



Stories Tall & Short, in Words & Song

The “Second Saturday at 7” program for July 9 might be called the second annual Highland County Storytelling Event. The four featured entertainers all appeared last August in an Arts Council program featuring Storytelling. All four are Highland County residents and experienced story tellers. Truthfully this foursome consists of three amateurs and a professional.

The professional is Rick Hill. In addition to being the minister for Monterey and Beulah Presbyterian Churches, Rick is a gifted, professional musician. He sings, composes, and plays about eight musical instruments. He will present his stories in song and you might even be invited to sing along with him.

The three amateurs are Jim Sherman, Bucky and Norma Reynolds. Jim and his wife bought property, built a home in Little Egypt and retired to live there full time in 2017. He was a pediatric pulmonologist and misses the teaching component of the job. He has written two books and one of his stories is contained in one of them. His 8 children enjoy his stories, which usually have important lessons, but find they often differ from their memories of the

incident. His wife Linda says his stories are good but warns him not to get “preachy”. Bucky and Norma moved to Highland County in 1999 and are still considered “newcomers” by some but are generally well tolerated and welcomed. They are both retired educators. Norma taught high school and college mathematics. Bucky taught psychology in college, coached college soccer and worked in college administration. As former educators, neither was shy about speaking in public and fully embraced the opportunity to learn about “storytelling”. They have enjoyed attending storytelling festivals, and performing their stories on a smaller stage. Bucky says they are “semi-professional” because they received free parking passes when performing summer gigs in Douthat State Park and Norma once got a potted plant for performing at a Highland High School class reunion. The event will be held in the garden at the Jones House on Main Street in Monterey. In case of bad weather, it will be moved to the Highland Center.

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Make note

Our new email:
HighlandCoArts@gmail.com



Invitation to 'Making Art'

Suse Field



Monday Art is a loosely knit group that meets weekly on Monday in the Arts Council Room at The Highland Center from 1 to 3 pm. It's free, though we pass a contribution jar from time to time. No prerequisites are required and attendance may be irregular.

We've met since the Arts Council had the room at The Center and attendance varies. Anywhere between 3 and 10 people will come. A reminder email on the weekend before allows us to say if we're coming.

We draw and paint, discuss materials and their characteristics and talk art sometimes. At the end of each session we look at what we've done and plan the next get-together. Everyone has input. If you want to do your own thing, you're welcome to do that too. We are very supportive and don't take ourselves too seriously.

We don't encourage oil painting because of space, time and storage, you bring your own materials and you take them with you each time.

While THC was being renovated we met at the tavern of The Highland Inn and over the years we've initiated classes, workshops, and have shown what we do at the Mountain View Room and THC. Some of us have mentored students from school or home-schooled.

Some of us have more skill and experience, we share what we know and encourage taking risks and not be afraid of failing. Surprise yourself and try again, it's daunting to face a blank sheet of paper in company.

We've attempted still lifes, portraits, botanicals, figure drawing and landscapes from life or photographs.

It's all a learning experience. But it's amazing what hard work and concentration this effort can require, as enjoyable as it is.

The group owes its long-term survival to our much missed late friend Susan Blanchard. She was the driving force in keeping the group alive by continuing to show up, to paint and to encourage us to do the same.

She really was our mentor and now we're honor-bound to survive as a creative group.

Again, it's free, and no prior experience is required.

SECOND SATURDAY AT SEVEN FALL 2022 SEASON

THE CROOKED ROAD ON TOUR

Adam McPeak & Mountain Thunder

September 10

Hard-driving, sweet sounding, earth pounding,
bluegrass and gospel music

THE ORIGINAL RHONDELS

October 8

Premier party and dance band - a band with
a big sound, and a great show

THE WAYNE TEEN IM PROV

November 12

Funny, teen improvisation from the Wayne
Theatre in Waynesboro

GEOFFREY MARSH

December 10

Juggling, puppetry, magic, and more!

Making Reaching the Goal Possible

On February 11, 1990, a group of women met to further the arts. Their expressed purpose was “to bring such performances and provide enriching experiences for all our citizens and to provide a wider cultural base for our children.” Their efforts continue more than 32 years later thanks to local volunteers some of whom serve on the Board of Directors and while others help with set ups for Second Saturday @ Seven performances and manage the other activities of the Highland County Arts Council.

Of no little importance is the monetary support the Council receives from its members. Those grassroots donations are the base upon which the Council is built. Joining them are various local foundations and state and federal agencies which help broaden the ability of the Council to reach its goals. The changes that transformed the old Highland High School gym into a viable performance center were largely due to grants from the Charles Pinckney Jones Foundations and the Little Swiss Fund.

The Council’s ability to bring quality entertainment to Highland is due in part by grants from the Community Foundation of the Central Blue Ridge. We are pleased to report that the Community Foundation has announced its continuing support with a 2022-23 fiscal year grant. The Council is honored to accept the funds and to use them to continue the work of that group of women in 1990 who dedicated themselves “to enriching experiences for all our citizens.”

Arts Academy Adds Culinary Week

One of the goals of the Highland Arts Academy in 2022 was to add the culinary arts to the workshop offerings. This has become a reality with the development of a Culinary Week from July 18 – 22. Each day will feature a different workshop that focuses on new ways to prepare Highland products. The art of fermentation will be the subject Monday, followed by artesian breads on Tuesday, cooking with lavender on Wednesday, Highland appetizers on Thursday, and favorite recipes for lamb on Friday. The culmination of Culinary Week will be the annual Taste of Highland at the Highland Center with the foods prepared during the week featured on the evening’s menu. This partnership between the Highland Center and HCAC provides for a true taste of Highland!

The Highland Arts Academy will also hold stained glass, printmaking, and pottery workshops in July. For complete workshop descriptions and registration information, visit www.highlandartsacademy.com

HIGHLAND ARTS ACADEMY

CULINARY WEEK



**COOK WITH HIGHLAND PRODUCTS
FROM LAMB TO LAVENDER**

Culinary workshops offered from July 18 - 22 focusing on cooking with Highland's incredible ingredients.

REGISTER NOW!

hicoartsacademy@gmail.com

www.highlandartsacademy.com

Creativity Corner



Amy Baird Middleton

Amy Baird Middleton is a painter, photographer and writer/illustrator of three children's books. Born and raised in Oregon, Amy has spent most of her life in Virginia. She got her BFA in painting and printmaking from Virginia Commonwealth University. She has shown at the Art Museum of Portland, OR, and the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts biennial in Richmond, and received recognition at several exhibitions. She lives with her dog Ulla in the mountains of Virginia, which inspire much of her current work.

THANK YOU

Without the support of the following organizations, the Highland County Arts Council would not be able to provide the programming that is its hallmark.

The Virginia Commission for the Arts

The National Endowment for the Arts

The Community Foundation of the Central Blue Ridge

The Little Swiss Fund

The Charles Pinckney Jones Foundation

Announcement!

The Highland County Arts Council Board meets the first Tuesday of each month at 10 am in the Highland Center. **However, the board will meet in July on the 12th due to the 4th of July holidays.**

Members are welcome to attend these meetings and we invite you to join us one morning to witness your organization at work!