

## Forkland Community Center Is Up and Running Again!

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, FCC has been mostly closed for the past year, with the exception of the scaled-down Festival that was held in October. Though the Festival was much modified for safety reasons—with only a drive-thru pancake breakfast, drive-thru dinner, online Silent Auction, and virtual Fox & Hound race—it was a successful event both as a way to bring the community together during the pandemic and as a fund raiser. Thanks again to everyone who donated time and/or money, and to all those who participated!

Now that vaccinations are widely available and coronavirus cases in Kentucky are fewer than in the past, the Forkland board has decided that it is time to restart some Community Center activities—with modifications for public health. Some upcoming activities are described in this newsletter. However, Covid-19 is still with us and is surging in some areas of the country. If conditions become worse in Kentucky, some of these activities might be cancelled or modified (check this newsletter for updates).

The first event is the Annual Meeting on Tuesday, May 4, at 7:30 p.m. All Forkland Community Center members are invited to attend. There will be social distancing; please wear a mask. As stated in our bylaws, there will be an election of five directors to replace those whose terms expire this year. If you are interested in being on the board, please come to the meeting and let your intentions be known so you can be nominated. The regular board meeting will be held immediately following the annual meeting, and anyone can stay for this meeting. Officers will be elected during the regular meeting.

The museum will also be open regularly on Saturdays, May through October, and summer art classes for kids will be held outside. We are planning a big 50th Forkland Festival & Heritage Revue, and we hope to have the Halloween Carnival, Christmas Dinner, and Twilight Christmas if conditions allow.

Forkland Community Center facilities are open for renting again, including the picnic shelter and various spaces in the buildings. An FCC member must be present, and a suggested maximum number of people in the kitchen area is 20. As always, the renting group must clean up before and after their event and must take their own garbage away. We have added a \$75 deposit to ensure that proper clean-up is done. After any rental, the building will be inspected, and if adequately clean, the deposit will be returned. If you are interested in renting facilities, please call Gail Holman, 859-332-7980.

**Forkland Community Center**  
**16479 Forkland Rd., Gravel Switch, KY 40328**  
**859-332-7146, [www.forklandcomctr.org](http://www.forklandcomctr.org)**

Please send news, photos, announcements, art, etc. for the *Forkland Community Center News* to:  
Pat Williams, 750 Black Lick Rd., Gravel Switch, KY 40328, 859-332-7606, [gwillgwillgwill@gmail.com](mailto:gwillgwillgwill@gmail.com)

### **Forkland Contacts**

President: Matthew Ellis, 859-583-0546, [MatthewEllis@woodsequipment.com](mailto:MatthewEllis@woodsequipment.com)

Vice President: Doris Purdom, 859-332-7839

Treasurer: Gail Holman, 859-332-7980

Secretary: Rebecca Kernodle, 859-332-4424, [r28kernodle@bellsouth.net](mailto:r28kernodle@bellsouth.net)

Webmaster: Kevin Adams, 859-332-1093, [info@forklandcomctr.org](mailto:info@forklandcomctr.org)

Museum & Gift Shop: Wayne Thurman, 859-936-7489, [thurman3394@roadrunner.com](mailto:thurman3394@roadrunner.com)

Building Rental: Gail Holman, 859-332-7980

Art Classes: Pat Williams, 859-332-7606, [gwillgwillgwill@gmail.com](mailto:gwillgwillgwill@gmail.com)

Board meetings (on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m.) are open to the public



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## Upcoming and Ongoing Events

**51st FCC Annual Meeting, followed by the May Board Meeting:** Tuesday, May 4, 7:30 p.m. The meeting will be held outside in the picnic shelter, weather permitting. Please wear a mask, and social distance.

**Forkland Lincoln Museum:** Saturdays, noon to 4 p.m., starting on May 8. The museum committee, under the leadership of Wayne Thurman, has been working hard this past year to thoroughly update the museum, adding new displays and adding to and reorganizing the extensive family history and other records on paper. The Gift Shop is open, too, with some great Forkland items: T-shirts, caps, wall hangings, pens, books, artworks, and more.



### **Summer Arts & Crafts Classes for Kids:**

Every Tuesday, June 1 through August 3, 7 to 8:30 p.m. These free classes are for children ages 4 to 18 (even younger if an adult helps). This year we will be holding classes outside in the picnic shelter to minimize health risks. Drawing, painting, clay modeling, paper crafts, weaving, and more! We do something different each week that each child can do at his/her own level. Come any week or all weeks. Art is messy, so be sure to wear old clothes. For more information, contact Pat Williams, 859-332-7606, [gwillgwill@gmail.com](mailto:gwillgwill@gmail.com).

## Forkland Scholarship Program for High School Seniors

Forkland Community Center is again sponsoring a scholarship program that celebrates the continuing tradition of academic excellence within the Forkland community. The scholarship award is \$750, and that amount will be divided among up to three graduating high school seniors who have connections to the Forkland Community Center through their community service.

### RULES

1. A scholarship applicant must be an active volunteer at the Forkland Community Center.
2. Any recipient of the scholarship funds must enter college no later than the fall semester following his/her high school graduation, unless circumstances beyond the recipient's control prevent enrollment at that time.
3. An applicant must have an overall GPA of at least 2.5.
4. An applicant must plan to pursue a degree at an accredited College, University, or Community Technical College.

Please inform any college-bound high school seniors who have volunteered at Forkland Community Center about this excellent opportunity to benefit from their service to the Community Center. The

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deadline for applying is May 31, 2021. Details and an application form are available on the Forkland website [www.forklandcomctr.org](http://www.forklandcomctr.org) or by e-mailing Forkland Community Center president Matthew Ellis ([MatthewEllis@woodsequipment.com](mailto:MatthewEllis@woodsequipment.com)).

