



P.O. Box 482
Fayetteville, WV 25840

A nonprofit citizen's coalition working within the community to promote responsible economic development and sustainable environmental management.

From the Chairs

Eric Autenreith & M. Ehrnschwender

These past 13 years PAN has had a "working" board of directors. Much of what Levi and Laurel are doing used to be done by the all volunteer PAN directors. PAN has grown steadily from our fledgling efforts, as we learned how to make things happen and built partnerships with elected officials, government agencies, and organizations at the federal, state, and local level. Our OSM/Vistas and collaboration with the Appalachian Coal Country Watershed Team (ACCWT) certainly helped. PAN now has a full time Watershed Coordinator.

Looking back at our sustained multi-year efforts and participation with partners in support of our mission, show some great pay offs. There is the Wolf Creek Stormwater and Flood Mitigation Plan, The Fayette County Wastewater Management Plan, and of course the Wolf Creek Watershed Based Plan (WCWBP). Others continue to move forward, like the New River Birding and Nature Center, and Wild and Scenic Film Festival. And because you can't win them all, some have died on the vine.

We are down to three directors and our with our plates considerably lighter these past six months we have more time to consider PAN's future. We've had a lot of help from many of you, especially for events like clean-ups, earth day, fundraisers and the like. And of course your support over the years has kept us going and we thank you for that. However, more is needed to keep doing everything we have been doing or we need to change what we do or how we do it. The directors are currently working on a new 5 year plan and all options are on the table.

We have had some interesting discussions about forming a closer relationship with the National Committee for the New River (NCNR). Since 1974 NCNR has focused mostly in North Carolina and Virginia - now, they are looking to have more of a presence in WV. Joy, Mark, and I are interested in building sustainability for PAN and think this collaboration has good possibilities for both organizations. Go to www.ncnr.org for more information on NCNR.

In the mean time Levi is working full tilt implementing the WCWBP. Levi's scope of work keeps him swimming waters full of science, creativity and partnership building and he seems pretty energized by it all. The goal of course is to

bring all those resources to produce actual projects that make Wolf Creek something the Fayette Plateau region can brag about as a place for family recreation, trout fishing, natural habitat, and bird watching.

It is nice to see that with all of this, Levi has still found time to learn to kayak which involves plenty of swimming in our beautiful New River.

The recent arrival of Laurel Ackison [see *New OSM/Vista in Town pg 5*], PAN's 5th OSM/Vista! Should enable even more activity and help furthering public awareness of issues and solutions.

A Letter from the Road

By Ole Bye

Living in West Virginia, you're never very far from water and for that reason it's easy to forget about it until it is polluted, flooding, or otherwise bothersome. I was reminded as I recently drove from the humid Midwest through the increasingly arid Great Plains just what a blessing and mark of security an ample supply of clean water can be.

There is hardly any natural water on the surface in the entire Great Plains region, although every stream and river that does exist has been dammed to provide irrigation to augment pumping from aquifers. The 'High Plains' region of far western Kansas and eastern Colorado lacks any waterways to dam, and for a stretch of several hundred miles there is no permanent natural surface water.



I had the luxury of buying bottled water in any of the small farm towns I passed through, but I imagined 19th-century pioneers and earlier travelers crossing these same uplands would have needed to make good plans around where and when they might encounter water necessary to allow their passage across this vast and arid former grassland.

One exciting stop on my journey was a visit to a wind energy installation. The plains of Kansas are home to fairly constant strong winds, so it's a natural site for windmills. Near Modoc, I turned off Route 96 towards some windmills and was surprised at how far away they ended up being. In this landscape it's hard to judge how far away anything is and these windmills are much bigger than I first thought.

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After a few miles, I came to the base of the nearest one and spent some time reflecting as the huge blades swished through the wind overhead. I once read that 400,000 of these windmills could replace coal in our national energy picture. That is a lot of windmills and a lot of vast vistas made industrial. However, the windmills are beautiful in design and function and their footprint is small and allows agriculture to continue around them relatively undisturbed.

GREAT Rain Garden

Scott Fanello

Fayetteville, WV, April 23, 2010- The Green Advisory Team (GREAT) installed an educational rain garden at Fayetteville High School. The Fayetteville public school is one of a few public schools in the region to create and install rain gardens. The garden cleans polluted runoff coming from the school's gravel parking lot by collecting it and allowing it to filter through the soil before reconnecting with House Branch further downstream.



