

Festival Season

It has been a great year for getting out of the house and enjoying the countless events and festivals going on around the region. From state fairs to local festivals drawing thousands from around the area, summer and fall in Appalachia is a great time of year. Although many festivals have already come and gone (Abingdon Highlands Festival, Trail Days, the Rosebud Festival, Hillbilly Days, etc...) there is still plenty of opportunity to get out and enjoy the coming events in the region.



*2018 Abingdon Highlands Festival

We want to hear from you! What festivals do you have in your hometown? Tell us all about it on our Facebook page or email us with pictures to share at info@supportappalachia.org.

For those of you along the border of Kentucky and Virginia, you'll find the next event in the sleepy border town of Jenkins, KY. **The Little Shepherd Amphitheater** will host the Indian Summer Folk Arts Fest on September 28th-29th.

Gates open: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Concessions available!

Admission: Free

Friday, September 28: Education Day for school children and parents, others.

Saturday, September 29: Live music from Little Shepherd Theatre stage: country, bluegrass, folk, gospel.

For information call 606-832-1453.

Email: littleshepherd@windstream.net

Mailing address: Cumberland Mountain Arts & Crafts Council, Inc.
PO Box 1482, Jenkins, KY 41537.



*Little Shepherd Amphitheater, Jenkins, KY

Mysterious Appalachia!

It's almost that time again! Halloween is upon us and there is no better place to look for mysteries, legends and haunts than right here in these storied mountains. There is no shortage of places for friends and family to have fun, enjoy family friendly festivities, or to take a chance on the more frightening attractions that pop up aplenty this time of year.

Not surprisingly, three of the most haunted attractions in the entire nation are found in West Virginia and all have been featured on popular television shows for years. If you are looking for a serious fright then consider the Moundsville Penitentiary (Moundsville, WV), The Trans-Allegheny Lunatic Asylum (Weston, WV) or Lake Shawnee Amusement Park near Bluefield, WV which was recently the haunt of location on an episode of The Travel Channel's *The Dead Files*.

Fox News even ranked two of our Appalachian haunts in their Top 10 Scariest Places!
<http://www.foxnews.com/travel/2013/10/22/10-scariest-places-in-us.html>

Whatever your entertainment of choice, we hope everyone has a fun and safe holiday this year. We invite you to share your Halloween photos with us over on our Facebook page or email them to us. We'd love to share them!



Trans-Allegheny Lunatic Asylum

Foundation News

Our next board meeting will be in October at the offices of ARC TV. In addition to regular business, we are working on a short video featuring our board members and discussing our goals and mission in the area. This is a part of our greater Appalachia Streaming program.

Once we complete the introductory video it will be available for use by ARC TV as well as being shared on our social media pages and uploaded to YouTube. Since we have acquired some of the needed equipment for video projects we must admit that this is a work in progress and we are learning as we go. Hang in there and be patient with us on this one. We're working on it and will hopefully have some video to share soon!

Appalachian Regional Commission's Latest County Report Card

According to the latest report issued from the ARC, the number of counties considered economically distressed has dropped from 84 to 81 for fiscal year 2019. For those not aware of the ranking, the ARC has 5 categories of economic ranking for the 420 counties that make up Appalachia. Those are *Distressed*, *At Risk*, *Transitional*, *Competitive* and *Attainment*.

Our collective goal should be to see all 420 counties in the region reach the level of either *competitive* or *attainment*. Now, if you click on the link below and look at the map you will see that only 13 counties in the region have reached those levels. Thirteen! That leaves 407 counties that have not reached an adequate level of economic growth and diversification. There are 199 counties that are either *distressed* or considered *at-risk*.

The map also shows that several counties in Central Appalachia (Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky) have fallen in rank since the 2018 report.

https://www.arc.gov/appalachian_region/countyeconomicstatusanddistressedareasinappalachia.asp

Don't Forget the Appalachian Scholarship Fund!!



Donations are tax deductible and 100% of your donation goes to the program. You can support this program by donating online at our website www.supportappalachia.org or the old fashioned way of sending us a check made payable to Appalachian Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 397, Richlands, VA 24641. We thank you for your help with this!

Artists Corner

The Appalachian Authors Guild has been conducting writer workshops in Abingdon, VA. At the moment, it seems to be the only regional guild offering these on a regular basis. The workshops are geared toward both experienced and novice writers. The first workshop was conducted by guild president Victoria Fletcher and covered vital information about self-publishing and proper document formatting. Even the most experienced writers walked away from the

workshop with new and great information. The second workshop was held at the same location in early August and was titled Kick Starting Your Work. Discussed where the steps in the creative process and the importance of character development. Guild member Linda Dobkins (pen name Jo Allison) donated dozens of books on the topic of creative writing, publishing, and completing your first book to give away to those in attendance. Their next general meeting is Tuesday, September 11th at the Abingdon Shoney's from 11:30 to 1:30 and will feature guest speaker Ellen Myatt. The next writer's workshop will be on Tuesday, October 9th from 1-3 PM at the Small Business Incubator (off of Exit 14; I-81) in Abingdon, VA. The topic is Finding Time to Write and will be conducted by author Linda Hoagland.

The Appalachian Authors Guild serves to promote the work and art of all Appalachian writers and offers workshops to help new writers, and those looking to write their first book or self publish. If you would like to be a part of this active organization of creative artists, please touch base with them through their website at <http://appalachianauthors.com/>.

About Us

Our mission is simple. The **Foundation For Appalachian Advancement** (FAA) strives to promote educational opportunities, economic development, and the advancement of our culture, history and heritage through the arts.

We need your help to support this great region! The FAA is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization and your donations are completely tax deductible. Absolutely 100% will go towards the FAA expenses. Operational expenses only include web site maintenance and the annual P.O. Box fee which have always been paid out of pocket. All directors/officers are volunteers, no one is salaried.

Programs we sponsor include the Appalachian Scholarship Fund and Appalachia Streaming. In addition, we are hoping to have funding available going forward to sponsor several events promoting artists throughout our region.

We accept Credit Card and electronic donations through the PayPal button on our website or the "Old Fashioned" way by personal check. If writing a check you can mail it to **P.O. Box 397, Richlands, Virginia, 24641**. Any amount is greatly appreciated!

Thanks for your support and generous donation! We greatly appreciate it!

Make generosity part of your growth strategy

September
2018

FOUNDATION FOR APPALACHIAN ADVANCEMENT
THE APPALACHIAN



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Dr. Gary R. Stratton, Frankfort, KY

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