

Rural Educational Heritage Inc.

A non-profit organization serving Rural Special School in Fox, Arkansas and the surrounding community

November
2011

Recycling returns to Fox. A truck is available at the Fox Community Center on the last Wednesday of the month. Winter hours are 7:30-10:30 am. Thank you, volunteers Vicki & Danny Glover for your service!

We're on the web!
www.ruralspecial.org

School & Community Calendar

Nov. 4 RS Homecoming 5:30pm

The following will be held at the school cafeteria:

Nov 4 Flu Shots

Nov 8 Open Enrollment Medicare Part D-White River Area on Aging 9-11am.

Nov 10 School program for area Veterans 2-3 pm

Nov 17 Senior Citizens Banquet 11am-1pm

Nov 28 Public Meeting for proposed closing of Fox Post Office 5:30 pm

Dec 11 Christmas Concert...area churches will collaborate on this joint service featuring instrumental music. Antioch Church at Rushing 6 pm.

Rural Special's class of 2016 ranked #1 in Arkansas

They are 8th graders now, but Schooldigger.com ranked last year's Rural Special 7th grade class as #1 in Arkansas based on their performance on standardized tests in literacy and math. It's a small group of 11 students that take academics very seriously. Class members made a video talking about how they got there. View their video on the Fox Arkansas YouTube channel. They attribute their success to hard work, good teachers, involved parents, and a community that encourages them. Congratulations to these hardworking students...Sondre' Dalen, Braxton Doshier, Makayla Hastings, Jay Jacobes, Jamy Kingrey, Morgan Kellams, Cassidee Linville, Austin Kocher, Shianne Morgan, Craig Miller, and Brady Rider. Keep up the good work!



http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e0SWzOH-T_E

<http://www.equalvoiceforfamilies.org/photo-essay/rural-america-under-siege/>

<http://www.equalvoiceforfamilies.org/2011/return-to-sender/>

A few months ago the USPS announced that Fox Post Office was one of 179 offices in Arkansas that are recommended for closure. The community held a meeting in August and almost 150 people turned out to discuss the importance of the post office and to strategize on how to keep it open. A video with Zowey Plummer interviewing community residents about the post office was published on the Fox Arkansas channel on YouTube. Since that time a reporter from Seattle and photographer from Virginia

2011 Farm Family of the Year



The Carlton Family of Parma was named 2011 Stone County Farm Family of the Year. The family grows tomatoes, broilers, and cattle. Rural Special alumni Gary Carlton (1980) and Sandra Broyles Carlton (1982); Camille (2001), an R.N., and husband Seth Ross with daughters Mikaela and Kylie; Trista (2002), an L.P.N., and husband Dusty Nichols with son Hudson.

Community rallies to save Fox Post Office

Official meeting set for November 28, 5:30 pm at Rural Special Cafeteria

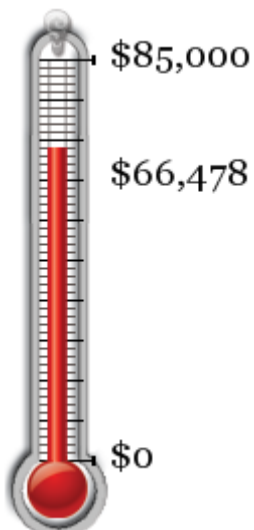
Fox Post Office revenue more than doubled in 2011. Keep on doing your business at Fox Post Office!



visited with residents and their story appeared in Equal Voice Newspaper which is circulated nationally. Next a photo essay from their visit appeared online. On November 28 at 5:30pm postal officials will hold a meeting at Rural Special Cafeteria. A big turnout is essential. This will be our chance to distinguish ourselves from the pack and make the case why the Fox Post Office is important to its customers. We need community members ready to

tell their stories about the importance of the post office. We also need post office customers to complete Official Comment forms. Forms, along with ideas for comments, can be obtained at the Fox Country Store or from any member of the Save the Fox Post Office Committee: Edna Huddler, Mike Oglesby, Al Schiefer, Margaret Morrison, Darla Richardson, Jody Sebert, Zowey Plummer, Scott Langford, Renee Carr, Michelle Kocher, or Austin Kocher.

