



LDH ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

June 2007

I hope you are enjoying the beautiful weather! There are so many places to get outdoors in our community, including Stones River Greenway, Longhunter State Park, Percy Priest Lake, and Hamilton Creek Park. And, there's Wave Country, Nashville Shores, Two Rivers Skate Park, and the YMCA. You can even hike the woods or stroll the historic grounds of Andrew Jackson's Hermitage. Our community is full of wonderful opportunities to play in our gorgeous outdoors for summertime fun!

Remember our 10th Anniversary year starts on July 1, 2007. Can you believe that Leadership Donelson-Hermitage started ten years ago in 1997? How times flies! Please look for more information to follow. If you have any ideas for the 10th Anniversary celebration, please pass them on to Laura Smith-Tidwell (Class of 2003). Also, the LDH Class of 2008 has been selected. Look for the announcement soon with all the names.

Deann Bradford
Executive Director

LDH ALUMNI ANNOUNCEMENTS

Erick Huth (Class of 2001) was recently elected president of the Metro Nashville Education Association (MNEA). Eric teaches at McGavock High School.

Kathy Hatter (Class of 2000) and **Stephanie Ladd** (Class of 2003) recently received their Masters in Business Administration degrees from Trevecca Nazarene University.

Robbie Jones (Class of 2005) and TDOT were presented with a "Research Excellence Award" by the East Tennessee Historical Society in Knoxville. The award was given for historic research on downtown Knoxville's Henley Street Bridge, which TDOT will soon widen. Robbie completed the project in 2005-06 as a freelance consultant.

Congrats to everyone!!

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ALUMNI WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Larry Keeton (Class of 2003) and **Jeff Whitehorn** (Class of 2006) have pledged to raise \$5,000 for Relay for Life. On June 7 beginning at High Noon they will be raised 25 feet in the air on a boom at Summit Medical Center. For every \$1,000 they raise, the boom will be lowered 5 feet. They will remain on the boom until they raise \$5,000 even if it takes 24 hours!



Won't you please help them "Lower the Boom" on Cancer?!

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SAVE THE DATE!

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

June 8: Relay for Life at Summit Medical Center (kickoff at 7pm) –Linda McCullough (Class of 2000) reports that our Virtual Team has reached its goal of raising \$3,000! BRAVO!! Team members include Linda McCullough, Robbie Jones, Phyllis Williams, Mary Smith, Letha Edwards, Brad Bush, Lisa Viator, and Wanda Holt. Phyllis alone raised nearly \$2,500!

We will not be able to have an overnight campsite this year, but we are encouraging everyone to participate and support Leadership Donelson-Hermitage in this important community event, which raises money for the American Cancer Society. We also want to encourage everyone to come out and walk the Relay with our team! Follow the link to the Relay for Life website at www.leadershipdh.com to learn more or make a donation. We need your support!



June 14: Red Cross Disaster Training (6:00pm-8:00pm) – Donelson Senior Center. Come and get prepared to help our community in the event of a disaster. RSVP at 883-8375.

June 21: Labor Day BBQ Planning Meeting (11:30am) – Donelson Senior Center. The Center is seeking many volunteers to help plan and host the 2007 Labor Day BBQ, which is one of the Senior Center's biggest fundraising events of the year. Can you help? Call Jane or Liz if interested at 883-8375.

June 22: “Women in Business” Luncheon (11:45am-1pm) – Donelson Senior Center. RSVP by June 19 at \$15 per person (\$10 for DH Chamber members). Topic is “Business Etiquette” presented by Melanie Fly (Class of 2002) of the Nashville Hilton Hotel. Contact the DH Chamber of Commerce at 883-7896 for more information.

June 30: Theater at The Hermitage (Noon & 2pm) -- Sista' Style of Nashville will perform two encore shows of the short but powerful dramatization Goin' Home, which re-enacts the stories of several former Hermitage slaves, in the Visitor Center Auditorium. Free for visitors! Contact VP of Marketing Paula Hankins at (615) 889-2941 x223 for more information.

August 21: Orientation for the LDH Class of 2008.

