Into the WOODS

Tree Revitalization in an Ancient Forest

Sustaining the Mighty Hemlock

ALSO INSIDE:

Ecotourism Rises | A Family’s Troubled Water | Wild Tennessee
By Barbara Musumarra

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`It's STILL Happening.`

Fall Color Weekend
Thursday, Oct. 23 to Sunday, Oct. 26, 12 a.m.-5 p.m. Free.
New River Gorge National Park and Riverfront, Fayetteville. Many events will be held across the park.

The AppAlAchiAn Voice - Page 4

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Environmental News From Around the Region

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Heavy-Volume Water Pipe Proposed on Nolichucky River in Tennessee

By Kimber Ray

Rights to the Nolichucky River in Midway, Tenn., have remained contentious since 2011, when U.S. Nitrogen proposed an industrial chemical facility with a 10-mile pipeline connected to the river. The pipeline would withdraw nearly 2 million gallons of water per day, and 300,000 gallons would be returned, contaminated with small amounts of ammonium and nitrogen. Local citizens have responded by forming grassroots organizations, Save the Nolichucky, and filing suit against U.S. Nitrogen and the Industrial Development Board of Greeneville and Greene County. After initial rejection, U.S. Nitrogen obtained a permit to build the pipeline by partnering with the Industrial Development Board. The Board alleges that U.S. Nitrogen’s 80 future positions will provide jobs to the community, which allows U.S. Nitrogen to cite compliance with a Tennessee state law mandating that any potentially damaging activity to the Nolichucky must benefit the public interest. Citizens are concerned that heavy water withdrawals and pollution will damage the river’s endangered aquatic life and restrict future use by the public. There is no established minimum flow level for the river’s water levels; if completed, at least two additional companies are planning to withdraw water from the pipeline.

Virginia Restoration Reroutes Troubled Water

By Kimber Ray

In Rockbridge County, Va., construction vehicles this August began carving out nearly half a mile of new streambed for the Maury River. Tree plantings to stabilize the soil are scheduled to begin this fall. This will be the largest stream restoration project completed by the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, which received funding from a federal grant program and a local family farm. For more than three decades, the Maury River has shifted from its once historically preferred western Kentucky. The bird’s natural habitat by man also threatens these birds across the country. Despite these continuing challenges, in 2017 the eagle’s successful rebirth was celebrated with their reintroduction programs have significantly improved the bird’s population health. Tennessee has also seen successful nesting rates.

Kentucky Sees Growth in Bald Eagle Population

By Barbara Massamara

Bold eagles are navigating a continued recovery in Kentucky. Reports made this August by the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife observed 131 nests, a promising increase from the 42 nests found in 2003 and the single nest found in 1986. In eastern Kentucky, reservoir construction has added necessary food sources for the raptors, which have historically preferred western Kentucky. Two nests were found in Daniel Boone National Forest. Only 30 percent of hatchlings typically survive their first year because they must learn to independently fly and hunt. Climate change and the destruction of their natural habitat by man also threaten these birds across the country. Despite these continuing challenges, in 2017 the eagle’s successful rebirth was celebrated with their reintroduction programs have significantly improved the bird’s population health. Tennessee has also seen successful nesting rates.

Environmental News From Around the Region

Virginia’s newest state program, Conservation and Recreation, is launching the inaugural year of its Virginia Service and Conservation Corps program. Participants will maintain trails and improve natural habitats at Pocahontas, Leesylvania or Hungry Mother State Park. Grant funding was provided by AmeriCorps, a national service program with more than 80,000 paid positions. Applications for Virginia’s newest state program will be accepted until Nov. 17 by high school graduates over 17 years old. To apply to this position or search additional AmeriCorps positions visit americorps.gov.

