



LDH ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

April 2007

We hope you are enjoying the revised Leadership Donelson-Hermitage Newsletter. Now that it is posted on our website, you can read it at your leisure, and hopefully fewer emails will keep your inbox less jammed. Another benefit is that more people can find out about what we're up to. Since the newsletter is now "online," Internet search engines such as Google are able to link people anywhere in the world to our news. We're adding some "Community Announcements" to keep you better informed on what's going on in "our neck of the woods." If you have comments or suggestions, please let us know. And, as usual send your news, updates, and announcements to either Linda McCullough or Deann Bradford. Enjoy!

Robbie D. Jones
LDH Alumni Newsletter, editor
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LDH ALUMNI ANNOUNCEMENTS

Laura Tidwell (Class of 2003) is receiving the Shining Star Award for community leadership from Senior Citizens, Inc. on April 21 at The Crown Affair, a major fundraiser for Senior Citizens, Inc. Visit www.scitn.org for more information.

John Stone, Jr. (Class of 2002) and his wife Faith are the proud parents of a new baby girl, Gabriella Danielle Stone! She was born on St. Patrick's Day March 17, weighing 7lbs 5ounces. Everyone is doing great. Congrats!!



John Taylor (Class of 2006) was recently elected President of the Tennessee Warrant Officers Association for a 3-year term. The T.W.O.A. is made up of approximately 100 warrant officers from Sheriff's Offices all over the state.

ALUMNI WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Gloria Coleman (Class of 2002) needs our prayers. Her husband is recovering from serious health issues after a period of hospitalization. If you'd like to send them a card, her home address is 2645 Edge-O-Lake Dr. Nashville, TN 37217.

Remember to check the LDH website for any errors. Send revisions to Deann Bradford. Thank you!

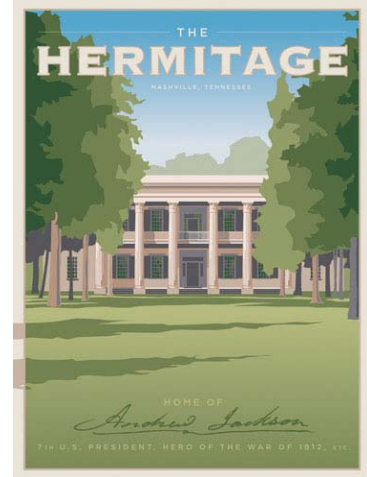
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SAVE THE DATE!

April 12: The Hermitage, Home of President Andrew Jackson, is hosting a reception for the new *Spirit of Nashville* exhibit. Anderson Thomas Design created the popular Spirit of Nashville art collection as a series of posters, inspired by the "Golden Age of Poster Art" in the 1920s-1950s.

This exhibit will feature 26 of the 53 prints, including the image of The Hermitage (right) created in 2004 by artist Abe Goolsby. The event takes place Thursday April 12 at the Andrew Jackson Visitor Center from 5:00-7:00pm and is FREE. Spirit of Nashville artists will be on hand to sign prints and discuss the collection. Visit www.thehermitage.com or contact **Caroline Carlisle** (Class of 2006) at 889-2941 x203 for more info. Open to the public.



April 12: The **Donelson-Hermitage Chamber of Commerce** will hold its monthly General Membership Meeting at 11:30am at the Gaylord Springs Clubhouse near Opryland. The speaker is Marty G. Dickens, speaking for the Music City Center Coalition on "The New Nashville Convention Center." Reservations required.

April 13-28: *Hello Dolly* opens at the **Senior Center for the Arts**, starring Danny Proctor and Holly Butler. Spring is a busy time for politicians in an election year, but all of Nashville's mayoral candidates are taking time out to help the Senior Center with *Hello Dolly*, which opens as part of their Shoneys Family Dinner Theatre Series.

David Briley, Bob Clement, Karl Dean, Buck Dozier, and Howard Gentry have all signed on to share the role of the Judge who tries Dolly Levi and her friends for disturbing the peace in New York's Harmonium Gardens restaurant.

