

Appalachian storytelling from diverse slate

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HENDERSONVILLE, N.C. — The Center for Cultural Preservation, of Hendersonville, will present an Appalachian Storytelling Extravaganza March 22 at Blue Ridge Community College's Thomas Auditorium.

The event will feature Appalachian music, Jack tales, Cherokee Legends and African-American stories.

"Storytelling and music were perhaps the Southern Appalachian's first true social media," the nonprofit said in a statement. "Through storytelling, community elders were able to connect younger generations with the lives of their forefathers and foremothers, better understand their history and assimilate family and community values."

The program will feature award-winning Burnsville storyteller Frederick Park, music and storytelling duo Pat and Becky Stone, Cherokee cultural leader Lloyd Arneach and Ronnie Pepper, a regional storyteller. The evening will include music and stories suitable for all ages.

"Stories help people see the world through another's eyes allowing them to open up to the world's possibilities," Pepper said.

David Weintraud, director of the Center for Cultural Preservation, added, "Whether around the sacred fire or in the classroom, stories bring the cultural life of the world closer to all of us,



Musicians and storytellers Pat and Becky Stone, seen in front of Biltmore House, will be featured in an Appalachian Storytelling Extravaganza March 22.

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helping us understand the breadth and scope of the common threads we share."

The Center for Cultural Preservation, which focuses on preserving and sharing this region's cultural history through documentary film and other programs, will host the event at 7 p.m. March 22 at the college auditorium at

180 W. Campus Drive in Flat Rock. Tickets are \$10 in advance via saveculture.org or 828-692-8062.

The next CCP program will be the Whitewater Bluegrass Concert Supporting River Heroes Project at 7 p.m. May 18, a fundraiser for the center's film on the waterway heroes of Western N.C. Order tickets online.