The rain garden was made possible in part by a \$11,000 grant from the Department of Environmental Protection. The main construction took place last December and was achieved through a generous donation of backhoe assistance and labor provided by Bill Lanham, Superintendent of the Town of Fayetteville. Students from the FHS Conservation Club were responsible for the final shaping of the beds, planting native wildflowers, and installing a small fence to protect the beds from traffic. Other partners in the project include PAN, the National Park Service, and the New River Master Gardeners.

The FHS rain garden is central to the school's core mission: preparing all students for success in the 21st century by providing a rigorous and relevant curriculum and allowing students to reach their fullest potential and contribute positively to an ever-changing world. [Kathy Quote] In addition, the rain garden will provide another tool for teachers of Biology, Earth Science, and Art to enhance educational opportunities and to help achieve their content standards and objectives in new and creative ways.

Rain gardens are native wildflower gardens that are designed to aesthetically improve properties, while reducing the amount of polluted runoff entering area streams, lakes, and rivers. Polluted runoff can harm fish and other wildlife. It's concentrated in areas where much of the ground is covered with hard surfaces like roofs, streets, parking lots, and sidewalks.

For more detail contact Scot- Phone: 304.252.4848 or 703.338.6514 (c) Email: scottfanello@yahoo.com

GREAT Rain Garden at Fayetteville High School

Join us at our monthly meetings on the last Monday evening of every month at the Fayetteville Convention and Visitor's Bureau. For specific dates and times, check out www.greenwv.org.



Windmill Montage

History of the Fayette Theatre

Not only is the preservation of the environment critical for a community, but also important is the preservation of its historical structures. In Fayetteville, one such building is the Historic Fayette Theatre.



Built in the early 1920's as a movie theater, the Historic Fayette Theatre entertained generations of Fayette County residents until it closed in the 1970's. Because of the significance of the building, the Historical Society had a vision of an active, creative community theater serving both locals and tourists. The Society then approached Fayetteville locals Gene Worthington and Karen Vuranch, who decided to renovate the dilapidated building and turn it into a community theater.

Since its opening in 1993, the Historic Fayette Theatre has produced over 75 plays and over 100 music concerts. Approximately 5,000 individuals attend performances each year in the theater. The annual budget is between \$25,000 and \$30,000 per year and the theater is a viable organization in the Fayette County community. Most importantly, the work is done on a volunteer basis. Actors, backstage workers, tech crews, greeters, administrators, and the governing body are all comprised of dedicated volunteers.

While the theater serves the community, it also relies on our support, especially now. For the past 17 years, the organization has rented the facility. Now, the opportunity has risen for the building to be purchased and to secure the future of this vibrant arts organization.

There are several ways we can help the HFT continue to present quality arts performances in our area:

- Make a donation to the Building Fund. The HFT will acknowledge all monetary gifts in several ways. First, your name will be listed in all programs for each production throughout the year and a sign will be placed in the lobby acknowledging your gift. The HFT is a non-profit organization and all gifts are tax deductible.
- The Pillars of the Theater campaign will also acknowledge donations at \$5,000 and \$10,000 level by placing a brass plaque at the base of the decorative pillars in the auditorium that will say "[Your name] is a pillar of the Historic Fayette Theater."
- Buy the "Best Seat in the House" – each chair in the auditorium will be sold for \$100 each and a brass plaque will be placed on the seat to commemorate a loved one or your family name or business.
- Support the many wonderful performances at the theater by attending HFT productions. And, spread the word. Tell your friends and families and neighbors about what is happening. The HFT needs you to keep this theater vibrant.

Please mail all checks to:

The Historic Fayette Theatre Building Fund
PO Box 448, Fayetteville, WV 25840

If you need more information or would like to speak to someone, please call (304) 574- 4655 and leave a message.

Home Grown

The Fayetteville Farmers Market is open for business and will run until mid-November. All market locations are opened as of the week of July 4, when the growing season is in full swing!

Fayetteville location is Wiseman St. at the County Court House Parking lot Saturdays 7:30 -11:30am.

Mount Hope Community Center, Tuesdays 10:00am - 1:00pm.

Oak Hill location is now Downtown Main St. by BB&T, Thursdays 4:00-7:00pm.

Montgomery location is 3rd St. by Potamkin Chinese Restaurant, Fridays 8:00am-12:00pm.

For three years, the Fayette County markets have delighted customers with fresh local produce and other popular items, such as eggs, breads, jams and jellies

and more. Last year, the market had 20 registered sellers, with up to 12 vendors selling on an average day.



