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Dear Friends,

For almost two decades, Pops at the Post has provided a chance to sit back, relax, and listen to music that inspires, uplifts and soothes all our souls! Experienced under the stars with our friends and neighbors, this year Maestro David Hagy and the Salisbury-Rowan Symphony present a program of music, “Trails and Travel” which reflects the theme “NC YEAR OF THE TRAIL”

The Pops at the Post program of music will honor all the North Carolina and the Salisbury-Rowan greenways, bike paths, parks, and trails that allow everyone the opportunity to experience healthy living through exercise in the midst of nature.

We may see tears and smiles, and hear clapping hands and/or tapping feet. It never matters if we keep the beat, because on this night we are all in perfect harmony.

As a special guest, Deputy Secretary of Natural and Cultural Resources, Staci Meyer will be bringing remarks.

This special night is a uniquely Salisbury tradition. It would not be possible without the generosity from members of our community. On behalf of the citizens of Salisbury, I offer our sincere thanks to:

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POPS AT THE POST is a non-profit organization. Text the code POPS2023 to 44-321 to donate. Special thanks also to the Pops at the Post Committee, who work many long hours throughout the year to make each event a night to remember.

— Karen Alexander
Salisbury Mayor

Novant Health is proud to sponsor Pops at the Post and to celebrate the opening of the Bell Tower Green. Partnerships like this bring beauty and joy to our community and build a brighter future we all can share — together.
Savory sandwiches for tailgate fun

This recipe for “Ultimate Steak & Mushroom Sandwiches” from Laurie McNamara’s “Simply Scratch” (Avery) can be prepared at home and then put together at the event.

Ultimate Steak & Mushroom Sandwiches
Makes 4 6-inch sandwiches

- 1.25 to 1.5 lbs rib-eye steak
- 1 cup Balsamic Herb Dressinade (see below)
- 1 tbsp unsalted butter
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 1 large sweet onion, halved & thinly sliced
- 1 pint cremini mushrooms, cleaned & sliced Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper (optional)
- 1/2 cup crumbled blue cheese
- 1 1/2 cups grated provolone cheese
- 4 6-inch hoagie buns, split Mayonnaise

Balsamic Herb Dressinade
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tbsp chopped fresh basil or 1 teaspoon dried
- 2 tsp chopped fresh rosemary, or 1 tsp dried
- 1 tsp chopped fresh thyme, or 1/2 teaspoon dried
- 3/4 tsp kosher salt
- 1/4 tsp coarsely ground black pepper
- 2 tsp Dijon mustard
- 6 tbsp balsamic vinegar
- 2 tbsp red wine vinegar
- 1 cup grape-seed or olive oil

In a 1-pint glass jar, combine all the ingredients. Secure the lid and shake until combined. Let stand for 30 minutes before using. Refrigerate any unused dressing.

Place the steak on a small rimmed baking sheet and freeze for 20 minutes so it’s firm and partially frozen. Holding a sharp knife on a slight angle, going against the grain of the meat, slice into very thin strips.

In a large resealable bag or a medium bowl, marinate the steak in the dressinade for 30 minutes.

On a griddle or in a 12-inch cast-iron skillet, melt the butter with the olive oil over medium-high heat. Add the onion, toss and spread out in an even layer. Once the onion starts to soften, add the mushrooms. Cook until soft and slightly caramelized.

Using tongs, remove the steak from the marinade (allow excess to drip back into the bag or bowl) and place on the griddle, toss with the onions and mushrooms, then spread in an even layer. Allow the steak to sear, forming a crust, for 4 to 6 minutes, then flip and cook for 4 to 6 minutes more.

Season with a pinch of salt and pepper, if desired, and sprinkle with the blue cheese and provolone. Turn off the heat on the griddle or remove the skillet from the heat and cover with a domed lid or tented foil to allow the cheese to melt quickly.

Toss one last time so the cheese is mixed throughout. Divide the steak mixture among the crusty hoagie buns. Serve immediately.

What about dessert?

Easy Apple Turnovers
Serves 4

- 1 1/2 cups thinly sliced, peeled apples (roughly 1 1/2 medium-sized apple)
- 1/4 cup packed brown sugar
- 2 tbsp water
- 1 tsp lemon juice
- 1 tsp all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp granulated sugar
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 1 tbsp butter or margarine
- 1/2 tsp teaspoon vanilla
- 1 box Pillsbury™ refrigerated pie crusts
- 1 egg

1. In a 2-quart saucepan, mix apples, brown sugar, 1 tablespoon of the water and lemon juice. Cook over medium heat, stirring occasionally, until bubbly. Reduce heat to low; cover and cook 6 to 8 minutes, stirring occasionally, until apples are tender.

