

HALLOWEENFEST



Halloweenfest returns this Saturday to downtown Brevard. The festival will again bring out many community members dressed in various costumes.

Nick Haseloff | The Transylvania Times

Benefit concert planned for Saturday

JONATHAN RICH
STAFF WRITER

Downtown Brevard is typically the center of the spooky season at this time of the year and that will be the case Saturday during the 41st annual Halloweenfest. In addition to the traditional festivities, a free evening benefit concert will feature the Travis Book Band and Steep Canyon Rangers to benefit local businesses impacted by Hurricane Helene.

"Heart of Brevard is thrilled to host Halloweenfest and the

community benefit concert in support of Transylvania Tomorrow. Our amazing community has come together to generously share their talents, showcasing the spirit of unity that defines Transylvania County," said Heart of Brevard Executive Director Nicole Bentley of the event that aims to raise \$500,000 in donations for local businesses in need. "Music is such a vital part of who we are and we believe it has the power to uplift us during these challenging times. Best of all, every dollar raised will

go directly to supporting our small businesses in need, with no administrative fees—100% of the funds go where they're needed most."

Steep Canyon Rangers' Mike Guggino and Mike Ashworth said contributing something special to the annual event seemed like the right thing to do help their hometown in the aftermath of Hurricane Helene.

"Our community has always supported us so much over the years. The Steep Canyon Rangers are honored to be able to do what we can to help with recov-

ery efforts from Helene," the local musicians said in a joint statement. "We want folks to know that Brevard is open for business and one of the best ways we can help is to shop, eat and stay local and to encourage others to visit our town."

The free concert will cap a day full of family-oriented activities downtown that start at 10 a.m. with a street fair featuring more than 50 food and art vendors stationed along Main, Broad, Jordan and Gaston streets.

See **BENEFIT ON A10**

BENEFIT

CONTINUED FROM A1

Judging for the costume contest will begin at 11 a.m. before participants parade their outfits down Main Street.

At 11:45 a.m. members of Carolina Dance Collective will perform and at 12:30 p.m. a witchy flash mob is expected to invade the intersection of Jordan and Broad streets.

Downtown businesses will be open for trick or treating starting at 1 p.m. and the pet parade will begin at Silvermont Mansion and Park at 1:30 p.m. before the procession ends with the pet costume judging on Gaston Street.

A beer garden (with ID and wristbands required) featuring beverages from Oskar Blues Brewing will open at 4 p.m. on East Main Street and the schedule of events ends with a hay bale toss at Silvermont before preparations for the Transylvania Tomorrow benefit gets underway on the Halloweenfest stage located in front of the Transylvania County Visitor Center at 175 E. Main St.

"It's a way to help our children go back out for something that they treasure every year and it is a way for the community to come together in fellowship and strength and support," said Brevard Mayor Maureen Copelof of the special events planned for downtown guests Saturday. "I encourage people to come out and enjoy the day, enjoy the community, but also come out and support our businesses because that's where our people work and we can't afford to have any part of our community not recover. Pulling together as a community really is the focus that we're going to have to have going through recovery."

For a detailed schedule and more information, visit brevardnc.org/community/halloweenfest-2024/.

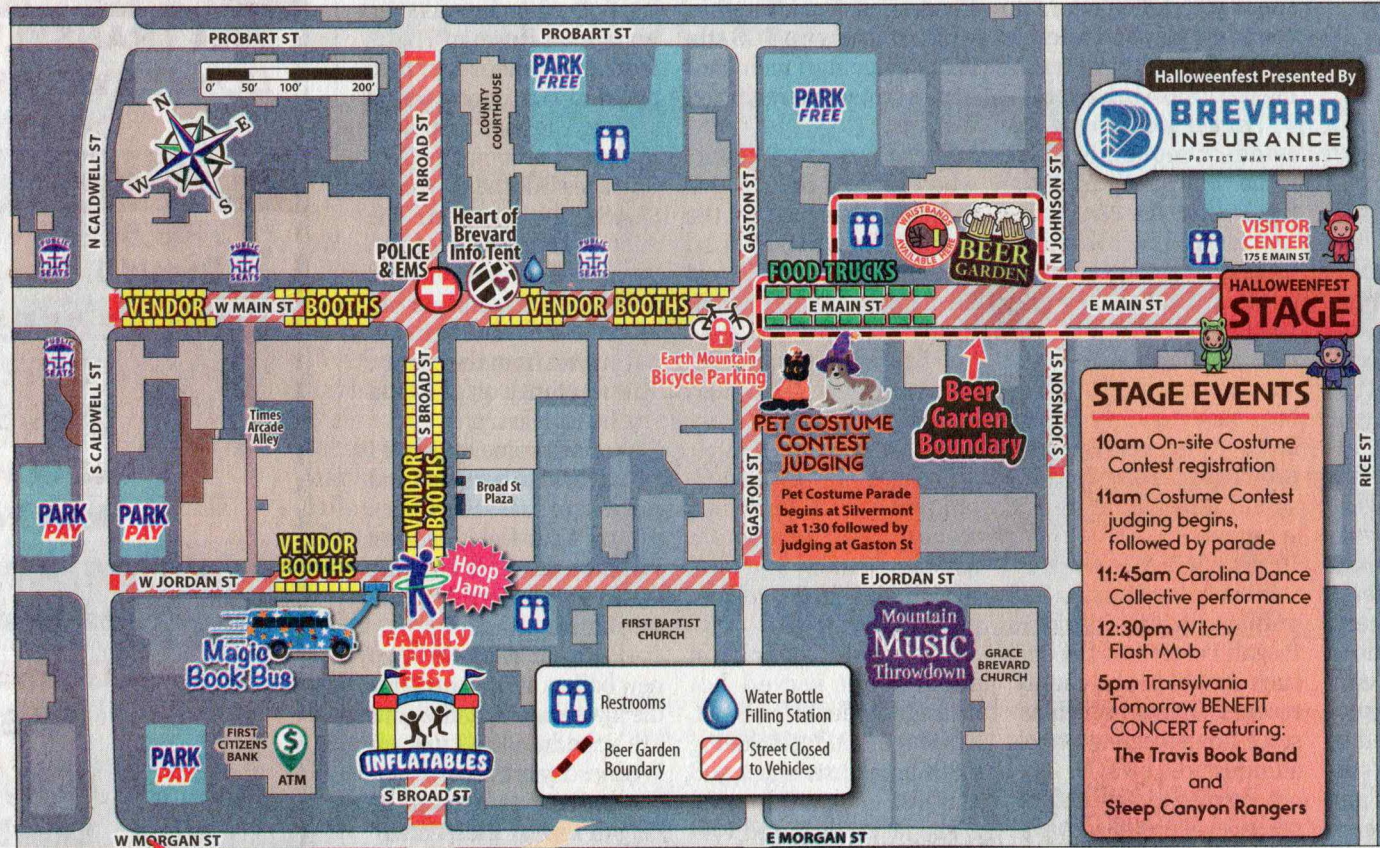
El Día de los Muertos, or "Day of the Dead," will be celebrated this Saturday in downtown Brevard.

