

Rucker Celebrates His 94th Birthday



John Rucker

John Rucker recently celebrated his 94th birthday with family and friends. He has been married 71 years to Edna Johnson Rucker and they are parents of three children: Roscoe Rucker, Glenn Rucker and Katherine Marie Dixon.



ABOVE: Estill County cheerleaders urged on the Estill County Engineers against the Raiders of East Carter during a game in December that was played at the Estill County Middle School while the floor at Estill County High School's gym was being replaced.

Applications for The Center for Rural Development's 2017 Rogers Scholars, Rogers Explorers, and the Entrepreneurial Leadership Institute are now online



Instructor and former Rogers Scholars graduate Kellie Mann teaches 2016 Rogers Scholars Aleah Archer and Katherine Braswell how to take blood pressure at last summer's Rogers Scholars youth leadership program. Archer and Braswell were members of the Rogers Scholars healthcare team and learned about different careers in the medical field.

In preparation for the 2017 summer youth leadership camps, The Center for Rural Development is issuing a call for applications for Rogers Scholars, Rogers Explorers, and Entrepreneurial Leadership Institute (ELI).

Applications for all three youth programs have been posted online and may be accessed from the youth programs website at www.centeryouthprograms.com. All applications must be completed and submitted electronically by the respective program deadlines.

Rogers Scholars—The Center's flagship youth program—is open to high school sophomore students in Southern and Eastern Kentucky seeking to build their leadership and entrepreneurial skills. The program provides valuable leadership skills and exclusive college scholarship opportunities for young people to fulfill their potential as the region's next generation of business and entrepreneurial leaders.

The 2017 Rogers Scholars program will be held on the campus of Lindsey Wilson College in Adair County on June 18-23 for the first group of Scholars and again on July 9-14 for the second graduating class.

"Being a Rogers Scholar has made me realize how far I could go and what incredible things I can do in life. It showed me even a small-town girl from McCreary County could essentially change the world," said 2016 Rogers Scholars graduate Jessica Cox.

Rogers Explorers gives eighth-grade middle school students in The Center's 45-county primary service area an opportunity to grow their math, science, and technology skills and learn more about what it takes to pursue careers in these high-demand fields.

Explorers receive hands-on classroom instruction from leading college experts; learn about different careers in the field; and develop a better understanding of their career goals.

"My favorite activity was going to the

space science class and watching the solar system move around me from a dome-shaped screen above my head," said 2016 Rogers Explorers graduate Abigail Wagers of Clay County. "I realized how much I am fascinated by the stars and planets. I will definitely look into becoming an astronomer when I get older."

The 2017 dates and locations for Rogers Explorers summer camps are Asbury University, June 4-6; Lindsey Wilson College, June 7-9; University of the Cumberlands, June 11-13; Eastern Kentucky University, June 14-16; University of Pikeville, June 26-28; Morehead State University, July 16-18; and the newest host site, Union College, July 19-21.

High school freshmen, sophomores, and juniors may apply for Entrepreneurial Leadership Institute (ELI), a one-week summer camp for aspiring student entrepreneurs. Participants learn how to take a written concept and develop that concept into a business venture—all while working together as a team.

Each team will "pitch" their business ideas to a panel of judges for a chance to win the Business Concept Challenge Competition and earn a Presidential Scholarship from Eastern Kentucky University.

"ELI was a great learning experience of how the business world works and how a simple idea can turn into a business venture," said 2016 ELI graduate Colton Morrow of Wayne County. "The program helped me learn how to be a team player and work with others to accomplish a goal."

The 2017 ELI program will be held July 24-28 at The Center in Somerset.

For more information on each program and online application forms, visit www.centeryouthprograms.com. The deadline to apply for Rogers Scholars is midnight on Jan. 31, 2017; Rogers Explorers, midnight on Feb. 10, 2017; ELI, midnight on March 1, 2017.



Owen Minter and Minter Vet Services in Lee County had a fund raiser for The Estill County Animal Shelter and raised \$476.00. Owen is a 16-year-old and wanted to help out our Shelter. He made paper stockings and people could put their pet's name on it and was posted in the Vet clinic. We would like to thank Owen Minter and Minter Vet Services for their help in helping with our Shelter.

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