

McCoy Farm & Gardens NEWSLETTER

Main entrance: 1604 Taft Highway • Front gate: 1715 Anderson Pike • Mail: P.O. Box 443, Signal Mountain, TN 37377 • 423-598-1658 • www.mccoypwalden.org

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Hemlock Rescue Action

McCoy Farm & Gardens has volunteers to thank in the effort to keep our Eastern hemlock trees from *woolly adelgid* infestation. The woolly adelgid is a tiny sap-sucking insect that will kill an affected hemlock within a few years. The woolly's white sacs have now hatched and their most active time of the year (winter) has begun for destroying the needles. To learn more on how to detect and treat the insect yourself, or with the help of local companies, search on Facebook for @SaveSignalMtnsHemlocks or @TNHCP



Mary Evelyn Pearce, Mary Claire Nimon, Emerson Couch, and Katy Couch treat hemlocks against Woolly Adelgid.

Mary Claire Nimon recently led a group of GPS and Baylor students in treating some of McCoy's hemlocks for the insects. Dan Reynolds, Mickey Robbins, and Wesley Nimon, together with Barbara and Clyde Womack, have continued the project with over 50 trees now protected for about 5 years when the treatment will need to be done again.

Little Brown Church Picnic

On September 6, MFG was happy to host the traditional picnic following Homecoming at the Little Brown Church where they celebrated 113 years of continuous services.



Eloise, Genie, and Cathy Robbins prepare mason jar vases and flowers for the Little Brown Church picnic September 6.



Mountain Cove Bluegrass Band is always welcome to play for services at the Little Brown Church and at the picnic too.

Civitan Fall Fling at MFG

McCoy Farm & Gardens hosted the Chattanooga Downtown Civitan Club on September 23 for a fundraising dinner sponsored by Sticky Fingers. About \$8,000 was collected for children with special needs in the Chattanooga Metropolitan Area. The club's annual contributions usually reach \$25,000 - \$35,000. Recent beneficiaries are: Signal Center, Orange

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.

Grove Center, Ronald McDonald House, FACES, Chambliss Children's Home, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Bethel Bible Village, T C Thompson Children's Hospital, and Inner City Ministries.



Civitan Larson Mick on the right, a board member at MFG, is pictured with, from left to right, Mary Lucile Sharp, Patricia Stamper, and Genie & Joe Robbins. Civitan members Bob Robbins and Cathy & Jim Robbins also volunteer at MFG.

Birds ~ Popular Attraction

On Sunday, September 26, McCoy Farm & Gardens was fortunate to have renowned birder, Kevin Calhoon, Curator of Forests with the Tennessee Aquarium, and local young expert birder, Luke Thompson, lead a bird walk.



Kevin Calhoon, explains as ornithologist Luke Thompson and other birders follow. Participating were Heather Ott, Mayor Lee Davis, Cathy Lockwitz, Judy Sapp, Dave Porfiri, Grace Mynatt, Ernie Aguerre, John Dever, Sallie Ford, Robert Dornfeld, Kent Dubois, Teddy Caldwell, and others.

The event was well-attended and the birds did not disappoint. The group identified 49 species, including at least 13 different species of warblers. A highlight was the sighting of 32 Tennessee warblers and 10 Swainson's thrushes. There is no charge for these offerings sponsored by MFG. Watch this newsletter for the next opportunity to take part in a bird walk.

Gift of Heritage Portrait



Mary Catherine O'Kelley, left, and Anne Leonard, right, show the unburied treasure.

We all have heard stories about someone cleaning out an attic and coming across a treasure.

This happened recently as Mary Catherine Collins O'Kelley and her sister Frances Collins Connor were going through some papers at their grandparents' home, Glen Mary, on East Brow Road. They found a signed portrait of Dr. Jonathan Bachman, father of Senator Nathan Bachman and grandfather of Martha McCoy. When they recognized the treasure, they decided to donate it to McCoy Farm & Gardens. We are delighted with this gift and hope others who find something interesting will also consider making a gift to MFG.

We welcome you to walk with your dog on a leash. Please pick up ALL waste and dispose of it properly. This reminder applies to the borders of the trail as well as the open lawns.

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 and by the Anderson entrance.

We encourage our MFG visitors to practice healthy COVID measures at all times.

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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 Mtn., TN 37377
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