

Lifestyles

CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS



PHOTO SPECIAL TO THE SUN
Greenville Arts Council President Clem Allison and Vice President Justine Young review plans for upcoming events and fundraisers at the council board's January meeting. Greenville Arts Council is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year, and a fundraiser is planned Feb. 22 at the Capitol Theatre.

Fundraiser Planned Feb. 22 For Arts Council's 50th Anniversary

The Greenville Arts Council has announced plans for the first of several fundraising events being planned this year to celebrate the nonprofit organization's 50th anniversary.

The public is invited to a kick-off event Thursday, Feb. 22, at the Capitol Theatre.

Doors will open at 6 p.m. with cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and music by the Tusculum Jazz Band, a news

release says.

Guests will be treated to a screen of select, award-winning films originally produced for the Sinking Creek Film Celebrations of the 1960s-70s.

The nationally recognized festivals were first organized and managed by the late Mary Jane Coleman, who was also instrumental in founding what was then known as the Greenville Arts Guild, now known as Greenville

Arts Council.

The event is sponsored in part by Capitol Theatre.

Tickets are \$50 per person and may be purchased at Richland Creek Gifts, the Capitol Theatre box office or at the door.

For more information about this or other arts council events, search Facebook or contact GAC President Clem Allison at 609-9300.

Kiwanis Club's Mark Stokes Memorial Dinner Is Saturday

Kiwanis Club of Greenville will host the third annual Mark Stokes Spaghetti Dinner Saturday at First Presbyterian Church, 110 N. Main St.

Seating is available from 5-8 p.m., and the meal includes the main entree, salad, dessert and a beverage.

Proceeds from the dinner fund the Mark Stokes/Tusculum College Memorial Scholarship and other Kiwanis Club scholarships and projects for Greene County youth, a news release says.

Some projects include Kiwanis Kids Day (a free, fun-filled event for kids at Pioneer Park), adopting families in need at Christmas, and more than \$12,000 in scholarships awarded last year to high school seniors.

In addition to members of Greenville Kiwanis Club, the Builders Club of Nolachucky Elementary School and the South Greene High School Key Club will assist with the dinner.

Tickets are \$20 per couple or \$10 for an individual and \$6 for children 11 and under.

Take-out orders will be available.

Guests and prospective members are encouraged to attend Kiwanis Club's weekly meetings to learn more about the group.

The club meets each Thursday at noon at Ryan's Family Steakhouse.

Auditions Scheduled For 'Broadway Comes To Greenville'

Auditions have been scheduled for 2018's "Broadway Comes to Greenville," a show that gives local children a chance to perform with Broadway stars.

The event raises awareness and support for Niswonger Children's Hospital.

Beginning Monday, Feb. 19, auditions will take place across the region for children who want to be cast in the annual event, now in its seventh year, a news release says.

"Broadway Comes to Greenville" is a production of Ballad Health Foundation and sponsor Consumer Credit Union.

Broadway stars David Elder, of "Guys and Dolls" and "42nd Street," Gary Mauer, of "The Phantom of the Opera" and "Les Miserables," and Elizabeth Southard, of "The Phantom of the Opera" and "The Sound of Music," will perform at the event Sunday, April 29, at 3 p.m. at Niswonger Performing Arts Center.

Auditions are open to youth ages 7-17. Those interested in auditioning should prepare a classical song, country song or Broadway song to perform for judges.

There will be a one-minute performance time for each vocalist. A wireless speaker, piano and CD player will be available. However, vocalists wishing to use an accompanist must bring their own.

Vocalists may only audition once, the news release says.

Audition times are:

- Monday, Feb. 19, 5:30 p.m., at Annie Hogan Byrd Theatre on the Tusculum College campus;
- Monday, Feb. 26, 5:30 p.m., at First Christian Church, 200 E. Mountcastle Drive, Johnson City; and,
- Monday, March 5, 5:30 p.m., at Barter Theatre, Stage II, 110 W. Main St., Abingdon, Virginia.

For more information about auditions, call Cookie McKinney at 423-431-1224.

Burnsville Wedding Expo Is Saturday

BURNSVILLE, N.C. – The third annual Burnsville Wedding Expo invites brides to meet vendors, ask questions and make plans for their big days Saturday.

The event at Burnsville Town Center highlights approximately 40 local vendors, including venues, planners, dress shops, menswear retailers, florists, stationers, caterers, jewelers, photographers, DJs, transportation companies and more, a news release says.

This year, Asheville designer Charles Josef will create a wedding dress specifically for the expo. The designer recently held a runway show during New York Fashion Week. Another new addition this year is a photo booth, where brides and couples can take a picture and see if it's an amenity they would like to include at their receptions.

A favorite returning activity gives 10 brides a chance to dig through a tiered wedding cake in search of a wedding band hidden inside. Whoever finds the band, donated by a jeweler, gets to keep it, the release says. Other expo perks include goodie



PHOTO SPECIAL TO THE SUN
Scenery at Bear River Lodge, a Madison County, North Carolina, wedding venue, provides a backdrop for newlyweds. A variety of venues, vendors and more will be highlighted Saturday at the Burnsville Wedding Expo.

bags, door prizes and free samples.

"The expo helps people recognize the assets we have here that complement the area's natural beauty,"

said Chad Fox, Burnsville Town Center manager.

Burnsville and surrounding Blue Ridge Mountain communities have become popular for destination

weddings, especially for couples who want a natural or rustic setting. The expo assists both local brides and those planning destination weddings in Western North Carolina, the release says.

"In Burnsville, we still have that small-town feel that a lot of people enjoy," Fox said. "The community is welcoming and inviting, and our local businesses and vendors are easy to talk to and more flexible to work with than some larger companies can be."

Although brides complete many aspects of wedding planning online or through email, face-to-face conversations remain important in this highly customizable industry.

"You can see all the pictures they post online, but when you meet someone in person, it makes a difference," said Amelia Hoilman, a caterer and expo organizer.

Hours for the Burnsville Wedding Expo are 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday. Admission is \$5.

For additional details, visit www.BurnsvilleTownCenter.com or call 828-682-7209.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEETINGS

BNI Greene Team

Business Networking International Greene Team will meet at 8 a.m. Wednesday in the meeting room at Econolodge.

The program will be by Karl Sabey, of Union Jack Plumbing, and David Michael Hamilton, of United Capital Lending.

For more information, call 620-8883 or see www.bni.com.

Kiwanis Club

Kiwanis Club of Greenville will have its weekly meeting Thursday at noon at Ryan's Family Steakhouse. Everyone is welcome. For more information, call 559-930-8930 or 470-1566.

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