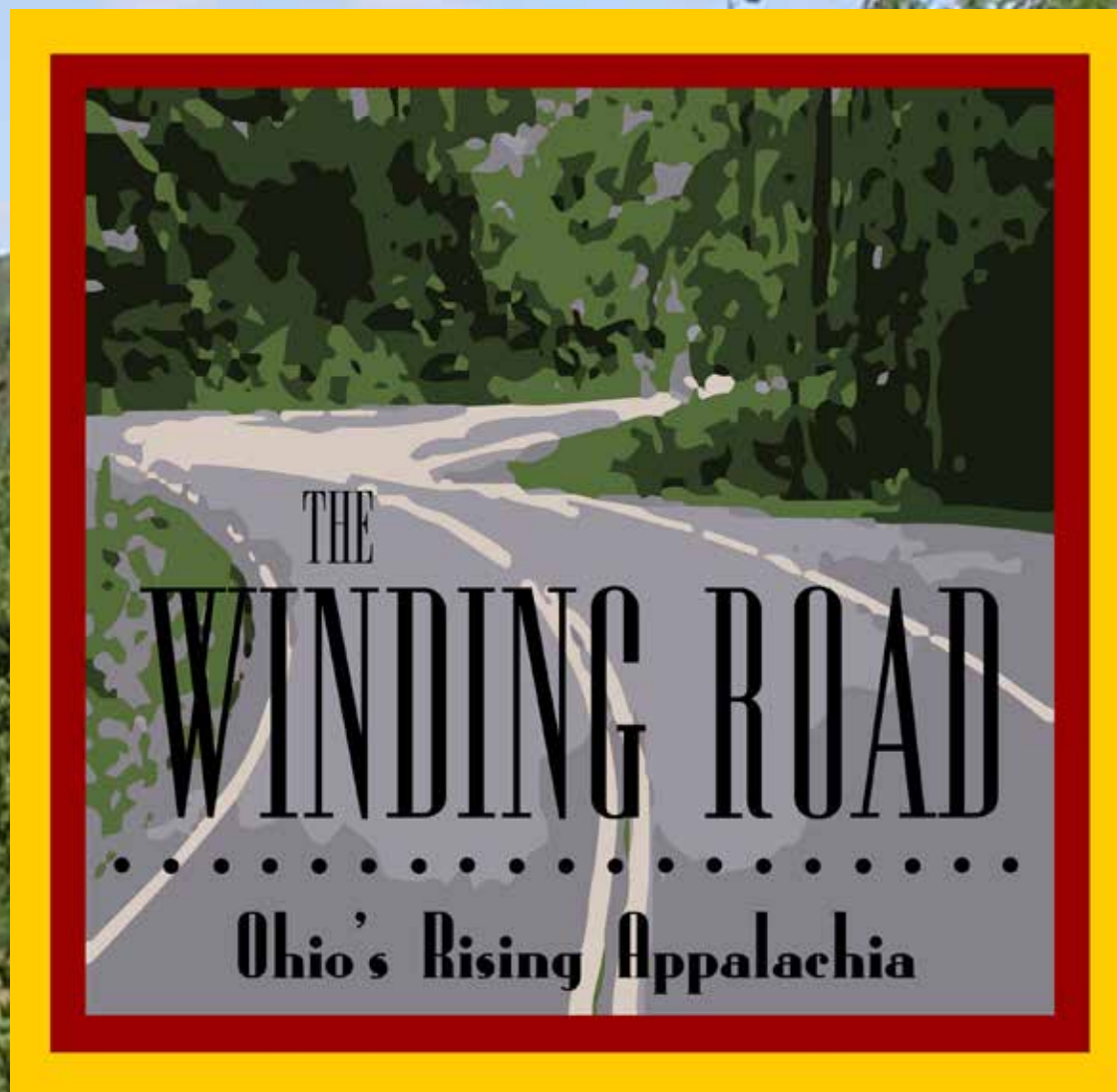


Guided Tours, Interpretive Programs, Trails and Events,
Stories of the Place



2016 Experiences SourceBook

Welcome to THE WINDING ROAD

Travel Experiences for Learning, Adventure and Engagement.
Unfiltered and Unpasturized, The Winding Road experiences are the best way to enjoy the riches of Ohio's Rising Appalachia.

Dear Traveler,

As the Ohio landscape changes from Midwest farmlands to Appalachian foothills, so do the opportunities for exploration and learning. This second edition of The Winding Road is a compilation of active, authentic experiences in Ohio's Hill Country that are anything but typical. With an emphasis on "guided" and "small scale", the cultural story is accented by an emerging arts, local foods and outdoor recreation scene. Unique exploration of off-the-beaten path destinations await you on these pages and in real time. Just follow the directions to reserve your space for the provided offerings that fit your interests. Then, get ready to expand your horizons in Ohio's Rising Appalachia!

The Winding Road is made possible by a collaboration of creative organizations, businesses and individuals convened by Ohio's Hill Country Heritage Area. In its second year, this collaboration focuses on destinations in the southeastern Ohio's Morgan, Athens, Perry, Muskingum, and Hocking Counties, situated in the Hocking and Muskingum River Valleys. Anchored by the Wayne National Forest, Burr Oak State Park, the Little Cities of Black Diamonds, beloved college-town Athens, and historic communities such as McConnelsville and Somerset, the region is within a half-day or less drive from urban centers Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati, Indianapolis and Pittsburgh.

Watch The Winding Road over the coming years as this region of Ohio leads a growing appreciation for recovery from a sometimes challenging past into a vibrant future where "place" and "stewardship" matter. From 'A' to 'Z' (Athens to Zanesville), and the spirited lands in between, let us guide you to our fresh and inspiring story of creative communities working together to enliven the place where we live!

Cordially,

THE WINDING ROAD Team

THE WINDING ROAD

What's Inside.....

FINDING YOUR WAY 4

PARTNERSHIPS MAKE THE WINDING ROAD 5

HOSTS AND GUIDES 6

OUTDOOR RECREATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING EXPERIENCES

Birds in the Hills	16
Tour de Forest Bicycle Ride	17
Wetlands at Sunset	18
Birds by Kayak	19
A Turtles View	20
Emma Grandma Gatewood Hike	24
Reversing the Scars of Coal	25
Run for the Blue Blazes	26

LOCAL FOODS EXPERIENCES

Real Food Real Local	28
Grapes to Wine	29
Chesterhill Produce Auction	31
Brewology	32

ARTS EXPERIENCES

WoodSongs	36
Foot by Foot	37
Ohio Valley Opry	38
Perry County Bronze Tour	39

The Basket Farmer & Rosehill Design	42
Finely Crafted in Ohio's Hill Country	43
All Ohio Contemporary Ceramics Competition and Show	44
Brian Harnetty/Shawnee(2016)	45
Shoot the History	46

HERITAGE EXPERIENCES

The Asylum Tour	48
Mineral Region Tour: Coal, Clay, Culture, Labor and Land	51
Anthropology Alive!	52
Glenford Stone Fort	53
Crossing the River	56
Gravestone and Randolph Mitchell	57
House Tour	57
Labors Crossroads	58

EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES

Hocking College Lesiure Learning	60
Global Communities Past and Present	62

STORIES OF PLACE

We Make the Road by Walking	8
Creative Communities A-Z	10
Why I Live in Athens County	13
Hocking Hills	14
360 ° Degrees of Trees	21
Spirits in the Hills	30
Service to America	33
Finely Crafted in Southeastern Ohio	40
Opera House Treasures	49
Fest With Us	54
The Region As A Classroom	63

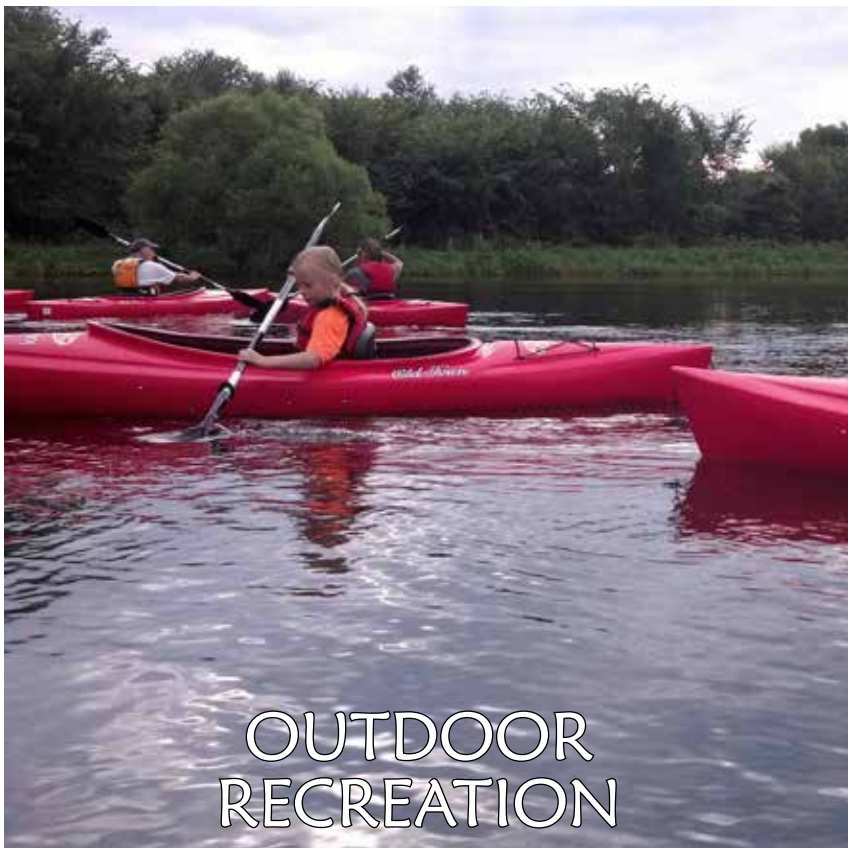
UNFILTERED UNPASTURIZED

A unique quality is embedded in each experience in Ohio's Rising Appalachia. You'll find a variety of adventures beyond every twist and turn of the Winding Road. Come along on the journey of renewal and discovery as the beauty of the wooded and wandering hills of southeastern Ohio unfolds before us.



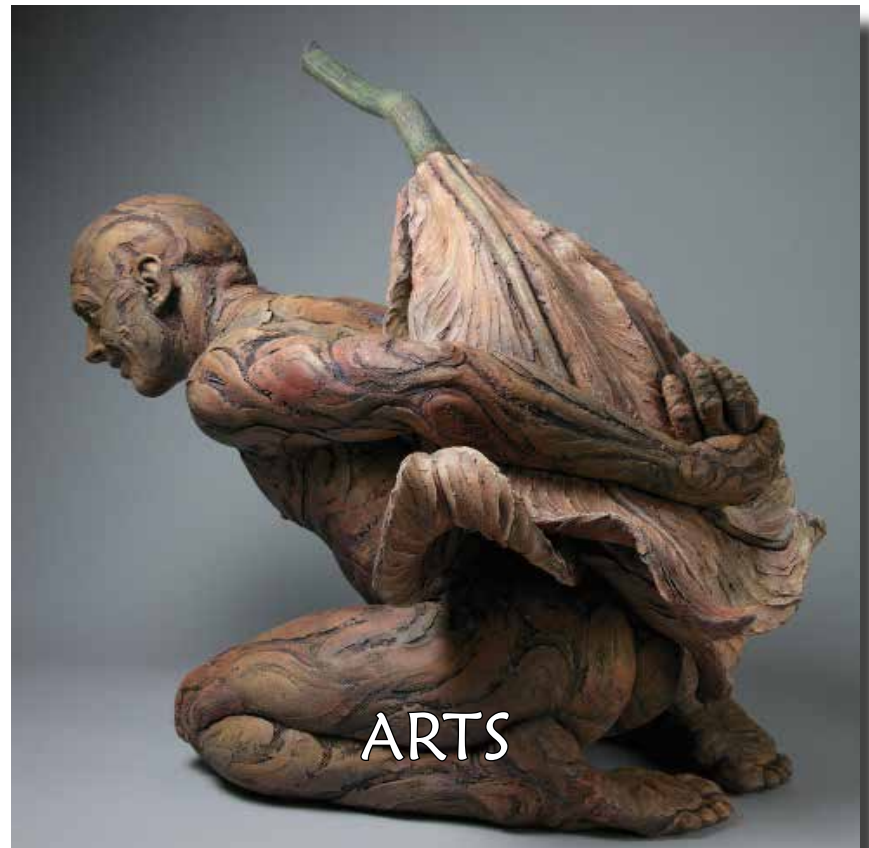
LOCAL FOODS

Photo by Ben Carpinter



OUTDOOR RECREATION

Photo by Perry SWCD

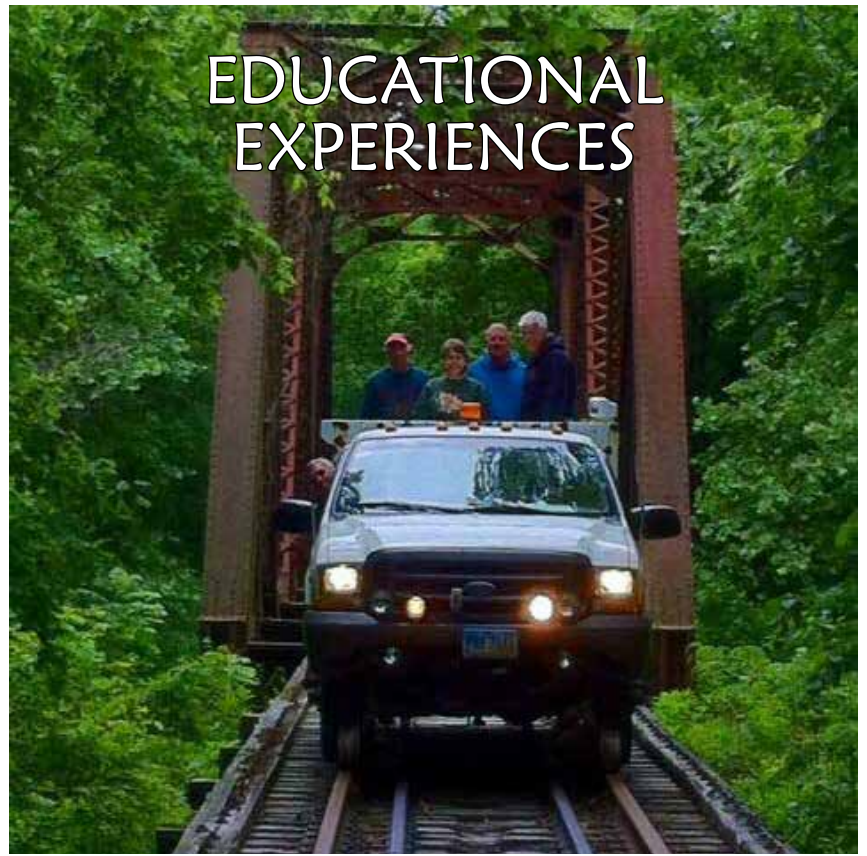


ARTS

Photo courtesy of the Zanesville Prize

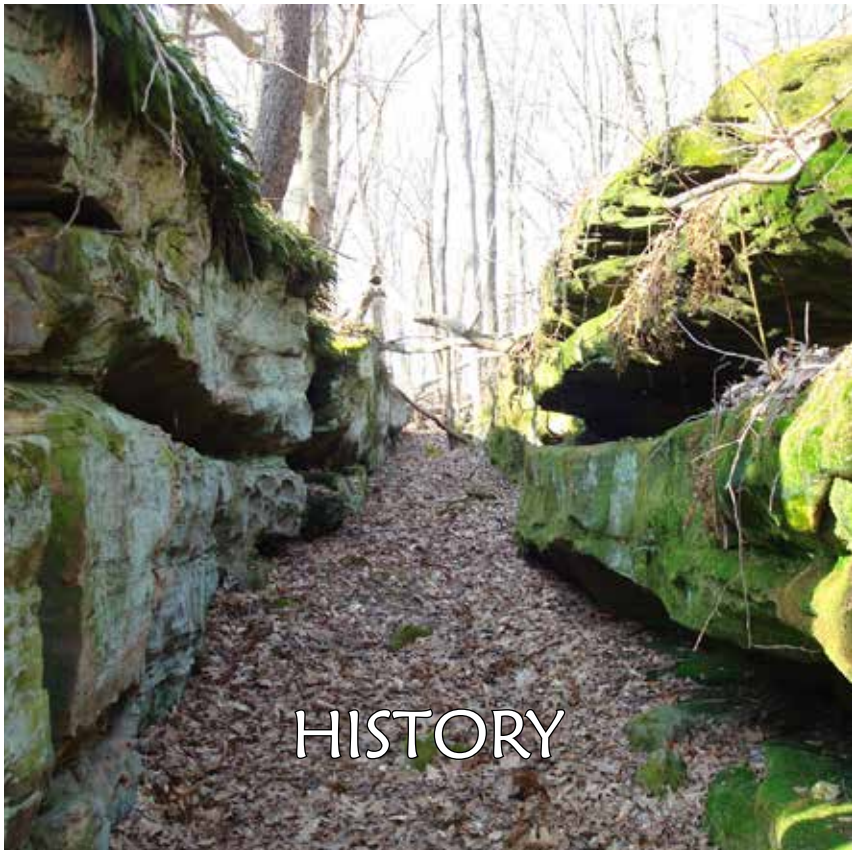


HERITAGE



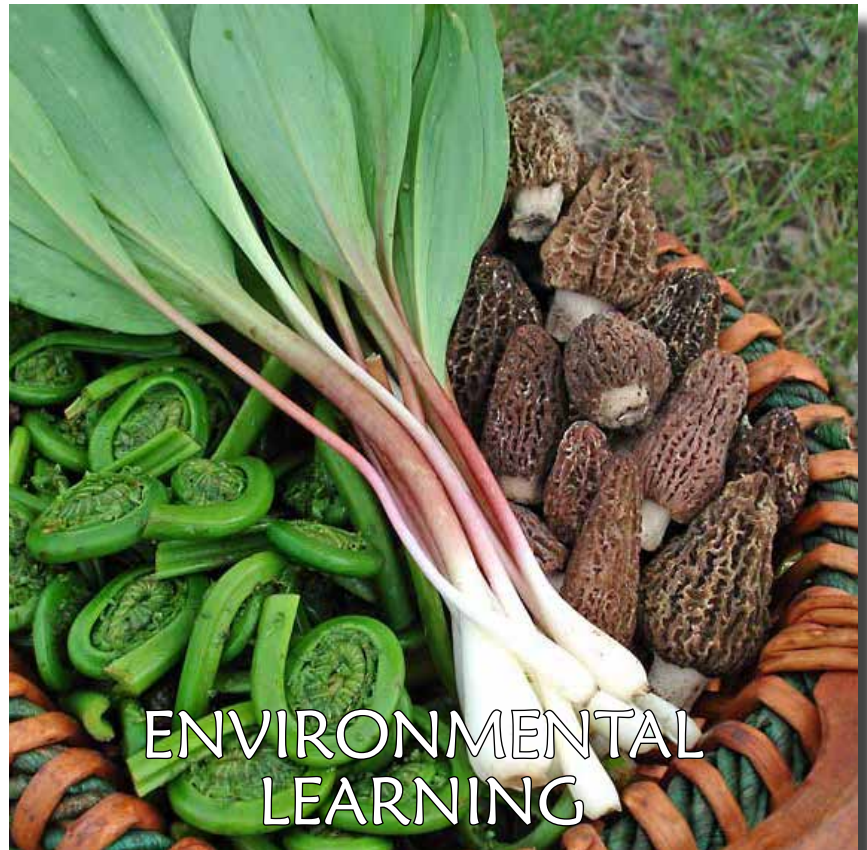
EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES

Photo by Perry SWCD



HISTORY

Photo by Perry SWCD



ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING

Photo courtesy of Wild Harvest

Visitor's Information

Athens County Convention
& Visitor's Bureau

www.athensohio.org

667 East State Street • Athens, OH 45701
1-800-878-9767 or 740-592-1819



Hocking Hills Tourism

www.explorehockinghills.com

13178 St. Rt. 664 S • Logan, OH 43138
740-385-9706
or 1-800-Hocking (462-5464)



Little Cities of Black Diamonds
Council

www.littlecitiesofblackdiamonds.org

127 West Main Street • Shawnee, OH 43782
740-394-3011



Morgan County Convention
& Visitors Bureau

www.visitmorgancountyohio.com

35 West Main Street, • McConnelsville,
Ohio. 43756
740-962-4909



Perry County Chamber of Commerce

www.perrycountyohiochamber.com

21 South Main Street • New Lexington, OH
43764
(740) 342-3547



Zanesville-Muskingum County
Convention & Visitors Bureau

www.visitanesville.info

205 N. Fifth St. • Zanesville, OH
43701
740.455.8282 / 1.800.743.2303



find it here.[™]
ohio.org

Finding Your Way On THE WINDING ROAD



WINDING ROAD

Base Camp

117 West Main Street
Shawnee, Ohio 43782
(740)394-2852

Join The Journey-Stakeholders & Members Welcome! Partnerships Make The Winding Road

Ohio's Hill Country Heritage Area (OHCHA)

The catalog you are holding in your hand represents another step along the road to valuing the history, culture, and natural assets in Ohio's Hill Country. OHCHA formed as a non-profit organization in 2000 after several years as a project of the Ohio Arts Council. Then Governor Taft initiated a state heritage area program and designated Ohio's Hill Country as one of five state designated areas, covering the original 29 Appalachian Counties plus Fairfield and Pickaway Counties. Staffing for the organization was made available through funds from the Ohio Division of Travel & Tourism and the Governor's Office of Appalachia. After two years, funding for designated heritage areas in Ohio was pulled from the State Budget during a period of financial shortfall. Since 2002, OHCHA has steadfastly operated as a grassroots board-volunteer driven organization, focusing on bringing recognition to "inspiring practices" around heritage, environmental, and cultural initiatives that protect, restore, and develop authentic and unique resources. Since that time nearly 200 organizations and individuals have been recognized via our heritage awards program and the annual Appalachian Heritage Day at the Statehouse, co-sponsored with Heritage Ohio.

