

Gaston County Visitors Center 620 North Main Street Belmont, NC 28012 704-825-4044 / 800-849-9994 www.visitgaston.org

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS JULY 2015

July 1– "Salute to Hot Pocket" – Gastonia Grizzlies ~ Sims Legion Park, 7:17PM The Park is located at 1001 N. Marietta Street in Gastonia. For more details call 704-866-8622 or visit www.gastoniagrizzlies.com.

July 1 thru July 19 – "ZimSculpt" – Daniel Stowe Botanical Garden

ZimSculpt is returning to the Garden and is back by popular demand. This Shona sculpture exhibition from Zimbabwe will feature more than 100 sculptures throughout the Garden. As you view the work you may also purchase a piece for your garden as well. Learn more at <a href="https://www.dsbg.org/garden-events/public-garden-e

July 1 thru August 9 – "Crafting Earth & Sky: Billie Ruth and Doug Sudduth" – Gaston County Museum, Billie Ruth Sudduth is a widely acclaimed basket maker living in the North Carolina Mountains. Her works are in many public and private collections including the Smithsonian Institution's Renwick Gallery. In 1997, she was named a North Carolina Living Treasure, the state's highest honor for creative excellence in the field of crafts. Doug Sudduth first developed an interest in photography during his military service in South Korea in 1962-63. He went on to study at the Penland School in 1993 under photographer Ralph Burns. Come and enjoy the works of these two very talented folks! For more details call Jason Luker, Programs Coordinator at 704-922-7681, ext. 105 or email Jason at Jason.Luker@gastongov.com.

July 1 through August 31 - "Garden Nights" - Daniel Stowe Botanical Garden

The Garden's <u>hours on Thursdays</u> will be extended until 9:00PM. Regular Garden admission applies. *Garden Nights* gives you the opportunity to come and enjoy the Garden in the evening. The Wine Nook will be open and ZimSculpt's curators will lead guided tours at 7:00PM each week through July 9th. For more details call 704-825-4490 or visit www.DSBG.org.

July 1 thru September 7 – "Tony's Ice Cream's 100th Anniversary Exhibit at The Schiele" -

This tradition started in 1915 as a push cart business, owned and operated by Carmine Coletta. Tony's has stood the test of time and remains one of the landmarks in Gaston County. Tony's is located at 604 E. Franklin Blvd. in Gastonia. The exhibit at Schiele Museum will include several items used in the business throughout its history, including scoops (one has Carmine Coletta's initials engraved on it), an ice cream machine, milkshake machine, a replica of Carmine's original push cart, and milk cans. The exhibit will replicate a 1960s-era ice cream shop. Bring the family for a taste of history! For more details call 704-867-7085.

July 1 thru September 30 – "The Solar System: A Journey of Exploration" Schiele Museum, 10:00AM The museum is located at 1500 East Garrison Blvd. in Gastonia. Be the first in your neighborhood to see our new feature exhibit and enjoy a day of out-of-this-world family-friendly activities. Discover astronomy through hands-on activities and go on a Solar System scavenger hunt. Take a safe glimpse at the sun through a special solar telescope. Don't forget to catch a show in the James H. Lynn Planetarium-programs are free in honor of this special event. For more details call 704-866-6908 or visit www.schielemuseum.org.

