

Chapel Hill/Orange County Visitors Bureau
Chapel Hill, Carrboro, Hillsborough, NC
www.visitchapelhill.org
1-888-968-2060



2016 MAJOR ANNUAL EVENTS

January

January 17-26. Martin Luther King (Jr) Day Weeklong Celebration, UNC Campus, Chapel Hill. Sponsor: UNC Diversity and Multicultural Affairs at <http://diversity.unc.edu/> (919) 962-6962.

February

February 1-14. 16th Annual North Carolina Comedy Arts Festival, Largest comedy festival in the South. Comedy featuring improv, standup and sketch comedy. Sponsored by DSI Comedy Theater, 462 W. Franklin St., Chapel Hill, www.nccomedyarts.com (919) 338-8150.

February 17-20. 39th Annual Carolina Jazz Festival, Locations on the UNC Campus, Chapel Hill; Sponsor UNC Department of Music (919) 962-1039 <http://music.unc.edu/jazzfest>

February 20. Revolutionary War Living History Day, Revolutionary War Reenactment at the historic Alexander Dickson House. Sponsored by the Alliance for Historic Hillsborough, 10 am – 4 pm. (919) 732-7741. www.visithillsboroughnc.com

March

March 12. North Carolina High School Basketball Championships, Dean Smith Center and Carmichael Arena, Chapel Hill; North Carolina High School Athletic Association (919) 240-7401. NCHSAA state championship basketball games (both men and women). \$10, \$9 in advance <http://www.nchsaa.org/>

March 19. Annual Countywide Orange County Egg Hunt, 11:30 AM-1:30 PM. Rain date is Sunday, **March 20th** 1 PM - 4PM. This free event is packed full of live entertainment, games, prizes, and even a visit from the Easter Bunny! The hunt includes over 25,000 eggs containing prizes and candy hidden throughout three locations for age groups: 2-4, 5-7, and 8-10. Come ready to hunt with your baskets in hand. Special prizes will be awarded to those who find special numbered and golden eggs! Concessions will be available for purchase. Southern Community Park. (919) 968-2784. www.townofchapelhill.org/festivalsandevents

April

April is NC Beer Month. Visit www.ncbeermonth.com or www.visitchapelhill.org for details and upcoming events.

April 9. UNC Science Expo, UNC Campus, Cameron Ave near Old Well. Chapel Hill, 10am - 3pm. Explore laboratories and try your hand at various activities. The UNC Science Expo will include demonstrations, hands-on activities, lab tours, exhibits, and science talks from professors and students at UNC Chapel Hill. Bring your family, your friends, and your classmates to check out science on campus! Appropriate for all ages. The "Small Science" area provides a safe and interactive space for children ages 2 – 8 to explore, play, and build. www.ncsciencefestival.org (919) 843-7959. Town of Chapel Hill is an event sponsor of the Expo in Chapel Hill. www.townofchapelhill.org

April 9. Moorefields Sixth Annual Spring Wildflower Hike, 10 am - Noon at Moorefields. The hike will explore the ridges and bottomlands near Seven Mile Creek, one of Orange County's most significant and undisturbed natural areas. We will be led by Milo Pyne, an N.C. State-trained botanist, senior regional ecologist for NatureServe, and an expert on Piedmont wildflowers. Free. Moorefields is located at 2201 Moorefields Road, Hillsborough. For more information, call (919) 732-4384 or write to barryj@earthlink.net or visit <https://moorefields.org/>

April 10. Carrboro Open Streets. Noon – 4 pm. The event is held annually in April on Weaver Street. The community is invited to dance, do yoga, ride their bikes, climb a rock wall, make smoothies on a bike blender, and participate in many other activities in a public space that not many ever thought of as a place to partake in recreation. (919) 918-7392 <http://www.ci.carrboro.nc.us/745/Carrboro-Open-Streets>

April 16. Free Historic Roads Hike with Tom Magnuson of TPA. Join us for a hike in the woods surrounding Moorefields to see the traces of roadbeds from times gone by from 10 am – Noon. Our leader will be Tom Magnuson, of the [Trading Path Association](#). The TPA is a non-profit located in Hillsborough, North Carolina, USA. Its purpose is to find, map, and protect landscape remnants of the contact and colonial era in southeastern North America, on England's first American frontier. Free. Moorefields is located at 2201 Moorefields Road, Hillsborough. For more information, call (919) 732-4384 or write to barryj@earthlink.net or visit <https://moorefields.org/>

