



Dodge City marshal to introduce bands again

Marshal Allen Bailey of Dodge City will once again serve as master of ceremonies. With his particular brand of cowboy humor, Bailey – who is an actual marshal from Dodge City – has delighted audiences at Pickin' on the Plains for many years. Bailey was recently named Disc Jockey of the Year by the Heroes of Western Music.

KEVIN BOTTRELL/Colby Free Press



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Learn from the best at pickin' workshops

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Popular attractions at Pickin on the Plains each year are the music workshops put on by professional musicians.

This year, the workshops will be Saturday afternoon. All workshops are free with paid admission to the festival.

The workshops were added to the festival schedule several years ago, and have been enhanced and designed this year for anyone interested in learning to play a bluegrass instrument. Each workshop is taught by members of the bands performing at the festival.

Mark Johnson, a banjo player and singer from El Dorado, will lead a workshop at 10 a.m. on Saturday at the 4-H building. Johnson is the performance coach for the Kansas Bluegrass Association youth band Treblemakers. The Treblemakers will perform at this year's festival and have worked with Johnson extensively.

He has also worked with The McLemores and written a book, *Stage Performance Guide for Bluegrass Bands*. workshop will cover

many aspects of performing such as how to connect with the audience. This workshop isn't just for bluegrass musicians, any musicians and singers seeking musical help are encouraged to attend.

Darin and Brooke Aldridge will hold a singing workshop from 11 a.m. to noon at the 4-H building. The pair holds the title as the most-played group on Sirius-XM Bluegrass Radio in 2010.

Other workshops at the 4-H building include:

- Noon – Jimmy Campbell from the band Driven on the dobro with Karla Campbell from the Hootin' Annies on the acoustic bass.

- 1 p.m. – Jenny Vaughn from the Ozark Alliance on the mandolin with Jake Workman, 2011 Texas State Banjo Champion, on the banjo. Also, Marshal Allen Bailey will cover the western swing guitar at that time.

- 2 p.m. – Alex Vaughn from the Ozark Alliance on the fiddle with Rebekah Workman from Driven.

Pickin' on the Plains committee members encourage everyone to attend the festival as well as the workshops.