



Ways to Support  
the  
**Henderson County  
Young Leaders Program**

**Thank You!**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please circle your commitment:**

- > A gift of \$135 provides a weekend camp opportunity at Camp Bob for 1 camper.
- > A gift of \$270 provides a 5-day camp session at Camp Ton-A-Wandah for 1 camper.
- > A gift of \$100 covers the expenses for a camper for the year-around program/Pathmakers.

**Ways to fulfill your commitment:**

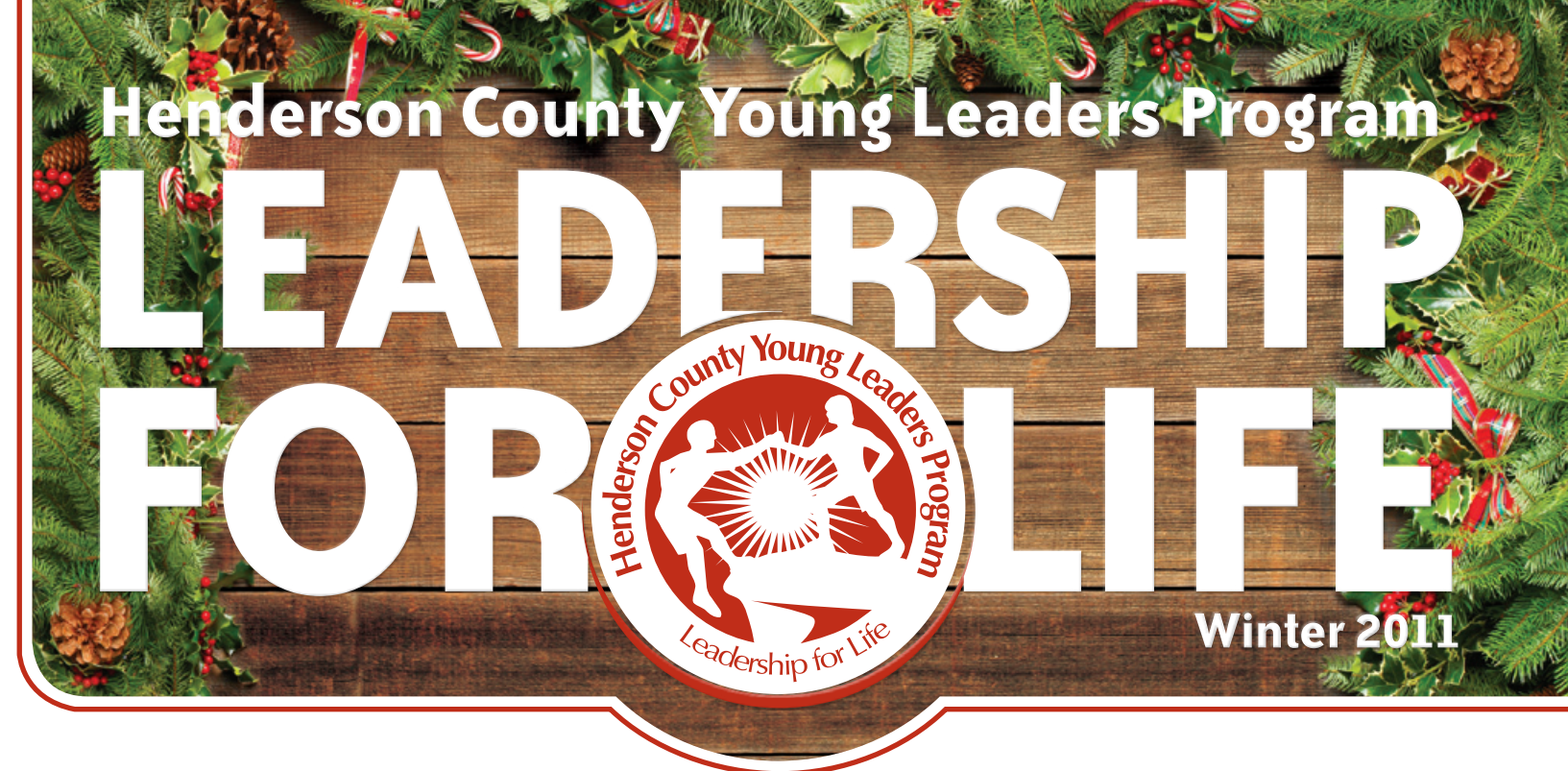
- > Bill me later (please include mailing address)
- > Cash/Check (payable to HCYLP)
- > Online via PayPal [www.HCYLP.org](http://www.HCYLP.org)

