The Journal 5-21-2010 Seneca Fest - To Celebrate Memorial Day

BY JESSICA SIBLEY
THE JOURNAL

SENECA — The official start of summer kicks off next weekend nationwide, but in Oconee, the 4th annual Seneca Fest will bring in the season of fun at Norton-Thompson Park.

Running over Memorial Day weekend, on Friday and Saturday, this year is slated to be bigger and better than years before.

Rick Lacey, Seneca recreation director, said the music this year will be the best yet.

"For the city's part of things, there are seven bands lined up to play, not to mention another six that will be performing for Arts on the Alley."

The long success of the Atlanta Rhythm Section is well known to many, and their rock-swing, feel good music will bring in a large crowd when they headline the show on Saturday night.

This year, Friday will kick things off with "Arts on the Alley" at 1 p.m. at which numerous artists and artwork will be set up for browsing, and five up and coming talented bands will take center stage throughout the event.

"There will really be something for everyone," said Lacey.

At 3 p.m. on Friday, the "Classic Cruise-In" will commence, followed by a BBQ cook off on Saturday dubbed "No Butts About It," a fundraiser put on by the Education Foundation of Oconee County.

"It's so nice that Seneca can have a weekend-long festival like this," said Mandy Caker, resident. "We have the space and interest, it's great that this festival has taken off like it has. The first year was great, but it continues to get bigger and better with each Memorial Day. Awesome way to start the summer."

Artists like Super V, Doug McCormick, Danielle Howle, Sinnerville Saints the 440 Band and Ten Toes Up will be performing on different stages on and around Ram Cat Alley.

Opening ceremonies will begin at 5:30 on Friday and will run until 9 p.m.

The Saturday events will start with a mile "Fun Run and Walk," and at 8:30 a.m., those wishing to participate in the 5K will line up at the starting line. The race will continue for about two hours, during that time craft and other vendors will set up in and around the park.

Music and inflatable fun will begin at 10 a.m.,

Kids can keep a look out for the balloon clown on Ram Cat Alley while various bouncies and other entertainment will keep the little ones busy for hours.

For more information, visit www.seneca.sc.us or call City Hall at 885-2700.

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**Friday, May 28, 2010**
**12 p.m.** BBQ Cookers Arrive!
**1 – 3 p.m.** Music – Fairplay Street Stage
**1 – 5 p.m.** The Lunney House Museum
**1 – 9 p.m.** Arts on the Alley
**3 p.m.** Cars start arriving for Cruise-In
**3:30 – 5 p.m.** Super V (Classic Rock 'n' Roll/Blues) – City of Seneca Stage
**4 – 5 p.m.** Doug McCormick, Acoustic - Ram Cat Alley Stage
**4 – 7 p.m.** Balloon Clown on Ram Cat Alley
**5 – 7 p.m.** Student Art Show on Ram Cat Alley
**5 – 7 p.m.** Danielle Howle on Ram Cat Alley
**3 – 10 p.m.** Cruise-In
**5:30 p.m.** Opening Ceremonies
**5:45 p.m.** Sinnerville Saints – City of Seneca Stage
**6 p.m.** No-Butts About It other food specialties for sale
**7 – 9 p.m.** Ten Toes Up – Fairplay Street Stage
**7 – 9 p.m.** 440 Band – City of Seneca Stage
**Saturday, May 29, 2010**
**8 a.m.** Fun Run and Walk
**8 – 10 a.m.** Craft and Vendor Set Up
**8:30 a.m.** 5K Run
**10 a.m.** Awards for 5K
**10 –1 p.m.** Music on Ram Cat Alley
**Noon – 6 p.m.** BBQ Cook-Off Competition
**Noon – 2 p.m.** New Dixie Storm (Bluegrass) – City of Seneca Stage
**1 – 2 p.m.** Foothills Dance Conservatory – Fairplay Street Stage
**1 – 4 p.m.** Balloon Clown on Ram Cat Alley
**1 – 5 p.m.** The Lunney House Museum
**2:15 – 3:30 p.m.** Unlimited Talent Dance Studio – City of Seneca Stage
**2 – 4 p.m.** Music – Fairplay Street Stage
**4 – 6 p.m.** Matt Corbin – Ram Cat Alley Stage
**5:30 – 7:30 p.m.** Stone Echo – City of Seneca Stage
**8:00 p.m.** Atlanta Rhythm Section – City of Seneca Stage



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The Seneca Fest is slated to bring in thousands of people to Norton-Thompson Park over Memorial Day Weekend.