

HIGH COUNTRY LIFELONG LEARNERS Fall 2015 Catalog of Programs and Events

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

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

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

Lifelong Painters

When: Every Wednesday: 1:00 – 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, Room 3

Get Out of Your Box: On Living An Adventurous Life

When: Tuesday, September 1st, 2:00 - 3:30 pm

Description: Are you sometimes adventurous? Do you long to be more adventurous? Do you take risks to do the things you dream of doing? What are you afraid of? Travel, acquiring new skills, going on spiritual retreats, becoming immersed in other cultures, and learning new languages are some of the sometimes-scary adventures middle-aged and older women and men long to undertake. Engage in a lively discussion, hearing stories and contemplating new adventure possibilities. Diana Mast White, Sue Spirit, and Marcia Hickman will kick off the program with some tales and ideas. Bring stories, suggestions, and handouts to share if you wish.

Location: Harrill Senior Center, 2nd Floor Conference Room

Putin: Russian History Fulfilled – Dr. Peter Pethauser, Professor Emeritus, ASU, Department of History

When: Friday, September 4th, 2:00 – 3:30 pm

Description: “I am in control now...no one can touch me,” Vladimir Putin

Vladimir Putin, Russia’s president until 2018, seems set out daily to antagonize the leaders of countries who surround Russia. The western media for the most part fall into the same tune by denouncing his attempts to regain territories he argues are or were part of Russia and therefore need to be destabilized for re-/ integration into Russia. The Russian public and media, and Putin, see the situation differently. They argue that the countries that are part of NATO have surrounded Russia and are threatening its borders, if not its very existence. Nuanced approaches to these different visions are now almost impossible. One approach that would help in the West, would be to understand better Putin’s background and his internal motivators. Here is one such approach.

Location: Harrill Senior Center, 2nd Floor Conference Room

Book Talk

When: Tuesday, September 8th, 2:00 - 3:30 pm

Description: What have you been reading lately? Bring your favorite reading ideas to share.

Location: Harrill Senior Center, 2nd Floor Conference Room

Visit with Toni Carlton at Carlton Gallery

When: Friday, September 11th 10:30 am - 12:00pm

Description: Visit Carlton Gallery and hear Toni Carlton's perspectives as a gallery owner of 33 years. RSVP to Linda Elksnin by 8:30 p.m. September 10 at elksninl@yahoo.com so she'll look for you at the Senior Center. We will meet at Lois Harrill Senior Center parking lot at 10 a.m. and carpool to the gallery, which is located on 105.

Location: Carlton Gallery, 10360 NC-105, near Grandfather Winery in Foscoe, if it's easier, meet us there at 10:20 am

Movies at the Library: Harold and Maude (1971)

When: Monday, September 14th, 2:00 - 4:00 pm

Description: Harold and Maude (1971) Young, rich, and obsessed with death, Harold finds himself changed forever when he meets lively septuagenarian Maude at a funeral. Nominated for 2 Golden Globes. Ranked in top ten list of the greatest romantic comedy films.

Location: Watauga County Public Library

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

Jump-Starting Your Memoirs

When: Monday, September 14th, 2:00 - 3:30 pm

Description: Do you have a head full of life stories just waiting to be written? Do you love to be given writing prompts that will start you scribbling down memory lane? Join Sue Spirit for some headlong writing!

Location: Lois Harrill Senior Center, 2nd Floor Conference Room

GMO's, Soil Health, and Cropping Practices--The Status of Farming in the High Country

When: Tuesday, September 15th, 2:00 - 3:30 pm

Description: Join soil scientist, conservation expert, and farmer Brian Chatham to learn about large and small scale agriculture in our area. How have choice of crops changed over time? What is the future of agronomy, especially as regards to genetic diversity, in our area and nationwide? Brian is passionate about sound agricultural practices, whether it's at his job at Watauga County Soil & Water Conservation, farming his 500 acres, or pursuing his Master's of Science in Agronomy.

