



## Hot Springs, NC Welcome Center **Autumn Newsletter 2022**



Photo by Karl Gustavsen

### **A Beautiful Place to Be, Anytime of Year**

This spectacular photo shows our tiny town nestled within the curves of the French Broad River and mountains of the Pisgah National Forest.

Scroll down to browse special events this Fall through December. And for local news, an article about the Appalachian Barn Alliance, and a walking tour of downtown Hot Springs.

***Saturday, October 8..... [Laurel Community Monthly Market](#)***

***Tuesday, October 11.... [Poet Wayne Caldwell at Chestnut Hall](#)***

***Friday, October 14..... [Fall Potluck & Hootenanny](#)***

***Saturday, October 15.. [Yard Sale & Crafts at State Line Antiques](#)***

***Saturday, October 15.. [Art Crawl- Studios & Galleries Around Town](#)***

***Sundays thru Oct..... [Markets at Trust General Store](#)***

***Every Tues at 6pm..... [Game Night at Big Pillow Brewing](#)***

***Every Wed at 6pm..... [Karaoke or Open Mic at Big Pillow](#)***

***Saturday, Dec 3..... [Hot Springs Christmas Parade](#)***

***Saturday, Dec 10..... [Spring Creek Christmas Bazaar](#)***

*Check event websites for details and change in plans before arrival.*

[Visit our Events Calendar](#)

**New Blog Post-  
Walking Tour of Hot Springs, NC!**

Whether you've walked through town a thousand times, or have yet to visit Hot Springs, NC- You will enjoy this stroll down Bridge Street and beyond!

Photos and writing by Alicia Araya.



Go on the Hot Springs Walking Tour

## Studio & Gallery Crawl around Town on Saturday, October 15

On October 15th gather friends and amble around studios and galleries that feature a wide range of artists - from local to international. **Meet members of the artist community who will showcase Hot Springs' first Studio and Gallery Crawl.** At most locations savor free refreshments and talk to working artists who have many stories to share.

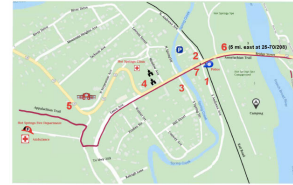
This "crawl" around town includes two dining areas, **Big Pillow Brewing** and **Vaste Riviere Provisions** which offers take out meals and imported foods, and the diverse arts and crafts displays at **Artisun Gallery and Café**. On South Spring Street check out paintings of the French Broad River and works by resident artists of Azule in the **Pine Hall Art Annex**. Enjoy roaming the work environment of artist **Brian Boles** and don't forget to surround yourself at **Gallery339** by original paintings by award-winning artist, Terry Thirion and other artists. On your way in or out of Hot Springs business center, don't forget to visit the **Laurel River Store** with its eclectic offering of arts and crafts, and enjoy an ice cream too.

**Follow the Art Crawl Maps available at the Welcome Center** to discover the creativity on display. Stay a bit longer and sample the offerings at local restaurants, cafes and brewery.

Learn More About the Art Crawl

### HOT SPRINGS HAS ART! Visit our In-Town Exhibits, Studios and Galleries

1. **Artisun Gallery and Café** - 16 Andrews Ave. S. - Diverse collection of local art, crafts including paintings, jewelry, ceramics and fabric, in restored 1890s hardware store
2. **Big Pillow Exhibits** - 25 Andrews Ave N. - Exhibition of local artists next to Hot Springs brewery, tap room and restaurant
3. **Pine Hall Art Annex** - 64 South Spring St. - Exhibition of various artists
4. **Boles Art Studio** - 22 NW US 25 70 Hwy - Working studio of Hot Springs artist, Brian Boles
5. **Gallery339** - 339 NW US 25 70 Hwy - Fine art gallery and working studio of artist, Terry Thirion, featuring other local artists
6. **Laurel River Store** - 5100 NE US 25 70 Hwy - Treasure of local arts & crafts for indoors and out, coffee shop, local gathering spot at the gateway to Hot Springs
7. **Vaste Riviere Provisions** - 158 Bridge St. - Local Art Exhibit at café and gourmet grocery



## Vinyl Pies Pizza Opening Downtown

Pizza, music and good times have arrived in this charmingly renovated space that was once our local bank. The owners have stenciled their favorite music quotes on the walls and added a dazzling pizza oven, aptly labelled 'She's a Brick House'.

