

EDUCATION



CONTRIBUTED

High Hampton Inn Pavilion dancers do their thing July 22 at Mountain Youth Charities Barn Dance. The event raised \$40,000 for the Blue Ridge School Education Foundation (BRSEF), where it will assist in raising the matching funds required by an anonymous donor to the foundation. These new funds will support various educational and enrichment programs at Blue Ridge.



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One of the special Barn Dance activities was its cakewalk. Marilyn Kaston of Atlanta and Cashiers was the winner. She kindly shared the cake with her lucky table mates. The cake was donated by Make Me a Cake in Cashiers.

MYC Barn Dance raises \$40,000 for Blue Ridge

Special to the *Chronicle*

The community of Cashiers kicked up its heels on July 22 at the highly successful “first annual” Mountain Youth Charities Barn Dance. A lively crowd filled the High Hampton Inn Pavilion to capacity and had a fine time while raising funds for the students at Blue Ridge School. The event raised \$40,000 for the Blue Ridge School Education Foundation (BRSEF), where it will assist in raising the matching funds required by an anonymous donor to the Foundation. These new funds will support various educational and enrichment programs at Blue Ridge.

More than 100 guests enjoyed a hearty barbecue dinner catered by the Cashiers Farmers Market’s On the Side, the country music of Crooked Pine Band and Blue Ridge School’s Junior Appalachian Musicians (<https://jamkids.org/blue-ridge>) and square dancing called by legendary Joe Sam Queen. Danie Beck led the line dancing.

“We are so grateful for the community’s very generous support of Mountain Youth Charity first annual Barn Dance,” said Marcia Shawler, president of the MYC board of directors. “We especially thank the sponsors, patrons and donors for their part in making our event such a financial success. We are thrilled that the resulting donation to Blue Ridge School Education Foundation will be used to increase learning opportunities for our community’s students.”

The Barn Dance event marks the beginning of a strategic partnership between Mountain Youth Charities and the Blue Ridge Education Foundation. Speaking at the event, Carl Hyde, president of the foundation, remarked that this event demonstrated an exceptional and very much appreciated community support of Blue Ridge School. “On behalf of the members of our foundation and the school administration, we welcome the opportunity to collaborate with Mountain Youth Charities for the benefit of educational achievement at Blue Ridge School and Blue Ridge Early College,” said Hyde.

Mountain Youth Charities (MYC) is a nonprofit 501c3 created to financially support programs that

help local youth reach their full potential through positive leadership, mentoring, and inspirational activities. In the summers of 2013 and 2014 MYC organized the Mountain Challenge at

Cedar Creek Racquet Club, featuring tennis greats Andy Roddick and Jim Courier. The substantial funds raised by these two highly-successful events made it possible to launch

the Boys and Girls Club of the Plateau in Cashiers in 2014. In 2015 and 2016 MYC continued to support local youth by making small grants to various organizations including Blue

Ridge School, Boys and Girls Club of the Plateau, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Summit Charter School and Hampton Preschool.

Mark your calendars for the second annual Moun-

tain Youth Charities Barn Dance Saturday, July 21, 2018 at Tom Sawyer Family Farm in Glenville.

For information, visit www.mountainyouthcharities.org.