- **July 1, 10, 15, 17, 24, 29, 31 "Microbrews Cruise"** U.S. National Whitewater Center, 6:30PM Microbrews Cruise begins with a guided group flatwater paddle along the Catawba River. As the sun starts to set on the river, you'll work your way back to the shore for a chef-prepared, fireside dinner at the Ridge Pavilion. Each cruise features a select craft brewery; representatives from the breweries lead the tastings by highlighting new, seasonal and unique brews. Vegetarian and gluten free menus are available; please call *Guest Services* with any special dietary requests at 704-391-3900.
- **July 1, 10, 15, 17, 24, 29, 31 "Zipline & Dine"** U.S. National Whitewater Center, 6:00PM With Zipline & Dine, you can zip through the trees as the sun goes down before enjoying a fireside dinner with craft beer and wine. Guests will travel via a course of five different zip-lines and two roped bridges before rappelling out of the trees alongside the Catawba River. After a short hike back to base camp, guests will be greeted with craft beer, wine, and dinner around a roaring fire pit at the Ridge Landing. Dinners are prepared by our chef. Vegetarian and gluten free menus are available; please call *Guest Services* with any special dietary requests at 704-391-3900. For more details you may visit www.usnwc.org.
- July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 thru September 30 "Spy Tech Cruise In" Downtown Belmont, 6:00PM-9:00PM ~ Free ~ Every Wednesday evening through September, classic cars converge on Belmont for the Spy Tech Cruise In. The event is free and open to the public. Come and show your classic vehicle or come just to look and enjoy an evening in beautiful downtown Belmont. Classic car owners get a free ticket for a chance for meals or gas. Choose from 10 restaurants within a two-block walk, plus other shops, a park and playground for the children, plus...during this event there will be a DJ spinning beach music! For more details call Skip Graham at 704-825-4113 or email him at spyskip@gmail.com. (No rain dates)
- July 2, 9, 11, 16, 18, 23 thru September 24 "USNWC River Jam 2015" U.S. National Whitewater Center, 7:00PM-10:00PM ~ the concert is free but there is a fee of \$5.00 to park. Join the Whitewater Center on <u>Thursday and Saturday nights now through September</u> for River Jam, their weekly concert series. A talented line-up of national musical acts provide the perfect back drop for a fun summer evening outdoors. Bring your family and friends, enjoy the large food and craft beer selection, and take in the sights and sounds of *River Jam 2015*! For more details call 704-391-3900.
- July 3 "Red, White & Belmont and FRIDAY NIGHT SUMMER OF SHAG CONCERT"

 This event is free and open to the public in bequitiful downtown Pelmont. Come and enjoy the

This event is **free** and open to the public in beautiful downtown Belmont. Come and enjoy the music of "Coming Up Brass" from <u>6:00PM-10:00PM</u> then <u>fireworks begin at 9:30PM</u>. For more details call the Belmont Parks and Recreation Department at 704-901-2068.

- **July 3 "Red White and Boom"** Gastonia Grizzlies ~ Sims Legion Park, 7:17PM The Park is located at 1001 N. Marietta Street in Gastonia. For more details call 704-866-8622 or visit www.gastoniagrizzlies.com.
- **July 3 "4th of July Celebration with Music & Fireworks"** Mini Park on Main Street in Cherryville 6:00PM-10:00PM / the Park is located at 220 East main Street in Cherryville. Come and bring your family and friends to enjoy the 4th of July celebration on the 3rd in downtown Cherryville. There will be food vendors and live music. For more details call the Cherryville Chamber of Commerce at 704-435-3451.
- **July 3, 17, 31 thru August 28 "Friday Night Summer of Shag"** Downtown Belmont, 7:00PM The band will set up on South Main Street in front of Stowe Park. Before the band and during their breaks come and enjoy DJ "*Johnny B*" spinning the tunes. Bring a chair or a blanket for an evening under the stars. For more details call Vince Hill at 704-829-7711.
- **July 4 "Gastonia July 4th Festival & Fireworks!"** Downtown Gastonia, 11:00AM-9:30PM Need something to do on the 4th? Bring the family and friends to downtown Gastonia and watch while the typically sleepy street of Marietta comes alive with artists, live music, food, carnival rides, games, contests, a car show and so much more! Make sure you stay for the annual fireworks display to cap off an entire day of fun. Known as one of the best fireworks shows around, this year promises to be every bit as spectacular as the ones before it. For more details you may visit www.gastonia-july4th.com.

