

**High Country Regional Visitor Center**  
**UPCOMING EVENTS**  
**Download at HighCountryCalendar.com**

**WEEKLY EVENTS**

**AFTERNOON ART CLUB**

**Every Tuesday, 3:30 – 4:30 pm**

*Blowing Rock Art & History Museum*

Children ages 6 to 10 years of age are invited to join us at the Museum for creative art-making activities. Participants will find inspiration from current exhibitions and will introduce them to different art mediums, from watercolor to clay.

Registration is required. Email [Jennifer@BlowingRockMuseum.org](mailto:Jennifer@BlowingRockMuseum.org)

**DOODLEBUG CLUB**

**Every Thursday, 10:30-11:30am & 1:00 - 2:00 pm**

*Blowing Rock Art & History Museum*

Preschool-age children and a parent/guardian are invited to Doodlebug Club -- a fun, educational art program focused on basic art skills (holding your paintbrush, identifying primary colors, etc.) while introducing children to different art media, from watercolor to clay. After clean-up it is storytime! This program is a great way to introduce your child to art and meet other children and parents. \$5 Space is limited, reservation required. email: [jennifer@blowingrockmuseum.org](mailto:jennifer@blowingrockmuseum.org) or call 828-295-9099

**WEEKLY FREE LIVE MUSIC**

**Nightly throughout the High Country**

Find live bluegrass, country and modern music nightly on our list of free live music.

Visit: [highcountryhost.com/NC-High-Country-FREE-Music](http://highcountryhost.com/NC-High-Country-FREE-Music)

**FARMERS MARKETS**

**Every Tues, Thurs & Saturday throughout the High Country**

Find fresh fruit, veggies, meats, pastas, breads and more! Some markets feature craft vendors, food trucks, live music and children activities. View the complete list at: [highcountryhost.com/High-Country-Farmers-Markets](http://highcountryhost.com/High-Country-Farmers-Markets)

**VALLE CRUCIS PARK BIRDWALK**

**Every Wednesday, 8:30am – 10:30am**

Join the High Country Audubon Society for a bird walk at Valle Crucis Community Park every Wednesday. Enjoy an opportunity to see our beautiful birds in the area in a walk led by one of your community members. These walks will start on April 3rd and end on October 30th, 2019.

**ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE- MEET THE ARTISTS**

The Blowing Rock Historical Society will present the 11th Annual Artists in Residence at Edgewood Cottage this summer. The doors to Edgewood Cottage will swing open again to welcome 31 new and returning artists. These artists will display their art in a studio setting for 16 weeks. Each week, visitors will meet different artists working in a variety of media, including oils, watercolor, photography, collage, sculpture, furniture-making, and pottery. Because of the variety of art, visitors can often find art for every interest and budget. Admission to the Cottage is free.

For the schedule, see <https://www.artistsatedgewood.org/>

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### ART EXHIBIT

**Caldwell Arts Council, August 2 – September 28**, The Caldwell Arts Council presents the arts in all its forms to Caldwell County. Located at 601 College Avenue in Lenoir, the Caldwell Arts Council is open Tuesday-Friday 9am-5pm and Saturdays 10am-2pm, free to the public. Phone 828-754-2486; Website [www.caldwellarts.com](http://www.caldwellarts.com). The Caldwell Arts Council is pleased to host an exhibition of fine art featuring equine paintings by Durham artist Laura Hughes and small-scale sculptural works by Morganton sculptor John Ross on the main floor. The upstairs gallery will feature an installation by Heather Lewis of Carrboro NC, whose art speaks to the process of grieving. An opening reception will be held Friday, August 2, 2019, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The exhibition will continue through September 28 – free and open to the public – Tuesday-Friday 9am-5pm and Saturdays 10am-2pm.

