

# ARTS / DATES

Publication of the Ashe County Arts Council

## SEPTEMBER

- 1... 17th Annual New River Blues Festival, River House, Grassy Creek
- 1-7... "Bold, Bright and Colorful" exhibit, Ashe Arts Center
- 7... Bart Bullock in concert, Ashe Civic Center
- 9-14... *Mountain Splash*, Florence Thomas Art School
- 10... Ashe County Arts Council meets, 6:30 pm, Ashe Arts Center
- 11-30... "Nostalgia" exhibit, Gallery of the Ashe Arts Center
- 12... Ashe County Piecemaker's Quilt Guild meets, 2-4 pm, ASA
- 13... Gallery Crawl, 5-8pm, Downtown West Jefferson
- 13... Artists' reception for "Nostalgia" exhibit, 5-8pm, Arts Center
- 16... Elliot Engel, 7:30 pm, Ashe Arts Center
- 17-21... *On The Same Page Literary Festival*, various Ashe County locations
- 18... Friends of the Library meet, 11am, Ashe County Library
- 20-21... West Jefferson Olde Time Antiques Fair, downtown West Jefferson
- 26... Western Piedmont Symphony Orchestra, Ashe Civic Center
- 28... Art on the Mountain, 9am - 3pm, Ashe Arts Center
- 28... WKSJ Old Time & Bluegrass Radio Show, Ashe Arts Center
- 28... Blue Ridge Art Clan meets, 9:30 am, Mt. Jefferson Presbyterian Church
- 28... Autumn Leaf Festival, Museum of Ashe County History, Jefferson

## NOVEMBER

- 1-21... "Best of the Blue Ridge" exhibit, Gallery of the Ashe Arts Center
- 2... A Brit of Magic, Ashe Civic Center
- 9... Coffee House Live!, WJUMC Fellowship Hall
- 12... Ashe County Arts Council meets, 6:30 pm, Ashe Arts Center
- 14... Ashe County Piecemaker's Quilt Guild meets, 2-4pm, ASA
- 16... WKSJ Old Time & Bluegrass Radio Show, Ashe Civic Center
- 17... Hayes Faculty Ensemble in concert, 7:30 pm, Ashe Arts Center
- 19-30... "Tree Fest" exhibit, Gallery of the Ashe Arts Center
- 21... Friends of the Library meet, 11am, Ashe County Library
- 23, 29, 30... Ashe County Farmer's Market Holiday Market, 9am-1pm
- 26-30... Tree Fest and Christmas Miniatures, Gallery of the Arts Center
- 29-30... Florence Thomas Art School's Christmas Market

## OCTOBER

- 1-5... "Nostalgia" exhibit, Gallery of the Ashe Arts Center
- 5... Fall Harvest Festival, Ashe County Farmer's Market
- 8... Ashe County Arts Council meets, 6:30 pm, Ashe Arts Center
- 9-31... "Best of the Blue Ridge" exhibit, Gallery of the Ashe Arts Center
- 10... Ashe County Piecemaker's Quilt Guild meets, 2-4pm, ASA
- 11... Gallery Crawl, 5-8pm, Downtown West Jefferson
- 11... Artists' reception for "Best of the Blue Ridge" exhibit, 5-8pm
- 11-13... Ashe County Little Theatre: *Who's on First*, Ashe Civic Center
- 12... Festival of the Frescoes, Glendale Springs, 9am-3pm
- 12... Todd Fall Festival, Todd. www.toddruritan.org
- 12... Mtn. Home Music: Al Petteway & Amy White, Harvest House, Boone
- 15... Ashe County Little Theatre quarterly meeting, 5:30 pm, Arts Center
- 17... Mountain Home Music: Zoe and Cloyd, Harvest House, Boone
- 19... WKSJ Old Time & Bluegrass Radio Show, Ashe Civic Center
- 19... Wordkeepers Salon, 4pm, Ashe Arts Center
- 19... Jeff Little Trio in concert, Ashe Civic Center
- 21-26... Missoula Children's Theatre residency, Ashe Civic Center
- 23... Friends of the Library meet, 11am, Ashe County Library
- 26... MCT's *The Emperor's New Clothes*, 3pm and 7:30 pm, Civic Center
- 26... Blue Ridge Art Clan meets, 9:30 am, Mt. Jefferson Presbyterian Church
- 26... Mountain Home Music: The Wayne Henderson Trio with special guest Presely Barker, Harvest House, Boone



STAFF: Jeff Fissel, Executive Director;  
Linda Dreyer, Director of Operations;  
Rebecca Williams, Program Director;

Website: [www.ashecounyarts.org](http://www.ashecounyarts.org) E-mail: [director@ashecounyarts.org](mailto:director@ashecounyarts.org)  
303 School Avenue, West Jefferson, NC 28694  
**336.846-2787**

**Hours of Operation: Monday – Friday 9am – 5pm  
Saturday 10am – 4pm**

## MEET JEFF FISSEL



**Jeff Fissel**  
Executive Director

The Board of Directors of the Ashe County Arts Council is pleased to introduce Jeff Fissel as our new Executive Director. Jeff was hired in June after an intense search following Jane Lonon's announcement of her plans to retire on June 30th.