Tickets for *Hello Dolly* include a four-course meal and the show for only \$20. Performances are Thursday-Saturday at 7:00pm and Sunday at 2:00pm April 13-28. There is also a special opening day matinee at 1:00pm on April 13, which is \$16 with a buffet lunch, \$10 for show-only or free to groups who qualify under a recent grant awarded by the Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee.

Call **John Lasiter** (Class of 2007) at 231-1238 to inquire about the free admission program. Tickets may be purchased in person at the theatre or by phone at 883-8375. Visit www.seniorarts.org for more information.

April 17: **LDH Alumni Committee Meeting** at 11:30am at the Donelson Senior Center.

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April 21: Walk & Roll 2007 – Focus on Abilities is a collaborative event created to raise awareness of individuals who are otherwise abled individuals who are integral, contributory members of our community. Proceeds from both the run and walk will be shared between four very different organizations, each with a longstanding history of providing services and assistance to children and adults in Middle Tennessee who have special needs. Walk & Roll 2007 benefits: A.B.L.E. youth, League for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing, Progress, Inc., and the Technology Access Center.

The 5K run starts at 8:00am and the Family Fun Walk (1 mile and ¼ mile courses) starts at 9:00am, both in Centennial Park at the Event Pavilion near the old train. **A Team@4 LDH**, one of this year's project teams, who are supporting Progress, Inc. and this event. Team members include **Bob Benson, Wayne Birch, Tonoa Foster-Freeman, Jami McLeod, Khaled Sakalla, Mary Smith, Greg Thon, and Lisa Viator**. Visit www.progress-inc.org for more information or contact A Team@4 LDH team leader **Lisa Viator** at 391-2603 or LViator@gafundraising.com.

Your support can and will help these four agencies make a **real** difference!

April 27-28: Donelson Christian Academy presents their **Spring Musical *Beauty and the Beast***. Shows start at 7:00pm. Reserved seats (floor seating) are \$18. Adult General Admission \$12 and Student General Admission is \$8. This is a must see for the entire family! To reserve your seat or for more information, please call Laura Lindsey (DCA Drama Teacher) at 577-1265.

May 9: Annual LDH Alumni Meeting (11:30am-1:00pm) - Donelson Senior Center. Linda McCullough asks that everyone think about what they want to include in the networking bag that everyone will receive at the meeting. If you'd like to donate the bags, let Linda know. We also need door prizes. This is a great way for you to promote your business to Leadership Alumni. There is no charge to attend since it is paid for by the Alumni Association with your dues. Linda will be taking reservations soon.

May 22: Donelson-Hermitage Chamber of Commerce presents "**A Taste of Donelson Hermitage**" - a special food and beverage event held from 5:00-7:00pm at "The Pavilion" at the American Legion Post 88 on Elm Hill Pike. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$4 for children(12 and under) - Max of \$25 for a family. Tickets at the door are \$ 10 for adults and \$6 for children. Tickets are available at the Chamber office.

June 1: The Donelson-Hermitage Chamber of Commerce will hold the first meeting of a new "**Women in Business**" committee, which will meet the first Friday of each month. More information to follow.

June 7: LDH Class of 2007 Graduation (6:00pm, reception: 7:00pm, dinner) – Gaylord Springs Clubhouse near Opryland off McGavock Pike.

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June 8: Relay for Life at Summit Medical Center – Anyone interested in being the team captain representing LDH, please contact Linda McCullough (Class of 2000). LDH is recruiting members to join its team with the goal of raising \$3,000.

August 21: LDH Class of 2008 Orientation at Donelson Senior Center.

September 18-19: LDH Class of 2008 Retreat at “top-secret location.” We hope you can attend these events and support our **10th anniversary class!**

“Friends of the Jets” project for Donelson Middle School!

The *Tennessean* published an article on March 9 about a LDH project to improve the Donelson Middle School with a new marquee sign on Stewarts Ferry Pike near Lebanon Pike. The “Friends of the Jets” project team in the LDH Class of 2007 is undertaking the project. Putting in a high-quality sign has been the goal for the new Donelson Middle PTSO, said its president Melanie Brewer.