**YOUR CONTRIBUTION IS TAX DEDUCTIBLE**

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**e-newsletter**

If you would prefer to get the newsletter electronically via email rather than the printed and mailed version, please contact Paige Hafner, executive director of the Henderson County Young Leaders Program, at [director@hcylp.org](mailto:director@hcylp.org) or by calling 828-697-2000, and give her your email address.



**Limitless Opportunity**

This year is almost over and it has been a great one for HCYLP! Please take a few minutes to review this newsletter to see what we've been able to accomplish this year with the financial support of our donors and the hard work of our dedicated staff, board of directors and community partners.

We are fortunate to live in a country that offers limitless opportunities for those who are confident, work hard, persevere, respect others, and play by the rules. At HCYLP, we believe that a child who grows up with these qualities is much more likely to be able to seize the opportunities available to him or her and be successful in life. Many of us were fortunate enough to have had positive adult role models and to have participated in experiences in our lives that helped us to develop these qualities. With these qualities, came success in our businesses or professions, as community leaders, and as parents and spouses. HCYLP's mission is to develop these qualities in the children we serve so that they will have a much greater chance to be successful in their own lives.

As you count your blessings this Christmas season, please consider spreading those blessings with a gift to the HCYLP to help us continue our important mission. HCYLP is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization, so your contribution will be tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.

On behalf of the staff and board of directors of HCYLP, I wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and thank you for your support.

-Adam Shealy, Board President



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## A Whole New Level!

The Henderson County Young Leaders Program has traditionally offered a progression of four distinct programs with eligibility based on success at the previous level. These include weekend camps sessions to inspire students in third through sixth grades, full-week camps for returning participants in grades four through eight, a year-round leadership/mentoring Pathmakers program and scholarship opportunities to multi-week sessions offered by participating WNC camps.

Now a fifth level has been added — a high school program. Students who are 9th graders or older may participate if they have been committed participants in the Henderson County Young Leaders Program, maintain grades of C or higher, have good behavior and exhibit true leadership potential.

This new program was started in October 2011 because there were a number of young people who were “aging out” of the HCYLP Pathmakers.

“The program is designed to support and encourage participants as they progress through high school, promoting development of leadership skills and, where possible, using the resources of and maintaining a special relationship with the summer camp community,” said Paige Hafner, executive director of the Henderson County Young Leaders Program.

Participants are being assigned mentors and will meet with them at least once a month. They will set goals and participate in yearly projects. The focus will be on building a high school resume. Activities might include community and camp

service projects, hiking, visiting camps, team building, career “shadowing” opportunities, and assisting as junior leaders at weekend or weeklong camps.

“We anticipate that the camp community will see program participants as a resource pool for engaging qualified young people as counselors in training or junior counselors,” Hafner said. “The program will continue to facilitate camp opportunities for participants, with the eventual goal of having many program graduates working as camp staff members.”



## A Winning Event for Everyone

Camp Mondamin was smoking hot on October 8, as 17 teams of young cooks fired up their grills for the third annual Future Legends of BBQ Competition.

The Tuxedo camp was the site of two annual fundraising events benefiting the Henderson County Young Leaders Program — the Future Legends of BBQ Competition and the Barbeque Ball. The money raised helps underwrite camp experiences for Henderson County youth who otherwise might not have the opportunity.