### Cone Exhibits Opening at BRAHM

**Saturday, August 3 – November 30**, Blowing Rock Art and History Museum

Two special exhibitions will tell stories about the Cone family. For the first time ever, the renowned art collection of sisters Claribel and Etta Cone will be presented with historical context with their lives in North Carolina. *Modern Visions, Modern Art: The Cone Sisters in North Carolina* presents a selection from the Cone Collection with artwork by Henri Matisse, Rembrandt, Sarah Stein, Jacques Villon, and others, and is presented to the community by Wells Fargo. *Modern Visions, Mountain Views: The Cones of Flat Top Manor* tells the story of NC's "Denim King," Moses H. Cone, and his wife, Bertha; organized in partnership with the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation and the National Park Service/Blue Ridge Parkway. These exhibitions can only be seen in Blowing Rock, and are free and open to the public. [www.blowingrockmuseum.org](http://www.blowingrockmuseum.org)

### GO GET OUTDOORS DAY GRANDFATHER MOUNTAIN STATE PARK

**Wednesday, August 14, 2019 10:00 am**, Grandfather Mountain Profile Trail Parking Lot, Hwy 105

You are cordially invited to join the staff and volunteers of Grandfather Mountain State Park for our annual event Get Outdoors on Grandfather Mountain, or GO Grandfather Day! This is a family-focused day of fun and learning with a variety of activities to suit all ages and ability levels. Activities will include ranger-led hikes, a fishermen knot-tying workshop, and discussions about mountain stream ecology, all geared towards this year's interpretive theme for NC State Parks, fish. We will even have a Junior Ranger table with projects you can complete to earn your Junior Ranger Badge! Participants are encouraged to wear hiking boots and come dressed for the weather. This is an outdoor event and those in attendance should come prepared for a fun day outside! Leashed pets are welcome at the event, but may not come on the guided hikes. Free.

### 2019 WATAUGA COUNTY FAIR

**Thursday, August 15 – Saturday August 17**, High Country Fairgrounds, 748 Roby Greene Rd., Boone

\$5 admission, Midway Rides, Food & Drink, Demolition Derby, Racing, Powder Puff Derby, Tractor Pulls, etc. info at 828-773-6896.

### ENSEMBLE STAGE PRESENTS DRAMA "THE REDEEMER"

**August 16 – 24**, Hahn Auditorium, 185 Azalea Circle SE, Banner Elk, NC 28604

In his desperate search for a kidnapped boy, A detective finds himself relying on the visions of a psychic who can foresee crimes with terrifying clarity. Knowing time is running out for the boy, the psychic tries to help avert the horrible fate awaiting him. As the identity of the kidnapper comes into grim focus, both the psychic and the detective confront the purpose of fate and the horrors of the past, and are pulled toward a devastating climax. Tickets: Reserved Seating \$12-\$24. [ensemblestage.com](http://ensemblestage.com)

### WOMEN IN THE ARTS SYMPOSIUM

**Saturday, August 17, 10am – 4pm**, Florence Thomas Art School, 10 S. Jefferson Ave., West Jefferson

The 2019 Corey Anne Celebration of Women in the Arts Symposium will feature artist talks by Kim Abernethy, Elizabeth Lauer, Jennifer Murphy, and Norma Murphy. The keynote speaker, Mary Greene, will speak on the topic of *"Traditions in the High Country: an artist's journey bridging cultures through music."* We hope you will join us for this annual event in celebration of women in the arts, examining their influences, inspirations, and careers and the effect that they have on the art community as a whole.

**This event is free and open to the public, light refreshments.** [www.florenceartschool.org](http://www.florenceartschool.org)

### SECOND ANNUAL DOG PADDLE TUBEFEST

**Saturday, August 17, 2019 - 10:00am - 4:00pm**, River Girl Fishing Co., Historic Downtown Todd

The Dog Paddle Tubefest is an annual fundraiser for Partners! Canines ([www.partnerscanines.org](http://www.partnerscanines.org)), a local dog rescue non-profit. For just \$10 (half the normal price) you get a tube with backrest & cupholder, a shuttle ride to the put-in point, and a float that lasts 2-3 hours, depending on how high the river is (BYOB). You can even get a tube for your dog! There will also be pet-related vendors and food for sale. Come tube the New River and help support dog rescue! Parking and tube rentals at River Girl ([rivergirlfishing.com](http://rivergirlfishing.com)) next to the Post Office in Historic Downtown Todd. You can come any time between 10am and 4pm. Email [partnerscanines@gmail.com](mailto:partnerscanines@gmail.com) for more information. Website <http://www.partnerscanines.org>

