July 2024

Blue Ridge Observer [Newspaper] — 7/4/2024 11:06 AM

Belle Cher announces that they are opening submissions for a new design for their 2024 promotional poster. A representative for the annual festival confirmed that the previous design, which featured a gigantic art deco statue playing fiddle in the middle of Pack Square, was created with AI. To meet their strict deadlines and to foster better relationships in the community the, organization has announced a $1000 prize and "exposure" for their contest winner. To be eligible, artists must reside in North Carolina and waive rights to future compensation and/or royalties.

((OOC, if you want to submit a poster, put it in your ST channel, and maybe it will appear in a future news story. And for real please don't use AI.))

AVL Fringe [Podcast] — 7/11/2024 8:55 AM

🎙️ What's up listeners, we're back with another segment in our continuing examination of the French Broad River. It's the third oldest river in the world, and it's the last one any local would be caught dead in. Why? Because it's so unsafe. For years locals have avoided it like the plague, even as the Asheville Tourism Development Authority promotes it to "millennials" who come in from out of town. What are they doing in the river? Is it safe to drink, or even enter? We've got Dilbert Jessem coming on the show to tell us about the plastic-eating bacteria he's found on his kayak after just a short trip downriver, and he'll tell us what those bugs can do when they enter a human bloodstream. But first, a word from our sponsor...

Blue Ridge Observer [Newspaper] — 7/27/2024 7:24 PM

The highly anticipated Harrah's Blue Ridge Grand casino project, slated to open in August at the intersection of Haywood and Page Streets, has been put on hold by the Asheville City Council due to concerns over insufficient parking. The decision comes as a blow to the project, which has been eagerly awaited by many in the community.

The casino, which is being built on the site of the former "Pit of Despair," is expected to bring much-needed economic development to the area. However, some residents have expressed concerns about the potential impact of the casino on traffic and parking.

The City Council's decision to pause the project highlights the importance of careful planning and consideration of all potential impacts when developing large-scale projects. It is hoped that a solution can be found that will allow the casino to move forward while addressing the concerns of the community.