

FOUCL Hosts Appalachian Trail Ambassador



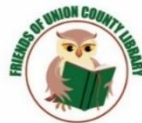
John Turner

Friends of Union County Library (FOUCL) is pleased to host a presentation by John Turner in the Community Room at Union County Public Library, 303 Hunt Martin St., Blairsville on Tuesday, June 25, 2024, beginning at 1 PM.

John Turner is a hiking enthusiast, an Appalachian Trail Ambassador, and a trail maintainer for the Georgia Appalachian Trail Club. He is the author of *Killing the Buddha on the Appalachian Trail: Walking on through Self-Doubt and Aging*, to be published October 1 by the University of Georgia Press. John completed a section hike of the entire Appalachian Trail in 2022 shortly after his 73rd birthday, joining a select group of hikers more than 70 years old who have walked the entire 2,194 miles of the A. T. His talk will explain how the Appalachian Trail began as the vision of one man, how the trail has evolved over the decades, what his hike from Georgia to Maine was like, and what the Georgia Appalachian Trail Club and other volunteer clubs do to maintain the A. T. that is now famous with long-distance hikers throughout the world.

This program is being presented as part of the 2024 Summer Reading Program, whose theme is “Adventure Begins at Your Library.” If you are interested in hiking and the Appalachian Trail, here are a few titles you might be interested in reading: *Hiking Through: One Man’s Journey to Peace and Freedom on the Appalachian Trail* by Paul V. Stutzman; *Just Passin’ Thru: A Vintage Store, the Appalachian Trail, and a Cast of Unforgettable Characters* by Winton Porter (who once owned Mountain Crossing at Neel Gap in Union County); and *Grandma Gatewood’s Walk: The Inspiring Story of the Woman Who Saved the Appalachian Trail* by Ben Montgomery.

Come join us for an adventure-inspiring event at the library!



**Advocating for Libraries,
Literacy, and Lifelong Learning**