

## NEWS RELEASE

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## Exciting Events for Haywood County Throughout 2013

*From Traditional Festivals to Motorcycle Events, With Each one Showcasing  
the Diverse Beauty of the Area and Its Community*

**Haywood County, NC** – Haywood County is located at the foot of the Great Smoky Mountain National Forest, and is home to Maggie Valley, Canton, Waynesville, Lake Junaluska, and Clyde. These communities are beginning to kick-off many exciting events, which will be going on throughout 2013.

This year, the schedule has traditional and nontraditional activities, which engage the community and bring travelers to the area. If you plan on making a trip to the beautiful Smoky Mountain region this year, be sure to check the calendar below for upcoming events to help you plan your trip.

“There are many events going on this year, so be sure to look at the calendar when you’re planning your vacation,” explains Lynn Collins, Director of the [Haywood County Tourism Development Authority](#). “We have a lot of different types of events going on, so there’s sure to be something for everyone to enjoy.”

### **March:**

#### **Winter Pickin’ in The Park**

<http://www.visitncsmokies.com/events>

Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>

*Grab your favorite dance partner and get ready for some great music and dancing. The Winter Pickin' In The Park event will be held twice monthly during the winter season at the Canton*

*Armory, until the summer season begins at the Canton Recreation Park. Chairs will be provided by the armory for those attending the fun event. Admission is free to the public.*

### **Old Fines Creek Dance and Music**

<http://www.visitncsmokies.com/events>

Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>

*The Old Fines Creek School will have music every Saturday night along with dancing starting in January. Bands will be different throughout the month. Time is from 7:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. Admissions is \$7 for adults, children 12 and under are free. Concessions will be available, along with cake walks, 50/50, and door prizes. For more information please call 828-736-8925.*

### **Lake Junaluska Easter Celebration**

[www.lakejunaluska.com/easter](http://www.lakejunaluska.com/easter)

Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup>

*Gather Family and friends at Lake Junaluska to celebrate Easter with a powerful sunrise service and other special Easter activities, including 5K and 10K runs, an Easter egg hunt, an egg painting contest and other children's activities.*

## **April:**

### **Balsam Range Presents 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Winter Concert Series**

<http://www.jimhurst.com/>

Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup>

*Local musicians Balsam Range will be performing with 2012 Guitar Player of the Year Jim Hurst. Jim Hurst is known for his tasteful and flawless performances. Perfect timing, tone and his unusual picking style have enchanted guitar players from the novice to his peers.*

### **Smoky Mountain Oyster and Seafood Festival**

[www.smokymtnoysterfest.com](http://www.smokymtnoysterfest.com)

Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>

*Steamed, raw and barbequed oysters and other seafood will be sold during the festival. There will be hotdogs, brats, a grits bar and various barbequed dishes for the non-seafood eaters. There will also be North Carolina craft beer and wine for sale, as well as live music, a silent auction for charity, and more. Come out and try some delicious seafood and have some fun.*

### **Smoky Mountain 9-Ball Shootout**

<http://www.maggiervalley.org>

Thursday, April 25<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>

*The ARC of Haywood County Smoky Mountain 9-Ball Tournament will have 128 competing participants. The event will host players from North Carolina and throughout the United States. Spectators are welcome, and food and drinks will be available.*

## **May:**

### **Thunder in the Smokies Spring Rally**

<http://www.visitncsmokies.com/events/>

Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>

*Come take a motorcycle ride on the Smoky Mountains of North Carolina and the Blue Ridge Parkway. Enjoy tour rides, music concerts, bike builders, bike games, shows, prizes, vendors, and much more. All bikes and ages welcome. If you can't make this one, there will also be a **Thunder in the Smokies Fall Rally on Friday, September 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>.***

### **Ecofest**

[www.haywood-NC.com](http://www.haywood-NC.com)

Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>

*A new festival that features hot new "green" trends like growing and preserving your own food, as well as highlighting "green" technologies that can save money and help you become more environmentally friendly. The festival will include live entertainment, and children's area, food, vendors, and educational demonstrations.*

### **79<sup>th</sup> Annual Ramp Festival**

<http://www.visitncsmokies.com/events>

Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>

*This will be an afternoon celebration featuring live bluegrass music, clogging, and food. It will feature ramps, and a wild onion that grows in the mountains.*

