

# 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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## September Bird Walk

Kevin Calhoun, Assistant Curator of Forests at the TN Aquarium, will lead a bird walk at McCoy Farm & Gardens, Saturday, September 28 at 8:00 a.m. Enter at 1604 Taft Highway and meet in the parking lot. Everyone is welcome.

## Join the Kudzu Attack Team

Andy Jones is forming a team to cut and destroy Kudzu and other invasive vines on the Taft Highway side of McCoy Farm & Gardens. To learn how to qualify for the team, contact Coach Jones [andyjonesobgyn@gmail.com](mailto:andyjonesobgyn@gmail.com)

Training camp and practice begin Saturday, September 28 at 8:00 a.m. Amateurs are welcome to participate. Proper clothing and gloves are required equipment. Loppers, clippers, saws, axes, rakes, and other tools are recommended. Players are responsible for their own water, lunches and bug repellent

## New Entryway Stonework

Were you worried when you saw that the stone wall on Anderson Pike had become a jumble of stones on the ground? Had you noticed that the original wall was in bad condition and beginning to crumble in places?



*Stonemason Randall Hawkins numbered each stone as he removed it so he could rebuild the wall as much like the original as possible. Photo taken by Gene Adams, August 5, 2019.*

Stonemason Randall Hawkins, with the help of sons Jacob and Parker, and grandson Cody Odom, is rebuilding the entryway. The design for a new handcrafted gate has been chosen, and it will be installed soon.

The project is possible thanks to a gift from a local foundation in honor of Jody Hunter and Jeremy Logan, who have devoted so much time to helping McCoy Farm & Gardens become the jewel that it is.

Interesting notes on the rebuild are that Randall was working as an officer with the Signal Mountain Police Dept. when Sally McCoy married John Garland, and he was present to direct traffic through the gate at their wed-



*Randall and his son, Parker, are shown preparing to add the capstones. Randall's brothers, Abe and Claude David, had repaired the wall before. Photo by Charlie Stone, August 15.*

ding. The signatures of Randall's brothers, Abe and Claude David, are in the wall from the time they repaired it for Mrs. McCoy in 1972.

## Plans Underway for October BOOgie and Brews

Come and be a part of the team of volunteers who will help with the next big family event at McCoy Farm & Gardens on Saturday.

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**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.

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day, October 26th from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. Co-chairs Anne Leonard and Mardi Leonard need help with staffing the ticket and **Midway Game Booths**.

Lots of fun is planned for everyone. Dress your dog for "Howl"oween and enter the **Canine Costume Contest** emceed by Jed Mescon. Kids, wear your Halloween costume, join the **Parade** and **BOOgie for Treats**.

All the planned activities need helpers to implement them. Won't you join the fun and please volunteer? Contact Anne Leonard [leonardtfgc2003@comcast.net](mailto:leonardtfgc2003@comcast.net)

## Appreciating Earl Hereford

Volunteer Earl Hereford is at it again! This time he recruited Terry Knox to help, and together they cleaned and applied a new non-skid surface to the walkway over the McCoy Farm & Gardens wetland.

As the Town of Walden struggled with how it would pay for the necessary maintenance and improvements to the McCoy property, Earl was initially concerned. Once a board of directors was set up and 501(c)(3) status obtained, his concern turned to enthusiasm for helping the new group carry out its mission.



Earl Hereford

He has since contributed in countless ways. It was Earl who suggested the Lions Club consider taking on the McCoy Farm & Gardens Blacksmith Shop as a project for their Cen-

tennial Legacy initiative in 2017. He credits Paul Jensen for chairing and coordinating the project which completely rebuilt the structure with the help of over 20 Lions Club members. Of course Earl was among them.

If you have bought a hamburger or hot dog at one of the Memorial Day picnics, you have seen Earl behind the grill or on the serving line. If you have walked the trail, or crossed the bridge, you have Earl Hereford to thank for his part in building both. As a matter of fact, we all have Earl and his wife, Harriette, to thank for the many things they have done for Walden and the mountain community at large.

## Grounds & Trails Committees Forming - Meet Sept. 5

Are you enjoying the trail and the grounds at McCoy Farm & Gardens? Attend a **Grounds and Trails Volunteers** organizing meeting at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, September 5 in the main house. We will strategize, walk the grounds and form action teams for continued improvement. More Information [andyjonesobgyn@gmail.com](mailto:andyjonesobgyn@gmail.com) or [karenstone@waldenhouse.com](mailto:karenstone@waldenhouse.com)

## Play in the McCoy Gardens

From 8-11 on the 2nd Saturday & 4th Friday of the month, come and play in the dirt with a Master Gardener for guidance. All welcome.

### Upcoming Events

- Farmers' Market Thursdays 3:30-6:30 pm
  - Grounds/Trails Startup Sept. 5, 5:30 pm
  - Kudzu Attack Team Sept. 28, 8:00 am
  - Bird Walk September 28, 8:00 am
- To schedule an event [www.mccoywalden.org](http://www.mccoywalden.org)

## 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.

The McCoy grounds are open to the public Saturdays and Sundays, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm. Please enter through the Taft Highway entrance and park in the main gravel lot. A handicapped accessible portable toilet is located in the gravel lot. Dog waste pickup bags are at trail head.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

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Aldermen: Lee Davis,  
Sarah McKenzie

### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

[Editor McCoy Farm & Gardens](mailto:Editor@McCoyFarm&Gardens.com)

## 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)

Shop at [smile.amazon.com/ch/81-0737667](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/81-0737667) and AmazonSmile donates to McCoy Farm & Gardens