THE TORCH

THE WEST VIRGINIA 4-H ALL STARS

WV 4-H ALL STARS THE TORCH WINTER 2008

West Virginia All Star Annual Conference

Building on the Past, Present, and Future
By Jeff Yokum, Torch Editor – Past Chief

Guy Stewart started off our Conference this year with a look at upcoming projects for the Mill. Guy reminded us that we must remain ever vigilant in letting our legislators know the importance of supporting Jackson's Mill.

The highlight of the evening was Council Circle led by Jim Simms and the evening reflections provided by the WVU Collegiate 4-Her's.

Later in the evening, Debbie McDonald provided an update on several items that affect the 4-H program. (See West Virginia 4-H Updates)

During our annual business meeting, the constitutional amendments were approved to have our scouts reflect the currently used 4-H Districts and made minor clarifications to the rules on leaders attending consecration services.

Conference Photos by Paul Davis

On Saturday afternoon, the West Virginia Building was transformed into an exhibit hall with displays of activities that All Stars are involved in across the state. There was also a cake and punch reception for the new members that were inducted into the All Stars, and for those that were being recognized as Outstanding All Stars.

Our evening focused on recognizing the service and dedication of the Outstanding All Stars. Chief Jeff Yokum also presented the Chief's Challenge Awards for Service to James Grantham (Jefferson County) and Carl Townsend (Ohio County).

The Annual Auction held at the conclusion of the ceremony was a huge success. As always, the proceeds from the auction will be used to provide snacks for the state camps (helping to keep the costs lower).

We look forward to seeing everyone at next year's conference September 25-27, 2009.

The Chief's Signal

Barbara Teter

West Virginia 4-H All-Stars... We're Better Together

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who were able to join us for the Annual All Star Conference and for giving me your support, as I become the new chief of the West Virginia All Stars. I know I have accepted a great responsibility, and with the combined experience and knowledge of the executive committee, we are dedicated to the success of the WV 4-H All Stars as our highest priority.

I have had the great pleasure of; being a 4-H Club Leader in Randolph County since 1985, being part of the committee to revive YAC Weekend, staffing OMC, and traveling for 5 years with the Outspoken Bike Ride as their medical crew. It has been during these times of watching campers become young leaders, seeing a 4-H'er serve in their community for the first time, or traveling the beautiful mountains of our state encouraging and caring for our riders that my faith in our youth is revived and I am personally challenged to continue to serve, because I know that it is making a difference.

Living within a few miles of the first 4-H Camp, Camp Good Luck, where Teepi Kendrick sat at the first 4-H campfire with J.V. Shipman in 1915, I drive by this farm and think of how these dedicated men had a common goal and dream of what the program might eventually become. Wouldn't they be filled with pride to know that things are alive and well, and ever progressing in this great state? As your executive committee, we too will be working together shoulder to shoulder with the common goal of "Making the Best Better."

I am personally inspired and challenged by the vision of Guy Stewart. Guy's dedication to the WV 4-H All Stars, and his vision for the future of Jackson's Mill is and should be an example to each of the All Stars to live out our motto of "Service".

We are now seeing the fruits of labor of persistent planning and fund raising in our organization. This proof should serve as encouragement to continue the groundwork that has begun.

If you have not stopped by Jackson's Mill in the last few years, I urge you to do so to see the progress that is taking place. So far, there has been completion on the restoration of the Teepi Shrine, the All Star Suite in the upstairs of the newly restored Mt. Vernon Dining Hall, the beautiful floor in the Assembly Hall, and several cottage restorations. The restoration projects at Jackson's Mill have been funded through your private donations, county fund raising programs, and our encouragement of the state government in providing the

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Photograph by WVU Staff Photographer

Editor's Notes

By Jeff Yokum, Torch Editor

I would like to thank everyone for giving me an opportunity to serve as the new *Torch* Editor.

My goal as the editor will be to make this a newsletter that helps to keep you informed of 4-H and All Star activities across the state, as well as WV and National 4-H issues.

One of the new features that I would like to start is to cover local or regional 4-H All Star projects. Please send any articles, suggestions, or concerns to me.

All Star Interstate Conference

By Sally Lou Darst, 2009 Interstate Conference Committee Co-Chair

Photograph by Paul Davis

Maryland 4-H All Stars hosted the 2009 Interstate Conference in Garrett County Maryland. Nineteen West Virginia 4-H All Stars attended. Highlights of the conference included a scenic train ride on the Western Maryland train, Museum and Canal Boat Tour, Penn Alps Artisan Village, Oakland Historic Train Depot and Museum, and a trip through a Corn Maze at Cove Farms. In addition we enjoyed delicious food and entertainment.

During the business meeting, an important vote was taken concerning future Interstate Conferences. After much discussion, the vote was that Interstate Conferences would continue to be held EACH year. The following states have extended invitations:

2009—West Virginia, 2010—Mississipppi, and 2011—Virginia.

