

# The Destination Magazine™

Issue 149

Local & Regional  
Destinations & Experiences  
Off The Beaten Path

In This Issue

## Cool Ideas To Chill This Summer

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Where To Go!

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# *The* Destination Magazine™

August 2023  
Issue 149

Read it on  
Apple News



**W**e tell you where to go! Whether you are a long time resident or new to the area, you'll find local & regional events, destinations and experiences in *the Destination Magazine™* that will give you memories for a lifetime

*The Destination Magazine™* is your guide to new destinations and experiences to discover on your own, or outings with friends and family. We hope you will find a new memorable experience every month in *the Destination Magazine™*.

*We know we are on to something!*

Lisa &  
Andy Jay  
Publishers



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**AUG. 11  
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STATION**

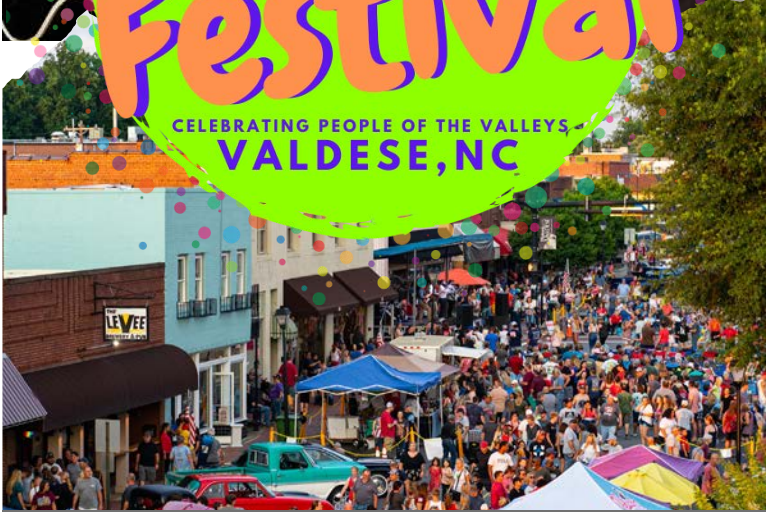


**AUG. 12  
RYAN PERRY**



# Waldensian Festival

CELEBRATING PEOPLE OF THE VALLEYS  
VALDESE, NC



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# Mayberry Days Means Prime Time For Andy Griffith Fans



**M**ount Airy and Mayberry are synonymous year-round, but for one week every September, the foothills town goes all out for Mayberry Days, recreating many of the scenes and characters from “The Andy Griffith Show.”

The annual event, Sept. 18-24, 2023, celebrates the beloved TV show in actor Andy Griffith’s hometown. Events, activities and performances take place throughout the week.

The schedule includes appearances by actors from “The Andy Griffith Show,” guided tours of the Andy Griffith Playhouse, The Emmett golf tournament, nightly live music at Blackmon Amphitheatre, a checkers tournament, Mr. Tucker’s Apple Peeling Contest, “The Andy Griffith Show” trivia contests, Colonel Tim’s Talent Time and the world-famous Mayberry Days Parade on Main Street in Mount Airy.

“Mayberry fans enjoy getting to know more about ‘The Andy Griffith Show’ and Andy Griffith,” says organizer Tanya Jones of the Surry Arts Council.

Daniel Roebuck, who played Cliff Lewis for the final three seasons of “Matlock,” will be in Mount Airy for a Saturday evening presentation; he’ll also be a special guest for the country buffet dinner on Thursday evening.

During his four decades in Hollywood, Roebuck has worked alongside many famous faces, but he calls his years with Andy Griffith the most creative and enjoyable.

Rodney Dillard, one of the original Darling Boys from “The Andy Griffith Show,” returns to Mayberry Days with his band for another great bluegrass concert, filled with songs performed on the show and original Dillards hits.

Karen Knotts, daughter of Don Knotts (Barney Fife), returns to Mount Airy with a new event. In this sit-down talk, she reveals why it took her so long to finally write the book “Tied Up In Knotts.” She’ll talk about what it was like to interview fans, family members and celebrities.