Fund grows for Preschool and Technology building



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 633 Highway 9
 Fox, AR 72051

Edsel Broyles shares memories of Fox, family, and career

Edsel Broyles has a treasure-trove of memories about Fox over the past 80 years. Born in 1927, he calls himself a "kid of the depression." Peal & Onus Broyles along with their four sons Edsel, Leymon, Eldon, and Conley worked hard to make a living. Edsel remembers growing peanuts and the family making peanut butter. The family worked the harvest: strawberries in Bald Knob & Judsonia; tomatoes in Indiana; cherries and apples in Michigan; cotton around Blytheville. As a teenager Edsel worked at Meadowcreek planting crops in the spring for Mr. Will Dampf. His maternal grandparents Wash & Wilda Branscum donated the land for Zion Baptist Church. The community had a church-

raising to build the church and Edsel recalls being there every time the doors were open. He began a military career at age 16 when he joined the Navy and later the Air Force and completed a 27-year career, having visited every continent. Edsel described his most harrowing experience in the military as being when his ship, the USS Bexar, was in the North Atlantic in 1946 and ran into a floating mine which exploded. Most all the passengers got out alive, but the incident was not initially reported as such. With no phone service in Fox, Edsel's parents assumed he had been killed when in fact he was spending three weeks recuperating in a hospital in Halifax, Nova Scotia. When Edsel



Edsel Broyles, continues the family tradition of giving, donating \$5,000 to the preschool/technology building fund of Rural Educational Heritage, Inc.

finally returned home to Fox and entered the house, his parents were startled, thinking he was a ghost! Edsel recalls an experience as a young man when he had leave and was visiting home. He was asked to volunteer as a referee for the first ballgame in the gym. He received a permanent memento of that event, a cracked tooth, when a player collided with him. While stationed in Nashville, Tenn. Edsel met Wilma Porter. The two soon married, enjoying 53 happy years together before her death. The two operated the Fox Store for seven years and he was Fox Postmaster for 13 years. Their children are Brenda, Marlene, Don, and Sandra.

Alumni Spotlight...The Griggs and Huddler families are a blended family of Rural Special graduates. Robert Huddler passed away in 2010. His widow, Edna (Davis) Huddler-(1964) keeps tabs on the large brood. Richard Huddler (1980) is a detective in the Springdale P.D. and is assigned to the FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force, currently in Washington D.C. Sharon Huddler Branscum (1981) lives in Mtn. View and works for Centennial Bank. Karen Huddler Davis (1982) lives in Cabot and is a Zone Merchandiser Supervisor for Wal Mart. Lynn Huddler (1990) works for Credit Services as an office assistant in Cody, Wyoming and is raising two daughters. Stephanie Huddler Camp (1995) lives in Vidor, Texas and is homemaker and mother of four. Lisa Griggs Ford (1984) lives in Conway and is an administrative assistant for Salem United Methodist Church. Paul Griggs (1987) is a field service engineer for Advanced Semi-Conductor Material Lithography in Austin, TX and works internationally, most recently in the Netherlands. We appreciate the Griggs-Huddler alumni!

Take the "Alumni Challenge"

Donate \$1 for each year since you graduated from Rural Special School

(For example: Class of 1949 = \$62; Class of 1998 = \$13)

Name _____

Amount of Contribution \$ _____

Mailing Address _____

Alumni Challenge Yes No

Town, State, Zip _____

Other Donation (specify) _____

Email address _____

In memory or honor of _____

Thank you for your tax deductible contribution. Please mail to Rural Educational Heritage Inc. 633 Highway 9, Fox, AR 72051