April 16. Hillsborough Downtown Arts and Crafts Show, Alexander Dickson House Lawn, Hillsborough, (919) 643-2500. Also enjoy food, beer, wine, ice cream and music during the day. 10am - 4pm. www.hillsboroughartscouncil.org/

April 16. UNC's Spring Football Game. 3 pm . Admission is free and several events are planned for fans of all ages. A Carolina Football Spring Game Fan Fest will be held in the Blue Zone parking lot prior to the game opening at 1:30 p.m. until 5 p.m. Fan Fest will include food trucks, interactive games for the kids, Chapel Hill Sportswear with all the latest Carolina gear, music and **the chance for kids to run onto the field** prior to the Spring Game! For details, click [release](#) or visit www.goheels.com

April 23. Tar Heel 10 Miler presented by CEP & Fleet Feet Sports 4 Mile Run. Event starts at 7:30 AM on the UNC campus Proceeds benefit Lineberger Cancer Center and the Chapel Hill Carrboro YMCA. <http://tarheel10miler.com/>

April 23-24 Piedmont Farm Tour. Orange, Chatham, Person and Alamance counties; Tour various farms throughout the area from 2 pm – 6 pm, both days. Carolina Farm Stewardship Association (919) 542-2402. Cost: \$30 per car for ALL FARMS if purchased in advance, \$35 per car for ALL FARMS if purchased during the tour, and \$10 per car per farm the day of the tour. (All proceeds benefit CFSA) <http://www.carolinafarmstewards.org/>

April 30-May 1. Chapel Hill Spring Garden Tour. The 11th Chapel Hill Spring Garden Tour celebrates seven unique private gardens in greater Chapel Hill that have evolved over the past century. From a 115 year-old farmhouse garden, a historic 1920s classical restoration and a 1970s five acre personal arboretum to contemporary and suburban cluster home gardens, visitors will be inspired by gardeners' ingenuity and creativity. *Plein air* artists, musicians and select vendors will add to the festive atmosphere in several of the gardens. The North Carolina Botanical Garden will also be featured. Chapel Hill Garden Club's biennial Spring Garden Tour is Saturday, April 30, 2016 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM and Sunday, May 1, 2016 11 AM - 4:00 PM. Tickets are \$25 in advance, \$35 days of tour; Youth age 16 and under free accompanied with ticketed adult. Groups of 10 or more \$20.00/person (online only). For information and to purchase tickets, visit

<http://chapelhillgardentour.net/>. Additionally, local ticket outlets begin selling April 1, 2016. You may also call the North Carolina Botanical Garden at (919) 962-0522.

April 30 – May 2 VIETRI's Spring Warehouse Sale is Saturday, April 30 through Monday, May 2 from 8 am - 4 pm daily. Closeout prices on a vast selection of discontinued, slightly flawed, and unique sample products handcrafted in Italy are up to 80% off retail. There is new product daily and daily specials. Early bird tickets are available. Located at 343 Elizabeth Brady Road in Hillsborough, NC, the VIETRI Outlet Store can be reached by telephone at (919) 245-4181. Warehouse Sale Details:

<http://www.vietri.com/warehouse-sale/>

May

May 1. May Day Gala at Moorefields on the Lawn, Noon – 3 pm. Food, champagne, wine & spirits, music, House Tours & Grounds Tours, Door Prizes and Classic Lawn Games. \$50 per person. Moorefields Estate, 2201 Moorefields Road, Hillsborough, Visit <https://moorefields.org/> for tickets. Call (919) 732-4941.

May 1. Carrboro Day, 1-5 pm. Carrboro Town Commons. A day of music, art, games, poetry, food, and celebration! Enjoy old Carrboro stories and photos, poetry readings, music and dancing, interactive field games, crafts, family activities and more! Carrboro Recreation & Parks Department (919) 918-7364, www.carrboroday.com

May 8. Annual Pops in the Park Concert, Cameron Park, downtown Hillsborough. Sponsor: Durham Symphony (919) 491-6576. Free. 3 pm. <http://www.durhamsymphony.org/>. Free.