For a full schedule and lodging options, go to [www.MayberryDays.com](http://www.MayberryDays.com)

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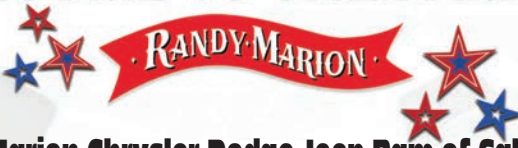
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## The Hottest Ticket In Town

I've always been a fan of live theater, and I've been to my fair share of theaters over the years. But CoMMA Performing Arts Center in Morganton, NC, is one of my favorites.

The first time I went to CoMMA, I was blown away by the size and beauty of the theater. It's a state-of-the-art facility with a large stage, comfortable seats, and excellent acoustics.

But what sets CoMMA apart is the quality of the productions. I've seen everything from Broadway musicals to local plays at CoMMA, and I've never been disappointed. The actors are always top-notch, and the directors do a great job of bringing the shows to life.

In addition to the grand productions, CoMMA also has much to offer regarding community engagement. They offer a variety of educational programs for kids and adults, and they're always hosting special events.

One of my favorite things about CoMMA is their commitment to education. They offer a variety of classes and workshops for kids and adults, from beginner acting classes to advanced musical theater training. They also have a great summer camp program for kids, where they can learn about all aspects of theater production.

CoMMA is also actively involved in the community. They host a variety of special events and fundraisers, and they're always looking for ways to give back to the community. For example, they recently partnered with a local school to put on a production of "Seussical the Musical." The show was a huge success, raising money for the school's arts program.

If you're looking for a great place to see a show, I highly recommend CoMMA. It's a beautiful theater with a vibrant arts community, and you're sure to have a great time.

CoMMA Performing Arts Center  
401 South College Street,  
Morganton, NC, 28655  
[www.commaonline.org](http://www.commaonline.org)



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# Granville Goes Outdoors

In Granville County, fall brings us outdoors. And when Granville goes outdoors... We often hit the streets. From food to music, to celebrating our heritage, Granville County festivals and events are uniquely Carolina. Our events are not just for attending, but for engaging with and becoming part of our community. Come join us!!

Hot Sauce Contest - Sept. 9  
- Held in September (when the peppers are ripe) in Oxford, the annual North Carolina Hot Sauce Contest and Festival is all about the foodie in you. Try the sauces, learn recipes, try the peppers.... Dare



to try the peppers. Throw in arts & crafts, breweries, kid's activities, local restaurants AND shops and you have a day full of fun.

Creedmoor Music Festival - Sept. 16 - Take a stroll down Main Street in downtown Creedmoor for the 30th Annual Creedmoor Music Festival. Multiple stages offer music from top notch local and regional bands, car show,

**Continued On Page 15**

**WELCOME TO THE FAMILY!**

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Week Days 7:30 - 5:30 Saturdays 8:00 - 4:00

The advertisement features a blue and white color scheme. At the top, the text "WELCOME TO THE FAMILY!" is written in large, bold, black letters. Below this is a red banner with the name "RANDY MARION" in white, flanked by several red and blue stars. The name of the dealership, "Randy Marion Honda Salisbury", is prominently displayed in bold black text. The central image shows the exterior of the dealership building, which is blue and white, with a large silver SUV parked in front. In the bottom right corner, the dealership's hours of operation are listed for both the showroom and parts/service departments. The address and contact information are provided at the bottom of the ad in white text on a blue background.



beechmtn.com

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food trucks, local vendors, and plenty of activities for the kids!

Annual Masonic Homecoming Festival – Oct. 14 – Some festivals are more special than others. Every fall, Oxford welcomes home all of its Masonic Home for Children Alumni. It is a celebration of North Carolina’s oldest & first home for children. This year though is especially unique, as the home celebrates its 150th year. The festival features the largest Shriners parade in North Carolina, a BBQ cook-off, food truck rodeo, games... and plenty of love and smiles.

For more information on the festivals visit [visitgranvillenc.com](http://visitgranvillenc.com)



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# Bon Temps Paddle Battle

Join Anchored Soul, the City of Belmont & Gaston County Travel & Tourism for our 4th annual “Bon Temps Paddle Battle on Wylie” in Belmont, NC! Whether you’re a live music lover, a vendor event shopper, a beer and wine sipper, a foodie, a seasoned paddler, or a fun-lovin’ paddle newbie, we have something for you. This event includes Live music by the Kids in America 80s Tribute Band, beverage, food, raffles, and best of all, a Paddle Battle on Lake Wylie to energize the crowd. The event proceeds benefit various local non-profit organizations including Carolina Waterfowl



Rescue & Lucky Labs Rescue of Charlotte. Beginner paddlers can participate in a 1-mile fun race and the intermediate and advanced paddler can take it up a notch in the 3.5-, 7-, or 14-mile distance courses. There’s also a Guppies race and a SUP Pup Cup race for your human babies and fur babies, respectively.