In 2012, the board initiated a 'Roamin' the Hills' initiative to get members and regional residents to visit off-the-beaten path resources around the 31 Counties. For several years we roamed, from Harrison to Adams Counties and places in between,

visiting barns and mansions, nature preserves and hiking trails, and even a hydro-power plant located in a historic inn at Stockport. Stories of the place were told by local hosts who became our guides. We were amazed at the unique richness that we found! Inspired by these efforts, we partnered with the Ohio Humanities Council to give consideration to how these stories could best be shared regional residents and visitors and how we could develop our local economies by promoting these assets. We studied the concepts of Civic Tourism, Geo-Tourism, and the Costa Rica model of tourism that all fall under the label of eco-tourism. What we decided to do then led to the creation of 'The Winding Road'.

Although we have continued to be an organization valuing the authentic resources of the entire expanse of our heritage area, our volunteer board is located in the southeastern counties of Ohio. Close proximity has been essential for members to hold regular meetings and engage in projects effectively. With our modest resources and the 'Roamin' the Hills' experiences fresh in mind, we decided several years ago that the best way to travel forward is to be a part of supporting sub-region or microregion development to better address our mission and circumstance. We decided we were best prepared to do that in the places where we live. Thus, from the perspective of OHCHA, our role in the Winding Road initiative has been to focus on a sub-section of Appalachian Ohio/Ohio's Hill Country that shares a common landscape, history and culture to demonstrate how we might economically redevelop our region around these authentic attributes. Though our mission interfaces and partners with tourism, our focus is on the type of product and resource development which is sampled in this catalog.



**Veteran board members Tim Traxler and Tom O'Grady
volunteering at the Ohio Paw Paw Festival in Albany**

Ohio's Hill Country Heritage Area

117 W. Main Street
P.O. Box 114
Shawnee, Ohio
740-394-2852

www.ohiohillcountry.org

Contract Staff

Michelle Robinson
Alicia Caton (Americorps)
Sunday Creek Associates

Board Members

Tom O'Grady, President
Amy Grove, Secretary
John Winnenberg, Treasurer
Tim Traxler
Joyce Barrett
Kelly Messerly
Ben Carpenter
Patricia Henahan

Membership

Individual \$20  Organization \$35



Gateway to Public Lands

Following OHCHA's decision to create a prototype initiative, we were selected to participate in a Gateway to Public Lands planning project funded by The Nature Conservancy, Appalachian Regional Commission, and the National Endowment for the Arts. Under the leadership of Morgan County board members Amy Grove of OSU Cooperative Extension, John Winnenberg of the Little Cities of Black Diamonds, and OHCHA Americorps member Michelle Robinson, along with partners from the Wayne National Forest, Burr Oak State Park and the Athens County

continued on page 63

Experience Guides and Hosts



David Mitzel

*Foot by Foot
All Ohio
Contemporary
Ceramics
Competition
and Sale*

David is the retired director of the Muskingum County Community Foundation, which he built into one of the region's premier community foundations. He is a NAI Certified Interpretive Guide with a passion for the arts, community and historic preservation. His active role in historic preservation in various Zanesville neighborhoods, including the Putnam District, has helped change the face of Zanesville. His support and promotion of the arts in Zanesville has contributed greatly to the growing arts and ceramics scene there.



Jeff Wunderly

Labors Crossroads

Born in Springfield, grew up in Clark Co., corn and soybean country, catching snakes and running barefoot on gravel roads. He came to OU in '84, left in '90 to travel/work out west for a few years. Have lived in Az, NM and VT since but always find my way back. Allen Eckert's 'Frontiersman' sparked his interest while in college and has inspired a lifelong self-education in American History. Jeff is a two term AmeriCorps member, Outreach Liaison for the Little Cities of Black Diamonds Council and Certified Interpretive Guide. Jeff lives in Athens with his wife Deb, two cats and two Beagles.



Joseph Snider

*Gravestone and
Randolph
Mitchell House Tour*

Snider is an Ohio archaeologist, historian, and native of Perry County. He has worked for a variety of Cultural Resource Management firms, historical societies, including the Perry County Historical and Cultural Arts Society, and house museums, most recently as an archaeological field assistant for the Thomas Jefferson Foundation's Archaeology Department at Monticello. Noteworthy research includes recent investigations at the Randolph Mitchell House, the subject of several forthcoming publications. He regularly presents papers at archaeological and historical conferences throughout the Ohio Valley.

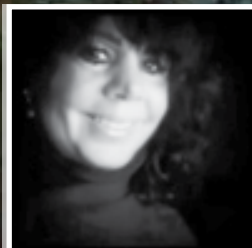
Guides and hosts help visitors learn about a place that's important. They help people relate to natural, cultural, and historical resources at parks, nature centers, historical sites, and anywhere that people come to engage in the stories of the place.



Shayna Roberts

McConnelsville

Shayna is a Morgan County native, born and raised in Malta, Ohio. A graduate of Ohio University with a degree in Media, she has returned to Morgan County to share her passion for this beautiful place. Shayna is currently an OSRC AmeriCorps member serving at the Morgan County Convention and Visitors Bureau and a Certified Interpretive Guide. She is available to guide visitors through her county and is happy to answer any questions you have about the about Morgan County experiences. You can contact her at 740-962-4909 or visitmorgancounty@gmail.com.



Bobbie Teal
Atlas

Shoot the History

With a direct documentary focus and strong interest in black and white photography Bobbie enjoys sharing her passion through teaching and workshops. Atlas also finds landscape photography exciting and searches many states for beauty that she records with a converted infrared camera. Her workshops are notable for helping students shape the image through the understanding of photographic composition; she is succinct and thoughtful with critiques taking students to the next level of possibility. Bobbie holds a B. Art Ed., and an M. A in Photography and Film Making.



Joe Brehm

Birds in the Hills

Joe's obsession with the outdoors started when his dad took his brothers and he for walks through the woods near his childhood home near Zanesville when they were old enough to walk. They tracked deer, raccoons, foxes, and learned to be comfortable outside. Joe earned a Bachelor's degree in Anthropology from the University of Montana, and Master's of Science in Environmental Studies at Ohio University. Since 2010, Joe has coordinated Rural Action's long-standing Environmental Education program and enjoys sharing his passion for the natural world with others.



Andrew Bashaw

*Run for the
Blue Blazes*

Bashaw is the Executive Director of the Buckeye Trail Association, hiker and conservationist who resides in Glouster with his wife Claudia and daughter Adelaide. He earned his Master's degree from Oklahoma State University, worked for the North Country Trail Association as the Regional Trail Coordinator for Ohio and Pennsylvania, and with Rural Action's Sustainable Forestry Program as an AmeriCorps member. Andrew's Buckeye Trail Association statewide office is in historic Shawnee, amidst the Wayne National Forest, where he concentrates on promoting, building, and maintaining, Ohio's 1,400+ mile state trail.

What are CIGs?

Many of our tour leaders have earned the credential of CIG (Certified Interpretive Guide) through a rigorous training from the National Association for Interpretation (NAI).

Through practice and planning, they have demonstrated their ability to create and deliver dynamic programs, and provide a quality experience for visitors and program participants. For more information about this training, visit www.interpnet.com, or contact local trainer Ken Bowald at kbowald@yahoo.com.



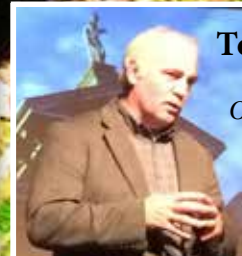
Cheryl Blosser
*Labors Crossroads
Mineral Region Tour*

Cheryl is one of the region's most knowledgeable local historians, with extensive knowledge of the Hocking Valley Coal Boom Era (1870-1925). A NAI Certified Interpretive Guide, Blosser gives regular tours and presentations for the New Straitsville History Group and the Little Cities of Black Diamonds Council. Cheryl is a research historian and office manager for the Little Cities of Black Diamonds Council and Vice President of the New Straitsville History Group. She is co-author of the book: *Agents of Change: The Pioneering Role of the Miners of the Little Cities of Black Diamonds in the Nations Early Labor Union Movement*.



Nancy Tatarek
Anthropology Alive!

Dr. Nancy Tatarek is an Associate Professor of Anthropology at Ohio University in Athens. Her work with the Appalachian Peoples Project has led her and her students to a deeper investigation into the lives of the miners of the Little Cities of Black Diamonds region, particularly in Murray City and New Straitsville. A prestigious University Professor Award Recipient at OU, she teaches a wide range of courses including Biological and Forensic Anthropology. Nancy supports efforts to bring history to life in the region serving as an volunteer with the New Straitsville History Group and the Little Cities of Black Diamonds Council.



Tom O'Grady
*Finely Crafted in
Ohio's Hill Country*

O'Grady is one of the region's premier historians with knowledge of Ohio History topics from A to Z. He is president of the Ohio Hill Country Heritage Area Board, Executive Director of the Athens County Historical Society (Southeastern Ohio History Center) and founding director of the Athens County's Recycling and Litter Control program. In his spare time O'Grady teaches Astronomy at Ohio University and is an avid photographer of the regional landscape. His knowledge of Ohio politics, architecture, transportation and industrial history make him a fount of knowledge which he shares with understanding and energy.



George Eberts
Asylum Tour

George is an expert on the history of the Athens Asylum, teaches astronomy at Ohio University and is a retired employee of the Athens Mental Health Center (aka Athens Asylum). George's passion for the hospital continues in his retirement. He has served as the Volunteer Coordinator for the Athens Behavioral Health Care Center, the AMHC's predecessor, and now provides monthly guided tours of the Athens Asylum Grounds for the Athens County Historical Society.



Steve Glade
*Wetlands at Sunset
Birds by Kayak
Grapes to Wine
Brewology
Perry County Bronze Tour
Gravestone and Randolph
Mitchell House Tour*

Steve is a native Ohioan who, after teaching in public schools for 36 years, retired and started working on his bucket list. Now an AmeriCorps member, he is in service at the Perry County Soil and Water Conservation District. He is a current member of the Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalists organization and is a certified interpretive guide and kayak instructor. He has backpacked the Adirondack mountains and becoming an Adirondack 46er by climbing the 46 highest peaks. Steve lives by a simple motto, "Life is better with a tree in it."



Carla Ankrom
Turtles View Tour

Carla, originally from Pennsville, Ohio, grew up in Zanesville and now resides in New Straitsville where she owns Antiques on Main located in one of the iconic overhanging porch roof buildings in historic Shawnee. Ankrom, a graduate of Tri-Valley High School in Dresden and semi-retired from a 36 year career in dog grooming is now heavily involved in the Historic Village of Shawnee and learning the importance of preserving the local history of southern Perry County. She has a passion for the history of the region and sharing the unique qualities of this area with guests as a Certified Interpretive Guide.



Howard Peller
*The Basket Farmer &
Rosehill Design*

Howard and his family live on a heritage homestead in Roseville which was founded in 1796. The farming practiced on the 140 acre plot is based on natural methods which have created a sanctuary for wildlife, healthy food and artisan crafts. Howard continues his of appreciating and working with nature. Practicing coppicing which is a way to manage, grow and harvest woody plants such as willow, Howard crafts living sculpture, fencing, baskets, brooms. In addition, his wife Maddy continues the tradition of Blue Bird Farm pottery. Howard has continued to design and craft his work as both an international designer and regional artisan.

We Make The Road by Walking

Along the Winding Road in Ohio's Rising Appalachia

By John Winnenberg

Community organizer Miles Horton coined the phrase “We make the road by walking...” during his days of helping groups help themselves during the mid-20th Century in Southern Appalachia. His words are consistent with the contemporary concepts of “participatory research” and “asset-based development” where citizens take charge of their circumstances, considering both their assets and challenges, while they engage with new and time-tested ways of solving problems and creating opportunities for themselves. Ohio’s Appalachian Winding Road is just such an example. We are a group of folks from all walks of life and all age groups, learning as we go, adapting our strategy daily as we learn from our experiences. We often call ourselves “stakeholders” because we all have an investment in this effort, whether it be time, talents, resources, pride or our future as a unique place to live, work, learn, play and raise children.

Much like the native people who cleared the first trails through these hills, and the European immigrants who followed to settle on the first ground of the Northwest Territory, we too are making new roads as we walk our talk about the future of Ohio’s Hill Country in the Hocking and Muskingum River Valleys of southeastern Ohio. We believe that we have authentic, unique and lively assets to share with one another and with visitors to our region. We need to get organized, changing our culture to one that increasingly takes pleasure in its treasures and takes pride in being good stewards of that which we value. The Winding Road is one of many such organizing efforts in a region where a growing collaboration of individuals, organizations, local governments, schools and entrepreneurs who are creatively working for a better future here. As we “do” The Winding Road we expect to attract a good number of visitors who respect our culture and our land--people who enjoy a good mix of learning, music, food, art and adventure with their leisure time. We want them (you) to evaluate this experience with us, so can adapt well as we make this road. As a matter of fact, we hope that some of you will be inspired to join us!

“

..we expect to attract a good number of visitors who respect our edgy culture and our land--people who enjoy a good mix of learning, music, food, art and adventure with their leisure time.

”

“ We often call ourselves “stakeholders” because we all have an investment in this effort. We invest our time, talents, resources, and pride in our future as being a unique place to live, work, learn, play and raise our children. ”

For folks who don't know this part of Ohio well, there are a few things you should know. First, its important to note that here in Ohio's Rising Appalachia we don't aim to specialize in cookie cutter experiences. Rather, we are fond of unique, “winding” experiences--bootlegging is part of who we are! Small and intimate seems to work better here. We like living off of our creativity and ingenuity...and off the grid when we can figure that out, too. We love music and the performing arts. We aspire to learn from our history, steward our natural resources, make beautiful things, and grow and eat local foods whenever we can. “Finely Crafted in Ohio's Hill Country” is one our mottoes, whether it be music, legal spirits, arts, or powerful ideas and social movements. We love our schools and want to make them to be involved in our communities rather than institutions separate from us. Partnerships and collaborations are essential in these efforts.

All ages, races, genders, political persuasions, and nationalities are welcome here. We especially like entrepreneurs - though deep thinkers and dreamers may be our strong card. Sitting on the porch and taking time for visiting is a given. Though we aren't always polished, we certainly are focusing on quality as we build a better future for ourselves. In today's rural America, we think it makes sense for at least some folks to live this way. As a matter of fact, we could stand a few more people who feel the same way to join with us. Urban may be hip for some, but for us, rural is “chill”. Check it out!

We like to mix it up when we can--we visit the city, the city folks visit us. We can know one another and respect one another, complementing our unique strengths and weaknesses. If we can attract a modest amount of new souls to join us in the journey, we think we can emerge as one of America's most treasured rural places. Not everybody can live this way, but we sure can. The way we look at it, if we Ohio's Rising Appalachia succeeds, The chances are better for our society to succeed.

But these are just words - hollow ones - if not followed by action. So, we are starting to walk the talk, making that winding road to the future. We's like you to join us as we share opportunities for you to tour, hike, restore, and explore the place where we live in creative communities along the Winding Road. Ohio's Appalachia is rising!



The Wayfarers perform at Winding Road “Foot by Foot” Art event at the Siegler Gallery in Zanesville



Volunteers restoring the Tecumseh Theater in Shawnee



Guided tour shares African American history at the historic Payne Cemetery in the Wayne National Forest

Creative Communities A to Z

Experiences Bring Creativity to Destinations Along the Winding Road in Ohio's Rising Appalachia

By John Winnenberg

It might be a bit confusing to know whether or not you are traveling on the Winding Road. Our map gives an idea about the general area we are talking about, though most involved in this effort don't care much about county lines, nor do visitors. Some of our stakeholders say, "East of U. S. Route 33, there's a lot to do, learn and see!" Yet, we are pretty much tied up with the western portion of the Hocking Hills, too. Don't forget them. We say The Winding Road is about creating a sense of place in southeastern Ohio around the Hocking and Muskingum River Valleys (and yes, we include the Racoon Creek Watershed in our vision, too). Absolutely, our rivers, creeks and forests are not to be forgotten and help define our cultural landscapes. So, how about we say its all of the above, perhaps best described as "Creative Communities A to Z" with 'A to Z' suggesting inclusion, as well as two of the region's most iconic communities Athens to the south and Zanesville to the north and all that lies in between. Whatever, let's get on that Winding Road!

The most important part of this brand is our belief in the future of communities--those both described by communities of people with common interests and by physical communities where people live, work and play in proximity to each other. The Winding Road catalog is very much about the experiences and products created by people with common interests in the arts, local food, history and the outdoor/natural environmental communities. But we want to take a moment to talk about physical destinations in our region that are working hard to be centers of creativity and destinations for visitors. We can't feature them all, but what follows is a look at a few worth your attention as you travel the Winding Road.

Athens

Arguably the most fascinating city in The Winding Road region is college town Athens, home to the first public university in the Northwest Territory. Athens and its surrounding hillside and communities is so many things, its local foods scene with one of the nation's best Farmer's Markets and iconic local food producers such as Shagbark Mill, Vino De Milo, and nearby Snowville Creamery. Local eateries abound with eating experiences at the worker-owned Casa Nueva, Village Bakery, and Burrito Buggy emblazoned on the pallets of all who pass through these hills. There's the Dairy Barn Cultural Arts Center, Ohio Brew Week, Boogie on the Bricks, the Athens Film Festival, and the annual Halloween bash! Social consciousness abounds here with Bounty on the Bricks, Martin Luther King Day, VeteransDay, and courthouse peace vigils bringing the populace to the streets. So does music, with live bands in bars on Court Street, concerts and the Marching 110, the most exciting band in the land, keeping all in dance mode. OU sports, theater and spring fests add to the charm. And then there's the architecture, the idyllic college green and campus, the Ridges, and brick streets among the most cherished being the home of Court Street Shuffle. So if you want to start your exploration on the Winding Road, begin here, or save the best for last, on the banks of the Hocking River way down in Athens County where creativity is a staple.



Amesville

Small town living couldn't be finer than in this tight-knit Athens County hamlet (population 154) on the back road from Athens to Marietta (Ohio Route 550). Its claim to fame in Ohio history came in the year of statehood when settlers sold pelts back East to raise funds to buy books. The library became known as the Coonskin Library, the first in the Northwest Territory. The Coonskin Museum, located in the old school cafeteria, opens upon request. Mayor Gary Goosman and allies are known for organizing dinners featuring local foods, gardening classes, and even a quirky inauguration ball. Events are held at Village Productions-where yoga, dance, music, pilates, drumming and more take place (www.villageproductions.org). Don't forget the Amesville Firemen's Festival the third weekend of every July. Outside of town you'll find organic farmers including the well-established Green Edge Gardens, and the upstart Homecoming Farm started by returning son John Wood purveyor of fresh maple syrup each spring.



Chesterhill

Tucked away in the hills of Morgan County, Chesterhill (population 285) comes alive today with music and history. Union Hall Theater (unionhalltheater.org), a second story opera house above the library, is home to the Annual Ribs, Rhythm & Blues Festival each June. This racially integrated community boasts early Underground Railroad history dating back to its roots in the Quaker community. A simple Quaker Meeting House still holds meetings each week, and the rock cave outside of town where freedom seekers were hidden is owned by the town and available for public visitation. The town is home to the Southeastern Ohio Multi-Cultural and Genealogical Center which hosts a series of educational events, and will be a stop on the Crossing the River (page 56).

Little Cities of the Forest (Rendville-Shawnee-New Straitsville-Glouster, etc.)

Using their rich history, the surrounding Wayne National Forest and Burr Oak State Park as assets, this series of boom-to-bust coal mining communities may be remnants of their former selves, but don't be surprised to find unique events and civic revival taking place here. Shawnee's Historic District is an architectural mecca and home to the Tecumseh Theater where restoration is taking place in the midst of cultural activities in the Tecumseh Commons including concerts, the annual Little Cities of Black Diamonds Day, and Buckeye Trail events (world headquarters located here as well as the Run for the Blue Blazes). Here and at nearby New Straitsville, early labor union history abounds and is best reflected upon at Robinson's Cave (a short hike up the hill from Main Street). Also celebrated is the town's designation as "Moonshine Capital of the World" at the now legal Straitsville Special Moonshine Distillery and the annual Moonshine Festival. Take Ohio Route 13 in the upper Sunday Creek Valley to former mining town of Rendville where homage is paid to its rich African American history each at Emancipation Day and celebrates art at the Rendville Art Works open weekdays in the repurposed Baptist Church. Cruise down scenic Route 13 through the Wayne and Burr Oak State Park where funky, but soulful Glouster appears with a love for sports, public art, an amazing town mural and a renovated train depot where quilts and rag rugs are fashioned by elders several days a week. Best know as the Little Cities of Black Diamonds, these towns are now Little Cities Of the Forest.



McConnelsville

The county seat of Morgan County is a picture out of a Norman Rockwell painting. Situated on the wide and lazy Muskingum River, the town green is home to the Howard Chandler Christy Arts Festival each summer and Morgan County Heritage Days each October. The Twin City Opera House is not to be missed. Home to affordable second run movies each week, the Ohio Valley Opry and other community events, this is Ohio's longest continuous operating opera house. The Morgan County Historical Society takes their history seriously with a massive collection of artifacts, including the expertly appointed Button House (ask for the guided tour). On the south side of town, one can access the historically significant hand-operated locks of the Muskingum River at Lock # 7.



Nelsonville

The original “little city of black diamonds” built on the riches of coal and clay, Nelsonville is The Winding Road’s emerging “Renaissance Town.” The restoration of Stuart’s Opera House, late last century, signaled a new era as a historic arts destination within shouting distance of both Athens and the Hocking Hills, arguably two of the region’s most visited destinations. Exhibits, music, and art galleries, anchored by Starbrick Clay, Paper Circle, Majestic Gallery, the charming Fullbrooks Cafe coffee house, and the Nelsonville Emporium, anchor lively thematic Final Friday events each month. Roots music at Stuart’s and the annual Nelsonville Music Festival brings thousands of music lovers to town, joined by throngs of others riding the Scenic Hocking Valley Railroad. Young people are plenty here as Hocking College’s unique array of course offerings ranging from Natural Resources to Culinary Arts also bring life.