### **Whole Bloomin' Thing Spring Festival**

<http://www.visitncsmokies.com/events/>

Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup>

*The 11th Annual Whole Bloomin' Thing Festival will be held in Waynesville's Historic Frog level and features local growers, nature-related artists and crafters, health and wellness professionals and alternative energy and eco-friendly vendors.*

### **Maggie Valley Spring Rally**

[www.maggievalleyrallys.com](http://www.maggievalleyrallys.com)

Friday, May 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>

*All ages welcome. There will be concerts, entertainment vendors, bike shows, delicious food, area tours, cold beverages, The Ride VIP tent & much more. This is sure to be a large event attracting motorcycle enthusiasts from surrounding counties and beyond.*

## **June:**

### **Appalachian Lifestyle Celebration**

[www.downtownwaynesville.com](http://www.downtownwaynesville.com)

Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>

*Enjoy a full day celebration of mountain heritage, music, dance, craft, and Appalachian life skills. Educational and entertaining, the event features craft demonstrations such as basketry, wood carving, quilting, along with storytelling, traditional mountain music, clogging, and old time food vendors.*

### **Plottfest**

[www.plottfest.org](http://www.plottfest.org)

Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>

*Plottfest will be a mountain music festival celebrating North Carolinas Heritage. It will include the Great Smoky Mountain Heritage Festival, which will benefit Head Start Mountain Projects of Haywood County. It will showcase the official North Carolina State Dog, the Plott Hound, Great Smoky Mountain Trout Fishing, food, crafts and clogging.*

### **Maggie Valley Swap Meet & Car Show**

[www.maggievalletswapmeet.com](http://www.maggievalletswapmeet.com)

Friday, June 28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>

*There will be a swap meet, vendors, sponsors, car show, food, live D.J. & craft show going on during this event. It will be a lot of fun for the entire family, so be sure to check it out.*

### **Lake Junaluska Centennial Homecoming Week**

<http://www.lakejunaluska.com/centennial-schedule>

Sunday, June 30<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, July 7<sup>th</sup>

*Come join Lake Junaluska as they celebrate their 100th anniversary. Homecoming week offers a full week of activities celebrating the past, envisioning the future, and sharing the Lake Junaluska experience. Don't miss your chance to be part of this amazing week at the Lake.*

## **July:**

### **Red White & Boom**

<http://www.maggievalleyfestivalgrounds.org/>

Thursday, July 4<sup>th</sup>

*Gather the crew, grab your blankets and chairs and head to Maggie Valley Festival Grounds for this annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration. Enjoy a weekend of family-fun, games, delicious food and live entertainment with a dazzling display of fireworks launched directly over the venue.*

### **Maggie Valley Summer Arts and Crafts Festival**

<http://www.maggievalley.org/>

Saturday, July 6<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup>

*Join more than 100 artisans and craftsmen for this long-running event which boasts unique and exclusive handmade items from all across the Southeast.*

### **Folk moot Festival**

<http://www.folk moot usa.org/>

Wednesday, July 17<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>

*Come out to the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Folk moot USA, North Carolina's premier international festival. There will be dozens of performances throughout the two weeks by hundreds of world dancers and musicians from nine countries. Sharing traditions and learning about people around the world has never been more exciting or entertaining.*

### **Smokin' in the Valley BBQ and Bluegrass Festival**

[www.maggievalley.com](http://www.maggievalley.com)

Friday, July 26<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>

*This Maggie Valley Chamber of Commerce will be hosting this two day event featuring mouth watering BBQ, live bluegrass music, clogging, chainsaw demonstrations and talented crafters from all across the Southeast. The local restaurant BBQ cook-off will be held on Friday.*

### **August:**

#### **10<sup>th</sup> Annual Mountain "Mater" Festival**

[www.focusoncanton.com](http://www.focusoncanton.com)

Friday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup>

*The 10th Annual Mountain "Mater" Festival will take place in Downtown Canton. This year we will have Crafters, a Car Show, and a Main Stage that will feature a variety of music. There will also be Clogging, a Kids Zone, and a Farmers Market. A variety of food will also be for sale, some of which will feature our local Tomatoes.*

#### **4<sup>th</sup> Popcorn Sutton Jam 2013**

Friday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup>

[www.popcornsuttonjam.com](http://www.popcornsuttonjam.com)