As part of the community's celebrations, El Centro Brevard will host an event commemorating this important Latino holiday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Children and adults have created special alters to commemorate and remember loved ones during this annual holiday. The public is invited to view these artistic creations and vote on their favorites during a competition.

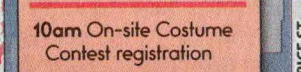
Individuals, local high school groups and local restaurants are participating. There will also be activities for children and complimentary food, like the traditional bread of the dead and hot chocolate.

El Centro is located behind the Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church..



PARTICIPATING BUSINESSES

1. Bracken Mountain Bakery
2. Brevard Clay
3. Brevard Clothing
4. Broad Street Wines
5. Cup & Saucer
6. D.D. Bullwinkel's Outdoors
7. Earth Mountain Bicycle
8. Downtown Chocolates
9. Gravy
10. Highland Books
11. Hunters & Gatherers
12. Kilwins
13. Lilly T's Clothing
14. LOCAL COLOR
15. Newfound Artisan
16. O.P. Taylor's
17. Penny Lane Exchange
18. Quixote Fine Cuisine
19. Rae + Ivy
20. Rocky's Grill & Soda Shop
21. Smokey Sunrise
22. Red Wolf Gallery
23. Territory
24. The Clothing Connection
25. THEOPHILUS
26. Wood & Vine



STAGE EVENTS

10am On-site Costume Contest registration

11am Costume Contest judging begins, followed by parade

11:45am Carolina Dance Collective performance

12:30pm Witchy Flash Mob

5pm Transylvania Tomorrow **BENEFIT CONCERT** featuring:
The Travis Book Band
and
Steep Canyon Rangers

'Day of the Dead' to be celebrated Saturday

HALLOWEEN FEST map & events

Help local businesses impacted by Helene; scan code below to donate to:



9am-12pm Transylvania Farmers Market

10am-5pm Street Fair featuring free family entertainment, downtown shopping & dining, 50+ vendors and food trucks

10am-3pm Family Fun Fest Inflatables presented by Biltmore Church

10am-9pm Bike Parking presented by Earth Mountain Bicycle & Brevard Bike Alliance

10am **STAGE** On-site registration for Costume Contest

11am **STAGE** Costume Contest (presented by Brevard Insurance) judging begins, followed by Costume Parade down Main Street

11:45am **STAGE** Dance Performance by Carolina Dance Collective

12pm-5pm Mountain Music Throwdown by JAM and the Mountain School of Strings: Jam sessions and competitions at Grace Brevard Church, 55 E Jordan St

12:30pm **STAGE** Witchy Flash Mob (ALSO happening at 1pm at Hoop Jam area)

1pm-2pm Downtown Business Trick or Treating

1pm-3pm HoopJam Hula Hoop Dance Party presented by Blue Ridge Orthodontics

1:30pm Pet Parade (presented by Earth Mountain Bicycle) begins at Silvermont and ends with Pet Costume Contest judging at Gaston St

4 pm Beer Garden Opens: Beer & wine for sale; ID & wristband required; alcohol purchased from Beer Garden MUST REMAIN INSIDE "Beer Garden Boundary"

4pm Hay Bale Toss at Silvermont

5pm **STAGE** Transylvania Tomorrow **BENEFIT CONCERT** begins, featuring:

THE TRAVIS BOOK BAND

STEEP CANYON RANGERS