County offers parking area for eclipse viewing

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Special to The Times

Word has been released that the largest parking area in the county will be open and hosting viewers during the total solar eclipse on Monday, April 8.

The Hill Country Youth Event Center grounds, at 3785 Texas 27 in Kerrville, will offer parking, provided by the professional services of the OVG360 Parking and Mobility team.

The Hill Country Youth Event Center grounds include the regular asphalt parking lot, the polo field, River Star Park and Flat Rock Park — all of which can accommodate a few thousand vehicles.

The parking lots will open at 7 a.m. on eclipse day and offer a safe area for visitors to spend the day, or to leave their vehicles in order to make the approximately one-hour walk to downtown — where the eclipse festival is being planned — via the Kerrville River Trail.

"We are excited to offer up the largest parking area in the county to witness this

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Parking

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once-in-a-lifetime event," said Jake Williamson, HCYEC's general manager. "As maybe an even bigger perk, those parking with us will have access to our

clean, climate-controlled restrooms for the duration of the day, until the lots empty that evening."

The main HCYEC parking lots have no trees, so the view of the eclipse will be "phenomenal," Williamson added.

The outdoor arena will be reserved exclusively for those wishing to set up a vehicle-free viewing area.

To receive the discounted rate for advance purchase, prepaid parking is now available at www.hill countryyouthevent center.com at a cost of \$75, plus fees. The parking information is available through the "Buy Passes"

Now" link at the top of the homepage.

Parking fees on the day of the eclipse will be \$100 until the parking lots have reached capacity.

Buses will be welcome for an additional fee.

For more information, visit www.hillcountry youtheventcenter.com.