



Foundation For Appalachian Advancement

March 2016

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Appalachia Streaming

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Appalachia Streaming
- 2 Visiting the AT
- 3 Artist of the Month-Adda Leah Davis
- 4 About Us

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 of this program. The website is currently active, but under development. We are seeking feedback from you. If you'd like to share some thoughts and suggestions as to what you'd like to see on this website you can email us at info@supportappalachia.org. It will help us in the coming weeks and months as we implement a more permanent design and information.

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

Are you supporting your local Farmer's Market?

There is nothing quite like home grown food. As Spring and Summer approach many of us will make our local Farmer's Market a vital part of feeding our families with healthier foods. In the process it shows strong support for our local growers, and they need that from our communities.

For larger Farmer's Markets, such as the one in Pikeville, KY, it will bring out not just locals, but visitors from other communities who are looking for healthier foods to fit their diet and lifestyle.

If you haven't visited your local Farmer's Market make this year a good time to start. Most are open from May through November. It's not just an opportunity to buy local, but it is also an event to mix with your friends and neighbors.

Bluegrass Music-A Staple in Appalachia During Festival Season

With the warmer weather finally approaching, many of us in the region look forward to the countless fairs and festivals that pop up across our mountain towns. Whether it is the larger festivals in Central Appalachia such as the Highlands Festival in Abingdon, VA or the Hillbilly Days in Pikeville, Kentucky, one thing that they all have in common is the sound of bluegrass music.

Bluegrass music is a time honored tradition that many people around Appalachia enjoy. However, it's not the easiest form of music to learn and master, many a banjo picker will tell you! For those of you that travel the region for its many festivals, you may have wandered upon The Osborne Brothers Hometown Festival held annually in Leslie County, Kentucky. Fans come from all over to share their appreciation of our mountain music.

The region is also home to the Kentucky School of Bluegrass and Traditional Music. If you are a budding artist that requires additional education in your craft beyond your God-given gifts, programs like this are worth consideration. After all, it is the wit, wisdom and vision of our artists (of all different kinds) that help define who we are as a culture and a people here in Appalachia. For more information on the program you can visit the school online at <http://ksbtm.hazard.kctcs.edu/>.

The Appalachian Trail

Is your adventure waiting for you?

As the weather changes for the better many across our region will flock to the numerous parks, lakes and trails that are found throughout all of Appalachia. After all, our natural beauty is one of our biggest assets. As you head to the great outdoors for some fun and exercise, don't forget about the adventures that can be found along the infamous Appalachian Trail.

Whether you are looking for a long hike lasting days or weeks, or just looking for short and easy hikes to do with family, friends, or your church group, you can find all of those on the Appalachian Trail. From the very difficult hike, to something short and easy you can find it all on the trail along with some of the friendliest folks around. For more information on hiking the A.T. close to your area visit The Appalachian Trail Conservancy online at www.appalachiantrail.org.

**Visit Us Online
at**

www.supportappalachia.org.

**Will you make
an online
donation today?**



Grayson County, VA

Artist of the Month—Adda Leah Davis

Adda Leah Davis is author of eleven books that include *The Whisperer*, *A Fatal Love of Place*, *Lucinda's Mountain*, and *The Beckoning Hills*.

Davis is a native of McDowell County, West Virginia and a retiree of the public school system. She is also a member of the Appalachian Authors Guild and has presented workshops on oral history, community development and writing. We recently got a chance to talk with her about her work.

We asked Davis if there was a certain book that had a special meaning to her. "The book *Farther Along*, the fourth book in *The Lucinda Harmon Saga* has a special place in my heart. This book was published in 2012 and I was not aware of this as the book was being written, but I wrote about my husband's death. He did not die until April 20015. The version of the song 'Farther Along' that is in the book was sung by Sandy Shortridge at my husband's funeral. Many people have told me that his funeral was the most beautiful service they had ever witnessed."

After eleven books, she still holds one of her characters close to heart, the heroine Janie Query from *The Whisperer*. "I love Janie Query because she is so intelligent, alive, daring, and inquisitive that she makes me laugh, groan, become excited and feel almost every emotion that the young can feel or experience."

Thank you, "Addie," for being our Artist of the Month!

You can follow Adda Leah Davis' work, or purchase copies of her books, at www.goldenharvestcreations.com.

*"I live away now, but left
my heart in McDowell
County." Adda Leah
Davis*

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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.

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