## CANDLELIGHT GHOST TOURS

**Saturday, August 17, 7:30 & 8pm**, Wilkes Heritage Museum, 100 East Main Street in downtown Wilkesboro \$10 per person. Ghost tours are 90-minute walking tours that begin at 7:30 pm and 8:00 pm. The tours are led by costumed guides. Highlights of the tour include the Old Wilkes Jail, Cleveland Cabin, and Tory Oak. Learn all about the hauntings of Historic Downtown Wilkesboro. Additional dates for the 2019 Candlelight Ghost Tour season are October 19, and October 26. The check-in for ghost tours will be on the front lawn of the Wilkes Heritage Museum. Parking is available along Main Street and in the public parking lot behind Stroud Miller Insurance off of South Bridge Street. Candlelight Ghost Tours is a fundraising event for the Wilkes Heritage Museum. All proceeds go towards the operational expenses for the organization.

## MOUNTAIN HOME MUSIC CONCERT – THE GREEN GRASS CLOGGERS & THE LITTLE STONY NIGHTHAWKS

**Saturday, August 17, 7:30pm**, Blowing Rock School Auditorium, 130 Sunset Dr. \$18 advance, \$20 at the door, \$5 student The Green Grass Cloggers have shared their original form of dance with audiences for 48 years. Their unique style combines western square dance figures and original steps inspired by flatfooters Willard Watson (Doc's cousin) and Robert Dotson. The Little Stony Nighthawks are a dance party string band well-versed in the repertoires of Old Time, Country, and First-Wave Bluegrass. The combination of square dance and flatfoot-friendly tunes with two-step and waltz numbers—featuring close-knit two, three, and four-part harmony singing—make this band equally at home in dance halls or onstage at festivals. The Nighthawks are: Steve Kruger (fiddle), Brandon Holder (bass), Trevor McKenzie (guitar), and Aaron Ratcliffe (banjo/dance calls).

## INAUGURAL P.B. SCOTT'S ROUNDUP

**Sunday, August 18, 3pm**, Twigs on Valley Blvd., Blowing Rock

Take a trip back in time this summer to when the music was everything to join a big crowd of people remembering the good times at P.B. Scott's in Blowing Rock. The P.B. Scott's RoundUp, the first event of its kind, will be taking place outdoors in the parking lot at Twigs on Sunday, August 18 near where the original P.B. Scott's building used to stand. Two bands that played at the original P.B. Scott's location will be back to play some of their favorite tunes. Sidewinder will get the afternoon started before Nantucket takes the stage as the headlining act. Parking for the event will be in part of the Twigs lot as well as the ABC Store, United Community Bank, Keith's Exxon and the empty lot that used to be the Scotchman gas station on Valley Boulevard. As a reminder, no outside food or coolers will be allowed, however, a plentiful supply of cold beer and beverages and tasty food will be available, including the famous Garbage Burgers and beer buckets that many P.B. Scott's concert-goers will remember eating at Clyde's Tavern nearby. Tickets are \$40 and you can purchase them through PayPal by going to [www.paypal.me/PBScottsRoundUp](http://www.paypal.me/PBScottsRoundUp) or purchase your tickets at the gate. Gates will open at 2 p.m. with music beginning at 3 p.m. Everyone needs to bring their chairs and blankets to sit on.

## VINTAGE VALLE MUSIC

**Sunday, August 18, 4pm – 6pm**, Baird's Creek Presbyterian Church 2147 N.C. Hwy 194 S, Vilas NC 28692, just 2 miles north of The Original Mast General Store, in Valle Crucis.

☐ The last days of summer are upon us. Come to Vintage Valle Music at Baird's Creek Presbyterian Church for our goodbye to summer, the last performances in our 8th summer of community music! Admission is free. Back for their 7th year, by popular demand, favorites **Folk & Dagger** join us for our final show of this summer, offering our community an opportunity to enjoy their hybrid fusion of folk and popular culture songs, hidden gems they've discovered, and beautiful, soulful originals penned by Doris Bazzini Crothers. And, what says a summer afternoon more than **The Moravian Brass Band** who brings us a blend of familiar, traditional, and classical tunes reminiscent of days gone by? Directed by Michael Salley, this homage group will transport avid listeners to the sounds of Old Salem celebrations and processions. The busy afternoon and our summer music season close with **The Threshold Singers**, who graciously share their joyful choral music with our community. Offering a nostalgic collection of old-time standards, patriotic favorites, and gospel classics, this all-volunteer, just-for-the-love-of-music singers will have the audiences singing along in the unique joy of music shared with your neighbor. Come and join us. There'll be no preaching, nor passing the hat, just good-time entertainment and neighborly visits. Each month we feature a local need with suggestions of items to add to that month's drive. In **August** we are collecting **classroom supplies** for our community schools.

