

What on Earth

Is Happening in the Clearfork Valley

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March 2023

Volume 23 Issue 3

What Does It Mean to be Appalachian?

BY A Mountain Elder

What does it mean to be Appalachian? You will find as many answers to that question as the people you ask.

The most common description of early Appalachians is that they were independent, resourceful, resilient, inventive and probably also reclusive, but they were also very welcoming to anyone who was invited to enter their humble cabin.

How different that description is from the images of themselves that Appalachians encounter when they venture out into a wider world. How many of us have been taken aback when meeting seemingly well-meaning people who think we live like the Beverly Hillbillies or Snuffy Smith? Is there some kernel of truth in that image that we would like to deny?

Are modern, 21st century Appalachians anything like those early settlers? Has their grit and gumption and tenacity vanished with the appearance of opioids and the welfare state?

Do census takers and takers of polls know the answer? Do we?

I would like to think that 21st century Appalachians still have a love and respect for the mountains that surround us. That we are independent and resourceful. That we know how to endure in an increasingly complex world. What do you think?

Clearfork Area

Happenings

Sewing Class @ CCI

March 14th

11:00 am

TNACE

March 21st @CCI

12:30—3:00

Earth Day @ CCI

April 22nd

12:00—4:00

Benefit Singing

@ 6359 TN-90

Clairfield, TN

6:00 P.M.

“When you change the way you look at things, the things you look at change.”

- Dr Wayne Dyer

Judy Barton Scholarship

JUDY BARTON (1949 - 2018) was a pioneer in the development of tourism in the Cumberland Gap Region. She served as the city recorder for the Historic Town of Cumberland Gap for many years. While in that capacity she served as director of the famous "Folk Fest" and was a driving force in the creation of "The State of Cumberland." In 2000, while continuing to reside in Cumberland Gap, she became the director of tourism in Bell County, KY and became an adviser and advocate for tourism development throughout the State of Kentucky and the Cumberland Gap Region. She held this position until the time her health began to fail. Judy will forever be remembered for her love and devotion to the Cumberland Gap Region and its people which she displayed through her energetic "can do" attitude.

The Cumberland Gap Region Tourism Association has established this \$1000 Memorial Scholarship to be presented annually to a high school senior within the Cumberland Gap Region. Criteria for application and selection may be found on our website at cumberlandgapregion.com

CRITERIA FOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION:

Any senior attending either a public, private, or home school located within any of the ten counties comprising the Cumberland Gap Region may enter this scholarship competition by submitting a written essay to the Corporate Office of the CGRTA. Members of the CGRTA Board of Directors will make the final selection of the winning composition. The winning student will be notified and the scholarship will be presented during the school's awards program.

SUBMISSION:A.

COVER SHEET Student Name, Address, Email, Phone, Name of School, School Address, County in which school is located, School Phone

B. ESSAY TOPIC (Minimum 750 words – Maximum 1,000 words)

"What impact does tourism and tourism development have upon the economy in the Cumberland Gap Region?"

C. RULES

1. Must be typed (double spaced).
2. Footnote any references used.
3. Attach the cover sheet to the front of your composition.
4. DO NOT include your name or school on any page of your composition (other than cover page).
5. Mail or email your composition to:

Cumberland Gap Region Tourism Association, Inc.

c/o Carl Nichols, Director, 613 Main Street, Ste. #1, New Tazewell, TN 37825,

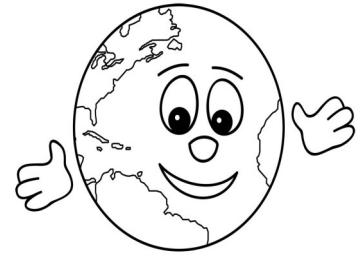
or, CGRTA@yahoo.com

Your essay must be postmarked or emailed NO LATER THAN APRIL 16, 2023.

If you want to have something included in the newsletter, please submit to clearforkcommunity@hotmail.com no later than the 25th of each month.

Earth Day Celebration

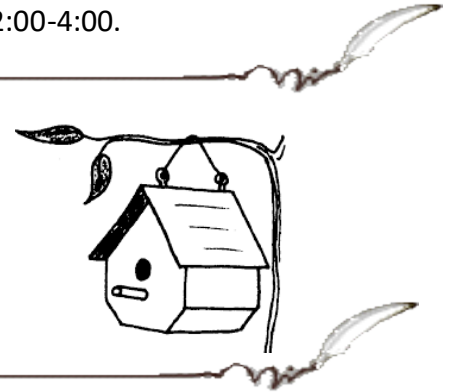
It's that time of year to get ready for our annual Earth Day Celebration. We are looking for folks to play music and if folks want to set up and sell handmade products. If you would like to participate please reach out to April Jarocki at 423-441-9272 or at CCI at 423-784-0095.



We will be having a silent auction, games, food, door prizes. Plan to come and celebrate with us on Saturday April 22, 2023 from 12:00-4:00.

Bluebird nesting box workshop

Come to CCI on Saturday March 11th at 10am and learn more about the bluebird and how to build a bluebird nesting box with



Benefit Singing For Rock Creek Freewill Church

Rock Creek Freewill Church will be hosting a benefit singing to fundraise for adding Sunday school rooms to the church. They will be having a band out of Williamsburg, KY called "Straight Creek" and some local singers. There will be a bake sale afterwards, including Nachos, hotdogs, and drinks.

Saturday March 4th beginning at 6:00 pm.

ETHRA Commodities

Commodities will be set up at CCI on Thursday March 16th from 10am to 12 or until boxes are picked up.



Clearfork Utility Update Correction

I apologize for the misprint but the website to pay online is new.nexbillpay.net/clearforkud/billpay or you can reach it from the link on the website at www.clearforkutilitydistrict.com.

Comments and Suggestions

Addressed TO;

What On Earth P O Box 81 Eagan TN. 37730

Email clearforkcommunity@hotmail.com

Subscribe \$15.00 a year

Name _____

Address _____

Send to what on Earth PO Box 81 Eagan TN

Obituaries

Our condolences go out to the family of

Jesse Tyler Scott, 36 Clairfield/Alabama

January 17, 1987 to February 14, 2023

Angie Baird, 52 Jellico

Passed February 17, 2023

William Blaine Carroll, 15 Duff

November 30, 2007 to February 20, 2023

“Gone from our sight but never from our hearts”

Community Calendar

COMMISSIONER MEETINGS

Claiborne County: 3rd Monday of the month in large courtroom located on Main Street in Tazewell at 6:30 p.m.

Campbell County : Regular Business meeting on the 3rd Monday of the month.

CLEARFORK UTILITY BOARD MEETING 3rd Thursday of the month at 6:30p.m

CLAIRFIELD VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT: meets on the 1st Monday of the month.



Eagan TN, 37730

PO Box 81

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