West Virginia 4-H All Stars will be hosting the 2009 Interstate Conference in Huntington July 30 - August 2, 2009. The theme is "OVER THE RAINBOW IN WEST VIRGINIA." We need your help!!!! Areas where we need assistance are: registration, stuffing greeting bags, locating and securing door prizes, getting items for the auction, decorating, serving in the hospitality room, and being present to show our guests what a wonderful group of All Stars we have in West Virginia. Please let one of the committee members hear from YOU. We appreciate your help. Have ideas —please let us know.

Photograph by Paul Davis

The Chief's Signal

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much needed funding for perpetual upkeep in meeting the needs of the 21st century.

The holidays may be a perfect chance for a family trip to Jackson's Mill. On December 5th and 6th the "Winter Lights at Jackson's Mill" will take place. You can take a candlelit walk through the grounds, enjoy a delicious meal (meal on the 5th only), and discover how holidays were celebrated in earlier times.

Stop by and see the place you have called home during your camping days. It's beautiful, and with our help and SERVICE, we will continue to help make it better for the generations yet to come.

Let me take this time to wish you and your family a joyous and exciting holiday season filled with wonderful memories and good health.

Outstanding All Stars

By Sandra Sims,
1st Lesser Chief

Photograph by Paul Davis

Celebrating the Stars…Building on the Past, Present and the Future was the theme for the 2008 WV 4-H All Star conference and it exemplifies the recipients of our Outstanding 4-H All Stars.

Outstanding All Stars work beyond 4-H and the All Star program and enrich the communities where they reside. Hours upon hours of their valuable time and monies was given with the youth of West Virginia in mind, not the thought of someday receiving recognition.

During the 2008 All Star Conference 23 individuals from 15 counties were recognized as Outstanding All Stars: Berkeley - Doris Gall Brown, Eva C. Kief, J. Kenneth (deceased) and Mary McDonald, Doug and Carolyn Elliott; Cabell - Richard Hale; Greenbrier - Holly Osborne; Hampshire - Michael Coleman; Harrison - Doris Dean; Lewis - Kaye Lloyd and Donna Squires; Mason - Samantha Hoffman; Mercer - Sarah Richards Brown; Monongalia - Carol Miller; Nicholas - Angela Groves; Pleasants - Judy and Randy Nutter; Putnam - Wayne Bennett; Randolph - Christina Harper and Cheri Shiflett; Taylor - Mary Jane Armstrong; and Wood - H. R. Scott.

These 2008 Outstanding All Stars have spent a lifetime fulfilling the All Star motto of "SERVICE" and we thank them from the bottom of our hearts!

News from Jackson's Mill

By Marie Burleigh,
Jackson's Mill Public Relations Specialist

The summer camping season may be over, but that doesn't mean things have slowed down at WVU Jackson's Mill. Since the All Star Conference in September, we've hosted both youth and adult groups including the WV CEOS Fall Conference, the WV Association of Student Councils, the WV State Grange, WV Dance (not to be confused with our 4-H dance groups!) and the WVU Extension Service Annual Meeting. There have been numerous one-day meetings, several weddings, a soccer tournament over on the airstrip property, and cattle in the barn at least twice. Almost 3000 people went through our Haunted Corn Maze in just ten nights in October.

In the midst of this our staff has been looking forward to the holidays. Our annual Winter Lights celebration is scheduled for December 5 & 6. Weather permitting; we'll be lighting luminaries around the grounds both nights beginning at dusk. There'll be a fresh tree in the Historic Area, decorated with hand-dipped candles. The tree lighting is scheduled for 7:30 each evening. The Winter Lights Buffet on Friday evening will feature roast turkey, baked steak, and all the trim-

Photograph by WVU Staff Photographer

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West Virginia 4-H Updates

By Debbie McDonald,
WV State 4-H Program Leader

The West Virginia 4-H Program stays busy all the time. We are breaking records with the number of camps, events and members that we currently have. Our 4-H faculty and staff are working on many projects to meet the youth development goals that we have for young West Virginians. Let me list a few special highlights:

• 4-H Club Chartering Process Completes Phase II

All of the 4-H community clubs have been working on making sure that they have accurate, up-to-date bylaws, that they have good program plans on file and that they understand best practices when it comes to running their groups. As each club has gotten all of their materials in order, they submit them to the county Extension Office who reviews them and sends them forward to the State 4-H Office to be officially chartered by the United States Department of Agriculture's National 4-H Headquarters and by the West Virginia University Extension Service's State 4-H Office. Nearly all of the 4-H Clubs in WV have completed the process. The next groups that will work on receiving official authorization and recognition will be the 4-H affiliate groups such as 4-H Leader's Associations and County 4-H Foundations.

• 4-H Camps Held with All 55 Counties in Summer 2008

For the first time in a number of years, all 55 counties in WV offered one or more weeks of 4-H camp. In all, 194 weeks of residential and day camps were held with 17,000 youth attending. The camps included a variety of activities and themes with everything from traditional younger, older and all age 4-H camps, nutrition day camps, science camps, Cloverbud (5 to 8 year olds) day camps, leadership development camps, as well as the state 4-H camps at Jackson's Mill. Overall the camping season was a smooth one with very few problems and lots of great success stories.