This welcome new addition to town is the vision of Gary and Karen Goss, owners of the Iron Horse Station. Stop by to visit with them and their business partners, Marty Martin and Ashley Skipper, as they fire up the oven and put the finishing touches on the menu.

Follow Updates on the Vinyl Pies Facebook Page



## Appalachian Barn Alliance of Madison County

The Appalachian Barn Alliance (a non-profit organization based here in Madison County) began this year by celebrating its 10th anniversary. When they formed in 2012, the goal was to preserve the area's agricultural heritage (inspired by an idea by retired County Extension Director Ross Young). **The ABA has been doing that by documenting almost 100 historic barns.** Now, they have a focus on restoring and rebuilding a few existing as well as donated barns on the Smith Heritage Farmstead at the Bailey Mountain Preserve just minutes from the town of Mars Hill.

After 2 years of cancelling events because of COVID restrictions, they brought back two popular events in 2022 and were awarded two grants. One event was the Second Annual Pastoral Palette Art Gala in June – an art exhibit with drinks and finger food. **The other was the Seventh Annual Barn Tour Day which offered tours of 3 barns in the Hot Springs area and a BBQ dinner at the Lodge at Bear River with music by fiddler Roger Howell. Using those funds plus money received from the Madison County Tourism Development Authority, the ABA is overseeing the restoration of a second barn—a burley tobacco barn—on the Smith Farm this Fall.**



Another annual event that the ABA is proud to sponsor is a field trip for all 4th grade students to the Smith Farm to bring alive a section of the state history curriculum. They launched their inaugural field trip in May with a grant from the local First Bank.



The organization is proud to have over 200 members who help them with their goal of raising awareness and pride in the agricultural heritage of the southern Appalachian area as exemplified by the beautiful barns that dot the landscape in Madison County.

For more information on the ABA, go to their website [appalachianbarns.org](http://appalachianbarns.org) or email [info@appalachianbarns.org](mailto:info@appalachianbarns.org)

*Thanks to Sandy Stevenson, ABA Board President, for this article and photos.*



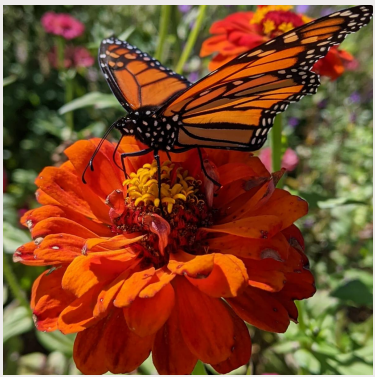


Photo by Wendy Stancil

**Early Fall is still a beautiful time for wildflowers, garden flowers and butterflies!**

During this special season, we may enjoy the changing leaves and lush plant life before the hard frosts of late October and November.

Brilliant Fall colors in Hot Springs and Madison County develop during September, as the nighttime temperatures in the mountains dip into the cooler digits. **The vibrant display of color lasts for over a month into early November. The higher elevations become colorful earlier in the season.** It is fascinating to watch the changes travel from the top of the mountains down to the river valley.



Photo by Alicia Araya

**Can you see this Eastern Box Turtle blending in with the fallen leaves?** If you find a turtle in the road, move it to the side in the direction it was going.

[Find It On Our Website!](#)

[Places to Stay](#)

[Places to Eat and Drink](#)

[Shops and Galleries](#)

[Horseback Riding and Llama Tours](#)

[Max Patch Hike](#)

[Hot Springs Mineral Water](#)



**Hot Springs Welcome Center is open daily from 10-5pm.**

**106 Bridge Street  
Call us at 828-622-9932**

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This edition compiled by Stacey Geyer, HSTA Administrator.

STAY CONNECTED