## JODI BURNS & THAO NGUYEN AT BRAHM

**Sunday, August 18, 2019 - 3:30pm - 4:30pm**, Blowing Rock Art & History Museum

BRAHM would like to invite you to join us and special guests soprano Jodi Burns and baritone Thao Nguyen for our Summer Concert Series. They bring vocal virtuosity in a sultry summer duet that will cover everything from Opera to Broadway. Burns sings frequently with the Winston-Salem Symphony, The North Carolina Symphony, and The Piedmont Wind Symphony, and Nguyen has performed with many companies on the east coast including Connecticut Opera, Playhouse on Park, Piedmont Opera, Mountain Theatre, Lees McRae Theatre, and Temple Theatre. Tickets purchased in advance are \$13 for members, students, seniors, military, and EBT cardholders, and \$18 for all others. Tickets purchased the day of the show are \$15 for members, students, seniors, military, and EBT cardholders, and \$20 for all others. \*Day of show tickets only available at the BRAHM front desk. Call us at (828) 295-9099.\*\*

<https://blowingrockmuseum.org/calendar.html/event/2019/08/18/summer-concert-series-jodi-burns-thao-nguyen/241080>

## **CONCERT – “COPPER HILL”**

**Sunday, August 18, 2019 at 4 PM – 6 PM**, The Valle Crucis Conference Center, 146 Skiles Way, Banner Elk Bishop Johnson Hall ~ \$15 Suggested Donation

Copper Hill creates a genre of music that combines the styles of folk, classical, singer-songwriting, and jazz. The group—violinists Willa Finck (formerly of “The Forget Me Nots”) and Katie Knudsvig, bassist Caroline Samuels, and banjo player Ethan Cypress—refers to this genre as folk-art music. The band’s honest and relatable music creates a uniquely engaging concert experience. Aiming to connect a variety of audiences, Copper Hill combines the defining aspects of each genre: the accessibility of folk music, the technicality of classical music, the intimate singer-songwriter perspectives, and the spontaneity and active engagement of jazz. It is Copper Hill’s passion and love for these genres, for their individual elements and the way they can be combined into a more meaningful and evocative musical style, that drives and inspires them to create folk-art music. The band’s thoughtful arrangements of traditional folk tunes are harmoniously coupled with their original songs and tunes. The members of Copper Hill are classically trained musicians who met at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY and formed in the fall of 2017.

## **WESTERN YOUTH NETWORK PRESENTS AN EVENING WITH ELVIS**

**Thursday, August 22 from 6-9 pm** at Boone’s Harvest House, 247 Boone Hts. Drive

This evening will be filled with delicious Southern food catered by CR Catering, complimentary beverages, and a concert performance by award-winning Elvis Tribute Artist Stephen Freeman and his Echoes of a Legend Show Band. Look forward to an evening of fundraising AND fun! Prizes will also be given out to those who bring the most guests, so attendees are encouraged to invite others. You will be asked who referred you to buy your ticket to enter—and you can vote for yourself!

Don’t forget your Elvis-era gear! Get your tickets early – seating is limited. Go to [SweetSalute.bpt.me](http://SweetSalute.bpt.me). If you prefer, send a check payable to WYN-SSSF and mail it to WYN-SSSF, PO Box 3753, Boone, NC 28607. All ticket sales from the event will be benefiting WYN’s Sonny Sweet Scholarship Fund that enables deserving High Country youth to participate in Western Youth Network’s summer enrichment program.

## **HIGH COUNTRY BEER FEST**

**3-7 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 24**, at the High Country Fairgrounds, located at 784 Roby Greene Road.