Jeff comes to us with nine years of nonprofit experience and success as the executive director of Historic Rural Hill in Huntersville, North Carolina. Jeff graduated from high school in Mecklenburg County and attended Appalachian State University, receiving a B.S. in Business Administration in 2006. He began his professional career working for Bank of America, and held several other positions before being hired by Rural Hill. During his tenure at Rural Hill Jeff increased revenues and profits, expanded attendance at events, and built a strong donor base.

The Arts Council is fortunate to have recruited an energetic and experienced leader to take us into a new era. Jeff has expressed a strong appreciation for the visual arts, and he has well-established contacts in the area of booking entertainment. He jumped into the Arts Council's very busy summer season, taking the reins of major events that include the Fiddler's Convention, the Blue Ridge Brutal, and the summer concert schedule. His leadership skills, and his understanding of nonprofits, have impressed us. In the short period he has been executive director he has demonstrated an ability to observe, to learn about our region, and to cultivate friends.

We hope you will have the opportunity to meet Jeff soon and welcome him to Ashe County.

## WESTERN PIEDMONT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The Western Piedmont Symphony Orchestra of Hickory will return to the stage of the Ashe Civic Center on Thursday, September 26 at 7:30 pm. The Western Piedmont Symphony (WPS) was organized in 1964 to promote symphonic music in the western piedmont of North Carolina. Through the years the orchestra has grown in size and programming to include extensive educational concerts and the formation of the Western Piedmont String Quartet and Chamber Orchestra.

The orchestra will present the concert **Heroes and Villains** which includes the *Overture to Barber of Seville*, *World of Warcraft*, *Pirates of the Caribbean* and selections by Beethoven and Rossini. The symphony will also present an educational concert for Ashe County's 4th and 5th grade students with the same theme, **Heroes and Villains**. The Arts Council is committed to arts education in our schools, exposing our young people a varied and culturally diverse programming.

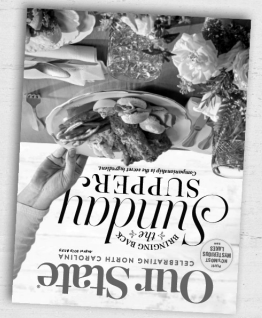


**Matthew Thomas Troy**

WPS is comprised of three different concert series. Under the direction of Matthew Thomas Troy, the Masterworks Series is comprised of the full orchestra, which will showcase both traditional and contemporary classical selections. The concert at the Ashe Civic Center is part of the WPS outreach program bringing their Masterworks Series to new groups.

Tickets are \$22 adults and \$5 students and are available at the Ashe Arts Center, on;one at [www.ashecouny-arts.org](http://www.ashecouny-arts.org) or or by phone with a credit card at 336-846-2787.

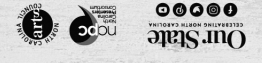
**Exciting news! The Arts Council has an new updated website with ONLINE TICKETING!**  
**Go to [www.ashecounyarts.org](http://www.ashecounyarts.org) and click on the Calendar.**  
**And, of course, you can always call us with a credit card too! 336.846-2787**



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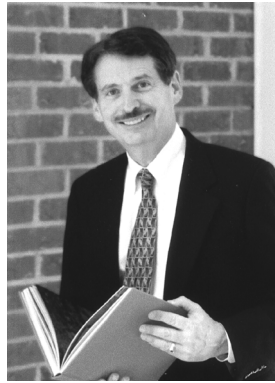


Ashe County Arts Council  
303 School Avenue  
West Jefferson, NC 28694

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## Elliot Engel



Professor Elliot Engel returns to the Ashe Arts Center on Monday evening, September 16 at 7:30 PM for an entertaining evening of humor, literature, and enlightening entertainment with **Master of Mayberry: The Miraculous Life of Andy Griffith.**

Using anecdotes, analysis, and large doses of humor, Dr. Engel's presentations are fast paced, fascinating, and full of information. His previous programs on Dickens, Twain, Shakespeare, O'Henry, Blackbeard, The History and Mystery of Wine, and L. Frank Baum were standing room only crowds! Tickets are \$16 for adults and \$5 for students, and are available in advance at [www.ashecountyarts.org](http://www.ashecountyarts.org), at the Arts Center or by calling 336.846-2787.

### CALLING ALL ARTISTS!

Grant funds are available for artists! The Regional Artist Project (RAP) Grant deadline is soon, September 13. Check the website, [www.ashecountyarts.org](http://www.ashecountyarts.org), or call the Arts Council now for more information and an application form. This might be your lucky year!

