

# Foundation For Appalachian Advancement

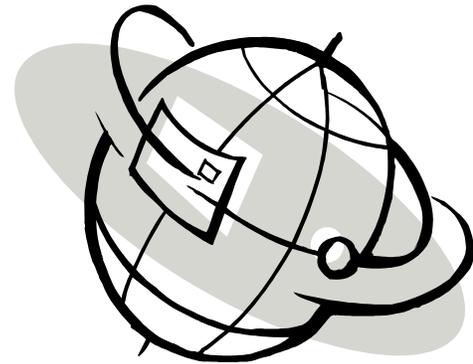
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## Making a Difference One Student at a Time

We would like to thank the businesses in our region in Southwest Virginia and Eastern Kentucky for their donations and sponsoring the Appalachian Scholarship Fund. We have a solid beginning to building a lasting program to help the graduating seniors in our region who need the financial assistance to continue their education past high school.

One of the reasons we established the Appalachian Scholarship Fund was to help aid in the much needed economic diversification of the areas hit hardest by the job losses in coal producing areas. Long term economic development not only requires that our students



achieve degrees in higher education, but also that we produce jobs in the various vocations such as electricians, plumbing, welding, HVAC, etc... The scholarships will be available to qualifying students that want to go on to college or chose to go directly into vocational school to learn a needed skilled trade.

We are in need of donations to grow the scholarship fund to provide those opportunities to our local youth. Donations are deductible and can be mailed to P.O. Box 709, Jenkins, KY 41537 or to P.O. Box 397, Richlands, VA 24641. Thank you for your generosity!

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## The Gallery 229

If you are a fan of local art work then it is worth your while to stop by The Gallery 229 in downtown Whitesburg, Kentucky.

The Gallery is a non-profit that allows local artists to display there

work for all to see. You will find several rooms at this location where the walls are full of amazing artwork such as paintings, drawings, and hand crafted items.

If you are an artist and

want to display your work or if you just want to visit and enjoy the art, The Gallery can be found on Main Street and can be reached at 606-633-5951.

## FYI—Red River Gorge, A Kentucky Destination

Fall is quickly approaching! As the leaves change color and the air becomes crisp, it is a perfect time to take one last trip before winter into our beautiful Appalachian region to enjoy the wonders of nature.

Red River Gorge is nestled in our mountain paradise along Kentucky's Mountain Parkway near Slade, Kentucky.

You don't have to be a skilled hiker to enjoy the trails. There are several trails that provide easy hikes and along the way you'll find one of the wonders of the Red River Gorge---Natural Bridge.

If you haven't experienced Red River Gorge in the Fall then it is worth starting out by taking the 46-mile drive along the National Scenic Byway. You may find it interesting

that many of the earliest inhabitants of the area didn't have to build shelters because there were many naturally made rock shelters throughout the area.

So plan your weekend with a cabin rental, grab your family and your camera, and enjoy one of the great scenic wonders in Appalachia.

*"My whole thesis is that you can't understand America until you understand Appalachia."*  
Jeff Biggers

## Artist of the Month—Author James Hibbitts

James Hibbitts of Pound, VA is our September Artist of the Month. James is the author of *The Secret of Graveyard Hill*, a book that truly came straight from the heart.

In *The Secret of Graveyard Hill* the main character, Jessie, is on a journey of sorts to discover the mysteries and secrets surrounding

the death of his mother. "This book was very personal to me. I was inspired to write it because of the countless questions that surrounded the death of my own mother," Hibbitts explains.

Set in the background of Southwest Virginia and Eastern Kentucky, *The Secret of Graveyard Hill* not only takes you back in

time, but it also engages the reader with twists and turns in every chapter.

"In a way, Jessie's journey in the book is my journey as I still struggle to find answers," Hibbitts says.

You can find *The Secret of Graveyard Hill* on Amazon.com or by visiting Tate Publishing online.

## Promoting Local Artists in Video

The Foundation For Appalachian Advancement recently received a grant from a well known national bank to begin a video project to promote the arts and artists here in Central Appalachia. Although we are seeking additional

donations to complete the project, we will begin filming later this year and are looking for independent artists in the region (Southwest Virginia/Eastern Kentucky/Northeast Tennessee) to be a part of this project.

This video is part of an overall project in development called Appalachia Streaming. If you are an artist and interested in being a part of this project email us at [info@supportappalachi.org](mailto:info@supportappalachi.org). Thank you!

