

WEST VIRGINIA

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EDGE

SPECIAL REPORT

BOY SCOUT BOOM:
SUMMIT BECHTEL RESERVE MEANS
MILLIONS FOR STATE ECONOMY



BUILDING

TOMORROW'S LEADERS TODAY

YOUTH LEARN SKILLS IN WEST VIRGINIA

REGIONAL UPDATES

West Virginia-made sandals kicking up sales around the world

A sandal manufacturing company that moved its manufacturing facility from Mexico to Morgantown in 2010 now exports all over the world, from Africa to the United Kingdom. Recently, RS Marketing LLC shipped its Gurkees rope sandals to a new customer, a resort in the United Republic of Tanzania in Eastern Africa. In addition to its international clientele, RS Marketing supplies Gurkees sandals to wholesalers and retailers in the United States.

Jefferson County business wins Rural Innovation award

Bloomery Plantation Distillery of Charles Town is one of five recipients of the regional 2013 Forum for Rural Innovation Awards. The winners were honored in March at the Forum's annual meeting, held in Winchester, Va. The Bloomery grows raspberries and lemons and is the first commercial lemon harvester in the Mid-Atlantic United States. Owners Linda Losey and Tom Kiefer transform Bloomery crops and other local fruits, roots and nuts into award-winning cocktail liqueurs such as limoncello, raspberry limoncello and ginger. The Forum showcases projects that enhance farm or rural business prosperity. The Forum for Rural Innovation is a cooperative educational effort by the Office of Agricultural Economic Development and Cooperative Extension in Virginia and West Virginia; the town of Berryville, Va.; and the Small Business Development Center of the Eastern Panhandle.