Somerset

Early Ohio and Civil War history oozes from the bricks of this town situated along Zane’s Trace, the first pioneer road through Ohio. A federalist style courthouse, picturesque public square and multiple restored commercial and residential properties, including an early tavern dating to 1805, make walking this town a pleasure. On that walk one will find several top-notch eateries, namely the Clay Haus and Sophie’s Tea Room, and an early Ohio Lutheran Cemetery. An outstanding Saturday morning farmers market and annual events such as Oktoberfest and 4th of July Parade and the Holy Trinity Church picnic build a strong sense of community. The population of this northern Perry County town has remained consistent for over 200 years, and remarkably the town is self-contained with an old-style market, hardware and snack bar and an outstanding Saturday morning Farmer’s Market. These features and access to Columbus, Newark, Zanesville and Lancaster makes Somerset a great place to live. Winding Road partner Tom Johnson is the mayor and always has new activities going. Among those in the incubation stage are a Community Kitchen and Emerald Necklace walking trails. Check on his progress when in town.



Zanesville

Known as the Y-City for its historic Y-Bridge, Zanesville sits on the National Road (Visit the National Road/ Zane Grey Museum) and is the northern most point along the Winding Road. Arts, clay, and history anchor this town which shares a strong ceramics history with the nearby communities of Crooksville and Roseville. Art is exemplified at one of the best small city art museums in Ohio (Zanesville MOA), the Y-City Arts Festival (August), Second Saturday Art Walk, Zanesville Art Prize (every other year) and All-Ohio Contemporary Ceramics Competition and Show (page 42). Best galleries include the Michael Seiler Gallery, Yan Sun Gallery, Alan Cottrill’s amazing bronze statuary studio. “Art on Tap” every third Tuesday at Weasel Boy Brewery (open Tuesday-Saturday) allows you to make art while drinking the town’s premier microbrews. Next door is the unique Muddy Miser Restaurant overlooking the Muskingum and promoting the history of famed Western writer Zane Grey. Restored homes in the Putnam District date back to Zanesville’s role as Ohio’s second state capital. African American History is celebrated at the Gant House. Coffee and ambiance are abundant at the Treehouse downtown, with Zak’s Restaurant being a great place for date night and contemporary decor in a warehouse setting.

Why I Live in Athens County!

Looking to leave the city and bring your innovation with you?

by Jennifer Simon, Director Ohio University Innovation Center

Is Athens County, Ohio a great place to start an innovative new business? The young and young at heart scream out with a resounding, “Yes!” Local startup, Ecolibrium, COO, Sonita Uijt de Haag said, “I don’t have to edit who I am. I can just be myself. Be yourself and get your work done. It’s amazing how productive you can be when you don’t need to pretend you’re something you’re not.” Innovation abounds in the hills of our region. Let me tell you why.

I am writing this article listening to birds chirp while on my front porch, nature and beauty surrounding me. A strong wireless internet connection means the world remains at my fingertips - allowing me to work from home today. Days like this remind me why I moved back to Southeastern Ohio. There is little interruption except for the sound of the majestic Pileated Woodpecker also typing away on the tree next to me. If this gorgeous 70-degree day hadn’t called me to my porch, several coffee shops awaited me in town, providing warm, welcoming environments for the clacking of keyboards.

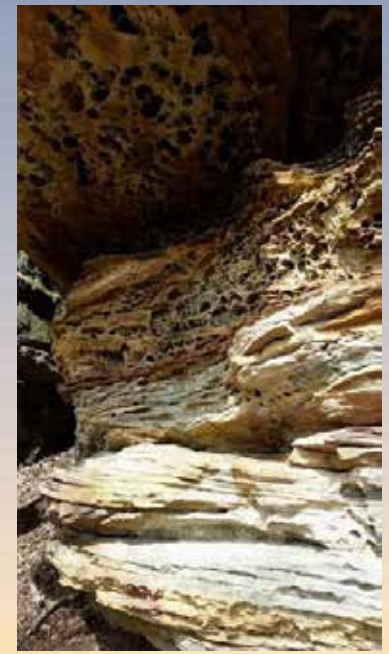
In the mornings, I enjoy the splendor of my 20-minute commute to Athens, our rural cosmopolitan haven where I work with aspir-ing business people. I love entrepreneurs. They are often the young or the young at heart. They are the risk takers. I am lucky because I direct the Ohio University Innovation Center, a startup business incubator. When entrepreneurs or “wantrepreneurs” find their way to us, they’re start-ing something new. A vision . . . a lifelong dream . . . the next cure for cancer . . . the newest way to increase efficiencies in the solar industry. We work with students, staff, faculty and community members throughout the region who want to create something big. A bonus is the intellectual capacity that Ohio University brings. With subject matter experts and students to assist on various projects for companies, clients can accelerate their growth.

We remove obstacles for these technology entrepreneurs to be successful. Biotechnology, Energy, and Information Technology busi-nesses reside in our 36,000 square foot modern facility. Seasoned business professionals and angel investors directly advise clients in the art of ac-cessing capital, finding early talent and making industry connections. Incubators typically work with clients for 18 months to 5 years before the company “graduates” into the community. To be considered a graduate, a company does the following: outgrown our facility, hired a large number of employees, and receive significant investment and generate revenue. Third Sun Solar, one of our graduates, employs sev-eral professionals in our community. They received an early start at the Innova-tion Center not long after setting up their solar installation business out of their home garage. Geoff and Michelle Greenfield, co-founders of Third Sun Solar, said, “We just fell in love with the place! Athens turned out to be a lot like Oregon. Music, culture, food, international students, like-minded people, ecological consciousness. Plus it’s a safe, close-knit community.”

Free to explore their ideas in the idyllic environment of Southeast Ohio, creative people innovate. Our university town overflows with cre-ativity. I lived in Austin, Texas years ago which was dubbed “Live Music Capital of the World.” The city’s residents bragged that one could hear live music every night of the week in its many cafes and bars. When I reflect on those days, I laugh. I realize that Athens has the same benefits. Several of my friends belt the blues, croon with soul, sing folk, DJ dance music, and play good ole’ rock n’ roll. Every Tuesday night at one of our three local breweries, you can hear the sounds of Celtic Music in the air making you feel as though you’ve just stepped into an authentic Irish pub.

But, music isn’t the only creative outlet. The region supports outdoor pursuits like hiking, biking, kayaking, and rock climbing - an amazing mix of life and work providing the necessary break that people often need to recharge. According to local food entrepreneur, Jona-than Leal of Milo’s, “In Athens, you really feel like everyone is your neighbor. We’ve got the best farmers market in the state, interesting places to go hiking and a low cost of living. . .”

Note: Quotes were taken from the Business Remixed website with permission of the Athens County Economic Development Council. Read what other entre-preneurs in our unique community told Business Remixed, our Athens County’s Economic Development Council at www.businessremixed.com.



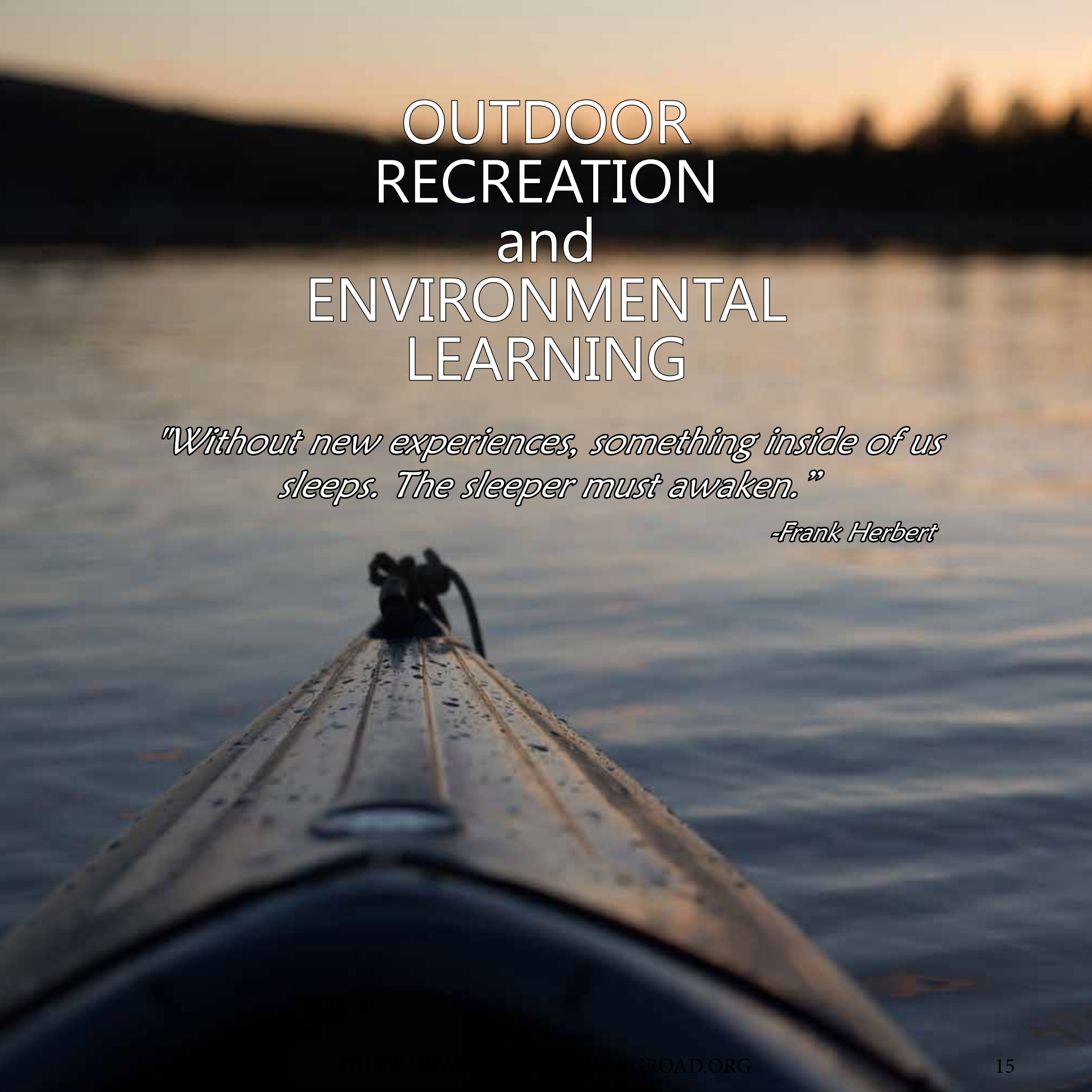
Hocking Hills

Gateway to Explorations Along the Winding Road in Ohio's Rising Appalachia

The southwest gateway to the Ohio's Appalachian Winding Road territory is the majestic Hocking Hills State Park and its spectacular rock formations, Hemlock trees and hiking trails. Remote cabin lodging, ziplines, shopping, and fine eateries surround the park. In nearby Logan, an increasing number of options await at shops, eateries and via such iconic experiences as concerts at the Bowen House, the Annual Washboard Festival and the Duck Creek Music Festival.

Environmental stewards surround the park, such as the Appalachian Ohio Alliance, whose land trusts efforts keep ecologically diverse lands protected from development. They and others use these valued natural lands to educate, including folks at Campy Otty Owkwa, Clearcreek Metro Park and the naturalist program at Hocking Hills State Park. Nowhere else in southeastern Ohio is the effort to keep the balance of humans in relationship to the land more critical. Part of the strategy is to manage the footprint of humans on this precious piece of nature. So, we suggest that visitors step lightly and reverently through these majestic sites at Cedar Falls, Conkles Hollow, Old Man's Cave and others, and then journey to the lands beyond the park in the Hocking Hills and along the Winding Road where the views widen to include history, the arts, culture and even more outdoor experiences.

If the rock formations of the Hocking Hills could talk, they would tell the stories of the Hocking Hills and the Winding Road region to the south and east. But since they don't, we invite visitors to enjoy this popular destination, but to extend their stay by experiencing the many opportunities in this Experience Guide to explore the adjacent lands of the Hocking and Muskingum River Valley. Southeastern Ohio has an abundant number of stories and experiences to offer our residents and guests and we are working together to become better hosts for our visitors, while respecting our lands and laid back way of life. So, start your journey at the Hocking Hills and extend your stay by exploring throughout Ohio's Hill Country where the stories and experiences are authentic, lively and unpasteurized!

A person is seen from behind, paddling a kayak on a calm lake. The sun is setting in the background, creating a warm, golden glow over the water and the distant shoreline. The kayak's deck is visible in the foreground, leading the eye towards the person and the horizon.

OUTDOOR RECREATION and ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING

"Without new experiences, something inside of us sleeps. The sleeper must awaken."

-Frank Herbert



DETAILS

Website: www.ohiosappalachianwindingroad.org

Location: Camp Oty'Okwa
24799 Purcell Rd; South Bloomingville, OH 43152

Date: April 23-24, 2016

Cost: \$10 registration (on-line link at website above)

Food: \$7/meal, Under age 12: \$5, or bring your own.

Lodging: Lodging at Camp Oty'Okwa is \$20 per person (\$10 under 12). Hotels/Cabins/

BB: www.explorehockinghills.com or www.athensohio.com

Registration: Advanced registration recommended.

Contact: Rebecca Farley at Rural Action: becca@ruralaction.org or call 740-541-2043.

WHAT TO EXPECT!

*Access to premier natural sites not readily available to public!
Guides, interpreters & educators who are experts in their fields!
Great hands-on activities for kids and their families with plenty of
learning and entertainment for adults!*

Join nature lovers of all ages for a weekend of active, fun-filled and informative outdoor experiences that celebrate southeastern Ohio's impressive biodiversity. Hikes through stunning hemlock forests at Camp Oty'Okwa and field trips for adults facilitated by prominent bird and biodiversity experts will be featured.

View and photograph warblers and other birds returning from their wintering grounds and abundant spring wildflowers. Educational specialists will guide hands-on activities for children. Workshops and presentations will provide in-depth background information on bird conservation, citizen science opportunities, backyard habitat improvements, and more.

Participants will get to know and learn from inspired environmental educators and naturalists from Rural Action, Camp Oty'Okwa and Athens Area Birders as they host the first-ever major birding festival in Southeastern Ohio.

The event is multi-generational! It is designed to accommodate the needs of children and their families and promote the health benefits that come from engagement with nature. Highlights for children include building terrariums, bird nests and bird feeders, dissecting owl pellets and taking frequent hikes. Experiences for adults include field trips to natural areas in the region, a citizen science workshop using technology to track species; a Saturday evening concert and a "Birds & Brews" microbrewery event.



Rural Action





Flowering dogwood trees and stunning spring landscapes await bicycle riders of all ages and skill levels during the 11th Annual Tour de Forest Benefit Bicycle Ride. Various routes take riders through the forested hills of the Little Cities mirroregion on both level and challenging courses organized by roadway, gravel, and bike path routes ranging from 1-75 miles in distance. Begin and end at the Hocking College Student Center in Nelsonville.

This is a non-competitive ride that benefits the Little Cities of Black Diamonds Council and Little Cities of the Forest Collaborative which are committed to gathering, protecting and sharing the heritage, cultural and environmental assets of this boom-to-bust coal mining region that is now home to the Wayne National Forest.

Rider perks are many with a souvenir t-shirt and a “start your ride” homemade granola bar from Fullbrook’s Cafe on Nelsonville’s Historic Public Square. A hearty complimentary lunch is served upon return at the Student Center where riders can also utilize an indoor pool, climbing wall and disc golf course.

New in 2016 is group registration which provides a reduced registration rate and social perks for your team of 5 or more. Spend the night before or after in nearby Athens or the Hocking Hills!

DETAILS

Website: www.tourdeforest.wordpress.com

Location: 3301 Hocking Parkway, Nelsonville, OH 43782

Time: Flexible departure times from 7-10AM with lunch served from 11:30AM-3PM.

Cost: \$30 per Individual Adult Rider; \$20 per Youth Rider. Team Rates (5 or more): Adults \$25; Youth \$15. Recreation Center Pass Only \$10. Lodging package available with nearby Athens hotels.

Registration: Advanced registration highly recommended to insure souvenir t-shirt and lunch.

Contact: Little Cities of Black Diamonds Council; P O. Box 128; Shawnee, Ohio 43782; lcbdoh@gmail.com or call 740-394-3011.

WHAT TO EXPECT!

*Stunning springtime beauty!
Routes from level & leisurely to rugged hills & challenging!
An awesome lunch featuring local foods upon return!*

5.14.16
11th annual tour
de forest



The Wetlands at Sunset



DETAILS

Website: www.perrysoilandwater.wix.com/perry-swcd

Location: 109-A East Gay St., Somerset, Ohio 43783

Date: Tour dates are flexible and will be posted on the Perry SWCD website

Time: The tour will begin and end at the Perry SWCD Office and will start at 5:00 and will return to the office at 9:30 or 10 o'clock that evening.

Cost: \$15.00 and includes kayak, paddle, life vest

Registration: Please call the Perry SWCD office at 740-743-1325

Contact: Steve Glade at Perry SWCD: gladesteve@gmail.com or call 740-743-1325

Note: Binoculars are not provided - guests to bring their own.

WHAT TO EXPECT!

Kayaking on exclusive private wetlands!

Beautiful scenery and sunset!

Hidden Great Blue Heron rookery!

Experienced Interpretive Guide!

Kayak the wetlands and see nature's thrills at sunset. The tour starts at 6:00pm with a hike to a Great Blue Heron rookery on Jonathan Creek. Great Blue Herons are migrating birds that winter in the south and fly north to build nests and raise their young during the summer. Often blue herons in south east Ohio will find large sycamore trees along the creek where they build several nests. Great blue herons are wading birds with long legs and necks to help them catch fish. They look very graceful yet sound similar to prehistoric birds that make a harsh squawk.

Did you know the best times to visit a wetland is either sunrise or sunset? But if you want to hear owls and bobwhites, for that reason, evening is a great time to view not only daylight wildlife but also those birds and animals that come out in the evening. At that time, it is common to see eagles, deer, Great Blue Heron, shorebirds, raccoons, muskrats, kingfishers, Green Heron and a wide variety of bats.

Kayaks are easy to paddle and don't need much water to quietly move through the wetlands. We also use them because they are lightweight, easy to carry and very stable! It is mandatory that each kayaker wear a life vest - all levels of ability are welcome and a quick safety lesson will precede the tour. All of the equipment needed on the tour will be provided by Perry Soil and Water Conservation District. Tour participants may want to bring a set of binoculars or a camera. Please keep in mind that the camera will need a waterproof container.

The tour will be guided by Steve Glade who is a NAI Certified Interpretive Guide and member of Rural Action's OSRC AmeriCorps team. He is a certified ACA kayak instructor in good standing! A retired educator with 36 years of experience, Glade is also an Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist participating in the Hocking Hills chapter.



Bird Watching By Kayak Tour



This tour will begin at St. Joseph's Lake in Somerset – located 2.6 miles south of Somerset and just past the St. Joseph's Catholic Church, the oldest Catholic Church in the state of Ohio. A brief introduction to the day's activities and a kayak safety demonstration will prepare us for a wonderful day ahead! The native birds of South-east Ohio are very active in the morning hours! From great blue heron, osprey, cormorants, and eagles – you will surely see a variety of incredible birds, flora, and fauna during the day. Binoculars are recommended for this tour so please come prepared!

After birding on the lake, we will take a trip to the Emerald Preserve Park and Painter Creek area – a favorite of both woodpeckers and finches. Relax here and enjoy a homemade boxed lunch graciously prepared by Somerset's local restaurant, Sophie's Tea Room. Fossils, bloodroot, wild ginger, and wildflowers are waiting to be discovered here! This preserve is also home to the historically significant Fink Tavern – one of two early taverns that brought early Zane's Trace travelers to the town of Somerset.

This interactive and educational tour will be guided by Steve Glade who is a NAI Certified Interpretive Guide and member of Rural Action's OSRC AmeriCorps team. He is a certified ACA kayak instructor in good standing! A retired educator with 36 years of experience, Glade is also an Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist participating in the Hocking Hills chapter.

DETAILS

Website: www.perrysoilandwater.wix.com/perry-swcd

Location: 109-A East Gay St., Somerset, Ohio 43783

Time: The tour will begin and end at the Perry SWCD Office and will start at 8:00 am and will return to the office at 2:00 pm

Cost: \$25.00 and includes kayak, paddle, life vest

Registration: Please call the Perry SWCD office at 740-743-1325

Contact: Steve Glade at Perry SWCD: gladesteve@gmail.com or call 740-743-1325

Date: Tour dates are flexible and will be posted on the Perry SWCD website

Note: Binoculars are not provided - guests to bring their own

WHAT TO EXPECT!

Beautiful St. Joseph's Lake!

Great Blue Heron, Osprey, Eagles & Comorants!

Relaxing locally sourced lunch among fossils and wildflowers at the Emerald Preserve!





DETAILS

Website: www.facebook.com/aturtlesviewtour

Location: Dock 1 or Dock 4; Burr Oak State Park, Glouster, OH 45732

Time: Tour is approximately 4 hours long.

Registration: Group size is six persons or less and is scheduled at mutually agreeable time.

Cost: \$ 55.00 per person (week day tour); \$ 65.00 per person (holidays or weekends)
Price includes lunch and drinks.

Contact: Phone: 740-823-2994. E-Mail: turtlesview@gmail.com Facebook: A Turtles View Tour

Note: Stop at the cemetery will contain a short walk through the woods. So, be sure to bring your walking shoes, along with your swimsuit, sunscreen, weather appropriate clothing and camera. Restroom stops will be made during the tour.

WHAT TO EXPECT!

Learn about the transition from prime farmland to a beautiful lake!

Find out how Burr Oak was named!

Discover who's in the pioneer cemetery!

Enjoy a ride on one of Ohio's most beautiful and undisturbed lakes!

