



Gary Farber, left, and Elijah Miller have formed the Youth Wilderness Experience.

Their dreams come true with formation of wilderness group

Two Back Mountain residents form non-profit Youth Wilderness group.

The dreams of two Back Mountain men to be able to give local youth the opportunity to enjoy and learn about the great outdoors has come to fruition with the formation of their non-profit organization, the Youth Wilderness Experience.

Gary Farber and Elijah Miller have enjoyed hunting, fishing, gardening and other outdoor activities their entire lives, thanks to their parents and friends who would always make time to take them outdoors. The two men formed the organization so they can pass on their interest, knowledge and experiences to others.

Through the cooperation and help of the Back Mountain Harvest Assembly Church, where both are members, the men held their

first fundraising event recently with a trap shoot at the Harties Farm near Harveys Lake. Forty-four shooters, including four women, attended with everyone shooting four rounds of 10 clay birds. Lunch and refreshments were provided along with a raffle for a beautiful muzzleloader. Top shooter of the was Jeff Traver.

"Elijah and I knew each other from church and we often talked about hunting and fishing," said Farber. "When the game commission started their youth mentor program, it gave us an idea that maybe we could make a difference in a young person's life with some outdoor experiences."

"Someone was always willing to take time from their schedule to take me fishing, hunting or hiking and when we brought the idea up to Pastor Dan Miller he liked it and the church decided to get involved," said Miller who is not related to the pas-

tor. Farber, Miller and a host of volunteers who have offered their time and energy to this project will hold several more fundraisers this fall. They have already purchased three electronically-operated clay bird throwers and their goal is to raise enough money to purchase youth firearms, archery equipment, fishing equipment and other outdoor-related items.

"We want to be able to have kids between the ages of 7-15 learn about hunting, fishing and archery with major emphasis on safety in all three areas," Miller stated. "We also want them to learn about plants, trees, gardening and general outdoor knowledge."

"A lot of today's kids are only interested in Ipods and texting," added Farber. "We want to open their eyes to the wonders of the outdoors which will be something they will some day pass on to their children."

The men thanked the Harties family, Pastor Miller and all the volunteers who made their first event a success and indicated they have more events planned for this fall.

The Youth Wilderness Experience plans to hold its first outing for youths in March 2011.

The organization is looking for volunteers and donations, both monetary and equipment, for the youth events next year.

Anyone interested in more information about the organization is asked to call 333-5389.

ROCK SOLID TEAM ENDS SEASON

The Rock Solid Boys 16U AAU basketball team recently completed a very successful season with a record of 33 wins and four losses. The team also finished in eighth place out of 80 teams at the Gym Rat Challenge in Albany, N.Y. which is one of the top tournaments in the US. The team consists of players from Dallas, Wyoming Valley West and Hazelton Area high school. The players are Bobby Saba, Travis Buckner, Shane Dunn, Paul Brace, James McCann, Samantha Miller-Scorekeeper, Ryan Hoiniski, Frank Vito, Doug Miller-Coach, Jon Gimble and Eugene Lewis.



CHEETAHS WIN SOCCER TITLE

The Back Mountain Cheetahs U-9 Girls Soccer Team, sponsored by Central Clay Products Inc., recently finished in first place in the Luzerne County Soccer Festival. Team members are, from left, first row, Kayla Gliddon, Kaitlyn Schwartz, Carly Cavanaugh and Kanisha Cheshire. Second row, Coach Terry Cavanaugh, Morgan Landau, Erin McMonagle, Emma Berger and Coach Reo Cheshire.



SPORTS BRIEFS

Basketball clinic set

The Rock Rec. Center will hold its fifth annual Fall Basketball Clinic for Girls and Boys in kindergarten through sixth grade on Monday and Wednesday evenings, starting October 18 and continuing through October 27.

Early registration fee is \$40 per player prior to Oct. 10 at which time the fee will be \$50 per player.

For more information, contact The Rock Rec. at 696-2769 or email TheRockRecCenter@bmha.org.

Girls basketball league planned

The Rock Recreation Center, 340 Carverton Rd. Trucksville, will host a Seventh-Grade Fall Girls Basketball League for six weeks through Oct. 28.

League fee is \$150 plus \$25 per game for referees and scorekeeper. All games will be played on Thursdays between 6 and 8 p.m.

For more information, contact The Rock Rec Center at 696-2769.

Rock Rec plans boys cage league

The Rock Recreation Center, 340 Carverton Rd., Trucksville will host a 7th and 8th Grade Fall Boys Basketball League for six weeks through Oct. 23.

The league fee is \$150, plus \$25 per game for referees and scorekeeper. All games will be played on Saturdays between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

For more information, contact The Rock Rec Center at 696-2769.

4-H club plans fall festival

A Fall Festival for Soaring Saddles 4-H Club of Sweet Valley will be held from noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 24, at Pine-wood Acres in Sweet Valley.

There will be a tack exchange, pony rides, pumpkin decorating, removable horse tattoos and cider, cookies and cupcakes for sale.

The club intends to use some of the proceeds from this event to make a donation to the Blue Chip Farm Animal Refuge.

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