- **July 6 "Lucky Dog Dollar Monday"** Gastonia Grizzlies ~ Sims Legion Park, 7:17PM The Park is located at 1001 N. Marietta Street in Gastonia. For more details call 704-866-8622 or visit www.gastoniagrizzlies.com.
- **July 7 "First Tuesday ~ Discover McLean"** Daniel Stowe Botanical Garden, Noon 1:00PM The property adjacent to the Garden previously owned by Daniel Stowe is being developed into a new community named *McLean* after one of the original families of our region. Steven Hinshaw, who is leading the effort, will share more about this legacy-rich land that is set along five miles of shoreline, amid hardwoods and ponds, and talk about its future that will include abundant walking and biking trails, boating and fishing, unspoiled scenery and wildlife. Feel free to bring a bag lunch and enjoy this educational presentation over your lunch hour. For more details call 704-825-4490 or visit www.DSBG.org.
- **July 7 "Totally 80's"** Gastonia Grizzlies ~ Sims Legion Park, 7:17PM The Park is located at 1001 N. Marietta Street in Gastonia. For more details call 704-866-8622 or visit www.gastoniagrizzlies.com.
- **July 7 thru August 7 "The Woodland Indians"** Schiele Museum, Tuesday Saturday, 10:00AM & 2:30PM / Visit the Catawba Village to discover how local American Indians used plants, animals, and even the earth itself to provide for tools, clothing, food and shelter. **Free** for Schiele members and **free** with paid admission. For more details call 704-866-6908 or visit www.schielemuseum.org.
- **July 7 thru August 7 "Gemstone Mining"** Schiele Museum, Tuesday Saturday, 11:30AM-1:30PM Come and visit gemstone mine to find mineral treasures like garnets, topaz, rubies, emeralds, and rose quartz. The cost is \$4 with Museum admission. For more details call 704-866-6908 or visit www.schielemuseum.org.
- **July 9 "PBR Beer Run"** Gastonia Grizzlies ~ Sims Legion Park, 7:17PM The Park is located at 1001 N. Marietta Street in Gastonia. For more details call 704-866-8622 or visit www.gastoniagrizzlies.com.
- July 9 thru September 10 "River Jam Run Race Edition" U.S. National Whitewater Center, 6:15PM Break out of your typical exercise routine in this weekday trail race on the <u>second Thursday of every month now until September.</u> The weekend is near...but that doesn't mean you have to wait to race. Each race in the series will feature a 3.75-mile and 6.5-mile distance. Awards will be given to the winners of each race as well as the winners of the series overall. To be considered for the series title, participants must race a minimum of three races of the same distance. Following the race, hang out and enjoy live music and good times at the River Jam concert series. For more details you may visit www.usnwc.org.
- July 10 & 24 thru August 21 "Gastonia Downtown Summer Concert Series" ~ Rotary Pavilion DJ's start at 6 and Bands at 7 / the Pavilion is located at 111 N. South Street in Gastonia. In addition to these awesome bands, merchants will line the streets, an Art Crawl will be taking place between The Art Guild and The Art Station, local bars and restaurants will open and serving, and Main Ave will be lined with cars participating in the Cars and Concerts Cruise In. For more information or a list of more concerts please visit www.downtowngastonia.com. These concerts will be alternate weeks from the Belmont schedule and will run for 8 weeks. The events will begin at 7pm and last till 10pm.
- **July 10 thru September 4 "17th Annual Blues Out Back** *Free* **Concert Series"** Gaston County Museum, 6:30PM-8:00PM/ the concerts will be held the <u>second Friday of each month May until September</u>. Gaston County Museum will host the performance of Mike "Lightnin" Wells, as part of their 17th Annual "*Blues out Back*" free summer concert series on the lawn behind the museum. With his experience, knowledge, and well-honed performance skills, Lightnin' Wells has established himself at the forefront of the traditional blues revival. He is a life-long student and devotee of the pioneering performers in the piedmont blues tradition which once thrived in the Carolinas. His musical style is personal and energetic yet remains true to the original root form. Lightnin' Wells goal is to entertain and educate using a variety of sources, influences, and techniques to express his dedication, respect and pleasure in presenting this unique American art form. The

museum encourages folks to bring blankets, lawn chairs, and a picnic for an evening of great music with friends and family. For more details call 704-922-7681 or email the museum at museum@gastongov.com.

July 11 - "Kids Fishing Tournament" - Dallas Park, 8:00AM-12:00PM

The park is located at 1303 Dallas-Cherryville Hwy., Dallas. This is a perfect opportunity to introduce your kids to fishing. Fishing poles can be loaned out via the *Kids Fishing Loaner Program*. There will be lots of prizes and giveaways! This event is sponsored by the Gaston County Parks and Recreation Department. For more details please call 704-922-2160 or you may visit www.gastongov.com. *Note: please bring your own bait*.