• Energy Express Literacy Education Program Receives National Honor

The Energy Express program has recently received word that it has been selected as a National 4-H Program of Distinction by the United States Department of Agriculture, the home of the National 4-H Headquarters. It is the first WV 4-H youth development program to receive this prestigious honor which only goes to programs of exceptional quality with demonstrated results in improving the lives of the young people who participate.

• SET Excitement

SET stands for Science, Engineering and Technology and is one of the three mission mandates on which 4-H focuses much of its teaching time. The other two mandates are Healthy Living and Citizenship. SET is currently getting lots of attention since 4-H has proven how capable it is of exposing young people to all kinds of quality educational experiences in these areas. WV 4-H recently took part in the National 4-H Science Experiment where youth across the state learned about polymers and reported the results of their experiments with them on the National 4-H Website. Led by Extension faculty several hundred of the experiments have been conducted thus far and they are still being done in club and school settings.

• Health Club Officers

The WV 4-H program is in its third year using the newly created 4-H Health Club Officer role to provide solid programming to their fellow members in the area of health education. The program has received many accolades for the impact that it has had on youth and their reports of adoption of better health practices.

• WV State Fair Gets New 4-H Council Circle

A new 4-H council circle was built on the WV State Fair Grounds and Extension Camping Instructors led council circle programs, games,

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4-H Updates (Continued from page 5)

singing and story telling at the site giving 4-Hers and visitors a taste of what the WV 4-H program does at camp.

• Operation Military Kids (OMK) is Fully Launched

WV now has a 4-H OMK program to reach out to the youth of WV whose parents are deployed by the National Guard. The program is a joint effort of 4-H across the nation in partnership with the U.S. Department of Defense. A number of activities are conducted that support young people whose parents are away by giving them 4-H membership opportunities or by 4-Hers providing support to the youth during these challenging times.

• WV 4-H Around the Globe

The WV IFYE (International 4-H Youth Exchange) Program currently is hosting an IFYE from Germany named Sophia Roßmoller, while WV 4-Her Emily Evert travels in Germany and Austria. Emily will do her tour of WV in early 2009 to tell 4-Hers across the state about what she learned.

The WV 4-H program is also leading programs in Mexico and in Chile to help support newly established 4-H programs in those countries.

• WVU's Fieldcrest Residence Hall To Be Official Home of Freshmen 4-Hers

A new home for the WVU Collegiate 4-H Club has been established at the WVU Fieldcrest Residence Hall. The club meets and holds special events at the hall. In fall of 2009, the hall will welcome any WV 4-Hers who would like to live there. If you know any high school seniors in 4-H who would like to live with others from 4-H and with an interest in participating in a special learning community, please have them get in touch with their local Extension Office who will be able to give them more information.

The West Virginia 4-H program has much good news to share, thanks to its many supporters which include those of you reading this edition of *The Torch*. My thanks goes out to each of you who help in any way to make the lives of West Virginia's youth better through the fourfold development principles that have served us so well for so long. The activities that we engage in may change with time but our work with youth on thinking skills, relationship building, service to others and healthy living remain intact and effective. We continue to strive "to make the best better" in all aspects of our beloved WV 4-H program.

All Star Publishes Chapter About Jackson's Mill

Courtney Fint, South West Scout and former Preston County 4-H'er, was recently published in a collection of essays regarding historic preservation entitled Cultural Landscapes: Balancing Nature and Heritage in Preservation Practice, edited by Richard Longstreth. Courtney's chapter, "The American Summer Youth Camp as a Cultural Landscape," is based on her masters' thesis about the history and preservation of Jackson's Mill, completed at Columbia University in 2003. The book evolved from the 2004 Fourth National Forum on Preservation Practice at which Courtney was a speaker, and coincidentally, where she met Bryson Van Nostrand, now the architect in charge of the Jackson's Mill renovation project. Courtney was asked to adapt her presentation and paper for the book, and after a long process of editing and review, it was published by the University of Minnesota Press in April 2008. The essay discusses the history of the summer camp movement, development of the buildings and landscape of Jackson's Mill, the camp's architectural influences, and the cultural meanings of the landscape. Other essays in the book cover topics such as National Parks, the Cross-Bronx Expressway, and Little Tokyo in Los Angeles. Cultural Landscapes is available on www.amazon.com.

Courtney is currently employed as an architectural historian with the West Virginia Division of Highways in Charleston. She wrote the nomination to the National Register of Historic Places for Jackson's Mill in 2004, and makes time to return to Alpha II on staff every summer.