This year the FCFMA has joined the WV Farmers Market Association with the Buy Fresh Buy Local adage from the National Organization. Visitors enjoyed the opportunity to chat with local growers and take part in a slice of Fayette County tradition whether by sharing recipes, exchanging gardening tips or tasting West Virginia heirloom varieties such as the famous Hillbilly tomato.

The family-friendly nature of the market makes it a good place to bring kids to learn about healthy eating, as well as the farming, homesteading heritage of their state. For a \$20 annual seller fee, any Fayette County resident can sell produce, agricultural products, baked goods and selected other homemade items at the Fayette County Farmers Markets so long as they are made or grown within Fayette County. The market welcomes new sellers. Market organizers encourage dedicated market customers to share the market experience with their families and friends. The markets publicity materials implore, Tell your friends to meet me at the Market.

If interested in selling, visit the market, contact FCFM President John Breneman or e-mail fayettetmarket@gmail.com

TomatoVidaliaOnion Gratin

Serves: 4-6

Ingredients:

- 1 cup - Vidalia Onions (medium dice)
- 1 - Large Vine Ripened Tomato (sliced 1/4 inch thick)
- 1/2 cup - Fresh Basil (chopped)
- 1 cup - Shredded Sharp Cheddar Cheese
- 1 cup - Shredded Mozzarella1
- 1/2 - Mayonnaise
- 1 lb - Bacon (diced and cooked)
- 1/2 tsp - Black pepper
- 1 - Pie Crust (Deep Dish 9 inch)

Preparation:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Place pie shell in oven and par bake until slightly golden (approx. 8 min.). Cool crust at room temperature for 5 minutes. Arrange the sliced tomatoes on the bottom of the pie shell. Top the tomatoes with the basil. Top the basil with the onions. In a medium sized mixing bowl, add cheeses, mayonnaise, and bacon. Mix thoroughly. Press the cheese mixture on top of the pie for the final layer. Bake in the oven, uncovered, about 20 to 25 minutes or until golden brown. Let cool for 5 to 10 minutes before serving.



EarthMark
MITIGATION SERVICES

Fayette County URA

On June 12th The Fayette County Urban Renewal Authority (URA) held a ribbon cutting the welcome new businesses to Wolf Creek Park, the Live, Work, Learn and Play development. About 50 people showed up with representatives from Representative Rahall's and Governor Manchin's office. There was also an open house at the recently opened Bridge Brew Works

For more information on the event go to www.fayettetribune.com/local/x38327724/URA-celebrates-advances-at-Wolf-Creek-Park

For more on Wolf Creek Park go to www.wolfcreekparkwv.com or Wolf Creek Park, WV on FaceBook

NRB&NC

Bill Hilton Jr.; Consulting Director; New River Nature and Birding Center



Nature Center's Wetland Boardwalk (phase I)

The New River Birding & Nature Center (NRB&NC) at Wolf Creek Park has initiated "Second Saturdays," a series of public programs to be held the second Saturday of each month. In June consulting director Bill Hilton Jr. conducted an early morning workshop during which he captured and banded wild birds that were released unharmed by program attendees.

The "Second Saturday" event for 10 July included a Guided Field Trip on nature center trails at 8-10 am, followed by a water quality workshop on the Wetlands Boardwalk from 10 am until noon.

Next month's activity will be a three-day "New River Hummingbird Festival" to be held at ACE on 13-14 August. Activities include a morning-afternoon Friday workshop about attracting and studying hummingbirds, a Friday evening hummingbird lecture, and public hum-



Mark Ehrnschwender & Bill Hilton Jr. discuss Rushes and Sedges - Rushes R Round & Sedges have Edges.

mingbird banding demonstrations on Saturday and Sunday. Free to the public, except for the Friday workshop that is \$20 (includes lunch) and requires advance registration at 304-574-4258.

The Nature Center has applied for a second team of AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps volunteers for October 2010. If the request is granted, the crew will spend three weeks extending the 265-foot boardwalk another 250 feet into the 15-acre wetlands. They also will help local volunteers install the initial water quality testing station funded in part by PAN.

What is NRCWA

Heather Lukacs

"Standing on the shoulders of giants" -- Promoting Clean Water with the New River Clean Water Alliance

The New River Clean Water Alliance (NRCWA) builds on and extends PAN's past and current work on clean water in the New River and tributaries from Bluestone Dam down to Hawks Nest Lake. PAN has long promoted clean water in the New River Gorge region. In addition to organizing trash pickups along tributaries like Keeney's Creek and Ar buckle Creek, PAN has advocated for alternative wastewater treatment in Winona, formed water quality coalitions, and envisioned and helped get funding for the Fayette County Comprehensive Wastewater Management plan.