Take a relaxing journey along peaceful Burr Oak Lake aboard a pontoon boat. In the early 1800's, this valley was prime farm land. Beneath the lake lie the remains of covered bridge foundations that once crossed over the winding creek. You can almost hear the children playing in the sunshine and the cattle munching on the luscious grass that grew in the rolling fields. As we travel along the lake, the stories of these settlers will bubble to the water's surface. Along the shores you will look upon the old remnants of their homes, and view pictures of these grand old farms, the rolling fields and covered bridges.

Have lunch on Burr Oaks sandy beach and bring your swim suits if you would like to take a swim! Afterward we will continue on to the Tom Jenkins Dam where you will hear how Burr Oak got its name, who named it, and why. On the way back, we will visit the cemetery that is nestled on one the hill's of the lake. It's only a short walk but be sure and bring your walking shoes as we will be hiking into the woods.

Come enjoy a day of discovery! Bring your cameras; you never know what you might see. An American Bald Eagle, an Osprey, maybe even a Black Bear. At the end of the day you will definitely know that this is one fun discovery, which you will never forget.

Tour Guide(s) Program Leader: Carla Ankrom, Certified Interpretive Guide, National Association of Interpretation Guide.



360° of Trees

Ohio's only National Forest, Iconic State Parks, Blazing Trails and Streams Offer Abundant Outdoor Exploration Opportunities and....an important Stewardship Responsibility

Three-hundred sixty degrees of trees is often an appropriate description for the view that surrounds those traveling and living in the Winding Road region of southeastern Ohio. Conscious efforts to promote the return of the Eastern Woodland forest to these hills date back to the Great Depression work programs of the 1930's when Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and WPA workers rescued the hillsides of the region with erosion fighting and tree planting projects on lands decimated by timbering and mining. The Ohio Legislature and United States Congress passed legislation in 1935 to authorize purchase units for the creation of a national forest, to eventually be named the Wayne National Forest, Ohio's first and only national forest. In the decades that followed state government chipped in with the creation of numerous state parks. Not fully understood

at the time, these actions blessed this portion of the state with an ever-growing asset of great natural beauty: a returning forest and people who dearly love it! Today this natural asset is critical part of the region's "Appalachia Rising" asset-based development ethic, utilizing our natural beauty to build a brighter future. With this asset comes the responsibility for stewardship of these lands and continued efforts to clean up the legacy of the unregulated era of coal mining in the region. The Winding Road initiative goes hand-in-hand with the emerging ethic of outdoor enthusiasts best described in two popular phrases: "Leave no trace!" and better yet, "Leave the place better than you found it!"

Along the Winding Road some of the most gratifying opportunities for visitors and residents alike, include participating as volunteers in building hiking trails, counting birds and tracking other natural activity for the sciences, and fighting invasive species in our woodlands. Organizations such as the Buckeye Trail Association, Rural Action, and the Wayne National Forest depend on volunteers to carry out their mission (see contact information on page 21 to volunteer). Environmental Education is a key to helping the region's young people value the land and create opportunities for making a living from

the land and its assets. Rural Action plays a key role in this education effort with school-based and summer programs, support of the Young Southeastern Ohio Naturalists Club, and public education events (see Birding in The Hills, page 16). Hocking College in Nelsonville is a leader in preparing young people to develop careers in natural resources, including training in eco-tourism services. The Wayne Forest offers a series of Saturday outdoor education experiences for families as well.



Environmental Education in the Wayne Forest

At the northwest edge of the Winding Road region sits Hocking Hills State Park which is hosting several million visitors each year to its breathtaking vistas and rock formations at popular locations such as Old Man's Cave, Ash Cave, Cedar Falls and more. This visitation creates a robust cabin rental and hospitality industry that benefits the local economy. However, there are also concerns over the park being "used to death". The Winding Road effort seeks to help disperse those crowds to join with local citizens to the south and east who are bringing back communities, streams and the forest as they engage in a steep learning curve about Mother Nature's role in our lives. This catalog is full of those examples. The Winding Road compliments and supports the existing industry in Hocking County through sustainable practices that extend opportunities for visitors to stay awhile longer by deepening their experience via a wider array of authentic outdoor exploration experiences in the Hocking Hills, neighboring communities and at state parks and in the national forest.

The region is home to the rails-to-trail Hock-Hocking Adena Bikeway that connects Athens to Nelsonville with plans to expand in both directions. A Tour de Forest Bicycle Ride (see page 15) in May attracts bicyclists from around the state and beyond on this bikeway, roadways and gravel routes. The Main Street of The Winding Road, might best be considered a hiking trail. To the east, the Buckeye Trail connects the AEP Re-Creation Lands in Morgan County to historic Stockport on the Muskingum River, Burr Oak State Park,

The Winding Road initiative goes hand-in-hand with the emerging ethic of outdoor enthusiasts best described in two popular phrases: “Leave no trace,” and better yet, “Leave the place better than you found it!”



Into the Forest on the Wildcat Hollow Hiking Trail

historic Shawnee and westward to Hocking Hills State Park. This trail is also part of the North Country National Scenic Trail (when complete it will rival the Appalachian Trail) and the American Discovery Trail. Please see Buckeye Trail Association’s EGGS Hike and Run for the Blue Blazes Marathon in this edition. A series of hiking trails around Athens are maintained by the Athens Conservancy District and in New Lexington the historic clay roofing tile company Ludawici-Celadon has created an outstanding walking trail as well. Wildcat Hollow Hiking Trail Perhaps the premier hiking trail in the region is the Wayne Forest’s on the Morgan-Perry County line near Burr Oak State Park. A diverse array of spring wildflowers along the trail not far from the trailhead rival any in the eastern United States.

Runners love the Athens Marathon each April, the Bobcat Marathon each summer, and the Indian Summer Run each fall. Horseback enthusiasts find their winding road along the Stonechurch Hollow Trail and Campground in southern Perry County and on trails at Burr Oak State Park. Perry and Hocking counties have strong horseback riding groups that welcome newcomers to their events and the Smoke Rise Ranch near Murray City offers a variety of horseback opportunities. Off-road vehicle riders take to the hills on the Wayne Forest ATV Trails near Nelsonville (Dorr Run), New Straitsville, and in the Perry State Forest near Somerset. Private camping is available near each of these trail entrances. Beyond the mecca of the Hocking

Hills, visitors can enjoy secluded and serene Burr Oak State Park near Glouster, including a refurbished lodge and dining room with stunning views. Dining Lodges at Lake Hope State Park and Hocking Hills State Park are known for their quality meals. Cabins are available at Hocking Hills, Lake Hope, and Burr Oak. High quality lake kayaking, canoeing, boating, fishing, camping, swimming, and hiking trails are also found at these three parks as well as Strouds Run State Park near Athens. Canoe liveries on the Hocking River are available at two locations in Logan and one in Nelsonville (Murray’s Landing). Boat, canoe, and kayak rentals are also available at Burr Oak and Lake Logan. Kayaking, swimming and fishing are also available at Tecumseh Lake in Shawnee. Muskingum River public boat launch ramps are available at Zanesville’s Riverside and Putnam Parks, Malta, McConnelsville, and Stockport.

Hocking College offers camping at Lake Snowden near Albany. This campground joins with campgrounds in the AEP Re-Creation Lands (350 campsites!) in eastern Morgan County, Wayne Forest campgrounds at Burr Oak Cove, and Stone Church Hollow to compliment State Park and private campgrounds in the region with many private campgrounds with boat ramps available on the Muskingum River from Zanesville to Stockport. Primitive backpack camping is allowed along trails in the Wayne Forest.



Kayaks at Tecumseh Lake, Shawnee

One of the more unusual outdoor experiences in the region can be found at

Winding Road Outdoors

Wayne National Forest Headquarters
13700 US Highway 33 • Nelsonville 45764
(740) 753-0101 • www.fs.usda.gov/wayne

Buckeye Trail Association
127 West Main Street • Shawnee, Ohio 43882
740-394-2008 • www.buckeyetrail.org

**Rural Action Environmental Education
Sunday Creek Watershed Group**
19627 Walnut Street • Trimble, Ohio 45782
740.767.4938
www.ruralaction.org/programs/environmentaled
www.sundaycreek.org

Monday Creek Restoration Project
115 W. Main St. • New Straitsville, Ohio 43766
740.394.2047 • www.mondaycreek.org

Burr Oak State Park
10220 Burr Oak Lodge Road • Glouster 45732
Park: (740) 767-3570 Lodge: (740) 767-2112
www.parks.ohiodnr.gov/burroak

Strouds Run State Park
1661 State Park Road • Athens, Ohio 45701
www.parks.ohiodnr.gov/stroudsrun

Blue Rock State Park
7924 Cutler Lake Road • Blue Rock 43720
www.parks.ohiodnr.gov/bluerock

AEP ReCreation Lands
9160 N St Rt 83, McConnelsville, OH 43756
www.aep.com/environment/conservation/re-land

Murray's Landing (Canoe/Kayak Rentals)
Nelsonville, • 740-707-4934
www.murrayslanding.org

Burr Oak Marina (Canoe/Boat/Kayak Rental)
Dock 1 • Glouster • 740-767-3585
Hocking Hills Adventure Trek
www.hockinghillsadventuretrek.com

Touch The Earth Adventures
www.touchtheearthadventures.com

Burr Oak Getaways
www.burroakgetaways.com

Perry County Soil & Water Conservation District
109 W Gay St • Somerset • (740) 743-1325

High Rock Adventures/Hocking Hills Eco-Tours
www.highrockadventures.com

The Wilds
14000 International Rd • Cumberland 43732
www.thewilds.columbuszoo.org • 740-638-5030

The Wilds, which serves as home to rare and endangered species from around the globe living in natural, open-range habitats is located near Cumberland on the Muskingum/Morgan County east of Zanesville and northeast of McConnelsville. Utilizing reclaimed strip-mining land, this non-profit safari park and conservation center combines conservation science and education programs with hands-on experiences and one-of-a-kind adventures that include field tours, ziplining, horseback riding, fishing, and opportunities to spend the night in their fashionable yurts. Less exotic, but arguably more scenic, interpretive sites in the Wayne National Forest include the Ora Anderson Nature Trail/Rutherford Wetland near Carbon Hill north of Nelsonville, Monroe Outlook near Corning, a recently completed mine reclamation site at Upstream Rock Run on State Route 93 between Shawnee and New Straitsville, Sand Run Picnic Area near Carbon Hill, and the Wayne Forest Headquarters Visitors Headquarters on U.S. Rt33 north of Athens. Robinson's Cave in downtown New Straitsville mixes labor union history with nature in a unique setting.

The Perry Soil and Water District in Somerset is working with various partners to create a water trail along Jonathan Creek from Buckeye Lake to the Muskingum River. Group kayaking experiences in area wetlands are packaged with rides on the newly formed Mount Perry Scenic Railroad that follow this scenic and clean stream. Three outstanding watershed restoration programs supported by Rural Action - the Monday Creek Restoration Project (New Straitsville), Sunday Creek Watershed Group (Trimble), and Racoon Creek Partnership (Athens) - are active in the region, by returning aquatic life to streams once highly polluted by Acid Mine Drainage. These groups offer regular tours to stream clean-up sites for the public and also will give guided tours to groups, including visits to state of the art dosers that add calcium oxide to area streams to neutralize the Ph levels which are high in acidity. Also of note, are the Friends of the Lower Muskingum which offer programs and opportunities for volunteer activity in support of the river.



Guided Camping and Wildflower Tour

Nature-oriented guide services are increasingly available. Among those we recommend are Touch The Earth Adventures, (Athens); Hocking Hills Venture Treks, (Logan); and Burr Oak Getaways (Glouster) as well as individual guides featured within the catalog. Rock climbing is available in the Hocking State Forest. High Rock Adventures/Hocking Hills Eco-Tours rock climbing classes and guided opportunities. Three zip lines are available in the Hocking Hills region (Hocking Hills Canopy Tours, Soaring Adventures, Valley Zipline Tours) with one also located within The Wilds.



This annual hike will honor a founding member of the BTA and the first female to thru-hike the Appalachian Trail alone, Emma “Grandma” Gatewood. In 1955 at the age of 67, Emma ‘Grandma’ Gatewood, an Ohio native, continuously hiked the entire Appalachian Trail and a few years later, completed a third hike of the trail in sections. Known for her legendary Keds sneakers which she wore in lieu of hiking boots and for inspiring women to long-distance hike, Grandma Gatewood was the inspiration to the ultra-lite backpacking movement – rarely carrying more than 20lbs. Follow the footsteps of this inspirational woman and discover the beauty and history that rests along the Buckeye Trail. Choose from 4 hiking challenges consisting of 20, 40, 60, and 80 miles that need to be completed in 12, 24, 36, and 48 hours respectively. Pre-register to receive a t-shirt and goodie bag! Trail map available on the Buckeye Trail website <http://www.buckeyetrail.org/eggs.php>

REGISTRATION: Registration on-line: \$50 for BTA Members, \$60 for Non-Members (includes a 1-year discounted membership to the BTA). Scout groups \$100. Walk-in registration on the day of the event: \$60 for BTA Members and \$70 for Non-Members (includes a 1-year discounted membership to the BTA). Registration includes a T-shirt and camping. Those hikers that complete their hike in 12, 24, 36, and 48 hours will also receive an EGGs Hike patch. Campers-only do not need to pre-register, just contribute \$5/night/tent on-site to camp.

DETAILS

Website: <http://buckeyetrail.org/>

Location: Burr Oak State Park and Wildcat Hollow Backpack Trail

Date and Time: Thursday June 16th at 12pm–Sunday, June 19th at 1pm

Cost: See details this page

Registration: Register on line at <http://buckeyetrail.org/eggs.php>

Contact: Byron Guy at : oldmanscave@buckeyetrail.org

WHAT TO EXPECT!

*Hike through history following the footsteps of the 1st female pioneer to complete the Appalachian Trail!
Discover the Wayne National Forest, Little Cities Region and Sunday Creek!*



Reversing the Scars of Coal



DETAILS

Website: www.mondaycreek.org

Location: 115 West Main Street, New Straitsville, Ohio 43766

Date and Time: Dates are flexible and will be shared on the website. The tour takes approximately four hours.

Cost: \$35.00 and includes locally sourced lunch

Registration: Please call Monday Creek Restoration Project at 740-394-2047

Contact: Tim Ferrell @ Rural Action/Monday Creek Restoration Project, 740-394-2047

WHAT TO EXPECT!

*Indepth look at pre-regulation coal mining practices
from the past!*

Innoative techniques implemented in treating acid mine drainage!

Return of diverse aquatic life in streams !

Knowledgeable and inspiring guide!

Southeastern Ohio is rich in natural resources and minerals including clay, coal, oil, and natural gas. However the legacy of pre-regulation coal mining has riddled the natural landscape and polluted several streams in the region with acid mine drainage (AMD). AMD from historic deep mines and surface mines creates an acidic stream environment which is void of all aquatic life. Several watershed groups in the area have partnered with state and federal agencies to combat these environmental issues.

Rural Actions Monday Creek Restoration Project (MCRP) has been implementing and monitoring AMD treatment projects in the Monday Creek Watershed since 1994. Before the first project was completed in 1994 only 4 species of fish were found during monitoring in the mainstem of Monday Creek. When fish monitoring was completed in 2014 we could proudly say that Monday Creek is now home to 32 species of fish. Come join us to see treatment systems and reclamation sites that have directly contributed to improvements in water quality and aquatic life within the stream.

Join veteran staff Nathan Schlater, Watershed Coordinator and Tim Ferrell, Water Quality Specialist (NAI Certified Interpretive Guide) on this intriguing and educational tour. See treatment systems and reclamation sites that have directly contributed to improvements in water quality and aquatic life within the stream. Witness both polluted and recovering streams and the surrounding beauty of the forested Monday Creek Watershed.



Run For The Blue Blazes Marathon - October 1



In 1958, Merrill Gilfillan in an article for the Columbus Dispatch described the birth of the Buckeye Trail as “a trail that will serve as an encouragement to young people to slow down and learn about their native land.” Now – years later and after the gracious and hard work of members and volunteers – there are 26 sections to the Buckeye Trail, each named for a town or feature within the section, and each with its own unique experiences. The 2nd annual ‘Run for the Blue Blazes Buckeye Trail Run’ allows athletes, families, and outdoor enthusiasts alike to explore a beautiful section along the southeastern portion of the Buckeye Trail. Follow the blue blazes through groves of Paw Paw’s, native wildflowers, and deep green forests. Choose from the full or half marathon, 5k or 10k. Race starts and ends in the beautiful and Historic Village of Shawnee where food and drink will be available at the end of the race!

DETAILS

Website: www.buckeyetrail.org

Location: Shawnee, Ohio

Date: October 1, 2016

Time: 9:30

Cost: See details this page

Registration: www.buckeyetrail.org

Contact: Herb Hulls @ run4blue@buckeyetrail.org or 740-787-2415

PACKET PICKUP: At the BTA Office, Shawnee Ohio, September 30th from 2:00–7:00pm or October 1, after 6:30am.

Food and Drink available after runs

ENTRY FEES: Pre-registration before August 1: \$60 Full Marathon; \$40 Half Marathon, \$30 10K; \$20 5K. Add \$10 after August 1. Race Day registration from 6:30–9:00am. If the race is canceled or a participant is unable to attend, there will be no refunds.

WHAT TO EXPECT!

*Start and finish in the historic village of Shawnee!
Run through the Little Cities region filled with lush forests, whispering streams, and song birds to cheer you on!*





LOCAL FOODS AND SPIRITS

“Local Food builds community...When you buy direct from a farmer, you’re engaging in a time-honored connection between eater and grower. Knowing farmers gives you insight into the seasons, the land, and your food. In many cases, it gives you access to a place where your children and grandchildren can go to learn about nature and agriculture.”

-Vern Grobinger



Based at the historic Eclipse Company Store in Eclipse Company Town (The Plains), **The Real Food, Real Local Institute Conference** is held each July to mark progress on this effort of developing resilient and equitable food systems that result in healthy, locally produced food for all. And to also promote homegrown economic opportunities, job and business creation, preservation of farm land, and sustainable practices that protect the environment. In its fifth year, the event includes a day of speakers and workshops and exploratory field trips to food producing and consumption destinations in the region.

The Real Food, Real Local Institute represents three decades of pioneering work in rebuilding Southeast Ohio's food system. Today thousands of hands continue to germinate and cultivate a comprehensive system integrating localized food production, processing, distribution, branding and consumption. The Institute supports the development of local food systems through education, mentoring, facilitation, replication, and collaboration. Institute activities include training and technical assistance, aggregation and sharing of best practices, convening local food practitioners, and assisting in the implementation of successful models. If you're interested in sharing models of success from your community, please contact Leslie Schaller.

Whether you are a farmer, processor, involved with farmers or retail markets, a food entrepreneur, advocate or consumer, this event will have something for everyone; fresh ideas, proven approaches, great connections, and plenty of interaction and fun.

DETAILS

Website: www.realfoodreallocalinstitute.org.

Date: Monday July 18 - Wednesday July 20, 2016.

Cost: TBD

Location: Eclipse Company Store, 11309 Jackson Drive, The Plains, OH 45780

Contact: Leslie Schaller; leslies@acenetworks.org or 740-592-3854.

Registration/information: www.realfoodreallocalinstitute.org.

If you're interested in sharing models of success from your community, please contact:

Leslie Schaller; leslies@acenetworks.org or 740-592-3854.

Conference details and registration information will be added as they are finalized at www.realfoodreallocalinstitute.org.

WHAT TO EXPECT!

Interact with successful local food practitioners!

Exploratory field trips to food producer and consumption sites!

Consider economic impacts of regional food development!

Learn about food enterprise hubs and distribution networks!





In love with wine? In love with the thought of starting a vineyard? Walk among the vineyards of RockSide Winery and Vineyard in Lancaster, Ohio for an evening of grape crop education with wine selections and tastings. Ron and Lynn Rutter started RockSide Winery in 2007 on a beautiful 17 acre spot among the rolling hills of Fairfield County near Lancaster and planted their first vines. Four years later in 2011 the winery and tasting room were built and the new winery was on its way! There are four and a half acres of Vinifera, French-American Hybrids, and Native American vines surrounding the RockSide Winery and tasting room. Varieties such as Cabernet Franc, Vidal Blanc, Chambourcin, Niagara, Corot Noir, among others, were chosen because of their ability to thrive in a climate that can be challenging to growing vines.

RockSide will present four selections of wines paired with select appetizers to stimulate your tastes. Understand the type of grapes grown and harvested in this region as well as the growing conditions and circumstances that are present in the soil and environment. Local wine from Rockside will be available for purchase during the tour. Enjoy social time with friends or family while discovering a local part of our region and the flavors that it holds!

DETAILS

Website: www.perrysoilandwater.wix.com/perry-swcd

Location: 109-A East Gay St., Somerset, Ohio 43783

Time: The tour will begin and end at the Perry SWCD Office and will start at 6:00 pm

Cost: \$25.00 and includes tastings and light appetizers

Registration: Please call the Perry SWCD office at 740-743-1325

Contact: Steve Glade at Perry SWCD: gladestev@gmail.com or call 740-743-1325

Date: Tour dates are flexible and will be posted on the Perry SWCD website. Group inquiries welcome.

Transportation: Transportation provided by the Perry SWCD

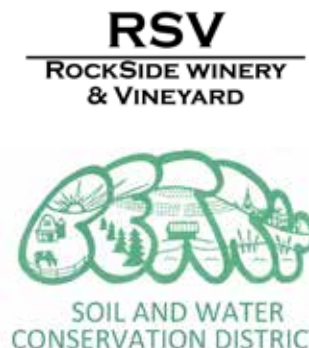
WHAT TO EXPECT!

Explore & taste various grapes varieties!

Learn about hardiness and methods used to overcome a variety of pests, viruses and growing conditions!

Social time for wine tasting with cheese and crackers!

Your own designated driver!



