

## Susan Leveille: Award Winner – The Reporter

Celebrating its 39th year, Western Carolina University's [Mountain Heritage Day](#) drew thousands of visitors to the Cullowhee campus Saturday, Sept. 28, to sample mountain music, arts, crafts, foods, traditions, games and activities.

Several of the region's outstanding cultural contributors were recognized in brief ceremonies at midday.

Susan Morgan Leveille, a proprietor of the Oaks Gallery in Dillsboro, was honored as the individual recipient of the Mountain Heritage Award. Receiving the organization award was Catch the Spirit of Appalachia.

In presenting the award to Leveille, WCU Chancellor David O. Belcher noted her lifelong passion for weaving and for teaching the craft. "Earlier this week it was announced that the governor would award her with one of five North Carolina Heritage Awards on May 20, 2014 at the Duke Energy Center for the Performing Arts in Raleigh," Belcher said. He also described Leveille's service to the community on town boards, art councils, crafts guilds and merchant associations, as well as her teaching outreach activities to children at elementary schools, at the Green Energy Park, and through the nonprofit Stecoah Valley Weavers that she established.