

SEPTEMBER 2020

GROWTH RINGS

Appalachian Forest National Heritage Area News



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Page 1: Management Planning Update

Page 2: Upcoming Events

Page 3-4: AmeriCorps Story

Page 4: Welcome new AmeriCorps!



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.

MANAGEMENT PLANNING UPDATE

Since our last newsletter the consultant team from Point Heritage Development (PHD) has come back to our region two times! The first time Nancy Morgan and Carolyn Brackett came and traveled through the southern part of our region. They visited historic sites such as Cass along with visiting Elkins, Beverly, Marlinton, Richwood, Rainelle, and Lewisburg. Then Jeff Dawson and Jennifer Humayun traveled with Augie and Nancy throughout our entire region.



Our consultants from PHD are thrilled to tour, explore, and meet all who call our region home. This process gives them more insight to help us establish our Management Plan. Our big question is: "What can a National Heritage Area do for you?" Our goal is to see as many communities as possible and meet as many stakeholders as we can.

Our Interpretation and Visitor Experience Task Group will meet for the second time on **Wednesday, September 30th at 1pm**. The meeting will be held virtually on Zoom. We will be discussing the national significance of AFNHA, and how we tell our story. Sign up for the meeting below, or email us at planning@afnha.org if you would like more information about this task group.

[CLICK FOR ZOOM LINK](#)

[CLICK FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)



UPCOMING EVENTS

9/30
WEDNESDAY
1 PM

AFNHA Interpretation Task Group Meeting, Virtual

Interpretation & Visitor Experiences group will look at our significant stories and how to tell them, as well as how to enhance visitor experiences, promote and attract tourism. This will be the second meeting for the group. For information on how to join please email planning@afnha.org

10/03
SATURDAY
8PM

Legend of Sleepy Hollow, Flying Squirrel Ranch and Farm, Purgitsville, WV

Outdoor interactive theater: Ichabod Crane will be telling the tale of the Legend of Sleepy Hollow and the headless horseman come October 3rd at Flying Squirrel Ranch & Farm. The activity starts in the barn with the Legend being told. Guests then ride a wagon to the bottom lands where they are met by their tour guide who leads them through the torch-lit bog encountering any number of frighteningly friendly creatures. A stop by the sorghum shed for a taste of refreshingly sweet juice and then an encounter with the headless horseman! Call 619-507-8311 or visit flyingsquirrelranch.com for more information



10/07-10/11
WEDNESDAY-
SUNDAY

53rd Annual Autumn Glory Festival, Oakland, MD, Virtual and In-person

The annual Autumn Glory Festival is a five-day celebration of autumn that celebrates the beauty of the local fall foliage. The annual parade has been cancelled and has been replaced by the Autumn Glory Float Contest. The Garrett County Chamber will also host a Craft and Gift Sale, a Virtual Auction and Turkey and Fall Foliage Driving Tour. More information can be found at visitdeepcreek.com/53rd-annual-autumn-glory-festival



10/16-10/18,
10/23-10/25
8PM F/SAT
2PM SUN

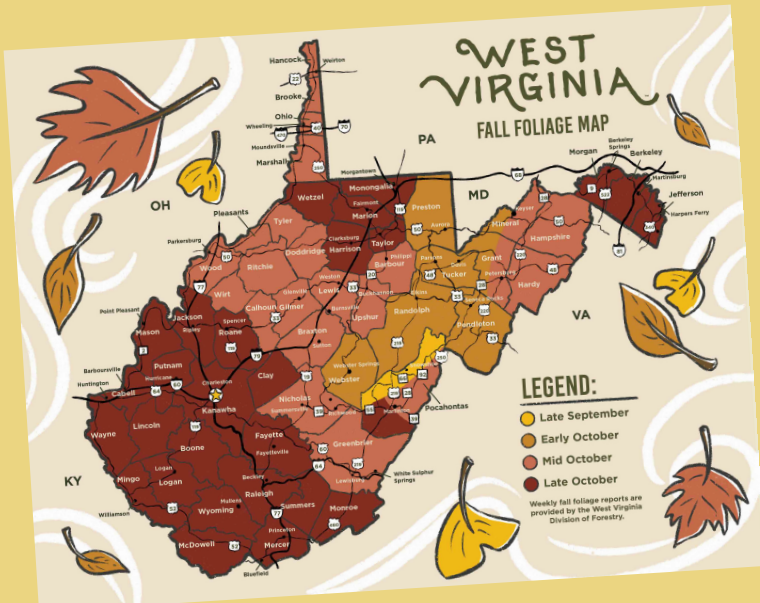
Bridges of Madison County, The Indie on Main, Keyser, WV

The Bridges of Madison County is a musical, based on Robert James Waller's 1992 novel, with a book by Marsha Norman and music and lyrics by Jason Robert Brown. Musical is produced by the Indie on Main in Keyser, WV. For more information call 304-359-4254

10/17
SATURDAY
4:30PM

Fall Flavors of Appalachia at the Greenbrier, WV

Make your plans today to enjoy The Greenbrier's inaugural "Fall Flavors of Appalachia". This event will be held at Kate's Mountain Lodge and will bring together some of the region's most popular wineries, distilleries and breweries and the award-winning cuisine of America's Resort. Richard Heffner and the Black Mountain Bluegrass Boys will provide the musical entertainment while The Greenbrier's chefs pair the wonderful wines, brews and cocktails with the season's favorite foods. Call 855-453-4858 for more information



Fall is here! Click on the chart!