2. In a small bowl, mix flour, granulated sugar and salt. Gradually stir into apple mixture, cooking and stirring until mixture thickens. Remove from heat; stir in butter and vanilla. Cool 15 minutes.

3. Meanwhile, heat oven to 350 F. Let pie crust pouch stand at room temperature for 15 minutes.

4. Remove pie crust from pouch; unroll crust on ungreased cookie sheet. Spoon cooled fruit mixture evenly onto half of crust to within 1/2 inch of edge.

5. In a small bowl, beat egg and 1 tablespoon water; brush over edge of crust. Fold untopped half of crust over apple mixture; firmly press edge to seal. Flute edge; cut small slits in several places in top crust. Brush top with remaining egg mixture.

6. Bake 25 to 35 minutes or until crust is golden brown. Serve warm or cool. Drizzle with icing, if desired.

Expert tips: Tart apples, such as Granny Smith or McIntosh, make flavorful pies. Braeburn or Gala apples provide good texture and a slightly sweeter flavor.
By Charlie Drape

The 19th running of “Pops at the Post,” will convene Saturday, June 3 and although he announced his retirement earlier this year, the Salisbury Symphony at the event will still be led by instrumental member, the conductor David Hagy.

Hagy and his symphony have been playing “Pops at the Post” since it was originally started in 2004 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Salisbury Post. He announced in March that he will be retiring this year after 35 years as the music director and conductor for the Salisbury Symphony, a job he first started back in 1988.

But anyone thinking this will be the last time Hagy will be performing at “Pops,” shouldn’t worry, the conductor will be returning next year as well.

The symphony is currently reviewing five candidates to replace Hagy and become the new music director and conductor. Hagy explained that by the time a candidate is selected sometime next year, there wouldn’t be sufficient enough time for the new director to develop a concert for “Pops,” so he will be taking it on once more. 2024 will be his finale.

Hagy said he loves playing this concert because of the huge audience that always comes out.

“How could anybody not enjoy performing for that large of an audience? That’s definitely a delight,” Hagy said. “The Post loading dock is just a superb acoustic, which is kind of a miracle, but it’s just a delightful place to play. I like that as well.”

The theme for this year’s concert is “The Year of the Trail,” which was also announced as the 2023 theme for North Carolina to celebrate the state’s thousands of miles of trails, greenways, and blueways. With that in mind, Hagy and the symphony will be performing 13 “trail”-related pieces.

In April, the symphony announced that after his retirement Hagy will be taking on the life-long role as “music director emeritus.” He will be starting in the new role on June 30. He will also continue to conduct the symphony’s production of “The Nutcracker” in the future.

Maestro David Hagy leads the Salisbury Symphony during the 8th Annual Pops at the Post concert.

Maestro David Hagy leads the Salisbury Symphony during the 8th Annual Pops at the Post concert.
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David Post is a proud sponsor for Pops at the Post in honor of his Mother, Rose Post.

Photo taken from the roof of the Salisbury Post.
Two brother Eagle Scouts to present colors at Pops at the Post

By By Elisabeth Strillacci
elisabeth.strillacci@salisburypost.com

Two local brothers who received their Eagle Scout awards at the same time in January will present the color guard at the annual Pops at the Post concert on June 3.

Daniel Frick, 14, and his brother Levi, 12, have been Boy Scouts of Salisbury Civitan Troop 324, respectively, since second and first grade. The brothers are a contrast in interest in their leisure time, but Scouting has been a love of both.

Mayor Karen Alexander wrote a proclamation celebrating both young men when they received their Eagle awards, and subsequently invited them to present the colors at the concert.

“I am so very proud of them and their hard work, and I am pleased that they accepted the invitation,” Alexander said.

Stacy Frick, the boys’ mother, said it was an honor to have the mayor at the ceremony and even more exciting when the young men were asked to participate in the Pops event.

“The Eagle Scout award represents a lot of hard work over many years,” she said, “and we are so proud of them.” Stacy’s husband, Garrett, is actually the Scout leader of Troop 324.

Outside of Scouting and school, Daniel, a rising sophomore at East Rowan, is an artist and a drawer. For his Eagle project, he researched, designed and created information boards for the Transportation Museum in Spencer. Levi has a love of football, which he plays at Erwin Middle School where he is a rising eighth grader. He ran track this school year as well, and has recently discovered a love of fishing. His project was constructing picnic tables for Shive Elementary, which he attended and where Stacy teaches.

Both boys, along with their parents, love to travel, and have visited all 42 NC state parks.

It was not planned that the fellows would attain Eagle Scout status at the same time, but “it just worked out that way,” said Stacy.

Although the exact time is not yet established, the Pops at the Post concert will kick off at 5 p.m. and the tentative plans are for the color guard presentation to take place before the concert begins.

In Loving Memory

Julian Robertson

The Board of Directors of Pops at the Post would like to recognize Julian H. Robertson Julian, Jr. for his many contributions to this community.

