

April 2019

## Postville Herald Leader, September 13, 1998

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### Recommended Citation

"Postville Herald Leader, September 13, 1998" (2019). *Postville Project Documents*. 300.  
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# Taste of Postville coming Sept. 13



## Promoting Taste of Postville

These people are among those who have been marching in area parades promoting Taste of Postville. They are (front row l/r): Liz Peterson, Ashley Giddings, Travis Giddings, Katie Rekow, Lisa Hammersland. In back are Travis Erickson, Pat Peterson, Brad Peterson, Kristie Austin, Christina Drahos, Nina Peterson and Inna Evgrafova.

by Wanda Simmons

Nestled among gently rolling hills and tree-lined vistas in northeast Iowa is the picturesque community of Postville. With a main street straight out of a Norman Rockwell painting, Postville is the image of the typical small all-American town.

But there is even more to this community as you discover when you walk its friendly streets, browse through its shops, and revel in its simplicity. There is a rich cultural diversity that includes many nationalities in the community of Postville, Iowa.

In a celebration of this rich diversity and friendly atmosphere, the city of Postville invites you to experience a "Taste of Postville."

On September 13 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Postville will be alive with the sights, sounds, tastes, and colors of many nationalities. Food stands will offer a variety of ethnic foods from a simple turkey brat to a unique Ukrainian shishkabob prepared on a specially built grill.

In all there will be at least 14 nationalities highlighted in the "Taste of Postville," each signified by a flag displayed in store windows along main street and flying in the festival area. Included are Israel, Poland, Mexico, Albania, Bosnia, the Czech Republic, Germany, Norway, Guatemala, Bangladesh, Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Phillipines, and the United States. The display of flags will lead to the festivities and food on Greene Street near the park.

There you will find traditional Russian dishes like borscht, along with Russian chocolates and teas. Or sample Middle Eastern fare such as falafel, pita, and salad.

Experience a wide range of Jewish cuisine, from bagels and danish to deli sandwiches, fresh from a new Postville restaurant called Jacob's Table

Visit the Phillipines and dine on rice cakes, egg rolls, and steamed muffins. Or perhaps you'd like to try a special Ukrainian shishkabob.

Your mouth will water at the smell of tangy Mexican tacos and burritos. Lefsa and krumkaka can be found at the Norwegian booth.

Local churches are involved, preparing among other things, German food, pizza, and bake sale items. And if you have a sweet tooth, there will be booths featuring pies and ice cream. And that is only a sampling of the many delicious foods to be offered.

The tantalizing of your taste buds is just the beginning of this day-long celebration, however. Entertainment throughout the day will be just as diverse as the delectable food fare.

Enjoy the ethnic music and costumes from many countries. There are plans for a barber shop quartet in addition to Appalachian story telling. While there is music for the ears, there will also be beauty for the eyes to behold in the form of "Art in the Park" featuring Russian and Guatemalan artists.

The children will find plenty to do too. There will be face painting and hand-on crafts in addition to a pinata and plans for a hula hoop contest. Child care will be provided in the park by the St. Paul Lutheran Church youth group.

But the fun doesn't end there. A leisurely stroll down main street will yield even more treasures. Shops, boutiques, and booths will feature a variety of crafts, gifts, and antiques. Wooden crafts, flower arrangements, and collectibles abound in the charming shops. Peruse through a collection of handmade jewelry and the finest Russian porcelain, including handpainted eggs. Or browse through racks of beautiful Mexican clothing. There is something for everyone at the "Taste of Postville."

provide you with a wide range of history, traditions, and even recipes of the many countries represented by a "Taste of Postville." Local businessman Hall Roberts has prepared a booklet on each of the countries which will provide among other things, the flag, a color map of close detail, and information on the people, industry, physical properties, climate, recipes, customs, government, and social life of each highlighted nationality.

A half dozen women in the community sat down with him to help arrange and select materials for the books. They especially had fun in selecting the authentic recipes, a few of which call for some rather unusual ingredients.

If you are new to the area or just want to reminisce, the Historical Society will have pictures and history of Postville on display. Regional tourism information will also be available.

Local stores and shops will soon have "Taste of Postville" t-shirts and sweatshirts on sale, featuring flags of the many nationalities and the State of Iowa. A group from Postville has been marching in area parades this summer, wearing the shirts and carrying the flags of the nations to be featured. Watch for them in a parade in your area this summer.

A "Taste of Postville" is a family event you won't want to miss. It is the perfect combination of fun, food, entertainment, and education. Not only will your taste buds be satisfied, but your world will be expanded in a most celebratory way.

If you want more information, please contact the Postville Chamber of Commerce at (319) 864-7247.

Join in the fun at a "Taste of Postville" on September 13. Travel around the world in a single afternoon and experience the sights, sounds, tastes, and beauty that cultural diversity has to offer.

An information booth will