



# FRYSCKy BUSINESS

*The Official Newsletter of the Family Resource and Youth Services Coalition of Kentucky, Inc.  
Bridging Barriers and Changing Lives Since 1991*

**Spring 2016**

## ~••~FRYSC: Celebrating 25 Years of Success~••~

### Next Please!

*by Brian H. Akers, President, FRYSCy, Inc.*

**Betsy Layne (KY)** – It's hard to believe that my three years as your Coalition President are nearing an end. I want to take the opportunity in my final correspondence as President to say thank you to my FRYSC friends throughout the state. I appreciate each of you for allowing me the opportunity to represent the FRYSCy Coalition. As we move forward with our 25<sup>th</sup> year celebration, take this opportunity to let everyone know the good works you have done for the children of the commonwealth. I feel confident that your next President, Leslie Hall, will work to ensure that your voice and mission of the Coalition be heard.

We have to consider this Legislative session a victory for the Coalition. Because of each of you making the necessary calls to your legislators, attending the 25<sup>th</sup> Celebration Rally at the capitol and having your teachers, community partners and other stakeholders doing this as well our funding has been restored. This has been the most intense time in our history of FRYSC's facing a budget reduction of 9%. We have to remember that we can't wait until the next session to inform those about our centers. Please keep on contacting your legislators and make sure you thank each of them for what their support means to our students.

I hope I am leaving the coalition with some improvements. We have made a difference in the past by meeting with legislators and having secured an additional \$1,000,000 for a two-year cycle that gave our centers the additional funding not to reduce our allocation. We have also been able to obtain two corporate sponsors that gave the Coalition the availability to help more coordinators attend our Fall Institute and leave us in a better position financially than we have been in the last few years. I hope the good things that happened outweighed the bad.

As you know our work is never finished. Even as I leave the position as President, I will always work to be an advocate because this has become a passion for me. You need to become an advocate as well which will give our Coalition another voice that will be heard. I pray that we have many years together to make a difference in the lives of children and families. Give hugs, handshakes and high fives to the children every day. You may be the only one to show them that someone cares about their happiness.

As always, if you need to contact me, I can be reached at [brian.akers@floyd.kyschools.us](mailto:brian.akers@floyd.kyschools.us) or at 606-478-5550 and I'm always glad to hear from you.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** The Family Resource and Youth Services Coalition of Kentucky (FRYSCKy) awarded its highest honor, the Above and Beyond Award, to Joan Howard at the 2015 Fall Institute. Joan worked for the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) for 29 years. During this time, she was the KDE liaison to the FRYSCKy Board of Directors for more than a decade. She provided the Board with steady guidance, wisdom, and insights, all of which were valued and appreciated. Joan submitted the following letter after receiving her award.

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*From the Desk of Joan Howard...*

Board of Directors  
Family Resource and Youth Services Coalition of Kentucky  
2220 Nicholasville Road, Suite 110-333  
Lexington, KY 40503

Dear Friends:

When Family Resource and Youth Services Centers (FRYSC) were conceptualized in the 1990 Kentucky Education Reform Act (KERA), I understood the importance of what the program could do for students across the state. During the eleven years that I taught in public schools (full-time and as a substitute), I never taught in a school with counselors, social workers, or anyone who could help with the daily problems that many students faced. In my first year as a teacher, I had 34 first graders; only one had been in kindergarten. A tremendous amount of time was consumed dealing with challenges and barriers that impeded the traditional classroom teaching.



From 1990-2003, I was fortunate to be involved (in a small way) with the FRYSC program. In 2003, I was assigned to be the KDE liaison to the FRYSC program, which meant my FRYSC responsibilities increased. I served on the FRYSCKy board and worked with DFRYSC staff to support monitoring teams, conduct site visits, and assist with training efforts. I continued in that role until my retirement last year. It was an honor for me to work with board members, DFRYSC staff, and coordinators. You really are among the best people in Kentucky's education system.

As an administrator, I never thought about and certainly never expected to receive any awards, but I am very grateful for the honor and recognition. Collectively, we have all invested so much in the children and families of the Commonwealth. For me, the greatest honor has been the opportunity to know you and to work with you.