May 8. UNC Spring Commencement, Chapel Hill. [UNC Office of Special Projects](http://commencement.unc.edu/), (919) 962-0045. <http://commencement.unc.edu/>

May 14. 15th Annual Spring Garden Party & Auction (FIESTA). Join The Historic Hillsborough Commission at the Burwell School Historic Site for event from **6:00 – 9:30 pm**. The event includes a silent auction, live auction, and raffles. Delicious hors d'oeuvres will be served. Tickets will available for sale at the Burwell School Historic Site and are **\$35 in advanced and \$45 at the door**. The auction is the organization's largest fundraising event and all proceeds support the Burwell School's year-round programming and operations. For more information, to purchase tickets, or to donate, please call (919)732-7451 or email director@burwellschool.org. Burwell School, 319 N. Churton Street, Hillsborough, www.burwellschool.org

June

June 4. Youth Fishing Rodeo (ages 3-15), Strayhorns Pond, Chapel Hill; Sponsored by the area's Parks & Recreation Departments and the Orange County 4-H; (919) 245-2660. 9am – 12:30 pm. <http://www.orangecountync.gov/>

June 3-5. 2016 Farm to Fork. Picnic is on **June 5** from 4 - 7 pm at Breeze Farm. Join dozens of Piedmont Farms and Area Chefs & Cooks for an evening of food, live music, horse wagon rides, farm tours. www.farmtoforknc.com

July

Carrboro July 4th Celebration, Weaver Street Lawn (9:30 am – 11 am) and Carrboro Town Commons (10:30am – 3 pm); Carrboro Recreation & Parks Department, (919) 918-7364. People's Parade at 10:50 am. www.townofcarrboro.org

July 4th Caldwell Parade. 11 am. At about 10 a.m. we join the town marchers at the Caldwell Fire House. The parade starts moving at 10:50 with veterans leading the parade. We will stop at the NC 57 and Guess Rd. intersection to wait for the 11 a.m. official start. <http://myvfw.org/nc/post9100/postnews/july-4th-parade-caldwell/>.

July 4th Efland Parade at 10 am – Noon. www.eflandruritanclub.com

July 4th Picnic in the Park in Downtown Hillsborough (11 am – 3 pm)

The Alliance for Historic Hillsborough presents its 3rd Annual Picnic in the Park event at the beautiful River Park in the Historic District in downtown Hillsborough! Festivities begin with a community reading of the Declaration of Independence, followed by live music from several local bands including Commanders, Fireside Collective, and Magnolia Still. Families can set up their picnic blankets and enjoy lunch from one of many food trucks including Heavenly Smoke, Taco Grande, and The Parlour. There will also be an abundance of kids activities and crafts including colonial style games and crafts with the Daughters of the American Revolution. This is a FREE event and is open to the public! River Park is located at the Farmer's Market Pavilion at 144 E. Margaret Ln. For more information, contact the Alliance for Historic Hillsborough at (919) 732-7741 or visit www.visithillsboroughnc.com/july4th

July 4th Fireworks. Entertainment and fireworks in Kenan Stadium on the UNC Campus, Chapel Hill; Chapel Hill Parks & Recreation Department (919) 968-2784. 7 p.m. www.townofchapelhill.org

July 8-24. The 15th Annual 10 By 10 in the Triangle. An international festival of new, ten-minute plays. 10 Actors, 10 Directors, 10 Minutes, 10 By 10! Tickets are \$14-\$18 depending on performance date. Evening performances at 8 pm and 3 pm matinees. Festival at The ArtsCenter, 300-G E. Main Street, Carrboro. www.artscenterlive.org or call (919) 929-2787.

August

August 5-September 5. 17th Annual Forest Theater Giant Puppet Pageant – The Beautiful Beast. Paperhand Puppet Intervention <http://paperhand.org/> Shows Fri-Sun and Labor Day, Forest Theatre on the UNC Campus, (919) 923-1857.

August 6. BikeFest 2016: The 21st Annual Rural Heritage Tour. The Tour with 850 riders begins at the Superior Courthouse in downtown Hillsborough, and offers a choice of several rides in rural Orange County: a 35-mile half metric, a 62-mile metric century, and a 100-mile English century. Rides split into age 17 and under and 18 and older). Also enjoy a 7-mile Family-oriented Historic District Fun Ride. Check-in opens at 6:30am and first ride at 7:30 am. Sponsor: Carolina Tarwheels Bicycle Club. (919) 383-9722. www.ncbikefest.org

August 27. River Park Concert. Free Concert at River Park in downtown Hillsborough, 144 E. Margaret Lane from Noon – 7:30 pm. Food Court, Beer, & Wine Garden, Community, Environmental, Art & Wellness Booths. Featuring performances by 4 bands and a young musicians workshop. For details, visit <http://www.riverparkconcert.org/>