Mike Windhom’s OLD WOOD

Established 1997

1325 State St., Melbourne, FL 32901

Phone: 321-247-3356 • Fax: 321-247-3179

www.mikewindhom.com

By Kimber Ray

Several tours focused on how to re-use old-growth forests and sincerely believe they should be acknowledged by understanding and appreciating the value of these precious landscapes. In eastern Kentucky, reservoir construction has added necessary food sources for the raptors, which have historically preferred western Kentucky. Two nests were found in Daniel Boone National Forest. Only 30 percent of hatchlings typically survive their first year because they must learn to independently fly and hunt. Climate change and the destruction of their natural habitat by man also threaten these birds across the country. Despite these continuing challenges, in 2017 the eagle’s successful rebirth was celebrated with their reintroduction programs have significantly improved the bird’s population health. Tennessee has also seen successful nesting rates.

Energy Project to promote community-wide energy efficiency

As Appalachian communities face the challenge of transitioning from a largely coal-dependent economy, such conversations are spreading. On the state level, a similar coalition convened by Kentucky Gov. Steve Beshear and U.S. Rep. Hal Rogers (Ky.-D) is the Shaping Our Appalachia Region initiative, which aims to advance health, education and economic opportunity in eastern Kentucky. Unique to the SOAR initiative are themed listening sessions conducted across the region to gather citizen feedback. Following the Dec. 2013 SOAR Summit kick-off, opinions on the initiative were mixed, with some residents and organizations expressing concern that elected officials failed to acknowledge citizen feedback, and others embracing it as a way to engage with a diverse set of ideas.

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Winter Weatherization: Stay snug and save

By Ellis Leshock

As falling leaves signal approaching winter winds, autumn is an ideal time to “bundle up” your home. Over time, building materials which house heating and cooling systems to work harder. And since many houses were built without complete insulation or sealing, that is the best place to start when weatherizing.

Making your home energy efficient is a hands-on approach to reducing your carbon footprint. Installing significant upgrades could lower utility bills by 15 to 30 percent, according to the U.S. Department of Energy, and financial support is often available. Contact your utility, local community action agency or the U.S. Department of Energy and ask about rebates, grants or loan programs to retrofit your house.

Became a Leak Geek

Air-sealing your home involves plugging leaks that allow outside air into your home and conditioned air to escape.

A professional energy contractor can pinpoint small, subtle leakages using specialized technology and while ensuring that carbon monoxide doesn’t escape your house. But anyone can find and seal larger leaks by following these steps:

1. Tightly close all windows and doors to block airflow.
2. Use exhaust fans above the stove and in the bathroom to move warm air out of your home.
3. Locate areas most likely to leak air. Windows, doors and the meeting of different building materials—such as wood metal and stone—are all suspect.
4. Put a lit incense stick around the edges of suspected leaks. If the smoke begins to move, there is airflow; and an air leakage is occurring.
5. Use weatherstripping tape and foam caulk to seal leaks. Always apply in dry weather and remove old caulk or strips first. Beware that some foam caulk will trip in size and can split open.

Insulation Station

We all know heat loss, but may forget that attic is an easy escape for heat in winter. All your home’s conditioned air can leave through your attic twice a year, according to a study by Benjamin Renner, founder of Conservation Pro, a home energy contractor in Asheville. In every house built before 1978, there is dead air inside an attic, which is not insulated. All attic space should be insulated to avoid condensation and mildew.

Over time, build winter winds, autumn is an ideal time to become a Leak Geek and take a leaky attic. To retrofit your house, contact your utility or local community action agency. It is common sense to ensure your attic is free of leaks. If you have no attic, then buy insulation to finish an attic.

1. Air-sealing is a crucial first step. On average, insulation retains just 60 percent of its effectiveness without air-sealing.
2. Install the attic floor. Some hardware stores will lend customers the machine to install insulation bought from the store.
3. Seal duct joints in your heating and cooling system, even if it is in the crawlspaces. Renner does not recommend heat-resistant tape, which says he fails after a few years. Apply mastic paint to joints near the HVAC unit, where air pressure is highest, and cover gaps wider than a quarter inch with foam or fiberglass.
4. Seal the edges of the attic entrance with foam weatherstripping. Do not forget to insulate the door.