You have my eternal gratitude and respect.

Best Regards,

*Joan Howard*

Joan Howard

# FRYSC News from across Kentucky

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## Region 8 (Estill County) ~ A Lasting World, Inc.: An Amazing Partner for Estill County Middle School YSC

by Michael Flynn, Coordinator, Estill County Middle School Youth Services Center



**Irvine (KY)** • The A Lasting World, Inc. is a non-profit organization that originated in Illinois and now is located in Nashville who have gone to great lengths to provide wonderful educational opportunities to the students of the Estill County Middle School Youth Services Center. For the last seven (10) years this organization has provided a week long residential summer camp to rising 7<sup>th</sup> graders from our school. Students attending this camp are given the opportunity to receive a full week of environmental science related experiences that they

talk about for years. Students spend a week at the camp and are asked to bring nothing but literally the clothes on their back. Activity appropriate clothing and shoes are provided to each student attending to make sure that each student has everything that he/she needs during the camp. All meals and activities are complementary as well. Students have the opportunity to explore caves, go rappelling and a wide range of other activities. Students attending the camp also receive a wide arrange of gifts and surprises all donated by individual sponsors recruited by camp director, Wen Marc and her staff, for each camper. Each year they have received special gifts such homemade quilts for their beds made by various women's organizations.

Parents are also heavily involved in the camp. The A Lasting World organization hosts an annual meeting each year before the camp providing parents and their students an opportunity to meet the camp directors, ask questions about the camp and then they sit down and enjoy a meal together. Then again on the final night of the camp a special presentation is done for the parents, which is a review of all the activities that the students have participated in during the week. Here too the all are encouraged to attend and share a meal.

Then they offer several reunion events throughout each year encouraging all former camp participants and their families to come together and participate in various community service projects such as tree plantings and etc.

The contributions of this organization to the ECMS/YSC don't stop with the camp. Many years they conduct toy drives and bring a large truck load of toys down every fall to be distributed to needy families during the holidays. Furthermore, several years ago this organization partnered with Barnes and Noble Book stores to do a book drive for the students of ECMS. This book drive provided over 2,000 free books for the students to take home. That was 3 books per child.

As they work with our students and identify those with the greatest needs economically they take it upon themselves to sponsor these families at Thanksgiving and Christmas with food baskets and gifts. The students of Estill County Middle School have truly been blessed with the services provided by this amazing organization.



Visit [www.fryscky.org](http://www.fryscky.org)

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## Region 7 (Lewis County) ~ The S.T.O.P Coalition & Teen Leadership Academy: Good News from Lewis County

*by Scott Osborne, Coordinator, Lewis County YSC*

**Vanceburg (KY)** • The S.T.O.P Coalition (Support Team On Prevention) is a regional youth coalition comprised of high school students in each of the seven high schools in the Buffalo Trace region. There is a total of around 30 teens that currently serve on the coalition. Overall goals of the coalition are to increase awareness of the dangers of alcohol, tobacco and other drug abuse and decreased rates of substance abuse among youth. On this occasion, our Lewis County High School coalition team was presenting to students at Garrison Elementary School. Program was held during Red Ribbon Week.

Our Teen Leadership Academy is a program designed to enhance leadership skills both inside and outside of 4-H. This rare opportunity also allows 4-H teens to be a part of their community's positive development. In early November, our Leadership Academy group visited and toured news affiliate WKYT in Lexington.



**Region 11 (Adair County)** • Paula Garrison, Coordinator at the Adair County Primary Center FRC reports that Lindsey Wilson College students volunteer to assist with many parent involvement activities at the Adair County Primary Center. Pictured is Family Math Night with students learning by doing Shake the Can Subtraction and Yum Yum Pizza Math.