*This will be a Summer Music Jam that will be centered on legendary moonshiner Popcorn Sutton. It will be taking place at the Maggie Valley Fairgrounds, admission is \$5.*

#### **32<sup>nd</sup> Maggie Valley Moonlight Race**

<http://www.maggievalleymoonlightrun.com/>

Friday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>

*The Moonlight Race returns for its 32<sup>nd</sup> year under the direction of Glory Hound Events. The nighttime race takes place on US Highway 19 and runs through the heart of Maggie Valley. This is a classic road race that is a tradition in the area, and an adventure you will not want to miss.*

#### **Canton Labor Day Celebration**

[www.cantonnc.com](http://www.cantonnc.com)

Friday, August 30<sup>th</sup> - September 2<sup>nd</sup>

*The festival features a parade, live musical entertainment, heritage day crafters, food vendors, kid's rides, a bag-toss event, an outdoor movie night and a car show. The parade is known to be the oldest Labor Day Celebration and Parade in the south.*

## **September:**

### **Art After Dark**

[www.waynesvillegalleryassociation.com](http://www.waynesvillegalleryassociation.com)

Friday, September 6<sup>th</sup>

*Visit downtown Waynesville's numerous galleries and studios on the first Friday of each month, May - December. Enjoy demonstrations, artist receptions, music and refreshments from 6:00pm - 9:00pm. Saturdays will feature special activities and entertainment from 11 am - 3 pm.*

### **Thunder in the Smokies Fall Rally**

[www.handlebarcorral.com](http://www.handlebarcorral.com)

Friday, September 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>

*Come take a motorcycle ride on the Smoky Mountains of North Carolina and the Blue Ridge Parkway. Enjoy tour rides, music concerts, bike builders, bike games, shows, prizes, vendors, and much more. All bikes and ages welcome.*

## **October:**

### **30<sup>th</sup> Annual Church Street Art & Craft Show**

[www.downtownwaynesville.com](http://www.downtownwaynesville.com)

Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup>

*Celebrating 30 years, this event began on Church Street but has since grown to fill Main Street and become one of the finest juried art shows in the region. You will discover a variety of art & craft including pottery, jewelry, woodworking, watercolors, photography, fiber art, candles, quilts, and more. Live entertainment from two stages features traditional mountain music, clogging, and Scottish pipes. Admission is free.*

### **25<sup>th</sup> Annual Apple Harvest Festival**

<http://www.haywoodapplefest.com/>

Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup>

*This festival celebrates the beauty of the harvest season in Haywood County. The festival will feature handmade arts and crafts, locally grown apples and apple products. It will also have food vendors of all types, educational demonstrations, authentic mountain music, and dance groups.*

### **Maggie Valley Annual Fall Arts & Crafts Show**

[www.maggiervalley.org](http://www.maggiervalley.org)

Saturday, October 19 - 20<sup>th</sup>

*Our second juried craft show of the year is a long running favorite of the leaf peepers. Who can pass up a craft show with a spectacular 360 view of the mountains? Crafters from all over the southeast gather at the Maggie Valley Festival Grounds to sell their unique wares. There's always a great selection of seasonal items, yard art, woodwork, paintings and much more.*

## **December:**

### **Annual Application Christmas Celebration**

<http://www.lakejunaluska.com>

Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>

*Experience the beauty of Lake Junaluska, while celebrating the true meaning of Christmas.*

### **A Night Before Christmas**

<http://www.downtownwaynesville.com/>

Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>

*This is an annual holiday tradition that happens downtown on the second Saturday of December. Amidst the backdrop of hundreds of luminaries lining the sidewalks, you will enjoy carolers, live music, visits with Santa, storytelling, and old fashioned wagon rides. Stroll through Bethlehem as First Baptist Church re-creates a live nativity and bustling first century marketplace.*

More events will be listed as the year unfolds, so be sure to check the [event calendar](#) to keep up to date on happenings in the area. Haywood County is truly a beautiful place to visit, and with each season brings new and exciting opportunities to experience this delightful Smoky Mountain region.

The HCTDA represents more than 900 accommodations in the community, from bed and breakfasts, cabins, campgrounds, cottages, country clubs, inns, hotels, lodges, motels, resorts, vacation rentals, and villas, and provides annual funding to Haywood County for promotions, events and festivals.

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