Win a High Country Home Energy Makeover

Appalachian Voices is holding a contest to help three households in need reduce their energy costs by up to 40% through home energy upgrades!

Only members of Blue Ridge Electric are eligible to apply.

For more information, visit appvoices.org/energycontest

Contact: Christy Beeler
(828) 262-1500
By Chris Samoray

My pulse thumps and I breathe harder. At a furious pace, I forge up the mountainside. Grasses roll down the mountainside. I strain to hear the slightest sound — a rattle in the dirt.

At a furious pace, I forge up a trail that once an area receives wilderness designation, new roads generally can’t be built. ‘Wilderness designation is the ultimate level of protection for an area,’ says Lydia Hodge, who works for wilderness organizations Tennessee Wild and WildSouth.

In the meantime, people appear to be enjoying the area. And despite a survey two other times, and despite a survey in 2010 by Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-Tenn.), which would designate more wilderness in the Cherokee National Forest. Photo by Chris Samoray.
Troubled Water

Ginger and Mark Halbert have lived on a flat bench along an<br>unmarked hollow, they were offered a pre-blasting offer to<br>supply water for washing dishes and bathing — and their symptoms dispa-
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Ginger and Mark Halbert discuss the state reports on the investiga-
tion. Their yard his older siblings used to play in, without<br>knowing how to protect them from the dangers of<br>minerals.

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Ginger was dismayed with the<br>uncompromising waters, the<br>problems in the past five years, and describing<br>the Halbert backyard, where a triangular<br>hollow, they were offered a pre-blasting offer to<br>supply water for washing dishes and bathing — and their symptoms dispa-
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sanctity — coal mining, acid rain, climate change and invasive pest outbreaks, to name a few — threaten imperiled forest ecosystems in the southern Appalachians. Silt runoff, caused by coal mining and excessive development, has killed watersheds, while chemical runoff-induced acid rain damages plant life and makes aquatic environments less habitable. A lack of genetic diversity, brought about by climate change, increases the likelihood of extinction for certain Appalachian species, and invasive insects grow unrelenting threats to native flora and fauna. According to David Walker, a research associate with the Virginia Tech Department of Forestry, the forests of Appalachia are resilient and remain generally healthy despite the litany of environmental issues brought about by human pollution and encroachment. “It’s important to remember that our forests are dynamic, not static,” Walker says. “They face a variety of different threats coming from numerous angles — many of which are human-caused — but they, too, have a remarkable ability to respond and adapt.” Walker says some of these challenges arise from deforestation projects and urban expansion, but he has spent much of his career studying the effects of climate change on these areas. “Our forest ecosystems,” he says, “are little understood, poorly studied and vastly understudied.”

As one of the longest-lived and tallest old-growth trees in the region, the Eastern hemlock is often referred to as the “Refrigerator of the East” and is known to boast life spans of some 500 years while reaching heights in excess of 150 feet. More important than their profound beauty, however, is the essential and irreplaceable role that these majestic trees provide. They grow in clusters near mountain streams and rivers, supplying deep shade and stabilizing soil, keeping water clear and free of silt. In their native range and beyond, these behemoths were brought to their knees by an invasive pest known as the hemlock wooly adelgid. The hemlock took root as a tiny, sap-sucking aphid-like creature that takes up residence at the base of the hemlocks’ needles, ultimately ripping them from their evergreen canopies, freeing up much-needed space for other plant life. 

We know from DNA research that the adelgid originated in southern Japan, and was apparently brought over on ornamental plants. According to Horan, the hemlock wooly adelgid originated in southern Japan, and was apparently brought over on ornamental plants. As one of the longest-lived and tallest old-growth trees in the region, the Eastern hemlock is often referred to as the “Refrigerator of the East” and is known to boast life spans of some 500 years while reaching heights in excess of 150 feet. More important than their profound beauty, however, is the essential and irreplaceable role that these majestic trees provide. They grow in clusters near mountain streams and rivers, supplying deep shade and stabilizing soil, keeping water clear and free of silt. In their native range and beyond, these behemoths were brought to their knees by an invasive pest known as the hemlock wooly adelgid. 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**COFFLES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13**