Location: Harrill Senior Center, 2nd Floor Conference Room

Lady in Gold

When: Wednesday, September 16th, 2:30 - 4:00 pm

Description: Lady in Gold, Gustav Klimt's elegant portrait of Viennese socialite Adele Bloch-Bauer, tells the story not only of an affluent family in pre-WWII Austria, but also of the struggle to return this beautiful and important work to its proper owners, and its repatriation journey in which Adele's niece sued the Austrian government for its return and won! "The Mona Lisa of Austria" is now permanently displayed at the Neue Museum in New York. Come hear Lillian Nave Goudas tell this amazing story and learn of the art of the steal, the current status of art repatriation, and the power of images for the individual and society.

Location: Harrill Senior Center, 2nd Floor Conference Room

It's the End of the World as We Know It: Appomattox and the End of the Civil War

When: Thursday, September 17th, 2:00 - 3:30 pm

Description: Dr. Judkin Browning, ASU Professor of History, will discuss the last six months of the war and how the surrender at Appomattox, though lamented as a "sad day" for the South, was the best possible option for the Confederacy and the nation as a whole. In addition, he will discuss the many, frequently surprising effects of the Confederate surrender.

Location: Harrill Senior Center, Classroom 3

Walk: Price Lake to Holloway Rd. on Tanawha Trail

When: Friday, September 18th, 10:00 am - 12:00pm

Description: We will walk from the Price lake boat ramp parking on the Tanawha Trail to Holloway Mountain Road and have a snack/early lunch on rocks under the shade of a tree on a hill overlooking a lovely meadow and Holloway Road. Easy to moderate walk, less than 4 miles. Carpooling available.

Location: Price Lake Boat Ramp parking, Blue Ridge Parkway milepost 297

Instructions: Meet at Price Lake boat ramp parking, milepost 297 on Blue Ridge Parkway. Bring water and snack or lunch, wear good walking shoes. Call Juin Adams 828-295-9607 if you need to carpool.

Jump-Starting Your Memoirs

When: Monday, September 21st, 2:00 - 3:30pm

Description: Do you have a head full of life stories just waiting to be written? Do you love to be given writing prompts that will start you scribbling down memory lane? Join Sue Spirit for a headlong writing experience!

Location: Lois Harrill Senior Center, 2nd Floor Conference Room

What Happens After Coal Mines Close?

When: Tuesday, September 22nd, 2:00 - 3:30 pm

Description: ASU Prof. Pat Beaver has been working for several years with a film maker on a project called After Coal: Wales and Appalachia, focusing on the impact to coal-producing communities when the mines close. How do they rebuild when the basis for their economy goes away?

Location: Harrill Senior Center, 2nd Floor Conference Room

From Donald to Bernie and America's Presidential Nomination Circus – Dr. Phillip Ardoin, Chairman, Department of Government and Justice Studies

When: Monday, September 28th, 2:00 – 3:30 pm

Description: This discussion will begin with a brief history of the circus we call the Presidential Nomination process in the United States. Next, we'll discuss reforms of the nomination process, the significant role of the Iowa Caucus and the N H Primary and possible alternatives to our current system. Finally, we will discuss the current cast of "unique" characters competing for the Democratic and Republican Presidential Nominations and their chances of victory.

Location: Harrill Senior Center, 2nd Floor Conference Room

Novel - James Joyce, A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man – Dr. James Ivory, ASU, Department of English

When: Wednesday, September 30th, 2:00 - 3:30 pm

Description: James Joyce's novel, A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man, is Stephen Dedalus' coming of age story told through his emerging poetic consciousness. Stephen's development from his early adolescence to young adulthood, the late nineteenth to early-twentieth century, is influenced by his family, specifically his father Simon, and in other ways, by his mother Mary. However, the greatest cultural forces that influence Stephen's nascent artistic identity are the Roman Catholic Church and Ireland's nationalist battles against British imperialism. From Joyce's use of myth, language, patterns, and aesthetics, the reader might better understand Stephen's concluding thoughts "to forge in the smithy of my soul the uncreated conscience of my race."

