



Revisit History at Avoca Museum

Rich with Victorian charm and loaded with history, [Avoca Museum](#) is a Virginia landmark that is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Originally the home of Colonel Charles Lynch in 1755, Avoca was passed down through generations of the Lynch, Fauntleroy and Winston families until deeded to the Town of Altavista in 1981.

Campbell County Economic Development had the opportunity to ask Mr. Michael Hudson, Executive Director of Avoca Museum, some questions about the property and upcoming events.

CCED: What are Avoca's hours of operation and location?

MH: *The museum is open on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 11 AM to 3 PM in the months of April through October. Occasionally, the museum will close for a private rental on one of those days that the museum would normally be open, so, in advance of your visit, please check our web-site homepage at www.avocamuseum.org for a complete list of special and private event closings. The museum can be opened on an appointment basis, as well, if the regular visiting hours do not suit the schedule of our visitors. You will find us at 1514 Main St. in lovely Altavista.*

CCED: What makes Avoca Museum unique?

MH: *Many historic sites and museums commemorate a single event, one date in history, or a singular notable personality. Avoca Museum is all of that and much more! It tells the story of twelve millennia of human habitation in the area now known as Altavista. The site is notable for its extensive Native American artifact collection, its important role in the American Revolution, the vital contributions of African-Americans and women, its key part in the Civil War, and fascinating architectural history to boot.*

Also, Avoca Museum is unique among America's nonprofits as it is a 100%-efficient charitable organization. The museum receives little public funding, so it relies heavily on the annual donations of its Membership. Every dime that is donated to Avoca Museum goes directly to the museum's historical preservation, beautification, costs of operation, and education initiatives and none of it is applied to a salary. Very few charitable organizations can accurately make that claim. Find out more about donating and preserving our local history at [//avocamuseum.org/giving](http://avocamuseum.org/giving). Our Membership made it possible to be one of the few American museums to actually grow and thrive in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic!

(Continued on page 3)



IN THIS ISSUE

REVIST HISTORY AT AVOCA MUSEUM

COVER

INCENTIVE POLICY UPDATE

PG 2

AGRITOURISM IS "ALLGOOD" IN CAMPBELL

PG 2

PINNACLE TRAILER SALES, INC. BREAKS GROUND IN

PG 2

RETURN TO EARN GRANT PROGRAM

PG 3

UPCOMING EVENTS

PG 3

SUMMER READING GRAND FINALE

PG 3

Agritourism is “Allgood” in Campbell

Campbell County welcomes our new Agriculture Sustainability Educational assistant, Darienne Skye Montgomery. A Lynchburg, Virginia native, Darienne is excited for the opportunity to serve her community and learn more about the world of agriculture. She earned her Bachelors in Mass Communications from Virginia Commonwealth University and looks forward to finding creative ways to connect local farmers to the general public. With the rapid advances of technology, she recognizes the importance of social media marketing as an avenue for local farmers to keep the public updated and involved in their businesses. She is also an outdoor enthusiast, world traveler, award-winning artist, and assistant instructor for Livestrong at the Jamerson YMCA program.

Darienne took time out to visit with a local agriculture treasure, [Allgood Farms](#).



Say hello to the Allgood Family, owners of Allgood Farms. Husband and wife, Bryan and Allison Allgood, and their three daughters (Abigail, Olivia, and Lucy Mae) have found an oasis on their lush eight-acre

farm nestled in the hills of Brookneal, Virginia. Coming from several generations of tobacco farmers, Bryan and Allison have revived the family farming line by beginning their own operation.

As a young family and educators in the school system, their greatest goal is to “Make farming cool again.” Bryan, the band director at Appomattox High School, and Allison, the school counselor at Eureka Elementary School, understand the value of educating younger generations, especially about agriculture, due to its ability to teach children important life skills of discipline, responsibility, and patience. In the future, they dream of creating an agriculture education center where they teach about cultivating crops sustainably, both outdoors and in a greenhouse, even as far as operating a tractor!

For now, they enjoy serving their area through their community-supported agriculture (CSA) program where they provide fresh produce for up to 30 families as well as their honor wagon situated out the front of the farm. Seven of their eight acres are dedicated to thousands of plants including summer favorites from organic squash, zucchini, tomatoes, cucumbers, kale, to sweet corn and melons. It is all fresh, all healthy, and all good here.

Incentive Policy Update

The Campbell County Board of Supervisors approved updates to the [Incentive Policy](#) in an effort to attract more businesses to the community.

The [Start Small Campbell Grant Program](#) is geared toward any new business employing 200 people or less and starting business for the first time in Campbell County. Interested businesses must submit a business plan and have completed two Smart Start programs offered by the Small Business Development Center.

