Early October is Festival Time! Park rangers will be giving interpretative programs at the McCreary County KY Heritage Trail Days celebration on Thursday & Friday October 1-2 and staffing booths at the Allardt, TN Pumpkin Festival and Appalachian Heritage Day in Rugby, TN on Saturday, October 3rd.

“Can You Dig It?” event to celebrate National Archeology and Fossil Day on Sunday, October 11 at the McClung Museum at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville from 1:30 to 5 pm ET. Park staff will be on hand helping with activities for all ages. Visitors can also bring artifacts, rocks, and fossils for identification by experts. Archaeologists, paleontologists, and geologists will be on hand to talk with visitors about their work, and present displays about their research around the world.

Assistance for Cemetery Access on October 16 & 17 for family members to visit remote graves of relatives within the park boundary. Transportation from a designated area will be provided only to those that are physically unable to walk round trip. Contact Effie Houston at 423-569-9778.

Old Corn Crib at Charit Creek Lodge Rehabilitated. Park staff recently renovated the century old structure making it suitable for overnight accommodations. Reservations for the lodge can be made at www.ccl-bsf.com.

Park Hosted National Endurance Ride Competition Last Month. Endurance rides are cross country events where horse and rider teams cover up to 100 miles in a single day. Both the Arabian Horse Association Distance Nationals and the East Coast Regional Ride & Tie Champion Events took place during the second weekend in September.

Obed wins Another Keeper of the Light Award! The prestigious award is the highest honor bestowed by the National Park Service’s Southeast Regional Division of Education & Interpretation. Obed received the award for the “Climb with a Ranger” program. Since it’s inception the program has become one of the park’s most effective outreach tools. Through this free program nearly 1000 visitors annually have the chance to participate in an activity that they might otherwise never experience.