September

September 10. Colonial Kids Day. 11 am – 3 pm. Discover the history of colonial Hillsborough with a day of living history activities. **Bring the entire family for a day of free living history activities at the Burwell School Historic Site (319 N Churton St).** Learn crafts such candle-making, butter-churning, quilt-making, and more. Throughout the day there will be demonstrations by the Carolina Colonial Dancers, craft

activities by the Daughters of the American Revolution and Colonial games by the staff of the Burwell School. The Orange County Historical Museum (201 N. Churton St.) will host spinning and weaving demonstrations from 11am to 3 pm, as well as finger weaving activities for children and families.

A walking tour of the Revolutionary War-era sites of Hillsborough will depart from the Alexander Dickson House (Hillsborough Visitors Center – 150 E. King St.) at 11 am. Tickets are \$5 each and can be purchased at the Visitors Center. Colonial Kids Day is an annual event sponsored by the Alliance for Historic Hillsborough, the Burwell School Historic Site, and the Orange County Historical Museum. For more information contact the Visitors Center at (919) 732-7741. www.visithillsboroughnc.com

September 10. Bluegrass at Moorefields. 2 pm – 7 pm will take place on the lawn at Moorefields, an idyllic homestead on 70 beautiful acres in Hillsborough. Rain Date is Sunday Sept 11. Bring your chairs and blankets. Proceeds benefit Historic Moorefields. The event features five bands, food trucks, beer & wine. Moorefields Estate, 2201 Moorefields Road, Hillsborough, Visit www.moorefields.org for tickets. Call (919) 732-4941.

September 16-17. Hog Day. Friday 6 pm – 10 pm and Saturday 10 am – 5 pm. River Park, Downtown Hillsborough, W. Margaret Lane. Music, crafts, kids events, contests, and barbecue. www.hogday.org.

September 18-December 9. Sculpture in the Garden. Preview party September 17. Exhibit on display up to two months. North Carolina Botanical Garden, Chapel Hill. Annual display of nearly 50 one-of-a kind sculptures placed amid the native wildflowers and shrubs to delight garden visitors. (919) 962-0522. <http://www.ncbg.unc.edu/>

September 24-25. Carrboro Music Festival. On Saturday, music begins at 2 pm at the Carrboro Town Commons with evening performance at Cat's Cradle. On Sunday, September 25 there is free music beginning at 1:00 PM. All types of music! Event features two dozen venues throughout downtown Carrboro with over 180 musical acts as well as a children's area which includes two large inflatable play areas, participatory games, storytelling and music. Free shuttle bus from Carrboro Plaza Park & Ride from noon -8:00 PM. Sponsor, Carrboro Arts Commission; (919) 918-7367. www.carrboromusicfestival.com.

September 24-November 1. Fall Corn Mazes at McKee Farms in Rougemont. \$10 corn maze admission. Age 2 and Under Free. Fridays 3-8pm, Saturday 10-8pm, Sunday 1-7pm. Haunted Trail and CornField Maze days TBA from dusk to 10 pm. Cedar Creek Farm, 5011 Kiger Rd, Rougemont, (919) 732-8065. <http://www.mckeemaze.com/>

September 28 – October 1. 7th Annual TerraVITA Food & Drink Festival Chapel Hill. 4-day festival (Wed – Sat) dedicated to excellence and sustainability in the South, showcasing the very best in food and beverage. Multiple events and tastings and dinners leading up to the finale, *The Grand Tasting on the Green on the lawn at Southern Village on Saturday from 2 pm - 5 pm (early entry 1:30 pm)*. With more than 40 outstanding chefs and food artisans from the Triangle and North Carolina, you will not leave hungry! Grand tasting will feature more than 100 different beverages to choose from - wine, craft beer, coffee, specialty cocktails, and more! This event should not be missed by any serious foodie! Visit website for event calendar and ticket information. www.terravitaevent.com. 2016 is first year expanding to four days.