For any industry looking to relocate or get started in Campbell County, the [Industrial Tax Stabilization Program](#) demonstrates Campbell County’s commitment to the success of operations. For qualified investments, businesses can look to have an escalating tax rate starting after the first year of operation.

The policy was also revised to include a program targeted toward [Restaurants that Rent](#). For that have deciding on a new location, the program is designed to help offset the costs with relocating and establishing the operation in a new area. The program will provide rent reimbursement for the first year of operations up to \$15,000.

More information about these [programs](#) and the methods for application are available on the website.

Pinnacle Trailer Sales, Inc. Breaks Ground in Seneca Commerce Park

Pinnacle Trailer Sales, Inc. is an authorized sales and service dealer for East Manufacturing Trailers, Innovative Trailers, Timpte Hopper Bottom Trailers, CPS/Manac Trailers, McLendon Log, Low Boy Trailers, Big John Log Trailers, Talbert Trailers, Landoll Trailers, and Kalyn Seibert Trailers. The company announced the opening of their fourth location in Campbell County in December 2020. Pinnacle Trailer Sales, Inc. joins two other businesses that currently operate in Seneca Commerce Park.

Campbell County welcomes Pinnacle Trailer Sales, Inc. to Seneca Commerce Park!



(Avoca Continued)

CCED: What special events are on the horizon?

MH: Here are a few of the public events we will be offering in 2021:

- *Enchanted Trails (presented in partnership with Campbell County Public Library System) on July 12 and 19:
Meet us at the historic garden property (located at 1514 Main Street in Altavista) which will be transformed to create an immersive story experience that will highlight a beloved family pet of Avoca. Geared towards pre-school-elementary, and the whole family is welcome! Pre-register for a 30-minute time slot.*
- *Where the Rivers Meet Summer Festival (formerly the annual Harvest Jubilee & Wine Festival) on September 25:
Hear live music from Apple Butter Soul and Jodie Davis, sample local food truck offerings, and visit local craft vendors at this fun event held on the beautiful lawn of Avoca's historic 1901 Queen Anne Victorian mansion. Under the shade of 100-year-old trees, you'll also have the opportunity to sample adult beverages (not just wine) and send summer off in style!*
- *Night at the Museum Lantern Tours on October 15-16:
This annual favorite features tour guides who lead visitors through the grounds and into the buildings of the old Avoca property. There, visitors will meet costumed actors and actresses portraying real historical figures and telling real stories from the site's storied past. This is a free event, so follow the museum on Facebook with details on how to register.*

CCED: Can anyone rent space at Avoca Museum?

MH: Yes, anyone can rent these lovely buildings and grounds for a private event. In addition to its public event offerings, Avoca hosts weddings, anniversary celebrations, garden parties and any other kind of special event that you can think of. Special discounts are available to people who live and/or work in Campbell County or Town of Hurt, first responders, active and retired military, civil servants, and Avoca Museum members. More information on rentals can be found at [// avocamuseum.org/rentals](http://avocamuseum.org/rentals).

Be sure to visit Avoca Museum the next time you're looking for something to do in Campbell County!



Return to Earn Grant Program

In June 2021, Governor Northam announced a \$3 million investment to launch the [Return to Earn Grant Program](#) to assist Virginians' transition back into the workforce. Similar to companies that offer hiring bonuses, this program serves businesses with less than 100 employees that may not have the resources to provide this level of financial support to their employees upon hiring.

Return to Earn matches up to \$500 that a qualifying small business pays directly to a new employee hired on or after May 31, 2021, to help offset childcare, transportation and other issues employees may be facing. Funds are reimbursed for new hires in positions that pay at least \$15 per hour and qualify as full-time or part-time W-2 employees.

Qualifying childcare businesses may qualify for up to \$500 per new hire without the match requirement in order to address workforce shortages.

More information, qualifications and [frequently asked questions](#) can be found on the [Return to Earn Grant Program](#) announcement page. Small businesses can also contact their [local workforce development board](#) with any questions about the program.

Upcoming Events

- July 3: [Independence Day Celebration](#)
- July 8: [American Red Cross Blood Drive at Red Hill](#)
- July 12: [Enchanted Trail On Location at Avoca Museum](#)
- July 17: [Watermelon Wine Festival at DeVault Vineyards](#)
- July 19: [Enchanted Trail On Location at Avoca Museum](#)
- July 30: [TGIF Summer Series at Avoca Museum](#)
- July 31: [CCPLS Summer Reading Grand Finale](#)
- August 27: [TGIF Summer Series at Avoca Museum](#)



Visit the Campbell County Economic Development tent at Campbell County Public Library System's Summer Reading Grand Finale! Come see us and learn more about what Economic Development does in the Community!