

## **2013**

### **Karen Knight**

Karen, along with her husband Jerry, own and operate Knight's Farm Supply. For years, she has been actively involved with the Marshall County 4-H and FFA livestock programs. She is a founding member of the Cameron FFA Alumni and is a strong supporter of both the Cameron and John Marshall FFA chapters. Karen also supports youth agriculture programs in Marshall, Wetzel, Tyler and Marion Counties in West Virginia, as well as Greene County in Pennsylvania, and Belmont and Monroe Counties in Ohio.

For many years, Karen has had members of local FFA chapters assisting with their annual open house in order for the students to gain first-hand knowledge of agricultural sales and customer service. She is a lifetime member of the Marshall County Fair, won the National FFA Appreciation Award in 2011, the New Holland President's Award and the Massy Ferguson Customer Satisfaction Award for outstanding sales and service at her company.

To quote Karen's nominator, "Karen was not raised on a farm, but fell in love with agriculture and farm life many years ago. Granted, she was once referred to as a town kid, but now Karen is no doubt a good ole country girl with a heart of gold, constant smiles and warm greetings for everyone."

### **Shelby Jean Hulver**

Shelby operates a successful 125 commercial ewe flock and a herd of 30 cows. She has been active in the WV Shepherds Association and her family supported the WV Performance Bull Test Sale, securing performance tested genetics to improve their beef herd. She has worked with WVU as a participant in many field trials on the reproductive physiology of small ruminants. Their work yielded many scientific articles and practical tools for the sheep and cattle industry. Shelby and her family have also been clients of many programs through the USDA, and the farm has benefited from conservation and stewardship programs.

Shelby is active in her local Ruritan Club and has held many offices, including president. She belongs to the Ebenezer Lutheran Church and has served on the Church Council and is a member of the choir. In her spare time, she does oil painting depicting scenes from rural life in West Virginia.

Shelby's nominator says, "She is a remarkable woman. Her energy, big smile and enthusiasm are only part of what has made her a successful woman in agriculture."

### **Arlene Rexrode**

Arlene takes great pride in the 250-acre farm she has operated since her husband's death in 1995. The farm consists of pasture, hay, woodland and 40 Angus cows/calf pairs. Conservation of the natural resources is very important to Arlene who has worked closely with the USDA and participates in many conservation programs to implement agronomic and structural conservation practices. Arlene is currently working to enhance her hay production by applying fertilizer based on soil test results. Arlene also rotates her grain supplements and mineral feeders throughout her pastures to promote uniform grazing and proper pasture management.

Arlene has been a member of the West Virginia Farm Bureau for 45 years. During that time, she has served as Vice Chair of the State Women's Committee and received the WV Farm Bureau Distinguished Service Award. She was

honored at the 2012 Greenbrier Valley Legislative Awards Banquet and has served on the Southern States Home Advisory Board. Arlene has been treasurer of the Arborvale United Methodist Church since 1947

According to her daughter, Arlene takes great pride in her farm, as well as the maintenance and preservation of it. The farm was a dream of Arlene's and her late husband, which became a reality that she is very proud of.

## **Carol E. Webb**

Carol is an Agriculture Education teacher, FFA Advisor and farmer in Mineral County. She has coached numerous teams to national gold and silver medals. Carol operates a state-of-the-art aquaculture facility at the Mineral County Tech Center and has helped numerous students earn their State and American FFA degrees. Carol and her students have been providing the school district with a variety of produce and beef processed in her agricultural courses through the Farm to School program. The ground beef processed in the meat processing facility and raised by students has been featured on the daily lunch menus. She and her student have built and maintained raised beds for local senior centers and community areas. Carol is an Honorary State FFA Degree recipient, Mineral County Teacher of the Year, Honorary American FFA Degree recipient and Southern State Agricultural Leadership Award recipient.

Carol is also involved with her family's business, Flying W Farms, and provides produce for the Flying W Market.

What Carol might not know is that her entire FFA Chapter submitted her nomination. Her students feel there is no greater woman in West Virginia or the United States that is more deserving of this honor as she devotes much of her personal time to help and encourage her students to not only be successful in the classroom but also a success in life.