

'Las Vegas Night' promises glitz and glitter high in the sky

By Maggie Martin

For one enchanting evening of roulette, craps, blackjack, a milkshake mousse, live and silent auctions, "Las Vegas Night" is going to be high in the sky.

The \$250-a-person fundraiser for Betty and Leonard Phillips Deaf Action Center is moving to the Petroleum Club.



Auctioneer David Goodman – starting the live auction.

"Large paper lanterns will transform the venue into a club type atmosphere," said an organizer Heidi Kallenberg.

"There will be a feast with food stations. Farmer's is providing all the shrimp and there will be an open bar," continued Heidi.

"For dessert, something fun and different - a milkshake and cookie bar, which is a milkshake mousse with mini-cookies," said the Petroleum Club's Jennifer Terrell.

"The party itself is the most glamorous event in Shreveport and what's more fun than gambling with play money? I would encourage anyone who's never been to come bid and dance the night away for a great cause," said Auction Chair Sarah Touns. At the heart of "Las Vegas Night" are the live and silent auctions.

"I know no one likes a name dropper, but you will find Burberry, Waterford, Baccarat, Fendi, Ferragamo, Steuben along those silent auction sheets," Sarah said. And the live? Well the **charismatic auctioneer, David**

Goodman, of Chicago, who pounds the gavel for non-profits across America, including Alaska and Hawaii, will be in charge again. **Goodman** is so good that he once pounded the gavel for a bid - not here - of \$800,000. He does almost whatever it takes to get a ticket holder to go higher and higher in their quest for an item. In fact, his style is almost seductive as he persuades bidders to walk the money line. **In fact, it is almost worth the price of a ticket to see how he works.**



David Goodman selling the autographed guitar

Goodman likens his role to an entertainer or a magician.

Just a glimpse at a few of the 14 live auction offerings from the auction book:

- Burgundy Chef Katherine's farmhouse for 10 in Burgundy, France will be your base as you explore the countryside, surrounding the 400-year-old farmhouse, once part of a chateau dating back to the 12th century. As part of the package, Chef Katherine will host a personalized gourmet meal with French seasonal cuisine sourced from local markets and some of the finest wines in Burgundy.
- Autographed Rolling Stones guitar.
- Breakfast With the Birds for four at Paul Dickson's Pinola Aviary. It is one of the largest private aviary collections in the world and holds 300 species of wild birds and is not open to the public. Champagne Breakfast in a fly cage with Paul Dickson.
- Wild and Wacky New York City for two. A stay at Citizen M, the hottest hotel sensation in Times Square for three nights. Features: A lesson at the Trapeze School of New York where you will actually fly; attend taping of "The View"; and see "Tina," the critically acclaimed Tina Turner musical.



Goodman with Chris Phillips working the crowd

Auctioneer Goodman is actually at his best when he asks participants to "Raise the Paddle at the end of the live auction." This year "raising the paddle" is especially important because it recognizes DAC's founders the late Betty and Leonard Phillips, Sandi and Jeffrey Kallenberg and Fred Phillips, said a press release.

And, raising funds is also especially important because the center lost an important state contact for interpreting services. "More than ever, the deaf community must receive vital sign language interpreting services from for a whole spectrum of needs."

"The auction is amazing and the camaraderie is fantastic," added Collin.

"(Fred) said it will be a great, awesome event and he encourages people to attend," said Sandi Kallenberg, Fred's sister.

"The LVN is a totally family effort," emphasized Sandi.

Others members of the Kallenberg-Phillips families: Fred's children Collin and Chris Phillips, of Shreveport, and Cassidy and Karin Phillips, of Naples, Fla. Dr. Sue Grisham and husband, Marcus Grisham, of Jackson, Miss., and Dr. Alexa Phillips of Shreveport; Jeffrey Kallenberg, Gregory and Heidi Kallenberg, of Shreveport, Randolph and Tina Kallenberg, of Atlanta, and Brad and Kimberly Schlosser, of Aspen, Colo.

"Las Vegas Night is a very special event for DAC and allows us to hire interpreters when necessary," said DAC President-Elect Angela Lee, also a DAC consumer and interviewed through an interpreter.

"I am looking for a dress right now to wear!" she said. "I am looking forward to the live auction - my first live auction. And, I look forward to meeting lots of the sponsors."

"This year, Las Vegas Night will pass ever record ever set. It will be the most special fantastic one," predicts Collin Phillips.



Auctioneer with the author Maggie Martin