“They are helping us get organized and get in touch with the right people as far as brickwork, electrical (work) and getting the right permits” for the sign, Brewer said of the Leadership project team’s role. “They’ll help us raise funds and also do some additional landscaping around the school.” The principal of Donelson Middle is Paul Brunette (Class of 2007), who does not serve on the “Friends of the Jets” project team. **Joseph Procter** (Class of 2007) is the team leader for “Friends of the Jets.”

Bobby Joslin, owner of Joslin Sign and Maintenance Co., has agreed to build the sign at a reduced cost of about \$3,250. The sign’s value is about \$5,000. The “Friends of the Jets” can only fundraise up to \$1,000 for the project. Other funds are coming from the local community and the PTSO. Councilman Harold White led an effort to raise about \$1,500 for the sign through constituent donations. DuPont made a \$1,000 donation to the PTSO for the sign. Floyd Shechter (Class of 2000) of SmartSpace, Inc. is donating brick for the sign and Rickey Brown of Commercial Lighting Service will install it.

to have the new sign up by the end of the spring term.



U.S. Rep. Jim Cooper visited the Donelson Middle School in October 2004.

The school is planning a spring fundraiser with the goal of raising more funds through business leaders and alumni of the old Donelson High School. The goal is

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STONES RIVER GREENWAY UPDATE!

One of the most exciting new projects to happen in Donelson and Hermitage is the recent acquisition of an extraordinary historic property called **Stone Hall** for a Metro Nashville Park. Comprised of almost twelve acres, the property is located at a critical juncture on the Stones River Greenway, a prominent corner at Stones River and Lebanon Road. The “Stone Hall Park” property, including the Eversong log cabin on the river bluff, is to become a park, nature center, and visitor center for the Stones River to Downtown greenway system.

With offers for commercial redevelopment that would have destroyed the property’s historic and cultural landscape integrity, landowner **Stroud Merritt** decided to give Metro Parks’ Greenways Commission and friends organization, Greenways for Nashville, a chance at the eleventh hour to fundraise for its acquisition and forego his ability to realize significantly more through the property’s development.

With help from a \$400,000 grant from the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, \$300,000 raised by Greenways for Nashville in private donations from people who care about Nashville’s history and green spaces, \$475,000 in Metro Parks land acquisition funds and transportation funds through the TDOT, the goal was reached and the property saved!



Stone Hall is a Colonial Revival-style residence built atop a hill overlooking Stones River in 1918. The property features historic gardens as well as outbuildings, sheds, and barns. This is the front of the beautiful house as seen from Lebanon Pike.

Stone Hall Park will provide a midway park on the greenway and a much needed trailhead for the Hermitage side of Stones River and easy access from Lebanon Road. It will become a nature center for the Donelson, Hermitage, and Old Hickory communities and enhance the expanding nature center system under development by Metro Parks with its unique flavor as a historic property.

Linking to the Cumberland River Pedestrian Bridge, with Andrew Jackson’s Hermitage, a National Historic Landmark, nearby and with both Clover Bottom Mansion and Two Rivers Mansion on the Stones River Greenway, it has tremendous potential to be a centerpiece for eco-heritage tourism and a regionally significant trail system.

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The Eversong log cabin is a familiar sight from the Stones River Bridge along Lebanon Pike.

*Ed. Note: This article was contributed by **Shain Dennison** (Class of 2005) at Metro Parks. Thanks Shain!*

Happily, Stone Hall will be *permanently* protected for future generations thanks to the vision of the landowner Stroud Merritt who required granting of a conservation easement on it to the Land Trust for Tennessee as a condition of the acquisition. The Greenways Commission has wanted to partner with its friends at the Land Trust and is very glad for this to be the start of what its hoped will be many more opportunities to protect green space throughout Davidson County.

Metro Parks expresses deep thanks to Mr. Merritt for his vision and cooperation, Mayor Purcell and the Metro Council, and to the critically important private sector grantors for making Stone Hall Park possible and preserving a remarkable place for the public's enjoyment.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Volunteer Opportunity

This April, enjoy the **Country Music Marathon** in a different way. Help staff a water station! The **Exchange Club Family Centers of Middle Tennessee** are staffing a Water Station at the Country Music Marathon & ½ Marathon and need a minimum of 80 volunteers who will hand out water bottles, energy drinks, and energy gels to the nearly 30,000 walkers and runners.

