

WINTERFEST IN HIGHLANDS

FEBRUARY 25 - MARCH 7

The mountain village of Highlands, North Carolina has been kicking it up a notch this year when it comes to creating fun winter activities. Residents and visitors took advantage of a beautiful ice skating rink recently when Harris Lake froze over for the first time in 14 years. But local inns, restaurants and retailers aren't relying strictly on Mother Nature to ensure that the winter fun keeps coming in Highlands. Highlands "Winterfest" planned for February 26 through March 7 will showcase all that is wonderful about living in a cultural mountain town. From plays at the Performing Arts Center to a Greg Newington Photography Expo, the fun will be flowing throughout the week. Topping it all off on Saturday, March 6 is a Highlands Chefs Cookoff where award-winning chefs face off in a culinary competition and you get to be the judge! See the full schedule of events below. To find out more information about any Winterfest Event, call the Highlands Visitors' Center at (828) 526-2112.

February 25

The Dixie Swim Club
Highlands Performing Arts Center
7:30 pm

February 26

The Dixie Swim Club
Highlands Performing Arts Center
7:30 pm

February 27

Greg Newington Photography
Workshop
The Bascom
9 am – 4 pm

The Dixie Swim Club
Highlands Performing Arts Center
7:30 pm

February 28

Greg Newington Photography
Workshop
The Bascom
9 am - 11:30 am

The Dixie Swim Club
Highlands Performing Arts Center
2:30 pm Matinee

March 1

Greg Newington Photography
Workshop 2
The Bascom
9 am - 11:30 am

March 1

Greg Newington Gallery Showing
The Bascom Center for the
Visual Arts
9 am – 4 pm

Greg Newington Reception
The Bascom Center for the
Visual Arts
5:30 pm - 8:30 pm

March 2

Herbal Poultices Workshop
Oakleaf Flower and Garden

Greg Newington Gallery Showing
The Bascom Center for the Visual
Arts

March 3

Greg Newington Photography
Workshop
The Bascom Center for the Visual
Arts
9 am - 11:30 am

Greg Newington Gallery Showing
The Bascom Center for the Visual
Arts

Spa Herbal Poultice Massage
The Spa at Old Edwards
For more information,
call 828-526-9887

March 4

Greg Newington Gallery Showing
The Bascom Center for the
Visual Arts

March 5

Greg Newington Gallery Showing
The Bascom Center for the Visual
Arts

The Dixie Swim Club
Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts
Center

March 6

The Dixie Swim Club
Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts
Center

King of The Mountain Chefs Cookoff
Cyprus Restaurant
3:30pm

March 7

The Dixie Swim Club
Highlands Performing Arts Center
2:30 pm Matinee

DIXIE SWIM CLUB

The Highlands Cashiers Players present “The Dixie Swim Club,” opening Thursday, February 25th, 2010. “The Dixie Swim Club” by Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope and Jamie Wooten, is a heart warming comedy featuring five women who were all on the same swim team in college. They meet for a reunion the same week every year at the same cottage on the Outer Banks of North Carolina. All five have taken different paths in life, but the friendships hold true. The play spans twenty six years, through the happy events, the sadness’s, the marriages, the trials and tribulations of the five friends.

This ensemble cast features, Jenny King, Betsy Miller, Carla Gates, Lee Lyons, and Mary Adair Leslie. And in his directorial debut is Rick Siegel. The production crew includes assistant director Donna Cochran, stage manager Kristin Aravjo, special assistant to the director, Peggy Fuller. Sound design created by John Williams and light design by Ronnie Spilton. The beach cottage set is built by Bill Futral and will be designed by Diane

McPhail, Pam Nellis, Donna Woods and Helene Siegel. The costumers will be Barbara Werder and Joan Levinson. Hair and makeup crew will be led by HCP Board member Betsy Johnson, and the props will be gathered by Helene Siegel. “The Dixie Swim Club” sponsored in part by The Center for Plastic Surgery, Dr. Robert Buchanan and Scott Neumann, runs Thursday, February 25th and continues through the 28th and again the following weekend, Friday, March 5th through the 7th.

Join the cast and crew after the performance on opening night for a reception downstairs catered by Oak Street Cafe. Evening performances begin at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday matinees being at 2:30 p.m. All performances are at the Martin Lipscomb Performing Arts Center, Highlands. The box office opens for season subscribers on Thursday, February 11th and on Saturday, February 13th for the general public. For tickets please call (828) 526-8084. For more information visit www.highlandscashiersplayers.org.

KING OF THE MOUNTAIN

The Blue Ridge Mountains Village of Highlands North Carolina inspires artists of every genre—especially culinary. On Saturday, March 6, four of the town’s top chefs will face off in a competition modeled after the popular “Iron Chef” program on The Food Network. Using mystery ingredients, the chefs will race against the clock to create the winning culinary dish and be crowned “King of the Mountain.”

The four chefs competing in this year’s King of the Mountain Chefs Challenge are:

Chef Nick Figel of “Cyprus Restaurant” (Also the site of the competition)

Chef Johannes Klapdohr of “Madison’s Restaurant” at The Old Edwards Inn

Chef Andrew Figel of “...On the Verandah” Restaurant

Chef Jonathan Reid, Gamekeeper’s Tavern

In an interesting twist to the competition, two of the chefs—Nick and Andrew Figel— are brothers.

The competition will take place at Cyprus Restaurant, which features an open kitchen and an open iced display case where the mystery ingredients will be unveiled for each round of the competition.

Providing color commentary during the three segments of the competition will be Highlands Mayor David Wilkes. Selecting and procuring the mystery ingredients that the chefs will use during the face-off will be Chef Wolfgang Green from Wolfgang’s Restaurant and Wine Bistro.

After two preliminary heats in the afternoon, the main competition will take place between two finalists. Each competing chef will also create an appetizer to be enjoyed by the audience during the competition, along with wine

and a cash bar. Guests who chose to stay for the dinner that follows will also sample one course from each of the competing chefs.

Three judges will sample the creations and decide which chef deserves to be crowned “King of the Mountain.” They are:

Hanna Raskin - Hanna, the food editor and restaurant critic for the Mountain Xpress in Asheville, N.C. She also serves as AOL Food’s southern food correspondent.

Nancy Vienneau - A chef, food writer, and food activist living in Nashville Tennessee. Writes for Relish Magazine and has a food blog called Good Food Matters.

The Competition Itinerary and Costs are as follows:

Cost is \$59.00 for the Chef’s Challenge. This includes:

1. Access to “the event” which is all three competitions (4:00 pm, 5pm, and the final heat at 6:00 pm)

2. Champagne greeting

3. Two beverage tickets

4. Hors D’oeuvres throughout the events, one of which will be provided by each of the participating restaurants

The cost of the dinner that follows at 7:30 pm with live entertainment is \$59.

For the entire event plus dinner, the cost is \$118.

Event pricing does not include taxes. Dinner pricing does not include taxes, gratuities or alcoholic beverages at dinner.

Seating is limited, and there are seven “close-to-the-action VIP counter seats” available during the event for \$100. For information and tickets to the event and/or dinner, call (828) 787-2625.