College for Older Adults
Fall Registration Begins August 10

Mark your calendars for September 14, the first day of the fall session of College for Older Adults 2015. With over 30 classes and events to choose from, this term is shaping up to be our most fun yet.

Decisions. Decisions. Armed with great feedback from our spring COA luncheon, we have created a fall line-up that will have you wanting to take everything we offer! A few final details are still being worked out, but schedules and registration forms should be on their way to you via e-mail on Monday, August 10 - and maybe even sooner.

This fall’s schedule is chock-full of fitness classes, great fall craft projects, a sight-seeing lunch cruise, history sessions and much more. The hard part will be deciding if you can fit everything into your schedule.

Membership in the fall College for Older Adults is $55, while art classes and other events may have additional fees. Deadline for registration is September 9; after that date the fee will increase to $65.

The College for Older Adults is designed for those ages 50 and older who want to continue lifelong learning, meet new friends and bond with old ones, and enjoy physical fitness and good fellowship.
Simple Gifts of the Blue Ridge

Don’t miss our final concert of the season at Fairy Stone State Park

Continuing a three-decade tradition, Simple Gifts of the Blue Ridge will take the amphitheater stage at Fairy Stone State Park on Friday, August 21 at 7:00 p.m. to perform the final concert in the Reynolds Homestead-sponsored summer music series.

Hailing from Blacksburg, the group includes Charles Bostian, Jack Webster, Carolyn Smith, and Marya Katz, who together sing and play hammered dulcimers, guitars, flute, bass, and percussion. Simple Gifts performs traditional American, British, and Irish folk music, with some world music and original compositions thrown in. Their broad repertoire includes train songs, contemporary favorites, love songs, Appalachian fiddle tunes, early American hymns, Irish tunes, and original compositions. There is no charge to attend the concert, though there is a $5.00 parking fee per car – so find some friends and carpool to this toe-tapping event.

On June 12, Reynolds Homestead sponsored a concert by the FARM TEAM featuring two of our great volunteers, Mary Joe and Charlie Leet, and was a sponsor for the July 4th Flow Fest concert showcasing some of the area’s finest talent.

Save the Dates for Jazz on the Lawn

Mark your calendars now to attend Jazz on the Lawn at Reynolds Homestead. Come and enjoy an afternoon of smooth jazz with PB&J on Sunday, September 13 and on October 11 enjoy some swingin' gypsy jazz by the Roanoke-based jazz ensemble Le Hotclub de Biglick. Save the date now – you don’t want to miss a minute of these great concerts!

Dinner & A Movie: “Dead Poet’s Society”

Painfully shy Todd Anderson has been sent to the school where his popular older brother was valedictorian. His roommate, Neil, although exceedingly bright and popular, is very much under the thumb of his overbearing father. The two, along with their other friends, meet Professor Keating, their new English teacher, who tells them of the Dead Poets Society, and encourages them to go against the status quo. Each, in their own way, does this, and is changed for life. Lisa will prepare dinner fresh from the farm with herb-roasted chicken and potatoes, zucchini quiche, corn salad, gazpacho and bread. Peach pie for dessert! Dinner is $14 per person and reservations are required. The movie is FREE and you do not have to attend dinner to attend the movie. 6:00 p.m. (Movie at 7:00 p.m.)
CALL FOR ENTRIES

The 40th Anniversary J.E.B. Stuart Art Show will be on exhibition at the Reynolds Homestead September 3 - October 30. To celebrate this important milestone of this longstanding showcase of local talent, we are expanding the prize offerings and making other changes to improve the event.

This show will feature only adult art; in order to allow local art teachers to work with students to prepare work, we will instead hold a J.E.B. Stuart Student Art Show in April and May, with more prizes and more exhibition space for student art.

To encourage more entries in each category for the fall show, grouped categories such as Oil and Acrylic will have first place awards for each medium, then second and third overall awards. Category II: Drawings, Pastels, Watercolors and Mixed Media will have 3 first place awards this year: Drawings & Pastels, Watercolors, and Mixed Media. A second and third place overall in the category will also be awarded. The same method will be used for the 3D category as well.

Another important change is that the photography category will expand into Unaltered and Enhanced. A first place will be awarded to each, then an overall second and third place will be awarded as well.

“These changes will expand the number of first place prizes to 10 rather than the previous four,” says Lisa Martin. “After conversations with members of Bull Mountain Arts, we agreed that these are good changes to make to the overall success of the show.”

Entry forms and more information about the show will be available the first week in August on our website or by calling the Reynolds Homestead.

Entries will be taken August 20-25, with specific times listed on the website.

THE HISTORY AROUND US

Up and Down These Roads

A “Save Our Towns” project from Elizabeth Fine and Jerry Scheeler of Virginia Tech

On Wednesday, August 5, local historian John Reynolds will show this short film from 1981 and discuss the work that he and many others did in creating this memorable documentary. With support from Virginia Tech, the Reynolds Homestead, the Patrick County Library, and a grant from the National Endowment for the Art, Reynolds and the others completed hours of interviews with local people throughout the county. The film is a lasting legacy and history of Patrick County from over thirty years ago – showing both the scenery and its people.

The program is FREE so bring a bag lunch and enjoy.
Youth Experience Adventure on the Challenge Course

More than 100 youth have participated in team exercises on the Reynolds Homestead Challenge Course. The course is designed to provide safe, fun and innovative activities to help participants build relationships, improve communication and critical thinking skills and develop leadership potential. Activities focus on building community by developing trust, cooperation, collaboration, perseverance, communication, creativity and leadership.

Reynolds Homestead staff members, volunteers Chad Lange and Peter Zeien, and Boy Scout leaders Wesley Tatum and Kevin Reynolds completed a facilitator training session in April in preparation for leading activities on the Challenge Course.

We are excited to be able to offer this adventure-based learning program at Reynolds Homestead. The Challenge Course is not just for youth; programs can be tailored to meet specific needs of almost any group. Be on the lookout for an invitation to a ribbon-cutting ceremony and let us know if you would like to bring a group to experience the course.

Sixty juniors and seniors from Bassett High School participated in activities on the Reynolds Homestead Challenge Course to gain leadership skills as they are preparing to serve as mentors for incoming freshman at their school.

The Reynolds Homestead has activities for everyone – too many to list here! Please visit our website or follow our Facebook page to learn more about clubs, meetings and other programs.

August 5: Volunteer Meeting
The first Wednesday of each month is when volunteers gather to learn more about the opportunities to assist staff in serving our mission. We always serve lunch and encourage you to join us! 1:00 p.m.

August 21: Peach Festival Cook-Off
Prepare your best peach dessert or jelly/jam and bring it to the Stuart Farmer’s Market to be entered into the Virginia State Peach Festival Cook-Off. Prizes awarded! 8:00-noon

Upcoming
September 26: Nature Photography
Register now for Rick Dawson’s popular Nature Photography class. This session will focus on hands-on student work. Bring a bag lunch. Rain or shine. 9:00-4:00. $40