

**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/>

**LINE DANCING AT ALLEGHANY JUBILEE**

**Every Monday, 6pm**, Alleghany Jubilee, 25 North Main St., Sparta

Come on out to learn or just have fun! (336) 200-4949 or FaceBook

**HAWKWATCH AT GRANDFATHER MOUNTAIN**

All throughout September, guests are invited to join the mountain's naturalists as they count and celebrate the annual spectacle of the fall raptor migration. Participants can meet daily at Linville Peak, across the Mile High Swinging Bridge, weather permitting. This event is included with regular admission. <https://grandfather.com/event/hawkwatch/> Phone: (800) 468-7325

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### ART EXHIBIT

**Caldwell Arts Council, Through 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

**Through 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)

### AVERY COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL FAIR

**Wednesday, September 4 through Saturday, September 7**, 661 Vale Road in Newland

For 27 years, the Avery County Agricultural and Horticultural Fair has been a mainstay among the North Carolina High Country's most popular celebrations and festivities. It is a family-oriented event known for the preservation of the mountain heritage that has long been a way of life for people Avery County and throughout the entire High Country. Focused on the education and enjoyment of our children, the fair also reminds us all of how agriculture and horticulture have played a major part in our communities throughout generations. Various rides, exhibits, demonstrations and competitions ensure there's plenty to see and do at the fair. Gates at the Avery A&H Fair will open by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday (September 4); 3:00 p.m. on Thursday (September 5); 5:00 p.m. on Friday (September 6); and 11:00 a.m. on Saturday (September 7). Amusement Rides open at 6:00 p.m. Wednesday through Friday. On Saturday, rides will start at 1:00 p.m. and continuing until closing at 11:00 p.m. Included in the 2019 fair's activities is a long list of livestock shows: a goat show, a chicken show, a rabbit show, dairy and meat goat shows, dairy steer project show and beef and dairy heifer shows. And many who attend enter their livestock, produce, crafts, quilts, woodworking, cakes, pies and more for the chance to win prizes.

### ASU HAYES SCHOOL OF MUSIC CONCERTS

All concerts are free and the public is invited to attend.

Thursday, September 5, 2019, 8:00 PM Rosen Concert Hall

**Dr. Rodney Reynerson, Faculty Piano Recital**

Tuesday, September 10, 2019, 8:00 Rosen Concert Hall

**Hayes School of Music Faculty, "Evening of Encores"**

Thursday, September 12, 2019, 8:00 PM Rosen Concert Hall

**Harmonia Baroque**

Monday, September 16, 2019, 8:00 PM Rosen Concert Hall

**Dr. Jon Beebe, Faculty Bassoon Recital**

Tuesday, September 17, 2019, 8:00 PM Rosen Concert Hall

**Dr. Joby Bell, Faculty Organ Recital**

### BLUE BEAR MUSIC FEST

**September 5 – 7**, Blue Bear Mountain Campground, Todd

When it comes to autumn music festivals, there is no more beautiful venue in the western North Carolina High Country than Blue Bear Mountain Campground. Located on 155 acres near both Boone and Todd, NC, with teepees, hiking trails, awesome views and a main stage built in a natural amphitheater on the grounds, the Blue Bear Mountain Music Festival is set again for September 5 – 7, 2019. Along with a great lineup of live music surrounded by green mountains and vistas, you will be able to get an even more magnificent view of the N.C. High Country with tethered hot air balloon rides being offered by the Blue Bear Mountain Music Festival this year. Headlining this impressive fall music festival in 2019 will be the legendary Acoustic Syndicate, now celebrating their 25<sup>th</sup> year as a band. The group has built up a worldwide reputation as an innovative roots-rocking outfit that blends bluegrass with many other genres. [musicfestatbluebearmountain.com](http://musicfestatbluebearmountain.com) or call 828-406-4226