The RAP of Northwest North Carolina is supported by a grant from the North Carolina Arts Council, a division of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources. Nine awards were granted in 2018-2019. Deadline for the 2019-2020 award cycle is September 13, 2019. Artists in Ashe, Alleghany, Watauga and Wilkes Counties are eligible. For more information please call 336.846-2787.

### FRIENDS OF THE FIDDLERS

The Arts Council says thanks to the following supporters of the Ashe County Bluegrass and Old Time Fiddlers Convention who help extend our culture, preserve our heritage and support traditional music: Jay & Marilyn Gibbs, James & Laura Green, Cecil Gurganus, Grady & Jane Lonon, John & Jane Maddocks, Kent & Becky Marsten, Dennis & Dani Mory, and Joe & Tammy Thore.



### WKSK GARY POE RADIO SHOW

Mark your calendars for the popular WKSK Gary Poe Radio Show broadcast live! Beginning "a little after 11:00" Gary will bring the best in bluegrass and old time music to the Ashe Arts Center Saturday, September 28 with Randy & Deborah Jean Sheets and Kay Justice and to the stage of the Ashe Civic Center October 19 and November 16 with bands to be announced. Admission is free! Don't miss it!

### IT'S FUND DRIVE TIME FOR THE ARTS!

September is always a banner month for the Arts Council, as we announce the new programming season and celebrate our 41st year as an organization serving the arts needs of Ashe County. We'll kick off our annual fund drive in September to raise funds for the arts.

As we begin another year of community concerts at the Ashe Civic Center and Ashe Arts Center, gallery exhibits, school arts assembly programs, the Junior Appalachian Musicians Project (JAM), downtown murals, the Gallery Crawl, Spring Fest, On The Same Page Literary Festival, the Barn Quilt Project, the Fiddlers Convention, and the Studio Tours we realize that you who have shared in the Arts Council's vision all these years play a dual role in its success. You provide both intangible gifts of time, energy and enthusiasm and the financial support we need to continue our mission of promoting the arts in all forms in Ashe County.

*Information about the 2019-2020 Fund Drive and schedules for the year will be in the mail soon. The Arts Council expresses its gratitude for the past contributions and thanks you in advance for your future support. Contributions may be mailed to 303 School Avenue, West Jefferson, NC 28694 or made online at [www.ashecountyarts.org](http://www.ashecountyarts.org).*

## JEFF LITTLE TRIO

Get ready for a night of great music when Jeff Little, Steve Lewis and Luke Little take the stage of the Ashe Civic Center on Saturday evening, October 19. Concert time is 7:30 pm.

With few exceptions, the piano does not play a prominent part in Appalachian or Americana music, and is rarely the lead instrument. But Jeff Little is an exception – and a remarkable one. His distinctive style is breathtaking in its speed, precision and clarity.



Jeff as well as his trio stay busy traveling the country performing concerts with an energy and dedication to their music that is evident at every show. Performances include The Smithsonian Institution, The National Folk Festival, American Piano Masters, and many festivals, performing arts centers, and music venues throughout the US.

Adding to the ensemble are equally impressive two-time national banjo champion, Steve Lewis, and Luke Little on mandolin. And as usual a few other musical friends will probably join Jeff on stage! Reserved seating tickets are available online at [ashecountyarts.org](http://ashecountyarts.org) or at the Ashe

Arts Center (\$20 for adults, \$5 for students). For more information, call the Arts Council at 336.846-2787.

## 2019-20 Chamber Music Series Announced

The Ashe Chamber Music Society has planned four concerts for the upcoming winter season. All four concerts are scheduled for Sunday afternoons at 2:00 pm, and will be held in the Gallery at the Ashe Arts Center.

The first concert will be on November 17, 2019, when the **Hayes Faculty Ensemble** performs Schubert's *Trout Quintet*. This much-loved work features the piano, violin, viola, cello, and double bass. Tickets are \$16 for adults and \$5 for students. Call 336.846-2787 for reservations or get your tickets online at [www.ashecountyarts.org](http://www.ashecountyarts.org)

These concerts, while part of the regular Arts Council's music programming, are supported by individuals with a specific interest in chamber music. These include an anonymous donor, Karen and Gil Brock, John MacConnell, Kim Perzel, and Ed and Ellie Perzel. If you'd like more information about supporting chamber music, please contact Ed Perzel at [eperzel@skybest.com](mailto:eperzel@skybest.com).

Details of the following three concerts will appear in the December publication of Arts/Dates.

## TREE FEST

Christmas is coming, and the Ashe Arts Center will be decked out in its finery again this year! **Tree Fest** celebrates the holiday season with seven beautifully decorated trees, an exhibit of miniature artwork, and Christmas Marketplace. Organizations and artists contributing to the exhibit represent a cross-section of community involvement with the arts. **Tree Fest** opens November 26 and may be viewed Monday through Saturday throughout the holiday season. The Arts Council's popular, handcrafted ornament tree, **My Favorite Things**, will include new ornaments for your seasonal collection in clay, paper, fibers, wood, stained glass, and more. Look for details of Tree Fest in the December issue of ARTS/DATES.





