



JOE BUTLER (left), vice president of the Brunswick Arts Council, presents the council's check for \$500 to officers of the Brunswick County N.C. Symphony Chapter (left to right) Stephanna Tewey, Etherine Butler and Kay Brannon.

Symphony Ticket Sales Help Finance Children's Concerts

Volunteers across Brunswick County are raising funds to underwrite four local performances by the North Carolina Symphony later this year.

The Symphony presents two free children's concerts in the public schools for fourth, fifth and sixth graders, in addition to two public concerts.

Subscriptions, which provide admission to the public concerts, typically cover only about half the combined cost of all four programs, said Stephanna Tewey, president of the local chapter.

"Everytime someone buys a subscription to the concert series, they are giving an extraordinary musical gift to our school children," said Mrs. Tewey.

Tickets for subscriptions purchased after March 1 will not be mailed from the Symphony's main office in Raleigh, but can be picked up at the door of the first concert on March 18. Single tickets will not be available in advance of the concerts.

The March 18 event will be a pops concert at Hatch Auditorium at the N.C. Baptist Assembly, Fort Caswell.

A classical concert will follow

April 25 at West Brunswick High School in Shallotte. In future years concerts will continue to be held at two locations—Hatch Auditorium and the Odell Williamson Auditorium under construction at Brunswick Community College.

Mrs. Tewey said some potential subscribers are hesitant about traveling to the opposite end of the county from where they live.

"I urge them to either take advantage of the buses offered, or to buy a subscription and donate the unused ticket to a student or senior citizen who would otherwise not be able to attend," she said.

Traditionally buses transport concert-goers from the South Brunswick Islands and Boiling Spring Lakes areas to the concerts at Hatch Auditorium.

This year, buses will also be provided for concert-goers from Southport and Oak Island who attend the concert in Shallotte. Tickets are \$1, payable to the bus driver that evening.

To make bus reservations from the Shallotte area to the March 18 concert at Hatch Auditorium, ticketholders may call Gene Russ at 754-6237. Residents of the Leland

area may call James F. Clemmons Jr., 371-3340, to reserve bus seats to either concert. For a ride to the April 25 concert, Southport-Oak Island residents may call Majel or Walter Reinheimer at 278-5172.

Individuals who wish to buy concert tickets and haven't been contacted by a volunteer can obtain tickets at Brunswick County Library facilities in Shallotte, Southport and Leland, or contact Etherine Butler, vice president, 754-6706, or Mrs. Tewey, 457-5656.

Volunteers for the Symphony drive were entertained by the North Carolina Brass Quintet at their kickoff meeting earlier this month at Brunswick Community College. Scotty Steel of the Symphony office in Raleigh and Velva Jenkins of the BCC Small Business Center provided tips on selling subscriptions and raising other donations.

4-H Riders Cited

Members of the Silver Spurs 4-H Riding Club received honors recently for participation in district, state and regional horse shows, announced Billy Privette, Brunswick County 4-H extension agent.

Joanna Barnes, Tiffany Casteen, Jamie Johnson, Joy Rose, April Sedemeyer, Stephanie Turner and Amy Wallace were local award winners at the 4-H Achievement Banquet held Feb. 11 at the Brunswick County Cooperative Extension Building in Bolivia, he said.

In addition to awards for participating in different 4-H horse shows, they also received recognition for riding in the Long Beach Christmas Parade and the St. Jude's Research Hospital Ride-A-Thon.

Also, three guests of honor, Jim and Pat Cross and Betsy Longoria, were recognized.

In Spring, Thoughts Turn To Landscaping

While working in my yard recently, I distinctly detected a "spring time" smelling breeze.

If the warming weather doesn't tip you off to spring's arrival, then the activity of the Realtors surely will.

I routinely get questions about landscape design and all other matters related to installing a proper landscape. A well-thought out and maintained landscape will increase the value and the marketability of your property. Realtors will often call this "curb appeal".

I have read articles that claim people form their opinions about a residential property in the first 30 seconds of viewing and that makes landscaping very important (especially if you are trying to sell your house).