More than 60 breweries are slated to be represented at the 12th annual High Country Beer Fest. “Favorite local breweries like AMB, Boonshine, and Lost Province will be back this year,” said Brett Taubman, director and founding member of the High Country Beer Fest, in a statement. “The lineup also includes Brown Truck, Fonta Flora and many more fantastic breweries,”

General Admission tickets are \$40 in advance and \$60 at the gate and include a sample glass for limitless tasting of more than 150 of different beers. VIP tickets are \$80 in advance and \$100 at the gate. VIP ticket holders receive a specialty tasting glass as well as a festival t-shirt, meal voucher and one-hour early entry into the festival. Designated Driver tickets are also available for \$10 in advance and \$15 at the gate. All attendees must be 21 years or older. VIP and General Admission tickets are available now on the High Country Beer Fest website, [www.hcbeerfest.com](http://www.hcbeerfest.com), or at Peabody’s Wine and Beer Merchants, 1104 N.C. 105, Boone.

## **MOUNTAIN HOME MUSIC MATINEE – THE BURNETT SISTERS**

**Tuesday, August 27, 2pm**, Harvest House, 247 Boone Heights Drive. Non-ticketed – Pay As You Exit (\$10 Suggested Donation).

Ranging from ages 12 to 22, the Burnett Sisters Band consists of four members who create a unique blend of music in the folk, oldtime, and bluegrass traditions. Establishing themselves as a gospel quartet, all four sisters began singing and playing together at local venues and churches in their early youth with the inspiration of other family bands. Currently performing professionally as a five-piece string band at events and festivals across the United States, the The Burnett Sisters Band has established a name as a highly entertaining, engaging, and delightful group of musicians with haunting sibling harmony vocals. Products of the very successful JAM (Junior Appalachian Musicians) program, the members strive to carry on the oldtime and bluegrass traditions, while providing their own characteristic renditions of classic favorites and originals. The two older sisters you met in previous seasons as they played with the memorable Strictly Strings. They now study traditional music at the University of Tennessee. These talented young ladies will win your hearts, for sure. [www.mountainhomemusic.org](http://www.mountainhomemusic.org)

## **HAPPY VALLEY FIDDLERS’ CONVENTION HAPPENING ON LABOR DAY WEEKEND**

**Friday – Sunday, August 30 – September 1**. 3590 NC-268, Lenoir, NC 28645

The Caldwell Arts Council invites you to experience a perfect Labor Day Weekend on the banks of the Yadkin River, surrounded by mountain music, dance, food, and beautiful scenery. Festival fun begins at **7 p.m. Friday**, featuring a community dance with mountain music, cakewalks, open caller mic & more. **Saturday** is packed with great entertainment! Eight categories of music competitions begin at 10 a.m. on the main stage. The Youth JAM Tent offers performances by talented young musicians. Non-music and children’s activities include hayrides, storytelling, children’s crafts, and rock stacking in the river. The weekend concludes with a **Sunday** concert starting at 11 a.m. featuring a lineup of musicians including Piney Woods Boys, Shelby Rae Moore Band, Strictly Clean and Decent, the Burnett Sisters, The Harris Brothers, and the Jeff Little Trio. The Youth JAM tent will host workshops in fiddle, banjo, guitar, and storytelling. Check out details and directions for the Happy Valley Fiddlers Convention at <https://HappyValleyFiddlers.org>

**BLUE RIDGE BBQ FESTIVAL & COMPETITION**  
**AUGUST 30-31, BLUE RIDGE THEATER & EVENT CENTER**  
**9331 NC HWY 16 S WEST JEFFERSON NC**

Competition BBQ Weekend! Sanctioned by the Kansas City Barbeque Society (KCBS), Steak Cookoff Association (SCA) out of Houston, Texas, as well as the Ashe Brew Club. Friday is the SCA cook-off and live music with Blue Country Band and Saturday is the KCBS competition and awards

