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— Pay-per-view and premium channels are also available

Arts & Entertainment

Area exhibits and events

A weekly compilation of arts and entertainment programs and events in South Iredell and the region. Have an item to include? Call us at 704-664-5554, or fax the item to 704-664-3614. (All telephone numbers have a 704 area code unless otherwise noted.)

5K Power Run

The Mooresville Family YMCA will hold its annual Health Fair and 5K Power Run on Saturday, Aug. 18. The run benefits the YMCA's Community Outreach Program. Lake Norman Regional Medical Center will host the health fair, which will run from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. The cost of admission is free. To register for the run or for more information, call (704) 716-4000.

Organist in concert

John Edward Tipton, acclaimed organist-choirmaster and Canon Precentor of the American Cathedral in Paris, will perform in concert at Davidson United Methodist Church on Aug. 20 at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. Admission is free. The concert will include works by Mathias, Handel Bach, Sowerby, Durufle and Vierne. A native of Asheville, Tipton studied at the Ecole Normale de Musique in Paris and earned degrees in piano performance and choral conducting from Oberlin Conservatory. He has served as organist and choirmaster at churches in North Carolina, Los Angeles and Atlanta. He was the assistant to the director of the Robert Shaw Institute of Emory University before moving to Paris. He is the brother of Susan Tipton Ridenhour of Mooresville.

Casting call

The Mooresville Community Theatre will hold auditions for the musical "Godspell" on Monday, Aug. 20 and Wednesday, Aug. 22 from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Mooresville Citizens Center. Roles are available for men and women ages 15 and older. Auditions will be based on a cold reading from the script, a prepared song, and a dance combination. The show's performances will be held Oct. 19-20 and Oct. 25-27. For more information, call 704-662-9107.

'Tom Sawyer' on stage

A musical adaptation of Mark Twain's "Tom Sawyer" will be presented at the Joe V. Knox Auditorium in the Mooresville Citizens Center on Friday, Aug. 17 at 7 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 18 at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. and Sunday, Aug. 19 at 3 p.m. The Mooresville-South Iredell Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring the show. Tickets are $5 and can be purchased by calling 704-664-3898, or in person at the Chamber of Commerce, 149 E. Iredell Ave.

Beach music

The Staircase Band will perform beach music at Cornelius's Jetton Village on Friday, Aug. 17 from 6 to 10 p.m. The event is free and food and beverages will be available.

Book signing

Mooresville author Vivian Meletis will sign copies of her new book, "Adventures of Rosie Rabbit", on Saturday, Aug. 18 at the Mooresville Family YMCA — not the public library, as previously scheduled. The signing session will be from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Olde Towne auditions

The Statesville-based Olde Towne Players will have auditions for "The Tigers" and "The Actor's Nightmare," a pair of one-act plays, on Tuesday and Wednesday, Aug. 21 and 22, from 6-8 p.m. at the Iredell Arts Council (corner of Meeting and Court streets) in Statesville. Roles are available for three men and four women. Details: Call 704-664-0968.

Calling musicians!

Community musicians are invited to audition for openings in strings, French horn an bassoon within the Davidson College Symphony Orchestra. Beginning Aug. 20, rehearsals will be held each Monday from 7-9:30 p.m. in the Bandroom of the Cunningham Building on the Davidson campus. To schedule an audition, call 704-894-2356 or email Milton Crotts at: microtts@davidson.edu

Square dancing

The Spinning Moors Dance Club meets the second and fourth Saturday of each month at the War Memorial building in Mooresville. Early rounds at 7:30 p.m., square dancing at 8.

Art for seniors

An art workshop for seniors meets each Wednesday morning at 9 in the Senior Day Room of the South Iredell Senior Center, located in the Mooresville Citizens Center. Details: 662-3337.

Winnie Hooper lineup

The following programs and activities are scheduled at the Winnie L. Hooper Community Center (for details, call 663-0033):

• Think Positive Afterschool Tutorial Program — Monday-Thursday, 4-6 p.m.

