



# Big Brothers Big Sisters

of the Eastern Panhandle

JANUARY - MARCH 2012

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## Mentoring Essay Contest for Littles

With January being National Mentoring Month we want to highlight how a nurturing adult can better a child's future.

The first-ever Big Brothers Big Sisters mentoring essay contest also will offer the opportunity for one of our Littles to win a ski package to Whitetail Resort in nearby Mercersburg, Pa.

"Every single day, people all across the Eastern Panhandle work behind the scenes to make a difference in the young people's lives," explained Jeanne Flowers, the executive director of the local Big Brothers Big Sisters.

"We want to take time to shine a spotlight on the vital role that mentors play in im-

proving the future of our community," said Flowers, who has headed the non-profit based in Martinsburg for more than a decade.

The winning essay will be chosen from those submitted to Big Brothers Big Sisters by Feb. 17th.

Essay submissions should be no more than 500 words. Littles should focus on what makes their Big Brother or Big Sister special and how they have changed their life.

The winner will receive a prize package for two to Whitetail Resort – either a "Learn to Ski" package or "Learn to Snowboard" package.

Entries should be mailed or dropped off at the Big Brothers Big Sisters office at 701 Wilson St. in Martinsburg 25401, faxed to 304-263-5536 or sent by e-mail to Ashley at [akilmer@bbbswv.org](mailto:akilmer@bbbswv.org).

"All it takes is one person saying, 'You are smart enough and you can do this.'"

Questions about the essay contest may be addressed by calling Big Brothers Big Sisters at 304-263-5522.

## January is National Mentoring Month

We would like to take this opportunity to "thank" each and every one of our volunteers. In 2011, our mentors spent approximately 5,900 hours mentoring our Littles. That's a whole lotta love! Our volunteers do more than just spend time with their Littles...they teach life skills

such as financial stability, college preparation, cooking, laundry, mowing the yard, chopping wood, proper hygiene, learning to drive, they increase self-esteem, they help with homework and projects, and most importantly they listen. While we are thankful for our Big Brothers,

Big Sisters and Big Couples all year round, we want to say thank you, thank you, thank you this month for all your labors. Keep up the great work and remember, we're here if you need us!

# Pool Party...yes you read it right

BBBS will be holding a pool party at the Shepherd University Wellness Center indoor pool on Sunday, February 12th from 2pm-4pm.

**The deadline to sign up is Friday, February 10th.**

Please RSVP by calling 304-263-5522 or e-mail Ashley: [akilmer@bbbswv.org](mailto:akilmer@bbbswv.org)



At right: Shepherd Pool

*My main goal is to make him happy. I want to see him laugh more and act like an 8-year-old—John (Big Brother)*

# Basket Bingo

*Early Bird!      Raffles!      King Tutts!      Tips!      Door Prizes!*

February 26, 2012  
Moose Lodge 120 – 201 Woodbury Ave.  
Martinsburg

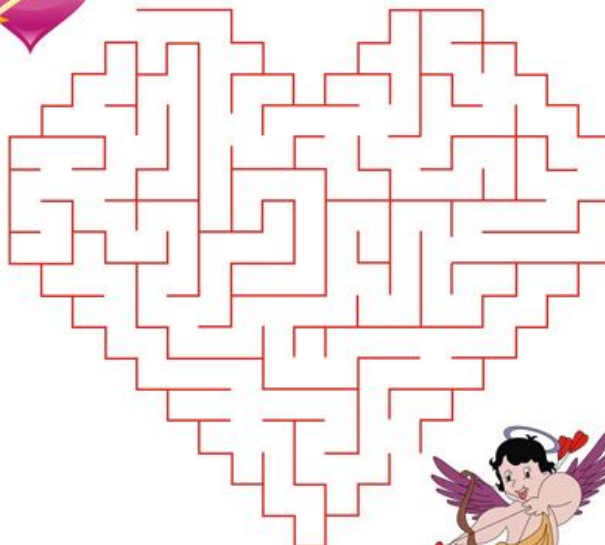
Tickets are \$20 at the door or \$15 in advance

Doors open at 12:00pm, Games begin at 1:30pm, Raffles and King Tutts begin at 12pm  
Early Bird begins at 1pm

20 games, 5 specials

No outside food allowed in the Moose Lodge-No one under the age of 18 permitted.

For tickets, please call 304-263-5522 or e-mail [akilmer@bbbswv.org](mailto:akilmer@bbbswv.org)



# Congratulations!

New Matches from October-December

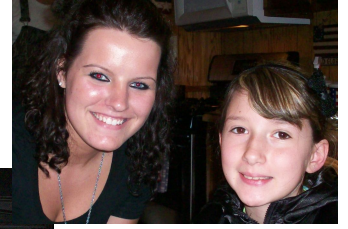
Cody S. & Stephen Malcolm Berkeley County

Kristianna R. & Erin Bender Berkeley County

Erin P. & Marlaina Wolfe Berkeley County

E'lecia C. & Tracy Myers Berkeley County

Candice Q. & Brooke O'Connell Berkeley County



# Happy Anniversary!

## Anniversaries January-March

Arthur & Artrell H. & Matt & Gabriela Martin 6 years (Mar)

Patricia S. & Amanda Ray 3 years (Mar)

Sierra G. & Lyndsey Leatherman 2 years (Mar)

Blayn S. & Kenny Grider 1 year (Jan)

John L. & Stephen Staub 1 year (Feb)



# From our Bigs...

— “Congratulations to our ‘Little’ Brother Arthur who is a Jr. Varsity member of the Martinsburg High School Wrestling Team. Keep working hard and you’ll be taking competitors to the mat in no time. Way to go! —Macky & Gaby

— “Sierra, I hope you make lots of new friends in your new neighborhood!”—Lyndsey

— “Great job, Candice, on making the Honor Roll! As well as performing in the school choir! Keep up the great work!”—Brooke

— “Happy Birthday to my Little Sister Damara! Wishing you a wonderful and fun filled b-day!”—Tammy



## Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Eastern Panhandle

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Phone: 304-263-5522  
Fax: 304-263-5536  
Emergency Cell: 304-671-5536  
www.bbbswv.org

Little Moments...Big Magic

Since 1974, Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Eastern Panhandle has been helping to make a difference in the lives of children and youth in our community. We serve children, aged 6-14, who are primarily from single parent families. We currently serve 160 children, with approximately 60 waiting to be matched with an adult mentor.



## Our Sponsors



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