The Blanche and Julian Robertson Family Foundation has been an important supporter of the Pops event from its inception, and this would have not been possible without the investment of Julian Robertson, Jr. into Salisbury and Rowan County over many years.

His commitment to the arts, education, conservation, economic vitality, and quality of life in our community have left a legacy unlike any others in recent memory.

We are grateful for the investments that he has made in us, and we commit to doing our part to help make Salisbury and Rowan County the best place in the Piedmont to call “home.”

Gratefully, Pops at the Post Board of Directors
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19th ANNUAL

Salisbury Symphony Pops at the Post

"STAR-SPANGLED BANNER"—CONCERT VERSION ..................... John Stafford Smith, arr. John Williams

SYMPHONY NO. 2 IN D MAJOR: IV. Allegro con spirito ......................................................... Johannes Brahms

“COLONEL BOGEY” MARCH .......................................................... Kenneth J. Alford (Lt. Frederick J. Ricketts)

THEME TO TRAIL OF THE PINK PANTHER .............................................................. Henry Mancini

Cat Keen Hock, tenor sax

“ON THE TRAIL” from THE GRAND CANYON SUITE .................................................... Ferde Grofé

“THE VERY THOUGHT OF YOU” .......................................................... Ray Noble, arr. John Stafford

Vince Eury, baritone

“SOLA, PERDUTA, ABBANDONATA”

from MANON LESCAUT .................................................................................... Giacomo Puccini

Teresa Moore-Mitchell, soprano

VARIATIONS ON “SIMPLE GIFTS”

from APPALACHIAN SPRING ............................................................................. Aaron Copland

“RAIDERS MARCH” from RAIDER'S OF THE LOST ARK ............................................. John Williams

PAUSE FOR PASS THE HAT & TO MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS

“HANDS ACROSS THE SEA” ................................................................................. John Philip Sousa

“SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY” .............................................................. Benjamin Homer, arr. John Stafford

Vince Eury & Teresa Moore-Mitchell

“1812” OVERTURE ...................................................................................... Peter Tchaikovsky

“SALISBURY POST” MARCH ........................................................................... John Philip Sousa

“STARS AND STRIPES FOREVER” ........................................................................ John Philip Sousa
Where is the concert?
Answer: Pops at the Post takes place on the 100 block of South Church Street. The symphony orchestra will be seated behind the Salisbury Post building on the loading dock, with the audience on Church Street and in Bell Tower Green park.

What time does the performance start?
Answer: The Salisbury Swing band will play from 5-6:30 p.m. on the Bell Tower Green stage. The Salisbury Symphony will begin around 7:30 p.m. and will play for roughly two hours.

How can I follow what's going on?
Answer: You can get a handheld fan with the program printed on the back at the Salisbury Symphony's tent located near West Innes Street.

How long does the concert last?
Answer: Pops at the Post is typically a two-hour concert, with a 20-minute intermission. There are two planned encores, but families with young children may feel free to leave at any time.

Please enjoy yourself
See FAQ, 12D

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Flag goes up in time to fly over
Pops at the Post

By Elisabeth Strillacci
elisabeth.strillacci@salisburypost.com

Old Glory will proudly fly at the entrance to Bell Tower Green during this year’s Pops at the Post.

Veterans and the city held a flag raising ceremony Friday morning, May 26, after a new flag pole was installed earlier that week. Veterans and many in the community celebrated the addition of the flag at the corner of Church and West Innes Streets. But the installation of the flag was not without its challenges.

Whether or not to place a flag in the park was the subject of ongoing debate over the last year, with local veterans repeatedly requesting that the Salisbury City Council install the flag and some in the community pushing back.

There is a flag in place outside the front of the Rowan County office building on West Innes Street, and another has been installed outside the Rowan County Public Library on Fisher Street. Many in the community felt that was enough.

The city council established an advisory committee, as required by the agreement when Bell Tower Green Inc. decided to let the city have the park, and once the committee was in place, the council asked it to make the flag a priority. The committee is in charge of reviewing all requested changes to the park, then making a recommendation to the council.

In the end, the committee recommended, and city agreed to, install a flag at the unofficial entrance to the park, much to the veterans’ delight.

But a second snag occurred when the provider of the flag pole was, in the end, unable to provide the actual pole in matching material to the two existing poles. After the hole for the base had already been dug, the city Public Works department had to go back at the end of May to re-dig a different size hole for a replacement pole the city was able to find.

“We’ve been out working like mad to get this ready,” said Public Works Director Chris Tester. “We’ve had to change the hole a bit, and I understand there were a few hiccups getting the pole, but we are doing our best to get ready so they can get it in.” The pole was in place by 6 a.m. Thursday morning, May 25, and a test run of the flag was made before bringing it down.