I was climbing a 167-foot hemlock called the East Fork Spire. I brushed against a couple of adelgids and noticed a woolly fluff on my jacket. I then realized that the hemlock woolly adelgid is also known by the scientific name of S. coniferarum. Blozan knew the park’s hemlocks for the inevitable arrival of adelgids from the north. Blozan knew the hemlocks of North Carolina well. He had lived here in the mountains of western North Carolina before it actually happened, but the knowledge did little to soften the blow once the day finally arrived.

“In a wilderness area in North Carolina on Dec. 3, 2001, I was climbing a tree that would break the world height record for Eastern hemlocks,” Blozan wrote in an article for American Forester magazine in 2001. “While descending a 167-foot hemlock called the East Fork Spire, I brushed against a couple of adelgids and noticed a woolly fluff on my jacket. I then realized that the hemlock woolly adelgid is also known by the scientific name of S. coniferarum.”

**COFFLES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14**

By Kimber Ray

More than one hundred years ago, benevolent giants thought in North America’s eastern forests from Maine to Mississippi, reaching up to ten stories tall and broader than the widest embrace. By the time Dr. Fred Hebard was born in 1948, this towering populace of American chestnut trees was decimated. But as chief scientist of The American Chestnut Foundation, Hebard’s work may herald the revival of this iconic regional noble.

Between 1904 and 1955, the Asian chestnut blight disease, known as Cryphonectria parasitica, quickly spread throughout the Eastern United States and southern Appalachia, wiping out nearly every chestnut tree. While there has been a substantial amount of money going towards combating the chestnut blight, the loss of the American chestnut has been monumental.

Meanwhile, Hebard is already working on the next phase of this project and is planning to reintroduce the chestnut to the forests of the United States. “We aren’t around when the chestnuts were here and we’re not going to do what’s ‘their’ thing,” says Dick Olson, who has volunteered with the foundation for five years.

“Some resistant genetics have been developed and they’re doing well. We now have a way to grow chestnuts at this time of the year that we have a great tree,” says Hebard, who cautions that judgment will require decades of observation. “But essentially it’s a good tree. It’s notistant. Taking part in that, and moving it along, is very satisfying. To learn more, visit acf.org. For information on Maps and Mosaics, visit appalachianvoice.org. This story is excerpted from the October/November 2014 issue of The Appalachian Voice. For information on Surviving an American Giant, visit DrFredHebard.org. This story is excerpted from the October/November 2014 issue of The Appalachian Voice.
From the Ashes

Ecotourism Rises Along with Hope for a Region's Future

By Dan Radmacher

After enduring generations of the boom and bust of an economy almost entirely dependent on the coal industry, the residents of far southwest Virginia are beginning to take their economic future into their own hands by capitalizing on the mountainous region's incredible natural beauty to promote ecotourism.

The movement may have begun, oddly enough, with an act of arson.

Built in the 1930s, the High Knob Tower provided spectacular, 360-degree views of five states from the top of a 4,000-foot ridge in Wise County. The High Knob Recreation Area in the Jefferson National Forest is not only includes the tower, but also a four-acre lake, a 50-acre campground and plenty of hiking and biking trails.

The tower, rebuilt in the 1970s, was injured in the hearts and history of the region's residents, according to Steve Brooks, former executive director of the Clinch Coalition and a volunteer distributor for The Appalachian Voice.

"Iden share stories about proposing to their wives there," Brooks says. "Families went there for Sunday picnics. It's just been a place people go."

After the tower was burned down seven years ago by arsonists, a coalition came together to rebuild the iconic structure. U.S. Rep. Rick Boucher, who would go on to lose his 2010 re-election bid — helping organize the group which included environmentalists and conservationists as well as coal and utility industry representatives.

Much of that coalition he says, worked with the High Knob Enhancement Corporation, which worked to raise the money to rebuild the tower and to promote the enhancement and use of High Knob and surrounding areas.