The creation of a beautiful landscape requires imagination, planning and follow-through. The primary objective of residential landscape design is to create functional and beautiful spaces that complement your home.

The first step to creating a landscape is to inventory the environment around your home.

Make notes concerning soil types and fertility (eg. soil test), existing plant materials, orientation of your home in relation to the lot, topography and any other factors you can think of that would influence plant growth or yard maintenance. A professional landscape designer refers to this process as the site analysis. A poor site analysis will often result in a landscape that fails in its function and beauty.

The second step requires that you evaluate your families needs and desires in regards to outdoor living space. In other words, determine how much you use your yard. Do you have children? Does your family do a lot of outdoor entertaining? Do you enjoy vegetable or fruit gardening? Do you have a dog?

Many people tell me that they like flower gardening but only spend 30 or so minutes a week in the yard. A flower garden will not flourish with only 30 minutes of care a week unless you have a very small bed of flowers.

Assess your family needs first and then consider the time you have available to spend working on maintaining your landscape.

A simple well-maintained landscape is aesthetically far superior to a complex overgrown mess.

Once you have completed the site

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and family needs analysis, you are ready for the actual planning of the landscape proper. Landscape designers use scaled drawings for this process but an organized set of notes will accomplish the same objective. Start by dividing your lot into three major areas: public, private and utility.

The public area is that portion of your yard that visitor or passerby would see. The main goal of designing the public area is to blend the architecture of your home into the surrounding environment in a aesthetically pleasing manner.

The focal point of the public area should be the front or main entrance to your home. Brightly colored flowers, statuary, pink flamingos and the like will distract the viewers eye away from the main focal point—the front entrance. Public area landscapes should be simple and functional.

The private area is usually located in the back of the house and should be considered as the outdoor living area for you and your family. Some designers like to divide this area into various sub-use areas: a patio for entertainment, an ornamental flower garden, a children's play area, a vegetable garden, etc... A well designed private area is functional and reflects your outdoor interests or needs (this is where you put the pink flamingos!). Plan the private area to fit you and your families lifestyle, hobbies, and recreational needs.

The utility area is used to hide the necessities of modern living. Garbage cans, clothes lines, utility shed, heat pump and miscellaneous junk should be organized and partitioned off in the utility area. The ideal utility area is easily accessible and invisible from the public and private areas. Fencing, lattice or shrubbery screens will often do the job.

Once you have your areas planned, then you are ready to begin fitting plants to your design. Fitting plants to your home is the last thing you want to do in planning your landscape. Most nurseryman can easily tell you a dozen different well-adapted plant varieties if you can describe (form, height, foliage texture, bloom color, etc.) what kind of plant you want.

Think of plant selection in terms of foliage or bark texture (coarse or fine), foliage color, plant form, showiness of color, and the seasonality plant showiness.

For example, azaleas are extraordinary in the spring but for 340 days of the year they are simply green background plants. A well designed landscape will have points of interest during all seasons of the year. Landscape design is complex and to gain a better understanding of the process additional study is required.

The North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service has an excellent publication entitled "Residential Landscaping"—AG248 by M.A. Powell. You can obtain this publication through your local EXTENSION office or by sending me a SASE.

Send your questions to The Plant Doctor, P.O. Box 109, Bolivia, N.C. 28422. If requesting information or a reply, please enclose a SASE.

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Shower To Benefit Burned-Out Family

An upcoming shower sponsored by the Brunswick County Extension Homemakers will benefit a young couple whose home in Calabash was destroyed by fire.

The household shower will be held from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, March 1, at the Calabash Fire Station, said Ann Flash, coordinator.

Chris and Laura Markwell and their two-year-old daughter are living at Carolina Shores Condominiums following the Dec. 29 blaze, she said.

"They don't have much money and they're hardworking young people," said Mrs. Flash. "I feel they need help and those of us who are able need to be aware so we can help.

"When we're able to help people it makes us feel good too."

Mrs. Flash is the volunteer to contact for information on the couple's specific household need. She can be reached at 579-4825.

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