



Foundation For Appalachian Advancement

May 2016

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

www.supportappalachia.org Email: info@supportappalachia.org

Appalachian Scholarship Fund

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As the school year comes to a close we would like to thank those regional businesses that generously donated and sponsored our efforts to establish the Appalachian Scholarship Fund. Without their leadership and vision this project would have not come to fruition so quickly. A grateful thank you to the following:

Fortune Realty of Richlands (Richlands, VA)
Hust-Scott Funeral Home (Richlands, VA)
ARC TV (Norton, VA)
Moutain Comprehensive Health Corporation (Whitesburg, KY)
David Mullins Wealth Management (Richlands, VA)
The Leonard Companies (Lebanon, VA)
Kewloff Computer Shop (Cedar Bluff, VA)
Wise Lumber & Supply (Wise, VA)
Farm Bureau, Agent John Peace (Wise, VA)
VFIC (Norton, VA)

We appreciate your support, and your vision and leadership in our Appalachian communities!

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

Appalachian Research Day, May 18th

Wednesday, May 18th has been designated Appalachian Research Day in eastern Kentucky. "Come Sit on the Porch," the theme for this years' event, will take place at 9 a.m. at the UK Center of Excellence in Regional Health located at 750 Morton Blvd. in Hazard, Kentucky.

It presents an opportunity for citizens to gather to pose questions and concerns and the results of regional studies in health and wellness. The event is free and open to public to discuss the regional disparities in health and how to improve health outcomes.

Kentucky Mountain Laurel Festival

The Kentucky Mountain Laurel Festival will be held in Pineville (Bell County) from May 26th through 29th. This year will mark the 86th year of the annual festival.

One of the highlights of the festival is the annual competition for the Queen of the festival featuring young women representing the many colleges and universities from around Kentucky. Also featured will be a live performance from Jordan Smith, last seasons' winner of The Voice.

Of the many events there will also be the 5K Walk/Run broken up into age groups and the annual parade. Vendors will also be set up through the town. Make sure to support the local artists and craftsmakers!

For full details you can visit online at <http://www.kmlf.org>.

**Visit Us Online
at**

www.supportappalachia.org.

**Make an online
donation today!**

Richlands Freedom Festival

June 24-25

The fourth annual Richlands Freedom Festival 5K will begin at 8:00 AM on June 25th. There are scheduled musical appearances by Marcus Boyd, Bad Ridge, Victor Lawson & Boogie Chillen, and Seeking Refuge.

Also planned is free swimming, a motorcycle bike night, and a children's zone that will include rides such as the Space Ball and the Wonderland Express Train. If you're looking for some exercise other than the annual race you'll find a rock climbing wall. Vendors are set up all over town and include craftmakers, authors, musicians and other artists. Once again, stop by and support our local artists!

For a full schedule of planned events visit online at <http://www.richlandsfreedomfestival.com/>.



Spaceball: 2015 Richlands Freedom Festival

Pipestem State Park

Our region is rich with beautiful landscapes and gorgeous state and national parks. Pipestem Resort State Park, located in Mercer County, WV, is a great family friendly place to spend a day, and is within driving distance for many of us in Central Appalachia. It features a full 18 hole golf course for the adults and a mini-golf course for family friendly fun.

It also has hiking and biking trails, horseback riding, paddle boats, and a campground. For more information about this location, or other events and location in Mercer County, WV you can visit online at <http://visitmercercounty.com>.

Artist of the Month—Author Jo Allison

Jo Allison is a previous winner of the Virginia Writers Club’s Summer Shorts fiction contest and author of the Julia Nye mystery novels. If you are new to her work then I recommend you drop by her website and get familiar with the strong themes that she writes about. Her stories are both captivating and entertaining.

Allison truly loves the research that goes into writing her novels that harkens back to a bygone era in America and takes place in 1910 in St. Louis. At that time, St. Louis was the fourth largest city in America. It was the first generation getting used to electricity (in the cities) and telephones, the first automobiles, movies. The other big thing occurring in the society was the movement for women’s suffrage.

“I started writing in 2000. I wrote about the sort of thing I like to read. That meant a murder mystery series, an historical murder mystery series in fact, preferably an historical mystery series with a strong female character who might reflect the historical dilemmas of womanhood.”

From that point Jo Allison went on to author the first two books in her incredible series with strong themes beginning with her book *The Good Old Summertime*. The second book, available in print and eBook format is titled *St. Louie Slow Drag*. The next book in her series is due out in August.

“When I started the series, I wasn’t thinking about theme so much. Julia taught me the important points as I wrote. At first I worried that modern readers wouldn’t understand an edgy woman’s plight in 1910, but I’ve realized the dilemmas are still with us. It’s taking a series for that to unfold.”

You can follow her work and schedule at www.joallisonauthor.com.

Self-publishing is incredibly time consuming. The hardest thing is knowing how to improve your writing...the challenge is to make each work better than the last.

Foundation For Appalachian Advancement current Board of Directors/Officers:

J.C. Schweingrouber President/Director (Richlands, VA)

Dr. Gary Stratton Vice-President/Director (Wise, VA)

Dr. Ernie Benko Director (Norton, VA)

Melinda Elswick Treasurer/Director (Richlands, VA)

James Hibbitts Secretary/Director (Wise, VA)



The Spirit of Giving

Foundation For Appalachian Advancement

Thanks to those that have supported us this year with donations and through word of mouth. 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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