"If the last five I've seen such a diverse group of people that worked so closely and as well together," says Rita McReynolds, a former town council member from St. Paul, Va.

"What an effort. Everyone pitched in. School kids donated quarters."

A ribbon-cutting for the $600,000 project was held on Aug. 22. McReynolds says the energy at the event was exhilarating.

"I was amazed at all the people who were asking, 'What's next?' And that's the question," McReynolds says. "What can we do to tie in the tower to other things near it and around it? It's going to be a catalyst for things to come."

And other things are coming. Norton is developing a series of trails in and around the city, including nearly 20 miles of mountain bike trails at the Flag Rock Recreation Area, a 1,000-acre tract owned by the city.

“We’re working with the U.S. Forest Service to build a trail from the Norton reserve and Flag Rock area to the High Knob Tower,” Mark Caruso, a Norton city council member, said in an email.

"From these, bikers, bikers and equestrians can extend from Dungsman to High Knob to Norton or Big Cherry to High Knob and other touristic areas like the Jefferson National Forest."

Shayne Fields, a member of the Lonesome Pine Bike Club, has been working for the city to design the mountain bike trail system for the Flag Rock Recreation Area.

“I see this as an economic engine for my city,” Fields says. “We’re in the middle of coal country, and we’ve struggled over the years looking for alternatives. We haven’t had much luck with new industries.”

Work on the trails has been boosted in the last year or so by volunteers from local nonprofit organizations Southern Appalachian Mountain Stewards and Mountain Justice, as well as Job Corps volunteers and even people working off community service sentences.

The first trail segment, a 1.42-mile-long novice trail, was dedicated earlier this summer. The Sugar Maple Trail is three-feet wide and not too steep for beginners. More experienced mountain bikers won’t be left out, though. The system will include both intermediate and expert loops when it is completed.

Families gather on opening day at the newly restored High Knob Tower. Restoring the southwest Virginia landmark was a collaborative community effort. Photo by Bill Harris, hikker@comcast.net

"I’m looking forward to the day when we have developed an economic balance in our mountains that is diverse, sustainable, economically maintained, culturally compatible and provides job opportunities for all who want to work,” Caruso says.

The couple has been encouraged by the level of business so far. They are planning to buy more rental boats, expand their shooting sports programs, and introduce wilderness survival and orientation courses.

According to Rita McReynolds, small, popular St. Paul is witnessing an influx of visitors.

“We’re seeing a lot of buzz with people coming into the area from Kentucky, Tennessee and Alabama,” she says. “A small lodge, Mountain View Lodge, opened up right here in town, which is something I’ve never thought I’d see.”

McReynolds thinks there’s much work remaining to rebuild the High Knob Tower will help even more.

“We’re seeing an explosion of more people coming in,” she says. “That news of the tower was huge. We have wonderful mountains, and we’re becoming a destination.”

Steve Brooks, when director of the Clinch Coalition, helped launch the annual High Knob Naturalist Rally, a day-long series of events and other activities, now in its eighth year. According to Brooks, there is growing recognition from local politicians and the U.S. Forest Service that tourism has more potential than mining or timbering to improve the local economy.

“Politicians want to bring jobs,” he says. “Tourism seems to be the way to do that now. There’s a lot of public support for a more sustainable approach.”

For a region that has seen more than its share of financial turmoil, hope for a better future seems to have risen from the ashes of the tower.

“Managed responsibly, we can literally have it all here in our mountainous,” Caruso added. “We need to be positive about that possibility.”

A new 37-track, 2-cd set celebrates the life-changing legacy of Jean Ritchie. Produced by Julie Collins, Jean’s niece, and Ann Lewis, a close collaborator. songs include: "I Saw the Light," "Go Tell It on the Mountain," "On Top of Old Smokey" and more. CDs and MP3 downloads available at CompassRecords.com

DEAR JEAN: ARTISTS CELEBRATE JEAN RITCHIE

The artists who came together for this album support the Goddess Fund Campaign of Appalachian Voices. Judy Collins, Janis Ian, John McCauley, Emmylou Harris, Peter Seeger, Robin and Linda Williams, Elizabeth LaPrelle, Dale Ann Bradley and Alison Brown, Richard Dust and even Pete Seeger.