## SCHOOL ARTS IN ASHE 2019-2020

The Arts Council's sponsorship of cultural programs in Ashe County Schools continues to enhance students' education through the arts. Concerts, programs and residencies are offered throughout the year in music, dance, theatre, visual arts and literature.

The Junior Appalachian Musicians (JAM) Program offers instruction in guitar, banjo and fiddle to the county's third through eighth grade students. The visual arts are well represented in the Council's annual *Young at Art* exhibit in The Gallery of the Ashe Arts Center. Spring Fest and the Very Special Arts Festival offer daylong celebrations of the arts for Ashe County's young people.

The Arts in Education programs are sponsored jointly by the Ashe County Arts Council and local schools with funding support from a North Carolina Arts Council Folklife Grant for the JAM Program and a Grassroots Arts Program Grant for Spring Fest, Soul Street Dance, and Mike Wiley. The North Carolina Arts Council is a division of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.

During the 2019 – 2020 school year students will experience:

- ATLANTIC COAST THEATRE, *The Reluctant Dragon, based on the Kenneth Grahame Tale*
- SOUL STREET DANCE, *fresh, unique modern dance*
- WESTERN PIEDMONT SYMPHONY, *orchestral music*
- SUSANNA AND TIMOTHY ABELL, *So Many Ways to Share a Story*
- MISSOULA CHILDREN'S THEATRE, *drama workshops*
- DIDGERIDOO DOWN UNDER, *Australia-themed music and stories*
- MIKE WILEY, *Brown vs. Board of Education*
- SEUSSASAURIAN CELEBRATION, *Reader on the Loose with Dr. Seuss*
- MARK NIZER, *Sciencesplosion*
- BARTER THEATRE PLAYERS, *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*
- FUN WITH ENERGY WITH JEFF BOYER, *laws of nature around us*
- ASU YOUNG PEOPLE'S THEATRE, *Pinocchio*

### ASHE STUDENTS ARE JAMMIN' JUNIOR APPALACHIAN MUSICIANS PROGRAM

Ashe County's JAM Program begins its 19th season of instruction! Join young people from around the county as they learn a musical instrument and become part of the next generation of traditional music lovers.

Here are the details:

- Instruction is offered on guitar, banjo and fiddle
- Classes meet twice a week at the Ashe Civic Center
- Instruments are provided
- Open to students in grades 3-8
- Beginning and Intermediate levels available
- \$3 per class fee charged
- Classes begin September 16
- Instructors include Martha Spencer, Kelley Breiding, Chris Testerman, Amanda Wright, Madison Shepherd, and others



The Ashe County Arts Council is the sponsor of JAM with a Folklife Grant from the North Carolina Arts Council, a division of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources and a Wayne Henderson Festival Grant. For more information or to sign up for classes, please call 336.846-2787 or email Rebecca Williams at [programs@ashecountyarts.org](mailto:programs@ashecountyarts.org).

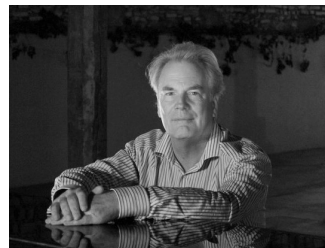


### BART BULLOCK IN CONCERT

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. Bart will perform *An Evening of Romantic and Impressionist Piano Works* at the Ashe Civic Center on Saturday, September 7.

Bullock's major symphonic work is the Appalachian Concerto for Piano and Orchestra. It was commissioned for the installment ceremonies of the Appalachian State University Chancellor in April 2005. Its French premiere, with Bullock at the piano, was performed twice in May of 2008 by the Orchestre de la Cité Internationale de Paris. It was then performed twice by the Western Piedmont Symphony in North Carolina in February 2009.

Concert is at 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$20 adults and \$5 students and may be purchased online at [www.ashecountyarts.org](http://www.ashecountyarts.org) or by calling 336-846-2787.



## ON THE SAME PAGE LITERARY FESTIVAL A CELEBRATION OF READING AND WRITING

ON THE SAME PAGE, Ashe County's Literary Festival, will take place over five days in September. During the festival, the Ashe County Public Library and the Ashe County Arts Council will present events in and around West Jefferson, North Carolina. More than a month of related events will precede and follow the festival proper. The 2019 Festival features guest speakers and authors Diane Chamberlain, PT Deutermann, Georgann Eubanks, Robert Gipe, Jaki Shelton Green, Ronni Lundy, Beth Macy, AJ Mayhew, Alan Michael Parker and Stephanie Powell Watts.