### **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. "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).

### **FIREFLY NIGHTS on TOMAHAWK HILL**

**Sept 6- Oct 26, Fri & Sat, 5-9pm, weather permitting, Mystery Hill, Blowing Rock**

Tomahawk and Knife throwing, Archery, Cherokee Blowguns, S'mores tables, food music fun and games - fun for the family and friends - Front Porch Eats will be open and serving Giant Hole Lotta Doughnuts, Apple and Blueberry Fritters, Pretzels, Nachos, Ice Cream, Old time sodas, Warm Appalachia Cookie Company cookies, Hatchet Coffee, and make your own s'mores kits. Outside food, beverage, and coolers welcome. Main Gift Shop will be open. Wristbands good for unlimited throws are valid 5-9 pm Adults \$20, Kids 4-12 \$15, Kids under 4 free

### **ART in the PARK**

**Saturday, September 7, 10-5, Park Avenue, Blowing Rock**

Over 90 Juried artists, free admission

### **AUTUMN AT OZ, SHOWCASE SATURDAYS**

**Saturday, September 7 & 14, 8pm, Evans Auditorium, Lees McRae, Banner Elk**

This year, Saturday Nights, we are hosting an evening event that you don't want to miss. Hear from original cast members from the 1970s Land of Oz Theme Park during a Q&A Panel (Both weekends). World-renowned authors Jay Scarfone & William Stillman will present material from their newest book, "The Road to Oz: The Evolution, Creation, and Legacy of a Motion Picture Masterpiece" (September 7th) and author Randy Schmidt, Judy Garland on Judy Garland, will present material on our favorite actress (September 14th), and cast members from Broadway's smash hit musical WICKED. [www.landofoznc.com](http://www.landofoznc.com)

### **34TH ANNUAL SCULPTURE CELEBRATION**

**Saturday, September 7, 2019, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.** T.H. Broyhill Walking Park, 945 Lakewood Circle SW, Lenoir, NC

Free to attend, with free shuttles to area parking. Meet sculptors and see sculptural artwork of all sizes and media in a one-day competition for \$11,000 in cash awards, judged by Patrick Dougherty ([stickwork.net](http://stickwork.net)). Vote for the People's Choice award! Live music will fill this lovely lakeside garden park for the day, along with children's art activities, food vendors, and free shuttles to area parking. This free event runs 9am-4pm with all awards announced at 3:30pm. For additional details, contact the Caldwell Arts Council, 828-754-2486, [office@caldwellarts.com](mailto:office@caldwellarts.com), or visit [www.caldwellarts.com](http://www.caldwellarts.com).

### **BART BULLOCK , COMPOSER, PIANIST**

**Saturday September 7, 2019 @ 7:30PM, Ashe Civic Center, 962 Mt. Jefferson Rd., West Jefferson, NC**

Edmund Barton "Bart" Bullock has been leading a double career as composer and pianist with success, performing his own major works and chamber music throughout the United States and Europe. He scored a musical triumph in June, 2016 with the world premiere of a commissioned Te Deum based on a 4th century Latin text. [Ashecountyarts.org](http://Ashecountyarts.org), 336-846-2787

### **HIGH COUNTRY JAZZ SOCIETY CONCERT**

**Sunday, September 8, 5pm, Meadowbrook Inn, Blowing Rock**

Featured is the Michael Stevens Trio in a tribute to jazz pianist Bill Evans. \$20 at the door.

### **WILKES COUNTY FAIR**

**Tuesday, Sept. 10, and will run through Saturday, Sept 14.** Rotary Fairgrounds beside of West Park in North Wilkesboro.

Gates are open weekdays at 5 p.m. and 1 p.m. on Saturday. Ride bands are available every day. Gate admission is \$8, with children 12 and under admitted free. Students will be admitted free Tuesday through Friday. On Saturday a special event at the fair will be a lawnmower race. Practice for the race starts at 4 p.m. Racing begins at 6 p.m. A fairground admission ticket will also admit you to the lawnmower race. This year's fair will feature more than 25 rides, a bicycle give away, E-Z ride, petting zoo, Buffalo Barfield's Unheard of style of music and comedy shows, 3-Ring Clown Circus, 4-H exhibits, and games and food on the midway. N.E.W. Wrestling will be held at the fair on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. There will be 4-H exhibits, coordinated by Wilkes Cooperative Extension Service, in the Exhibit Hall. This year, the fair will also feature a hay bale decorating contest. For more information, call Mike Staley at 336-902-7052.

