Clemson Welcome Back Festival set for Monday

BY MONICA KREBER
THE JOURNAL

CLEMSON — The City of Clemson is preparing to go from 13,000 people to 30,000 people as incoming Clemson University students take over their orange and purple stomping grounds.

The university will kick off the 2013-14 school year with its annual Welcome Back Festival from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monday. The festival will be held on College Avenue in downtown Clemson.

The festival will feature more than 70 local vendors, restaurants and university organizations showcasing food samples, giveaways and games.

Admission to the festival is free, and attendees can purchase tickets for 50 cents each to buy food samples and other items from vendors.

The festival is sponsored by the Student Alumni Council, and proceeds from ticket sales benefit the Student Alumni Council Endowment Scholarship Fund.

Clemson Mayor Pro Tem Tim Fowler will be speaking at the festival.


Fowler

"I'm looking forward to another school year starting and all the students being back," he told The Journal. "I hope they're successful."

Fowler said some vendors come from as far as Greenville to come and make their presence known to the students — particularly for incoming freshmen.

"There is a unique relation between the city and the university, because the students are an important part of the city," Fowler said. "It's a bit of an investment period when they come back. The city looks forward to the students being here."

Clemson Mayor J.C. Cook said he has been to many Welcome Back festivals.

"We're glad to have the student coming back," he said.


Cook

Cook said the festival is always a fun time for everyone involved.

"It's just a nice way to give the students a taste of Clemson," he said. "It's nice to have a festival downtown and have a get-together."

mkreber@upstatetoday.com | (864) 973-6685
Follow on Twitter @mkreber