September 18: LDH Class of 2008 Retreat Cookout at “top-secret” location.

September 29: 2nd Annual “Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner?” LDH fundraiser.

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CLASS OF 2007 TEAM PROJECT UPDATE

On May 19, the LDH Class of 2007 “Greenwaves” team planted about 27 trees at the Stones River Greenway during a community planting day event. Eleven trees were planted at the Two Rivers entrance and 16 at the Heartland area on the other side. About 30 people, including project team members and public officials, attended the planting day. This fall, the team will plant dwarf irises in the area. Greenwaves secured the donation of all the trees and plants. Excellent team work!



Members of the Greenwaves project team include (l to r) Keith Barnes, Greg Grimsley, Melynda Bounds, Chris Reagan, Paul Brunette, and Teresa Driver. Michelle Tatom was unavailable for the photo. Photo courtesy the Tennessean.



Mayor Bill Purcell (center) and Deann Bradford (left) were among several officials who participated in the planting day event. Photo courtesy the Tennessean.

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PENCIL PARTNER NEWS FROM HERMITAGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The “Spring Fling” was Friday, May 4, from 4:00-8:00 p.m. The LDH liaison Sharon Howard (Class of 2004) reports that LDH was asked to participate in getting items for the Silent Auction and getting volunteers to help. As of April 30, Sharon had the following donations:

Silk flower arrangement (Larry Keeton); Throw (LDH); Print (Phil Ponder); Wave Country Passes (Bob Benson); Stuffed bear and bracelets (Deann Bradford); Popcorn maker (Sharon Howard)

The following volunteered: Tonoa Foster Freeman (5-7pm); Joseph Proctor (4-6pm); Sharon Howard (2-8pm)

Sharon attended the "BRAVO" luncheon on Wednesday May 2 as a representative of our PENCIL Partnership and was recognized as one of the finalists for the "PENCIL Volunteer of the Year." If you have more items to donate or would like to volunteer, please contact Sharon Howard.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

GRACIAS MERCI DANKE GRAZIE OBRIGADO

The Hermitage Elementary School PTO can't say THANK YOU enough. Whether it was through volunteering your time, pitching in to help during the rain, bidding on a basket, watching the talent show, or just hanging out with your family and neighbors – we could not have run the Spring Festival without you! After expenses we netted \$2,000 – a record amount that hasn't been raised in years! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

In case you were wondering how the money will be used, we are fulfilling the wish lists for the Art, Music, and PE teachers, establishing a maintenance fund for walking track in front of the school, and hiring “Mr. Lincoln” to present to age-appropriate programs to our school next February!

Thanks for your support of the 2006-2007 PTO and the BEST elementary school in Nashville – **Hermitage Elementary!**

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CANOE TRIP DOWN THE STONES RIVER!

If you remember there was a door prize at last year's "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?" fundraiser. This was a canoe trip down the Stones River, which was planned and organized by Daniel Boone of the Tennessee Scenic Rivers Association. Shain Dennison (Class of 2005) reports that the trip took place on May 5 and while the weather was dreary, everyone had a great time. Special guests included Phil Ponder and TN Rep. Ben West, Jr.



Photos by Richard Quin.

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DID YOU KNOW?

There is only one Mountain Bike Park in Davidson County. Did you know that it's located in Hermitage? At Hamilton Creek Park off Bell Road, there are two mountain bike loops, the "Lakeside Trail," which is 3.3 miles long, with twists, turns, rocks, roots, and a few hills. The "Pinnacle Trail" is a longer and more intermediate/advanced 7-mile loop. Both trails are quite hilly, with plenty of layered rocks, roots to ride over, and a few trees to cross. The latter trail even winds around an antique blue Plymouth car. How it got there is a mystery! Established about 15 years ago, both trails are slated for a major rehabilitation in the near future.

In addition, a newly opened 2.8-mile long beginners trail recently opened at Longhunter State Park along the eastern shore of Percy Priest Lake and near the Wilson County line. It is mostly flat with no technical areas, making for a fast trail. More difficult trails are planned for this park in the future.



Jumping the "Photo Op Drop" at Hamilton Creek Park in Hermitage.

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