Spirits in the Hills

Experiences Bring Creativity to Destinations Along the Winding Road in Ohio's Rising Appalachia

By Alicia Caton

Moonshine, fine wine and local brews. All nestled within Ohio's Rising Appalachia. Moonshine, a significant part of Southeastern Ohio's history is still an integral part of the Appalachia heritage that is present among the hills of The Winding Road. In fact, every Memorial Day Weekend, you'll find the streets of New Straitsville filled with locals and travelers alike, celebrating together during the New Straitsville Moonshine Festival. Taste the famous Straitsville Special – New Straitsville's iconic moonshine still made in the town to this day. Escape to the beautiful vineyards that are settled within the hills of The Winding Road – Hocking Hills Winery, Shade Winery, Pleasant Hill (add) and Athens Uncorked will invite you to new opportunities to explore new flavors. Ohio's Rising Appalachia also has its share of remarkable craft beer. If you are unfamiliar with the variety of incredible craft breweries along The Winding Road, it's time to take a trip. With local favorites such as West End Cider House, Devil's Kettle Brewery (add?) & Little Fish Brewery in Athens, to Weasel Boy and their Paw Paw beer in Zanesville, there are plenty small scale and local favorites to check out. July in Athens offers the always anticipated festival, Ohio Brew Week – a 9 day long celebration of Ohio's best craft beer. Each July in Athens, the taps in Athens are overtaken by some of the best craft brews from around the state. This summer, July 15-23, uptown Athens becomes the mecca for beer brewers and beer lovers alike. A celebration to drink together and toast to good health. Local food is also a highlight of brew week and incorporates the taste and flavors of the craft beers that are paired with local flavors.

Ohio Brew Week, July 15-23, 2016 www.ohiobrewweek.com.

A great experience for any craft beer lover. Cheers!

Winding Road Spirits

Weasel Boy Brewing Co.

126 Muskingum Ave. Zanesville, OH 43701 (740)455-3767,

www.weaselboybrewing.com

Little Fish

8675 Armitage Rd. Athens, OH 45701

www.littlefishbrewing.com

Devil's Kettle

97 Columbus Rd. Athens, OH 45701

(740)589-7187

www.facebook.com/devilskettlebrewing

Shade Winery

401 Gilkey Ridge Rd., Shade, OH 45776

(740)696-1323

www.shadewinery.com

Hocking Hills Winery

30402 Freeman Rd. Logan, OH 43138

(740)385-7117

www.hockinghillswinery.com

Buckeye Lake Brewery

5176 Walnut Rd. Buckeye Lake, OH

43008 (740)536-6225

www.facebook.com/buckeyelakebrewery

Straitsville Special Moonshine

105 W Main St. New Straitsville, OH

(740)394-2622

www.facebook.com/straitsvillespecial-moonshine

Pleasant Hill Winery

5015 Pleasant Hill Rd., Athens, OH

45701 (740)502-3525,

www.pleasanthillvineyardsllc.com

JackieO's Pub & Brewery

24 W Union St., Athens, OH 45701

(740)592-9686,

www.jackieos.com

New Straitsville Moonshine Festival

May 26-30, 2016 (5pm Thursday & Friday, 11am Saturday, 12pm Sunday)

Ohio Brew Week

July 15-23, 2016,

www.ohiobrewweek.com

Chesterhill Farm Produce Auction



DETAILS

Website: ohiofoodshed.org

Location: 8380 Road, Chesterhill, Ohio 43728

Phone: 740-677-4047 or 740-554-7927 (on auction days)

For more information about the Chesterhill Produce Auction, please visit www.ohiofoodshed.org or contact auction manager Tom Redfern at 740-677-4047 or tomr@ruralaction.org

Auction runs May – October, every Monday and Thursday @ 4:00 pm

Nestled in rural Morgan County, folks of all ages and walks of life gather for the always anticipated food auction held every Monday and Thursday during the months of May-October. The Chesterhill Produce Auction is a “rural food hub” in Ohio’s Rising Appalachia that is operated by Rural Action with the help of community members. The produce auction serves as a marketplace for the local farmers and growers of rural areas and since its start in 2005, the auction now reaches hundreds of local and out of state buyers. The Chesterhill Produce Auction allows restaurants and local buyers to offer quality produce to their customers, friends, and family. Fresh locally grown produce is available in numerous to satisfy the needs of the buyer. This auction is far more than just a marketplace. This auction has helped the residents of this rural community come together to provide both social and economic support to their neighbors and community.

This is a true auction – both the buyer and the seller are provided with numbers, customers pay at the end of the auction, and the farmers and growers are paid weekly for what they sell. The layout of the auction is a beautiful sight to see and experience. Much of the fresh produce is transported to the auction by horse drawn buggies and is then elegantly displayed for the buyer to inspect prior to bidding. The Chesterhill Produce Auction has grown immensely in popularity and has created a commercial gateway to a rural community in Ohio’s Rising Appalachia

WHAT TO EXPECT!

A unique experience of rural Morgan County!

Fresh, locally grown produce available to the public in numerous quantities at auction!

Witness how food builds a community!

Know your farmer, know your food, know your foodshed!



Rural Action
Working Together to Revitalize Appalachian Ohio

Brewology



When you tip that glass of local beer, not only do you enjoy the unique and authentic taste--you feel good knowing that its locally brewed! How about taking that satisfaction to the next level?

Discover the local Somerset Herbs Farm owned by Rick Myers & Maragret Wentz. Our journey begins here where we begin our Brewology tour to understand the significance and connection between beer and the agriculture of hops. Experience the sight, smell, and feel of the hops that are crafted into our region's finest micro-brews.

With an agricultural co-op partnership opportunity, interested farmers can grow and harvest their own hops on Myers farm to be used in their own creation of local craft beer.

After touring Myers farm, the transportation-provided tour will depart to Buckeye Lake Brewery. Here we will tour the kitchen where the hops are processed, cooked, and mixed with herbs before their final stage. Tour goers will have the opportunity to sample a flight all eight of Buckeye Lake Brewery's home-brews. Food and other drink will be available for those who are interested in dining after the tour concludes.

Steve Glade, NAI Certified Interpretive Guide & AmeriCorps member will facilitate this tasteful and fun tour. Leave the driving to us!

DETAILS

Website: www.perrysoilandwater.wix.com/perry-swcd

Location: 109-A East Gay St., Somerset, Ohio 43783

Time: The tour will begin and end at the Perry SWCD Office

Cost: \$40.00

Registration: Please call the Perry SWCD office at 740-743-1325

Contact: Steve Glade at Perry SWCD: gladestev@gmail.com or call 740-743-1325

Date: Tour dates are flexible and will be posted on the Perry SWCD website. Group inquiries welcome.

Transportation: Transportation provided by the Perry SWCD.

WHAT TO EXPECT!

Discover the agricultural and historical significance of beer and hops!

Learn how hops are processed, prepared, and cooked!

Sample Buckeye Lake Brewery's 8 micro-brews!

Designated driver provided!



Service to America

Making a Difference in Ohio's Rising Appalachia



All hands on deck! A Rising Appalachia takes a variety of resources from grassroots entrepreneurs to fiscal investors; from experience creators and product developers to interested audiences and engaging promoters. If this movement is to be sustainable, the stewardship of our anchor assets, and environment, and our cultural heritage must be at the heart of this movement. This includes understanding and valuing these resources and having an ability to interpret their importance to visitors, students and local residents.

An important element of the confidence you will find on the pages of this Winding Road catalog come from our ability to build many of the resources identified above comes from members of the Ohio Stream Restore Corps, a program brought to the table by Rural Action, an Athens County-based membership driven non-profit that “envisions, a region of clean streams, healthy forests, thriving family farms, meaningful jobs for everyone, lively towns that remember local history and celebrate their stories, music, arts, and crafts, and people working together to make this vision a reality. Rural Action builds model sustainable development projects and encourages a broad civic conversation around Appalachian Ohio’s assets in order to create sustainable development paths for the region.”

Building on our 20 years of experience with the Corporation for National and Community Service’s AmeriCorps VISTA program, Rural Action launched its inaugural Rural Action Watersheds AmeriCorps program focusing on watershed restoration in Appalachia Ohio in 2009. This program underwent an expansion to 14 members and was renamed Ohio Stream Restore Corps, adding three new sectors of work: Environmental Education, Zero Waste, and Trail Maintenance/Access. Environmental Education activities have brought outdoor learning experiences to thousands of youth, trail Access/Maintenance has created or improved miles of trails, Zero Waste activities have cleaned up illegal dump sites and educated the public on local recycling options. Watershed restoration activities such as sampling and installation of treatment systems have documented higher pH levels and new fish species in streams previously uninhabitable.

Members range in age from 18-80, though younger members and retirees predominate the OSRC team. Younger AmeriCorps members are eager to live in the hills of Ohio, often extending stays began at Ohio University and Hocking College, or just following the trail of young people wanting to carve out a life in an environmentally and culturally alive region. Older members are looking for a meaningful sunset career that gives back to the community. Along with serving the community, members gain leadership and career skills, earn money for higher education, and learn how to be active citizens.

Support from the United States Department of Agriculture's Rural Business Development program grant to The Winding Road and Ohio's Hill Country Heritage Area has allowed AmeriCorps members to join with other creative entrepreneurs in the region to participate in a 32-hour Interpretive Guide course offered by the National Association of Interpreters allowing them to become Certified Interpretive Guides, a training aimed at museum docents, National Park rangers, and persons engaged in sharing heritage and the natural environment with the general public.

Wherever your travel along The Winding Road, keep on the lookout for motivated OSRC AmeriCorps members, often wearing Certified Interpretive Guide pins, who are prepared to share the story of our land and people, help care for the environment, understand and share the story, and help local communities to help themselves. Want to get involved? Ohio Stream Restore Corps (OSRC) applications are being accepted through June 30, 2016 for the start of a new one year term in August 2016.



"THE ARTS...



...communicate and speak to us in ways that teach literacy and enhance our lives. We must continue to find a place for arts programs and partnerships not only for what it teaches students about art, but for what it teaches us about the world we live in."

-Ann Rene Joseph

WoodSongs!



DETAILS

Website: www.tecumsehtheater.org

Location: Tecumseh Commons; 116 West Main St., Shawnee, OH 43782

Dates: WoodSongs! Hike, Saturday April 2, 1-5PM;
WoodSongs! Concert, Saturday, June 11, 8-11PM.

Cost: April 2 Hike (Free); June 11 Concert
(tickets available on-line at www.tecumsehtheater.org)

Note: Bring drinking water, hiking shoes & cameras. Expect rough terrain.

Registration: Advanced registration recommended at above website.

WHAT TO EXPECT!

Guided experience with engaging naturalists & local historians!

The spirited musical & song-writing talent of Jesse Henry!

A musical selfie! Describe/share your experience in song!

A second dose of WoodSongs! in a follow-up concert!

WoodSongs! is a unique collaboration where local and natural history come to life through song in the Appalachian Foothills. Join Columbus area singer-songwriter Jesse Henry for two events this Spring where the beauty of our natural and built landscapes will transform into song.

A free workshop on Saturday afternoon, April 2 will take participants on an walking tour through historic Shawnee, Ohio - the premier Little City of Black Diamonds - and into the Wayne National Forest which surrounds the town.

This guided experience will feature picturesque Tecumseh Lake and a hike on the Buckeye Trail led by a forest ranger and trail experts who will share the natural history, flora and fauna of the area. After the 1-1/2 mile hike, the group will kick back at the scenic lake to enjoy a short music concert put on by Henry, who is known for his lead singer role in the Colubus area band known as the Spike Drivers. Following the concert, Jesse will lead the group in a collective songwriting session. He will help foster lyrics and creativity with the group to complete a song about the shared experiences and inspiration of the day through the words of participants. The day will be documented through video, photographs, and an audio recording, shared online and sharable with your friends.

Jesse will return to the Tecumseh Commons in Shawnee on Saturday evening, June 11th with equally inspired musician friends for a concert at the Tecumseh Commons in Shawnee where the song written in April will be performed.



Tecumseh Theater Friends





DETAILS

Website: www.ahoot.org

Location: 126 Muskingum Ave Ste E, Zanesville, OH 43701

Date: Artist Reception, June 10, 7-9 pm, Judging and sale open to the public, June 11, noon to 5 pm. Judging to take place June 11 at 1:00.

Cost: Free

Contact: David Mitzel @ mitzel@ahoot.org or visit www.ahoot.org

WHAT TO EXPECT!

100 exceptional regional artists with works for sale at \$100 each!

Thousands in awards to area artists!

Local musicians, craft brewery beers, and locally sourced foods on the Muskingum River!

Ohio's Appalachian Winding Road from A-Z (Athens to Zanesville) is a regional effort to create networking opportunities and to focus community leaders upon the arts, local foods, and outdoor recreation, drivers of a strong economic development thrust that brands and expands tourism and attracts new creative settlers to Ohio's rising Appalachia.

Onehundred artists from Athens to Zanesville will be participating in the second Foot by Foot show and sale at the Weasel Boy Brew Pub in Zanesville, Ohio. The theme is The Winding Road A-Z. Each entry will be of a person, place or thing in Athens, Hocking, Morgan or Muskingum County. The goals of the event are to gather 100 artists from Southeastern Ohio together to start relationships, to get the attention of arts organizations previously unknown to the Artist Colony, to open the arts event to the public without the usual \$35.00 admission charge that always limited the audience to those who already valued the arts, and to have a great time appreciating the sights and sounds created by familiar and unfamiliar artists. The purchasers will be able to buy art by artists whose work they might not normally be able to afford. Proceeds from the event will be distributed in part to artist selected arts groups on the Winding Road. There will be a reception for the artists 7-9 pm on Friday, June 10. The artists will select one piece as the ARTISTS' AWARD. The artist whose work is chosen will receive a \$150. The other three awards of \$500, \$250 and \$100 will be announced by the judge at 1:00 P.M. on Saturday. The four winning works will be auctioned before the sale of all other pieces that day for \$100 each with \$50 to each artist to retain or donate to an arts group.



THE CLARKS Ohio Valley Opry



Ohio's premier country, bluegrass, and gospel music show- the Ohio Valley Opry takes the stage of the Twin City Opera House in McConnelsville the third Saturday night of each month.

The show was founded in September of 2000 by the Clark Family, who feel compelled to carry on the music passed down to them through generations of musicians. The OVO focuses on continuing traditional Appalachian values of love of life, God, family, and country, all the while providing an enjoyable evening of wholesome entertainment. Three generations of the musical Clark family perform at each show, along with other popular singers, musicians, and country-comics. A Branson type music show, nearly 100,000 patrons have filled the historic Morgan county opera house since it's onset.

Here are two upcoming shows to put on your calendar:

May 21st- Two Shows, 4pm and 8pm.
Nashville Recording Artist: Daryle Singletary and all the OVO regulars.

June 18th- Clark Family Gospel Homecoming Show- featuring the Clarks, Jimmy Howson, and The Connors.

The Ohio Valley Opry features quality local, regional, and national talent throughout the year. In addition to the 3rd Saturday shows, the OVO produces the "Twin City Christmas Show" which is held each year on the first Saturday in December.



DETAILS

Website: www.ohiovalleyopry.com

Location: 15 West Main Street, McConnelsville, Ohio 43756

Dates and Cost: See details this page and contact

Registration: Contact the Ohio Valley Opry @ ohiovalleyopry@yahoo.com or call 740-525-9218

WHAT TO EXPECT!

Branson-quality live music!

Best country music show in the state!

Family entertainment for all!

Toe-tapping variety show with outstanding entertainment!

Perry County Bronze Tour



Perry County is a home to a variety of bronze statues, old, new and in the planning. The transportation-provided tour begins and ends in Somerset, home to the county's most famous bronze statue, Civil War General Phil Sheridan on his horse in Public Square! At each stop, presentations will tell the story of the person being portrayed.

(Paragraph)

Not all statues are monuments to war heroes, however. In New Lexington journalist Januarius MacGahan is featured with a pen in hand. Next the tour heads south to Shawnee to view the Alan Cottrill sculpture entitled "Coal Miner", recently added to an interpretive park next to the Tecumseh Theater. An interpretive guide will join us to talk about the early coal mining business in the area. Connection before Heading north to Crooksville where the recently refurbished "World War I Doughboy" will be viewed. The statue was purchased by the community's school children at the end of World War I.

After a scrumptious lunch at the local Peaches Restaurant, the next leg of our tour is a visit to the Alan Cottrill Sculpture Studio and Gallery. The tour ends with a visit to Somerset to experience the Phillip Sheridan Statue and story. While in Somerset hear about a fund-raising drive for a new Allen Cottrill statue being planned for the Square featuring Nellie Sheridan, famed postmistress of the village

DETAILS

Website: www.perrysoilandwater.wix.com/perry-swcd

Website: www.perrysoilandwater.wix.com/perry-swcd

Location: 109-A East Gay St., Somerset, Ohio 43783

Time/Date: The tour will begin at and end at the Perry SWCD Office.

Tour dates are flexible and will be posted on the Perry SWCD website. Group tour inquiries welcome.

Cost: \$45.00

Registration: Please call the Perry SWCD office at 740-743-1325

Contact: Steve Glade at Perry SWCD: gladesteve@gmail.com or call 740-743-1325

WHAT TO EXPECT!

Guided experience with engaging local historian!

Behind the scenes tour of bronze gallery and studio!

In depth stories and history of county-wide sculptures!





Finely Crafted History!

By Tom O-Grady

Upon settling into Ohio's hilly country after the American Revolution it was not long before tradesmen, artisans, and craftsmen dug in as well. The raw materials of their trade were the natural resources extracted from the landscape. Some of the first craftsmen were the builders putting up homes and barns and mills for the pioneer farmers. These structures were made from the sticks and stones hewn from the forests and hillsides where they were raised and put under roof. Log cabins made from stacked trees that were squared off with notching on the ends to hold them together were some of the first structures dotting the Ohio wilderness. After establishing the homestead and farming operations among the primeval trees

pioneers had to erect barns and mills. The barnbuilders were highly skilled craftsmen that shaped local timbers from the forest and quarried stone from the hillsides. Wooden pegs held the frame together and the only metal in these early barns and mills were the hand cut nails that held the siding and wooden shingle or slate roofs to the frame. Many of these structures stand today as a testimony to the quality of their craftsmanship and they impart a quality to the landscape that helps define scenic Ohio. Wood products from Ohio's ancient forest were carved and sculpted into all of the familiar buildings of the farmstead and towns dotting the Ohio country. Artisans and craftsmen cut, shaped, and otherwise transformed the early forests into nearly every useful implement from the cradle to the coffin and the stir spoons used in the span between. Countless household and industrial needs were met by handily crafted tools, utensils, apparatuses, and devices fabricated by skilled workers whittling the needs of a new nation from the fibers of the forest. Crafts people continue to fashion useful items of native wood in many a workshop in Ohio's hilly region. A sea of clay underlies Ohio's hilly country landscape. The clay was used by artisans for the manufacture of pottery and the demand for their wares supported the growth of an industry. Earthenware plates and bowls and dishware sustained the growth of communities. The clay supported the expansion of an industry that made roofing tile, paver bricks, sewer pipe, and chimney pots. Beehive kilns were common in many a hill country town in eastern and southern Ohio. The East Liverpool skyline along the Ohio River was defined by the bottle shaped chimneys associated with the pottery kilns. Brick streets across Ohio and much of the nation are paved with bricks made of hill country clay fired in beehive kilns and these pavers bear the names of the towns and regions that produced them. Hocking Block, Carlyle Sciotoville, Middleport's Riverside Paver, Glouster Block, Townsend Block South Z.O. (Zanesville, Ohio), Medal Block from Minerva, in Carroll County, Nelsonville Block, Trimble Block. The list goes on. Arts and crafts of clay are made throughout the region today. Special grades of sandstone sediments as well as sand deposits from glacial outwash supported the growth of the glass industry. Glassrock in northern Perry County spurred the growth of a glass industry there and in Muskingum County where untold millions of elegant glass bottles were made for a myriad of uses, not the least of which was for decorative and named medicine bottles, as well as bottles for ink, snuff, whiskey and wine. Eventually raw materials were fired for milk bottles and fine dinnerware on the Ohio frontier. Glass blowing was an important occupation in the first century of Ohio's history. At the early stages of these industries artisans played a key role in design. In Fairfield County companies were making optical glass, cathedral, ornamental and window glass. The availability of natural gas in Fairfield County supported the growth and expansion of the glassmaking industry. Sandstones have been hewn from the bedrock of Ohio's hills since the earliest American and European pioneers entered the region. Foundations for the earliest buildings were all fashioned from hill country bedrock. In the early 1820's Ohio embarked on an extensive canal building initiative. With a 146 lift locks and numerous stone culverts



Photo Credit - Carri Wilbanks - Catch Carrie.com

of farming people. Primeval forests were supplanted by fields of grain, orchards, extensive gardens and pastureland. Trees retreated to farmsteads, along roadways and streams, in the recesses of ravines, and to other remote parts of the landscape. The encumbering wilderness of Ohio's hilly regions evolved into a more tame and pastoral scene. Supporting industries grew to can and bottle and package the expanded agricultural output. Food production and horticulture advanced in many areas to a level of craft beyond mere survival. New hybrids of fruits, vegetables and livestock were the handiwork of many. Today food production in Ohio's hills is a growing concern in many ways. Honey and maple syrup, salsas and sauces, chips and breads, pasta and pastries, milk and yogurt and ice cream, are part of a much longer list of products being wrested from the soils of Ohio's hills. Livestock and poultry are widely raised today as in the early settlement period and the products are available at farmer's markets and local stores. Hops are harvested for brewing ale and orchards and vineyards are supporting the growth of craft industries making hard cider and wine. Much of this food and beverage production is evident on the menus of many local eateries as well as in the landscape with special crops and animals in growing numbers. These efforts are circulating local dollars through local economies. The land has provided the resources and sustenance for hill country people for two centuries. The influence of the land is evident in the products being marketed. The land reflects the influence of the artists, craftsmen and farm folk that have shaped it as they have pursued their vocations and occupations for these couple of hundred years. Such are the results of people working with the raw materials of their native landscape in matters of expression and survival.

and stone piers for aqueducts at river crossings, hundreds of thousands of tons of rock were cut, shaped, and stacked in place to open up Ohio's hilly country for transportation of goods and raw materials into and out of the state. Right on the heels of the canal system the Ohio hills were mined for iron ore. To smelt the ore the stonemasons built monstrous charcoal iron furnaces. Many of these stone locks, aqueduct piers, iron furnaces, and bridge abutments remain hidden in the landscape but are being eagerly sought by the curious heritage seekers of today. The craftsmanship is evident upon first glance at these monumental but long forgotten structures. Grindstones were quarried from the earth in Washington County and eastern Athens County for a century to supply the mills in the big cities where agricultural implements were being forged. Once manufactured, the plows, scythes, sickles, and disks had to have an edge put on them. Tens of thousands of these rounded stones were hewn from the bedrock and loaded onto barges and rails and shipped into Cleveland, Akron, Canton, Dayton, Cincinnati, Columbus, Toledo and numerous smaller Ohio towns to put the finishing touches on these steel implements. The iron ores that were wrested out of the bedrock of the Hanging Rock Iron Region of Ohio's hills were fashioned into tools of industry, rails for transportation, bridges, and weapons of war in addition to many artistic applications. Wrought iron was used for decorative fences and gates, railings, furniture bases, beds, chandeliers, wine racks, candle holders and a multitude of other iron crafts. Initially, all of these industries were supportive and subordinate to the necessity of agricultural activity on the frontier. Food production for a sustainable existence in the newly inhabited wilderness was the priority and employed most of the labor. The landscape took on a new appearance under the stewardship and husbandry

HOWARD PELLER AND MADDY FRAIOLI

The Basket Farmer & Rosehill Design



Exploring the Natural Craft of Roseville's Natural Artisans: hand-crafted pottery & hookcraft nestled among a living willow homestead.