*On the Same Page* will be held from Tuesday, September 17 through Saturday, September 21. All events take place downstairs in the Community Room of the Ashe County Public Library unless otherwise noted. *Highlights include:*

#### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

- 1:00 p.m. **Festival Read Wrap-Up Session.** *Dopesick: Dealers, Doctors and the Drug Company that Addicted America*, by Beth Macy. In addition to a general discussion of the book, we'll focus on "Banishing the Stigma."
- 3:00 p.m. **Robert Gipe.** Reading. Author of the 2015 Weatherford Award-winning novel, *Trampoline*, his first. Gipe's second novel, *Weedeater*, was released in 2018.
- 6:30-8:30 p.m. **Robert Gipe.** Writer's Workshop—Part I: "A Character-Building Experience." This two-part workshop will focus on character development and how character development drives plot. There also will be discussion of voice and using illustrations. Beginning and experienced writers are welcome. Registration is limited and a reservation is required.

#### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

- 8:30-10:30 a.m. **Alan Michael Parker.** Writer's Workshop. Someone smarter than I am once said, "Reality is a poor excuse for fiction." This hands-on workshop—for writers of all genres—will test this theory by investigating the relationship between experience and the imagination. Memory, truth, storytelling . . . everything will relate (somehow). All levels. Bring paper, pen and a willingness to play.
- 11:00 a.m. **PT Deutermann.** Reading. Author of 21 novels, and soon *The Nugget*, to be released in October 2019, Deutermann began writing fiction in 1990. His talk is a special feature presented by the Friends of the Ashe County Public Library.
- 2:00 p.m. **AJ Mayhew.** Reading. Riveted by her debut novel, *The Dry Grass of August*, the On the Same Page Festival committee invited Mayhew back to share her second novel, *Tomorrow's Bread*, released in March 2019.
- 6:30-8:30 p.m. **Robert Gipe.** Writer's Workshop—Part II: "A Character-Building Experience."

#### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

- 9:30 a.m. **Stephanie Powell Watts.** Reading. Watts, a Lenoir, North Carolina native, will discuss and read from her novel, *No One is Coming to Save Us*, winner of the 2018 NAACP Image Award.
- 12:00 noon. Literary Trails Luncheon. **Georgann Eubanks** takes us down more of North Carolina's fascinating and delicious "Literary Trails" based on her experiences in writing the 3-part *Literary Trails of North Carolina* series, as well as *The Month of Their Ripening: North Carolina Heritage Foods*. Box lunches are provided for a nominal charge. Reservations are required: call 336-846-2787.
- 2:00 p.m. **Ronni Lundy.** Reading. A post-prandial treat, Lundy will celebrate good ol' Southern food as she discusses and reads from *Victuals*, winner of the 2017 James Beard Foundation Book of the Year Award.

#### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

- 9:30 a.m. **Jaki Shelton Green.** Reading. Poet, teacher and community arts advocate, Green currently serves as North Carolina's Poet Laureate. Author of eight poetry collections, she will read and discuss selections from her poetry.
- 12:00 noon. **Lunch with an Author.** Join some of our 2019 Authors for lunch and a time of more intimate discussion and sharing. Call the Arts Council at 336.846-2787 for authors/restaurants and to reserve your spot. **Various Restaurants in Downtown West Jefferson.**
- 2:30-4:30 p.m. **Jaki Shelton Green.** Writer's Workshop: "The Poet Witnesses: Writing Documentary Poetry." Green will examine the documentary poetry samplers of Forché, Tretheway, and Smith, as well as her own. Why does history matter to the poem? What does it mean when a poet weaves personal narratives with more traditional documentary modes such as exposition, interview, witness and persona? All levels and all genres are welcome. Participants will engage in writing and discussing documentary poems. Bring writing instruments of your choice— pen, paper, pencil, tablet, computer, etc.
- 7:30 p.m. **Beth Macy.** Reading and talk. Macy is the author of three New York Times-bestselling non-fiction works, including this year's Festival Read, *Dopesick: Dealers, Doctors, and The Drug Company That Addicted America*. She will read and discuss this instant bestseller and add to our understanding of a critical issue facing our county, our state and our nation. Ashe Arts Center.

#### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

- 8:30 a.m. **Page Turners Breakfast.** For On the Same Page Festival donors. Join us by becoming a donor today! Ask how. Reservations required. **Sweet and Savory Bakery and Cafe.**
- 11:00 a.m. **Diane Chamberlain.** Reading and talk. Chamberlain will read from and discuss her latest novel, *The Dream Daughter*, and perhaps share a little about the novel she is currently working on, *Big Lies in a Small Town*, set in Edenton, North Carolina.





**Art on the Mountain**  
FINE ART, COOL CRAFTS

Saturday, September 28, 2019  
9:00 am - 3:00 pm  
Ashe Arts Center, Downtown West Jefferson

WKSJ's Old Time Music and Bluegrass Show, hosted by Gary Poe, featuring Randy & Deborah Jean Sheets and Kay Justice, broadcast live from the Arts Center, "a little after 11:00"

Pottery - Paintings - Baskets - Rug Hooking - Crafts  
Quilting - Wood Turning - Jewelry - Literary Works - Fiber Arts

Unique art for sale!  
Artist Demonstrations!