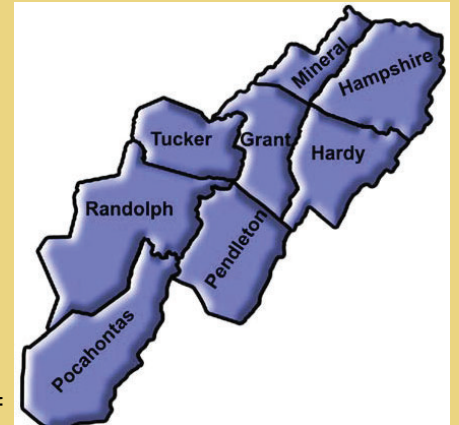
A Glance of the Highlands and The People of the Mountains

Compiled by Marina Goldgisser, Kalee Paxton, Eric Pluta, Sarah Rosenkrans, and Beth See.

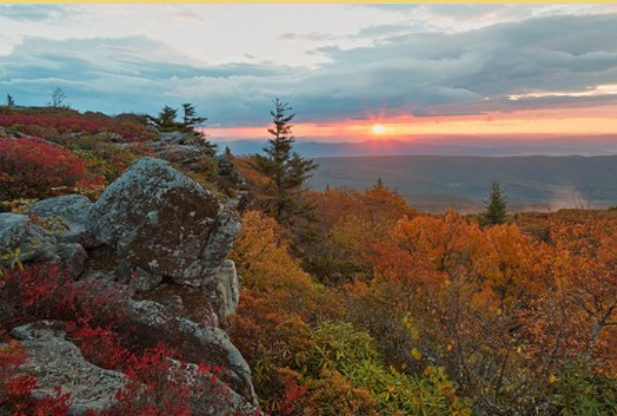


Working as an AmeriCorps Eastern Heritage Outreach Coordinator, Beth See had a vision of compiling a history of industry in the Potomac Highlands. Chrissy Hall, the Program Manager, liked the idea and suggested other AmeriCorps members might want to work on the project. Marina Goldgisser, Kalee Paxton, Eric Pluta and Sarah Rosenkrans offered to join the fun! A meeting with Tina Metzger, Eastern Community and Technical College, and Chrissy Hall, Program Manager was set up to discuss the project. Following this initial meeting, the team met and established meeting dates and check points for finished products.

As the team discussed several topics around the industry of the Potomac Highlands, they realized topics had to be pared down to something manageable. Marina's background fit well with the farming/agriculture, Sarah's with the culture/customs, Kalee's with the timber/lumber and Beth's with the background history of the area, and they started to build on these topics. Eric came on the team as a resource for developing ancillary materials and building the structure.



Next, they needed to determine the audience(s), the format(s), the depth of information, the materials to accompany the work and finally the method(s) of dissemination. They changed the project title from "History of Industry in the Potomac Highlands" to *A Glance of the Highlands and the People of the Mountains* as they knew they could only cover the topics mentioned above.



Their work began to develop as a compilation of information about timber/lumber, farming/agriculture, early history and customs. They determined that classrooms would be one of the major audiences, and they developed materials that teachers, parents, and students could access for a deeper understanding of the eight Potomac Highland counties. (Con'd)



AMERICORPS

(Continued from Page 3): They also wanted to promote the Potomac Highland area as a “Place Where I Belong” and they have infused their materials with information of places to visit, places to stay and places of historical interest. This compilation of information will be an asset to students in eighth grade as that is the year the West Virginia Golden Horseshoe test is given to these students. It is hoped that families will take field trips based on the information provided and develop a better understanding of how the Potomac Highlands are wonderful and unique, but why some towns are located where they are and some customs are observed today based on the historical information.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE AMERICORPS STORIES](#)

Our 2019-2020 AmeriCorps term ended in late August and we have some new stories on our website on their service! Check them out and come back throughout the year for stories from our 2020-2021 AmeriCorps as they serve our local community.

Welcome the 2020-2021 AmeriCorps Team!



We welcomed our new AmeriCorps team for the 2020-2021 year on September 9th. After the first two days of orientation were through Zoom, they had their first in-person team meeting this week. They got to meet each other and break into groups to discuss the difference they want to make in each community they serve in. Join us in welcoming them to our community!



**[CLICK HERE TO
LEARN MORE
ABOUT THIS YEARS
TEAM!](#)**

