

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

**WV SECRETARY OF COMMERCE KELLY GOES
VISITS ASHLAND COMPANY STORE**

During a visit to McDowell County, the West Virginia Secretary of Commerce Kelly Goes Visited the Ashland Company store and Travel Beautiful Appalachia, Inc. (TBAI) office. Secretary Goes was accompanied by Bobby Lewis from the WV Development Office and Jimmy Gianato from WV Division of Homeland Security. House of Delegate Member Clif Moore, Mike Mitchem, Chairman of the TBAI Board of Directors and Christy Bailey, Executive Director of the Coal Heritage Authority, were also present for the visit. The TBAI staff members Sharon Walden, Executive Director, Debbie Bailey, Business Development Manager and Ann Nicks, the Office of Surface Mining VISTA, gave a presentation to Secretary Goes regarding the business incubator located in the store which contains a retail space with 40 West Virginia vendors and 40 local entrepreneurs, a kitchen used by the Coal Camp Café and for food manufacturing, a computer lab, offices, a meeting space for training and community events. Secretary Goes offered a number of ideas for the expansion of services for TBAI including activities to the women and children who come with the ATV riders and the newest geocaching events. After the tour, Secretary Goes went to the Hatfield McCoy Trail System Indian Ridge Trailhead and the Ashland Resort to view first-hand the leading tourism activities in McDowell County.