The NRCWA goals are to improve water quality on the New River and its tributaries and support community efforts. Specifically, we are working to produce a "New River State of the Watershed" report assessing current water quality and defining clean water priorities for the Lower New River Basin. In it we will hear from local residents, business owners, politicians, the National Park Service, watershed groups, and you.

The NRCWA hosted a public forum on April 13th, 2010 in Glen Jean where we discussed the current New River water situation and worked to identify which creeks have the most community support for cleanup efforts.

The State of the Watershed report, to be released in early 2011, will feature 3-5 New River tributaries selected as priorities based on community interest, impact on New River water quality, and infrastructure needs along with associated cost estimates. The report will document baseline information so we can continue to monitor and measure improvements – in terms of water quality and the financial, technical, and managerial capacity of local community groups, like the Wolf Creek Advisory Board.

The NRCWA is comprised of organizations and individuals dedicated to clean water several individuals and organizations are contributing significantly:

- Tara Shleser and Jeremiah Johnson (Piney Creek Watershed Association)
- Levi Rose (Plateau Action Network)
- Mark Lewis (WV Professional River Outfitters)
- Jennifer Dupree (WV Department of Environmental Protection)
- Scott Stonum, Jesse Purvis, Beth Schrayshuen and Scott Fanello (National Park Service)

- Courtney Wait and George Santucci (National Committee for the New River)
- Mike Gasper (Mountain Resources Conservation & Development)
- Erin St. John and Heather Lukacs (National Parks Conservation Association)
- Sid Howard (WV Southern Conservation District)
- Jennifer Garlesky (Morris Creek Watershed Association)

The New River Clean Water Alliance would like to thank PAN members past and present for their mentorship and for Levi Rose's strong contributions as he represents PAN at the NRCWA monthly meetings and our water quality sub-committee meetings.

If you have a great story you are willing to share about your connections to the New River, Piney Creek, Mill Creek (near Ansted), Arbuckle Creek, Madam Creek or Wolf Creek or strong preferences about where we should focus our efforts, please do not hesitate to email Heather and Erin at NewRiverAlliance@gmail.com. We look forward to working with you for clean water!



New OSM/Vista in Town

Laurel Ackison

I was born in rural North Carolina and moved to Fayetteville when I was seven to live closer to my family. Since then, I have remained in West Virginia. I am a proud Pirate and a 2005 FHS graduate. Later, I attended Marshall University and triple-majored in Ecology, Spanish, and Microbiology.

My interest in the environment and water quality started with a research fellowship at Virginia Tech. I studied the interaction between stream insects and water chemistry with Dr. Jack Webster. After returning to Marshall, I worked with Dr. Jeff Kovatch in investigating the ecology of freshwater mussels.

To improve my Spanish, I spent a year studying abroad in Puerto Rico. I feel fortunate to have had the opportunity to spend a year near the beautiful beach and lovely flora. On the island, I continued taking science courses, particularly those involving microbiology.

After graduation, I wanted to find work that was close to home and relevant to my field of study and, most importantly, that would contribute positively to my community. After looking around, I found that The Appalachian Coal Country Watershed Team (ACCWT) sponsored an OSM Vista AmeriCorps position in partnership with PAN. After communicating with Levi and a few others, I was convinced the position was right for me. I am really looking forward to becoming part of the PAN team!

New River Celebration

George Santucci

The New River expedition is an annual float trip down the entire New River organized by the National Committee for the New River (NCNR). Expedition members travel the river to highlight its link to local communities and discuss issues facing them and the river. The expedition will be in Fayetteville on August 16th and there will be a desert reception and the Vandalian from 7 to 8pm and presentations and raffle (including the next day's float) at the Historic Fayette Theater from 8 to 9pm. Join us for what will become an annual event.

Go to www.NCNR.org/expedition.php for more information and up to the minute details.

In Your Backyard

Joy Marr

Well, I hope you have enjoyed reading about the great stuff your watershed group has accomplished in the past few months and what else we've been up to in our 'free time'. As I read over this issue of the newsletter I feel energized about what is getting done and excited about what is coming down the pipe to our community.

I also recognize (somewhere in the back of my consciousness) the reality that I can't keep up with it all, as much as I liked to... and feel a vague ache in my stomach knowing that finding new and interested folks to help carry on this worthwhile work is getting harder and harder; many of the sitting board members terms will end next March and I see no willing replacements on the horizon.