VICTORY OVER VIOLENCE

July 18-20  
Lexington Convention Center

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Join Us

FALL INSTITUTE

October 24-26  
Galt House Hotel - Louisville

## Region 11 (Barren County) • Barren County JR Guard: Be a Hero Every Day!

by Brenda Chaney, Coordinator, Barren County YSC

**Glasgow (KY)** • The Barren County Youth Services Center in partnership with the Kentucky Army National Guard and Barren County High School JROTC program, are proud sponsors of Barren County Middle School's JR Guard program. The program is open to all Barren County Middle School students and is designed to prepare students for responsible leadership roles while making them aware of their responsibilities and privileges as American citizens. The National Guard provide Instruction that include strategies to help students improve communication skills, enhance social and ethical values, promote character development, promote physical fitness, and help develop an appreciation of teamwork through instruction in drill and ceremonies. JR Guard members are active in community service projects throughout the year. For the past few years JR Guard members have visited the Boys and Girls Club in Glasgow during Random Acts of Kindness week in February.



JR Guard members share time with the boys and girls at the club talking with them about the importance of living by the seven army values, which are: loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage. They also stress the importance of making good choices; a couple being eating healthy, and getting plenty of exercise. This is followed by all members of the Boys and Girls Club being invited to participate in PT (physical training) alongside JR Guard members. To end the visit JR Guard members encourage all the boys and girls to be a part of random acts of kindness and a presentation of school supplies, that JR Guard members have donated, are given to the Boys and Girls Club.

The presentation is dedicated to all our Veterans and military men and women who have served and are serving our great country!

For additional information contact: Brenda Chaney ([Brenda.chaney@barren.kyschools.us](mailto:Brenda.chaney@barren.kyschools.us)) or Jean Ann Emerson with Barren County Youth Services Center.

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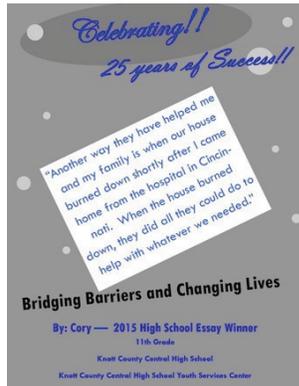
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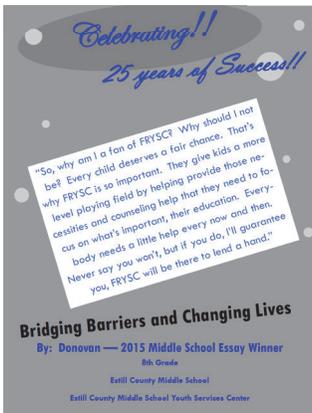


As part of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, FRYSCy conducted an art and essay contest for students to reflect upon how FRYSCs had supported them and their school and/or community. Entries were posted in the Capitol's underground tunnel for legislators and visitors to see during one-week of the legislative session. The overall winners of the different categories are recognized below. Special thanks to everyone involved in this effort!!



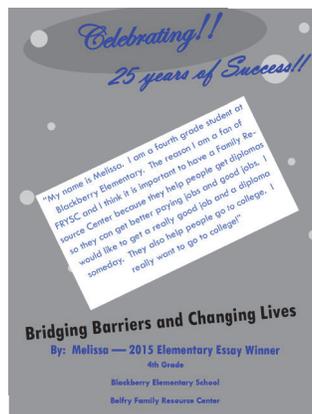
### High School Essay Winner - Cory Hall

Knott County Central High School  
Region 8  
Knott Co. Central High School YSC  
Karen Bentley, Coordinator



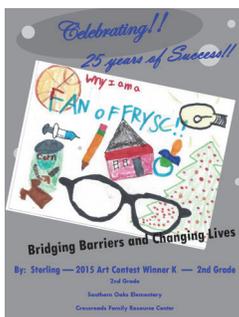
### Middle School Essay Winner - Donovan Lainhart

Estill County Middle School  
Region 8  
Estill County Middle School YSC  
Michael Flynn, Coordinator



### Elementary Essay Winner - Melissa Estep

Blackberry Elementary  
Region 10  
Blackberry Elementary FRC  
Eugenia Whitt, Coordinator



### Art Winner - Sterling Gaunt

Southern Oaks Elementary  
Region 2  
Crossroads Family Resource Center  
Lisa Yeiser, Coordinator



Members of the Kentucky House of Representatives congratulate Rep. Larry Clark, D-Louisville, on his pending retirement after more than two decades of service during the final day of the 2016 Regular Session of the Kentucky General Assembly.

