Weekend offers full plate of events to satisfy varied interests

Plant sales, music festivals, family events will be held around Upstate

By Donna Isbell Walker
STAFF WRITER
dwalker@greenvillenews.com

The calendar of events is jam-packed in the Upstate this weekend, and folks looking for something to do can add about a dozen choices to their possibilities.

Events include:

■ Piedmont Plant and Flower Festival. The Greenville State Farmers Market has its annual sale of hanging baskets, fruits, vegetables, garden equipment and more this weekend from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. today and Saturday, and from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Sunday. Call 244-4023.

■ Reedy River Jazz and Wine Festival. The inaugural music-and-spirits festival will feature music by Marcus Anderson, Yonrico Scott and more from 4 p.m. until 10 p.m. today in the Peace Center Amphitheater. To learn more, go to www.reedyriverjazzandwinefestival.org.

■ Village Hospital Greer Family Fest. Downtown Greer will be filled with music, amusement rides and arts and crafts vendors from 6 p.m. until 10 p.m. today and 10 a.m. until to 10 p.m. Saturday. Call 877-3131.

■ Spartanburg Spring Fling. The city of Spartanburg's annual springtime festival takes place today through Sunday. Hours are 6 p.m. until 10 p.m. today, 11 a.m. until 9 p.m. Saturday, and 1 p.m. until 7 p.m. Sunday. Go to www.spartanburgspringfling.com for details.

■ Upstate Warriors. The new arena football team plays the Columbus Lions at 7:30 tonight at the Bi-Lo Center. Call 241-3800 for ticket info.

■ Reedy River Duck Derby. The sixth annual rubber duck race goes on from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Saturday at Falls Park. Folks can adopt a duck for $5 and watch it float down the falls. Proceeds go to charity. For more info, go to www.reedyriverduckderby.com.

■ Carolina First Saturday Market. The downtown farmers market opens its season on Saturday, and visitors will see more vendors and an expanded area for the market. It takes place from 8 a.m. until noon on Main Street between Court and Washington. For info, go to www.saturdaymarketlive.com.

■ Break the Ice. The Pavilion will host the second annual Break the Ice figure skating competition on Saturday. The event showcases more than 65 figure skaters from four states. The public is invited to attend and watch free events from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. For more information, call 322-7529.

■ St. Francis Mud Run. This is the sixth annual race, a four-mile boot camp-style obstacle course. It goes on Saturday and Sunday at the Donaldson Center. Proceeds benefit Toys for Tots and the Goodwill Foundation. To learn more, go to www.t4tchallengerun.com.

■ BB&T Main Street Fridays. The weekly music series, which goes on from 5:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. on the Hyatt Regency Plaza in downtown Greenville, spotlights the Americana band Crowfield. Call 467-6667.

■ Greenville Drive. The Drive has three home games against the West Virginia Power this weekend, at 7 tonight and Saturday and 4 p.m. Sunday at Fluor Field. A fireworks display follows tonight's game. Call 240-4528.

■ Greenville Force. The

■ Music in the Woods. Paris Mountain State Park's weekly outdoor music series will feature singer-songwriter Niel Brooks. The concert goes on from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. Saturday in the park's amphitheater. Call 244-5565.

■ Taste of the Nation. This is the 15th year for the food party that raises money to help eradicate childhood hunger. It takes place at 6:30 p.m. Sunday at Embassy Suites and will feature selections from 17 restaurants. Call 630-0352 for more info.