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Anchored Soul  
 Fri, Aug 18, – Sun, Aug 20,  
 Gaston County Wildlife Club  
[belmontpaddleboarding.com](http://belmontpaddleboarding.com)



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

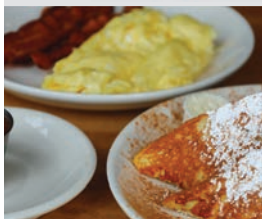
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409 East Second Street, West Jefferson, NC 28694

[www.RandyMarionFordOfWestJefferson.com](http://www.RandyMarionFordOfWestJefferson.com) 336-246-7183

# Music, A Classic Car Show & More In Valdese



**F**estivals display a community's culture through shared experiences around music, food, crafts and entertainment, creating unique memories for all of their attendees. These festivals in Burke County are staples to the culture of the area and are a fantastic way to introduce your family and friends to the best of our small towns.

In Valdese, every year in August, the town celebrates the Waldensians, a group of people who escaped religious persecution in Italy and eventually settled the town of Valdese. The local theater company, the Old Colony Players, acts out an outdoor drama called *From This Day Forward*, that beautifully tells the story of the Waldensians in their pursuit of freedom. You can see it each Friday and Saturday from mid July to the

second week in August when it culminates with the Waldensian Festival. The Waldensian Festival honors Waldensian Tradition by highlighting local craft vendors, hosting their annual bocce tournament and serving their delicious food. The festival also includes live music, a classic car show on Friday, amusement rides, and more. Everything will take place in downtown Valdese this year on the 11th and 12th of August. For more information visit [www.visitvaldese.com/events/waldensian-festival/](http://www.visitvaldese.com/events/waldensian-festival/)

This year the city of Morganton, the county seat of Burke County, will host the 41st Historic Morganton Festival. This festival takes place September 8th and 9th. This year's festival will feature three different stages for free music, including national touring act Red Clay Strays; dancers, acrobats, a kid zone with rides and over a mile of arts and crafts vendors. For the full list of events visit [morgantonfest.org](http://morgantonfest.org)

These great festivals are just a short drive away from the urban centers of North Carolina and could easily be made into day trips or short weekend getaways! For more information contact the visitor center at (828) 433-6793 [www.discoverburkecounty.com](http://www.discoverburkecounty.com)

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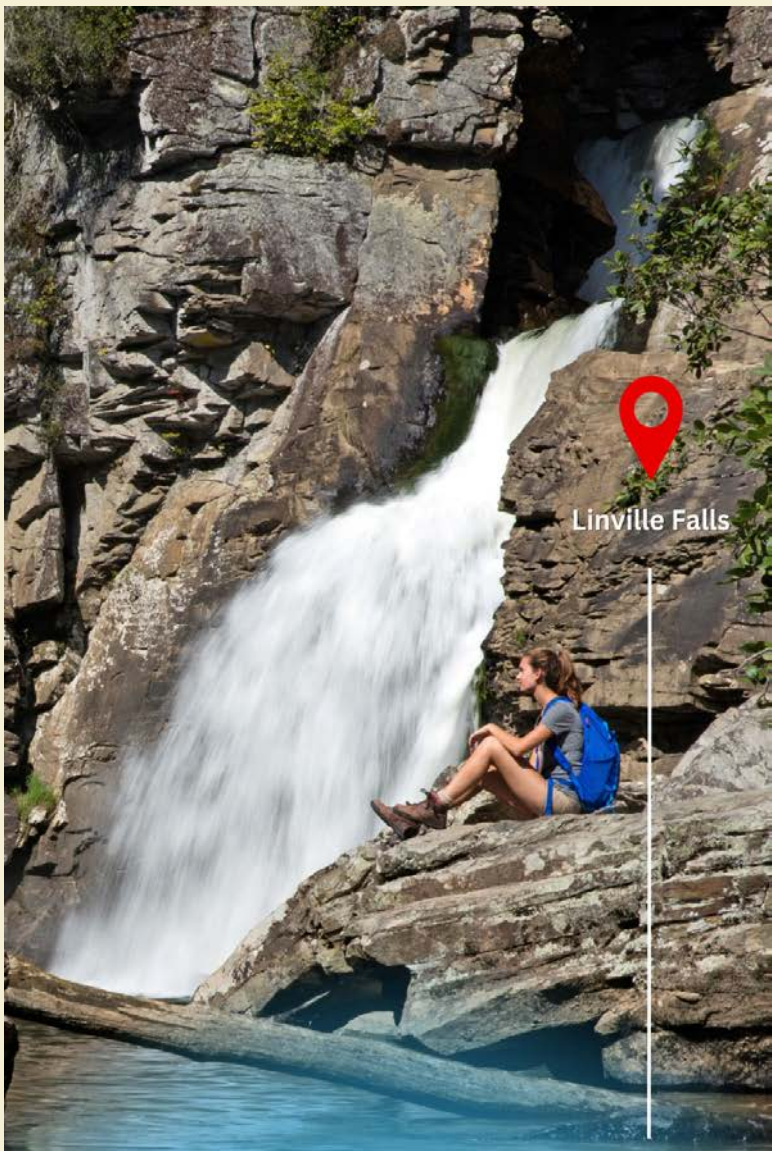
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# Summer Fun At The Beech

