

# McCoy Farm & Gardens

## NEWSLETTER

Main entrance: 1604 Taft Highway • Front gate: 1715 Anderson Pike • Mailing address: P.O. Box 443, Signal Mountain, TN 37377 • Website: [www.mccoywalden.org](http://www.mccoywalden.org)

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### A Good Friend Lost

Our community and McCoy Farm & Gardens lost a good friend in Andy Cope on July 27. Andy was a prominent business and civic leader, and as President of the Tucker Foundation, he supported development of our Master Plan and many of our renovations and improvements. He will be missed.

### New Garden Video Series

Three beautiful videos featuring the McCoy Gardens in early spring, early summer, and mid summer are available for your pleasure on YouTube Channel.

Sallie Ford and Elizabeth Hamilton have collaborated on overviews of plants that support the abundant pollinator species, researched the scientific and historic stories behind the many beautiful plants, and partnered in videography, editing, and hosting.

This month the latest video is a walk with Larry Mick, volunteer and Board member, along his garden treasure at the historic Serpentine Wall.

**Take a walk along the Serpentine Gardens with Larry Mick** [https://youtube/BkZ\\_k3OHPrg](https://youtube/BkZ_k3OHPrg)

### Many Recent Improvements

During this time when health concerns have put events at McCoy Farm & Gardens in abeyance, many physical improvements have been made to the property. We hope you will enjoy this series of pictures showing ongoing accomplishments.

#### **For the Main Entranceway at Taft Highway**

Bob Franklin, of Franklin Architects, graciously provided drawings for an improved and more important looking entrance that reflects the original historic gateway on Anderson Pike.

The small existing stone pillars were increased in height, and wing walls similar to those on Anderson Pike were added. White fences along the drive will lead the eye to two new interior stone pillars that support a



*The base for one of the new wing walls takes shape.*



*Stone Mason, Randall Hawkins, and his crew add the stone.*



*Charles Adams, Board member-Projects Chairman, guides visitors to the gravel parking lot through the Anderson gate.*

**The Mission** of McCoy Farm & Gardens is to restore, enhance and preserve the historic McCoy homeplace so that it may serve the community as an arboretum, natural area, and venue for public and private events.

planned security gate. The stonework is complete, and a new electronically controlled gate will be installed in the coming weeks.



Board members, Karen Stone and Charles Adams, watch as new fencing is installed inside the Taft Highway entrance.



A people walk-through makes accessing the trail easy.

### At the Emma Bell Miles Corner on Anderson



Trees shown with yellow ribbons were first topped, then cut and removed, so that no root disturbance harmed the wall.

On Anderson Pike, trees had to be cleared in preparation for rebuilding the cut-stone wall that delineates the original homeplace of famed artist and poet, Emma Bell Miles. The invading roots were damaging the wall.



Joseph Henry, of Mark's Tree Service, guides the chipper producing truckloads of mulch to use on the property.

## Volunteers Clear Fencerow

Answering the call for volunteers, a hardy group came out on Saturday, July 25th. They pulled out the old metal fence posts and wire fencing atop the wall at the Emma Bell Miles site, and they did it in under two hours! Now the stone masons can begin repair work there.



Andy Jones, Terry Knox and Mickey Robbins ignore passing traffic; Bill Trohanis and Winston Robbins take a risk. Photos by Sallie Ford.

Please follow published guidelines for physical distancing, masks, cleanliness and group size. Use open air facilities at your own risk. McCoy Farm & Gardens assumes no responsibility for violations.

## Hours, Access & Information

The 1.1 mile long walking and running trail is open during daylight hours, seven days per week. Access the trail by the 1604 Taft Highway entrance and park in the trail parking spaces or the gravel lot. Dog waste pickup bags are at the trailhead.

The MFG buildings are temporarily closed. Please observe published guidelines for physical distancing, marks, cleanliness and group size. McCoy Farm & Gardens assumes no responsibility for violations.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

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Shannon Handy, Planning

### WALDEN OFFICIALS:

Mayor: Bill Trohanis  
 Aldermen: Lee Davis,  
 Sarah McKenzie

### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

[Karen Stone](#)

## Support McCoy Farm & Gardens

McCoy Farm & Gardens is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation. All contributions are charitable and tax deductible to the maximum extent allowed by law.

The 38 acre parcel contains the Bachman-McCoy home, pavilion, carriage house, barn, blacksmith workshop, apple house, various other structures, and gardens. Volunteers are very important to the organization in all areas. Your donations are welcome and will be used to improve the structures and gardens.

**Please send your check to:**

**McCoy Farm & Gardens**

**P.O. Box 443, Signal Mt., TN 37377**

[www.mccoypwalden.org](http://www.mccoypwalden.org)

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