**MILE HIGH KITE FESTIVAL**

**Saturday – Sunday, August 31, 2019 10:00 am - September 1, 2019 10:00 am, Beech Mountain Town Hall**

The Beech Mountain Chamber of Commerce hosts its annual Mile High Kite Festival as part of the town's Labor Day Weekend festivities. The party starts the night before with a street dance outside the Beech Mountain Town Hall. Why "Mile High"? Because Beech Mountain is 5,506 feet above sea level. It is the highest incorporated town east of the Mississippi which makes it the perfect place to fly a kite. The elevation almost guarantees great breezes and when the temperatures are still in the mid to high 90's in most of the Carolinas and Virginia, Beech Mountain remains cool with temperatures rarely exceeding 80 degrees. Two recognized kite clubs, one from Charlotte, N.C. and one from Richmond, Va., will be on hand to demonstrate flying techniques, staff kite clinics and help folks build their own kites. Free kites will be given to the first 150 children under the age of 13. Beech Mountain Chamber of Commerce Prizes are given to novice flyers for the biggest kite flown, the most original handmade kite flown, the kite to fly the highest, and whatever other categories the organizers can dream up.

**FAITHFEST**

**Saturday, August 31, 2pm, Campus of Wilkes Community College, Wilkesboro**

The event is presented by Craig Church Ministries, a Christian-based nonprofit out of North Wilkesboro.

The festival has grown from an idea to the inaugural event in 2017 that drew approximately 8,000 to 10,000 people. In 2018, the event doubled in size to approximately 20,000 people. In 2019, the gates are planned to open at 12:30 p.m., with the festival starting at 2 p.m. Live music will be available in the parking lot on a "welcome stage" from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The lineup includes, on both the Cabin and Main stages, Iron Bell Music, LeAnn Crawford, Jason Crabb, Rhett Walker Band, Natalie Grant, Zach Williams, Selah and For King and Country. Tickets are \$35 per person with kids 12 and under admitted free of charge. All tickets are general admission and first-come, first-serve and the event is rain or shine. For more information about FaithFest, including contact information, ticket sales and volunteering, visit [www.faithfestnc.com](http://www.faithfestnc.com).

**MOUNTAIN HOME MUSIC CONCERT – JOHN LILLY WITH "BLUE YONDER"**

**Sunday, September 1, 7:30pm, Harvest House, 247 Boone Hts. Dr.**

**John Lilly**, Blue Yonder's vocalist and front man, is known throughout the country and in Europe for his heartfelt original songs about loving, living, and losing. John recently released his fifth CD, "Cold Comfort," recorded in Texas and Tennessee. In 2007, his "Haunted Honky Tonk" CD rose to #1 on radio charts in the U.S. and Europe. Lilly now tours widely, sharing his own music. **Robert Shafer**, on both acoustic and electric guitar, possesses the uncommon ability to play with lightning velocity, infectious swing, or subtle emotion – whatever the music calls for. **Will Carter** is the bass player in the Contrarians, a touring contra dance band. He has also played in several bluegrass and old time bands over the years, including well-known band mates, such as fiddler Bobby Taylor and Nashville banjoist/producer Alison Brown. \$18 advance, \$20 at the door, \$5 student. [www.mountainhomemusic.org](http://www.mountainhomemusic.org)

**AUTUMN AT OZ, DINNER WITH DOROTHY**

Tickets are available for the Land of Oz's 26th annual Autumn at Oz Festival, which takes place **Sept. 6-8 and 13-15**, as well as the Dining with Dorothy events. "Skip down the Yellow Brick Road atop Beech Mountain – one mile high in the sky – where you will literally be over the rainbow. If you've ever gone searching for your heart's desire, look no further," a statement from Land of Oz said. "You will experience the magic of Oz during this two-week event where the Scarecrow, TinMan, and Lion are ready to greet you on your travels, along with all of your other favorite characters from the classic story. In addition, the Dining with Dorothy events take place on the same dates and times at Sorrento's in Banner Elk. The tours and dinner takes place on the hour from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sept. 6 and 13, both Fridays, and hourly from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sept 7, 8, 14 and 15, both Saturdays and Sundays. Autumn at Oz tickets are \$45 each and Dining with Dorothy is \$35, both plus tax. The semi-defunct park opens a select few days each year and often sells out. For more information including a link to purchase tickets, visit [www.landofoznc.com/autumnatoz](http://www.landofoznc.com/autumnatoz).