Call To Service

By Jeff Orndorff, Extension Specialist—
4-H Events Coordinator

Service – It is what we are about in the Alpha Chapter of the West Virginia 4-H All Stars. There are many different ways to serve the 4-H program in our state and we would like to share with you a few of these opportunities. The first example is the State 4-H Camping Program. We conduct three weeks of camping at beautiful, historical Jackson's Mill and each summer we need 120 adult volunteers to conduct these camps. We ask our volunteers to apply for a position on staff via a form that is mailed out April 1st of each year. We then select staff for Older 4-H Members' Conference, June 20-27; Alpha I, July 11-17; and Alpha II, July 18-24. These three weeks are also a chance for children and grandchildren of WV 4-H All Stars to attend camp. If you are interested in attending a camp on staff or would like to send a child or grandchild, please contact Jeffrey Orndorff, 612 Knapp Hall, P.O. Box 6031, Morgantown, WV 26506, phone 304 293-2694 or email jdorndorff@mail.wvu.edu.

We also have other opportunities to serve the 4-H program. We are always in need of judges, room chairman, and helpers for State 4-H Days which will happen in Morgantown July 29-August 1. This will be the second year that this event will be held in Morgantown and it allows us to bring resources from the university to bear on this event.

One final opportunity is the West Virginia State Fair that is held in Fairlea, WV beginning August 14 running through August 22. The type of service you could provide with the State Fair is varied and we need help everyday of the fair. We begin our work on August 11 and finish up on the 24th. Jobs range from work setting up the exhibit, hosting the exhibit during the fair, and finally tearing down the fair and getting exhibits ready to return to their counties. We exhibited 3,672 exhibits this past year and it takes a village to raise the youth exhibit at the fair.

The ways to provide service can range from a couple of hours to a week, but the satisfaction of a job well done can last all year. If you would like to be involved in anyway, please make sure to send your current mailing address to Jeff prior to April 1st to make sure you get an application for all these jobs plus others. It would not be possible to conduct any of these events without the support we receive from the WV 4-H All Stars and we appreciate all that have served in the past and those folks that will join us for the first time in 2009.

Toyota Funds 'Operation 4-H20' Water Quality Program

Provided by Vicki Ginn, WVU Extension

Southern West Virginia youths will create and conduct local and statewide water quality and conservation plans using a $75,000 Toyota grant to WVU Extension 4-H Youth Development for Operation 4-H20.

Operation 4-H20 promotes youth–adult partnerships via clubs and after-school programs. 4-H20, which begins in county 4-H clubs this fall, includes a new environmental science curriculum in which participants will collect and evaluate water samples from local streams and rivers.

Because West Virginia's 4-H clubs reach so many children, Toyota sees our programs as a great vehicle for their environmental initiatives, according to Chad Higgins.

Participating counties are divided into three cluster groups. Each group will look at a particular facet of water quality and sustainability issues.

Cluster One consists of Cabell, Kanawha, and Putnam counties. Members of this cluster will study manufacturing's effects on water quality and conservation.

Cluster Two participants (Jackson, Mason, and Wood counties) will look at agriculture's impact on water quality.

Cluster Three 4-H'ers (Grant, Hampshire, Hardy, Mineral, and Pendleton counties) will study water quality from a watershed standpoint.

Toyota provided a $1.48 million grant to the National 4-H Council to be divided among five states across the nation. 4-H programs in California, Kentucky, Michigan, and Mississippi also received grants.

TRANSFORMING LIVES:
Knapp Establishes Marshall County Camp Scholarship

Photograph by WVU Staff Photographer

Provided by Vicki Ginn, WVU Extension

Gladys Wasmuth Knapp can remember catching a train from Clarksburg, W.Va., and riding it to WVU Jackson's Mill to camp or to compete in 4-H contests.

But nothing is more vivid than her memories of camping in Marshall County in a barnlike structure that lacked running water. Despite the rustic conditions, the county 4-H camping experience was one Knapp will always treasure. She made friends, had lots of fun, and learned responsibility and how to get along, she said.

"County 4-H camp is crucial to the development of youth," Knapp said. "It helps kids build friendships that last a lifetime and gives kids a sense of belonging."

By the year 2010, youths in Marshall County, where Knapp grew up, will benefit from the Gladys W. Knapp Marshall County 4-H Camp Scholarship, which she recently established through the WVU Foundation.

"I feel it is important to give back to the programs and the people who made a difference in your life," Knapp said. "The West Virginia 4-H program and WVU Extension Service were a critical part of my development as a youth and in my growth as a professional."

This is the third fund that Knapp has established. The J.O. Knapp Memorial Scholarship, which honors her late husband, sends youth each year to Alpha camps, as well as state and national events. The J.O. & Gladys Knapp Student Scholarship benefits college students enrolled in programs of the Davis College of Agriculture, Forestry and Consumer Sciences. She also recently contributed to the Mount Vernon Dining Hall renovations by naming the J.O. Knapp Conference Room above the dining hall.

Knapp has provided annual scholarships for 4-H campers since 1966. A 4-H member in Marshall County for 10 years, Knapp attended county and state camps, making her first trek to Jackson's Mill when she was only 10 years old.

Born in Moundsville in 1913, Knapp earned her bachelor's degree in home economics from WVU in 1935. Her experiences in 4-H helped her to choose Extension work as a career. After serving as a home demonstration agent in Mercer County for two years, she returned to her studies and earned her master's from Cornell University in 1938.

