

NOVEMBER 2022

# GROWTH RINGS

APPALACHIAN FOREST NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA NEWSLETTER



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Appalachian Forest National Heritage Area promotes and supports a network of partnerships based around our unique Forest Heritage. We work in 16 West Virginia counties and 2 counties in Western Maryland.

To learn more about us and the work we do, including our AmeriCorps program, visit [afnha.org](http://afnha.org).



## Big Things Coming Soon

As we complete our management plan we are beginning to develop new projects and programs. In the coming months we will be asking for stakeholder support to help us meet our new goals. Our national designation means an increase in funding, but we need funds to support our programs and to match federal grants. Every donation goes towards funding AFNHA programs that help protect our natural and cultural resources. Consider making a donation and stay tuned for more news about our successes from this past year.

Click [HERE](#) to donate now

## America250 in the Appalachian Forest

As a part of the nationwide multiyear effort to commemorate the semiquincentennial, or 250th anniversary, of the United States, Appalachian Forest National Heritage Area is developing a program to tell America's story in the Appalachian Forest. The focus will include developing and promoting stories and experiences that reflect on our shared history, and how each of our stories is woven together with the stories of all Americans. America250 themes go far beyond founding fathers, to interpret under-represented people who have shaped America, the lived-in landscapes that have shaped America, and ongoing efforts to recognize the origins and evolution of our society and advance justice for all.

AFNHA anticipates working with partners across our area to collect, share, and promote America250 stories related to these themes, and to support America250 interpretation and projects through our grant programs and technical assistance. Watch future newsletters and our website for more on how to participate in this shared initiative. Partners who wish to share a story or participate in planning the program may contact Phyllis at [phyllisb@afnha.org](mailto:phyllisb@afnha.org).

# AmeriCorps Story



AmeriCorps  
West Virginia

## News at Adaland: Rediscovering Judicial Clothes and Continuing Christmas Traditions By: Hannah Thome

My name is Hannah Thome and I have had the joyful experience of serving at Adaland Mansion as one of my AmeriCorps sites since the beginning of June. Learning the various histories of each owner and caretaker of Adaland has taken some time, but everyone here really feels like family.

Adaland Mansion, previously known as the Modisett Mansion, is a Greek Revival house set at the top of the hills in Philippi, WV. Now it is a beautiful landmark that hosts a combination of historically inspired and modern events, such as weddings, tours, educational classes, private and public dinners and more!

In early November the site closes to the public for a few weeks so volunteers can fill every space with glad tidings (and tinsel). Each room has a themed tree with shining ornaments to prepare for the free **Holiday Open House on Saturday, December 3rd.**

The Christmas cheer is here early at Adaland Mansion as the director, Jolynn Powers, excitedly opened a surprise donation.



Click [HERE](#) to read more of Hannah's story!



# Regional News



The **West Virginia Association of Museums** is updating their directory of museums in the state. Use [\*\*this form\*\*](#) to submit information about your museum to ensure that your listing is correct!

The City of **Philippi** held a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate 5 brand new **Civil War Trails** markers. This five-stop walking tour follows the people and events of the first land battle of the Civil War. This multiple-stop tour is a first for the Civil War Trails program.

A recent POWER Grant by the **Appalachian Regional Commission** (ARC) will fund several local projects in our area:

- Arthurdale Heritage and Preservation Alliance of WV will conduct a comprehensive survey of historic preservation training opportunities in West Virginia and plan a proposed Historic Preservation training center.
- Elkins Area Shared Trails (EAST) was awarded \$50,000 to develop a plan and blueprint for bike-optimized trails on five properties throughout Randolph County.
- The Region 4 Planning and Development Council in partnership with Monongahela National Forest, Pocahontas County CVB, Snowshoe Mountain Resort, Poca Trails, Mon Forest Towns Partnership, and the Town of Marlinton, has been awarded \$1.5M by the Appalachian Regional Commission to construct 27 miles of mountain biking trails to complete the Monday Lick Mountain Biking Trail System near Marlinton.
- The same ARC grant will install 7,500 feet of broadband conduit, extending the deployment of fiber broadband services to 300 homes in Garrett County.

Woodlands Development & Lending was awarded a grant from the USDA to incubate two new businesses in the Golden Rule building in **Belington**.

The communities of **Franklin** and **Cowen** used **HubCAP** technical assistance grant funding to study ways to create outdoor experiences for citizens and visitors.