October

October 1. Festifall Street fair with music, arts and crafts, children's area and food. West Franklin Street, Chapel Hill; Chapel Hill Parks & Recreation Department (919) 968-2784. Noon-6 pm. Free. **(Note this festival is on Saturday this year)** www.townofchapelhill.org/festifall

October 1. 10th Annual Celebration of the Automobile Racers Reunion and Car Show on Saturday at the historic Occoneechee – Orange Speedway on 320 Elizabeth Brady Road. Free Admission. 7 am – 4 pm., hosted by the Historic Speedway Group. Proceeds from items at the show will be used to restore and preserve the Occoneechee-Orange Speedway. Event features Parade laps of classic race cars around the historic dirt track, VIPs include celebrated drivers, mechanics, crew members, family members, Classic Car Show, Food & Souvenirs, 50/50 Drawing, Autographs & More. Event is rain or shine. **New this year - Trading Paint/Occoneechee Banquet** honoring Curtis Turner and Ned Jarrett. October 1, 2016 from 6pm - 10pm (after the Car Show) at The Big Barn - 388 Ja-Max Dr - Hillsborough, NC 27278. (919) 779-7820. For show information and banquet tickets visit <http://www.historicspeedwaygroup.org/2016-car-show.html>

TBA. 21st Annual Efland Ruritan Rodeo. Ticket booth and gate opens 5 pm. Efland Ruritan Club, Efland; Featuring all the classic events of rodeo such as Bullriding, bareback bronc riding/saddlebronc riding, barrel racing, steer wrestling, girls break-away roping, calf roping, mechanical bull, pony rides, clowns, special entertainment, good food and more. (919) 971-1129. Hwy 70, I-40/85 Exit 160. Adults \$12, children 6-12 \$5, age 5 and under free. Military members in uniform \$6, showing a military ID active or retired not in uniform \$11. No pets, coolers or smoking allowed inside the gate. www.eflandruritanclub.com

October 12. University Day. Celebrate the anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone of the oldest public university in the country. UNC Campus, Chapel Hill; UNC Office of Special Projects (919) 962-0045. www.unc.edu

October 14-15. West End Poetry Festival. Friday, 6:30 to 8:30 pm at Flyleaf Books in Chapel Hill. An opening reception and readings by five poets. Saturday, noon to 8:30 pm at the Century Center in Carrboro. Poetry readings, Panel sessions, an open workshop, an open mic, evening reception, and a final reading. Sponsored by the Town of Carrboro. Free. Schedule on website. <http://www.westendpoetryfestival.org/schedule-of-events/> (919) 918-7364.

October 15. The popular **Hillsborough Handmade Parade** returns this fall at 2:30 pm through downtown Churton Street. www.hillsboroughartscouncil.org

TBA. "Spirits of Hillsborough" will appear during the Alliance for Historic Hillsborough's annual ghost walks through the historic district. Along the "Spirits of Hillsborough" tour route, visitors will come face-to-face with Hillsborough's past. Portrayed by the Orange Community Players, the ghosts of Edmund Fanning, William Hooper, Mary Goddard Kollock Nash, and other spirits will both frighten and delight! Tours are appropriate for all ages and last approximately one hour. Tickets are timed and groups depart from the Hillsborough Visitors Center (150 E. King St.) every twenty minutes from 5 pm to 9 pm. Free for children under 5; \$5 for children 5-12; \$10 for 13 and up. Rain date: Thursday, October 29. Call (919) 732-7741 or www.visithillsboroughnc.com.

October 27-28. Voices from the Grave. 6 PM – 9 PM both nights. Haunted Tours of the Old Chapel Hill Cemetery on the campus of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill by candlelight and be visited by spirits from beyond the grave! \$20 per person. Reservations required. Flashlight and walking shoes recommended. Preservation Society of Chapel Hill, www.preservationchapelhill.org.

TBA. Halloween Carnival, Carrboro Town Commons. 6 pm – 8:30 pm. www.carrbororec.org (919) 918-7364.

October 31. Homegrown Halloween, Chapel Hill. www.townofchapelhill.org (919) 968-2760. (25,000 people in Halloween costumes flock to downtown Chapel Hill's Franklin Street.)

November

November 5-6 & 12-13. 22nd Annual Orange County Open Studio Tour. Orange County; Over 70 artists invite you into their studios to see where and how they work. Sponsor: Orange County Artists Guild (919) 933-7880. First two weekends in November. <http://www.orangecountyartistsguild.com/>

November 11. Light Up Carrboro. The public is invited to ring in the holidays, Carrboro-style from 6 pm – 9 pm. Luminaries will line the downtown streets, the 2nd Friday Artwalk will be in full swing and local businesses will be open late for shopping and dining. The centerpiece event is the annual Townsend, Bertram & Company Tree Lighting in front of Carr Mill Mall featuring live music and free hot cider on their camp stoves. Music starts at 6:30pm and the Tree Lighting is at 7:30pm. You don't want to miss this!