July 11 – "WildLife" – Daniel Stowe Botanical Garden, ~ Free with Garden admission and free for members ZimSculpt (the Garden's current sculpture exhibition from Zimbabwe) provides the inspiration for this miniexhibition of Zimbabwean wildlife. Wildlife in Zimbabwe often provides inspiration for the amazing sculptures. Learn about what types of wildlife inhabit Zimbabwe and get up close to remarkable exhibit pieces including animals native to Africa on loan from our neighbor, the Museum of York County. Participate in hands-on activities, engage in take-home craft projects, and also have fun with an animal sculpture scavenger hunt. For more details call 704-825-4490 or visit www.DSBG.org.

July 11 – "Strike Out Cancer" – Gastonia Grizzlies ~ Sims Legion Park, 7:17PM The Park is located at 1001 N. Marietta Street in Gastonia. For more details call 704-866-8622 or visit www.gastoniagrizzlies.com.

July 14 – "Totally 90's" – Gastonia Grizzlies ~ Sims Legion Park, 7:17PM The Park is located at 1001 N. Marietta Street in Gastonia. For more details call 704-866-8622 or visit www.gastoniagrizzlies.com.

July 14 – "FREE TUESDAY ~ Every Second Tuesday of the Month" – Schiele Museum, 4:00PM-8:00PM The Schiele Museum is located at 1500 East Garrison Blvd., in Gastonia. For more details call 704-866-6908 or visit www.schielemuseum.org.

July 15 – "Live From Pluto!" – Schiele Museum, 9:00AM-4:00PM

Enjoy live video from NASA TV from the New Horizons mission to Pluto in the museum's auditorium, hosted by staff from the James H. Lynn Planetarium. Fun for the entire family! For more details call 704-866-6908 or visit www.schielemuseum.org.

July 16 - "Schiele Science Café" - Schiele Museum, 6:00PM

Enjoy a live presentation with the opportunity to ask questions, share opinions, and express ideas. No science background is necessary; just bring an open mind and gear up for a round of science trivia! The cost is \$5 per participant – includes beverage and snacks. Call 704-854-6676 for advance tickets or for more details visit www.schielemuseum.org.

July 16 & August 20 – "Belmont Merchant's 3rd Thursday" – Downtown Belmont, 6:00PM-8:00PM Support our local merchants! Explore downtown Belmont Businesses for a fun filled themed adventure of art, food, entertainment and fun! Local artist will be creating chalk art on the sidewalks and displaying their works in their shops! Don't miss it!

July 17 – "Midnight Madness Double-header" – Gastonia Grizzlies ~ Sims Legion Park, 8:00PM The Park is located at 1001 N. Marietta Street in Gastonia. For more details call 704-866-8622 or visit www.gastoniagrizzlies.com.

July 17 – "Friday Night Summer of Shag with *Black Water Rhythm & Blues*" – Downtown Belmont, 7:00PM-10:00PM ~ The band will set up on South Main Street in front of Stowe Park. Bring a chair or a blanket for an evening under the stars. For more details call Vince Hill at 704-829-7711.

July 17 - "Concert in the Park" - Town of Cramerton, 7:00PM ~ Free

The park is located at 155 N. Main Street in Cramerton across from the Cramerton Town Hall. This event is free and open to the public. Bring the family, your friends, and enjoy an evening of music featuring *Rosetta*. There will be concessions for you to purchase as well. See you there!

July 17 – "Civil War Summer Day Camp" – Gaston County Museum, 10:00AM-3:00PM ~ Ages 8 to 12 A call to arms! Join the staff of the Gaston County Museum for an immersive one-day camp exploring the American Civil War. Campers will learn about the history of the war, the role women played during the conflict, and what it means to be a soldier through military marching, troop movements, and firing demonstrations. The day ends with the campers applying what they learned by participating in a mock battle! Pre-reservation and pre-payment is required for this camp and space is limited. For more details about this program or to make your reservation please contact Jason Luker, Programs Coordinator, at 704-922-7681 ex 105 or at <u>Jason.Luker@gastongov.com</u>.

