

## **The Dillard Bluegrass and Barbeque Festival is Back**

We're back! After a couple of years off due to the pandemic, we are excited to be holding the 25<sup>th</sup> Dillard Bluegrass and Barbeque Festival, August 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. We think this is going to be one of the best festivals yet. Everybody from the bands, the artists, the vendors and our supporters are ready to get out and enjoy some live music, good food and fun!

As many people may not know, our festival is a non-profit event. We have over 100 volunteers that help make this happen each year. Through their efforts we have been able to help many local charities over the years, including Paws 4 Life, the 4H Club, Community Pantry, Sid Weber Memorial Cancer Fund, the Boy Scouts, FFA and environmental groups Chattooga Conservancy and Main Spring. We are proud to support these groups and hope to continue to do so.

This year, as in the past, we will have some of the best bands from all over the southeast. Our Headliner, Nick Chandler and Delivered, has won numerous awards over the years, and this year we are proud that Nick has been nominated in several categories for the International Bluegrass Music Association awards. Other groups include our own Foxfire Boys and Curtis Blackwell and the Dixie Bluegrass Boys. Many returning groups will be with us again, too. A popular band from Tazewell, TN, Shadow Ridge will be here, and from Sharpsburg, GA we have Brushfire once again. From just up the road in Otto is John Duncan, "The Asheville Fiddler", who will be bringing his string band and some of the best in Old Time music. Several more will perform to round out the show.

You can take more than tunes home with you, too! We'll have arts and crafts vendors in a juried show again this year featuring hand made goods of all descriptions. Bring your Christmas and Birthday wish list. And there will be plenty of good food. Of course barbeque is on the menu, as well as ice cream, funnel cakes, Italian ice, full meals from the Dillard House and other delicious goodies. I'll guarantee if you leave hungry it'll be your own fault.

Kid's activities will be on site and a cooking school both Friday and Saturday taught by a world class chef for those wanting to learn the finer points of barbeque.

We hope to see you there! Two days of fun and music, arts and food, in Dillard under the big top. Follow the signs to our free parking on site and enjoy some bluegrass hospitality.