November 19-20. 11th Annual Carrboro Film Festival. Two-day festival with workshop, films and free after party. This year's theme is TBA. Anticipate about 45 films. Festival at The ArtsCenter. Saturday, Nov. 19 - 10:00am - 11:30pm & Sunday, Nov. 20 - 1:00pm - 7:30pm. Tickets are \$15.00 for a 1-Day, All-Day Festival Pass (either All-Day Saturday **OR** All-Day Sunday), and \$20.00 for a 2-Day, All-Weekend Festival Pass. Kids 12 and under are FREE all weekend long, and do not require a ticket for entry. <http://www.carrborofilmfestival.com/>

November 27. Downtown Chapel Hill Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony. Join the Chapel Hill Downtown Partnership for the annual Tree Lighting Ceremony in downtown Chapel Hill in the Memorial Garden of University Baptist Church, 100 S. Columbia Street. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be there to greet children and take pictures! Enjoy Carolina with the church choir. 6pm. www.downtownchapelhill.com/holidays (919) 967-9440.

December

December 1-January 1. Twelve Days of Christmas. The Carolina Inn will be festively adorned for the holidays with elaborate decorations based on the traditional song, The Twelve Days of Christmas. There will be self-guided tours and a number of holiday activities, including festive meals, breakfast with Santa, cookie decorating, holiday teas, horse-drawn carriage rides and a display of wonderful gingerbread houses. Some events free. The Carolina Inn. Please visit www.12daysevents.com or call (919) 918-2715.

December 3. 13th Annual Christmas Holiday Shoppe Craft Show. 9 am – 4 pm. Shoppers can enjoy one-stop shopping with 65 talented artisans and crafters from throughout the state. A wide variety of unique, handmade gifts and specialty items await you. Christmas music, a bake sale and a delicious hot lunch will put you in a festive mood. St. Thomas More School. (919) 929-1546. www.stmhhsa.org/events

December 3. The 10th Annual Elf Fair, a magical festival of holiday arts and crafts, will take place at The ArtsCenter in Carrboro 11am-5pm. Featuring over 30 local artists offering jewelry, pottery, clothing, accessories, candles, toys, and lots of unique, affordable items for all ages. The bar will be open for holiday beverages, and festive foods will be available during the event. A kids' zone will feature hands-on art projects and classic holiday films. <http://www.artscenterlive.org/elf-fair-2015/>

December 3. Hillsborough Holiday Parade, Tree Lighting & Light Up the Night at 4:45 pm. The parade starts at Corbin Street and ends at East Margaret Lane. Afterwards enjoy the tree lighting at 6:15 pm & beginning of Hillsborough Light Up the Night. Beautiful Holiday lights in downtown Hillsborough. The Hometown Holiday Festival runs **December 3rd – 18th**. Festival events include Gingerbread House contest and display at Masonic Lodge on W. King Street, Student Art Exhibit: Share the Glow at Orange County Historical Museum and more. Details at www.HillsboroughHolidays.com (919) 732-8156.

December 3. Free Outdoor Holiday Concert. Holiday music performed by local musicians from the Gathering Church. They will perform new takes on traditional Christmas songs from the Gathering Church's album Christmas Nights. The concert will be in the Memorial Garden at University Baptist Church; 100 S. Columbia Street. www.downtownchapelhill.com/holidays

December 3-4: St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, Hillsborough, will be holding "**The Festival of the Society Tree**" (FeST), a fundraising event to benefit Orange County outreach programs featuring fine handcrafts and creative arts, homemade foods and baked goods, beautifully hand crafted wreaths and ornaments, and other unique gifts. 210 St. Mary's Road, Hillsborough. Sat 9am-3 pm and Sun Noon to 3 pm www.stmatthewshillsborough.org

December 3-4. The Nutcracker - Carolina Ballet on **December 3** at 2 pm and at 8 pm; **December 4** at 2 pm at Memorial Hall on the UNC-Chapel Hill campus. Tickets start at \$49, Students \$10. Returning for the 10th time in as many seasons, Carolina Ballet presents *The Nutcracker* for a performance that has become a Chapel Hill holiday tradition. www.carolinaperformingarts.org

December 4. 38th Annual Christmas Crafts Show; Big Barn Convention Center, Sponsored by Palmer's Grove United Methodist Church, Hillsborough. Free. Holiday crafts for purchase. 9am – 5 pm. See Mr. & Mrs. Claus. Bring a nonperishable food item for food drive for OCIM in memory of Donna Freeland. Event contact number. (919) 732-8714.

