Seneca gearing up for Memorial Day festivities

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SENECA — Seneca's events committee met Wednesday at City Hall to solidify plans for the third annual Meet and 3 event at Norton-Thompson Park.

Meet and 3, so named because it features three events — Arts on the Alley, Classic Car Cruise-In and the Education Foundation Barbecue Cook-off — is set to kick off Friday, May 22 and last through Saturday night.

Recreation Director Rick Lacey said the city has received confirmation from a local favorite, Jack Roper and the Weatherman Band, to perform 20 songs Friday night at 7 p.m. Country music duo The Bellamy Brothers are slated to perform at 4:30 p.m. Saturday, and Lacey is digging slightly deeper to ensure they get there, paying $500 to arrange transportation from the band's arrival point in Atlanta to Seneca.

Kay Powell, of the Oconee County School District, said the Barbecue Cook-Off will most likely be significantly bigger than the past two years. Last year's event featured 10 entries into the contest by barbecue cookers from across the Upstate. So far there are nine entrants new to the event so the cook-off might be twice as large as last year's effort.

Arts on the Alley, meanwhile, will boast the work of 32 artists in various mediums in multiple locations on Ram Cat Alley.

In a new development, the Blood Connection's "Carolina Bloodmobile" is scheduled to make a stop at the Meet and 3 on Friday, setting up shop on Main Street from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.