

NEWS

LONDONWOOD GARDENS

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JUNE 3 LONDONWOOD FUNDRAISER OFFERS CREATIVE AUCTION ITEMS TO SUPPORT THE GARDENS

A wide range of creative auction items will be up for bidding at Lendonwood Gardens' annual fundraiser gala Saturday, June 3. The popular event will feature a silent auction with dozens of individual items and packages, along with good music, tasty food and friendly fellowship in the botanical garden.

More than 90 items have been donated to the fundraiser by businesses and individuals throughout the area, said Barbara Ollhoff, auction coordinator. "We want to thank our generous donors for supporting Lendonwood with so many outstanding auction items. It's going to be an exciting evening for everyone."

Tickets to the gala are available at Grove's First National Bank, Crye-Leike Realty and on-line at www.lendonwood.com. Tickets are \$45 per person.

Theme of the event will be "Flower Power: 20 Years and Growing," in celebration of Lendonwood's 20th birthday this year. The fundraiser begins at 5:30 p.m. in the garden.

Auction packages include an 18-foot by five-foot "Paradise Pad," a durable and portable foam water pad; handmade one-of-a-kind jewelry designed by Marty Gullett; casino lodging and meal; a stay at a Branson condo; dinner and evening lake cruise for six; original oil painting of Lendonwood; and a pet care package, among dozens of others.

Proceeds from the evening will be used to help maintain and enhance the eight-acre botanical garden located at 1308 Har-Ber Road in Grove. Lendonwood features extensive horticultural collections, including Japanese maples, azaleas, rhododendrons, daylilies, dogwoods, hostas and peonies, among others. The garden is open year-round from dawn to dusk.