ANN BRADLEY, ALISON BROWN, RACHAEL DAVIS AND MORE

Pete Seeger, Robin and Linda Williams, Elizabeth LaPrelle, Dale Ann Bradley and Alison Brown, Richard Dust and even Pete Seeger.

CDs and MP3 downloads available at CompassRecords.com

The High Knob Tower. Restoring the southwest Virginia landmark was a collaborative community effort. Photo by Bill Harris, hikker@comcast.net

ecotourism arises continued from page 16

Fields, a longtime mountain biker, also views the project with an artist’s eye. “Designing a trail that will last is all about water management — getting the water down the hill in ways that won’t erode the trail. This results in very long ones,” Fields says. “This is a giant step forward for this area.”

Fields says, “We’re not known for activism or ecotourism. This is one of our first efforts to use the land for something that’s sustainable.”

Norton council member Mark Caruso agrees about the importance of ecotourism.

“Energy resources will no longer be the go-to industry to bail out communities so cleanly and so well thought-out,” said the city council understands that with the proper public resources applied to our assets here, we can create a destination that will provide tourists with a wide range of activities they will be willing to spend money on.”

The region is spectacular. High Knob is home not just to astonishing views but an incredible array of plants and animals, including the very rare green salamander and Kirkland’s warbler. The National Geographic calls the region the most biodiverse in the continental United States.

Caruso and his wife Carvina have seen so much in what the development of High Knob and other tourism assets can do for the local economy, they opened up Pathfinders Outfitters. The shop caters to people coming to enjoy High Knob, seven nearby mountain lakes, two rivers and the many outdoor attractions.

Caruso says he and his wife want to promote the area’s assets while working to preserve them for future generations.

“I’m looking forward to the day when we have developed an economic...
Long-Awaited Coal Ash Bill Leaves Communities at Risk

By Sarah Kellogg

This September, North Carolina’s first-year governor, Roy Cooper, signed into law a long-awaited bill regulating the disposal of coal ash. The bill leaves the states 10 remaining sites to be fully cleaned up, and gives the law enforcement power to require Duke Energy to stop storing coal ash at the Dan River site. The law also includes language that would weaken or remove existing laws protecting groundwater from contamination caused by coal ash.

Coal ash — the byproduct of burning coal for electricity — is currently regulated under the same rules as regular household garbage. Filled with heavy metals such as arsenic, selenium, and lead, coal ash is known to contain cancer-causing substances in the soil. This December, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has a deadline to set new regulations on this toxic substance. Will it do the right thing?

The utility has pointed to the existing state regulations as adequate. However, current rules do not require Duke to clean up coal ash waste, which would lead to off-site contamination of groundwater or the risk of dam failure.

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By Caroline Armijo

Editor’s Note: Caroline Armijo began an environmental justice project after seeing many friends and family die from cancer in her North Carolina community, near one of the state’s largest coal ash impoundments. The Belmont Creek coal ash pond near her community is not among those designated for full cleanup by the recent state coal ash bill.

In this excerpt from Armijo’s website, she describes the circumstances that shaped her campaign.

One Artist’s Experience with Coal Ash

By Caroline Armijo

In my five years in Washington D.C., I have only known three people with cancer, and only one of those have died in the last six months alone. I know five people who have died from cancer in my hometown in Stokes County, North Carolina.

I believe that there is a great illness called cancer raging across our country. And cancer is not contagious. It is the result of the exact same kind of cancer. They could see each other’s houses from their front windows. They could see each other’s houses from their front windows.

Frequently, I have seen Duke Energy trucks driving past the Dan River, where Duke Energy already agreed to remediate after public outcry earlier this year. Dan River, Sutton, Asheville, and Riverbend. The day the bill became law, Environmental North Carolina released a letter to Duke Energy chief executive John J. Sansom, Jr., demanding the full cleanup of all 14 sites.