ASHE

## ART ON THE MOUNTAIN

It's a day filled with an array of arts and crafts from some of the best artists in the region. Join in the fun from 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM on Saturday, September 28 at the Ashe Arts Center. The street and adjacent parking lots will be filled with potters, painters, writers, wood workers, quilters, rug hookers, fiber artists, jewelers, basket makers, and more.

Exhibiting artists include Catherine Altice, Francine Barr, Theresa Early Curd, Gail Brandt, David Bridge, Doug Butler, Judy Davis, Tina Duffey, Sandra Greer, David Hedrick, High Country Doll Artists, Leesa Kessell, Pat Long, Theresa McGrath, Karen Penley, Bob Piastuch, Chris Privette,

Judith Reese, Cheryl Roberts, Adrienne Sherrow, Linda Dease Smith, Beth Taylor, Dan Wall, Pam Washer, Hollis Wild, and Paula Williams. Enjoy live music "a little after 11" with the WKSJ Old Time Music and Bluegrass Show. Call the Arts Council at 336.846-2787 for more information.

**GALLERY CRAWLS** continue in downtown West Jefferson the second Friday of each month through October from 5 - 8 PM. Participating galleries include Acorn Gallery, Ashe Arts Center, Ashe Custom Framing & Gallery, Backstreet Beads, Bohemia Gallery, Catchlight Gallery, Farmers Market Crafters, Florence Thomas Art School, Great Southern Gothic Gallery, Originals Only Gallery, Quilt Square Girls, RT Morgan Art Gallery & Glass by Camille, Stephen Shoemaker Studio, and the Vintage Locket.

The many galleries and craft shops that comprise the **ARTS DISTRICT** will be open late September 13 and October 11 giving visitors opportunities to see new, creative, innovative works by Ashe County's leading artists. Admission to the Gallery Crawl is free. Maps are available at the Ashe Arts Center and other participating galleries. Many galleries offer refreshments, and special in-store promotions will be held throughout the evening at some stops on the Crawl.

Live music is also offered at select galleries and on the streets. The Crawl is sponsored by the Ashe County Arts Council with funding from the Grassroots Arts Program and a grant from the North Carolina Arts Council, a division of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, and the West Jefferson Business Association. For more information, call the participating galleries or the Arts Center at 336.846-2787.



August Evening  
Oil by Joan Bell

## NOSTALGIA

The upcoming exhibit at the Ashe Arts Center Gallery challenges artists to recall pleasant moments from their past and the fondness they have for the "old days." The display will include nostalgic subjects through painting, photography, and the fiber arts, and will undoubtedly stir up fond memories for visitors to the gallery.

The exhibit opens with a reception for the public on Friday September 13, from 5:00 to 8:00 pm, during the Gallery Crawl. Participating artists include Tara Belk, Joan Bell, Margaret Blansett, Doug Butler, Gale Champion, Amy Queen Chappin, Evalynn Halsey, Michelle Handler, Kathy Hentschel, Deb Jones, Rex Miller, Judy Mitchell, Pat Morrison, Gerry Patterson, Ed Perzel, Scot Pope, Anita Poplin, Adrienne Sherrow, Colette Shomaker, Beth Taylor,

Carolyn Weckstrom, Jay Wild, and others. **Nostalgia** will be on display in the Gallery from September 11 through October 5.

## KEEPING UP WITH THE ARTS COUNCIL

Are you receiving the weekly Arts Council e-mails? Do you want an easy way to keep up with what's going on in the arts? While our quarterly newsletter is a great overview of programs being presented, weekly e-blasts alert you to any changes, updates, and new information about upcoming programs. Give us a call or email us to have your information added to our growing list of contacts. Follow the Ashe County Art Council on Facebook for quick updates. Please "like" us!



## GALLERY Crawl

Promoting West Jefferson's  
Arts District

## OCTOBER Arts

### Best of the Blue Ridge



Painters from Ashe and surrounding counties are invited to submit works for **THE BEST OF THE BLUE RIDGE**, a juried fine art competition and exhibition. Visual artists residing in Ashe, Alleghany, Watauga, Wilkes, Grayson and Johnson Counties are eligible to submit original work that has been executed within the last three years. Paintings, drawings, hand pulled prints and two-dimensional mixed media works will be accepted. There is a non-refundable entry fee and delivery dates are October 4, 5 and 7 at the Ashe Arts Center. A Prospectus for the show is available from the Arts Council.

