

Normally, I write an article once every two weeks and submit it to the paper for publication. Every other week seem a good pace because, let's be honest, there's rarely any earth-shattering news around here. But this week is different. I have such exciting news that I really can't keep it to myself much longer and I have asked for an 'extra' article.

Guess who's coming to perform at The Plaza next February 17, 2010?

Guess.

You'll never guess.

(Prepare to shutter in disbelief).

**THE VIENNA BOYS CHOIR.** The world-renown 500-yr old tradition of angelic voices of 25 children from Vienna, Austria will grace our stage for one night only.

Can you believe it? I booked them and I can hardly believe it. I wish I could tell you that magic happened through stellar negotiating skills but truth is, an opportunity simply fell into our laps, and the E-PAF Board bravely and quickly helped seize it. I am SO excited!

Suddenly, the advantage of advance ticket purchasing takes on a whole new meaning, which gives me an opening to share another personally exciting bit of news:

We are all financially challenged these days, so we have found a way to encourage financial support for The Plaza and keep events affordable. After careful planning, the E-PAF Board has authorized me to implement a new fund-raising campaign known as Plaza Partners. It's a simple plan. It will soon be possible to support the ongoing efforts of The Plaza Arts Center by making a modest monthly donation (\$5, \$10, \$20 or more) by having your bank account debited each month. For a commitment of \$10 a month or more for a year, the donor will receive a special TPAC t-shirt and advance ticket purchasing privileges. What an opportunity! Everyone can support the Arts Center at some level. Forms are ready to go to print, and we are working on all the bank requirements but expect in July that you will be able to sign up to be a Plaza Partner. By the way, you can also be a member, which has its own set of privileges depending on your membership level.

Don't forget that A1A will be returning this coming Saturday as the kick off for our Meet Me at The Plaza outdoor summer concert series. Parrotheads unite! The official Jimmy Buffet tribute band will begin at 7:00 pm and Mothers Against Crime will be cooking cheeseburgers and hotdogs for you to purchase. Frozen margaritas, beer and soft drinks will also be for sale but you are welcome to bring your own food and drinks too. Just come and be part of the fun. I promise that before the night is over toddlers to seniors will all be dancing and laughing the night away. Tickets are \$10 in advance through noon on Friday and can be purchased at Farmers and Merchants Bank, The Plaza Arts Center and the Lake Welcome Center. You can also buy tickets at the gate for \$12, children under 6 are free.

Now, aren't you excited too?

See you at The Plaza.