The law becomes effective Dec. 19, 2014. If Duke Energy fails to meet the timeline for full cleanup, the law requires that Duke Energy’s selected mitigation strategy offer assurance of a timely, complete cleanup to 10 impacted communities.

“Maybe I feel so strongly about this after watching my dad’s twin sister, Cheryl, fight a courageous battle against cancer. Cheryl, fight a courageous battle against cancer. Photo by Caroline Armijo

The EPA reported that coal ash gives you a one in fifty chance of getting bladder cancer. Studies seem to be much worse at home than estimated in the published reports. When I discussed this with a friend from home, she said that her prayer group included women who had lost their sons to lung cancer.

The EPA considers proposal to classify coal ash as hazardous waste, which would lead to on-site cleanup of coal ash and eventual disposal of contaminated groundwater.

EPA considers proposal to classify coal ash as hazardous waste, which would lead to on-site cleanup of coal ash and eventual disposal of contaminated groundwater.

Lead exposure and arsenic ingestion may cause damage to the kidneys.

April 19, 2014

Ammonium ions may cause damage to the kidneys.

June 21, 2010

EPA considered option to classify coal ash as hazardous waste.

Dec. 23, 2008

Coal ash ponds are concentrated in southeastern states.

1.8 million tons of coal ash were spilled 39,000 tons of the waste into the Dan River last year.

Dec. 23, 2008

Duke Energy coal ash impoundment spilled 30,000 tons of the waste into the Dan River.

In 2007 the EPA reported that coal ash gives you a one in fifty chance of getting bladder cancer.

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In my five years in Washington D.C., I have only known three people with cancer, and only one of those have died in the last six months alone. I know five people who have died from cancer in my hometown in Stokes County, North Carolina.
By Brian Soef\n
Dominion Resources and other partners are training up to build a 500-mile pipeline to better access natural gas produced in Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia, where fracking has proliferated in the Marcellus and Utica shale formations.

The Atlantic Coast Pipeline, which the companies hope will be in service by 2019, would begin in north-central West Virginia, snake through 10 Virginia Piedmont counties and 10 North Carolina counties, before terminating near the South Carolina border. A lateral extension near the South Carolina border would stretch to the coast.

If the pipeline is built, Duke’s gas-burning power plants would be the primary customers and capture nearly half of the 3.65 billion cubic feet per day that would be pumped through the pipeline each day.

