

Summer 2015 Catalog of Programs and Events

Most programs are held at the Lois E. Harrill Senior Center
132 Poplar Grove Connector in Boone.

Movies at the Library are held at
Watauga County Public Library, 140 Queen St., Boone.

Blue Ridge Art Space
377 Shadowline Dr. (Corner of Shadowline & State Farm), Boone

We have a new Arts Coordinator, Linda Elksnin,
a local artist, with a BFA from Syracuse University.

Linda has recruited a variety of exciting programs for our summer semester: Art of the Book, A Reading by Joseph Bathanti, Mini Concert by David Smith, Stained Glass Demonstration, Sculpting Controversial Prime Ministers, and A Brief History of Quilting.

Lifelong Painters

When: Every Wednesday: 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Leader: JoAnn Pippin, watercolor artist with 20 years of experience

Description: Join JoAnn and others who gather every Wednesday for a “paint together” session. Just bring your watercolors and equipment and be inspired by this lively group of painters. All levels are invited, but some experience with watercolor is helpful.

Location: Harrill Senior Center – Classroom 3

What Makes Love Last? Secrets to Relationship Success

When: Tuesday, June 2nd, 2:00pm to 3:30pm

Description: Come and hear Dr. Doris Bazzini, a professor for 22 years in the Department of Psychology at Appstate, discuss the factors that have been shown to positively and negatively impact long term relationships.

Location: Harrill Senior Center – Classroom 1

Art of the Book

When: Thursday, June 4th, 3:30pm to 5:00pm

Description: Artist Lillian Trettin will provide an introduction to the history and current practice of making artist's books, followed by an easy, hands on project. Bring scissors!

Location: Harrill Senior Center - 2nd Floor Conference Room

Movies at the Library – The Theory of Everything

When: Monday, June 8th, 2:00pm to 4:00pm

Description: The Theory of Everything (2014) (123 minutes) In the 1960s, Cambridge University student and future physicist Stephen Hawking (Eddie Redmayne) falls in love with fellow collegian Jane Wilde (Felicity Jones). At 21, Hawking learns that he has motor neuron disease. Despite this – and with Jane at his side – he begins an ambitious study of time, of which he has very little left, according to his doctor. He and Jane defy terrible odds and break new ground in the fields of medicine and science, achieving more than either could hope to imagine. Eddie Redmayne won the Academy Award for Best Actor.

Location: Watauga County Public Library

Instructions: If you like, bring a seat cushion, snack, BYOBeverage and we will have the popcorn.

A Reading by Joseph Bathanti

When: Tuesday, June 9th, 2:00pm – 3:30pm

Description: Joseph Bathanti, former Poet Laureate of North Carolina (2012 – 2014) and Professor of Creative Writing at ASU, will read selections of his work and answer questions follow the presentation. Bethanti is the author of eight books of poetry and the recipient of numerous literary awards. "This Metal" was nominated for the National Book Award and was the winner of the Oscar Arnold Young Award Books and will be available for purchase and the author will sign them.

Location: Harrill Senior Center, Classroom 3

Hike with Naturalist, Julie Mullis, for Plants for Medicinal, Food, and Survival Uses

When: Thursday, June 11th, 2:00pm – 3:30pm

Description: Join Naturalist Julie Mullis as we hike about approximately one mile moderately flat loop with plenty of plants of interest and folklore of many of the plants we will see along the trails.

Instructions: We will meet at the Price Lake Park amphitheater at 2:00 pm.

Price Lake Loop plus Walk Over to Boone Fork River via the Picnic Area

When: Friday, June 12th, 9:30am – 12:00pm

Description: We will start from the parking lot near the boat rentals, circle the lake, cut across the road and join the Boone Fork train passed the picnic area (and restrooms) to the first rock bench on the river where we will stop for a snack before heading back. Easy, mostly level walking with a moderate uphill section or two. 4.5 miles

Location: Price Park, Blue Ridge Parkway

Instructions: Meet at the boat ramp parking on Price Lake, mile marker 297 on Blue Ridge Parkway. Bring water and snack. Call Juin Adams at 828-295-9607 before 8:30 am need directions or if you wonder if the hike may be cancelled for bad weather.

150 Years Later: Why Appomattox Still Matters

When: Tuesday, June 16th, 2:00pm – 3:30pm

Description: Dr. Judkin Browning, ASU, Department of History, will explain why this battle is still important today.