All who have an interest in supporting the Forkland Community Center Scholarship Program are asked to make contributions to the scholarship fund. Please mail checks or money orders, specifying that the donations are to be used for the scholarship fund, to:

Forkland Community Center, Inc.  
16479 Forkland Road  
Gravel Switch, KY 40328

## 50th Anniversary Forkland Heritage Festival & Revue

On April 26, we had our first meeting to plan for this year's 50th Anniversary Festival, which will be held on October 8 and 9, 2021. There is a lot of enthusiasm for making this a great Festival, bringing back some of the popular booths and activities of the earlier Festivals and trying to involve, as volunteers or attendees, many of the people who have made the Festival successful for 50 years. In particular, we will honor the recently deceased Shirley Sheperson, who was the chairman of the Festival for its first 25 years. And we will also honor the original 15 members of the Forkland Community Center board: Manuel Roller, Marvin Roller, Randy Hawkins, Louis Sheperson, Roy Ellis, Marjory Ellis, Bobby Joe Ellis, Paul Readnour, Allen Ellis, Donald Westerfield, Leonard Roller, Cecil Ellis, Chester Shepperson, Darrell Ellis, and Howard Overstreet. Five of the original board members are still with us, including Chester Shepperson, who will have his 100th birthday about the time of the Festival!

Festival plans will be discussed and a Festival theme will be selected at the Annual Meeting and the board meeting that follows on Tuesday, May 4, so be sure to attend. We want *your* ideas, help, and other input on making this 50th Festival as good as possible. If you can help in any way or would like to have a craft or food booth or other activity at the Festival, please contact Matthew Ellis (859-583-0546, [MatthewEllis@woodsequipment.com](mailto:MatthewEllis@woodsequipment.com)) or Doris Purdom (859-332-7839).

Here are some photos of past Festival workdays. We have always had fun while working together and we sincerely hope that you will join us this year.





## **BCPL Summer Reading Program for Kids—TAILS AND TALES**

The April *Forkland News* had information about Boyle County Public Library programs accessible to Forklanders, but it didn't have sufficient room to describe the summer reading program in much detail. Here's some more information:

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BCPL has an exciting summer reading program for kids planned— **TAILS AND TALES**. The plans are to celebrate animals and foster a love of reading in all patrons. The program will be mostly virtual but will take advantage of easing Covid restrictions as the summer progresses to have some “pop-up” outside events.

Every participant who finishes the reading challenge—reading for 10 days—will receive a backpack filled with swag and a prize book of her or his own choosing. Each time a participant reads for 10 days he or she will be eligible to choose a prize book and enter into the Grand Prize drawings. The challenge will take place on Beanstack software.

Kick Off Day is Tuesday, June 1, from 9 a.m. till noon, with live streaming. Also on June 1, from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. in the library lobby, kids can pick up free Book Buddies. These small animal plushies will be given out to participants to build excitement starting on Kick Off Day and continuing while supplies last. Each Buddy will have a tag tied to its collar containing the essential information about the summer program. Each week on social media, there will be hashtag challenges for patrons to share where/what they are reading with their new Book Buddies!

Throughout the summer, there will be lots of (mostly virtual) programs, as listed below. It sounds like plenty of fun for all! Visit [www.boylepublib.org](http://www.boylepublib.org) for the schedule.

- **Pug Portraits:** Art Center of the Bluegrass instructor Brandon Long leads a free pet drawing workshop. Learn the basics of sketching a pug so you can sketch your own pet.
  - **Liberty Nature Center:** shows us various species of birds of prey (hawk, raptor, maybe even eagle).
  - **Newport Aquarium** will have two programs: one on their sharks and one on their penguins.
  - **Toledo Zoo** will give us tours of one of their animal exhibits.
  - **Pet Photo Shoots:** Photography appointments in the Reading Garden for you and your pet; two professionally edited portraits will be given to each participant.
  - **Yoga:** Weekly yoga for kids provided by Francine Sutherland (pre-recorded).
  - **Silly Safari:** Silly Safaris LIVE Animal show is the perfect blend of fact and fun. Shows use a variety of reptiles, mammals, birds, and bugs for an experience everyone will remember.
  - **Humane Society and Mutts with Manners:** Both organizations will be available—the Humane Society in person and Mutts with Manners virtually.
  - **Axe Throwing:** Held within a trailer, teens will have multiple chances to land a hatchet in the target at the end of the cage!
  - **Ukulele Lessons:** Weekly “how to” teaching videos accompany Ukulele checkouts from the Library.
  - **Cameo:** Elephant Jungle Sanctuary, Giraffe, Red Panda, Quokka the Happiest Animal in the World, and Kermit (puppet) will all make appearances in our summer promotional video, thanks to the Cameo website.
  - **Historical Treasure Hunt:** Visit the library to pick up a map of historic markers in the Kentucky Historical Society’s marker program, and head out to visit these special places in both state and local history! Visit each site, then return your map to the library and receive a water bottle for your future adventures! June 1 - July 31.
  - **Adult Book Club:** Meets monthly during the summer months.
  - **Virtual Field Trips:** Tours of some special areas around Kentucky. . . virtually; including Shaker Village, Perryville Battlefield, Mammoth Cave Wildlife Museum, and the Great American Dollhouse Museum!
  - **Community Mural:** For all of June and July, the Library will be hosting a community mural! You can pick up a template at the tree desk, draw an animal (real or imaginary) on it, and bring it back to be put on display. There will be weekly video updates showing the progress of the mural.
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