FAQ

Continued from 12D

during the concert, but please respect those guests who may be more focused on the music.

Is there handicapped parking available?
Answer: Yes. There is limited handicapped parking in The Salisbury Post courtyard.

Are there restrooms available?
Answer: Yes. There are public restrooms in the park. There will also be portable toilets available.

Is alcohol allowed?
Answer: Pops at the Post will be hosting vendors who will be serving beer and wine. Beer and wine must be consumed in the boundaries of the park. No outside alcohol allowed.

May I bring my dog on a leash?
Answer: The only pets allowed are service animals.

Will there be public parking?
Answer: Parking is available throughout downtown Salisbury. The lot behind 130 Parkview building will be reserved for musicians. If you need help finding a parking space, visit the Downtown Salisbury website.

Can I tailgate?
Answer: Yes. Tailgating spots will be available along West Fisher Street and will open at 1 p.m. Tailgaters are allowed one 10 foot by 10 foot tent and are allowed to bring coolers, tables, food and lawn games. Assistance will be provided for people bringing tents. Tailgaters must be settled in their space no later than 6 p.m.

May I bring something to cook on if I am tailgating?
Answer: No open flames are allowed for safety reasons.

What if it rains?
Answer: There is a contingency plan in place to hold the concert at Keppel Auditorium on the Catawba College campus. Shuttle service will be available there, as well.

A decision for the concert location will be made by Friday. Log onto www.salisburypost.com for updates.

What if someone has an emergency of some kind?
Answer: Personnel from the city of Salisbury Fire Department will be on standby and will have a station set up at the Church Street entrance of the old Wells Fargo parking lot. Salisbury Police Department officers will be walking through the crowd. Private security will also be on site.

Where can I donate during the concert?

Is there free Cheerwine again this year?
Answer: Yes. Cheerwine and Diet Cheerwine will be available at a trailer on the north side of the park, near West Innes Street.

Is there food available?
Answer: Yes. Vendors will be set up along West Fisher and Jackson streets. This year’s vendor lineup includes barbecue, meat skewers, hot dogs, Italian ice and ice cream.

What is the seating situation?
Answer: People are encouraged to bring their own chairs and blankets. VIP seating for sponsors and special guests will be set up on Church St. VIP seating will be out and appropriately marked by 3:30 p.m.
In Honor Of
Fred and Alice Stanback

Pops at the Post would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to Fred and Alice Stanback for making this year’s Pops at the Post a reality.

While they are major financial sponsors, their contribution to tonight’s event goes much deeper than that.

But for their leadership, we would not have this beautiful Bell Tower Green from which to enjoy the symphony.

But for their support of the Salisbury Symphony Orchestra, we would not have assembled such a highly talented group of musicians and conductor in our community to play for us.

But for their contributions to land conservation efforts around the region and state, we would not have so many natural areas and trails to celebrate in tonight’s musical selections.

But for their commitment to making Salisbury such a special place, we would not have so many other inspired community leaders who work day in and day out to make this the most special community in the region.

The Board of Directors of Pops at the Post humbly and graciously expresses its sincere appreciation to Fred and Alice Stanback for believing in, and investing in, each and every person attending this year’s performance.

Gratefully, Pops at the Post Board of Directors

GREAT PERFORMANCES START HERE!

www.salisburysymphony.org
In Loving Memory
Bill and Nancy Stanback

Pops at the Post fondly remembers the warm smiles and encouragement that Bill and Nancy Stanback brought to our efforts to build this community event.

They were known to be great admirers of beauty - from nature to music. And they wanted everyone in our community - EVERYONE - to have the opportunity to enjoy such beauty.

Their fingerprints can be found on every aspect of this year’s performance. From the beautiful music played by this professional symphony to the beautiful park that we will enjoy the music from, Bill and Nancy helped make this event possible. They dreamed of a place, a performance, and a community just like this.

Thanks for your vision, Bill and Nancy. We will never forget your leadership and love for this event.

Gratefully, Pops at the Post Board of Directors
With this 2023 Pops at the Post performance, The Blanche and Julian Robertson Family Foundation proudly remembers our friend and benefactor, Julian H. Robertson, Jr., who was proud to support this important community event.

“\[\text{I came from a town and a family that were very public-spirited. I learned that spirit from my parents particularly. When a school needed something, the populace took care of it. When there was a need for a park or something like that, the public gave generously. That was the beautiful part about the town where I grew up. One man in town had established a tremendously successful retail-store chain and a lot of people had invested with him, and those people were givers. It was a wonderful town to grow up in, and it gave me great values.}\]\n
– Julian H. Robertson, Jr. (Philanthropy Magazine, Fall, 2016)

May we all commit to making ourselves worthy of the belief Julian had in each and every one of us.
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