Location: Harrill Senior Center, 2nd Floor Conference Room

Dr. Alan Hauser Presents King Herod and the Temple in Jerusalem

When: Thursday, June 18th, 3:30pm – 5:00pm

Description: King Herod's temple was the last and most grandiose rebuilding of the Israelite temple first constructed by King Solomon almost 1,000 years earlier. Even though Herod's buildings are gone, as with the Israelite temple begin replaced by the Muslim Dome of the Rock (completed c690/691CE), the complex itself, including Herod's immense retaining wall, is certainly one of the wonders of the ancient world. There is so much to explore here, especially since the Jewish historian, Josephus, provides us a detailed discussion of Herod's building projects on the temple mount.

Modern archeology has unearth a great deal which enriches our understanding of this project in which King Herod took such great pride.

Location: Harrill Senior Center, 2nd Floor Conference Room

History through the Lens of Biographies – *Gertrude Bell: Queen of the Desert, Shaper of Nations, 2006*

Description: Join Dr. Josette Maxwell as you delve into the history of the Middle East. The Middle East is a mess ad extremely important in today’s world. Ever wonder how it happened that three bitter enemies were grouped to form one country, Iraq. The answer is simple: Gertrude Bell (“at one time, the most powerful woman in the British Empire”), whose biography is the subject of this first session.

Instructions: The best and latest biography of Gertrude Bell is by Georgina Howell *Gertrude Bell: Queen of the Desert, Shaper of Nations, 2006*. You can purchase it at Amazon for \$12.00 or, if you use NC Cardinal at the Watauga County Public Library, there are quite a few copies available from other libraries in the State (takes less than a week to get one. There are also a few other biographies of Gertrude Bell. It might be interesting if we had some who read another and we can compare them. *Desert Queen: The Extraordinary Life of Gertrude Bell, Adventurer, Advisor to Kings, Ally of Lawrence of Arabia* is available at the Watauga County Public Library.

If interested in participating in this reading group, please send an email to josettemaxwell@bellsouth.net.

WALK: Carriage House – Apple Barn Loop

When: Friday, June 26th, 9:30am – 12:00pm

Description: We will start at the Cone Manor House parking area down to the apple barn, then on down Black Bottom Road and back up the gently rising Mountain to Sea Trail. We can another mile, if everyone wants to see the town reservoir. Level footing entire way. Easy to Moderate. 4.3 miles.

Instructions: Meet at the far end of the Cone Manor parking lot near the carriage barn (restrooms) off the Blue Ridge Parkway, mile marker 294. Bring water and power bar or light snack. There are really not good places to sit down and eat after the apple barn. Call Juin Adams at 828-295-9607 before 8:30 am, if you need directions or wonder if the hike will be cancelled because of weather.

Mini-Concert by Guitarist David Smith

When: Wednesday, July 1st, 2:00pm – 3:30pm

Description: In collaboration with Watauga County Arts Council, HCLL presents guitarist, David Smith, for a concert at Blue Ridge Art Space.

Location: Blue Ridge Art Space, 377 Shadowline Dr., Boone

Rain Calling Ceremonies – Cheryl Claassen, Ph.D.

When: Friday, July 10th, 2:00pm – 3:30pm

Description: Cheryl Claassen is a professor of Anthropology at ASU, specializing in Archeology of Eastern North America. The Aztecs made human sacrifices to the rain god each month of the dry season, with the largest and last ceremony occurring the beginning of our May. Surprisingly, these ceremonies continue in southern Mexico today (without human offerings). Dr. Claassen has attended 11 May rain-callings in central and southern Mexico and will talk about what transpires, what landscape features are venerated, and why an archeologist would be interested in these modern events.

Location: Harrill Senior Center, 2nd Floor Conference Room

Movies at the Library – House of Sand and Fog

When: Monday, July 13th, 2:00pm to 4:00pm

Description: House of Sand and Fog (2003) (126 minutes) Reformed drug addict Kathy Nicolo (Jennifer Connelly) has her California coast house, which she inherited from her father, taken away by the county due to a misunderstanding about back taxes. The place is bought by an Iranian immigrant Massoud Amir Behrani (Ben Kingsley) who intends to fix it up and sell it in order to provide a better life for his wife (Shohreh Aghdashloo) and son (Jonathan Ahdout). However, Kathy, desperate to get the house back, begins harassing Behrani so he will return it. Director: Vadim Perelman
Nominated three Oscars

Location: Watauga County Public Library

Instructions: If you like, bring a seat cushion, snack, BYOBeverage and we will have the popcorn.

Politics in Appalachia

When: Tuesday, July 14th, 2:00pm – 3:30pm

Description: Join us as Dr. Mike Potter discusses politics in Appalachia.

Location: Harrill Senior Center, Classroom 1

A Local Appalachian History: Meat Camp, Pottertown, and Sutherland

When: July 16th, 3:30pm – 5:00pm

Description: Join noted ASU Professor of Anthropology and 20 year Director of the Center for Appalachian Studies, Dr. Patricia Beaver, for her topic, Voices from the Headwaters, a rich collection of stories, oral histories, testimonials, and reminiscences that form a portrait of three neighboring Blue Ridge communities. The decades-long effort reveals the interplay between Appalachian culture and community, past, present, and future.

