and Visitors Center.
- ★ **July, 2001 –**
 - ✓ Summerfest shares the stage with the Sesquicentennial Celebration for 4th of July Birthday Homecoming Picnic – popular singer-songwriter Terri Hendrix headlines the show and fireworks make for a grand finale for the celebration.
- ★ **August, 2001 –**
 - ✓ Sesquicentennial Committee and City Council host Cottage Kitchen Luncheon in Charles S. Cock House. The menu – King Ranch Chicken, Tossed Salad, Hot Bread and assorted desserts – The luncheon was deemed a success as we sold out of food.
 - ✓ Bright lights, good food and colorful festivities brighten our birthday year at St. John's Fiesta
- ★ **September, 2001 –**
 - ✓ Local students brainstorm ideas for Sesquicentennial time capsule (final list of items is attached to this report)
 - ✓ Republic of Texas Chilympiad joins in celebration of 150th anniversary with the first open chili cookoff – as women are welcomed to compete for the first time ever in the world's largest cookoff! San Marcos and Chilympiad could adopt the theme, "We've come a long way, baby..."
- ★ **October, 2001 –**
 - ✓ Cemetery Walk brings crowds to early settlers' historic resting places in San Marcos at three historical cemeteries: The San Marcos Cemetery, San Pedro Cemetery and San Marcos – Blanco Cemetery
- ★ **November, 2001 –**
 - ✓ Veterans salute birthday in Veterans Day Celebration and Parade.
 - ✓ Final plans are made for the Time Capsule burial and the planting of a founders' tree.
- ★ **December, 2001 –**
 - ✓ Sesquicentennial Committee teams with Sights and Sounds committee to sell souvenirs for both groups at the successful holiday event.
 - ✓ Founders Tree – A burr oak is planted in honor of William Lindsey, Eli Merriman and Edward Burleson across Hopkins Street from the San Marcos Activity Center
 - ✓ The Time Capsule is filled with interesting icons and documents with instructions to open it in 2051 – during the Bicentennial of the City of San Marcos
- ★ **January, 2002 –**
 - ✓ Dr. Gwen Smith mentions during the final Sesquicentennial Committee meeting that 2002 is the 125th anniversary of the incorporation of the City of San Marcos.