

Springtime In Appalachia

Spring officially begins on March 20th and with it hopefully comes the end of a snow covered and rain soaked winter. But with the change of seasons come excitement and the opportunity to enjoy Appalachia to the fullest! It is a great time for locals to enjoy countless events going on around the region and a great time to visit Appalachia and experience this amazing place for the first time.

Several upcoming events are happening in Central Appalachia for people from all parts of the region (and the country, for that matter) to enjoy. This Spring, history buffs from across the nation will flock to our region to watch and participate in Civil War reenactments. The Raid at Martin's Station takes place in Lee County, Virginia (Wilderness Road State Park). This is only one of countless reenactments you'll find. We'll work on a list and update our website under the Potpourri section in the next few days. In the meantime, visit Martin's Station online at <https://www.historicmartinsstation.com/>.



Spring in Appalachia also means that our natural beauty comes to life, and there is no better place to celebrate that than at the annual Redbud Festival in Honaker, Virginia. This family friendly annual event features a car show, live music, games, a canoe race and a beauty pageant for girls of all ages and takes place starting on April 12th. For information about this event you can visit the festival online at <http://honakerredbudfest.com/>.

If you're looking for music then look no further than the annual Gathering in the Gap. This festival is a celebration of regional bluegrass and Americana music that takes place on May 25th in Big Stone Gap, Virginia. For ticket information and musical guests, stop by their website at <http://www.gatheringinthegap.org/>.



Gathering in the Gap Music Festival

History Buffs! It's Time For A Day Trip Through Central Appalachia

Here in Central Appalachia we don't have to travel far to experience the very best of our history and culture. In fact, most of us here in the mountains will tell you that we have the richest history and culture than anywhere in these United States. If you have a day to kill, take a short drive in this region and you'll find that you're surrounded by Civil War sites, countless landmarks, and museums around

every corner. Every town has a story to tell. Every landmark you pass on the side of the road stands to remind us of the past that made us who we are here in Appalachia, and in many cases, a history that helped shape our American destiny.

East Tennessee is rich with history. From historic locations in Bristol, known as the birthplace of country music, to historic Jonesborough (Tennessee's oldest town) where you can take historic town tours or visit the old historic Chester Inn and Museum.



Old historic Jonesborough, TN

As you travel around the region this spring, take some time to stop and look at the historical markers, enjoy the countless museums, and soak in the history of this amazing place. With all that we have in Appalachia, there is never a reason for a dull moment and there is always something about our culture and history that we can learn. Being Appalachian is truly a blessing.

What's Happening Around Appalachia? The Best Appalachian Podcasts

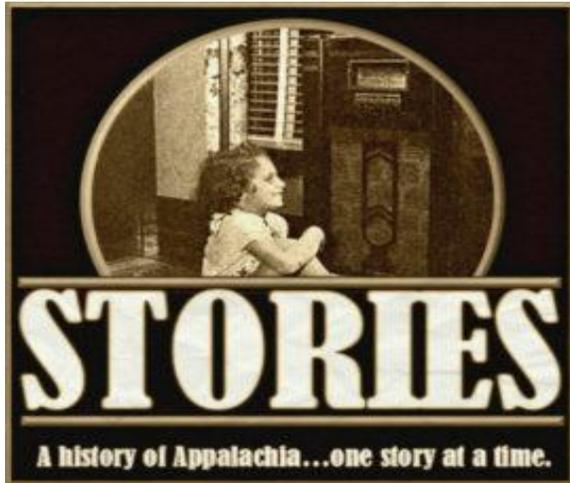
Do you ever find it difficult to find out what's going on around Appalachia? Sometimes settling in to watch your local news at noon and six o'clock isn't enough to find out what's happening around the region, to find out what people are talking about, and to pick up interesting tidbits of our history to share with our friends and co-workers around the water cooler.

A great way to keep up with various things going on all across Appalachia is to listen to the podcasts that cater to our region. Most of these podcasts can be listened to on your smart phone. If you don't have one (consider yourself to be one of the lucky few!!), then you can listen to them online on their websites.

Here are four of the more well known Appalachian podcasts. I've listened to them all, and one of them (**Appalach...Uhhhhh**) even had us on last spring to discuss the Foundation For Appalachian Advancement, our mission in the region, and a bit about our Appalachian Scholarship Fund.

For history lovers, you'll want to check our **Stories: A History of Appalachia**. It is available on your smart phone and online. Make sure to check these out and you can even follow some of them on social media.

Inside Appalachia
Appalach—Uhhhh
Stories: A History of Appalachia
Making Connections News



FAA Annual Meeting

The Foundation For Appalachian Advancement will hold its annual meeting at the offices of ARC TV in Norton, VA on April 7th.

At our annual meetings we discuss events of the past year, how to improve on our efforts, and lay out our plans and “wish list” for the next twelve months. For an update on this meeting, please visit our website after the meeting and we’ll have an update available on there. We appreciate all the interest in our mission and efforts from folks around the region. None of this happens without your support.

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

FAA to Sponsor Appalachian Art Events

A Celebration of Appalachian Arts, a one day festival presented by us, will be held on Saturday, June 22, 2019 at the Russell County Convention Center in Lebanon, VA (139 Highlands Drive). This event is **FREE FOR THE ARTISTS, FREE FOR THE PUBLIC**. Mark your calendars and join us. We’ll send out more information once we get a final list of all the artists involved

March
2019

FOUNDATION FOR APPALACHIAN ADVANCEMENT
THE APPALACHIAN

and the local sponsors. Make sure to follow us on Facebook for more information!!

Our goal is to raise \$5,000 for art events. *If you are a business owner that would like to sponsor the events* with a donation please contact J.C. Schweingrouber at jc@supportappalachia.org.

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

Visit us online:

www.supportappalachia.org

<https://www.facebook.com/supportappalachia/>

<https://twitter.com/SuprtAppalachia>

Directors:

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Dr. Gary R. Stratton, Frankfort, KY

James Hibbitts, Wise County, VA

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Checks can be mailed to:
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