Discover the beauty and dedication of more than 30 years of professional study, design, and craftsmanship. Howard Peller, basket farmer and environmental steward to his natural environment, will provide a personal tour of his studio and farm located in Roseville, Ohio. The homestead, established in 1796, offers a vast amount of natural history and offers miles of native trails of wetland, upland forest, pollinator fields, meadows, and organic certified land for row crops. Here you will discover the process of growing, harvesting, and processing living plant materials for creating fine objects.

Take a creative journey through wife and partner, Maddi Fraioli's studio – Rosehill Design. The passion, vision, and life of Maddi Fraioli will offer you an inspirational experience to explore firsthand the delicate beauty of local hand-crafted pottery, handmade rugs, and the art of hookcraft. Take the passage to discover what makes Ohio's Rising Appalachia a special place to learn, live, and explore. A variety of beautiful crafts are available for purchase from the artisans' studios.

DETAILS

Tours Offered Daily – Must Call Ahead to Arrange Private Visit

The Basket Farmer, Studio: (740) 697-0027
Howard Peller
PO Box 156
7680 Rose Hill Road
Roseville, Ohio 43777

Additional Artisan details: www.basketfarmer.com & www.rosehilldesign.com

WHAT TO EXPECT!

*1876 homestead, stunning studios, and grounds!
Extraordinary hand-crafted products!
Warm and engaging hosts!*

ROSEHILL  DESIGN
HAND-CRAFTED POTTERY, RUGS AND HOOKCRAFTS FROM MADDY FRAIOLI



Finely Crafted In Ohio's Hill Country - September 18-19



'Finely Crafted Travel in Ohio's Hill Country', a guided thematic tour set for Sunday, September 18 and Monday, September 19, visiting sites in Fairfield, Perry, Muskingum, Morgan and Athens Counties over two-days.

The historic and contemporary products of artisans, craftsmen, purveyors of specialty foods and libations from the region will be featured. The tour will provide first hand contact with products and the people who create them, and explore how crafted products mark the culture of a place and how they are interrelated with the natural landscape of our region. The tour will connect visitors with artisans, clay products manufacturers, a microbrewery, historic buildings and much more!

Engaging activities, fine food and informed narration will make this event a not to be missed experience!

Watch for new tour sites for 2016 tour.

DETAILS

Website: ohiohillcountry.org

Tour Specifics: Tour sites to be determined and shared on website. The tour is a transportation-provided event (small bus), limited to 15 guests, with two meals provided each day (lunch-dinner) and overnight lodging on Sunday evening.

Cost: Tour cost is \$275.00 for non-members, \$250.00 for members, lodging on Sunday evening is \$115 double-room rate, taxes included.

Additional tour details and registration: www.ohiohillcountry.org
Contact: Michelle Robinson, 614-348-7909, mrobinson1200@att.net, ohiohillcountryheritagearea@gmail.com

WHAT TO EXPECT!

Arts and crafts of the region still draw from the history of the land.

Locally sourced artisan products.

Unique behind the scenes opportunities.



All Ohio Contemporary Ceramics Competition and Show - October 7-9



With the support of the Ohio Arts Council, the Yan Sun Art Museum and sponsors along Ohio's Appalachian Winding Road, the Appalachian Hills of Ohio Territory invites all Ohio ceramists (includes anyone who was born in, lived in, worked in, attended school or is submitting an Ohio-themed work to this competition) to enter one piece only in the inauguration of a new biennial competition with a \$2500 first prize, \$1000 second prize, \$500 third prize, and two \$250 honorable mention awards. In addition, a \$500 prize will be awarded to the piece voted most popular.

Entries must be created in 2015 or 2016. They may be functional or sculptural and fit upon a 20" by 20" pedestal top or wallhanging piece. All works are to be delivered from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. on Friday, October 7th, to the Yan Sun Art Museum at 604 Main Street in Zanesville. All artists are invited to attend the First Friday Art Walk from 5 P.M. to 8 P.M. that evening in the District. To compete in the Show, please register by September 15th at register@ahoot.org. An entry fee of \$15 is due with the delivery of the work.

All works will be offered for sale on Friday evening, Saturday and Sunday with 30% of each sale to be retained as commission. Purchasers of works and ceramists may choose to take their unsold work with them any time after the free artist reception and awards ceremony at 6:00 P.M. on Saturday at Weasel Boy Brewery until the close of Show at 5 P.M. on Sunday.

The Show will be the center-piece for the following activities that engage the Arts, Music, Local Foods, Craft beer, Wineries and Heritage and Outdoor Recreation in the Athens, Perry, Morgan and Muskingum County region on Ohio's Appalachian Winding Road A-Z.

DETAILS

Website: www.ahoot.org

Location: Yan Sun Gallery, 604 Main Street, Zanesville, Ohio 43701

Dates: October 7-9

Contact: David Mitzel @ mitel@ahoot.org or visit www.ahoot.org for more details

WHAT TO EXPECT!

*100 or more ceramic artists compete for \$5000
in prizes, judged by Christine Golden*

*Celebrating with the major funder of the event The Ohio Arts
Council the golden anniversary of public funding of the Arts in Ohio
Weasel Boy Brewery on the Muskingum River*





Brian Harnetty

DETAILS

Websites/Tickets: www.wexart.org/calendar;
www.brianharnetty.com; www.tecumsehtheater.org

Location/Dates: Wexner Arts Center, 1871 N High St,
Columbus, OH 43210 (October 27-28); Tecumseh Commons, 114 West Main Street,
Shawnee 43782 (October 29)

Lodging: Shawnee Show: www.stayburroak.com, www.explorehockinghills.com or www.athensohio.com

Contact: Brian Harnetty via e-mail at bharnetty@gmail.com What

WHAT TO EXPECT!

*A unique form of artistic expression & storytelling!
Consideration of a provocative story, past & present!
Meet the artist and hear a talented 7-piece ensemble live!*

The study of sound, and its expression through performance, is the passion of Columbus-based artist Brian Harnetty. His work will be featured in two premiere shows of Shawnee, Ohio (2016) at the Wexner Center for the Arts in Columbus this fall, followed by an appearance at the Tecumseh Commons in Shawnee.

Shawnee, Ohio considers these histories, evokes place through sound, and listens to the present alongside traces of the past. Harnetty reconnected with his ancestors' starting point in the Perry County coal mining town of Shawnee while working on his doctoral degree at Ohio University. Performed with sampled archives, field recordings and live musicians, Shawnee, Ohio (2016) critically engages ecology, energy, place and personal history to ask: What are the sounds of mining? Of fracking? Of a town fighting to survive after a century of economic decline and environmental degradation? Shawnee's history includes coal, gas and clay extraction, and the formation of early labor unions. The town's downturn and partial restoration acts as an ethos of the struggles and hopes of the larger region. The show considers these histories, evokes place through sound, and listens to the present alongside traces of the past with a pleasing overlay of live musicians and images.

Shawnee, Ohio (2016) was commissioned by the Wexner Center for the Arts at The Ohio State University. It will premiere at the Wexner on October 27-28 and travel to Shawnee's Tecumseh Commons on October 29. Shawnee, Ohio is a project of Creative Capital, and will be released on Dust-to-Digital Records in September.

wex



Creative
Capital

Tecumseh Theater Friends

Shoot the History - October 29



Shawnee, Ohio – a photographer's ghost town:

Take part in a one of a kind workshop in Historic Shawnee facilitated by the very talented Bobbie Teal, adjunct professor of photography at Columbus State Community College, on Saturday, October 29th, 2016. This workshop is a historical and architectural composition based photo shoot geared towards advanced beginner photographers familiar with DSLR, Photoshop or Light Room.

Students must have their own camera and computer. The day will begin with a delicious breakfast followed by a lecture and a full hour of photo freedom in the historic Tecumseh Theater.

A full lunch will be included in the afternoon with another photo shoot session of Main Street Shawnee; a time to capture the streets, buildings, cemetery, and other points of interest.

A lab and critique session will end the day and give the group an opportunity to share experiences and their work.

Group size is limited to 10-15 participants and tickets are \$100/person. This will be a full day workshop that will take place both indoors and outside. Be sure to dress appropriately and of course, don't forget to bring the camera! In case of inclement weather, a rain date will be set for Sunday, October 30th, 2016.

DETAILS

Website: <https://ohiosappalachianwindingroad.org/>

Location: Tecumseh Theater, Shawnee, Ohio

Time: 8am-5pm, Breakfast served 8am-9am, Lunch served from 12:00pm - 1:00pm.

Cost: \$100 per Individual

Registration: Please call or email Bobbie Teal, B. Art. Ed, M. A., Photography and Film

Phone: (614)404-1344 or bobbietealphotography@yahoo.com

Additional Artist details: <http://www.bobbietealphotography.com/>

WHAT TO EXPECT!

*Private access to the Historic Village of Shawnee
and historical points of interest!*

Professional photography lab and critique!

Stunning and unique settings!





HERITAGE

'We can see it in the buildings, townscapes, and even in archeological remains. It is preserved through books, artifact, objects, pictures, photographs, art, and oral tradition. It is in the food we eat, the clothes we wear, and the skills we learn. Sometimes we can touch and see what makes up a culture and a heritage... other times it is intangible...'

-Maunicio Salgado

The Asylum Tour



“The Ridges” – Athens Asylum Walking Tours Journey around the cherished historical destination of Southeastern Ohio – learn about its past stories, history, and future in Ohio’s Rising Appalachia.

George Eberts, an expert on the history of the Athens Asylum or “The Ridges,” will lead an outdoor walking tour of the asylum grounds. The tour will last approximately two hours. Eberts, a former employee of the Athens Asylum, has been giving these tours for several years. George will captivate you with his depth of knowledge as well as tell you the real stories of what life was like for the residents, as well as the employed, at the Asylum.

Hear about the resident Alligator, look at the names left carved into the woodwork and hear the sad tale of the “lost lady.” Your tour guide will fascinate you with how the “Lunatic” Asylum began as well as educate you on the history of mental health and psychiatry that made the Athens Asylum one of the largest in Ohio.

Contact: Athens County Historical Society & Museum, (740) 592-2280

Additional Artist details: www.athenshistory.org

DETAILS

Tour that always fills up quickly – so be sure to reserve your spot right away!
ALL ASYLUM TOURS WILL BE HELD ON THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH FROM 2:00PM-4:00PM UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

Tours start from the main steps of Ohio University’s Kennedy Museum of Art center located at the top of North Ridge Drive – 100 Ridges Circle is the address for Garmin and navigation tools.

Tickets are \$10.00 with an Athens County Historical Society & Museum membership, or \$15.00 each for 12 and over. This is a walking tour and will cover the entire outside loop of the grounds so if you have small children, bring a stroller! For more information or to purchase tickets, call Athens County Historical Society & Museum at (740) 592-2280.

WHAT TO EXPECT!

Tour the beauty and history of Athens most beloved architectural wonder!

Learn the tales of the Aylum told by expert George Eberts!

Winding Road Opera Houses

Most communities of size in The Hocking Valley joined the opera house movement that spread through the midwest during the late 1800's & early 1900's.

Built either by fraternal organizations, private owners or town governments, they towered above other buildings in town & served as the entertainment destination for miners & their families long before radio and television.

Perry County

Knights of Labor (pythias) Opera House • Shawnee**

Redmen's Hall/tecumseh theater • Shawnee**

Hughes Opera House • Shawnee***

City Opera House • New Lexington**

Miller's Hall • Hemlock

Oddfellows Hall • New Straitsville

Monahans Opera House • Corning

Kiener's Hall • Moxahala

Crooksville Opera House • Crooksville

Athens County

Buchtel Opera House • Buchtel

IOOF Hall • Buchtel

Stuart's Opera House • Nelsonville*

Knights of Pythias Opera House • Nelsonville

Knights of Pythias Hall • Jacksonville**

Gordon's Opera House • Glouster***

Athens Opera House (City Hall) • Athens***

Morgan County

Union Hall • Chesterhill*

Twin City Opera House • McConnelsville*

Hocking County

Rempel's Opera house • Logan***

* Operating

**Under or awaiting restoration

***Standing, But Upper Floors removed or Re-Purposed

Centers for Culture, Beacons of Hope! Historic Opera Houses Serve As Anchors for Rebuilding Communities

By April Smith

Many beautiful opera houses were built in southeastern Ohio during the late 1800's to early 1900's as a way to entertain growing communities. They also served as town halls in many locations. Most communities in the Hocking and Muskingum Valleys that had large populations joined in the opera house movement including (but not limited to) Corning, Buchtel, Chesterhill, McConnelsville, Nelsonville, New Lexington, Shawnee, Glouster, Crooksville, and Hemlock. Whether built by fraternal organizations, private owners, or town governments, most opera houses towered above other buildings in town with the theater space being located on the upper floors, with the first floor being reserved for commercial space.

The role of opera houses during this era was significant. They were the common space in town. Under one roof they brought together the entire community. Opera House historian William Condee of Ohio University muses, "You would often find mineworkers and their children, shopkeepers and their customers, Catholics and Protestants, and at times blacks and whites, all congregating under one roof."

Unfortunately the birth of television and radio ultimately led to the demise of most opera houses by the mid 1900's. They became symbols of the decline that beset the coal region. Many of these opera houses were left to fall in on themselves, got torn down, or were just never thought of again.

Today, however, the restoration of our opera houses plays a key role in bringing new vitality and hope to struggling downtowns and historic districts, much as they did years ago. They bring people together who are thirsting for community and culture in a society where they are often separated. As you travel along the Winding Road keep an eye out for operating and "under restoration" opera houses in the downtowns. Usually, where you find an active opera house, you will find community pride and activity. Stuart's Opera House in Nelsonville is such an example. Restoration for Stuart's started in 1977 and came to an abrupt halt after a fire destroyed much of the restoration. With perseverance and a strong belief that this building could turn things around for their community, volunteers were able to finish restorations and open the opera house in the late 1980's. Since then it has become a hot destination for Americana and Roots music fans, tourists and locals alike to enjoy a concert, community theater, or public meeting or exhibit.



Ticket Window at Shawnee's Tecumseh Theater Awaits Restoration

It has spurred the Nelsonville Music Festival, new art galleries, restaurants and downtown events that are the focal point of popular monthly Final Friday on Public Square gatherings.

In McConnelsville, the Twin City Opera House has remained open continuously since its birth in the late 1800's. Its revitalization as a movie theater and home for The Ohio Valley Opry (see story page 38) brings hundreds of visitors to downtown McConnelsville each weekend. In nearby Chesterhill the story is similar, as the Union Hall Opera House has served as a magnet for visitors who attend the Annual Ribs, Rhythm & Blues there.

Another fine example of a community working hard to preserve their history and culture is the Tecumseh Theater located in Shawnee, Ohio. In 1977 a local man heard that the water logged "skyscraper" was going to be demolished and he convinced the owner to instead sell it to him for \$500. Many towns people then volunteered their time and supplies to fix the roof. Today the 1st floor of this magnificent building has been finished and is used for concerts, workshops, meetings, and rent to the public for special occasions, including Winding Road events (see WoodSongs, page 36 and Shooting History, page 46). This building has become a beacon of hope for a small town on the brink of destruction—attracting interest in the opera house that is still under restoration, another one up the street and this town and neighboring New Straitsville's significant history more people to see this diamond in the rough.

The opera house fever is spreading to other communities, including New Lexington, just 10 miles north of Shawnee. The Perry County Commissioners saved the City Opera House from the wrecking ball when the City of New Lexington moved their city offices to a new building. History and arts come together at the opera house. Its also where energy for a Rising Appalachia is likely to be found!

Mineral Region Tour: Coal, Clay, Culture, Labor & Land



This guided tour focuses on the provocative history of the Hocking Valley Coal Boom Era (1870-1925) in southeastern Ohio and its environmental and cultural legacy that continue to leave their mark today. Dozens of “little cities” appeared ‘as if by magic’ when rival railroads pierced the rugged hills to the east of the Hocking River at the end of the Civil War. Investors seeking access to the “Great Vein” of coal rapidly built towns and recruited immigrants from Europe and African Americans from the post-Civil War South to work their mines and fuel America’s Industrial Revolution.

Expert local historians guide visitors to sites and re-enactments that best tell the story that brings this nationally significant story to light including: the pioneering role of miners here in the early labor union movement; the breaking of the color barrier by African Americans who joined European immigrants to labor here, and the degradation of the forest and streams during the “unregulated era” of mineral extraction and the century long struggle to recovery.

The story is anchored in coal, but can not be told without exposure to clay and oil extraction, as well as the vibrant culture of these melting pot communities where newly arriving immigrants daily brought their customs to America. Learn how boom-to-bust mining towns are rebuilding themselves with stops in communities such as Nelsonville, New Straitsville, Shawnee, Corning and Rendville telling the story. Opera Houses, secret union meetings, acid mine drainage clean up, Victorian-era architecture, the Wayne National Forest and entertainers bring this story to life on a day you won’t soon forget! Lunch and transportation provided!

DETAILS

Web: www.littlecitiesofblackdiamonds.org

Location: Begins & ends on Public Square, Nelsonville, Ohio 45764.

Dates: A series of dates are available for this tour depending on demand. Go to web site above to register for dates you can attend and details about confirmation of tour. This tour is also available for groups of 8 or more, or for step-on guides.

Note: Outdoor sites are visited requiring appropriate dress for weather and sturdy shoes. Transportation is by van. Hearty lunch and snacks provided.

Cost: \$85 per person

Contact: Little Cities of Black Diamonds at 740-394-3011 or lcbdochio@gmail.com.

Lodging: See website for lodging options

WHAT TO EXPECT!

Learn about the pioneering pole of Hocking Valley Miners in the nation’s early Labor Movement.

Be inspired by the historic breaking of color barriers by African Americans .

Visits behind the scenes locations not available to the public!, guided by local historians.

Be inspired by environmental & civic projects aimed at recovery & restoration.



Anthropology Alive!



Have you ever considered being an anthropologist for a day? Anthropologists examine humans and human culture in all their diversity. The Appalachia Population History Project is a long term research project with the aim of examining local history and culture conducted by Dr. Nancy Tatarek and her students in the Anthropology program at the Ohio University College of Arts & Sciences. Begun two years ago, the project combines archival, genealogy research and cemetery field studies to form a picture of local population history. The project has recently included focused attention on the health and medical records of coal miners and their families in the Little Cities of Black Diamonds community of Buchtel, located near Nelsonville in northern Athens County. Visitors participating in Anthropology Alive! will learn how such research is conducted. The experience will begin at Ohio University in the Anthropology Department. Participants will receive a brief training session focusing on the project and its research. By afternoon you will become part of the research team! Assisted by Dr. Tatarek and her students, you will help locate the records and history of one of the historical families in the project. After the classroom session, the group will move to St. Patrick's Cemetery to connect the records with the stones found there. Dr. Tatarek will also provide a short synopsis of some field research techniques. Lunch and transportation is provided during this day long experience.

DETAILS

Website: www.littlecitiesofblackdiamonds.org
Location: Begins & ends at Ohio University, Athens, Ohio 45701 (Building and room location to be announced with registration confirmation).
Dates: A series of dates are available for this tour depending on demand. Go to web site above to register for dates you can attend and details about confirmation of tour. This tour is also available for groups of 8 or more, or for step-on guides.
Cost: \$68 (Includes lunch & transportation to Buchtel and back.)
Note: Bring drinking water, sturdy shoes & cameras. Cemetery may not be accessible to physically disabled individuals and is not wheelchair accessible.
Registration: On-line advanced registration at above website.

WHAT TO EXPECT!

*Gain hands-on experience with the work of anthropologists!
 Explore the lives of Hocking Valley Coal miners a century ago!
 Visit historic coal town cemetery, church & community.
 Experience one the nation's most scenic & idyllic college towns.*



Sociology & Anthropology



St. Mary's of the Hills Catholic Church

Glenford Stone Fort - July 9



A rare opportunity! Glenford Fort is a name not yet recognized by most Ohioans, but that is about to change! A coalition had formed to raise the public's consciousness of this ancient Adena-Hopewell Ceremonial site and to save a critical sixty-five acre portion of the complex that recently came up for sale. The substantial remainder of Glenford Fort is located on private land owned by the Cooperrider family. For this special event, family members are making their portion of the earthworks available enabling hikers to see the entire complex. Something that happens only once a year!

The event will commence rain or shine and is approximately one mile on uneven terrain. Please wear comfortable shoes and clothing that is appropriate for a hike in the woods. The cost of the event is a suggested donation of \$10.00 which will offset the cost of a hot lunch, which is prepared over an open fire within the fort.