Location: Harrill Senior Center,

History through the Lens of Biographies

When: Tuesday, July 21st, 2:00pm – 3:30pm

Description: The topic of this session will be decided at the first session.

Location: Harrill Senior Center, 2nd Floor Conference Center

Walk: Trout Lake to Rich Mountain – Short Version

When: Friday, July 24th, 9:30am – 12:00pm

Description: We will walk from the parking lot up to the road and up the trail up to Rich Mountain and probably will take the shortcut back down. There is a good place to sit on a wall and have a snack at the top with nice views of distant mountains. Moderate with a half-mile steeper uphill section at the start. Level footing most of the way. 3.2 miles.

Instructions: Meet at the lower tier of the parking lot for Trout Lake just off Shulls Mill Road just after it passes to the north under the Parkway. Call Juin Adams at 828-295-9607 before 8:30 am, if you need directions or wonder if the hike will be cancelled because of weather.

Sandie Gravett Discusses Confucianism and Daoism

When: Tuesday, July 28th, 2:00pm – 3:30pm

Description: Confucianism and Daoism both respond to chaotic times in China and make appeals to ancient practices and paths. But they end up stressing quite distinctive alternatives. We will explore the foundations of each tradition and consider how these philosophies become religious in time.

Location: Harrill Senior Center, 2nd Floor Conference Room

Stained Glass Demonstration at Blue Ridge Art Space

Description: Marianne Rooks will demonstrate how to create stained glass pieces. Come watch and see if this is a craft you would like to learn more about. Marianne will offer a 4 week class in August for those who want to try this interesting medium. Blue Ridge Art Space is home to Watauga County Arts Council.

RSVP to Linda Elksnin at elksnin@yahoo.com by 6pm on 7/29.

Location: Blue Ridge Arts Space, 377 Shadowline Dr., Boone

Sculpting Controversial Israeli Prime Ministers

When: Tuesday, August 4th, 2:00pm to 3:30pm

Description: Sculptor Steven Eingon's busts of David Ben Gurion, Golda Meir, and Bibi Netanyahu are on permanent display at the ASU Belk Library in the Jewish, Holocaust, and Peace Studies Room. Come learn why Eingorn decided to sculpt "the most controversial prime ministers of Israel," each of whom had a significant impact on the formation and history of Israel.

Location: Harrill Senior Center, 2nd Floor Conference Room

Faces of Afghanistan

When: Thursday, August 6th, 3:30pm – 5:00pm

Description; During his time with the US State Department's stabilization team in Kandahar province, Asheville, NC artist Skip Rohde created 52 small scale, framed drawings of district elders. As he describes it, "Rural Afghans have amazing faces, full of passion, intensity, and humanity, as well as, the stress of living the last 30 years of war. I tried to capture their characteristics and saw them as individuals." As fascinating as his drawings are, his personal stories of the Afghan people he got to know. Please join us to learn a very different side to our involvement than the dry, impersonal accounts we hear on the news.

Location: Harrill Senior Center, 2nd Floor Conference Room

Walk: Old John's River Road to North Side of Boone Fork River

When: Friday, August 7th, 9:30am – 12:00pm

Description: We will start from the Sim's Pond parking area, walking along the Parkway a short distance to the Old John's River Road heading north. We will head back on the historic dirt road, join the Mountain to Sea Trail and come out on the north side of the Boone Fork Creek on a lovely Island of rocks. There is one small water crossing in an open field and a steep section of trail down to the river. For those opting not to do that part, there is a nice clearing with seating for a picnic while others explore. Moderate. Less than 4 miles.

Instructions: Meet at Sim's Pond parking mile marker 295.9 on the Parkway (between Shulls Mill Road and Price Lake at 9:30. Bring water and a snack, walking stick and wear serious walking shoes. Bring sandals if you want to dip your toes, but wear the serious shoes to get down to the river. Call Juin Adams at 828-295-9607 before 8:30 am, if you need directions or wonder if the hike will be cancelled because of weather.

Movies at the Library – It Happened One Night

When: Monday, August 10th, 2:00pm to 4:00pm

Description: It Happened One Night (1934) (103 minutes). Two of the great lovers of the screen in the grandest of romantic comedies! A spoiled heiress, running away from her family, is helped by a man who's actually a reporter looking for a story. This was the first film to win the Oscar "grand slam" (Best Picture, Best Actor, Best Actress, Best Director, and Screenplay. Director: Frank Capra, Stars; Clark Gable, Claudette Colbert, Walter Connolly.