## 28<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL OVERMOUNTAIN VICTORY CELEBRATION

Sept 12-14, NC Museum of Minerals, Blue Ridge Parkway Milepost 331

Reenactors will be demonstrating skills and crafts from the Revolutionary War period and the battle of Kings Mountain. Special candlelight tour of the encampment Sept 14 7-9pm

## HIGH COUNTRY TOAST

Friday, September 13th, from 6-9:30 PM., Valle Crucis Community Park

The backdrop of the final Music in the Valle of 2019 at beautiful Valle Crucis Community Park provides the perfect setting for the 3rd-annual High Country Toast. This event was originally scheduled for June 7th and was postponed due to rain. All tickets purchased prior to the rainout will be honored. Local favorite Shay M. Lovette supplies music lovers with two-sets of bluesy country from the soul. While Music in the Valle remains a free event, a ticket to High Country Toast gives you access to an entree and dessert from inside our Peak Insurance Food Truck Village while sampling Watauga County brewed craft beers and wines from regional vendors. VIP ticket access provides admission to an exclusive tented area that includes separate beer & wine along with tasty hors d'oeuvres, a full BBQ dinner, and delicious desserts from local restaurants. General Admission: \$25 per person, Youth General Admission: \$10 per person (12-under). \*\*General Admission tickets include meal tickets for one entree and one dessert from the food truck village along with a tasting glass for samples at the beer & wine vendor tents. \*\* VIP Access: \$75 per person \*\* VIP access includes the above benefits plus a branded High Country Toast insulated mug. You will also receive access to a tented area that includes separate access to beer & wine, hors d'oeuvres from Peabody's Beer & Wine Merchants, a full BBQ dinner, and desserts from local restaurants. \*\* <https://www.boonechamber.com/events/toast>

## ENSEMBLE STAGE PRESENTS "SLEEPING INDOORS"

September 13 – 22, Historic Banner Elk School, [www.ensemblestage.com](http://www.ensemblestage.com)

When literary reviewer Paul and his wife Nora invite a homeless man, Dwain, into their home for Christmas dinner, they don't expect to be so charmed by him -- or that his journal will be the incredible literary masterpiece that it is. But can Dwain, whose art thrives in anonymity, be convinced to give up the only life he's known for such comforts as sleeping indoors?

## THE BLOWING ROCK MUSIC FESTIVAL

Saturday, September 14, Noon – Sunset, The Blowing Rock Attraction, Blowing Rock

Gates open at 8:30, music begins at noon. Many musical acts including The Harris Brothers, The Jeff Little Trio, Wayne Henderson, and others. \$25 advance, \$35 at the gate, \$10 12 and under. 828-295-4812, [www.theblowingrock.com](http://www.theblowingrock.com)

## BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY CELEBRATES BRINEGAR DAY

Saturday - September 14, 10AM – 4PM, Brinegar Cabin (MP 238) on the Blue Ridge Parkway.

Watch our Ranger dye wool with plant materials just as Caroline did. Green woodworking will be on display by demonstrators using a shaving horse with log hewing tools, which are similar to those used by Martin Brinegar. Ever wonder how to put a bottom in a worn out "mule-eared" chair? You don't want to miss it! Demonstrations will also be given in spinning, weaving, flax processing and "open fire" apple butter making. Sheep will be available to meet-and-greet. You may also want to "sit a spell" in the Porch Tent and swap stories and hear some tall tales from our Parkway neighbors. Local Historical Societies will be on hand to satisfy your thirst for additional information on the Southern Appalachian lifestyle. Built by Martin Brinegar around 1889, the historic cabin preserves important construction techniques commonly used by early settlers. The cabin is in Doughton Park, about 20 miles south of Cumberland Knob Picnic Area, at milepost 238.5 on the Blue Ridge Parkway. It is open for visitors on weekends through October from 10 A.M. - 5 P.M with Park staff presenting demonstrations of early mountain life. Additional programs are available by appointment. For more information, call Ranger Jackie Sloop at the National Park Service Visitor Services office at Doughton Park: (336) 372-1947.

