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Times-News weekly

## Looking out for Whip-poor-wills

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### quick takes

#### High schools present spring musicals

It's curtain time! High school students involved in three spring musicals have devoted long hours after-school rehearsing to showcase their talents with family, friends and the community in coming weeks. The musicals include:

•**"Singin' in the Rain"**

Hendersonville High School's Class of 2008 is presenting the classic musical, "Singin' in the Rain," directed by theater teacher Todd Weakly.

The cast of the spring musical at Hendersonville High School is made up entirely of seniors. Underclassmen work behind the scenes.

"Singin' in the Rain" starts at 7:30 p.m. Thursday April 24 and runs through Saturday April 26.

Tickets cost \$10 for general admission and \$12 for reserved seating and may be purchased at the HHS office. For information, call 697-4802.

•**"Cats"**

West Henderson High School is performing the long-running Broadway smash hit that features nonstop singing and dancing.

The "Cats" cast features seniors, juniors and sophomores and is co-directed by theater teacher Kelly Cooper and chorus teacher John Fohner.

"Cats" performances start at 7 p.m. and run from Thursday April 24 through Saturday April 26.

Tickets cost \$8 for students and \$10 for adults. For more information, call 891-6571.

•**"Into the Woods"**

North Henderson High School, under the direction of theater teacher Debbie Byorick, is presenting the full Brother's Grimm style version of the musical "Into the Woods."

The cast for this dark spin on Grimm features students from different classes.

"Into the Woods" will be performed at 7:30 p.m., Thursday May 1 through Saturday, May 3. Tickets cost \$8.

For information, call 697-4500.

#### Looking Glass wins national award

Looking Glass Eye Center of Excellence has won a national award for its Medicare compliance practices from the American Society of Ophthalmic Administrators.

The center, which has offices in Brevard, Hendersonville and Cashiers, won the third William E. Rose Jr. Pinnacle Award. The Pinnacle Award honors ophthalmology practices that demonstrate excellence in specific areas.

Looking Glass Eye Center is one of three ophthalmology practices nationwide that received a prestigious Pinnacle Award. Looking Glass won in the Large Group Practice category.

"This is such an honor for our practice," said Dr. Dana Christianson, who cofounded the center in 1988 with Dr. Craig Secosan.

Looking Glass Eye Center includes five physicians: Dana Christianson, MD, Craig Secosan, MD, Alan Verm MD, Dan Yoder, MD, and Katherine Volatile, MD.

#### Veritas presents "Peter Pan"

Veritas Christian Academy's Veritas Theater presents "Peter Pan" on Saturday, April 26 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, April 27 at 2:30 p.m.

Come out and see students fly!

The play will take place at the Asheville School. Tickets cost \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Info: call the School Office at 681-0546.

BY BETH BEASLEY  
*tnw writer*

**A** congregation of jewelry artists is getting ready to bedazzle a prime corner of downtown Hendersonville.

Beginning May 3, the group plans to transform a parking lot at the corner of Third Avenue and Church Street, across the street from Inn on Church, into the Artisan Jewelry Market one Saturday a month. The open air market will feature jewelry made from beads, gems, metal hoops and one-of-a-kind pieces crafted by the hands of more than 15 artists.

The outdoor market is the brainchild of Abbie Doyle, owner of My Garden of Beadin,' on Church Street.

"My original idea was to create a kind of tailgate market — but for jewelry," says Doyle.

The jewelry market will take place on the first Saturday of every month this spring and summer and will offer customers a wide selection of hand-made jewelry in one setting. It is free and open to the public.

Funky charm bracelets; dazzling arrangements of colorful Swarovski Crystals, necklaces made with felt beads, wire-wrapped stones and dichroic glass pendants are just some of the wares you will find at the market.

"It's all so different and it's a blast seeing what everyone does," Doyle says. "There are some that are doing great things."

While many of the vendors have experience in the jewelry making business here and is always new to the craft. The classes Doyle offers at her bead shop on Church Street have provided inspiration for many of these artists.