• Senior Citizens — Meetings every second and fourth Tuesday, 1 p.m. Speakers, field trips, arts and crafts.

• RAPS (Responsible Attitude Program Seminar), for girls/boys ages 11-18.

New guidelines aid safety of charter buses at school

Principals, teachers, and parents can breathe a little easier this year when students are boarded on charter buses for field trips thanks to new guidelines and procedures schools can use when chartering motorcoaches.

The recommendations were developed by the School Charter Transportation Safety Committee, an interagency task force whose members represented the Public Schools of North Carolina, the Division of Motor Vehicles, the North Carolina Motorcoach Association and the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA).

The Committee's mission was to formulate guidelines and procedures to be used by schools and school districts to help ensure the safety of public school children when chartered transportation is required for field trips.

"Student safety is a very high priority for public schools. When classes take field trips, principals find that activity buses are not always available. When schools or districts choose to use charter buses, we hope they'll use these guidelines so that students will be as safe as possible," State Superintendent Mike Ward said.

Although development of the charter transportation guidelines had begun in June 2000, an accident involving a group of high school students from Cumberland County this spring intensified the need for specific guidelines to help local districts hire the safest and most reliable charter transportation possible.

State Transportation Secretary Lyndo Tippett said, "Safety is the department's top priority. These new procedures give school systems, church groups and other organizations specific guidelines on a companyis safety record, what questions to ask and other pertinent information before scheduling a motorcoach company.

"Providing these guidelines is a step in the right direction when it comes to protecting our children."

The guidelines outline the following three-step approach schools can use when contracting with providers of motorcoach transportation:

1. Conduct a pre-qualification background check of potential motorcoach providers. This includes conducting a site visit, reference checks and proper documentation as to insurance and driver qualifications. The list of eligible companies should be established centrally and updated annually.

2. Contract for a specific trip and make sure that the school and contractor understand exactly what is expected.

3. Conduct a pre-trip review at the time of the trip to ensure that the driver and vehicles meet all criteria immediately before departure.

To help promote these recommendations, the FMCSA conducted a series of workshops this summer to properly train local school personnel involved in the process of selecting and contracting charter bus services for the transportation of school children to special events and activities.

Julie Anna Cirillo, acting deputy administrator and chief safety officer for FMCSA said that they were excited to be a part of this innovative and exciting approach to bus safety. "Improving highway safety is something we want to achieve, but too often we aren't able to turn "wants" into reality. In North Carolina, it is going to happen! When so many groups and individuals, public and private, work together as they are doing here, the result is greater safety for everyone, especially children on buses. North Carolina's series of seminars and public meetings can be a model for the nation."

The recommended guidelines were distributed to all North Carolina public school systems and can be found on the Pupil Transportation Web site:

www.ncbussafety.org

Habitat event is a 'thanks' to community

Our Towns Habitat for Humanity is planning to celebrate and thank its supporters — cash donors, material donors, construction volunteers, Thrift Store volunteers, office helpers and others — at an old-fashioned "Ice Cream Social" on Sunday, Aug. 19.

The event will be at Legion Park in Cornelius from 5-7 p.m. It's free. Visitors are invited to bring yard chairs, blankets and picnic suppers and listen to some Barbershop harmony and "make their own sundaes."

Immediately before the ice cream social, Our Towns Habitat will dedicate its latest house, at 307 Gibson Park Drive in Huntersville at 4 p.m. The home will be owned by Kamikiia Peek and her son, Terrance. The public is invited to the ceremony.

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1998	37.6%	28.7%
1999	143.1%	23.7%
2000	45.1%	-6.0%
2001[c]	17.9%	-10.6%
5 Yr. Avg.[d]	65.4%	20.1%

a. Price appreciation only with stock performances averaged
b. This was the first Analysts' Best Picks list utilizing the current rules
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