Location: Harrill Senior Center, 2nd Floor Conference Room

Fall Color Walk

When: Friday, October 2nd, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Description: We will start at the parking area for Bass Lake and walk the north (shady) side of the lake to the dam, then up the Maze trail 2.3 miles to the Apple Barn, stopping there for lunch or a snack before returning to Bass Lake. Total distance 4+ miles, rated easy. Gradual incline on wide, level carriage trails, strolling through beautiful woods at your own pace. Lin Blowing Rock. Bring water, and snack or lunch. The apple barn provides a nice covered place to sit, relax and eat.

Location: Bass Lake Parking Area

Instructions: Meet at the lower Bass Lake Parking lot near the restrooms off Hwy 221, a half mile from light at Main St. in Blowing Rock. Bring water and a snack or lunch.

Call Juin Adams 828-295-9607 if you need to carpool.

The Innocence Project and Justice in America – Dr. Robert Norris, ASU, Department of Government and Justice Studies

When: Monday, October 5th, 2:00 – 3:30 pm

Description: To Follow

Location: Harrill Senior Center, 2nd Floor Conference Room

Jesus and Eastern Philosophy - Sandie Gravett

When: Wednesday, October 7th, 2:00 - 3:30 pm

Description: While many people consider the teachings of Jesus as absolutely unique, others see in the words attributed to him not only a strong connection to Jewish tradition, but also echoes of eastern philosophy – particularly Buddhism and Daoism. We will explore some of those similarities in our conversation and consider how they impact the understanding of Jesus.

Location: Harrill Senior Center, 2nd Floor Conference Room

Hurray for Hollywood? Beauty, Gender and Age Stereotypes in Popular Film

When: Thursday, October 8th, 2:00 - 3:30 pm

Description: Prof. Doris Bazzini returns to discuss how popular films are sources of entertainment and relaxation for many of us from early childhood into adulthood. However, we are often unaware that stereotypes are imbedded in these images. From Disney movies to top-grossing, more adult-oriented motion pictures, consistent portrayals of beauty's association with goodness, and stereotypes related to age and gender are common.

Location: Harrill Senior Center, Classroom 3

Movies at the Library: Saving Mr. Banks (2013)

When: Monday, October 12th, 2:00 - 4:00 pm

Description: Saving Mr. Banks (2013) stars Emma Thompson and Tom Hanks. Walt Disney's daughters begged him to make a movie of their favorite book, Mary Poppins. In the movie, author P.L. Travers reflects on her childhood after reluctantly meeting with Walt Disney, who seeks to adapt her Mary Poppins books for the big screen. Ms. Travers has no intention of letting her beloved magical nanny get mauled by the Hollywood machine.

Location: Watauga County Public Library

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

Ancient and Recent Translations of the Bible

When: Tuesday, October 13th, 3:00 - 4:30 pm

Description: Dr. Alan Hauser: Unless you are fluent in Hebrew and Greek, you have to read the Bible in translation. While there are many contemporary translations, translating the Bible goes back to the third century BCE, when the Torah was translated from Hebrew into Greek by ancient Jews in Egypt. Many other translations have been completed since, including Jerome's Vulgate (c. 400 CE), ancient Jewish translations into Aramaic (Targums), and early English translations before and after the year 1000 CE. Surprisingly, the King James Version comes along relatively late (1611), after numerous previous English scholarly translations. The post WWII era has seen an explosion of contemporary English translations.

Location: Harrill Senior Center, 2nd Floor Conference Room

Can we Change People's Minds? Political Campaigns and Policy Information

Dr. Kevin Mullinix, ASU, Department of Government and Justice Studies

When: Thursday, October 15th, 2:00 – 3:30 pm

Description: Do political campaigns ever change people's minds? Can politicians manipulate public opinion? How much influence does the media have on the mass public? This presentation will discuss research on whether campaigns, elected officials, and the media have the ability to alter the political attitudes of the American citizenry.

Location: Harrill Senior Center, Classroom 3

Virtual Tour of Scotland

When: Tuesday, October 20th, 2:00 - 3:30pm

Description: Join Patrick Setzer, Executive Director of Alumni Affairs & Annual Giving at Appalachian and host for alumni travel tours, and June Mann, tour participant, in a pictorial review of Scotland. Begin with the royal residences in Edinburgh, walk about St. Andrews, ferry onto Orkney Island, look for Nessie at Lock Ness, and take the Skye Bridge to the Isle of Skye, ferry around Loch Lomond and finish in the City of Glasgow.