House Speaker Greg Stumbo, D-Prestonsburg (right), speaks to Gov. Matt Bevin in the Kentucky House of Representatives during the closing minutes of the 2016 legislative session.



Senator Reginald Thomas participates in the African American Read-In Program at Breckinridge Elementary FRC, where Sandra Ballew-Barnes is coordinator.



**Region 1 (Graves County)** • Symsonia Elementary School volunteer Debbie Bell assists Kindergarten student, Bentley Barnes with a class activity. Debbie volunteers every Tuesday in Kindergarten to reinforce Math and Language Arts concepts and volunteers every Wednesday in the Family Resource Center. Debbie is a strong advocate for Family Resource as is constantly encouraging others to volunteer and donate. Debbie donates to the center and makes herself available with organizing and providing assistance during all school events, including mentoring, American Red Cross blood drives, family nights, trunk or

treat, back to school nights, student shopping trips and much more. She is a mentor, donating her time monthly to encourage and provide support for an at-risk student. As well she organizes donations and copies papers. She is an inspiration to all as she and her husband have taken multiple children into their home that needed a place to stay. Debbie Bell is always dependable and ready to lend a hand to better the Symsonia families and community. We are all better for having this extraordinary woman as a school volunteer. ***This information was shared by JeanAnn Davenport, Family Resource Specialist, Symsonia Elementary.***



**Region 7 (Morgan County) • Family Connection FRC (Kim Standafer, Coordinator)** offers fun family activities, including an art class and an archery class. Parents and students had a quality family time learning together to do new fun things.



**Region 6 • Priscilla Schwartz, Coordinator, Cumberland County FRYSC** shares the following pictures and captions.

Cumberland County High School Sophomores: Reagan Grider, Bailey Morgan and Hannah Ballard preparing to visit the “Reality Store Booths” on Friday, March 17<sup>th</sup>.

Sheila Parke from Citizens Bank of Cumberland County and Amish Riley from First and Farmers conducted Financial Workshops with the 8<sup>th</sup> grade students during the Reality Store. A special thank you to Citizens Bank for providing the T-Shirts for 8<sup>th</sup> graders for the Reality Store.



8<sup>th</sup> grade students (Gabrielle Thrasher, Maleigha Willis, Lauren Riley and Mallie Craft) visit the Clothing Booth at the “Reality Store” on Friday, March 17<sup>th</sup>.



**Region 1 (Graves County) •** “Who Let the D.O.G.S. Out?” March was a busy month for Watch D.O.G.S. at Fancy Farm Elementary. We had 17 father/father figures volunteer during March. The dads enjoy reading with students, playing on the playground, talking with students at lunch, and participating in PE. Logan Atkins, dad of Jacob, Brianna, & Elizabeth Atkins, is shown reading with students. Information shared by Stacy Harris, Coordinator, Lowes/Fancy Farm Family Resource Center.

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### **Region 11 (Metcalf County) • Metcalfe High School Students Tour Lindsey Wilson College & North Century Pharmacy**

*by Judy Thompson, Coordinator, Metcalfe High School YSC*

**Edmonton (KY) •** On Friday, November 6th, 2015, thirty-four MCHS students traveled to Columbia, KY to Lindsey Wilson College (LWC). The students represented multiple grade levels and completed an online application to attend this trip, funded by the KY AHED grant. Students were received by Kendra Popplewell, Admissions Counselor at LWC. Christ Schmidt, Dean of Students discussed leadership with the entire group. Next the group divided for campus tours. MCHS Alumni and LWC sophomore, Hannah Morrison took all the seniors in attendance while the other students received a tour by a current LWC student ambassador. After a delicious lunch on campus at Cranmer Dining Center, compliments of LWC, the group met up with former MCHS English teacher, Kayla Koerber, who is an assistant volleyball coach for LWC. Next students reconvened and headed to North Century Pharmacy, where pharmacist, Dr. Easton Bryant, gave an informal information session about careers in pharmacy and the process to become a licensed pharmacist.



