



Highland Happenings

Spring 2023

www.thehighlandcenter.org

540-468-1922

61 Highland Center Drive, Monterey, VA 24465

New Programs Manager, Jen Rattigan, Hired

The Highland Center is thrilled to announce that Jen Rattigan came aboard as our Programs Manager in March. In her new role, Jen will oversee the Highland County Farmers' Market, Youth Employment Program, Tuesday Talks, and assist with other community programs and events.

Jen and her family moved to Highland County from North Carolina in the summer of 2022

to manage Tonoloway Farm in McDowell. Over the last year Jen has taken an active role in the community through the garden program at Highland Children's House and as a substitute teacher in the Highland County public schools.

Jen, a native of Honey Brook, PA, is a skilled artist and holds a BA from the Maryland Institute College of Art. She is also a food lover and chocolate maker, a kitchen herbalist, and an experienced gardener who holds the master gardener certification and a certificate in permaculture design. One of Jen's biggest passions is for bridging the gap between people and plants.

Jen brings a wealth of experience mentoring teens, coordinating workshops and events, and building community. Over the past year, her work with Tonoloway Farm, Highland Children's House, and the Highland County public schools has laid a solid foundation for her work with The Highland Center and has introduced her to some of our young people and acquainted her with our community. We are very excited about all she will contribute in her new role.

Jen can be reached at programs@thehighlandcenter.org



The Maple Festival at The Highland Center



Thank you to all who visited The Highland Center during the 2023 Maple Festival!

The Highland Center was honored to support the Chamber of Commerce as a festival sponsor and to play host to a variety of events including bluegrass and classical music concerts, square dancing, and clogging. One of the highlights of the festival came on the final Sunday when Highland's own Little Switzerland Cloggers performed to a room packed with parents and supporters.

Offering entertainment twice each festival day along with food, restrooms, seating, and opportunities to shop was a winning combination. We look forward to working with the Chamber of Commerce and the Arts Council to build on the success of this year.



Some of the items featured in the Gallery of Highland and the Highland Artisans' studio during Maple Festival.

Save The Date!

POTATO GROWING MADE EASY

Wednesday, April 19
6pm

GALLERY OF HIGHLAND SPRING RECEPTION

Sunday, April 30
2pm

FARMERS' MARKET VENDOR MEETING

Friday, April 28
5pm

PLANT SALE & COMMUNITY APPRECIATION DINNER

Friday, May 19
3:30-5:30pm plant sale
6pm dinner

TASTE OF HIGHLAND

Saturday, August 12

TUESDAY TALKS

2pm every
second Tuesday of the month

SCORE COUNSELING

10am - 2pm every
third Wednesday of the month

FARMERS' MARKET

Fridays, 3:30 - 6pm
May 26 - October 6

Community Appreciation Dinner

THE HIGHLAND CENTER'S COMMUNITY APPRECIATION DINNER



Join us for a simple, free dinner in appreciation of the Highland community. Free will donations accepted.

19
MAY

THE HIGHLAND CENTER
PAVILION,
MONTEREY, VA

6
PM

With generous support from community partners, The Highland Center will offer a free appreciation dinner for the entire community on Friday, May 19 at 6pm.

Dinner will include bread, soup, salad, and dessert and will be served buffet style under The Highland Center's pavilion starting at 6pm. Free-will donations will be accepted.

Before dinner, all are invited to a plant sale from 3:30-5:30pm. The plant sale has become the unofficial start to the farmers' market season and we hope this sale and dinner will be a great way for friends and neighbors to gather and kick off the summer.

2023 Summer Programs

New Programs Manager, Jen Rattigan, is hard at work planning the upcoming season of both the Highland Farmers' Market and the Youth Employment Program.

The Highland County Farmers' Market will operate for its 26th season this summer. Anyone interested in selling at the market is invited to a pre-season meeting at 5pm on Friday, April 28th.

Jen will begin recruiting youth and work sites for the Youth Employment program this month, Applications for both teens and employers will be available on our website soon and will have a due date of May 12 for employers and May 19 for teens.

Both the Farmers' Market and the Youth Employment program will have minor financial/operational changes this year to insure that both programs can serve the maximum number of people and are sustainable so that they can continue for many years to come.



2nd Year of Tuesday Talks

The Tuesday Talks series, a joint effort of the Highland County Public Library and The Highland Center, resumed for a second year on February 14th. Tuesday Talks take place at The Highland Center at 2pm on the second Tuesday of each month and offer a fascinating, free lecture on a wide variety of topics ranging from bookbinding and beekeeping to the African American history of Highland County.

We hope that you will consider joining us for future talks. Suggestions for speakers/subjects are always appreciated and should be sent to programs@thehighlandcenter.org

UPCOMING TUESDAY TALKS

APRIL 11 - Backyard Foraging in Highland
with Dr. Annette Naber

MAY 9 - Living in India
with Robin Beckman

JUNE 13 - Dementia Friends
with Joyce Nussbaum of Valley
Program for Aging Services



Callie Smith speaking about Highland Children's House in Feb. 2023

Special Class Offered

The Highland Center and Highland County Public Library are partnering to provide a free class on the easiest and least back-breaking method of growing potatoes. Local farmer Pamm McDowell of Philosophers' Farm will lead the class at The Highland Center Pavilion beginning at 6pm on Wednesday, April 19th.

All are invited to come and learn about the equipment, tools, and tricks needed to make potato growing easy. A couple lucky participants will go home with some of the equipment needed to get started!



HOW TO GROW POTATOES

without breaking your back

Pamm McDowell offers a free class/demonstration on the easiest way to grow your own potatoes.

Wednesday, April 19th
6pm

Outside at The Highland
Center Pavilion



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Monterey, VA 24465
Phone: 540-468-1922

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 The Highland Center

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