I realize that perhaps most folks have no idea what it takes to be a board member on a local watershed group. So I thought I'd try to fill you in with the hope of relieving some unfounded, but firmly held concept that it's demanding, time consuming, complicated and requires some kind of special knowledge or attributes.

The time issue: Just how much time do I spend on PAN? As Treasurer I reconcile the bank statements and checking accounts. There are three of them. One is static so I do nothing it except monitor it (read the statement, put it in the binder). This takes about an hour a month or less. I keep the WV Stream Partners Grant account up to date and submit a reconciliation of the account expenditures twice a year and takes about 2-3 hours (due to the great work the PAN OSM/VISTA does for us). Then there are the monthly meetings, typically

one night a month and another 2-3 hours. I don't make all of them but I try to). So I'm up to 7 hours/ month.

Some months I do get into more stuff, some months much less. It depends on what other activities I want to get in on (water sampling, a conference on clean water) and what I have going in my world.

Being a part of a the board does take time. I'm not trying to down play that part of it (since it's why everyone says they can't get more involved), but I hope you see that it is not beyond most folks scheduling demands.

Special attributes: Ha! I have none, well at least when it comes to being on PAN's board. I have an appreciation of the complexities of working within a group (sometimes you jive- sometimes you don't - don't sweat it - remember your manners), but I have no special training, certifications or degrees specific to being on a board or managing an organization. I hope you see that it is not beyond most folk's abilities.

Demanding: Well possibly... I have pride in what PAN has accomplished as a collective-collaboration and what it has required of me; to search for the middle ground, try thinking outside the box, extend myself to the public (and its scrutiny), and remember to mind my manners when its all I can do to not sputter some #@@%**@ quip.

But really none of these things are demanding, they're really just the stuff we do to get along in life everyday.

I hope you'll join us at our next meeting, see you there!

Thanks Becca

Rebecca Rahe Smith has resigned from the PAN board. Rebecca stepped to the plate last in early 2009. She helped us with forming our first topic meetings, the Wolf Creek Advisory Team, and the youth advisory board. However life soon took her to Charleston to work and live. As volunteers we can appreciate the effort to continue, but the long drive to a long PAN meeting after a long day at work is a sobering thing. The distance added two factors which give pause to a responsible and dedicated person like Becca the time commitment and the community disconnect.

Thanks for your time, energy, and long term support.

Ed's Notes

Ole's [see *A Letter from the Road pg 1*] article, reminds me of the first time I saw one of those windmills, up in Tucker County - that was mind blowing. His description of the great plains, which used to be called the great

American Desert reminded me of a book, well three books, two by Timothy Egan. The one most related is *The Worst Hard Time*, it's about how man made the great American dust bowl. The second is *The Big Burn* which chronicles the biggest forest fire in America (man made?). The third is *Rising Tide* by John M. Barry and covers the Mississippi Flood of 1927 and man's role in that disaster. Maybe we will learn something from this oil spill. Maybe not.

Schedule of Events

13-14 August

New River Humming Bird Festival [see *NRB&NC pg 4*]

16 August 7pm - 9pm, at the **Vandalian and Historic Fayette Theater, in Fayetteville**

[see *New River Celebration pg 5*]

Regular Local Events

GREAT Team

Meets on the last Monday of the Month at Fayetteville Convention & Visitors Center. Go to www.greenwv.org for specific times & dates.

New River Birding & Nature Center 2nd Saturdays

Different Nature programs on the 2nd Saturday of the month.

Check Us Out

PAN meets first Tuesday of the month 6:00 pm, at Gregg Studios, in Fayetteville or River Rock Hostel, in Lansing. For more information call our Office at 304 574-4726 or a board member.

PAN Board of Directors	
Eric Autenreith – Chair	304 574-1067
Mark Ehrnschwender – Co-chair	304 574-1993
Joy Marr – Treasurer	304 574-0394
Levi Rose – Watershed Coordinator	
levidrose@gmail.com	740.591.1750



Membership Form

PAN POB 482 Fayetteville WV 25840

Please Print

Name _____

Phone () _____ - _____

Address _____

Email _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Yes, I would like to support PAN at this membership level _____

Individual @ \$20 _____

Senior @ \$15 _____

Family @ \$35 + _____

Student @ \$10 _____

I do not want PAN to use my personal information to contact me for activities of related groups.

Enclosed is an additional contribution of _____

memform5.fm

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7/14/10

Or go to www.plateauactionnetwork.org to sign up & donate.