DETAILS

July 9, 2016 - 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

DIRECTIONS TO THE GLENFORD FORT:

FROM COLUMBUS: Take Interstate 70 East to St. Rt. 13 south. Follow St. Rt. 13 until you come to St. Rt. 204 (signs will be posted) to Glenford, approximately six miles. Turn right on OH 757 (signs will be posted). Follow OH 757 until you come to TWP. Rd. 19. Signs will be posted to the parking area.

FROM SOMERSET: From St. Rt. 13 at north end of Somerset, turn right on St. Rt. 757. Follow to TWP Rd. 19. Signs will be posted to parking area.

Please contact John & Judy McGaughey via e-mail at jjmccgaughey@gmail.com or by telephone at 740.987.4862 for more information.

Special Guests! Dr. Brad Lepper, with the Ohio History Connection, will speak on the world significance of the Glenford Fort. Ms. Nancy Stranahan, of the Arc of Appalachia will follow sharing information on the work of the coalition and how you can help.

This property is the start of our partnership with the PCHCAS. Through the efforts of many people, this property is now owned by the Perry County SWCD and protected forever as a treasure of Perry County. The Perry County SWCD has the honor and responsibility to protect and open this ancient Native American site for everyone. A permanent endowment has been created with the Perry County Community Foundation to offset the cost of operating/maintaining this historic marvel of Perry County. Please remember the Perry County SWCD "Glenford Fort" endowment. Donations of any amount will work in perpetuity for this historic site.

WHAT TO EXPECT!

*Significant ancient Adena-Hopewell historical site
Triangular or heart-shaped stone wall enclosing a 26-acre-hilltop
Rich interpretation of site and ancient culture
Experience beautiful surroundings*

Fest with Us!

By Alicia Caton

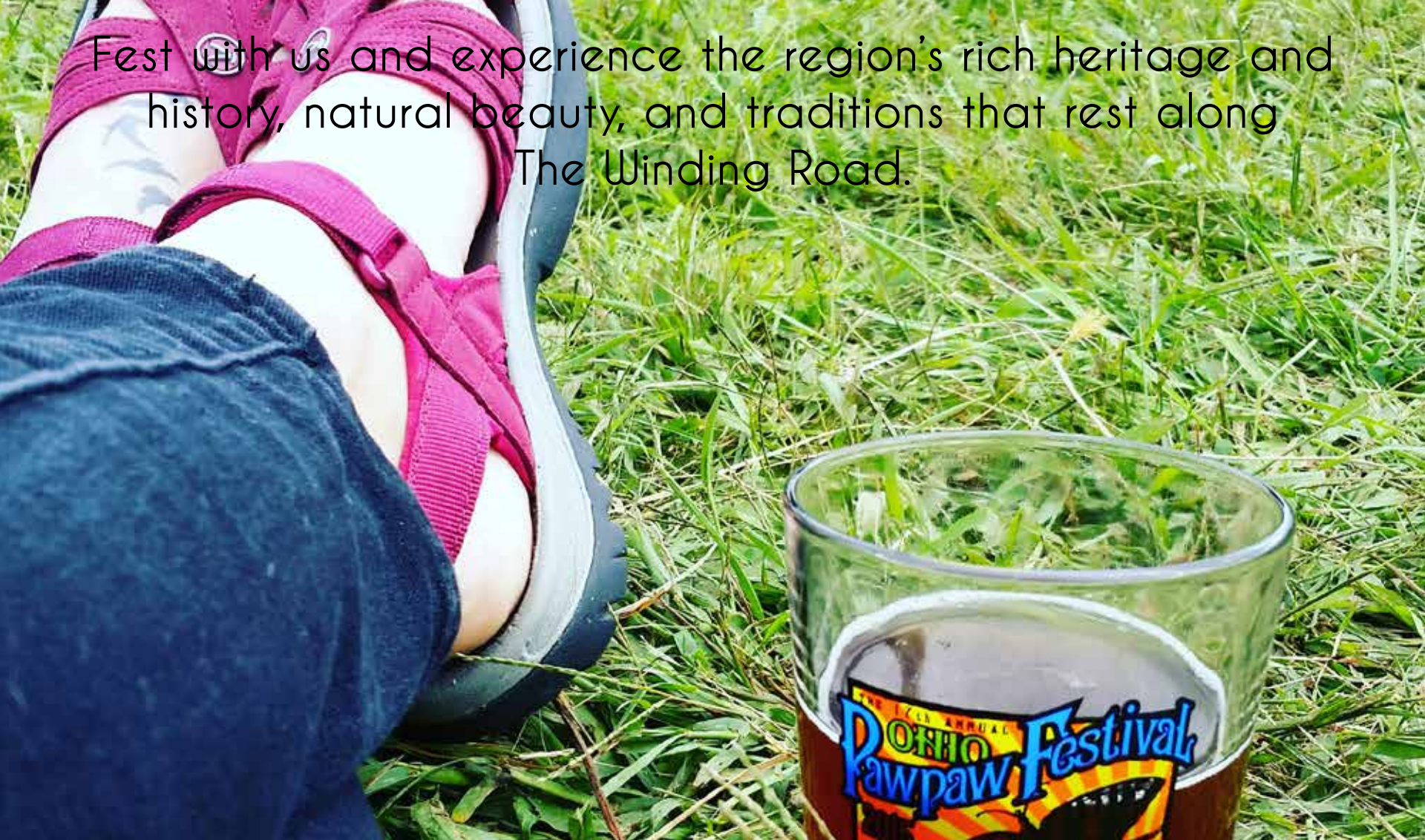


The rolling hills of Southeastern Ohio set amongst the falling sun. A stage resonating with soul and song. Hundreds of your closest friends and neighbors gather together. And of course, plenty of food & brew that stimulate your soul and senses. Festivals add structure to our social lives and connect us with our families and backgrounds. Festivals allow communities and cultures to celebrate their heritage and traditions. Festivals allow us to take a break from the routine of our lives and allows us to be inspired to remember the importance of our past and future. Ohio's Rising Appalachia has a unique variety of festivals that connect our culture to our communities.

Home to one of the best music festivals in the Midwest, Ohio's Rising Appalachia provides the perfect setting for one of the most anticipated and eclectic musical gatherings, the Nelsonville Music Festival. A four day festival in June, the NMF supports the region's historically cherished Stuart's Opera House and the reputation of arts within the region. All genres come together during this annual summer festival to preview some of the finest musicians both upcoming



Fest with us and experience the region's rich heritage and history, natural beauty, and traditions that rest along The Winding Road.



and iconic. From Loretta Lynn, Iron & Wine, Andrew Bird, and Merle Haggard to The Flaming Lips and Randy Newman – this festival never disappoints. A festival for families and friends – camp on site, experience the local vendors, and participate in a variety of activities. www.nelsonvillefest.org , June 2-5, 2016.

If you're fond of fruit, then the Ohio Pawpaw Festival is the event for you. Celebrating America's largest native tree fruits, the Pawpaw (*Asimina triloba*), this community event is educational, energetic, and filled with flavor. This three-day event set amongst Lake Snowden in Albany, Ohio, highlights the history and future possibilities of the pawpaw through foods, lively entertainment, local craft and art, and local businesses. Spectate the popular pawpaw eating contest or admire the best pawpaw-related work of art. This event and supporting organizations have dedicated time and efforts to identifying and developing strategies to protect the region's natural, cultural, recreational, and economic resources that form Ohio's Rising Appalachia. www.ohiopawpawfest.com , September 16-17, 2016.

Celebrate Ohio's Appalachia roots during the Morgan County Heritage Day Festival. With live music to pay homage to our culture and history, local fare to rouse your taste buds, and engaging activities for our children, this festival will take you back to a time when life was set at a different pace. This fall festival is one you surely don't want to miss out on. www.visitmorgancountyohio.com , October 15th, 2016 12pm-6pm, Admission is Free



DETAILS

Website: www.ohiohillcountry.org or www.ohiosappalachianwiningroad.org

Location: Tour begins and ends at Burr Oak State Park Lodge, 10660 Burr Oak Lodge Road • Glouster, Ohio 45732.

Time: 9AM Monday, August 9 to 6PM, Tuesday, August 9, 2016

Cost: TBD: Estimate \$195 per person (includes 3 meals, transportation)

Lodging: \$100/110 per room (single/double occupancy)

Registration: On line at www.ohiosappalachianwiningroad.org

Contact: Ohio's Hill Country Heritage Area; P O. Box 114; Shawnee, Ohio 43782; @gmail.com or call 740-394-2852.

Note: This tour involves significant van/bus travel on winding roads and requires moderate amounts of walking with some uneven surfaces.

WHAT TO EXPECT!

Provocative stories of courage, creativity & accomplishment

Guides who are intimate with the past & current story.

Excellent food, entertainment and accommodations.

Hidden in the steep hills and narrow valleys of southeastern Ohio are remarkable, but fading, stories of men and women who bravely broke the color barrier after they and their families crossed the Ohio River into Ohio's Hill Country throughout the 19th and 20th Century.

The region's relative homogenous population does not lead one to expect stories of state and national significance involving African Americans. However, to the contrary, abundant examples exist that still impact the region today. Join a spirited group of guides, ranging from community organizers and descendants of early trailblazers, to scholars and contemporary leaders as this landmark experience will give consideration to events and sites dating back to the Revolutionary and Civil Wars. Learn about Quakers and the Underground Railroad at Chesterhill, Ohio's first public university and an all-black trade school at Athens, the second state capital at Zanesville, and an accidental social experiment during the coal boom era at Rendville where African Americans became pioneers in the nation's labor union movement.

This guided bus/van tour includes lodging at the scenic Burr Oak State Park Lodge, a taste of regional foods and performance, and visits to African American churches, cemeteries and the region's pride and joy, Ohio University, where many early African American milestones were set.



PERRY COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Gravestone and Randolph Mitchell House Tour



The viewing of early Somerset cemeteries and the Randolph Mitchell House tour is an amazing voyage through time. There are those of us who enjoy walking around old cemeteries to see their ancient stonecarving. It is an actual art form to be celebrated, you see, this local talent using chisel and hammer. If this describes how you feel about tombstone carving then come with us to enjoy the history you can only find in these unique places. This tour certainly has something you will not want to miss.

This historical tour is popular among locals and travelers alike. The day starts with a wonderful lunch at the Clay Haus Restaurant. The full tour departs on the Mt. Airy Transit to see part of the earliest portion of Zanes Trace. The bus pulls into the Randolph Mitchell House and everyone unloads. The “L” shaped house is all brick and was completed in 1828. It is in the federal style which dominated the better architecture of the day. Recently owner, Doug Price, has undertaken on the huge job of restoring the once dilapidated structure. It’s not finished but, the outside is almost completely restored. We will leave the Mitchell House and visit the next door cemetery. It is filled with the earliest graves in the area. The stones are carved in the New England Style. Two other early cemeteries will be visited after the New Reading Cemetery. The day’s activities conclude with an interesting rendition of the mysterious “Horse Shoe Grave”. Hiking is moderate over flat ground.

DETAILS

Website: www.perrysoilandwater.wix.com/perry-swcd

Location: 109-A East Gay St., Somerset, Ohio 43783

Time: The tour will begin and end at the Perry SWCD Office at 6:00 pm

Cost: \$35.00

Registration: Please call the Perry SWCD office at 740-743-1325

Contact: Steve Glade at Perry SWCD: gladesteve@gmail.com or call 740-743-1325

Date: Tour dates are flexible and will be posted on the Perry SWCD website

WHAT TO EXPECT!

*Well informed interpretive guides who know their story!
Discover the ancestry, history, and art of stone carving!*

*Lunch at historic Somerset landmark!
Exclusive tour of private historic home!*





In 1869, an intersection of destinies in the coal-fields of southeastern Ohio transformed the face of organized labor and the lives of working men and women to this very day. Engage in consideration of the role of labor past and present by participating in this informative experience that shares a provocative story.

Travel the path of early labor pioneers from the canal and railroad eras on this one-day guided tour available to groups and individuals via demand scheduling. Follow the story of immigrant laborers ready for change who settled the coal camps and fought for power over their own lives. Learn about the idealism and legacy of the Knights of Labor to the diversity of leadership and progress that led to the formation of the United Mine Workers of America after the great Hocking Valley Coal Strike of 1884-85.

The tour focuses on historic sites in the towns of Nelsonville, New Straitsville, Shawnee, Corning and Rendville. It will feature the lives of pioneers in the nation's labor movement from the Hocking Valley Coal Fields including Chris Evans and Richard L. Davis. Local historians and theatrical performance bring presentations to life at various stops. Van transportation and lunch is provided.

DETAILS

Web: www.littlecitiesofblackdiamonds.org

Location: Begins & ends on Public Square, Nelsonville, Ohio 45764.

Dates: A series of dates are available for this tour depending on demand. Go to web site above to register for dates you can attend. Confirmation will be provided when an adequate group is formed on a particular date. This tour is also available for groups of 8 or more, or for step-on guides.

Note: Outdoor sites are visited requiring appropriate dress for weather and sturdy shoes. Transportation is by van. Hearty lunch and snacks provided.

Cost: \$85 per person

WHAT TO EXPECT!

Well informed interpretive guides who know their story!

Visits to behind the scenes locations not available to the public!

Opportunity to compare contemporary and historic labor issues!





EDUCATION

If we want our children to flourish and be empowered, then we must first allow them to love their natural environment before we ask them to save it.

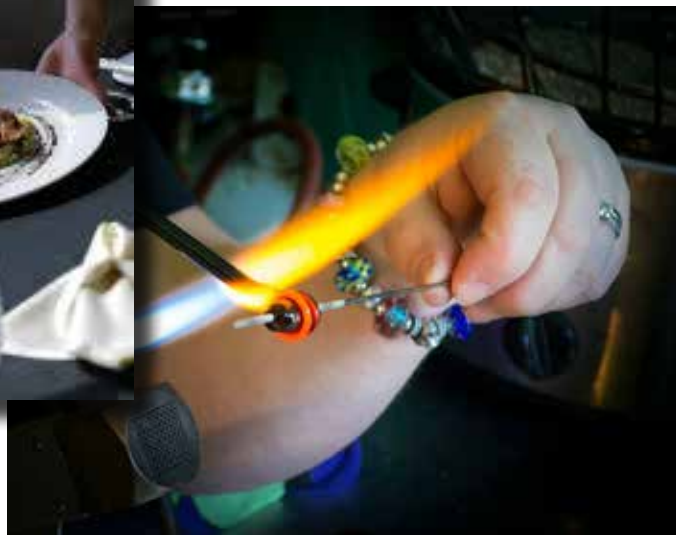
HOCKING COLLEGE Leisure Learning

Hocking College offers a variety of leisure learning classes that are focused on creating a rich, creative environment that inspires life-long learning. Classes are hands-on, fun and educational! These affordable non-credit classes are held in various locations both on the Hocking College campus and in the surrounding community. Anyone is welcome — you do not have to be a Hocking College student or employee to participate. Whether you are continuing your education, learning a new skill, or investigating a new hobby, Leisure Learning offers something for everyone!

All classes are held at The Inn at Hocking College, 15770 OH-691, Nelsonville, OH 45764.

For registration and more information, please contact Sean Terrell, Director of Special Programs, by phone at 740.753.7132 or by email at terrells@hocking.edu.

Are you interested in teaching a leisure learning class? We are always looking for new classes. If you have a skill or knowledge you would like to share, contact Sean Terrell, Director of Special Programs by phone at 740.753.7132 or by email at terrells@hocking.edu.



Tea Time

Instructor: Chef Katie McGushin

Date: Saturday, May 28th

Time: 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Cost: \$40

Chef Katie treats students to a variety of amazing tea-time recipes, including how to brew the perfect cup.

Five Meals in Five Days

Instructor: Chef Katie McGushin

Date: Saturday, June 18th

Time: 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Cost: \$75

Chef Katie shows you how to make a week's worth of delicious meals in one day!

Vitamix

Instructor: Master Chef Vincenzo “Enzo” Sclama, CMC-G

Date: Saturday, July 23rd

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Cost: \$70

Master Chef Vincenzo “Enzo” Sclama and the Vitamix team share tips and tricks for incorporating the Vitamix blender into your daily cooking routine. Using the freshest farm to table ingredients, Enzo will share recipes and techniques for creating an amazing 4 course meal using the Vitamix blender. Come see why Vitamix has become the most trusted name in blenders among chefs and industry professionals.

Modern Pork Butchery I

Instructor: Certified Master Chef Alfonso

A. Contrisciani, CMC

Date: Saturday, June 18th and Saturday,
June 25th, 2016

Time: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Cost: \$195

A must-take class for professional chefs and charcuterie enthusiasts, Modern Pork Butchery provides an extensive study of pork production including raising pork, various pork breeds and usage, in-depth pig breakdown, pork cuts, smoking and curing, fabricating sausage and recipes that incorporate every section of the pig. This class is recommended for local chefs and serious food enthusiasts.

Paddle Board at Lake Snowden

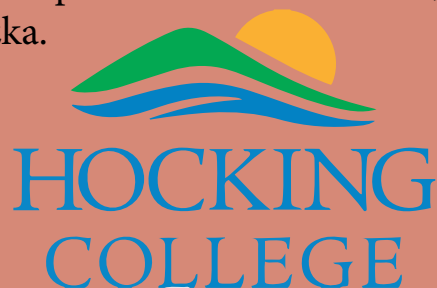
Instructor: Patrick Griszka

Date(s): Mondays and Fridays throughout
June and July

Time: 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Cost: \$20 each class

There's no better way to enjoy the beauty of Lake Snowden than on the lake and atop a paddle board! This summer, Hocking College will offer paddle boarding classes on Monday and Friday evenings from 5:30-7:30, hosted by local paddle board expert and athletic trainer, Patrick Griszka.





DETAILS

Web: www.ohio.edu/global/goglobal/programs/global-cities.cfm

Location: Ohio University, Athens, Ohio 45701

Dates: July 18-29, 2016

Cost: Student and Non-Student rates apply.

Registration: Contact Dr. Mariana Dantas

Contact: Dr. Mariana Dantas, dantas@ohio.edu

Lodging: Participants may seek interim housing through Residential Housing at Ohio University

WHAT TO EXPECT!

Visit Columbus Council on World Affairs, Global Columbus Initiative, and Columbus International Festival Committee!

Visit the Little Cities of Black Diamonds mining district!

Film series and discussion with faculty and visiting scholars!

Global Athens: a scavenger hunt of local businesses & organizations that engage global audiences and markets!

Southeastern Ohio's mining towns were once a melting pot of newly arriving immigrants. Today, just 60-plus miles away, the Midwest's fastest growing city is becoming an international mecca while college town Athens celebrates its international flavor as well. Ohio University is using these examples to launch a unique and exciting two-week summer program that offers the opportunity to investigate the trendy and controversial notion of the global city. Participants will have the opportunity to hear from and work closely with international scholars studying cities and globalization in various parts of the world. The program's film series will discuss popular, documentary, and cult movies that depict the urban challenges and promises of real and fictional cities. Students will visit sites in Athens, the old mining towns of Southeast Ohio, and Columbus to investigate ways in which globalizing forces have and continue to affect urban geographies, populations, and economies. Supported by classroom instruction and discussion, the many activities of the Global City, Past and Present program will help non-enrolled and enrolled Ohio University undergraduate students, graduate students, and postgraduate professionals critically examine the idea of the global city in a historical, contemporary, and applied perspective. Ohio University course credit is available.



Office of Global
Opportunities

The Region As A Classroom!

Creating An Atmosphere for Learning and Youthfulness!

By John Winnenberg

What might success look like along for the Winding Road initiative? In southwestern Virginia's Crooked Road region, a coal impacted Appalachian Region similar to southeastern Ohio, the answer is simple according to Todd Christensen who has been sharing his Crooked Road experiences with Winding Road stakeholders over the past year. "Ultimately, our goal is to substantially increase the number of educated 18-35 year olds who stay and or relocate here," says Christensen. "If a community is going to thrive, it has to have creative, young, professional people who want to live there, start businesses, raise children and take an active role in their community." We agree! We agree, and we expand upon that concept by saying an experiential learning strategy is at the heart of making the hills of Ohio a great place to live, work and visit. Its at the heart of our "Rising Appalachia" strategy.

As has been suggested by options made available in this Winding Road Experiences Guide, and in Jennifer Simon's Why I Live in Athens County! article on page, Ohio University and Hocking College currently contribute to an atmosphere of youth and learning in the region. However, institutional behavior doesn't always encourage campus-community partnerships, it has to be kindled. Winding Road leaders are doing that with representatives of these institutions of higher learning participating as we move forward. This strategy also includes Ohio University branch campuses in Zanesville and Lancaster, Hocking College branch campuses in New Lexington and Logan and Zane State College in Zanesville. Public school leaders should be warned that they are the next target. Leaders in the Winding Road initiative are increasingly envisioning the region and its assets as a classroom without walls for learning and participating in community service and development projects that are mutually beneficial to students and communities.

Obviously learning goes beyond that provided by public institutions to 18-35 year olds. School age children, lifelong learners and tourists partaking in the many options made available in this guide and along the Winding Road create an atmosphere of experiential learning that not only makes the region attractive to young folks, but nurtures "cross generational" learning's contribution to a rich quality of life for all. Building new trail, writing a song (see Wood-songs, page 36), cooking (see Hocking Leisure Learning, page 60), outdoor learning, tours led by certified guides, and wildlife viewing are just a sample of the non-traditional learning experiences available here and provided by private and non-profit organizations.

