Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area

Celebrating Public Lands Day in the Park Saturday, September 27, 2014. This is the nation's largest, single-day volunteer event in which eight federal agencies as well as other groups partner together to maintain and protect the environment. Anyone wishing to volunteer should be at Oscar Blevins Farm located off West Bandy Creek Loop Road by 9:00 a.m. ET. The workday will end by 2:00 p.m. Volunteers are needed for trail clearing and trash pickup. Everyone should wear sturdy shoes and bring bug spray and drinking water.

Business Opportunity! The park is seeking a professional film maker to develop a high quality, interpretive film about the Big South Fork. The Park issued a Request for Quotation which can be viewed on eBuy at https://www.ebuy.gsa.gov/advantage/ebuy/seller/open_rfq.do?&contractNumber=GS-07F-2728A&rfqid=RFQ918673. Proposals must be submitted through eBuy by 5:00 PM on September 8, 2014.

Hog Hunting Permits on Sale. Wild hogs may be hunted from September 28, 2014, through February 28, 2015, in both Tennessee and Kentucky. A permit and a big game hunting license are required to hunt hogs during this season and may be purchased at the Bandy Creek or Obed Visitor Center or online at http://www.nps.gov/biso/planyourvisit/hog-hunting.htm. The permit costs $5.00 and is good for both Big South Fork and Obed Wild & Scenic River; those who purchase the permit will be requested to participate in a survey at a later date. A valid hunting license is required to purchase the permit. Dogs may not be used to hunt hogs.

Obed Wild and Scenic River

Haunting in the Hills Storytelling Festival Showcases Nationally Recognized, Award-Winning Storytellers. On September 20th, don’t miss the opportunity to hear Lloyd Arneach, David Clunch, Elizabeth Ellis, Joyce Slater, and Faye Wooden. Each has a unique style of storytelling, delivering the wisdom of the old folktales, and the universal truths of the human experience all flavored with wit, humor and fun! Come to the Bandy Creek Field and enjoy the beautiful Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area for a fun-filled day of stories, music, crafts and more. All activities are free and open to the public.

Congratulation to the 2014 Photo Contest Winners. Chosen by the Southern Appalachian Nature Photographers Society, the winners included Calvin R. Wenzel’s Jack O’Lanterns (Flora); Brandon Hembree’s Toad (Fauna); Michael Foster’s The Canopy (Artistic); Larry Coffey’s Evening Light (Landscape); and Kinley Hamby’s Back in Time (Youth). Receiving honorable mention were: John Martin’s Fern Bed on the Obed; Leroy Leonard’s Unexpected Sunbather; Amy Stafford’s Overlook; Michael Foster’s Fall in Obed; Sophia Hamby’s View at Lilly; and Elsie Knox’s Summer at Clear Creek. The People’s Choice Awards was a tie between Larry Coffey’s Evening Light and John Martin’s Early Morning Tranquility. The winning photos are on display at the Obed Visitor Center.

Park Awarded the Keeper of the Light Award. The park received this prestigious award for the “National Park in Your Backyard” program, which brings every sixth grader in the county to the park for an all-day, intensive introduction to the park’s resources and recreational opportunities. Over 750 students have participated since the program started in 2012. The park is committed to continuing it in perpetuity. The program is made possible through the dedication of park staff, volunteers, and Morgan County Schools. Special thanks to the National Park Foundation and Leidos, Inc. for providing funds for equipment and transportation.

Bandy Creek Visitor Center
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Obed Visitor Center
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