



Forest Service

Monongahela National Forest

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News Release

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Celebrate Fifty Years of Fun and Learning at the Cranberry Mountain Nature Center

RICHWOOD, W.Va., April 24, 2017 – The Monongahela National Forest invites you to celebrate the Cranberry Mountain Nature Center during its fiftieth year at the following events:

- **May 9: Cranberry Mountain Nature Center Re-Dedication**

Festivities begin Tuesday, May 9 at 1:30 p.m. for the Cranberry Mountain Nature Center re-dedication ceremony at the Nature Center. Many distinguished guests have been invited including former employees, state and local elected officials, and community leaders. Music will be provided by the award-winning Richwood High School Lumberjack Express band.

- **June 17: Highland Scenic Highway Scenic Drive Day & Classic Car Show**

Saturday, June 17 is Highland Scenic Highway Scenic Drive Day and Classic Car Show at the Nature Center. Pick up a copy of the Highland Scenic Highway Audio Tour CD and enjoy a guided journey through this iconic landscape. At noon, stop in at the Nature Center for a cruise-in of classic cars, and enjoy live music by The Black Mountain Bluegrass Boys in the afternoon.

- **September 24: Thirtieth Annual Cranberry Shindig**

The thirtieth annual Cranberry Shindig will be held Sunday, September 24, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Enjoy music, dancing, crafts and demonstrations against a backdrop of fall color. Jake Krack and the Bing Brothers will provide musical entertainment. Two clogging groups will entertain, Lou Maiuri & the Appalachian Country Cloggers and Old Dominion Cloggers. Many artisans will be featured, along with demonstrations of apple cider making and blacksmithing.

The Cranberry Mountain Nature Center is open Thursday through Monday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (closed Tuesdays and Wednesdays). The Nature Center features a display area with live snakes, wildflowers, interactive children's displays, and animals of West Virginia. There is also a nature store with books,

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clothing, and toys. Other events will be held throughout the summer including a native orchid tour, Cranberry Fun Day for kids, and a moth program. Roy Moose's *Snakes of West Virginia* program is held most Sundays at 1 p.m., starting Memorial weekend.

For more information about the Nature Center and its programs, please call 304-653-4826. For more information about the Fiftieth Celebration, please email Diana Stull at dstull@fs.fed.us. Or visit our webpage at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/mnf/>.

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