Location: Harrill Senior Center, 2nd Floor Conference Room

Basketry Demonstration at Blue Ridge ArtSpace

When: Wednesday, October 21st, 3:30pm to 5:00pm

Description: Join Pat Moritz for a basket making demonstration at Blue Ridge ArtSpace, 377 Shadowline Dr. (Corner of Shadowline & State Farm), Boone

From Minerals to Mountains: The Geology of the High Country

When: Thursday, October 22nd, 2:00 - 3:30pm

Description: Anyone who visits the High Country has enjoyed the geology that surrounds them. From the high, craggy peaks of Grandfather Mountain, to the deep, entrenched meanders of Linville Gorge, there's no doubt that this region is a geologic wonder, shaped by Earth's forces over millions and millions of years. Join us for a virtual tour of the rocks of the High Country, as we explore some of the area's well-known formations and the clues they hold about these mountains' past. Crystal Wilson

is an Appalachian Studies faculty member and instructor in the Geology Department at Appalachian State University, specializing in field geology and geologic mapping. She has studied rocks in the Southern Appalachians from Virginia to Alabama to better understand how the mountain range was built.

Location: Harrill Senior Center, Classroom 3

Walk: Mountain to Sea trail from Thunder Hill overlook north

When: Friday, October 23rd, 10:00 am - 12:30 pm

Description: We will walk about a mile north to Raven Rocks overlook with a stop for a lunch on the Rocks looking toward Grandfather Mountain. It is surprising how lovely and isolated the trail through the woods seems even though it runs parallel to the Parkway.

Location: Blue Ridge Parkway, milepost 290.3 (first overlook N from Hwy 321)

Instructions: Meet at Thunder Hill overlook, milepost 290.3 on Blue Ridge Parkway. Bring water and snack or lunch, and a walking stick. Wear good walking shoes. Call Juin Adams 828-295-9607 if you need directions.

Hate Music and Democratic Politics

Dr. Nancy Love, ASU, Department of Government and Justice Studies

When: Monday, October 26th, 2:00 – 3:30 pm

Description: “There is a whole other genre of music out there that no one ever hears about and it’s {sic} real powerful, especially at that awkward stage where no one exactly knows who they are.”[1] This California skin girl is talking about white power music which is now the major tool for recruiting youth to join hate groups. Protest songs are more commonly associated with progressive causes such as the civil rights, feminist’s labor, and environmental movements. This lecture examines how hate music, a less well-known genre, is being used to radicalize teenagers politically. Mainstream Americans recently heard more about hate music following several high profile hate crimes. What is the power of hate music in politics today? How should citizens respond to music that promotes violence and undermines democracy?

Location: Harrill Senior Center, 2nd Floor Conference Room

Lost Civilizations – Dr. Josette Maxwell

When: Tuesday, October 27th, 2:00 - 3:30 pm

Description: Archaeology research has, over the last decades, benefited incredibly from modern science and technology adding significantly to our knowledge of man's past and debunking the long established chronology of the evolution of civilization. We're going to look at what almost everybody thought was science fiction (or the product of a deranged mind) not so long ago, even at the "myth" of Atlantis. So, come listen but with an open mind.

Location: Harrill Senior Center, 2nd Floor Conference Room

KAMPN & LIFE Village--local opportunities for those with autism

When: Thursday, October 29th, 2:00 - 3:30 pm

Description: Dr. Jim Taylor founded the non-profit KAMPN (Kids with Autism Making Progress in Nature) 5 years ago and recently the LIFE program which aims to provide housing for adults living on the autism spectrum. LIFE is designed to be a residential and community village that give adults a safe place to grow and learn and is expected to open within the next 3 to 5 years. Come and learn more about these programs, how ASU students are very actively involved with them, and what the future holds in store.

Location: Harrill Senior Center, Classroom 3

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

Lois E. Harrill Senior Center – like on Facebook, 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.watauga-arts.org

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

Mountain Friends – marysunshinetza@aol.com