She then returned to WVU to become the university's first Extension home management specialist. After her retirement from WVU Extension Service in 1960, she served for a year as acting assistant dean, director, and professor of home economics at WVU. She married J.O. Knapp in 1956.

She served for 26 years on the West Virginia 4-H Foundation's board of directors. She helped to raise funds for the "Room with a West Virginia View" at the National 4-H Center, near Washington, D.C.

Knapp is a member of the West Virginia 4-H All Stars and the West Virginia Agriculture and Forestry Hall of Fame. For her outstanding contributions to 4-H, she received the 4-H Alumni Recognition Award in 1977 and was inducted into the West Virginia 4-H Hall of Fame in 2004.

"I created this Marshall County 4-H Scholarship fund to help youth attend camp, learn the life skills they need to be more productive citizens, and to be a part of something that will shape their lives for years to come," Knapp said.

The gift was made through the WVU Foundation, a private nonprofit corporation that generates and provides support for West Virginia University.

TARGETING AT-RISK YOUTH: Benedum Foundation Provides Grant For After-school Program

Article Provided by Vicki Ginn, WVU Extension

Jane Hange understands the importance of providing strong after-school programs for youth throughout West Virginia, especially to kids in middle and high schools.

"Youths in these age groups are vulnerable to risky behaviors and there are too few high-quality supervised after-school programs for them," said Hange, who directs the West Virginia Statewide Afterschool Network (WVSAN), a partnership among the WVU Extension Service and several state agencies and organizations.

The development of new after-school and summer programs for middle and high school youths will now be possible, thanks to a $321,000 grant recently awarded by The Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation.

"The grant will allow WVSAN to provide mini-grants to existing after-school programs to create or expand program services to serve middle and high school students," said Hange.

WVSAN is one of 38 similar networks throughout the nation designed to create and sustain a statewide partnership to raise awareness of the importance of and increase access to quality "out-of-school time" programs. Other goals of the statewide after-school networks are to share criteria of effective programs and best practices among providers and the public, and to promote sustainability of such programs throughout the state.

The new mini-grant program is called Explorations – Middle and High School Afterschool Program Development Grants. Explorations mini-grants will be awarded to introduce new or expand after-school programs for middle and high school youths. The grants will work to strengthen collaborative efforts in communities struggling with problems associated with middle and high school youths.

"We're targeting these mini-grants to help reduce dropout rates, improve academic achievement, and encourage kids to attend college," said Hange. "Funded programs will strive to keep kids enrolled in school and do what is necessary to help them aspire and prepare to go to college or other postsecondary education."

"We're targeting these mini-grants to help reduce dropout rates, improve academic achievement, and encourage kids to attend college."

Eligible applicants will include after-school programs based in schools, churches and community-based organizations that served children for 25 or more weeks during the 2007-2008 school year. The Request for Proposals for the Explorations program should be available in November.

Following a competitive proposal review process, it is anticipated that up to 30 currently operating out-of-school-time programs will receive up to $10,000 each to add or expand programming for at least 20 middle and high school students. Mini-grant recipients will be able to begin offering additional programming in February 2009.

"Federal and local funding for after-school programs has dwindled over the years, making private funding from sources like the Benedum Foundation extremely important," said Hange. "With reduced funding from government programs, additional sources are critical in keeping the lights on for after-school programming. We appreciate the Benedum Foundation's focus on increasing access to strong after-school programs in West Virginia."

The Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation is an independent foundation established in 1944 by Michael and Sarah Benedum, natives, respectively, of Bridgeport and Blacksville, West Virginia. They named the Foundation in memory of their only child, Claude Worthington Benedum, who died in 1918 at age 20. The Benedums expressed the wish that grantmaking be focused in West Virginia and Southwestern Pennsylvania, their native and adopted homes.

The Foundation's assets at year-end 2006 totaled $425,575,685. Since its inception, the Foundation has authorized grants totaling more than

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Bolyard and Mullenax Awarded Fizer Scholarships

Provided by Vicki Ginn, WVU Extension

WVU freshmen Rebeccah Bolyard and Shawnna Mullenax have been awarded the Mildred Fizer Scholarship for 4-H'ers for the 2008-2009 academic year.

Bolyard and Mullenax were selected from a pool of nearly two dozen 4-H applicants from throughout the state.

Bolyard, an electrical engineering major, graduated from Preston High School. While a student at PHS, she participated in both the academic and vocational programs the school offered, excelling in advanced math and science classes and in electrical technology vocational classes.

She is a licensed Journeyman electrician and is helping to fund her college education by working with a local electrical company. In addition to earning a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering, she hopes to acquire a Master Electrician license.

Bolyard, from Fellowsville in Preston County, is the daughter of Mingo and Karen Bolyard. She has been a member of the Sandy Pals 4-H Club, holding several offices, including president. She has helped her club monitor acid mine drainage in local streams as part of the Save Our Streams program, and she assists with fund-raising activities for her local volunteer fire department.

