



Foundation For Appalachian Advancement

February 2016

Foundation For Appalachian Advancement, P.O. Box 397, Richlands, VA
24641

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Appalachia Streaming

The Foundation For Appalachian Advancement recently took steps to begin the long process of bringing a long planned project, Appalachia Streaming, to fruition.

Appalachia Streaming is a planned project that will use video and digital media in the effort to promote the best of the Appalachian region, to promote our culture, history, tourism and economic development. Our goal is to develop this platform at www.appalachiastreaming.com to be the *go-to* site to find out where to vacation in the region, where there is economic opportunity for small business development or business relocation, where to find the best festivals, learn about the history of the region, and discover the rich culture we have to offer. There are literally countless uses for such a broad and user friendly service to the communities of Appalachia and beyond.

We are currently in the developmental stage and will be putting a focus on the counties of the Kentucky Promise Zone. This project will be a long endeavor and will take significant funding. Several grants have been applied for and we hope to begin the project in full in the coming months, working county by county, and town by town, to put our region's best foot forward toward a great future.

2016 calendar is now available!

We only have a few left!

Have you gotten your 2016 Calendar in support of the Appalachian Scholarship Fund yet? If not, what are you waiting for? We have a limited supply left and for a donation made payable to the Appalachian Scholarship Fund we will send you a 2016 calendar. **100% of your donation goes to local students to help pay for higher education expenses.**

Thanks for your support and please help us spread the word about this great program.

Donations can be mailed to P.O. Box 397, Richlands, VA 24641, or online at www.supportappalachia.org.

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*The best way to predict
the future is to create it.*

86th Annual Kentucky Mountain Laurel Festival

For many of us in Central Appalachia, Spring can not get here fast enough. As Winter fades away many communities begin preparing for festivals that take place all across our region from Spring through the autumn months. One of the oldest festivals in our region is Pineville, Kentucky's Mountain Laurel Festival.

The Kentucky Mountain Laurel Festival began in 1931 as an event to honor famous pioneer explorer Dr. Thomas Walker. Walker was commissioned early on to explore the region in Kentucky and even went about naming various places of exploration such as Cumberland Gap. The festival thrived and grew into an annual event that still lasts to this day.

The festival takes place this year on May 26th-29th in Pineville, located in Bell County, Kentucky and will feature events such as a 5K run and the crowning of a new Queen of the festival.

For information about the event and how to take part in the festivities, you can find what you are looking for at <http://www.kmlf.org/>.

PILOT MOUNTAIN SCHOOL

Uniquely Promoting the Arts and Literacy in VA and WV

Pilot Mountain School, located about 8 miles from Christiansburg, Virginia in the New River Valley, serves as a unique location for promoting the arts, encouraging artistic development and building a platform for book sharing and literacy. Pilot Mountain School is a historic Appalachian landmark that has been put to good use for hosting social functions, music, and other artistic events.

The Pilot Mountain Arts program is sponsored by WVArts and is part of a greater effort to take older buildings to refurbish them and put them to good artistic use across parts of Appalachia in Southwest Virginia and Southern West Virginia. This operation is another wonderful effort to support artistic and cultural development in our region. For more information you can visit www.pilotmountainschool.weebly.com.



Pilot Mountain School

2016 Calendar Available Now!

Help support the Appalachian Scholarship Fund with your purchase of the 2016 FAA Calendar. For information email: info@supportappalachia.org

Wildlife Center Planned for Public Opening in Eastern Kentucky in 2018

The Kentucky organization SOAR (Shaping Our Appalachian Region) recently announced the planned development of the Appalachian Wildlife Center to be built on the vacant Pine Mountain Regional Industrial Park in Bell County, Kentucky.

The Appalachian Wildlife Center is expected to be completed in 2018 and will be another regional resource to drive tourism and job creation, according to SOAR officials. Work on the center will begin this year and is reported to be modeled after the Elk County Visitor Center in Pennsylvania, a successful project that opened in 2010 and brought in roughly 51,000 visitors from 46 states in the first four months of operation.

The new center will likely include a conference and research building, a main visitor center, astronomy pavilion, and amphitheater as well as countless wildlife on the land including elk, black bear, bobcats, and over 220 species of birds.

Upon completion the Appalachian Wildlife Center is expected to cover roughly 19 miles and be open over 300 days of the year. For the complete announcement of this project you can visit: <http://soar-ky.org/news/wildlife-center-planned-in-soar-region/>

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The Spirit of Giving

Foundation For Appalachian Advancement

As we come closer to the end of a great 2015, most of us consider donations to our favorite charities. There are many great charities out there to support and like most of us, we tend to support things that have a special meaning to us or charities that are close to home. We Appalachians are a hard working people and a very generous people. Friends helping friends. Neighbors helping neighbors.

Many of us will choose to support cancer research, children's hospitals, or local animal shelters. As you consider your donations this time of year, we ask that you consider a small donation to the Foundation For Appalachian Advancement. Whether it is for the Appalachian Scholarship Fund, promoting economic diversification, or promoting our arts and culture, we care about

every donor and every penny given in good spirit. We strive to be good stewards of your generosity and use the donations as efficiently as possible. Those of us that are involved are all volunteers. No Director or Officer is salaried. That gives us the flexibility to make sure that your donations are spent wisely and effectively to support the programs that you believe in.

We appreciate your support and ask that you consider our mission statement and our goals throughout Appalachia to help those in need and promote our culture to the best of our ability.

Thank you.

Foundation For Appalachian Advancement

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