Location: Watauga County Public Library

Instructions: If you like, bring a seat cushion, snack, BYOBeverage and we will have the popcorn.

"Jump-Start Your Memoirs"

When: Monday, August 17th, 2:00pm – 3:30pm

Description: Do you have a head full of life stories just waiting to be written? Would you love to be given delicious writing prompts that will set you scribbling on a trip down memory lane? Sue Spirit invites you to a jumping, jump-starting 3-session writing workshop that continues on 8/24 and 8/31.

Location: Harrill Senior Center, 2nd Floor Conference Room

Brief History of Quilting and Quilt Display

When: Tuesday, August 18th, 2:00pm – 3:30pm

Description: Vicki Duckworth and Janet Ward, members of the Ashe County Piecemakers Quilt Guild, will give a brief history of quilting and demonstrate quilting techniques. They will also display quilts that include pieced, applique, and thread painting techniques. Participants also will learn about the annual Ashe County Quilt Fair held in September.

Location: Harrill Senior Center, 2nd Floor Conference Room

The Many Lives of Uncle Tom's Cabin – Dr. Grace McEntee

When: Wednesday, August 19th, 2:00pm – 3:30pm

Description: Many consider Harriet Beecher Stowe's antislavery novel, Uncle Tom's Cabin, the most influential book written in the 19th century – according to folklore, when President Lincoln first met Stowe, during one of the Civil War years, he greeted her by saying, "So this is the little woman, who started this big war." But her work did not lose its hold on the public imagination after Emancipation. It lived on in music, vaudeville, acts, stage productions, and in a host of cultural artifacts – dolls, fans, dishes, paintings, postcards, and fashion. This talk will discuss how Stowe's novel became a lasting cultural icon that has recently experienced one more life as scholars explore ways that it and other works of 19th-c fiction written by women helped to nudge American society in new directions.

Location: Harrill Senior Center, 2nd Floor Conference Room

"Jump-Start Your Memoirs"

When: Monday, August 24th, 2:00pm – 3:30pm

Description: Do you have a head full of life stories just waiting to be written? Would you love to be given delicious writing prompts that will set you scribbling on a trip down memory lane? Sue Spirit invites you to a jumping, jump-starting 3-session writing workshop that continues on 8/24 and 8/31.

Location: Harrill Senior Center, 2nd Floor Conference Room

History through the Lens of Biographies

When: Tuesday, August 25th, 2:00pm – 3:30pm

Description: The topic of this session will be decided at the first session.

Location: Harrill Senior Center, 2nd Floor Conference Center

Important Facts to Know About Our Wastewater Treatment

When: Thursday, August 27th, 2:00pm – 3:30pm

Description: Retired microbiologist, Larry Turnbow, will share his expertise in wastewater management. What are treatment plants capable of removing? What can't be removed? What are emerging problems and can they be solved? What are the differences in techniques of removal between the two wastewater facilities in Boone and is one more effective than the other?

Location: Harrill Senior Center, 2nd Floor Conference Room

Day Trip – Carolina Bison Farm Tour

When: Friday, August 28th, 9:00am – 5:00pm

Description: A casual two hour tour riding in a special high-wheeled vehicle (wagon) at one of Dr. King's Bison Farms to see bison, camels, and watusi. Learn about sustainable agriculture and the impact on your health. Beautiful scenery, interesting narration. We will carpool from Shops on the Parkway (Tanger Outlet Mall on Hwy 321, Blowing Rock) and stop for lunch in Asheville before the 1 pm tour.

Instructions: Call Juin Adams 828-295-9607 by Sunday, August 16th so she can reserve enough seats for everyone. Prices and further details to be announced soon.

Location: Leicester, NC, 15 miles west of Asheville

“Jump-Start Your Memoirs”

When: Monday, August 31st, 2:00pm – 3:30pm

Description: Do you have a head full of life stories just waiting to be written? Would you love to be given delicious writing prompts that will set you scribbling on a trip down memory lane? Sue Spirit invites you to a jumping, jump-starting 3-session writing workshop that continues on 8/24 and 8/31.

Location: Harrill Senior Center, 2nd Floor Conference Room

The following organizations offer programs that members of High Country Lifelong Learners enjoy:

Lois E. Harrill Senior Center –

Chargers and Rechargers – www.boonenc.org/hiking/

Watauga County Public Library – www.wataugacountylibrary.com

High Country Audubon Society – www.highcountryaudubon.org

Watauga County Arts Council - www.watauta-arts.org

Blowing Rock Art and History Museum (BRAHM) – www.blowingrockmuseum.org

Mountain Friends – marysunshineta@aol.com