Communities close to Athens and Ohio University show an impressive and growing "youthful" population attracted by the university and its edgy culture that features live music, local foods, microbrews, trails, live music and many, many learning opportunities. However, those statistics don't hold up elsewhere in the region. The Winding Road brand aims to change that, or at least contribute to that change happening. How can campus-community and other experiential learning initiatives expand beyond Athens and into the region? A few examples of folks working on this and the overall "Region As A Classroom" strategy along the Winding Road follow:

Burr Oak Alive!/Burr Oak Naturalist Program

A closed lodge and decreasing funds for state parks spelled a story of doom and gloom for Burr Oak State Park five years ago. Enter a group of determined citizens who successfully lobbied state officials to reopen the lodge (and blocked the state's proposal to turn the lodge and park into an ATV Park) and let



“If a community is going to thrive, it has to have creative, young, professional people who want to live there, start businesses, raise children and take an active role in their community.”



them stir up educational and experiential activity at the park that would make it popular again. The results have been stunning. Since reopening, the lodge has exceeded occupancy projects and Burr Oak Alive and other partners have flooded the calendar with workshops, guided programs and experiences. The state has returned on the investment with a summer naturalist program led by Hocking College instructor Julie Gee. Live music, painting classes and a variety of programs have emerged, including a now popular Brrrrr Oak Winter Hike each February and Southeast Ohio History Day each fall. Visit the Burr Oak Alive, Burr Oak Lodge Facebook page to keep abreast of activities available to the public.

Hocking College Leisure Learning Program

The Appalachian Heritage School is an invitation to retreat, to think, learn, collaborate and create. Surrounded by nature, fellow artisans and enthusiasts, students can avoid real world distractions and focus intentionally on their craft. “The mission of The Appalachian Heritage School is to support a student-centered creative environment that inspires life-long learning, while promoting and preserving the knowledge, skills, crafts and stories of the past, present and future,” says Sean Terrell, Director of Special Programs

at Hocking College. “The Heritage School offers more than just continuing education programming, it supports creative communities through the teaching of traditional and contemporary skills that are born in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains. The curriculum will be focused on regional assets that represent local traditions and will ultimately inspire not only the mind, but the hands, heart and soul. You do not have to be a Hocking College student to participate. We want the classes to be fun and educational,” says Sean. Terrell can be reached at terrells@hocking.edu by those wishing to offer or take a class or visit the programs web site at www.hocking.edu/leisurelearning.

Little Cities As A Classroom

At the heart of the Region As A Classroom concept is a group of Ohio University professors led by Dr. Frans Doppen in The Patton College of Education who have engaged in a series of learning projects and on-going planning conversations to promote mutually beneficial learning engagements with partners in the Little Cities of Black Diamonds/Little Cities of the Forest microregion at the corners of Hocking, Athens, Perry and Morgan Counties. The aim is to benefit the communities of the region while teaching students via hands-on experiences that meaningfully contribute. For example, Doppen’s Social Studies education students developed lesson plans around the region’s rich history and taught them to students in local elementary schools while Doppen has conducted research on labor leader Richard L. Davis and is publishing a book on his role in breaking the color barrier during the late 1800’s in the United Mine Workers union. Through this effort, he Dr. Robin Muhammed in African American Studies have joined with local residents to form the Rendville Historic Preservation Society which is working to save a building as a community museum. His colleague Dr. Michael Kopish’s students have conducted research on Rendville and the Little Cities, scanned historic documents and met with local historians. In return for the information, they have volunteered at Little Cities of Black Diamonds Day and Rendville Emancipation Day. Similar engagements have spread to include the arts as Dr. Marina Peterson’s (Fine Arts) interest in the soundscapes of the region brought a national conference to Shawnee and income to the Tecumseh Theater while also contributing to her doctoral student Brian Harnetty’s (see Shawnee 2016, page 45) work to a nationally significant stage. Dr. Nancy Tatarek student interns have found the region as a treasure trove for Anthropological work, in return they volunteer at the New Stratisville History Group and are producing Winding Road experiences (see Anthropology Alive! Page 52). Environmental journalism student projects led by Dr. Bernhard Debatin (Scripps School of Journalism/Honors Tutorial College), doesn’t stop with tours and writing assignments, it includes his volunteerism with the Racoon Creek Watershed project and bringing world-class journalist back to the area for a conference exploring the 50th Anniversary of President Johnson’s historic War On Poverty speech in Athens. Rural Action’s watershed programs located in the Little Cities utilize on-going support from various departments from the university and Hocking College (see Revers-

ing the Scars of Coal, page 25), as do they support the Buckeye Trail Association (see EGGs Hike (page 24) and Run for the Blue Blazes (pg. 26) and the Wayne National Forest. Regular orientation bus tours bring student, faculty and visitors into the Little Cities region, often spawning new learning adventures and community service projects. The tours create economic benefit for caterers, local interpretive guides and site hosts who are paid for sharing their stories. Students have raised funds for community projects including a historic marker and saving a historic building in Rendville, while also painting historic buildings, conducting “Citizen Science” wildlife surveys and a variety of other contributions. If you drive through the Little Cities don’t be surprised to see a Bobcat Bus or OU van along the way. “The phone rings off the hook some days,” says Cheryl Blosser of the Little Cities of Black Diamonds Council. “After a tour, we often spend a lot of time helping students follow up with research papers and projects. Some of them come back for our events, either as audience members or volunteers. They bring life to these little towns!”



Ohio University Center for Campus-Community Engagement

Ohio University’s Center for Campus-Community Engagement is a relatively new initiative at that endeavors to promote classes with a community service component, and generally improve opportunities to match community partners with university classes who can engage in mutually beneficial engagements. Newly appointed director Dr. Julie Paxton is anxious to grow the office and demonstrate its efficacy. They have initiated training opportunities for faculty and mini-grants to support campus community engagements. Paxton can be reached via e-mail at paxton@ohio.edu.

Ohio Valley Museum of Discovery

Big city science centers await visitors in urban centers. But the 90-minute to 3 hour drive away from southeastern Ohio, is not convenient. So a group of science, arts, technology and math parents got organized and created OVMoD with an emphasis on hands-on learning for kids. Open Sat. 10-2 and Mondays 10-noon, the center is located in the Market on State Street in Athens and features changing interactive exhibits and classes and programs for children. Email the organization at info@ovmod.org and follow them on Facebook to abreast of their growing influence on children in the region.



Private Guide/Experience Services

An important part of The Winding Road strategy is meant to increase the number of tourism related business opportunities in the region. A loan fund, workshops and learning communities are being organized to achieve this outcome. However, we would be remiss to not point out several of these entities already well in place, including Touch The Earth Adventures in the Athens area and Hocking Hills Venture Treks and High Rock Adventures in the Hocking Hills. On pages 6-7 you are also introduced to a number of Certified Interpretive guides available in our region. Many of them are available via contract. If you have a need for guided educational experiences and don’t see it offered in this catalog call one of our County Tourism offices

or call one of our lead partners at The Winding Road/Ohio Hill Country (see contact info-page 67) and we will try to steer you to the resources you may need.

Rural Action Environmental Education Program

The region’s natural environment is a classroom for students in many of the public schools of southeastern Ohio, thanks in part to the trailblazing work of Joe Brehm and Rural Action’s Environmental Education program which works with teachers to engage students in a variety of outdoor education experiences. The program has played an instrumental role in bringing life



and attention to the Trimble Township Community Forest near Glouster. Formerly known as the Trimble Wildlife Area, the site was being abandoned by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, when the township trustees, local hunters and environmental stewards banded together to keep the property available to the public and for a new use as a land lab for environmental learning for Trimble High School students. Brehm and a team of Americorps members not only develop hands-on learning activities for Trimble students, their reach has extended into multiple school districts in the region. An annual “Inquiry-Based Education” conference for teachers and environmental educators has further enhanced interest in environmental learning in the region. The program expands to adult and university learners as well. The first annual Birds in the Hills Festival (see page 16) is a great example of that! Brehm envisions environmental learning opportunities such as this festival to grow into an eco-tourism strategy in the region. He has studied the successful efforts in Costa Rica to develop environmental stewardship opportunities and he joins a group of outdoor recreation and environmental education practitioners in the region to build a low-impact/high value outdoor experience atmosphere along The Winding Road.

Somerset Learning Center

In Somerset, Mayor Tom Johnson is working with Ohio University Zanesville, Hocking College, Perry County Jobs and Family Services and other partners to create a learning center in this northern Perry County community where a variety of classes can be taken by local residents. Raising the number of college educated students in his community and the northern portion of the county is among the goals.

Art & Cultural Centers

Offering Classes, Learning Opportunities

Arts West, Athens

(www.artswest.blogspot.com)

Athens Community Music School

(www.athenscommunitymusic.org)

The Bowen House, Logan

(www.bowenhouse.org)

The Dairy Barn, Athens

(www.dairybarn.org)

Factory Street Dance Studio, Athens

(www.factorystreetstudio.org)

Glouster Project (Quilting/Fabric)

Nelsonville Quilt Company

(www.nelsonvillequilts.com)

Ohio Ceramic Center, Crooksville

(www.facebook.com/Ohio-Ceramic-Center)

Paper Circle/Circle Round the Square

Nelsonville

(www.papercircle.org)

Rendville Art Works

(rendvilleartworks.com)

Rosehill Design/Basket Farmer, Roseville

www.basketfarmer.com, www.rosehilldesign.com

Somerset Artist Cooperative

(somersetartistsco-op.com)

Starbrick Cooperative Gallery, Nelsonville

(starbrick.com)

Stuart's Opera House After School Music

(stuartsopeahouse.org)

Zanesville Museum of Art

(www.zanesvilleart.org)

Wayne Forest Wild Weekend Discovery Series

Monthly Wild Weekend Discovery Series programs are available at no cost to area youth, their families and tourists to the region during the spring and fall. “The programs are designed to spark curiosity and increase children’s knowledge and enjoyment of the natural world,” says Chad Wilberger, Forest Recreation manager at the Wayne. The series is hosted at the Athens Unit headquarters outside of Nelsonville, and events are typically held on Saturday mornings.



Historical Societies

Athens County Historical Society/Southeastern Ohio History Center

(www.athenshistory.org)

Hocking County Historical Society

(www.explorehockinghills.com)

Perry County Historical Society

(www.hapc.org)

Morgan County Historical Society

(www.historicalmorgancounty.org)

Pioneer Historical Society

(www.muskingumhistory.org)

Public Libraries

Athens County Public Libraries

(myacpl.org) Athens, The Plains, Chauncey, Glouster, Albany, Coolville

Logan-Hocking County District Library

(www.hocking.lib.oh.us) Logan, Laurelville

John McIntire-Muskingum County Libraries

(muskingumlibrary.org) Zanesville, South Zanesville, New Concord, Dresden, Roseville, Duncan Falls

Kate Simpson Love-Morgan County Library

(www.morgan.lib.oh.us) McConnellsville, Chesterhill

New Straitsville Public Library

(new-straitsville.lib.oh.us)

Perry County District Library

(www.pcdl.org) New Lexington, Corning, Crooksville Junction City, Somerset, Thornville

Convention & Visitors Bureau we spent three days in planning with other Appalachian communities at Sheppardstown, West Virginia. It was decided to work on sub-region development in Athens, Perry and Morgan Counties to begin with, given their proximity and role as gateways to the national forest and several state parks. This was followed by a stakeholder planning process that began in the Fall of 2014 and concluded in Spring 2015. The process identified three strategies to guide future work: 1.) the need for a structure to guide a collaborative effort, 2.) capacity development (particularly around an interpretive guides and interpretive program development), and 3.) product development, (with an emphasis on guided tourism that both educates and entertains, and on integrated products made by local hands from local resources.

Rural Action's Ohio Stream Restore Corps, Perry County & USDA

From the Gateway to Public Lands effort, Rural Action stepped in to provide six additional OSRC Americorps positions that would focus on guided eco- and heritage tourism products (story page 33). At the same time, Somerset Mayor Tom Johnson led efforts to name/brand the sub-region as The Winding Road and gain funding for its development.

The Perry County Commissioners and the Perry County Community Improvement Corporation, seeing the need for authentic tourism product development in their county and the value of partnering with neighboring counties, successfully stepped up to the plate to seek funding from the United States Department of Agriculture under Johnson's leadership.

Since the Sheppardstown, Robinson and Winnenberg have led portions of this effort under sub-contract with the two Perry County entities via USDA support. This relationship has resulted in support for OHCHA to organize capacity-building stakeholder gatherings, train interpretive guides and focus on product development that builds economic outcomes in the region. These products include the creation of this Winding Road Experience Guide, a WR web site and social media marketing. Stakeholder input has led to the expansion of the sub-region to include Hocking and Muskingum Counties with an emphasis on a Zanesville to Athens arts corridor and a growing sense that the natural Winding Road region may best be described as the Hocking and Muskingum River, and Racoon Creek watersheds of southeastern Ohio. Via the Perry County Commissioners, USDA funds also have supported the creation of a community kitchen incubator in Somerset with support from Hocking College and Rural Action. USDA funds to the Perry County CIC are being used to subcontract with other key partners including Heritage Ohio which is focused on entrepreneurial development in the region (watch for workshops on outdoor recreation, lodging and guide services during 2016), Argus Growth Consultants who serve as project managers and organizers of a WR microloan fund, David Mitzel of the Winding Road project should contact Robinson to be placed on the stakeholders contact list, which will include regular updates from the Road Signs electronic newsletter for involved partners and producers.



USDA's Rural Development programs have played a key funding role in the development of the The Winding Road.

Sustaining this effort over time is a key priority for the currently assembled team of leaders in collaboration with stakeholders along the Winding Road. We ask that all recognize the project is in its infancy, does not have full time staff and thus relies on contracted individuals and volunteers who have other duties and responsibilities as part of their work lives.



Winding Road/Perry County
CIC Project Team

Perry County CIC
Tom Johnson, Director
740-621-3580

Sector/Experience Product
Development
Catalog & Media
Michelle Robinson, John Winnen-
berg & Alicia Caton (Americorps)
Ohio's Hill Country Heritage Area
(740)-394-2852

Project Manager
Micro-Loans Fund Manager
Chris Schmenk, Argus Growth
614- 227.2323

Business Development
Joyce Barrett, Heritage Ohio
614-258-6200

Arts A to Z
David Mitzel, AHOOT
740-221-2165

Creative Communities Planning
Todd Christensen-Southwest
Virginia's Crooked Road

Regional & State Stakeholders

Four large regional stakeholder gatherings were held during 2014-15 (Burr Oak State Park [2], Shawnee and The Barracks) and one is planned for the fall of 2016 bringing a variety of community partners to the table. In addition NAI trainings, community planning meetings, sector group learning community gatherings have been undertaken. The current emphasis is on developing working sector groups in the areas that are represented in this WR catalog (Outdoor Recreation/Environmental Learning, Heritage, Local Foods, the Arts, Education). Many businesses, organizations and state and federal agencies have served as participants and partners in the Winding Road process to date. We'd like to recognize the stakeholder organizations who have participated in the efforts to date (with apologies for any unintentional oversites) and hope that it will continue to grow as Ohio's Rising Appalachia and the Winding Road efforts continue to rise.

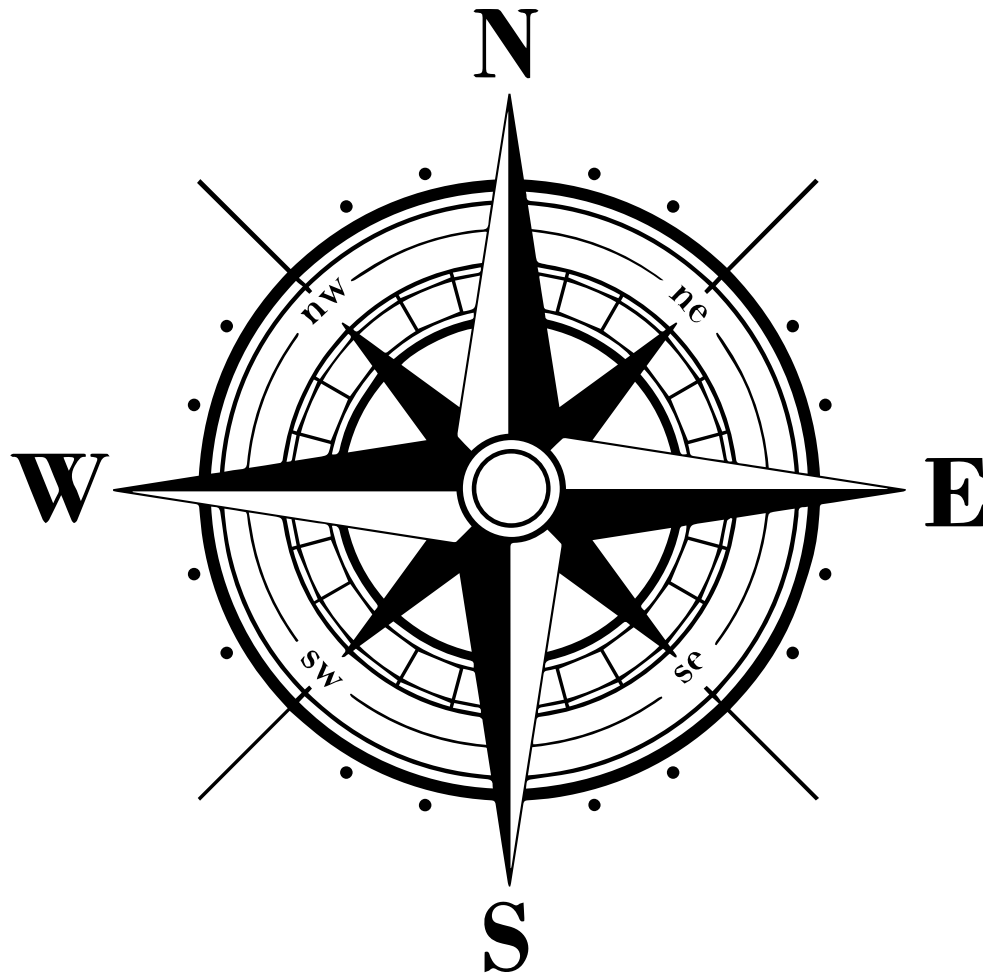
ACENet, (Appalachian Center for Economic Networks)
 Appalachian Hills AHOOT
 Appalachian Regional Commission
 Argus Growth Partners
 Athens Conservancy District
 Athens County Commissioners
 Athens County Convention & Visitor Center
 Athens County Historical Society
 The Barracks, Duncan Falls
 Benjamin D. Rickey, Co.
 Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development
 Buckeye Trail Association, Shawnee
 Burr Oak Alive!
 Burr Oak Getaways
 Burr Oak Lodge & Conference Center
 Burr Oak Marina
 Burr Oak State Park
 Camp Oty'Okwa
 Casa Nueva, Athens
 City of Athens
 Clay Haus Restaurant, Somerset
 Connect Ohio
 The Dairy Barn, Athens
 Fairfield Heritage Parks, Lancaster
 Foundation for Appalachian Ohio
 Fullbrooks Cafe, Nelsonville
 Gant Foundation, Zanesville
 Glouster Project
 Green Edge Garden
 Heritage Ohio
 Historic Downtown Nelsonville Association
 Hocking-Athens-Perry Community Action
 Hock-Hocking Adena Bikeway
 Hocking College
 Hocking College Heritage School
 Hocking College Leisure Learning
 Hocking Hills State Park
 Hocking Hills Tourism Association, Logan
 Hocking Venture Treks
 Little Cities of Black Diamonds Council
 Ludawici-Celadon, New Lexington
 Majestic Gallery, Nelsonville
 Monday Creek Restoration Project, New Straitsville
 Morgan County Community Improvement Corporation

Morgan County Commissioners
 Morgan County Convention & Visitors Bureau
 Morgan County Historical Society
 Mount Airy Farms
 Mount Perry Scenic Railroad
 Multi-Cultural Genealogical Society, Chesterhill
 Muskingum County Community Foundation
 National Endowment for the Arts
 Nelsonville Emporium
 Nelsonville Chamber of Commerce
 Nelsonville Final Friday
 Nelsonville First Presbyterian Church
 Nelsonville Music Festival
 New Lexington Police Department
 New Lexington City Schools
 Ohio Arts Council
 Ohio Brew Week
 Ohio Ceramic Exhibition
 Ohio Clay (Ceramic) Center, Crooksville
 Ohio Division of Travel & Tourism
 Ohio's Hill Country Heritage Area
 Ohio Humanities Council
 Ohio Local Government Innovation Fund
 Ohio Stream Restore Corps (Rural Action)
 Ohio University College of Arts & Sciences
 Ohio University Innovation Center
 Ohio University Patton College of Education
 Ohio University Scripps School of Communications
 Ohio University Campus & Community Engagement
 Ohio University-Zanesville
 OSU Cooperative Extension (Morgan County)
 OSU Cooperative Extension (Fairfield County)
 Paper Circle, Nelsonville
 Paw Paw Festival
 Perry County Commissioners
 Perry County Community Foundation
 Perry County Chamber of Commerce
 Perry County Health Department
 Perry County Historical Society
 Perry County Jobs & Family Services
 Perry County Opera House
 Perry County Soil & Water Conservation District
 Rhapsody Restaurant (Hocking College)

Rendville Historic Preservation Society
 Rocky Boots Outlet Center
 Rocky Brands
 Rosehill Farm
 Rural Action
 Rural Action Environmental Education
 Rural Action Zero Waste
 Somerset Community Kitchen
 Somerset Farmer's Market
 Shawnee Homecoming & Improvement Committee
 Siegler Gallery, Zanesville
 Sophie's Tea Room, Somerset
 SPICE, New Straitsville
 Stuart's Opera House, Nelsonville
 Sunday Creek Associates, Shawnee
 Sunday Creek Watershed Group, Trimble
 Starbrick Gallery, Nelsonville
 Straitsville Special Moonshine Distillery
 Tecumseh Theater, Shawnee
 Twin City Opera House, McConnellsville
 30-Mile Meal, Athens
 Touch The Earth Adventures
 The Conservation Fund
 The Well, Lancaster
 Village of Amesville
 Village of Rendville
 Village of New Straitsville
 Village of Shawnee
 Village of Somerset
 Wayne National Forest
 WOUB-Athens
 Zane State
 Zanesville Museum of Art
 Zanesville Prize
 ZOCA
 Zanesville Food Incubator (name?)

Thank You!

We Hope You've Enjoyed Experiencing
THE WINDING ROAD



Through.....
Ohio's Rising Appalachia



www.ohiohillcountry.org
117 West Main Street
P.O. Box 114
Shawnee, Ohio 43782
ohiohillcountryheritagearea@gmail.com
740-394-2852