



CHARLIE DANIELS BAND



CASSADEE POPE

The stage is set for three days of food, fun and country music that will rock your soul.

Leo Palmer and his girlfriend, Rae Suarez two-stepped up and down Main Street. So did Las Cruces Tito Perez and his dance partner, Traci Maldonado. "It's all about fun. Ain't any better way to spend a Friday night," Perez said. Palmer and Suarez, Perez and Maldonado were among several thousand people who attended the second annual Las Cruces Country Music Festival.

"It's a good atmosphere, a nice place, a nice way for people to just have a good time," said Gracie Childers, of Albuquerque. Childers, and her husband, Charlie, aren't bashful about getting up and dancing if they like the music. But they admitted they set a first for themselves Friday. "We've danced in a lot of places, but never on Main Street in New Mexico," Charlie Childers laughed.

For many, the festival is a perfect place to multitask. They listened and danced, or listened and ate, or listened and drank. Numerous food trucks parked along Main Street offered a veritable feast that included burgers, turkey legs, pulled pork sandwiches, quesadillas, burritos and "Enchilada in a Cup,"

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JAMES WESLEY



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