

## News & Notes

### YOUTH WELL-SERVED DURING SUMMER

More than 24,000 visitors representing all 50 states and 84 countries took advantage of the Mountaintop Handson Activity Center that made its debut this summer. Organized and operated by the Carl and Hunter Smith Education Department, the family-oriented space under Monticello's North Terrace was open daily from June 14 through Aug. 31. Also over the summer, 84 percent of the places on the Tours for Children and their Families were filled. These house tours, geared toward children ages 6 to 11, were conducted six times daily from June 14 through Aug. 17.

### MEDAL ONCE OWNED BY JEFFERSON ACQUIRED

Monticello has acquired a rare 1805 medal of George Washington once owned by Thomas Jefferson. The medal – commissioned by Joseph Sansom of Philadelphia, executed by engraver John Reich, and struck by the U.S. Mint – depicts Washington as commander-in-chief of the armies of the United States. Sansom presented the medal to Jefferson in 1805. It was acquired by John Hartwell Cocke at the Monticello dispersal sale of January 1827 and had remained in the Cocke family ever since. The medal had been on loan to Monticello since 1959.



### NEW NAME, NEW INFO ON THE WEB SITE

The online reference guide to all things Jefferson introduced last year as the Thomas Jefferson Wiki has a new name: the Thomas Jefferson Encyclopedia. Since hitting the Web in July 2007 this feature – accessible at <http://wiki.monticello.org> – has attracted more than 100,000 unique visitors while its list of offerings has grown to include more than 800 articles.

### SYMPOSIUM, FESTIVAL POPULAR ONCE AGAIN

Eighty horticulture enthusiasts attended sessions of *Fruits, Roots, and Leaves: Revolutionary Gardeners and Heritage Harvests*, the biennial Historic Plants Symposium sponsored by the Thomas Jefferson Center for Historic Plants, on Sept. 4-5. On Sept. 6, more than 1,200 people turned out for the second annual Heritage Harvest Festival at Monticello's Tufton Farm. The family-friendly event, sponsored by the Center for Historic Plants in conjunction with the Southern Exposure Seed Exchange, featured workshops and presentations on traditional agriculture, sustainable gardening, and kindred subjects.

COMMENTS?  
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*Thomas Jefferson*  
**MONTICELLO**

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