December 4. 30th Annual Hillsborough Holiday Home Tour, Downtown Hillsborough. Theme TBA. Tickets \$20 day of, \$15 in advance; children 5-12, \$5 day of, \$3 in advance, under age 5 free. Tickets are non-refundable. Tour is 1 pm 5 pm. Hillsborough/Orange County Chamber of Commerce (919) 732-8156. www.HillsboroughHolidays.com

Beginning December 4. Hillsborough Horse Drawn Carriage Rides are **December 4th** in West Hillsborough on Nash St., **December 11th** in Daniel Boone Village, and **December 18th** the Hillsborough Town Office on the corner of Churton and Tryon. www.HillsboroughHolidays.com (919) 732-8156. (event is not confirmed).

December 9. The **Carrboro Town Tree Lighting** at 6 pm with music on the steps of Town Hall at 301 W. Main Street (919) 942-8541 www.townofcarrboro.org

December 9-10. North Carolina High School Football Championships, Kenan Stadium, UNC Campus, Chapel Hill; North Carolina High School Athletic Association (919) 240-7401. Classifications TBA. Friday Dec 9 game at 7:35 pm Saturday Dec 10 game at 12:05 pm. <http://www.nchsaa.org/>

December 10. Chapel Hill-Carrboro Holiday Parade, Downtown E. Franklin Street in Chapel Hill to Main Street in Carrboro, 10 am. <http://www.chapelhillholidayparade.com/>

December 10 & 11 Chapel Hill Holiday House Tour, Both days 1 pm – 5 pm. The annual Holiday House Tour offers the opportunity to personally experience historic places in our community. Theme TBA. A walkable tour of private homes decorated for the holidays. Tickets are \$22 advance/\$27 day of for PCH members; \$27 advance/\$32 day of general admission; \$11 for students with ID; and \$16 for event volunteers. <http://www.preservationchapelhill.org/> or call (919) 942-7818.

December 16-17. Nutcracker on Ice. Friday at 6 pm and Saturday at Noon. Tickets for the Nutcracker are \$10.00 for adults and \$8.00 for children 12 and under and Adults 55 and older. Orange County SportsPlex,

Hillsborough, NC (919) 644-0339, <http://www.oc-sportsplex.com/>.

December 18. Ice Skate with Santa & Slapshot with Santa. The young and the young at heart can celebrate the season with afternoon Skating with Santa and free candy canes. Noon – 2:15 pm. Slapshot time is 2:45 pm – 4:45 pm. Also Public ice skating sessions weekdays and weekends all throughout the holiday season! \$5.50 kids 12 and under, \$6:50 adults, \$3:50 skate rental.

Orange County SportsPlex, Hillsborough, NC (919) 644-0339, <http://www.oc-sportsplex.com/>.

December 18. Lantern Parade on Riverwalk. Hillsborough Arts Council, www.hillsboroughartscouncil.org
5:30 pm – 6:30 pm.

December 18. Jim Watson Christmas Concert. The program includes his traditional songs of the season along with the popular audience carol sing-along. Tickets will be \$8 in advance and \$10 at the door. Check for tickets at the Arts Council office or online at <http://www.hillsboroughartscouncil.org/Concerts.html>. Whitted Building, 300 West Tryon Street, Hillsborough.

December 31. Night Lights: Family-Friendly New Year's Eve. Celebrate from 3 pm to 6 pm at Morehead Planetarium & Science Center. Family-friendly activities, performances, and a kids' countdown under the stars to ring in the new year! \$5, per person. For more information and to register (this sold out FAST last year!), visit www.moreheadplanetarium.org.

On-going Seasonal Events

Guided Walking Tours of Historic Hillsborough from the Alliance of Historic Hillsborough. 2nd Saturday at 11 am, and noted special times before Last Fridays and other times of the year. \$5 leaves from Alexander Dickson House, 150 E. King Street. www.visithillsboroughnc.com or call (919) 732-7741 for details.

Guided Tours North Carolina Botanical Garden

Second Saturday of month at 10 am from March – November. Third Saturday at Coker Arboretum from March – November at 11 am.