**D**o you enjoy being hot, sticky, and pursued by mosquitos? Of course not, so head over to Beech Mountain for a wallet friendly, cool summer getaway you won't soon forget. In addition to cool breezes, low humidity, and a lack of biting bugs, we've got a full schedule of fun family-friendly activities, many of them free, to offer. There are plenty of lodging options on Beech Mountain, from hotels to condominiums and individual houses suitable for families and groups of all sizes.

The Famous Brick Oven Pizzeria hosts a free Family Fun Night every Friday through mid-August, which includes live music, a bounce house for kids, and a family-friendly outdoor movies.

Having turned the ski slopes into a lift-assisted downhill mountain biking park, The Beech Mountain Resort is open Thursday through Sunday for the summer season. Scenic chair lift rides, weekend yoga classes and a brewery draw many visitors. Free live music at the 5506' Skybar on Saturday afternoons and later more music at the village cap a perfect day.

But the Resort is not the only game in town. Beech Mountain Parks & Recreation offers an abundance of activities, from water parties to drive-in movies, to arts and crafts. One of our



most popular events is the annual Beech Mountain Mud Run, taking place on August 12th. On that Saturday, families will flock to Wild Iris trail to crawl under hurdles, leap over fire, run on mud pits. Appropriate for all ages, this obstacle course run makes it easy for athletes of any skill level to have a muddy good time.

The Buckeye Recreation Center is another must-see during your visit to Beech Mountain. Enjoy Buckeye's pickleball, volleyball, and basketball courts, as well as energizing exercise classes, a full gym and indoor children's play areas. Free outdoor

**Continued On Page 30**

# COMMA

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- **REC DIVISION** the original race for age brackets Family 12 & under | 16 & under | 17-45 | 46 & over 2.5 mile run. On-site registration 7:30am-9:45am. Race starts at 10:00am
- **JUNIOR DIVISION** for ages 8-12 Solo Canoe or Solo Kayak only. Quarter mile run. On-site registration 7:30am-9:45am. Race begins at 11:30am

REGISTER AT MADISON- MAYODAN RECREATION CENTER OR ON-LINE AT [WWW.M-MREC.ORG](http://WWW.M-MREC.ORG)

\$25 Pre-Registration / \$15 Jr. Division  
\$30 On-Site Registration / \$20 Jr. Division  
\$5 Additional Event

Pre-Registration Deadline  
3:00pm | August 11, 2023



# WELCOME TO THE FAMILY!



## Randy Marion KIA of Salisbury



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**AUG 12** FOOD/MUSIC - Nine & Company

**AUG 19** FOOD/MUSIC - Electric Trio

**AUG 26** FOOD/BEER/MUSIC - Zeveride

**Tue-Fri: 9-6, Sat: 9-5, Sun: 12-5**



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# ALCOVETS Balloon Festival

The 2nd Annual ALCOVETS Balloon Festival hosted by ALCOVETS, in conjunction with Maverick Radio 95.1, returns to Alamance County. The festival is being held at Cedarrock Park, located 4242 R Dean Coleman Road, Burlington NC 27215, Friday through Sunday, September 8-10, 2023. This year's festival will have balloon rides, tethered balloon rides, a car show, a bike show, a kid zone, food trucks and craft vendors, and entertainment every night. There will be 30 hot air balloons participating in this year's festival.

