



**For Immediate Release**

**Barbeque is the Food of Choice at 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Cookeville Fall FunFest  
Presented by U.S. Cellular September 11-12**

**Cookeville, TN (8-26-09)** – More than 30 barbeque teams from eleven states will compete for the title of Tennessee State Champion in the 20<sup>th</sup> annual **Cookeville Cookoff**, sanctioned by the Kansas City Barbeque Society, a highlight of the two-day **Cookeville Fall FunFest presented by U.S. Cellular September 11-12** in downtown Cookeville.

According to Tony Stone, coordinator of the barbeque cookoff, in addition to the chance to win the coveted title of Grand Champion, prize money amounting to \$10,000 is at stake. “The competition that happens here does not just stay here,” Stone explained. “Our Grand Champion is automatically entered in the Kansas City Barbeque Society National Invitational and eligible for the Jack Daniels Invitational drawing. The winner in the pork category is eligible for the Butt-to-Butt competition in Shannon, IL.”

Teams will compete in four main categories: chicken, pork, ribs and beef brisket. First place in each meat category wins \$500; the Champion receives \$1,000; while the Reserve Grand Champion walks away with \$750. Teams may also enter a dessert category. Although not part of the official juried categories, it carries a sweet \$200 prize. Patrons will be able to purchase some of the entries, as many of the teams will offer their barbeque and desserts for sale at concession booths. The Kansas City Barbeque Society trailer on-site offers festival goers an opportunity to stock up on grilling supplies and sauces.

The Grand Champion will be crowned on Saturday afternoon at 3:00 pm on the Main Stage. All events take place on the square in downtown Cookeville. **Admission to the event is free.**

One of the premier fall events on the Upper Cumberland Plateau, *Fall FunFest presented by U.S. Cellular* offers a variety of events for the entire family, including the Progressive Savings Bank Family Fun Zone, Teen World, a 5k/10k Fun Run, WCTE Stations of Imagination and TACA arts and crafts area. A variety of musical entertainment will perform on three stages, and local and regional vendors will offer food and concessions.

*Fall Fun Fest presented by U.S. Cellular* is a presentation of CityScape, Cookeville’s local “Main Street” organization that works to preserve, protect and promote the heart and soul of Cookeville – its downtown. CityScape is a group of concerned citizens working hand in hand

with partners such as the City of Cookeville, local merchants and property owners to develop downtown as a destination for business and pleasure.

*Fall FunFest presented by U.S. Cellular* is a Litter Free event.

Other event sponsors include U.S. Cellular, Food Lion, AUI LLC, Premier Diagnostic Imaging, Progressive Savings Bank, N2TheNet, Streamliner Creative, Cookeville Regional Medical Center, Cookeville Communications, JWC Broadcasting, Stone Steel, American Bank and Trust, Dixie HomeCrafters, Putnam County Clean Commission, Herald-Citizen, Lamar Outdoor Advertising, BB&T Legge Insurance, Infinity Birthing Center, Hill Realty, First Realty, THE Real Estate Group and Comcast Spotlight

Cookeville is located approximately 1.5 miles off I-40, at exit #287 (Cookeville/Sparta).

For more information, visit the Fun Fest website, [www.fallfunfest.com](http://www.fallfunfest.com).

**Contact Information:** Publicity, Judi Turner/ [turnerco@bellsouth.net](mailto:turnerco@bellsouth.net) / 615-356-9115; Event Manager, Dennis Freeman, [dennis@freemanenterprises.com](mailto:dennis@freemanenterprises.com) / 931-525-1109. For the Cookeville CookOff, Tony [Stone/tony@stonesteel.net](mailto:Stone/tony@stonesteel.net) / 931-526-1063; for Fun Run, Jen Boswell, [jen@cookeville-tn.org](mailto:jen@cookeville-tn.org), Stations of Imagination, Cindy Putman and Reggie Brown , 931-528-2222, ext. 227; [cputman@wcte.com](mailto:cputman@wcte.com) and [rbrown@wcte.com](mailto:rbrown@wcte.com); Food and Retail Vendors, Mike Dyce, 615-456-3889; and Arts and Crafts, Mike Whiteman, 931-432-6313.