Walk This Way Tours (all tours \$5 per person)

Three 90 minutes tours: \$5. Town and Gown on East Franklin Street, - Departing Horace Williams House, explore beautiful and historic Franklin Street and learn about the historic homes, residents and connection to UNC. **Women on the Hill** - This tour departs from the Horace Williams House and explores the amazing women who lived our neighborhood from 1800 to the present day. **Old Chapel Hill Cemetery** - This tour departs from the gazebo at the Old Chapel Hill Cemetery and explores the final resting place of some of Chapel Hill's most interesting inhabitants. **Two 60 minutes tours: West End & Northside Community** – Between Chapel Hill and Carrboro, African Americans created a large community during Reconstruction. The community was home to many successful educators, entrepreneurs, and leaders. During the Civil Rights Movement, this community played an important role in the desegregation of Chapel Hill. Departs from Hargraves Recreational Center. **Historic Downtown Carrboro** – Have you ever wondered how Carrboro came to be? Or the story behind the Carr Mill Mall? Take a tour of Carrboro's historic mills, businesses, and homes. Departs from Carrboro Town Hall (301 W. Main Street, Carrboro). Tours dates can be found on the website www.preservationchapelhill.org. To schedule a tour by appointment, please call 919-942-7818 or email info@preservationchapelhill.org. Also mobile phone guided tour available.

2nd Friday Art Walk

Held the second Friday of the month in various art galleries throughout Chapel Hill and Carrboro. Most of the galleries have live music and other art related entertainment. 6 – 9 pm. www.2ndfridayartwalk.com

Music on Lawn of Weaver Street Market.

After Hours Thursdays evenings 6 pm – 8 pm 101 Weaver Street Carrboro early summer (May – June) and late summer (August – September). Sunday mornings Jazz Brunch 11 am – 1 pm in Carrboro (May through early October) and the Hillsborough Market at 228 S. Churton Street from May through August. Food, music and beer. www.weaverstreetmarket.coop

Last Fridays

Events on the evening of the last Friday of each month from April through early September from 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm in the downtown historic district of Hillsborough. A band is featured on the old courthouse lawn plus visual arts, dance, and literature. Businesses, galleries, studios, restaurants, and museums and historic sites remain open and offer special events. Artists, food vendors, musicians, and craftspeople set up their wares on the sidewalks. 6:30- 9:30 pm. 919-643-2500. www.lastfridays.org

Last Fridays Art Walks

Highlight gallery show openings in downtown Hillsborough from 6-9 pm., January – October. Special Holiday Art Walk December 2. Art Walk is part of Last Fridays from April – September. 919-643-2500. www.hillsboroughartscouncil.org

Last Sunday Open House Tours of Moorefields House and Grounds, from 1 pm – 5 pm, April – October. 2201 Moorefields Road, Hillsborough. For more information, call (919) 732-4384 or visit www.moorefields.org.

Fridays on the Front Porch

Every Friday evening 5pm – 8 pm late April through early-October enjoy live music, food trucks & beverage specials, and comfortable seating on the shady front porch and lawn of the beautiful, historic Carolina Inn. (919-918-2777). Also events continue on home football games. www.carolinainn.com (April 24 – Oct 23)

140 West Plaza Events

Visit www.140westfranklinplaza.com to find out more about this spring and fall events.

Music on Sundays and selected Thursdays on the Southern Village Lawn in the evenings spring through summer. Also Friday & Sat. night movies on the lawn beginning late May. www.southernvillage.com

Wine Tastings www.southernseason.com and <http://chapelhillwinecompany.com/>, www.weaverstreetmarket.coop

Events during university calendar year at Memorial Hall www.carolinaperformingarts.org and PlayMakers Repertory Company www.playmakersrep.org

Year Round Farmers Markets – www.orangecountyfarms.org

UNC ATHLETICS from late August - mid-May. Varsity teams compete in 13 men's and 15 women's sports. Schedule and Ticket Information at www.goheels.com

2016 Tar Heel Football home schedule begins September 17. www.goheels.com

UNC Men's Basketball begins early November 2016

UNC Baseball opens mid-February 2016 with approximately 35 home games through mid-May 2016

Again more details on www.visitchapelhill.org

As always, call the sponsors to confirm these events.

Calendar Updated 6/28/2016

Contact Patty Griffin at pgriffin@visitchapelhill.org for 2017 events