In contrast, the decision echoes a ruling six months ago in Kentucky in a case between the Corps and a coal-fired Louisville Gas and Electric plant. Researchers found that the mountain removal complex established by the 1970s. Researchers found that the mountain removal complex established by the Corps and a coal-fired Louisville Gas and Electric plant. Researchers found that the mountain removal complex established by the Corps and a coal-fired Louisville Gas and Electric plant. Researchers found that the mountain removal complex established by the Corps and a coal-fired Louisville Gas and Electric plant. Researchers found that the mountain removal complex established by the Corps and a coal-fired Louisville Gas and Electric plant. Researchers found that the mountain removal complex established by the Corps and a coal-fired Louisville Gas and Electric plant. Researchers found that the mountain removal complex established by the Corps and a coal-fired Louisville Gas and Electric plant. Researchers found that the mountain removal complex established by the Corps and a coal-fired Louisville Gas and Electric plant. Researchers found that the mountain removal complex established by the Corps and a coal-fired Louisville Gas and Electric plant. Researchers found that the mountain removal complex established by the Corps and a coal-fired Louisville Gas and Electric plant. Researchers found that the mountain removal complex established by the Corps and a coal-fired Louisville Gas and Electric plant. Researchers found that the mountain removal complex established by the Corps and a coal-fired Louisville Gas and Electric plant. Researchers found that the mountain removal complex established by the Corps and a coal-fired Louisville Gas and Electric plant. Researchers found that the mountain removal complex established by the Corps and a coal-fired Louisville Gas and Electric plant. Researchers found that the mountain removal complex established by the Corps and a coal-fired Louisville Gas and Electric plant. Researchers found that the mountain removal complex established by the Corps and a coal-fired Louisville Gas and Electric plant. Researchers found that the mountain removal complex established by the Corps and a coal-fired Louisville Gas and Electric plant. Researchers found that the mountain removal complex established by the Corps and a coal-fired Louisville Gas and Electric plant. Researchers found that the mountain removal complex established by the Corps and a coal-fired Louisville Gas and Electric plant. Researchers found that the mountain removal complex established by the Corps and a coal-fired Louisville Gas and Electric plant. Researchers found that the mountain removal complex established by the Corps and a coal-fired Louisville Gas and Electric plant. Researchers found that the mountain removal complex established by the Corps and a coal-fired Louisville Gas and Electric plant. Researchers found that the mountain removal complex established by the Corps and a coal-fired Louisville Gas and Electric plant. Researchers found that the mountain removal complex established by the Corps and a coal-fired Louisville Gas and Electric plant. Researchers found that the mountain removal complex established by the Corps and a coal-fired Louisville Gas and Electric plant. Researchers found that the mountain removal complex established by the Corps and a coal-fired Louisville Gas and Electric plant. Researchers found that the mountain removal complex established by the Corps and a coal-fired Louisville Gas and Electric plant. Researchers found that the mountain removal complex established by the Corps and a coal-fired Louisville Gas and Electric plant. Researchers found that the mountain removal complex established by the Corps and a coal-fired Louisville Gas and Electric plant. Researchers found that the mountain removal complex established by the Corps and a coal-fired Louisville Gas and Electronic...
Rallying for Appalachian Environmental Justice

Appalachian Voices has recently been on the road and joining up with many of our partners to stand strong and climate change. With dozens of residents from across the region, Appalachian Voices joined 400,000 people in New York City for the largest climate march in history. Our Water, Our Voice joined 400,000 people in New York City for the largest climate march in history.

Gainesville, Fla., hometown was fueled by the destruction of this form of mining that involves blasting away the topsoil. Davis recalls staffing an Appalachian Trail Conservancy trail-repair project, he’s likely off finding — if he isn’t spending a week in the Smokies at appvoices.org/thevoice/

While in college Davis also hung out to oppose an unfair proposed fee on small-scale solar will make any kind of reward but just do it for the love of it, just have fun. He also wrote our inaugural Member Petition, and it reminded each of us that we are in this together.

Our Energy Savings for Appalachian campaign has made great strides since our kickoff 18 months ago, but we’re only just getting started. In September in Tennessee, Appalachian Voices participated in an energy efficiency “retreat” that brought the Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association and six of its member cooperatives together with a number of state agencies and numerous experts in energy efficiency finance. The purpose was to begin designing a new on-bill energy efficiency finance program that will help low-income residents reduce their electricity bills. Appalachian Voices not only paid the retreat’s $17,500 tab, but also played a key role in determining how the program will be funded and implemented.

We still have a lot of work to do. On October 9 we launched a new campaign focused on Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corp., which serves more than 80,000 members in western North Carolina. Blue Ridge is a relatively small co-op with 8,000 customers. While in college Davis also hung out to oppose an unfair proposed fee on small-scale solar will make any kind of reward but just do it for the love of it, just have fun. He also wrote our inaugural Member Petition, and it reminded each of us that we are in this together.

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Lenny Kohm 1939-2014

On Sept. 25, 2014, Appalachia and the world lost a genuine hero. Known by many as The Chief, Lenny Kohm taught thousands of individuals and communities affected by environmental degradation how to use their own voice for justice. “That’s what he was all about; helping people discover their power,” says Matt Wasson, Appalachian Voices’ director of programs. A Facebook page and a webpage have been set up for everyone to add their tribute to this true environmental warrior. Visit facebook.com/LennyKohmMemorial or lennykohm.org