



MEDIA ADVISORY

The groundbreaking ceremony for the Burlington Sock Puppets Entertainment Venue at the Burlington Athletic Stadium (1450 Graham St., Burlington) will take place rain or shine tomorrow (Friday, March 3) at 10am. Presently, the forecast is for a lull in the rain around 10am, but there will be a tented area available for media to set up equipment. Speakers include Burlington City Councilmembers, representatives from Bobbitt Construction, Burlington Sock Puppets President Ryan Keur, and President of the MLB-owned Appalachian League Dan Moushon. Mr. Moushon will speak to how the City of Burlington's commitment is strengthening the partnership with Major League Baseball and the Appalachian League and to how Burlington continues to be a leading market in the league.

For Immediate Release
Date: March 2, 2023

Contact: John Vernon, Public Information
jvernon@burlingtonnc.gov
(o) 336.513.5440

Anderson Rathburn
Anderson@gosockpuppets.com
(o) 336.222.02223 x1000

**The City of Burlington set to break ground for
Burlington Sock Puppets Entertainment Venue**
Friday March 3, 2023 at 10 am at Burlington Athletic Stadium

Burlington, NC – Burlington City Councilmembers, Burlington Sock Puppets Staff, and representatives from Bobbitt construction will hold a ground-breaking ceremony for a new three-tiered entertainment venue along the first base line of the Burlington Athletic Stadium on Friday, March 3 at 10am.

The new addition to the stadium will be a place where friends and family can gather, eat some good food, and grab some beers all with a view that makes them feel like they're virtually playing right field for the Sock Puppets.

The venue respectfully modernizes Burlington's beautiful, historic stadium. Currently, the concessions and gathering spaces are behind the stands. With the new venue, folks will have the

opportunity to socialize and mingle and not miss a Sock Puppets home run or a Socksquatch dance move. A Sock Puppets game is an experience, and the new space is the perfect place to embrace that experience.

The venue also allows the Sock Puppets to activate the ballpark year-round, hosting an array of events outside the team's June through August season. The type of events may include a Christmas Lights display or a half-marathon that ends with rounding the bases.

The entertainment venue will be available for rentals. It can be sectioned off so that a family could rent part of the venue for a birthday party or business could rent the whole thing for an employee appreciation event.

"The new entertainment venue will greatly enhance the atmosphere and functionality of Burlington Athletic Stadium," stated Burlington Mayor Jim Butler. "The Sock Puppets are great community partners, and they are committed to assisting the city in programming this facility on a year-round basis which adds strength and stability to our eastern neighborhoods. This venue will be exciting, and it will be one that corporate citizens, individual citizens, and visitors from out of town, can all enjoy. We're thrilled that construction is beginning"

"The entertainment venue will truly change Burlington Athletic Stadium as we know it and allow this historic facility to not only welcome members from our community year-round, but also will attract tourists and business to our city and county," stated Sock Puppets General Manager Anderson Rathburn. "Our goal is to provide a high valued experience for anyone who comes to Sockville (in-season or out of season), and this structure will allow us to do just that."

Our Mission:

"The City of Burlington is dedicated to providing high quality municipal services within our diverse community in a friendly, professional and efficient manner in order to promote the safety, health, and quality of life of residents and employees."

Burlington Municipal Building • 425 South Lexington Avenue, Burlington, NC 27215
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