



Crews with Ritz Construction Inc. will work through the summer to repair the exterior of Flat Top Manor. *Photo by David Huff.*

## Flat Top Manor Repairs Come into Focus

At Moses H. Cone Memorial Park's Flat Top Manor, crews are making huge strides in an extraordinary transformation. New shingles are being installed, peeling paint has been scraped off the siding, and decking is getting shored up. The rehabilitation is

slated to be complete this fall, but in the meantime, you can shop at the Parkway Craft Center and America's National Parks gift shop inside the manor. Thank you to all the donors who have made the renewal of this historical Parkway gem a reality!

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## Concerts in the Cool Mountain Air

It's time to escape to the mountains and enjoy the Blue Ridge Music Center's outdoor concert series. Deep Roots, Many Voices is the theme of this season's lineup, highlighting diversity in the types of roots music being presented, as well as in the backgrounds, ages, and experiences of the musicians taking the stage. In addition to the usual focus on bluegrass, old-time, and Americana, the shows highlight elements of traditional Irish, New Orleans street jazz, gospel, Latin American folk, honkytonk, classic country, and more.



All concerts start at 7 p.m. on Saturdays. Children 12 and younger are admitted for free except where noted.

July 3: **The Malpass Brothers + Redd Volkaert** (\$20)

July 10: **Steep Canyon Rangers + Lakota John** (\$40/\$20 children 3-12)

July 17: **Sierra Ferrell + Dori Freeman** (\$25)

July 24: **Becky Buller Bluegrass Band + Laurelyn Dossett** (\$20)

July 31: **Tui + Dedicated Men of Zion** (\$20)

August 7: **Chatham Rabbits + Kate Rhudy** (\$25)

August 21: **Tuba Skinny** (\$25)

August 28: **Joe Troop (of Che Apache) & Friends + Tray Wellington Band** (\$20)

September 4: **Jeff Little Trio + Wayne Henderson** (\$20)

Purchase tickets now at [BlueRidgeMusicCenter.org](http://BlueRidgeMusicCenter.org).



## Welcome Back to The Bluffs!

Great meals and memories are back at The Bluffs Restaurant at Doughton Park. After more than a decade shuttered, the former coffee shop reopened in May. Diners can choose from sweet potato pancakes, cathead biscuits & gravy, fried green tomato BLTs, classic fried chicken, fruit cobbler, root beer floats, and more. For hours and the complete menu, visit [BluffsRestaurant.org](http://BluffsRestaurant.org).



The Mount Pisgah Trail at milepost 407.6 leads visitors into Pisgah National Forest and up to the aging observation deck.

## New Trails & Views Forever Projects

Our 2021 list of Trails & Views Forever projects and accomplishments continues to grow as more opportunities to improve the Parkway become available. Check out these current initiatives at opposite ends of the scenic route.

### **Mount Pisgah Platform Reconstruction** *(\$20,000 needed)*

Along the popular Mount Pisgah Trail in North Carolina, visitors can take in sweeping mountain views from a wooden observation deck. After 40 years in use and thousands of visitors, the platform needs to be rebuilt. Your donation will allow Pisgah National Forest staff and volunteers to rebuild the platform, providing a safe and enjoyable stop for hikers.

This project is being championed by the Hagebak family in memory of Lisa Hambrick Hagebak, to recognize her love of the North Carolina mountains and Blue Ridge Parkway.

### **Humpback Rocks Trail Crew** *(\$25,000) Funded!*

Fundraising is complete for a crew to repair three well-traveled hiking routes in Virginia: the Humpback Rocks Trail, Catoctin Trail, and an access trail connecting Humpback Rocks Farm to the Appalachian Trail. Thanks to your support, a Student Conservation Association crew will spend up to 16

weeks rehabilitating trail surfaces, clearing downed and encroaching vegetation, repairing water diverting structures, and more. The crew will learn outdoor conservation skills, earn preferred hiring status for positions with federal land management agencies, and receive a monetary award which can be used toward their education. Special thanks to The Morningstar Foundation for its generous \$20,000 grant toward this effort.

### **Become a Trailblazer!**

Big news! Gifts for the Trails & Views Forever program just surpassed \$1 million — a tremendous step toward renewing and repairing trails, campgrounds, picnic areas, and overlooks along the Blue Ridge Parkway. With your continued support, we know we can reach the overall goal of \$3 million.

Our Founding Funders level is now complete, but as we enter a new stage of fundraising, we invite you to become an official Trails & Views Forever Trailblazer. With a gift of \$1,000 or more, you will receive a new limited edition patch and special recognition in this year's annual report. Visit [TrailsandViews.org](https://TrailsandViews.org) to give today!

## A Smart Way to Give

A qualified charitable distribution (QCD) allows individuals who are at least 70½ years old to donate up to \$100,000 total to one or more charities directly from a taxable IRA instead of taking their required minimum distributions. By exercising the QCD option, most eligible individuals are able to reduce their income taxes. Please contact your IRA provider and/or your tax advisor for more information.

## Parkway Protectors

Become a Parkway Protector by making automated, monthly tax-deductible donations to the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation. Your ongoing support will help protect and preserve the future of the beloved 469-mile scenic route. For more information, visit [ParkwayProtector.org](http://ParkwayProtector.org).



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Need to update your information? Contact Rebecca Barnhardt at [rbarnhardt@brpfoundation.org](mailto:rbarnhardt@brpfoundation.org).



## Be the First to Get Virginia's New Parkway Plate!

You can be among the first Blue Ridge Parkway fans in Virginia to order the beautiful new specialty license plate that supports projects and programs within the national park unit.

Here's how it works. We must secure 450 preorders to make the plate an official offering of the DMV. So please tell your friends, family, and neighbors in Virginia to place their order, too! Those who preorder will receive their plates before they are available statewide.

The specialty plate will cost \$25 annually for a standard plate and \$35 annually for a personalized plate for your vehicle or motorcycle. A portion of the proceeds from each sale will support our mission to protect and preserve the Parkway.

“North Carolina’s Blue Ridge Parkway plate provides more than half a million dollars a year for



Parkway improvements, programs, and renovations,” said Roanoke attorney Broaddus Fitzpatrick, a former chairman of the Foundation’s board of trustees. “Virginia has a chance to catch up in funding with the proposed new plate.”

The Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation license plate is not yet available on the Virginia DMV website.

**To preorder your plate today, visit [GetThePlate.org](http://GetThePlate.org).**



Live in North Carolina? Join the thousands who already support the Parkway with the N.C. specialty plate at [GetThePlate.org](http://GetThePlate.org) or by visiting your local DMV office.