



~ News from the High Country April 2011 ~

Watauga County:

The art of wine is celebrated in mountain style during the **2011 Blue Ridge Wine and Food Festival**, April 13-17 in Blowing Rock, North Carolina. Enjoy wine tastings, seminars, cooking classes, wine makers' dinners and much more! Featuring wineries from throughout NC, and fine cuisine created by Blowing Rock chefs, the Festival promises to please even the most discriminating palates. Tickets and much more information are available online at:

www.blueridgewinefestival.com.

Blowing Rock's Trout Derby is a fun-filled, two day fishing event to be held April 2nd and 3rd, 2011. Win prizes for biggest fish in separate age categories. No entry fees are required and no pre-registration is necessary. Just take your catch to the official Derby headquarters at the Blowing Rock American Legion Building on Wallingford Street. Children 11 and under and persons with disabilities may fish at Broyhill Park's Mayview Lake. There is a limit of three (3) fish per participant per day at Mayview Lake. All anglers must have a license and obey all posted fishing regulations. The only fish eligible for entry into the derby are freshly caught trout taken from Watauga County public trout waters. Derby hours are Saturday 6 am- 5pm and Sunday noon-4pm. Cash and Prizes will be awarded at 4:15 on Sunday. For more information, call #(828) 295-4636.

Ashe County:

Spring will soon be returning to the High Country and our family of farmers, gardeners, craftspeople and artists are eagerly looking forward to the Saturday, April 9th, 2011 spring opening of the **Ashe County Farmers' Market**. Every Saturday from 8am—1pm the vendors will convene under the beautiful Market shelter to sell "Homegrown and Hand-made" products which are produced in Ashe County. You will find an abundance of wholesome fruit and vegetables, farm-fresh meat and eggs, fresh herbs and flowers of all kinds and an outstanding assortment of breads, cakes, cookies and candies sure to please you and all the members of your family. In addition to the wonderful selection of fresh foods, they offer some of the most amazing arts and crafts you will ever see. Come on by for a visit—located on the Back Street in downtown West Jefferson. For more information, please visit: www.ashefarmersmarket.com.

Avery County:

Visitors to **Grandfather Mountain** will get a **Discount on the Mountain's "Behind the Scenes" Animal Habitat Tours** this April. The tours that let guests see what happens beyond the viewing areas, regularly \$30, are being offered for \$20 per person in April. Grandfather's knowledgeable and experienced keepers will show guests where the cougars and otters sleep overnight and share the ins and outs of what it takes to care for the animals year-round. Guests also get to observe a training session with the animals. Each tour lasts approximately 1 hour and 30 minutes. For more information, call #(800) 468-7325 or go to: www.grandfather.com.

Come and Enjoy
Spring in the High Country!