"4-H helped me give back to my community," said Bolyard. "Being an active and good volunteer is important to me, and I have expanded my volunteering to include donating to local food drives and helping with a summer reading program."

"I greatly appreciate receiving this scholarship award," said Bolyard. "The Fizer Scholarship will help with the expenses I will have as a WVU student in Morgantown."

Mullenax, an exercise physiology major, graduated from Tygarts Valley High School. While attending TVHS, she also participated in the Upward Bound Program at Davis & Elkins College, helping her to earn advanced college credits. After completing her bachelor's degree in exercise physiology, she plans to earn a chiropractic degree. While in high school, she was a member of the varsity track team, was president of her class in grades 9 to12, and received a Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership award.

Rebeccah Bolyard

Shawna Mullenax

Photographs provided by WVU

She hails from Huttonsville in Randolph County and is the daughter of Jon Mullenax and Regina and Jedson Liggett. She has been a 4-H'er since she was in the third grade and currently belongs to the Tygart Pioneer 4-H Club. She has been a teen leader and held several club offices, including president. She has participated in her club's Adopt-A-Highway and fund-raising activities.

"The West Virginia 4-H program has played a huge role in making me the confident and outgoing person I am today," said Mullenax.

"I am honored to be chosen as a recipient of the Mildlred Fizer scholarship," said Mullenax. "Being awarded this scholarship places me another step closer to achieving my goals.

The Fizer scholarship, established by former West Virginia State 4-H Program Leader Mildred Fizer, the first female state 4-H leader in the history of the state and national 4-H programs, is awarded annually to a first-year freshman enrolled full time in a four-year degree program at West Virginia University. The scholarship is a one time award and is not renewable. Two scholarships are being awarded for the 2008-2009 academic year.

In Remembrance

Obituaries will be printed upon request as space permits

Charles Elwood Smith

Charles Elwood Smith, of The Villages at Greystone, died Thursday, Nov. 29, 2007, of natural causes. He was born in 1914 in Clover Lick and would have celebrated his 93rd birthday Wednesday, Dec. 5, 2007.

He was the son of the late John Smith and Mary Ellen Hoover Smith. He was the fifth of 11 children and grew up in Pocahontas County. After the bombing at Pearl Harbor, he joined the U.S. Navy in February 1942. Upon his discharge in 1945, he worked at the U.S. Naval Shipyard in Norfolk, Va. He worked at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Beckley for 35 years where he retired as chief of buildings and grounds.

For over 70 years, he was an active member of the WV 4-H All Stars. From the inception of the Raleigh County 4-H Camp in 1954, he was dedicated to the physical and the spiritual development of the camp well into his 70s and 80s.

He was preceded in death by his grandson, Brent Charles Walker; his former wife, Jessie Snyder Smith; five brothers; and four sisters.

Charlie is survived by three daughters, Helen Walker and husband, John, of Beckley, Nancy Craig and husband, Don, of Milwaukee, Wis., Deatra Smith of Nashville, Tenn., and an "honorary" daughter, Jackie Smith and grandson, Aaron Craig, of Oak Creek, Wis.; a sister, Osa Smith McLaughlin of Marlinton; and many nieces and nephews.

Lt. Col. James Kenneth "Ken" McDonald, Sr.

Lt. Col. James Kenneth "Ken" McDonald, Sr., U.S. Army (Ret), 83, of Arden, went to be with the Lord Monday, August 11, 2008 at City Hospital.

Born April 7, 1925 in Martinsburg, he was the son of the late James Ernest and Dorothy Vivian Pitzer McDonald.

He was a veteran of the U. S. Army having retired with the rank of Lt. Colonel, and served during the Korean War.

Mr. McDonald was a leader of the Arden 4-H Club, 4-H All Star and the first National 4-H Sheep Shearing Champion.

He is survived by his loving wife of 56 years, Mary Orlis Handley McDonald; two daughters, Leslie Ann Stilwell and husband, Randall C., of Inwood and Johanna Lee Brenner and husband, Kim D. of Bettendorf, Iowa; one son, James Kenneth McDonald, Jr. and wife, Tami (Dean), of Martinsburg; eleven grandchildren; two great-granddaughters, four brothers, William D. McDonald and wife, June, of Inwood, Ernest F. McDonald and wife, Norma, of Inwood, Carroll D. McDonald and wife, Trilby, of Martinsburg, and Stewart F. McDonald and wife, Willia Jean, of Martinsburg; and one sister, Alice E. Cogle and husband, Jerry W. of Inwood, and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Targeting At-Risk Students (Continued from page 9)

$316,000,000. Grants are made in the areas of education, health and human services, community development, and economic development. Grants are made to advance specific initiatives in West Virginia and Southwestern Pennsylvania, as well as to promote philanthropy in those regions.

WVSAN began in October 2006 with funding through a three-year C.S. Mott Foundation grant and matching grants from the W.Va. Departments of Education and the Arts and Health and Human Resources, the West Virginia University Extension Service, and the West Virginia State University Extension Service that totaled $408,000.