July 19 - "Celebrate Summer" - Schiele Museum, 1:00PM-4:00PM

Enjoy a summer afternoon and *National Ice Cream Day* with great museum activities and free ice cream from Tony's Ice Cream. Explore exhibits, the Catawba Village, and the Backcountry Farm. Go gemstone mining, make giant bubbles, meet live animals and view the sun safely through a solar telescope. The cost is \$3 in addition to museum admission. For more details call 704-866-6908 or visit www.schielemuseum.org.

July 21 – "Super Splash 2.0" – Gastonia Grizzlies ~ Sims Legion Park, Noon The Park is located at 1001 N. Marietta Street in Gastonia. For more details call 704-866-8622 or visit www.gastoniagrizzlies.com.

July 24 – "So You Think You Can Dance" – Gastonia Grizzlies ~ Sims Legion Park, 7:17PM The Park is located at 1001 N. Marietta Street in Gastonia. For more details call 704-866-8622 or visit www.gastoniagrizzlies.com.

July 25 - "Live Bat Encounter" - Schiele Museum, 11:00AM and 2:00PM

Live bats from around the world! Rob Mies, TV personality, conservation biologist, bat expert, author, and Executive Director of the Organization for Bat Conservation, speaks about the benefits of bats, the need for conservation, and what you can do to help these unique mammals. See a big brown bat from North America and hear its high-pitched echolocation with a "bat detector," meet fruit bats from Africa and Asia, and come face-to-face with the largest bat in the world, the Gigantic Flying Fox Bat from Malaysia. Families will also enjoy bat-related crafts and activities. The cost is \$3 in addition to museum admission. Call 704-854-6676 for advance tickets or for more details.

July 25 – "Movie Night ~ The Goonies" – Dallas Park Horse Arena, 8:00PM

The park is located at 1303 Dallas-Cherryville Hwy., Dallas. Bring your family and friends for a free movie and free popcorn under the stars. Don't forget your blankets and chairs. For more details please call the Gaston County Parks and Recreation Dept. at 704-922-2160 or visit www.gastongov.com.

July 25 thru September 26 – "Community Concert & Cruise In" – Bessemer City, 6:00PM This event is <u>every 4th Saturday</u> in downtown Bessemer City on W. Virginia Avenue. Come and enjoy live music, classic cars with <u>free</u> car entries and a lot of family fun! Tonight, come and enjoy music with the "Swash Tones"! For more details please visit <u>www.bessemercity.com</u>.

July 30 – "Interns Rule" – Gastonia Grizzlies ~ Sims Legion Park, 7:17PM
The Park is located at 1001 N. Marietta Street in Gastonia. For more details call 704-866-8622 or visit www.gastoniagrizzlies.com.

July 31 – "Friday Night Summer of Shag with *Fantastic Shakers*" – Downtown Belmont, 7:00PM-10:00PM The band will set up on South Main Street in front of Stowe Park. Bring a chair or a blanket for an evening under the stars. For more details call Vince Hill at 704-829-7711.

FOR ADDITIONAL ENTERTAINMENT!

