

December 19, 2003  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

*For more information, contact:*

Michael Brickey, Foundation Manager

The DanPaul Foundation

Post Office Box 148

Hiltons, VA 24258-0148

276/386-2373

michael@danpaul.org

www.danpaul.org

## NEW CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION IS OPERATING IN SCOTT COUNTY

There is an important resource available in Scott County that you are probably unaware even exists. The DanPaul Foundation, a non-profit charitable organization which provides monetary grants to public charities and other 501(c)(3) groups, was incorporated in December 2002 by a local Hiltons resident, and is now fully operational.

Mary "Libby" Cornett, the foundation's president and founder, formed the organization from a personal family tragedy - she lost her husband, two teenage sons, and a nephew in a December 1997 boating accident in Charleston, SC. Mainly through her efforts in cooperating with the National Transportation Safety Board's investigation of the U.S. Coast Guard's procedures used in the fatal *Morning Dew* accident, other families have been spared the heartache she faced because Congress allocated much-needed funds to upgrade the Coast Guard's communications system for reviewing calls on the emergency channel 16, and the procedures they now follow for responding to potential accidents at sea.

The foundation is named in honor of Cornett's two sons, Daniel and Paul, and the overall theme of the foundation comes from a line in one of her husband's songs, "Teach them how to use the tools they'll need in life." Mike Cornett was the son of Juanita Carter of the famous country music Carter Family in Hiltons, and an accomplished musician/singer/songwriter.

Cornett, a former professor at Mountain Empire Community College in Big Stone Gap, VA, plans to use her master's degree from ETSU in Early Childhood Development to provide seminars and workshops for teachers and parents on topics dealing with children and early life development.

Michael Brickey, the foundation's manager and an alumnus of Twin Springs HS and Virginia Tech, has said the types of programs that might be funded through grants from the foundation include those which encourage our youth to take a personal interest in bettering the lives of those less fortunate; namely the homeless, the needy, the neglected and the underprivileged. Also of interest to the foundation are those programs which teach social and environmental responsibility - ensuring that there is clean air and water for future generations, and providing the basic necessities of life for all inhabitants of our world, such as housing and nutritious food.

The foundation's Board of Trustees reviews eligible organizations and their programs for potential grant funding throughout the year, and they welcome inquiries from organizations working in those program areas which match the foundation's mission and goals.

The DanPaul Foundation has an internet website at [www.danpaul.org](http://www.danpaul.org) with much more detailed information including how to contact the organization either through e-mail ([foundation@danpaul.org](mailto:foundation@danpaul.org)), regular mail (POB 148 Hiltons, VA 24258), or by phone (276-386-2373).

# # #