Metcalfe County High School students were accompanied by MCHS FRYSC Coordinator, Judy Thompson and Eric Sexton, GRREC College and Career Readiness Counselor. This trip was funded through the KY AHED grant and in-kind services provided by Metcalfe County Schools FRYCS and kidFRIENDLy, Race to the Top grant. For more information on how your student can become career ready check out the Metcalfe County High School College & Career Center on Twitter @MetcalfecCC or contact Mr. Sexton at MCHS.



## Region 1 (Murray Independent) ~ Towing for Toys

by Janeann Turner, Coordinator, The Den YSC at Murray High School



**Murray (KY)** • Monty McCuiston, operations manager at Max's 641 Towing in Murray Kentucky, organizes "Towing for Toys" drive each fall in Calloway County. 2015 was the company's third year asking for donations and sponsorships and the response was overwhelming. Monty estimated that about 1,200 toys, bicycles, clothing items and bath and body products were collected. The collection is donated to Calloway County FRYSC's Santa Project and Murray FRYSC's Tiger Christmas, events intended at providing winter clothing needs and a few special Christmas wishes to disadvantaged students in their school districts. Calloway and Murray FRYSC's are very grateful for Monty and "Towing for Toys". What a great community partner Monty McCuiston is to FRYSCY!



**Region 11** • The Metcalfe County Family Resource Center, Metcalfe County Elementary and Title One hosted a **Family Literacy Night Event** on March 1, 2016. Our theme was based on the book, **Click Clack Moo Cows that Type**. Our drama club acted out the book and we had mask making, scavenger hunt and book fair. Everyone dressed in farm attire with down home cooking of pinto beans and corn. In the picture is Allyson and her mom enjoying a parent and child activity. Patty Bunch at Metcalfe FRC can be contacted for additional information.

**Region 10 (Fayette County)** • Sandra Ballew-Barnes, Director, Breckinridge Family Resource Center, informs incoming refugee families about Fayette County Public Schools and what they should expect as parents. Many of the incoming families do not have the opportunity of a formal education system in their home country.



## Region 1 (Murray Independent) ~ The Blessing of Volunteers

by Morgan Carman, Coordinator, Murray FRYSC

**Murray (KY)** • The Murray FRYSC and the Den YSC are blessed with many magnificent volunteers however one stands out from the rest. Robert Danielson has been a member of the Murray FRYSC advisory council since 2008. He is presently volunteering with the Murray FRYSC, the Den YSC and the Murray Independent School District practically every day of every week. Mr. Danielson has a commitment to our centers and our school district that comes genuinely from his heart. He is a retired business owner that gives to the students of our district wholeheartedly, expecting nothing in return. The list of things that he does for our centers and our entire district goes on and on. One of the many unfailing things that he does is delivering snacks for Murray FRYSC's back pack program weekly. He delivers almost 70 snack bags between two schools each Thursday and Friday. He is also at Murray Elementary School and Murray Middle School weekly assisting students individually with their reading skills. On top of that, Mr. Danielson takes care of all the logistics for the paper and cardboard recycling program that supports funding for the Murray FRYSC and the Den YSC. This includes many visits to local businesses requesting *their* support, checking dumpsters regularly at all of our sites, and making numerous phone calls. The list goes on and on! Mr. Danielson has also been involved with West KY Mentoring for many years. He not only serves on that board and keeps the Murray FRYSC advisory council updated on what impact that program is having on our students but he has also mentored the same MISD student for many years and continues to add mentees to his list. Throughout the year Mr. Danielson assists our centers with many other events including the "Back to School Blast", back to school shopping trips, "Make a Difference Day", "Tiger Christmas", 4<sup>th</sup> grade career day and so much more. Mr. Danielson's work doesn't end with the school year. During the summer, the Murray FRYSC and the Den YSC along with other community organizations feed lunch to the children of our community five days per week. All summer, he assists the Murray FRYSC and the Den YSC with their summer feeding day each week and he assists West KY Mentoring on their day each week as well. His volunteer efforts do not go unnoticed and are definitely greatly appreciated. Mr. Danielson embodies the giving spirit of our wonderful community. It is because of people like him that our community is rated highly and is thriving significantly. Without Mr. Danielson's undying dedication and genuine heartfelt generosity, what we do in our centers would not be possible. He, along with our many other dynamic volunteers, is vital in making our centers and the assistance that we provide, worthwhile and successful.