- "Tony's Ice Cream's 100th Anniversary" This tradition started in 1915 as a push cart business, owned and operated by Carmine Coletta. Tony's has stood the test of time and remains one of the landmarks in Gaston County. Tony's is located at 604 E. Franklin Blvd. in Gastonia. Bring your family and friends for some Southern homemade ice cream and good food. Come start *your* tradition today! For more details call 704-867-7085.
- "Gastonia Grizzlies ~ 2011 CPL Champions & the 2012 Organization of the Year ~ opens May 23rd, 2015" Home of the Grizzlies, Sims Legion Park, is located at 1001 N. Marietta St. Gastonia, NC 28054. The Gastonia Grizzlies is a proud member of the Coastal Plain League, the nation's hottest summer collegiate baseball league with 14 teams playing in N.C., S.C. and Virginia. Come and enjoy *The Best Show In Town!* For the 2015 Grizzlies schedule visit www.gastoniagrizzlies.com or call 704-866-8622.
- "Muddy River Distillery" Distillers of Carolina Rum & Queen Charlotte's Reserve The distillery is located at 1500 River Drive, #100 in Belmont. Muddy River was the first rum distillery in North Carolina, and the *only* distillery dedicated to rum in N.C. The owners Caroline and Robbie Delaney usually give 3 tours a week about 45 minutes to an hour long with 40 spots available. If you would like to take a tour, you would need to sign-up on their website at http://www.muddyriverdistillery.com/rumdistillerytour/; legally they must do a tour in order to do a sampling so sign-up today. For more details call 336-516-4190.
- "Bessemer City Kings Mountain Drive-In Theatre" Closed for the season ~ Opens at 7:00PM the show starts at 8:00PM, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday nights. The cost is \$10.00 per carload. Bring the family and the neighbors for a fun time! For more details call 704-739-2150.
- "Lineberger Park Train" Gastonia Parks and Recreation, Lineberger Park is located at 632 E. Garrison Blvd. in Gastonia. Spring hours are as follows: March April May, Saturday 12PM-6PM and Sunday 1:30PM-6PM. Summer hours are as follows: June July August, Thursday & Friday 10AM–1PM and 2PM–6PM, Saturday 12PM-6PM and Sunday 1:30PM-6PM. Fall hours for the train are as follows: September October November, Saturday 12PM-6PM and Sunday 1:30PM-6PM. The cost is \$1 per person per ride. For private parties, day cares and schools call 704-869-1018. The park reserves the right to cancel operations due to inclement weather. The winter, December January February the train is closed and will reopen in March. "Green Way Cycle Rentals" Avon/Catawba Creek Green Way near Lineberger Park, Gastonia Weds/Thurs/Fri 2:00PM till dusk ~ \$5 per hour ~ Sat/Sunday 10:00AM till dusk / All rentals are for set riding location only; no off path rentals available at this time. Helmets are required for all riders under 16 years old per NC State Law; helmets will be available at location. Renters must provide valid driver's license or ID. For more details call 704-836-7742 or visit www.greenwaycyclerentals.com. (Call before you go due to the season and weather conditions)
- **"U.S. National Whitewater Center"** This official U.S. Olympic training facility is the training ground for future Olympians offering kayaking, rafting, canoeing, rock climbing, mountain-biking and running trails just minutes from hotels, restaurants, and shopping! Parking is \$5.00 then you pay as you go or purchase one of the many 'All Sport Passes'. For more details/reservations and to see what activities are available this time of year, call 704-391-3900 or visit <u>www.usnwc.org</u>.
- "Carolina Speedway: Dirt Track Racing Friday Nights!" (Every other Friday night during winter season) Carolina Speedway is attracting crowds every Friday night to its improved dirt race track in southern Gaston County. The 4/10 mile track has excited fans and drivers in Gaston County for 44 years. The gates open at 5:00 PM with hot laps at 7:00 PM. Racing starts at 8:00 PM. For details call 704-869-0313 or visit www.driveondirt.com. Be sure to check out Dirt Track Racing School located at the Carolina Speedway.
- "The Floating Goat" SPORTS & RECREATION! The hours are 10:00AM-7:00PM. Kayak rentals...located at 137 8th Ave. in Cramerton, NC, 28032. Please call 704-734-8599 or 704-914-5552 for rentals and reservations or you may email Greg at qregthefloatinggoat@gmail.com. (Call before you go due to the season and weather conditions)

