



Highland Happenings Summer 2021

www.thehighlandcenter.org

(540) 468-1922

61 Highland Center Drive, Monterey, VA 24465

Save the Date

Highland Happenings

FARMERS' MARKET

Fridays 3:30-6:00pm

The Farmers' Market takes place every Friday through October 9 for fresh local foods and entertainment.

GALLERY OPENING

July 30, 6-8pm

Join us for an elegant reception as we officially open The Gallery of Highland.

TASTE OF HIGHLAND

September 18, 2021

The Highland Center presents the annual Taste of Highland celebration. The event features local foods and will benefit the Highland Center. Tickets can be purchased at thehighlandcenter.org

HANDS & HARVEST BONFIRE NIGHT

October 9, 2021

The Highland Center helps celebrate Hands and Harvest with a bonfire night. A fire pit, s'mores, and games for all ages are planned.

Center Spaces Find New Purpose

The Highland Center continues to make strides in its mission to promote cultural and economic development. In alignment with that mission, two spaces inside The Highland Center recently found new life and purpose.

A new co-working space was re-vamped over the course of the spring and welcomed new tenants in May. The light and airy space offers work sta-

tions, a separate entrance, comfortable lounge area with mini fridge and coffee maker, and all the technology required to work and meet remotely.

The other new space is The Gallery of Highland, a permanent gallery where local artists and authors can display and sell their work. Highland Center board member Bonnie Baxley was instru-



Corner of The Gallery of Highland

mental in the creation of the gallery. Baxley's goal was to bring together the work of all our local artists in one space. She knew that the gallery space would be a win-win-win, benefiting art lovers, local artists, and The Highland Center. A grand opening reception for the gallery is planned from 6-8pm on Friday, July 30.

Please stop by and see what both spaces have to offer!



The Highland Center co-working space

What's New at The Highland Center?

A great deal has been happening at The Highland Center!

Over the past few months, we have welcomed three new staff members. Joining us are Executive Director, Elizabeth Lohr-Myers, Director of the Youth Employment Program, Karen Milnes, and Farmers' Market Manager, Mary Parham.

Elizabeth Lohr-Myers came to The Highland Center from California Lutheran University and stepped into her new role on June 28th. She brings with her over ten years of experience in the non-profit sector as well as a deep connection to and love of Highland County.

Karen Milnes and Mary Parham took the reins of the Youth Employment Program and the



YEP participants Emma Herold and Emma Harman.



Elizabeth Lohr-Myers, Karen Milnes, and Mary Parham

Farmers' Market in March and have helped those programs thrive.

Karen Milnes recruited local youth and businesses to participate in the Youth Employment Program which offers work experience and educational sessions to young people ages 15-18. The program is in full swing this summer with 8 hard-working students employed at 6 local businesses/organizations.

Mary Parham has done a remark-

able job at reviving the Farmers' Market after an unusual 2020 season. She has a number of regular vendors selling local produce, maple products, herbal products, and crafts each week. Demonstrations and entertainment have taken place at most of the markets so far this season.

All of our staff are looking forward to helping make The Highland Center better and more active than ever before!

- As of July 21 since March there have been: approximately
- 3 new building tenants
 - 31 room rentals at The Highland Center
 - 12 Concerts/Events
 - 16 Meetings
 - 3 Celebrations
 - 8 teens employed through YEP, working at 6 locations
 - 8 Farmers' Markets with 9 regular vendors

Lawn Party Brings Community Together

The Highland community came out in force on Saturday, July 10 to support a Lawn Party held at The Highland Center Pavilion. The Highland County Arts Council conceived of and organized the event and generously allowed participation and contributions from The Highland Center and the Monterey Lion's Club.

The event offered music by Blue Ridge Thunder, the sale of Lion's Club chicken, and dessert sales and cake raffles organized by the Highland Center.

The event was a great success and paves the way for future collaborations and joint events within the community.

Highland County Arts Council President Donna Bedwell explained: "One of Highland's



Blue Ridge Thunder.

many assets is the strong sense of community. When the Monterey Lion's Club made the difficult decision to cancel this year's street dance but still sell their chicken, the Highland County Arts Council saw an opportunity to help by providing music. The Highland Center hosted the event at the pavilion, complete with cake raf-

files, and a new summer event came together. It just proved once again that we are not mighty small but small and mighty when we all work together!"



Crowd enjoying entertainment by Blue Ridge Thunder.



Cake donated by Laura Honaker



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Find Us Online!

www.thehighlandcenter.org

 [The Highland Center](#)



Taste of Highland



This year's Taste of Highland dinner has been scheduled for September 18. The event will feature Highland restaurants, cooks, and foods and will be a unique blend of the traditional fundraiser from years past and the pay-what-you-will model of 2020.

Those who choose to purchase full-price tickets or an entire table will be invited to attend a pre-dinner cocktail hour that will include drinks and appetizers. The pay-what-you-will option includes dinner and the ability to purchase tickets for alcoholic drinks.

We do ask that everyone who wishes to attend, whether choosing the pay-what-you-will or full-ticket option, buy their tickets in advance.

Tenant Spotlight



Wes, Jordan, Eleanor, Edith, and Angela White

On June 28th, The Highland Center welcomed new tenant, Angela White. Angela and her family (husband Wes and children Jordan, Eleanor, and Edith) moved here from Colorado in search of good water, good weather, affordable farmland, and a simpler, slower pace of life.

Angela is a mental health therapist and uses her office space in the Highland Center to offer teletherapy sessions. She is currently seeing only her previous clients from Colorado but hopes to have her license to practice in Virginia in the near future.

Welcome, Angela!