**Region 1 (Graves County)** • Families at Lowes Elementary participated in a multicultural family reading night, in March. "Travel the World through Books" was the theme. The countries that were represented were Latvia, France, Guatemala, Philippines, India, & Mexico. The students and parents from each of these countries set up their own station. Each station had unique items from that particular country such as food, clothing, household items, toys, & interesting facts. The families visited each country asking questions and sampling the delicious food. The parents read books with their children in the Reading Corner then each child received a free book. For more information, contact Stacy Harris at Lowes/Fancy Farm Family Resource Center.

## Region 1 (Paducah Independent) ~ KIDS Company I's Best Watch D.O.G. in Western Kentucky!

by Robyn West, Coordinator, KIDS Company 1 FRC



**Paducah (KY)** • Four years ago KIDS Company I Family Resource Center began the Watch D.O.G. program at Clark Elementary School in Paducah, KY. The Watch D.O.G. program was suggested by the school principal, Advisory Council, and through our Needs Assessment as a way of inviting volunteers into our building to mentor and assist with simple educational support (reading, site words, math, etc.) that some of our younger students may be lacking at home. The Watch D.O.G. program fits into one of KIDS Company I's optional component of Education and Family Support with the mission supporting staff and families with academic success and goals for our students.

At our initial Pizza Kickoff Watch D.O.G. program meeting 4 years ago, Mr. Drew Vanderford attended with his 2 grandsons and quickly signed up and began volunteering in their classrooms. His volunteering quickly

grew from once a month, to once a week, then all day with their classes and neighboring classes of the same grade. Word quickly spread of Mr. Vanderford's success with some tough students and his patience, mentoring attitude and love of kids. Teachers were contacting my Center to request me to schedule him into their classroom times so much that I had to ask if he would consider volunteering twice a week. Then, last year, it happened again. We had so many teachers asking for his time that I asked him again if he would consider adding a 3<sup>rd</sup> day a week to his volunteering schedule at Clark. When asked to volunteer for the third day, he graciously agreed. Mr. Vanderford has grown to know our students as well as their teachers and he follows their progress through the primary grades. Mr. Vanderford also works with a "high" reading group in a 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class, which allowed the teacher to work in very small groups with her "lower" reading groups. He loves this change of pace as he is excellent with teaching these students skills like note taking on what they read, using dictionaries, and discussing the stories they are reading more in depth than they can in the regular classroom. He is a true teacher at heart and loved working with eager to learn, inquisitive group of students. This summer he came with our staff and Center volunteers to the local low-income apartment complex to give out books and snacks to some of "his" kids.

One of the things that has never impeded Mr. Vanderford is that he uses a wheelchair to get around our school building. His minor disability has not slowed down his ability to volunteer 3 days a week at our school. In fact, it has opened up the door for discussion among some younger children to see a wheelchair, touch it and ask questions about it. Mr. Vanderford has told me time and again that this volunteering job is as good for him as it is for us here at Clark. But truly, we at Clark School are the lucky ones that he has chosen to volunteer at our school!!

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**Region 1 (Graves County)** • Special Volunteer, Barry Newsome serves in many capacities in the Farmington Elementary School. From serving hotdogs to families during Back to School night to volunteering days of his time to help students as a Watch Dog, Mr. Newsome is truly impacting students' lives positively day by day. Mr. Newsome is a regular volunteer to the Farmington Church of Christ tutoring program which assists students every week by helping with homework and building relationships. During the school's annual lunch fundraiser Mr. Newsome goes above and beyond by rallying his family to help deliver meals to local individuals and businesses. The true spirit of this volunteer doesn't end here. If ever the school has a need Mr. Newsome and his family are finding ways to assist. Information shared by Jennifer Morris, Coordinator, Symsonia/Farmington FRC.

**Pictured in photo-left-Jillian Newsome-niece; right-Gavin Newsome -grandson, middle-Barry Newsome**



## Region 11 (Adair County) ~ Rocket Men of Adair County

by Paula Garrison, Coordinator, The Family Place FRC

**Columbia (KY)** • Rocket Men volunteer at the Adair County Primary Center by spending a few minutes each week being a mentor to students in our school. They get to know the students and make a positive influence on their lives. They help them in the classroom with reading or any other educational needs. They also eat lunch with the students, talk to them about making good choices, and what they might want to be when they grow up. Rocket Men help the students feel special and unique.