The grant was made through the WVU Foundation, a private nonprofit corporation that generates and provides support for West Virginia University.

LEAVE A LEGACY®

IRA Gifts Make Sense

By Deborah Miller, WVU

A unique opportunity for supporting West Virginia 4-H programs is available for anyone who has reached the magic age of 70½ and has funds in an Individual Retirement Account. A new law permits those of that age (and older) to donate their IRA funds, up to $100,000 per year in 2008 and 2009, to help 4-H in an important way.

To comply with the law, your gift check to benefit 4-H must come directly from the IRA, made payable to the WVU Foundation (just as other gifts for 4-H are). And there can be no personal or income benefit received from the donation.

While no income tax deduction is available from such an IRA gift, the good thing is that you do not have to include the distribution as taxable income on your federal or West Virginia income tax returns in the first place. For the majority of taxpayers who do not itemize deductions, this is an important tax-reduction benefit. For itemizers, an IRA gift doesn't limit their other charitable gift deductions in 2008 or 2009.

Now is the time to consider how an IRA gift may serve your charitable goals for 4-H of setting up an endowed fund or supporting specific programs. Consult your financial advisor, and remember that assistance is always available from Julie Cryser, director of development, at 304-293-5691. Please let her know of your intentions in advance of the check's arrival so that she can assure that your gift is used in the best way to benefit 4-H.

Jackson's Mill Infrastructure Upgrade

By Jeff Yokum

Over the last few years, people from across the state have come together to help complete some major renovation projects at Jackson's Mill. It was because of your efforts that there is a new pool, a completely refurbished dining hall, some of the cabins have been renovated and many other projects. The Mill is currently working hard on their next project; upgrading the infrastructure.

Dr. Guy Stewart, addressing the Annual All Star Conference, noted that raising funds for the infrastructure is very difficult because it doesn't have the visual results of something like finishing a suite in the dining hall.

Although some of the changes will be visual, such as burying the power lines, many of the changes are essential and would be noticed if they aren't completed.

I would urge you to contact the members of the legislature to again remind them of the impact of the 4-H program and Jackson's Mill on today's youth. Ask them to fully fund the upgrade projects which are essential to the continued growth of Jackson's Mill.

You may want to consider making a donation as well. To make a donation to support the upgrades of the Jackson's Mill infrastructure, contact Julie Cryser (information below).

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Morgantown, WV 26506-6031
304-293-5691, ext. 3307
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Julie.Cryser@mail.wvu.edu

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Charleston, WV 25305
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Governor@WVGov.org

4-H and 3M Foundation Launch National Initiative To Engage Youth in Alternative Energy Projects

New Power of the Wind Curriculum Supports 4-H Commitment to One Million New Young Scientists by 2013

CHEVY CHASE, Md. (August 18, 2008) — National 4-H Council and the 3M Foundation today announced their strategic partnership to launch The Power of the Wind, a cutting-edge educational resource that teaches youth how to use engineering principles to design and to build alternative energy projects, utilizing wind as the primary resource. This new national curriculum—funded by a $500,000 grant from 3M Foundation—adds to 4-H's continued commitment to providing quality, hands-on science, engineering, and technology programs to millions of youth nationwide.

4-H, part of the Cooperative Extension System of the United States Department of Agriculture, will also launch The Power of the Wind Online to provide multi-media resources and activities that supplement the curriculum and enable 4-H youth to engage in alternative energy issues. 4-H programs are implemented by the 106 Land Grant Universities through more than 3,100 local Cooperative Extension offices across the country. The grant aims to reach 1.3 million middle-school youth and to target 730,000 4-H youth engaged in energy projects in virtually every county in the nation.

"The Power of Wind is an exciting addition to our existing hands-on programming in science, engineering, and technology and will help us reach our goal of fostering one million new scientists over the next five years," said Donald T. Floyd, Jr., president and CEO of National 4-H Council. "Our strategic partnership with 3M is another example of the great collaboration between 4-H and corporate, university, and civic leaders and is dedicated to empowering youth to cultivate a long-lasting interest in the sciences."

4-H and 3M, one of the nations leading diversified technology companies, understand that the technology required to meet today's environmental challenges—such as energy use, climate change, recycling, and natural resource stewardship—require a diverse American workforce that is highly skilled in science and engineering disciplines. By aligning with 4-H's science, engineering, and technology mission and the recently announced campaign "One Million New Scientists - One Million New Ideas™," 3M's generous grant will help 4-H spark youth interest in science and increase the number of young adults pursuing science-related careers.

"We are pleased to work with 4-H to inspire youth across the U.S. to explore alternative energy projects and pursue college degrees and careers in science," said Alex Cirillo, vice president of 3M Foundation. "By supporting this new curriculum, we can help prepare a diverse group of young people with the technical skills needed to discover and to implement solutions that will help solve our renewable energy challenges in the future."