## TRADE MILL & NATIVE HERITAGE DAYS

Saturday Sept. 14, 8:30am – 9pm & Sunday, 8:30am – 5pm, Sept. 15, Trade Community Center: 228 Modock Rd, Trade, TN

Social dances, candy dances, storytelling, flute players, Bluegrass music, clogging, crafters, demonstrations. A children's corner with bounce houses. Blacksmithing, apple butter making, wood working., grain milling. All kinds of bands, old cars, petting zoo. Lots of intertribal dancing (no competition). Food Vendors. \$5 for adults, \$2 for 5yrs and older, kids 4yrs and younger are FREE! Bring a blanket or lawn chairs.

## ON THE SAME PAGE LITERARY FESTIVAL

September 17 – 21, West Jefferson

On the Same Page, Ashe County, North Carolina's Literary Festival, celebrates its 12th Anniversary in 2019 with award-winning authors and plans for days filled with readings, writing workshops, and more. This year's Festival is scheduled for Tuesday–Saturday, September 17-21. The Festival is sponsored by the Ashe County Public Library and the Ashe County Arts Council and is supported with major funding from Skyline Membership Corporation and many individual donors—the Page Turners—and the Friends of the Ashe County Public Library. With a couple of exceptions, all Festival events will take place in the Community Room of the Ashe

County Public Library. For the latest information about the 2019 authors and schedule, go to [www.onthesamepagefestival.org](http://www.onthesamepagefestival.org) or follow the Festival on Facebook.

### **WESTERN PIEDMONT SYMPHONY “HEROES AND VILLAINS”**

**Thursday, September 19, 7pm**, Alleghany Community Auditorium, 450 S Main St, Sparta  
\$10, children under 18 FREE. Tickets at Library, Chamber, Books n’ Friends.

### **BOONE UNITED METHODIST COMMUNITY FALL BAZAAR**

**Friday, September 20th, 7:30am – 6pm, Saturday September 21, 7:30am – 11am**, Boone United Methodist Church  
Free, <http://www.booneumc.org>, - huge sale of all sorts of items including clothing, toys, books, electronics, linens, kitchen and home decor, tools, yard items, and much more. Silent Auction with antiques and unique items and gift cards and donated treasures from local businesses. This is a huge community event that supports several local charities and the church maintenance fund. Note: Saturday is the famous Bag Sale.

### **THIRD ANNUAL JAMES H. FISHER INTERNATIONAL GRAND PRIX EQUESTRIAN EVENT**

**2:00 PM on September 21, 2019**, L. M. Tate Show Grounds in the Broyhill Equestrian Preserve, Blowing Rock  
Twenty-five to thirty riders, six from foreign countries, and two dozen US riders are expected to compete for \$50,000 in prize money. It is the largest purse ever offered for an equestrian event in Blowing Rock. Riders can bring as many horses as they wish, but can only ride one horse in the competition. Scoring is simple. The rail is up, the rail is down, and the clock determines the winner. Tickets are \$75 for Premium tickets which includes a special luncheon, reserved box seating and reserved on site parking. General admission is \$10 and includes Grandstand seating. There will be food concessions available on the grounds.  
[www.jhfisherfdn.eventbrite.com](http://www.jhfisherfdn.eventbrite.com)

### **MOUNTAIN HERITAGE FESTIVAL**

**Saturday, September 21, 10am**, Downtown Sparta

The Mountain Heritage Festival is located right off the Blue Ridge Parkway in the quaint small town of Sparta NC. Sparta is about an hour north of Boone, NC on the Blue Ridge Parkway and is also easily accessible from Mountain Airy and Winston Salem. The festival features live music, dancing, handmade arts & crafts booths, craft demonstrations, festival food and --the small town favorites: The Possum Queen Contest.

#### **TIPS:**

- The festival starts at 10. Finding a parking spot should not be an issue.
- Dress in layers and wear sunscreen for the event, as temperatures can change dramatically in the mountains
- Bring a chair so you are guaranteed a place to sit and eat or watch performers
- Sparta is close to Doughton Park, a great Blue Ridge Parkway campground with great low elevation change hiking trails!

### **PRESERVATION HALL JAZZ BAND**

**Friday, September 27, 8pm**, Schaefer Center for the Performing Arts, ASU, \$30 / \$15, [www.schaefercenter.com](http://www.schaefercenter.com)  
**Preservation Hall Jazz Band** has held the torch of New Orleans music aloft for more than 50 years, all the while carrying it enthusiastically forward as a reminder that the history they were founded to preserve is a vibrantly living history.