The funds raised this year will go towards the construction of



the Chesnut Ridge Campus, a veterans' respite/retreat campus on the top of Bass Mountain.

Given the excitement of the balloon festival's return, if you are planning to attend, please go the ALCOVETS website; [www.alcovets.org](http://www.alcovets.org) to learn more about the festival. At this site, you can apply to be a vendor, register for the car or bike show, schedule a balloon ride.

Cedarrock Park, 4242 R. Dean Coleman Rd, Burlington, NC 27215  
[www.alcovets.org](http://www.alcovets.org)

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# Granville Fall Festivals Taking Over The Streets!!!



Sept. 9 – Hot Sauce Festival

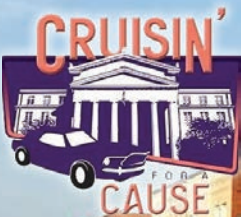
Sept. 16 – Creedmoor Music Festival

Oct. 14 – Masonic Homecoming Festival

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

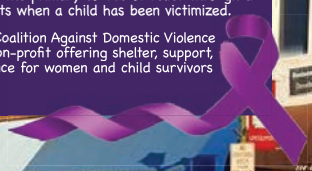


**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2023 4:30PM – 9PM**  
**MAIN STREET, DOWNTOWN LINCOLNTON**



Each year, Cruisin' for a Cause supports two local 501(c) 3 non-profit charitable organizations. This year, we are pleased to announce proceeds will benefit agencies providing services to child victims of abuse and victims of domestic violence. The Lincoln County Child Advocacy Center is dedicated to being the primary source of relief through a coordination of efforts when a child has been victimized.

The Lincoln County Coalition Against Domestic Violence (Amy's House) is a non-profit offering shelter, support, services and assistance for women and child survivors of abuse.



**\$5 to Cruise**

**\$15 to Cruise & Park**

SCAN ME



For more information, please reach out directly to the agencies or contact Cruisin' for a Cause at [cruisinlincolnton@gmail.com](mailto:cruisinlincolnton@gmail.com)

facilities include tennis courts, a playground and access to hiking and biking trails. Kayaks, canoes and fishing gear are available for use on Buckeye Lake, also free of charge.

All summer long, there are guided hikes, and other events you won't want to miss. September starts with the Mile High Kite Festival over the Labor Day weekend, and the following three weekends feature the Autumn at Oz event at the Land of Oz. (Go to [landofoznc.com](http://landofoznc.com) for tickets).

For more information  
visit [beechmtn.com](http://beechmtn.com) or  
call 828-387-9283.



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# 4<sup>th</sup> Annual BON TEMPS PADDLE BATTLE ON WYLIE

Friday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Paddler's Party @ Primal Brewery Belmont

6:00-9:00pm Live Music, Food, Beverage, Vendors, & Raffles

Saturday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Main Event @ Gaston County Wildlife Club

9:00am-12:45pm Paddle Battle

9:00am-1:00pm DJ Brian Wilson's Beach & Boogie

9:00am-4:00pm Food, Beverage & Product Vendors on Site

1:00-4:00pm Live Music by Kids In America Totally 80's Tribute Band

9:00am-4:00pm Pick-up Volleyball & Cornhole sponsored by SportsLink Sports & Social

Sunday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Float the Fork Lazy Paddle @ South Fork River

9:00-11:00am Paddle the South Fork River from

McAdenville Dam to Riverside Park, Cramerton

11:00-1:00pm DRINKS and food afterwards



Saturday  
Register to Paddle



Saturday  
Non-Paddlers



Sunday  
Register to Paddle

Call 910-SUP-HEIDI or email [anchoredsoul.net@gmail.com](mailto:anchoredsoul.net@gmail.com) for more details.

5pm Cocktail Hour  
6pm Dinner  
7pm Live Auction

Join Us For

## The Friends of the Stokes Shelter Annual Gala

SEPTEMBER 30 AT 5 PM SATURDAY

The Barn at Shelton Farms  
1295 Brim Road, Madison Stokes County, NC



To Order Tickets:

Visit: [www.friendsofstokesshelter.com](http://www.friendsofstokesshelter.com)



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