"Abbie has great classes here and is always helpful with advice," says Angela Perry, a teacher at West Henderson High School who has been bitten by the 'bead bug.'

**Well educated bunch**

Perry shares an insider fun fact:

"So much of the jewelry sold in Hendersonville is made by people with master's degrees," Perry says. "We have something different to offer — each of us has our own style."

Most of the jewelry vendors are from the Henderson County area, with the exception of Jackie DeBell, who will travel from Young Harris, Ga. to participate.

Patti Grochewski of



BETH BEASLEY/TNW

The Artisan Jewelry Market, sponsored by Abbie Doyle, owner of My Garden of Beadin', opens May 3 in a downtown Hendersonville parking lot. On the first Saturday of each month, it will feature more than a dozen local jewelry makers including (L to R) Jody Funk, Sherron Pfeiffer, Barbara Stock, Kate Sampson, Angela Perry and My Garden of Beadin' owner Abbie Doyle.

Saluda has work that focuses on gemstones and wire-wrapping. Terry Lamb loves working with crystals. Elizabeth Gebb also creates jewelry that incorporates wrapped gem stones.

"She has totally embraced wire-wrapping," Doyle says. "She makes chains by hand that have designs within them — little curlicues in the wire."

Barbara Poole, the band director at Flat Rock Middle School, will also show her jewelry creations.

"Barbara does really whimsical stuff," says Doyle. "They're really fun and funky, with colored jump rings."

Sherron Pfeiffer, a retired math teacher, is forging a new path making jewelry, and Carol Dill of Brevard is having fun with crystals and gem stones.

Jody Funk is drawing on a fine arts degree in

ceramics to make one-of-a-kind pendants and other art to wear.

Like a few of the other vendors, DeBell's wearable art, BoHo Girl Designs have been featured in My Garden of Beadin's artist of the month display.

"Selling your work for the first time as a featured artist really gives you validation," Perry says. "I know I like my work, but wasn't quite sure what other people would think."

**A helpful connection**

With the outdoor jewelry market, Doyle is building on the inspiration and encouragement she has given others since her shop opened in November 2006.

"I love that Abbie, a graduate of Mountain BizWorks, is taking it a step further and being enterprising for others' benefit," says Rachel Miller, Communications

Manager for Mountain BizWorks.

Before opening My Garden of Beadin' Doyle took Mountain BizWorks' Foundations course, an eight-week course in the basics of starting a business.

The member-based organization provides training and classes as well as ongoing support in the form of professional coaching and a range of small business loans.

"Abbie has really exceeded expectations," says Matt Hutcherson, Regional Director of Mountain BizWorks. In fact, Doyle was nominated for Entrepreneur of the Year in 2007.

"What we do is about empowerment," Hutcherson says. "That's what is going on with Abbie."

A few of the vendors, including Perry, Stock, and Sampson are looking into classes and membership at Mountain

BizWorks to grow their new and established jewelry businesses.

Sampson and her husband Tom started a business when they lived in Colorado based on the different types of jewelry they each make. Now, they would like to take their Mountain Spirit Designs to a new level.

"We're new members at Mountain BizWorks," Kate Sampson says. "They're very helpful and supportive."

With 500 members spread over a 12 county area in Western North Carolina, Mountain BizWorks has been offering classes, services, and loans to business entrepreneurs for nearly 20 years.

The organization has provided support to such well-known businesses as The Laughing Seed and Salsas' restaurants in Asheville, and continues to provide culturally sensitive classes and support

to Spanish speaking individuals.

Advisors at Mountain BizWorks help new businesses work on intangible benefits such as self-confidence and growth through experience as well as the tangible elements of starting a business.

Mountain BizWorks' mission is not just about the personal, however.

"These businesses may hire staff and thus add more to the local economy," says Hutcherson. "We're basically about grassroots economic development."

*The outdoor jewelry market will be open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the parking lot beside the law office at the southwest corner of Third and Church. For more information, call My Garden of Beadin' at 698-0715 or visit www.mygardenof-beadin.com.*

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