- "Historic Cherryville Railroad Depot" This 1922 Depot is located at 105 Depot Street in Cherryville. You can watch the model trains run or bring yours to run on the "Big Layout". Join us on Thursday evenings (7PM-9PM) or Saturday mornings (10AM-12PM) and at other times by appointment. For details call Bob Fanter at 704-482-8723.
- "Lake Wylie Kayak Rentals / Tailrace Marina" The marina is located at 1000 Marina Village Drive in Mount Holly, NC, 28120. Rentals are pontoon boats, kayaks & canoes. All groups are welcome and reservations are needed. Picnic areas are available for you and your family to enjoy. For more details or for reservations call 704-827-000. You may also visit www.lakeWylieKayakRentals.com. Note: please call before you go due to the season and weather conditions.
- "The Cherryville Historical Museum" The museum is located in downtown Cherryville in the Old City Hall built in 1911 to house the fire station, jail, police department, court room and the office of the city clerk. The building contains three levels of exhibit space where exhibits include a replica of the Old Academy, a 1950's Beauty Shop, Little Church on Main Street, Optometrist Office, and other medical exhibits. Special attractions are the 1921 LaFrance fire engine, the New Year Shooters display, original Bull Durham painting, and the Genealogy & History Library. The hours of operation are Saturday from 10:00AM-2:00PM, other times by appointment and the admission is free! For more details call 704-435-8011 or email chyhistorical@att.net.
- "Millican Pictorial History Museum" Located in 'The Abram Stowe House' built in 1868, it's the oldest house in Belmont. Come and enjoy thousands of rare photos of cotton mills, workers and their way of life. On display are photographs of towns, churches, schools, trolleys, trucks, service stations, drive-in theaters, just to mention a few. You may also purchase these photo's which will help the museum. The hours are Monday-Friday from 1:00PM-5:00PM and Saturday from 10:00AM-5:00PM, admission is free and donations are appreciated. For more details please call Allen Millican at 704-825-5391 or you may email Allen at milkcan@bellsouth.net.
- "Restored ~ 1930's Textile Mill House and R.L. Stowe's Home" 'The Belmont Historical Society', located in the *R.L. Stowe historical home* at 40 Catawba Street in Belmont. In the Stowe home you will find rooms displaying furnishings and artifacts from by-gone-eras of our history. There are various permanent exhibits, and "theme" exhibits which are changed regularly. The 1930's textile mill house is where you can explore life displayed in a mill worker's home. There are souvenirs for sale to help continue restoring the *1950's Stowe Park Train* as well as an *1890's Self-standing Kitchen*. The hours are Friday through Sunday from 1:00PM-5:00PM. Admission is free and donations are appreciated. For more details call 704-825-4848 or you may visit the website at www.belmontnc-hs.org.
- **"Mount Holly Historical Society"** Open on the 3rd Saturday of each month from 9:00AM-12:00PM The Mount Holly Historic Exhibits are on display during these hours. Consider becoming a member and help preserve Mount Holly's historic character! For more details email www.mhhistoricalsociety@gmail.com or visit on facebook at www.facebook.com/mhhsnc.
- "Permanent Exhibit Update Period Hotel Rooms" Gaston County Museum, the Gaston County Museum's newly renovated period hotel rooms is open to the public. These rooms will explore the history of the Hoffman Hotel starting from its beginnings through the 1920s. Patrons will learn about several types of guests including: a Confederate Officer, a lawyer, a doctor and his family. Visitors will see what it would have been like to stay at the hotel as well as traveling through Gaston County. The exhibit will feature interactive displays and a new hands-on children's area. The museum is housed in an 1852 brick Greek Revival style hotel that has been adapted for visitors and travelers of today. The museum contains North Carolina's largest public collection of horse-drawn vehicles consisting of sleighs, drays, wagons, and buggies and is the home of the *Ties that Bind: Carolinas Textile Exhibit*. Museum hours: Tuesday Friday 10:00AM 5:00PM, and Saturday 10:00AM 3:00PM For more details contact Jeff Pruett at 704-922-7681 x105 or ieff.pruett@co.gaston.nc.us Museum's website www.gaston.countymuseum.org.
- **"Belmont Abbey College Performing Arts"** For the 2013-2014 schedule or tickets call 704-461-6787 or you may visit www.belmontabbeycollege.edu/academic/performingarts/abbey-players-theater-schedule.aspx.

Information is also available for the "2014-2015 ~ Arts at the Abbey Concerts" at www.bac.edu or call 704-461-6813.

"The Little Theater of Gastonia" – For the 2015 schedule or tickets call 704-865-0160 or you may visit www.littletheaterofgastonia@gmail.com. To order your tickets online, visit www.Carolinatix.org or call Carolinatix at 704-372-1000.

GASTON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY WEEKLY TODDLER TIME

Simple 20-minute program for children ages 1 – 2 years with parent/caregiver. Program includes picture book-sharing, finger plays, songs and activities, and introduces toddlers to books

Belmont Branch Library: Thursdays at 10:00AM – 704-825-5426 Lowell Branch Library: Fridays at 11:00AM – 704-824-1266 Main Library / Gastonia: Thursdays at 10:30AM & 1:30AM – 704-868-2164, Dial 3 Mount Holly Branch Library: Tuesdays at 10:30AM – 704-827-3581 Stanley Branch Library: Wednesdays at 10:30AM – 704-263-4166 Union Road Branch Library: Wednesdays at 10:00AM – 704-852-4073

For more details about **Weekly Toddler Time and Weekly Story Time** events, please contact your local Gaston-Lincoln Regional Library location or call 704-868-2164 / Dial 4.

