

TAKE A STEP BACK IN TIME
ASHLAND COMPANY STORE
5633 CHEROKEE ROAD, ASHLAND, WV 24868 - PHONE 304-862-4800

Ashland Company Store Opens

Are you looking for a handmade rocking chair, candles, lotion or jewelry? Do you want to purchase products made in West Virginia or McDowell County? Residents and tourist now have the opportunity to make these purchases in the Ashland Company Store.

The Ashland Company Store is one of the only former coal company stores in West Virginia that has gone back to the original use as a retail store. The difference is that this store, unlike the tradition coal company store, is not owned by the coal company.

The store will be used as a multi-purpose facility to include an approved shared use kitchen, Coal Camp Café restaurant, business incubator to support local entrepreneurs, computer lab, three rental offices and the headquarters for Travel Beautiful Appalachia, Inc. (TBAI).

TBAI is a non-profit organization with the mission to create economic development for the unemployed and under-employed in McDowell, Wyoming and Mercer counties. Through "Business Assets" training courses there will be training and one-on-one support to local entrepreneurs.

Jay Chatman, TBAI Director, and Becky Abel, TBAI Program Coordinator, have been meeting with local entrepreneurs to view and purchase their products for sale in the Ashland Company Store. Mr. Chatman stated, "We are looking for products developed by local entrepreneurs in order to give them exposure to more markets. We have been successful in locating wood, painted, crocheted and quilted products in McDowell County. I am amazed to find the talent and quality of products that are produced within our area."

The Ashland Company Store is located near the new Ashland Resort Campground and the Hatfield-McCoy Indian Ridge Trailhead. The Ashland Company Store will provide access for local entrepreneurs to the tourism revenue.

TBAI has already provided trainings for Bed & Breakfast, landlord property development, certified food product development including marketing and labeling, In addition the shared use kitchen is available for food production that can be sold in the Ashland Company Store or in other stores.

The Ashland Company Store and Coal Camp Café are located six miles on Route 17 Cherokee Road from Route 52 in Northfork. For more information call 304-862-4800 or 304-862-3364.