The Future Legends competition began in 2009 and is sanctioned by the Kansas City Barbeque Society and judged by KCBS-licensed judges. On hand to inspire the young

cooks were celebrity judges Mike Mills, known as “the Legend” in the world of barbecue, Amy Mills-Tunncliffe and Jim Tabb, founder of the Blue Ridge BBQ Festival in Tryon. The judges were joined by Carolyn Wells, executive director of the Kansas City Barbeque Society.

While the teams of young cooks competed for awards in various categories, a record number of guests enjoyed the day that included live music, concessions, face painting and inflatables for youngsters.

Winning top prize for the best ribs and the best sauce was the team Hogs & Kisses from Tryon. The Jersey Shore team

from Hendersonville Middle School won the best competitor’s choice award. The best theme prize went to the Roast in Peace team from Hendersonville.

The top three finishers overall were the teams Hogs & Kisses, Lazy Bones BBQ and The Jersey Shore.

As the daylong competition came to a close, the annual BBQ Ball got under way. Camp enthusiasts and supporters, many of whom were former campers themselves, filled the dining hall where they enjoyed a delicious variety of food from Hubba Hubba Smokehouse in Flat Rock. The evening included a silent auction, games and activities for the children, music and dancing.

The barbecue events this year netted more than \$43,000 for the program.

Next year’s BBQ fundraising events are set for Saturday, Oct. 13, at Camp Mondamin. For more information, contact Paige Hafner, executive director of the Henderson County Young Leaders Program, (828) 697-2000, or visit [www.hcylp.org](http://www.hcylp.org).



## What the HCYLP Means The Fuge Family

Debbie Fuge is the mother of three boys and as a parent she wants to give her children everything she had and more.

“I was able to go to camp when I was a child due to a generous family member who paid for it since my mother couldn’t afford to send us,” she said.

When she and her family moved to Western North Carolina she heard about all the great summer camps in the area.

“I was disappointed to realize that sending my boys to camp was just not something that was in our budget,” she said. Her husband, who is a disabled veteran, was forced to make a career change, so he went back to school to study to be a high school math teacher. She also is a full-time student and works part time for an English As Second Language program at Blue Ridge Community College.

But thanks to the Henderson County Young Leaders Program, two of Fuge’s three boys have had the opportunity to go to camp. Christopher is now a seventh grader and Wesley is in the fifth grade.

Christopher’s first camp experience was a weekend camp at Kanuga’s Camp Bob,

after being recommended by his school counselor.

“He was excited to go, right up until his dad took him to the Boys & Girls Club to get on the bus,” Fuge said. “My husband called me telling me that Chris wouldn’t go. He was begging us not to put him on the bus, not to make him go.”

Fuge finally was able to convince her son to give it a try for just one night. She told him she would pick him up if he absolutely hated it.

“I knew he would love it, and he did,” she said.

Following the weekend camp, Christopher was invited to the weeklong camp. Younger son Wesley was also invited to the weeklong camp.

“They had such a good time,” Fuge said. “They were both invited to join the Pathmakers program and they really look forward to the monthly meetings. The activities are fun, but they also learn about setting goals and giving back to the community.”

Both boys are members of the Boys & Girls Club and have earned full

scholarships to summer camps. Christopher has attended Falling Creek Camp for three summers and Wesley attended Camp Arrowhead for the first time this past summer.

Now the entire family is getting involved and giving back. They’ve volunteered with and taken part in the Future Legends of BBQ Competition every year. Christopher was on a team the first year. The second year Fuge’s husband was the adult for the team Christopher was on and this year he guided the team that both Wesley and Christopher were on.

“It’s become a great bonding experience for them to practice cooking for the event and to come up with their theme,” she said.

Fuge says she finds it difficult to express how much the Henderson County Young Leaders Program has meant to her family.

“The program has given something to my children that we could never give them,” Fuge said. “That is something we will forever be grateful for. That is one of the reasons I am happy to volunteer to help the HCYLP in any way that I can.”

## 17 Teams of Young Cooks Daylong Competition



“...this year netted more than \$43,000 for the program.”

## Silent Auction Games and Activities

## Music & Dancing Delicious Variety of Food