GASTON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY WEEKLY STORY TIME

Storytelling, book-sharing, songs and participatory activities for children age 3 through 6 years old.

Belmont Branch Library: Tuesdays at 10:00AM – 704-825-5426

Bessemer City Branch Library: Wednesdays at 10:30AM – 704-629-3321

Cherryville Branch Library: Tuesdays at 10:30PM – 704-435-6767

Dallas Branch Library: Wednesdays at 10:00AM – 704-922-3621

Ferguson Branch Library / Erwin Center: 704-868-8046 for Program Details

Lowell Branch Library: Wednesdays at 10:30AM – 704-824-1266

Main Library / Gastonia: Wednesdays at 11:30AM & 1:30PM – 704-868-2164, Dial 3

Mount Holly Branch Library: Thursdays at 10:30AM – 704-827-3581

Stanley Branch Library: Fridays at 10:30AM – 704-263-4166

Union Road Branch Library: Wednesdays at 11:00AM – 704-852-4073

Charles R. Jones Library / Lincolnton: Wednesdays at 10:30AM – 704-735-8044

Florence Soule Shanklin Branch Library: Tuesdays at 10:30AM – 704-276-9946

James H. Lynn PLANETARIUM At The Schiele Museum

Tickets to the Planetarium are \$3 for all visitors, plus Museum admission (<u>except FREE days</u>).

Program schedule is subject to change. On the day of your visit, confirm your schedule by calling 704-866-6908.

"Oceans in Space" – Saturdays 11:00AM & 2:30PM, Sundays 2:30PM
Tuesday – Friday 3:30PM / The search for life in the universe begins deep in the Earth's oceans and extends out to the stars! Explore conditions make life favorable on our planet and throughout the universe. Discover the diversity of life here even as humans embark on the search for life in the universe.

"Bear Tales and Other Grizzly Stores" – Tuesday - Sunday 1:30, Free Tuesdays (2nd Tuesday of the month) 6:00PM, Free Fridays (4th Friday of the month) 3:30PM / Join Grandpa Ben on a family camping trip and hear lively stories about the night sky and its constellations. Come and enjoy this fun, family-friendly presentation for all ages.

"Nightwatch" – Saturdays & Sundays, 3:30PM

There is more in the night sky than you can see with your naked eye. Learn how to explore the universe with binoculars and small telescopes without leaving your own backyard. The cost is \$3 in addition to museum admission.

DID YOU KNOW?

"Know Before You Go" – Dial 511 to reach the NC 511 Travel Info Line or get real-time info online at www.ncdot.gov/travel. NCDOT also offers travel information for motorists on Twitter.

"Crowders Mountain State Park Hours"

November-February, 8AM-6PM March-April, September-October, 8AM-8PM May-August, 8AM-9PM Closed Christmas Day

Park Office Hours: 8AM-5PM Daily

(While in the park in case of an emergency call the park office at 704-853-5375)

2015 FARMERS MARKET REPORT (updated as info is provided)

The Dougie Henry Farmers Market a.k.a. Gastonia Farmers Market

410 E. Long Ave. – for more details, call Carol Shrum at (704)853-0049 / www.gastoniafarmersmarket.com

<u>Open April 4th thru November</u>

Saturday only - 7:30AM – 12:30PM

Starting May 2nd thru October

Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday from 7:30AM-12:30PM

Cherryville Farmers Market

Located at 220 East Main St. in the Chamber of Commerce parking lot For more details call 704-435-3451

<u>Opens May 14 thru October 29</u>

Thursdays only 4:00PM-7:00PM

Lowell Farmers Market

Located on Second St. in Lowell beside the Masonic Lodge For more details call 704-824-3518 <u>Opens June 11th thru August 20th</u> Thursday only from 4:00PM-7:00PM

Mount Holly Farmers Market

215 S. Main St. in downtown Mount Holly For more details call 704-609-0666 <u>Opens May 9th</u> Saturday only from 8:00AM-Noon