

# 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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## Trail Status Changes

The 1.1 mile long walking trail at McCoy Farm & Gardens has been very popular since it was first created. It offers a safe, easy path through the woods and past the gardens as it follows the perimeter of the property. When so many want to be outside enjoying the beautiful spring weather, the trail offers a great opportunity for everyone.

The Board of Directors was very sad that the trail and the rest of the property had to close to the public at the first of April. We followed the guidelines set by national and local governments and posted closure signs in order to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

Good news! Beginning May 1st, the trail is open again to the public as long as recommended safety protocols are followed. Please do your part to help us keep the trail available for your use. Failure to "follow the rules" may result in another shutdown.

1. Respect at least a **6 foot physical distance** from anyone not in your immediate household. Be especially vigilant for your children.

2. Keep your **pet leashed** and away from others. Don't allow others to pet your dog.

3. Bring and use your own **hand sanitizer**. Face masks and gloves are advised.

4. The portable toilet is for **emergency use** only. Always use hand sanitizer and proper precautions.

## Memorial Day Picnic

A community-wide picnic on Memorial Day has become a tradition at McCoy Farm & Gardens. The picnic provides a wonderful opportunity to honor our veterans with patriotic music and programming. Attendance in large numbers has added to the fun and made the picnic a success for the last 5 years.

This year because of health concerns, we will not be able to gather together as we have in other years. We regret that the traditional community Memorial Day picnic will not take place on our grounds. Perhaps you will be able to celebrate the holiday with your immediate

families and honor the purpose for which the special day was established. We hope to see you again next year.



## New Fences Going Up

Thanks to a very generous grant, new fences are being installed along the Taft Highway entry drive and along Anderson Pike. You may have noticed that some posts along Anderson Pike are in place and have been painted.

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*Mark Turner, owner of Middle Valley Fence Company, holds a post in place while Paul Patterson fills the base with concrete. Malcolm Turner assists in related tasks. Photo by Charlie Stone.*

**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.

*Fences continued*

Boards will be affixed after the posts are completely stabilized. Final painting will take place after the materials have aged properly.

Progress on the new parking lot is going well even though the continual rain has been a hindrance. A new traffic pattern will be indicated by signage, and we anticipate you will be pleased with the new facilities.



*Above, new fence posts lie ready for installation.*

*Right, Paul Jensen and Charles Adams supervise properly in COVID-19 protective gear.*



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than Bachman, and with her cousins nearby. A newspaper clipping of Martha's wedding announcement and photo are on display. Martha and Tom McCoy in his naval uniform are shown at their home in Little Creek, Virginia in about 1945. Then in later years they are pictured with Sally and their dog, Big Foot, at home on Walden's Ridge. There are other pets: Martha with her horse, Jumpin' Joe, and Sally's three sons with Donkey Gray.

Look also for pictures of Martha's parents, Senator Nathan and Pearl Duke Bachman, and other members of the family. Little Sally McCoy is captured at age two. All in all, it's an interesting collection of photos, and we are grateful to the extended Stone family for the gift of a beautiful place to store some of the archives safely.



*A secure glass-front display cabinet houses Bachman-McCoy family photographs along with other delicate items. Photo by Charlie Stone.*

## Display Cabinet Houses Historic Photographs

The children of the late Dr. Harry and Katharine (Kitty) Oehmig Stone generously donated their mother's beautiful glass-front cabinet to McCoy Farm & Gardens. The cabinet was a family heirloom dedicated to the memory of their great-grandmother, Mary McVea Newell, Kitty's grandmother.

It is fitting that the display cabinet should be used to protect and present some of the heirloom photographs related to the Bachman and McCoy families. When you visit, pause to see the picture of Martha McCoy at age six sitting on the lap of her grandfather, Dr. Jona-

**Notice:** Heavy equipment will be operating along the back drive, near the gravel parking lot, and along the front fence on Anderson Pike. Please be especially vigilant in these areas!

## Hours, Access & Information

The 1.1 mile long walking and running trail is open during daylight hours, seven days per week. Access the trail at the 1604 Taft Highway entrance and park in the first gravel lot located outside the gate. Dog waste pick-up bags are at the trailhead.

**The McCoy walking trail is open.**

**The buildings are temporarily closed.**

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## 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.mccoywalden.org](http://www.mccoywalden.org)

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