**Mon Forest Towns** partnership is seeking an Executive Director! Learn more and [\*\*apply here\*\*](#).

Mountains to Sound Greenway, a fellow National Heritage Area in Washington is hiring a Coordination Manager. Learn more and [\*\*apply here\*\*](#).

# Events

- Nov 18-19 | [Holiday Craft Extravaganza](#) | Summersville Arena & Conference Center  
Nov 18-20 | [Weekend Adventures](#) (Discounted Golf & Escape Room) | Capon Springs & Farms  
Nov 25-26 | [Festival of Trees](#) | Garrett County Fairgrounds  
Nov 19-Dec 24 | [The Magic of Christmas in Downtown Lewisburg](#)  
Nov 25-Dec 31 | [Holiday Market](#) | Allegany County Arts Council  
Nov 30 | Pendleton EDA Business Roundtable | Pendleton Community Building  
Dec 1-31 | Hometown White Christmas | Webster Springs  
Dec 2 | [Country Christmas with the Arts](#) | Landes Arts Center  
Dec 2 | [Christmas Parade & Christmas Craft Show](#) | Marlinton  
Dec 2 | “Jingle all the Way” Christmas Parade | Elkins  
Dec 3 | [Winter Fest Parade](#) | Berkeley Springs  
Dec 3 | Old Fashioned Christmas | Beverly Heritage Center  
Dec 3 | [A Dickens Christmas Festival](#) | Buckhannon  
Dec 3 | Mineral County Heritage Weekend  
Dec 3 | [Holiday Open House](#) | Adaland Mansion  
Dec 3 | [Christmas Homecoming Celebration & Parade](#) | Bruceton Mills  
Dec 3 | [Christmas in the Mountains](#) | Davis  
Dec 3-4 | [Christmas in the Village](#) | Grantsville  
Dec 9 | Christmas Tree Lighting & Parade | Moorefield  
Dec 9 | [Christmas at Cass](#)  
Dec 10 | [Holiday Open House](#) | Arthurdale Heritage  
Dec 10 | Golden Rule Holiday Market | Belington

Vendors wanted: contact [hthomeamericorps22@gmail.com](mailto:hthomeamericorps22@gmail.com)

Fridays | Live Music at the [Braxton County Jamboree](#) | Gassaway

See the “[Ultimate Guide to Webster County Gifts](#)” for more shopping opportunities

See the complete “[Come to Hampshire for the Holidays](#)” event guide

Dec 1st | Panel Discussion

“Winter in Almost Heaven: Making the Most of our Upcoming Ski Season”

Register at [bit.ly/skisznpnl](https://bit.ly/skisznpnl)



# AmeriCorps Recruitment - Apply Today!



## AFNHA AmeriCorps



**Gain valuable experience while making a difference in WV communities!**

AFNHA is seeking AmeriCorps members for conservation and/or cultural heritage-related positions for the program year beginning now.

- ✓ Positions are one year with a living stipend provided (\$16,502).
- ✓ The Segal Education Award (\$6,495) is granted to those that successfully complete the full year - use towards your Federal student loans or continuing your education at certain institutions.
- ✓ Most members qualify for SNAP assistance.
- ✓ Professional development and training opportunities to strengthen skills.
- ✓ WV Tuition Waiver available for AmeriCorps members who complete a minimum of 600+ hours in West Virginia

Contact Chrissy Hall, Program Manager at [chrissyh@afnha.org](mailto:chrissyh@afnha.org) with questions

## AmeriCorps Conservation Opportunities

**Interested in a career in Conservation work?**

Help improve public lands, monitor environmental conditions, and/or educate about environmental stewardship.

Available Positions include:

- ✓ Monongahela National Forest: Mon Forest Towns
- ✓ WV Highlands Conservancy
- ✓ Mon Forest Public Affairs - Communications
- ✓ AND MORE

To learn more about our conservation positions visit our website

<https://www.appalachianforestnha.org/conservation>

## AmeriCorps Cultural Heritage Opportunities

**Interested in a career in Cultural & Community Heritage work?**

Help care for museum collections, design exhibits, manage events, and support cultural heritage tourism.

Available Positions include:

- ✓ AFNHA Heritage Tourism
- ✓ Arthurdale Heritage Inc.
- ✓ Tourism Positions in Mineral, Nicholas, Hardy and Hampshire Counties
- ✓ WV Railroad Museum-Railroad Exhibit & Education
- ✓ AND MORE

To learn more about our AmeriCorps positions visit our website

<https://www.appalachianforestnha.org/heritage-community-development>



# AmeriCorps



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