

From Cabbage to Cash

What do you do with a 15 lb. cabbage? If you're 4th grader Landen Barkley, you turn it into cash. Landen and his third grade class at Rivesville Elementary School in Marion County grew cabbages last school year as part of the Bonnie Plants 3rd Grade Cabbage Program.

Bonnie Plants provides 3rd graders all across the country with free cabbage plants each year. The students are given instructions on how to care for the plant and they keep a checklist to make mark their success. In West Virginia, 108 schools participated and cabbages were delivered to 277 classrooms in March of 2015. Each teacher submitted one student and the West Virginia Department of Agriculture randomly chose a winner from those entries to receive a \$1,000 scholarship. Landen was awarded his check by West Virginia Commissioner of Agriculture Walt Helmick on March 2 during a school-wide assembly. Also on hand for the presentation were Landen's parents, his grandparents, and Bonnie Plants Representative Kyle Boyce.

Cabbage plants for this year's 3rd graders will be delivered throughout the month of March. For more information on the Bonnie Plants Program, log on to <http://bonniecabbageprogram.com/>.



Pictured above: Larry Barkley, Barbara Barkley, teacher Macy Stewart, Commissioner Walt Helmick, Landen Barkley, Robin Barkley, Larry Barkley, Jr., Bonnie Plants Manager Kyle Boyce.