*Rocket Man/Retired U.S. Marine Paul Smith, is showing his extensive shell collection to our Camp Rocket summer program students.*

*Rocket Man/General Surgeon, Dr. James Bergin, talked with all 9 Kindergarten classrooms about not being afraid to go the Doctor and let them become familiar with some of the instruments they use.*



**Region 8 (Magoffin County)** • During the month of December 2015, Magoffin County experienced the highest rate of unemployment in the state due to the loss of jobs in the coal industry. JoAnn Crace (coordinator of the Herald Whitaker Middle School Youth Service Center) along with school staff worked together to find resources to support struggling families during these challenging times. Teachers and staff members cleaned out closets and donated clothing items to the YSC for recycling and distributing to students and families that were unable to purchase new clothing. Local churches contacted the YSC for assistance with Operation School Shoes, as well as food baskets and Christmas gifts for students. Families were referred to community food banks during times of individual crisis.

Ms. Crace and HWMS teacher Vickie Howard applied for and received a \$1000.00 community grant from Walmart. The grant will be spent to help students with basic needs, school supplies and support for classroom activities.



***Pictured from left – HWMS Principal Johnnie Johnson, Joann Crace, & Vicki Howard***

*Walmart associates are proud to support the needs of their communities by providing grants to local organizations, schools and churches. Mr. Johnson (Principal), Joann Crace and Vicki Howard said they are thrilled that Walmart believes in giving back locally – creating a positive impact in the neighborhoods where we live and work.*

## Region 11 (Barren County) ~ Making the Right Choices-Drug and Alcohol Free

by Brenda Chaney, Coordinator, Barren County YSC

**Glasgow (KY)** • Student leaders of the SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) Chapter visited all Barren County Elementary Schools in October 2015 as part of Red Ribbon Week. Leaders presented an Underage Drinking Presentation to the sixth grade classes from each elementary school. A pretest was given, six graders watched a video, and then SADD leaders proceeded to go over the tests with the students and answered any questions pertaining to the video. Afterwards the sixth grade students participated in activities using fatal vision goggles and playing “Drugged and Distorted” drug education games, which included wearing the goggles and trying to do a simple activity like bowling, coloring, or stacking cups that would be fairly easy without the goggles.

The goggles are to simulate the feeling of being under the influence and trying to accomplish the simplest of tasks. The test and activities were reviewed and brochures, pencils and stickers were given to the students with a message on them as a reminder of the dangers of drug and alcohol use. This activity was funded by a YES (Youth Empowerment Systems) grant. For additional information, contact Brenda Chaney ([Brenda.chaney@barren.kyschools.us](mailto:Brenda.chaney@barren.kyschools.us)).



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## Region 11 (Barren County) ~ Keepin’ It REAL at Trojan Academy

by Brenda Chaney, Coordinator, Barren County YSC



Trojan Academy freshman Ambassadors and SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) student leaders presented a, “Keepin it REAL” drug prevention educational to students at Trojan Academy. The presentations provided information to fellow students on how to use the REAL (Refuse, Explain, Avoid, Leave) strategies to resist destructive decisions.

Student leaders visited each freshman classroom and presented the program with a focus on the dangers of tobacco use with an emphasis on E-cigarettes and

vaping devices. Pre and Post tests were administered to measure the impact of the presentations. Approximately 360 students benefitted from this peer lead activity.

These presentations were possible as a result of funding received from a YES (Youth Empowerment System) grant.

For additional information, contact Brenda Chaney ([Brenda.chaney@barren.kyschools.us](mailto:Brenda.chaney@barren.kyschools.us)).



**Michael A. Jones • Editor**  
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**IN MEMORIAM**

*The FRYSC family mourns the loss of Joyce Hall, FRC Coordinator at Stanton Elementary in Powell County.*



**Joyce Hall**  
**1957-2016**  
**Stanton, KY**

*Farewell good and faithful servant*