The Power of the Wind curriculum is currently being piloted nationally in six sites across the U.S., representing optimal diversity from urban and suburban communities.

News from Jackson's Mill

(Continued from page 4)

mings. Hours will be from 5-7pm. Admission is $12 for adults, $6 for children ages 4-12. Guests can receive $1 off admission by bringing a non-perishable food item for donation to charity.

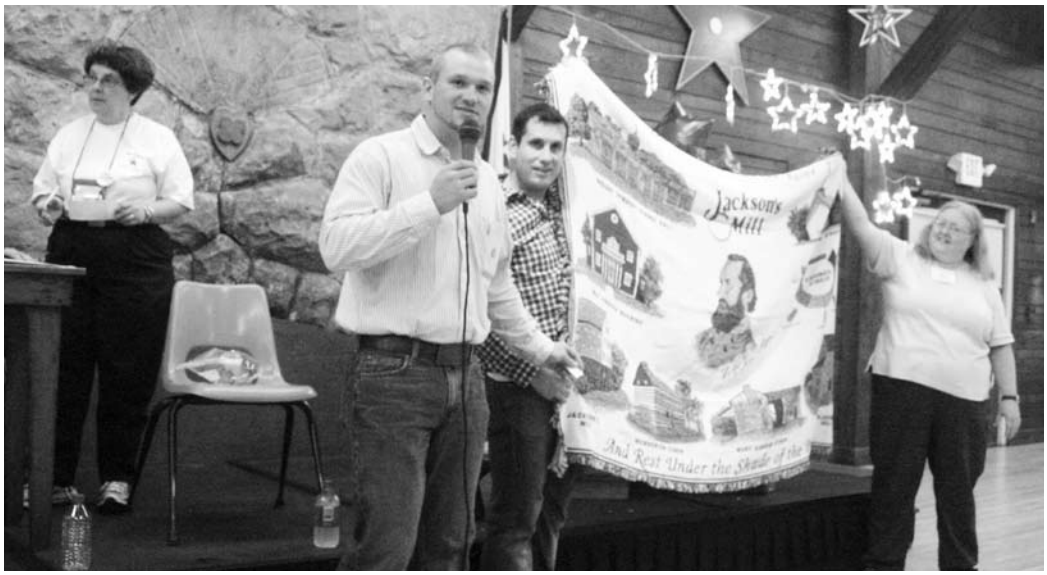
Again this year, local 4-H clubs will be helping us get into the holiday mood by decorating cottages. This is both a service project and a fundraiser for the clubs – a "People's Choice Award" is given based on penny-a-vote totals collected between 5pm Friday and 6pm Saturday. Each club receives the money it raises through the voting, so we hope you can come out for a great meal and to support our local 4-H clubs!

Photographs by Paul Davis

At the Conference...

West Virginia
4-H GLOBAL
Connections
PANAMA
New Zealand

SPOKEN
4-H


Jacksons Mill

WEST VIRGINIA 4-H ALL STARS
79 Ye Olde McDonald Orchard Lane
Inwood, WV 25428-5311

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 2008
- ★ December 5 & 6, 2008 - Winter Lights – Jackson's Mill
- ★ December 13, 2008 - Breakfast with Santa – Jackson's Mill

January 2009
- ★ January 23-25, 2009 – Young Adult Conference – Jackson's Mill

February 2009
- ★ February 20-22, 2009 – 4-H University/Shooting Sports Weekend

March 2009
- ★ March 7, 2009 – WV 4-H All Star Executive Committee Meeting – Jackson's Mill
- ★ March 11, 2009 - Mountaineer Camping Institute – Jackson's Mill
- ★ March 25, 2009 - WVU's Day of Service at the Legislature | 8:00 AM-3:00 PM | State Capitol, Charleston, WV

April 2009
- ★ April 15, 2009 – All Star Nominations Due

May 2009
- ★ May 8, 2009 – WV 4-H All Star Executive Committee Meeting – Jackson's Mill
- ★ May 9, 2009 – WV 4-H All Star Selection Meeting – Jackson's Mill
- ★ May 26, 2009 - Extension Camp Instructor Training | 8:00 AM-3:00 PM | WVU Jackson's Mill

June 2009
- ★ *June 20-27, 2009 – Older Member's Conference
- ★ *July 11-17, 2009 - Alpha I
- ★ *July 18-24, 2009 - Alpha II

**All Star Consecration Services are held on Tuesdays at 7:00 pm during these camps*

- ★ July 29-30, 2009 – State 4-H Judging Day

August 2009
- ★ August 14 – 22, 2009 - State Fair of West Virginia – Lewisburg, WV
- ★ August 28-30, 2009 - Volunteer Leaders Weekend Conference – Jackson's Mill

September 2009
- ★ September 4 - 7, 2009 - Stonewall Jackson Heritage Arts and Crafts Jubilee
- ★ September 25-27, 2009 – Annual All Star Conference – Jackson's Mill

January 2010
- ★ January 29-31, 2010 – Young Adult Conference - Jackson's Mill