The 8th annual Country Music Marathon starts in Centennial Park at 7:00am on Saturday **April 28**, and will run through Nashville's most scenic sights, ending LP Field. 50 bands on 28 entertainment stages and hundreds of high school cheerleaders will entertain runners, walkers and spectators alike. Country, rock, jazz, blues, swing and more will pulsate every mile on the course.

Music will continue into the night as the Nashville Arena hosts another incredible post-race concert at 7:00pm, headlined this year by **Sara Evans!** Visit www.cmmarathon.com for more information.

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Over 100,000 spectators are expected for this year's Country Music Marathon.

Please Contact **Joseph Proctor** (Class of 2007) at 400-5988 or joseph.proctor@youngmgt.com if you would like to help out.





“Salute to Freedom” at Nashville Shores: May 26 – May 28

“Salute to Freedom” acknowledges military personnel who have made the ultimate sacrifice and provides a time and space for all members of the armed forces and their families to come together to share experiences and spend time with family and friends. New for 2007 is the “All Veterans Reunion Dinner.” This is a special summer buffet that will be held on Sunday May 27 from 5:00-6:00pm for just \$5 for veterans and members of the Armed Forces and their families. The water park will also be free to the public after 5:00pm on Sunday May 27. Visit www.nashvilleshores.com.

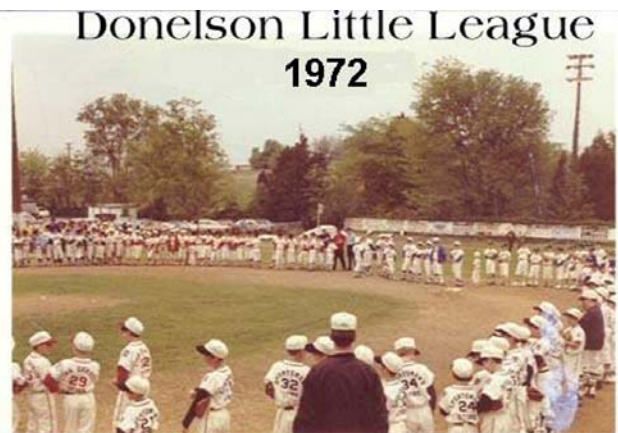
The event also features a moving flag raising ceremony, a beach concert, hot air balloon rides, and fireworks. All veterans and members of the Armed Forces and their families (as well as individuals who work with the Department of Defense and its contractors) receive half-price tickets to Nashville Shores all weekend – \$10.95 plus tax. Also, a special 2-day pass can be purchased for \$19.95 plus tax.

April 13-28: *Outward Bound* opens at **Lakewood Theatre**. Directed by Eric Jamborsky, it is the story of six travelers awaking aboard a cruise ship headed for their destiny. The travelers are guided on their journey by Scrubby, played by long-time Lakewood veteran Tom Dolan. Friday and Saturday performances are at 7:30pm, and Sunday matinees are at 2:30pm. Tickets are \$12 for adults, and \$10 for seniors and students. To make reservations, leave a message at 847-0934 with the number of tickets needed, and the date of the performance you wish to attend.

DID YOU KNOW?

The **Rotary Park** in Hermitage is located on land that was once part of President Andrew Jackson’s Hermitage plantation? In **1966**, the Ladies’ Hermitage Association donated the land for use as community recreational park. The Rotary Club of Donelson-Hermitage initially constructed the ballpark with two baseball diamonds. The Donelson Little League began playing here in 1971.

Today, the ballpark is one of the best in the South, featuring six lighted diamonds, a central concession stand, field houses, and announcer’s booths. Over the span of the 13-week spring baseball season, **30,000 players and fans** will enjoy over 600 baseball games at The Hermitage!



In 1983, Rotary Park at The Hermitage sent a team to the Little League World Series! Today more than 1,200 youths ages 5-15 participate in the DLL.

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