

# Fourth Brew

# and 'Que festival planned for Sept. 5

THE JOURNAL STAFF

**SENECA** — After a one-year hiatus, the Labor Day Brew and 'Que is back.

Co-sponsored by The Journal and the city of Seneca, the fourth barbecue competition and unlimited craft beer sampling festival that includes live music will happen at Gignilliat Field from 6-10 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 5. Local artist Jake Bartley will entertain the crowd along with his self-titled

Jake Bartley Band. Bartley has such a deep catalog ranging from county to classic rock that he requested he perform for the entire four-hour set.

Hal Welch, general manager of The Journal, said festival organizers have "hit the ground running" in preparation for the event.

"It's just exciting to have

it back on after missing it in 2020 because of the pandemic," he said. "We were probably 70 percent

planned when we had to call it off. We're going to hit the ground running like we never missed a beat and expect a big turnout."

Welch said beer vendors, cooks and

newspaper readers have all been checking in to find out

whether the holiday weekend event was back on.

Seneca events coordinator Riley Johnson said city officials were "happy" to have the event back.

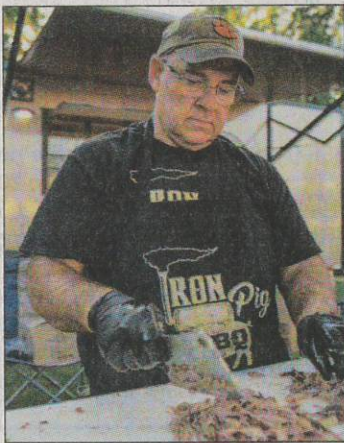
"It's another great event that has a great track history," Johnson said. "I feel like people are ready to get out, and I think this year will be bigger than the last two or three times. We're excited to be a partner with The



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**Terry Stephens of Iron Pig BBQ chops up pork for samples at the 2019 Brew and 'Que at Gignilliat Field in Seneca. After a year off because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the event will return to Gignilliat on Sept. 5.**

FILE



## FESTIVAL: 'Excited'

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Journal and excited to be a part of it."

The pause button was pressed on last year's festival after the COVID-19 pandemic forced event organizers to do so. Tickets that were purchased for the 2020 event have automatically rolled over to the new festival date.

The event will follow whatever recommendations are in place from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, according to Welch.

"We expect that by then, we won't be wearing masks and required to socially distance," he said.

Around 1,200 people attended the 2019 event, which featured more than 40 craft beers from South Carolina breweries. Nine groups competed in the 'Que competition in 2019, with

Team RHTYD-Q — a cooking team of Oconee Nuclear Station employees — winning the \$1,000 first-place prize in only their second weekend cooking together. Big D's House of BBQ in West Union claimed the \$500 second-place award.

For those not interested in beer, bottled water will be free, while soft drinks will be available for purchase.

### TICKET INFORMATION

Brew and 'Que tickets — with unlimited samples — are available for \$30 in advance and \$50 at the gate. 'Que only tickets for non-drinkers are \$20 in advance and \$30 at the gate. Kids 12 and under are admitted free, and there will be a kids' zone with activities for the children, as well as pizza.

To get the link to purchase tickets, visit [upstatetoday.com](http://upstatetoday.com).