

## The Highland County Arts Council Is Proud To Be The Entertainment Sponsor



**Elk River Ramblers  
March 8, 5pm**

### **Change in the Lineup, Same Anticipation**

While we regret to announce the change in the entertainment lineup, the Arts Council could not be more excited to host the Elk River Ramblers for this month's *2nd Saturday* show on Saturday, March 8 at 5 p.m. at The Highland Center.

Formed informally in 2009, the Ramblers came together as the house band at their local venue, The Elk River Restaurant. These incredibly talented musicians are Seth Maynard on guitar and vocals, Galen Watts on 6-string electric bass and vocals, and Paul Marganian on fiddle, guitar, and vocals. You may have seen some of them perform in the Highlands Community Orchestra, but here is your chance to see them expand on their repertoire with a wide, eclectic mix of musical genres from Appalachian Old-Time, Bluegrass, Celtic, Klezmer, to Jazz and Classic Rock.

Admission is \$15 at the door (\$5 off with Maple Festival Keychain); Students tickets are a flat \$5; Ages 12 and under are FREE!

# Maple Festival Entertainment & Art

at The Highland Center



*Southern Rail Express*

## Entertainment

\$5 Entry or Maple Festival Keychain for 10 am and 2 pm performances.

### Saturday, March 8, 2025

10 am – Southern Rail Express (Bluegrass)  
2 pm – Southern Rail Express (Bluegrass)

5 pm – Furnace Mountain Band (Acoustic)  
(\$15 at door, \$5 off with keychain)

### Sunday, March 9, 2025

10 am – Jack Dunlap (Bluegrass)  
2 pm – Jack Dunlap (Bluegrass)

### Saturday, March 15, 2025

10 am – Mill Creek Cronies (Appalachian Folk)  
2 pm – 4 pm – Square Dance with Ellen and Eugene Ratcliffe with music by Mill Creek Cronies

### Sunday, March 16, 2025

10 am – Hi-Horse Cloggers  
2 pm – Little Switzerland Cloggers



*Little Switzerland Cloggers*



## Local Artisans Shop

**Saturdays 9am - 5pm**

**Sundays 9am - 4pm**

in the Conference Room

In addition to the many vendors you'll find scattered around town, in the school gyms, and around the county, the Highland Center is host to a shop of local Highland artists. A blaze orange maple leaf keychain gains you access to a stunning variety of talent from hand-tied flies by Ashley Armstrong (see next page) to tiny resin worlds by Lauren Hindman, paintings, cards, prints, and more.

Swing in downstairs, grab a warm donut, and feast your eyes on these local treasures!



# Looking Ahead: Save the Date!

**April 12, 7 pm**

Scuffletown, acoustic duo

You might catch them jamming the night before at Big Fish Cidery Open Mic

April 11, 5-7pm



**April 27, 3 pm**

The Highlands Community Orchestra



## ARTISTS' WEEKEND June 27-29

**HIGHLAND COUNTY  
FAIR GUIDE COVER CONTEST**

Be the next Fair guide cover artist by creating the best entry with the fair's theme, "All Hearts Come Home to Highland"

If your cover art is chosen, other than being the face of the 2025 Fair, you'll win a **SEASON TICKET AND A T-SHIRT!**

Entries can be emailed to [info@highlandcountyfairva.com](mailto:info@highlandcountyfairva.com) or dropped off at the Highland Extension Office between 8:30am & 5:00pm M-F

- The Extension Office is located at 83 Highland Center Drive in Monterey, VA
- Include your full name, mailing address, & phone number with your submission
- 8.5x11 inch artwork is preferred but entries are to be no larger than 10x10
- Do not use a dark background in your entry as it's unable to be printed properly
  - Any art medium may be used

**Deadline for entries is April 1<sup>st</sup>**

Stay up to date on  
Arts Council  
events at

Email  
[highlandcoarts@gmail.com](mailto:highlandcoarts@gmail.com)

Like us on Facebook  
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[highlandcountyartscouncil.org](http://highlandcountyartscouncil.org)



# Creativity Corner



## Ashley Armstrong

Ashley Armstrong has always loved fishing, and says she is “so fortunate to live in Highland County, where we have some of the best waters and streams in the State of Virginia.” She wanted to learn fly fishing and tying in high school, but was always told “That’s a rich man’s sport or hobby!” About three years ago, Ray Turner, who is like a second grandfather to Ashley, taught her how to tie flies. “I’ve always had an artistic side, so when he wanted me to start simple, I told him my brain was on fire for something more of a challenge!” Ashley shared. She began fly fishing with some older gentleman to learn the basics, and went out daily to practice casting and laying out line!

Ashley enjoys the endless possibilities with tying flies. She likes to use things in nature, such as beaver or muskrat hair. The long guard hairs and the heavy undercoat make for great movement in the water.

Ashley’s flies are available in local stores such as The Curly Maple in Monterey. She also has a Facebook page, Highland Fish Bum Tying & Fishing. You can message her to buy flies, or schedule guided fly or spin cast trips on the water.

She will be set up in the Artisans Room at the Highland Center for the Maple Festival, selling a mix of flies and lures. She makes a special crayfish lure for fly or spin fishing, and a starter pack tin of 10 flies. She also makes saltwater lures for folks who fish at the beach. You name it, Ashley can make it!

The Artisan Room during Maple Festival is for citizens of Highland County to sell their work. It is open to any artist that would like to sell and share their art with others during the festival, and a small percent goes back into the community, to continue these types of events for local artists.



# THANK YOU

NATIONAL  
ENDOWMENT  
for the **ARTS**  
arts.gov

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

