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10TH ANNUAL BEDFORD BLUES & BBQ FESTIVAL AUGUST 31-SEPTEMBER 2
Labor Day event features GRAMMY nominated Kenny Wayne Shepherd Band and Tab Benoit, and inaugural “BBQ Triple Play” competition

Bedford, TX – August 1, 2018 – Experience two Texas traditions during Labor Day weekend in Dallas Fort Worth at the [10th Annual Bedford Blues & BBQ Festival](#) August 31 through September 2. The three-day event combines the Lone Star State’s love of music and food with performers and pitmasters from across the country. Tickets can be purchased in advance [online](#); general admission tickets and parking are free August 31 as part of the Friday Night “free-for-all” that includes a sunset soul session presented by the [Trinity River Blues Society](#).

Setting the stage for the hottest blues concert in Texas is a [live music line-up](#) of more than 20 performers, including renowned legends and local favorites. Live music takes place on two stages beginning Friday at 6:00PM through Sunday at 10:30PM featuring Samantha Fish, Chubby Carrier, Lil’ Ed & The Blues Imperials, and teen blues band Salvation From Sundown.

Co-headliners are [Kenny Wayne Shepherd Band](#), who closes out the festival Sunday at 9:30PM, and fellow Louisianan [Tab Benoit](#), who performs Saturday at 9:30PM. Known as a “young blues rock guitarist,” Shepherd has sold millions of albums worldwide, won two Billboard Music Awards, and is a five-time GRAMMY® nominee. Benoit is also an acclaimed guitarist, as well as a singer and GRAMMY-nominated songwriter. He won the B.B. King Entertainer of the Year and Best Contemporary Male Performer at the Blues Music Awards in Memphis, and received a GRAMMY nomination for Best Traditional Blues Album in 2006.

New this year is the unprecedented BBQ Triple Play competition with three sanctioning organizations participating: [International Bar-B-Que Cookers Association](#), [Kansas City Barbeque Society](#), and [Steak Cookoff Association](#). Pitmasters from throughout the U.S., including celebrity teams featured on The Food Network, will compete for more than \$20,000 in prizes in 14 categories.

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Attendees can sample the very best these grill masters have to offer at three tasting events:

- Steak Cook Off is August 30, 7:30PM-8:30PM. Teams from across the county will compete for the “best steak” title. Ticket is \$5 for five samples and one vote.
- [People’s Choice](#) is September 1, 4:30PM -6:30PM. This “anything goes” competition allows the public to taste up to 30 unique barbecue samples. Ticket is \$20 for 10 samples and two votes (includes general admission if purchased online).
- [Battle of the BBQ](#) takes place in the food court September 2, 3:00PM -5:00PM. Local barbecue vendors cook up unique tastes for everyone to purchase. Ticket is \$17 for 10 samples and two votes (includes general admission if purchased online).

The event also features a marketplace with more than 70 artisan, craft and commercial vendors. Hosted by City of Bedford and sponsored by Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Hurst-Euleless-Bedford, more than 20,000 people are expected to attend Bedford Blues & BBQ Festival. Hours of operation are Friday 6:00PM to 10:00PM, Saturday 2:00PM to 10:00PM, and Sunday 2:00PM to 10:00PM. The event takes place across from Bedford City Hall at 1951 L. Don Dodson Drive, Bedford, TX, 76021.

[Tickets are on sale](#) and start at \$7 per person; specialty seating and VIP packages are also available. General admission and parking are free Friday, August 31. Tickets may be purchased online at www.bedfordbluesfest.com. Come for the BBQ and stay for the blues!

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