Juror for **The Best of the Blue Ridge** is Lee Carol Giduz. She is executive director of the Blowing Rock Art and History Museum. She is a native of Kentucky and was raised in Cincinnati, Ohio. She was lured to North Carolina, first to attend camp, and later to attend Davidson College where she graduated with a BA in public policy. She and her husband Bob live in Lenoir, where they raised their three children. Lee Carol has a 29-year history of working with nonprofits in a leadership capacity, primarily in the arts. She has served as executive director of the Caldwell Arts Council and has been on the board of directors of the North Carolina Arts Council.



Awards for the show are provided by corporate sponsor Cheap Joe's Art Stuff. The popular *People's Choice Award* will be awarded on November 20 following voting by visitors to the exhibit.

The exhibit opens October 9 and runs through November 21. The public is invited to the opening reception for the artists on Friday, October 11 from 5-8pm in conjunction with the Fall Gallery Crawl. The awards presentation will occur at 6pm. For more information, contact the Arts Council at 336.846-2787.

## THE EMPEROR'S NEW CLOTHES



Auditions will be held for the Missoula Children's Theatre (MCT) production of **THE EMPEROR'S NEW CLOTHES** from 3:45 to 5:45PM Monday, October 21 in the Civic Center Auditorium. Those auditioning should arrive by 3:45 pm and plan to stay for the full two hours. Some of the cast members will be asked to stay for a rehearsal immediately following the audition.

Among the roles to be cast are the Emperor, ManyPenny, Royal Scholars Kings and Queens, Royal Jewelers, Royal Cobblers, Royal Hatters, Royal Tailors, and Royal Silkworms. Ashe County students, ages Kindergarten through 12th grade, are encouraged to audition. No advance preparation is necessary. Assistant Directors will also be cast to aid in rehearsals throughout the week and to take on essential backstage responsibilities.

Missoula Children's Theatre touring productions are complete with costumes, scenery, props and makeup. MCT Tour Actor/Directors will conduct rehearsals throughout the week from 3:30 to 8:00 PM each day. There is a \$25 fee per cast member to help defray the cost of this learning experience.

This production is sponsored and funded by the Ashe County Arts Council, the Ashe Civic Center, and the Ashe County Little Theatre. **THE EMPEROR'S NEW CLOTHES** will be presented at 3:00 and 7:30 PM Saturday, October 26 at the Civic Center. Ticket price is \$16 for adults and \$5 for students, and will be available in advance at the Ashe Arts Center or by calling 336.846-2787.

## WORDKEEPERS SALON

Readers from across the High Country will gather at the Ashe Arts Center for the Wordkeepers Salon on October 19. The salon features writers reading their latest prose and poetry works in five-minute open microphone time slots. The readings begin at 4:00 PM.

Wordkeepers is free and open to the public. Writers interested in reading from their work should email Diana Renfro at RenfroDiana@msn.com to secure their first-come, first-served spot on the bill, and to receive guidelines for reading.

## Ashe County Little Theatre presents

Who's on First?

A comedy by Jack Sharkey



Adults: \$18 • Students: \$5  
includes applicable sales tax

October  
11 - 13, 2019  
Ashe Civic Center

Buy tickets at  
ashecountylittletheatre.org  
or call (336) 846-2787



## A BRIT OF MAGIC

Whats so special about **A Brit of Magic**? Apart from the fact that both performers are Brits, and that it is full of the funniest magic you will ever see, it is also a unique theatrical experience. Keith Fields and Lady Sarah are a true comedy double act, a modern version of the great acts of time gone by. One moment they are performing a beautiful piece of magic, the next... You can never be certain of what is going to happen next! But you can be sure it will be funny!

The Arts Council will present **A Brit of Magic** at 7:30 PM on Saturday, November 2 at the Ashe Civic Center. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$5 for students. All seats are reserved and can be purchased online at [www.ashecountyarts.org](http://www.ashecountyarts.org) or by calling 336.846-2787. Don't miss it!



## New Grants Fund Created

The Jane Lonon Legacy Fund has been established to honor the hard work and success of the Ashe County Arts Council's recently retired executive director. This sustainable fund will honor Jane's long tenure and provide continued enrichment of our community through the arts.

An annual grant of up to \$2,500 will be made to a project that features the fine arts or the heritage arts of the Appalachians. The project must demonstrate creative use of the arts to further tourism and economic development in Ashe County. To date, more than \$54,000 has been raised in a quiet solicitation so as not to divert funding from the annual fall Arts Council Fund Drive. An oversight committee is being formed to develop guidelines, and the inaugural grants cycle will be announced after the first of the year.

