

# Raton puts the 'fiesta' in Cinco de Mayo

By Tim Keller — For the Comet | Posted: Friday, May 8, 2015 12:45 am

RATON – With skies just overcast enough to hold the afternoon temperature down, Ratonians and visitors celebrated Cinco de Mayo all day Saturday (May 2) in Raton's downtown Ripley Park. A variety of booths offered arts & crafts, information, food, drink and puppies while dancers circled the area in front of the bandstand.

DJ Teddy Romero kept the action loud and lively between sets from the bands Grupo Vive and Los Mescaleros. Raton MainStreet sponsored the event, which has been held annually since 2006.

Special activities included Chihuahua races, a limbo contest, and a Mexican Hat Dance contest. A variety of rides circled the park perimeter, interspersed with food booths. Ice cream waffle cones appeared to be the clear winner among the many food choices.

Auto parking stretched two blocks in every direction and Ripley Park bustled with people all day, which pleased Raton city commissioner Ron Chavez. He threw two thumbs up and shouted over the music of Grupo Vive, "This is a good sign! We're on our way back!"

Two couples near Chavez didn't hear him. They were too busy dancing.



## Spinning!

With the iconic Raton sign signaling in the background which way is up, kids waited in line to enjoy getting themselves spun every which way at Raton's annual downtown Cinco de Mayo celebration Saturday (May 2), sponsored by Raton MainStreet. See more photos on pages 6 & 7.