If you would like information about the Legacy Fund, please contact Ed Perzel at [eperzel@skybest.com](mailto:eperzel@skybest.com). We would like to thank the following contributors for their support:

Anonymous, Hannah Abee, Chip and Judy Anderson, Bill and Donna Apple, Chris Arvidson and Henry Doss, Ashe County Chamber of Commerce, Ashe Custom Framing and Gallery, Al and Barbara Barkley, Michael and Joan Bell, Pete and Judy Benda, Bethany UMC Bible Class, Fowler and Jenny Bush, Pete and Mimi Brandt, Karen and Gil Brock, Gary Brown, Bobby and Susan Caddell, Kathy Chefas, Christmas in July Festival, Joan Croteau, Jane and Walt Davis, Dave and Lynne Eastburn, Jan and Jim Gambill, Eddie and Betsy Gant, Chris and Jane Glass, Alfred and Josette Glover, Elaine and Charles Graham, Debbie Handy, Loftin and Linda Hargrave, Wayne Henderson and Helen White, Rhonda Herman, Ron and Peg Hofstetter, Kathy Howell, Roy and Irby Hutchins, Clyde and Eva Ingle, Janet Jenny, Clint and Barbara Johnson, Wayne and Diane Johnson, Donnie and Dana Johnson, Pegge Laine, John MacConnell, Becky and Kent Marsten, Jim and Julia Mathews, McFarland Publishing, Edie Miller, Vaughn and Beth Morrison, Bill and Barb Naser, H.P. and Wanda Parks, Mark and Allyson Perlman, Ed and Ellie Perzel, Kim Perzel, Ray Podd and Linda Stanley, Howell and Becky Pruett, Traylor and Diana Renfro, Barbara Sears, Vernon Taylor, June Weaver, Connie Woolard

### MEMORIALS

The Ashe County Arts Council welcomes contributions in honor of those living or in memory of those departed. Memorials are a fitting way of showing love and respect and of recognizing individuals for their community service or their good life. Unless otherwise designated, memorial funds are used to provide much needed operational support for your county-wide arts council. Call us at 336.846-2787 for more information.

Thanks to all of our hard working committee members, our movers and shakers and folks who do things for us on a daily basis. Thank you from the Arts Council!

Mike Acquesta, Bill & Donna Apple, Ashe County Amateur Radio Club, Tab Bell, Susanne Black, Jerry, Peggy & Sarah Brandt, Becky Burgess, Joy Campbell, Phil Cole, Baron & Olivia Cooper, Theresa Early Curd, Cindy Deal, Amber Dillingham, Jeff Dreyer, Richard & Melissa Edmondson, Dave & Lynne Eastburn, Tom Fowler & Debbie Handy, Jan Gambill, Jay & Marilyn Gibbs, Elaine Graham, Karen Hall, Evalynn Halsey, Connie Hardison, Loftin Hargrave, Charna Howson, Earl & Pattie Huffman, John & René Hughey, Kathy Howell, Jayme Inman, Kim & Richard Isler, Carolyn & Phillip Johnson, Diane & Wayne Johnson, Donnie & Dana Johnson, Caroline Keith, Mike & Mary Fran Knight, Diane Littlefield, Jane Lonon, Ken Lynn, John MacConnell, Geli Macknee, John & Jane Maddocks, Michael Malloy & Larry Massey, Becky & Kent Marsten, Debora Mauser, Susan Meredith, Edie Miller, Les Miller, Susan Miller, Suzanne Moore, Dani Mory, Mountain Dawgs, Barb Naser, Marty Norris, Owen Peeler, Ed & Ellie Perzel, Gary Poe, Scot Pope, Lynn & Hugh Rees-Jones, Diana & Traylor Renfro, Eric Salzwedel, Wade & Sarah Sanders, Allyson & Patrick Sawtelle, Barbara Sears, John & Lucy Smyre, Leila Spriggs, Dan & Karen Strickland, Roger Swanson, Pam Tapp, Tom Truxal & Susan Jespersen, Guyla Vardell, Charlie & Ellen Vitale, Della Vodenicker, June Weaver, Nancy Weaver, Jim Williams, Paula Williams, Jo Wolhfeld, Betty & Johnny Worley, Amanda Wright. ROTC Cadets: Ali Blevins, Mason Carpenter, Drake Elliot, Dylan Little, Olivia Little, Chloe Miller, Torin Potter, Josh Reed, Montana Rose, Zach Somers, Kehla Turnmire; Thank you to all our BRB Rest Stop volunteers and Fire and Rescue Teams!



## COFFEE HOUSE LIVE!



Mark your calendars for the next special **COFFEE HOUSE LIVE!**

*Saturday, November 9, 2019, 7:30 pm*

*Hensley Hall at West Jefferson United Methodist Church*

*Enjoy an evening of great Arts Council desserts, coffee and beverages, along with the best in High Country entertainment.*

**Arvil Scott**, your emcee for the evening

**Cane Mill Road Band**

*High energy bluegrass band with an eclectic mix of traditional and original sounds*

**Bob and Sylvia Zahner**

*Piano solos and Vocal solos, Classical to Contemporary!*

**The Smart Ashes**

*Listen to good tight harmony acapella style, plus they will put a smile on your face as they entertain you*

**Admission at the door: \$16 adults, \$5 students.**

**For more information, call 336.846-2787**

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