In 2011, East Tennessee Foundation (ETF) is celebrating 25 years of thoughtful giving – Neighbors caring for Neighbors. To mark the occasion and to demonstrate what the Foundation does in our 25-county service area, ETF will award 25/$2,500 grants (one $2,500 grant to one nonprofit in each of the 25 counties we serve) and one $25,000 ETF recognition endowment to a nonprofit located within our service area. Grantmaking will begin mid-July and continue in a “rollout” fashion through mid-October, thus allowing Foundation staff to hand-deliver the awards to each nonprofit organization.

To assist us, ETF has invited citizens in each county to call to our attention nonprofit organizations that are doing especially valuable and needed service in their communities. Suggestions may be submitted by visiting our Web site Contact Us page:

http://www.easttennesseefoundation.org/contact_us.html, email: jlane@etf.org, or by calling toll-free: (877) 524-1223.

The overall objective of our 25th Anniversary Celebration is to bring greater awareness and understanding throughout East Tennessee of how ETF serves the region and how each person in our service area can have a relationship with the Foundation. Recommended nonprofits are listed on our “Foundation Forum” blog under the heading “ETF 25th Anniversary Update on Nonprofits Suggested to Receive Grants” on the Foundation’s Web site.

25TH ANNIVERSARY GRANTS THAT HAVE BEEN AWARDED

Mike McClamroch presents the 1st of the 25 $2,500 Anniversary grants to Lynn Petr of STAR (Shangri-la Therapeutic Academy of Riding) in Loudon County.

Continued on page 5

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www.easttennesseefoundation.org
BILL PUGH Returns to the ETF Board

BILL PUGH grew up in southern Alabama, came to Knoxville to attend the University of Tennessee, and remained following his graduation. Bill earned a B.S. degree in Business Administration with a major in Accounting and worked in the IRS audit division for seven years before becoming a certified public accountant with Hickman, Pugh & Company in 1986. Bill is now Chairman of the Board of Pugh & Company. He has served on numerous professional and charitable boards, including: local, state, and national accounting organizations, Knoxville Chamber of Commerce, Knoxville Downtown Kiwanis Club, University of Tennessee, Pellissippi State Community College Foundation, United Way of Greater Knoxville, Leadership Knoxville, Knoxville Zoo, and Helen Ross McNabb Center. In 1986, he joined East Tennessee Foundation’s first board of directors and served for six years.

Bill, married to Henrietta M. Pugh (now deceased) for 52 years, has one daughter, Linda, and two sons, Will and Mark, and six grandchildren.

Union County Leadership Team Establishes Affiliate Fund

Union County Leadership, the Class of 2010, took its commitment seriously when they agreed to develop leaders that help create a unified and progressive community, identify opportunities and challenges, develop strategies and provide resources to achieve community goals. With a long range goal of building an inclusive community center that will house everything from a farmers market to classrooms for adult education, an arts gallery and public meeting spaces, this group of dedicated volunteers put their vision and conversations into action.

Realizing that private contributions that are tax deductible and invested and managed well are necessary components for resource development, a working group of the graduates contacted East Tennessee Foundation. Bearing a list of questions, an eager group of Leadership graduates began the learning process about community foundations. Recognizing the benefits of affiliating with ETF, each graduate made a personal financial contribution to establish the Union County Community Foundation, an Affiliate Fund of East Tennessee Foundation.

While learning about community foundations, friend-raising and fundraising, the newly formed Advisory Board has already held a very successful fundraising dinner and auction to help support its first grants that were made to help create a local farmers market in partnership with the UT Agriculture Extension Office, and sponsor a deserving young person who is attending 4-H Camp this summer.

Eddie Perry, the Advisory Board’s Chair, says his “dream is that one day everyone in Union County will know about the Foundation and support its work in the community with an open heart and a generous financial gift. We all want to make Union County a better place to live and raise our families.”

Although the Union County Community Foundation has a long way to go to fulfill the dream of funding the construction and operations of a community center, its local farmers market successfully draws a variety of local farmers with their harvests for tourists and residents to purchase every Saturday.

As for a work in progress, yes, there is one. Plans are unfolding about the emerging private-public partnership with the Union County Community Foundation and Union County Government to partner in the design and development of local greenways and community parks that will provide opportunities for community engagement and perhaps lay the groundwork for the not so pie in the sky community center.

Terry Holley, ETF Senior VP for Program and Rural Development

Page 2
Arts Fund for East Tennessee
2011 Grants

The Arts Fund for East Tennessee was established by East Tennessee Foundation in 1986. It serves as a source of funds to support excellence in the arts, expand access to the arts, and connect artists with each other and with East Tennessee communities. Two-year continuation grants are awarded to help arts organizations, as well as those organizations that are not primarily arts providers, build their capacity to 1) establish new cultural programs or strengthen and expand existing programs; and 2) secure on-going sources of funding.

Category I: Arts Organizations

Appalachian Arts Craft Center - Norris
“Featured Tennessee Artists” workshops will bring master Tennessee artists to the Craft Center in rural East Tennessee.

Arts Culture Enrichment Council of Hawkins County
The annual Shakespeare and Friends Celtic Renaissance Faire will recreate the late 1500’s under the reign of Queen Elizabeth I.

Carpetbag Theatre, Inc.
The Youth Ensemble of Atlanta (YEA) and the CBT TRY (Theater Renaissance for Youth) Ensemble in Knoxville will participate in a performance residency and artistic exchange.

East Tennessee Regional Symphony - Johnson City
Students and families will be exposed to symphonic music, instrumentation, and other artistic genres at two annual performances.

Great Smoky Mountain Heritage Center, Inc. - Townsend (GSMHC) The Knoxville Symphony Chamber Orchestra will perform annually in GSMHC’s amphitheatre.

Knoxville Museum of Art (KMA) Printmaker Donna Anderson and cartoon artist Tim Oliphant will teach at KMA’s Summer Art Academy.

Monroe Area Council for the Arts Poetry Alive!, an interactive performance poetry company based in Asheville, NC, will present programs in five schools.

Rose Center and Council for the Arts - Morristown
Artist Sammie Nicely will curate the “From Africa to Appalachia” Art Exhibition and develop hands-on elementary art projects, and Patty Gracey will develop performances based on African-American culture.

Union County Heritage Festival, Inc.
The annual Union County Heritage Festival will provide an educational and cultural experience for individuals in Union County.

Category II: Community Cultural Projects

Appalachian Resource Conservation & Development Council
“Follow the Quilt Trail” will expand its quilt square murals and create walking trails in downtown areas of Elizabethton, Greeneville, Mountain City, and Erwin.

Continued on page 4

Watch ETF on Community Television of Knoxville Channel 12
2011 ARTS FUND GRANTS

City of Kingsport
Carver Bud Ellis will teach Kingsport citizens to design and construct a carousel of animals for a unique and handmade carousel.

Community Action Group of Englewood
“Englewood Celebrates” is an annual mid-June festival with crafts, displays, entertainment, food and dancing.

Hospitality Pantries, Inc. - Knoxville
The “Bread and Art Project,” a partnership with Carpetbag Theatre, Inc., will create a performance piece based on the collected stories of the diverse people who work at and visit FISH Hospitality Pantries.

McMinn County Living Heritage Museum
“A House Divided: The Blues and Grays of East Tennessee” will explore elements of the Civil War, and “Year of Folk Art” will emphasize the unique art forms that developed in East Tennessee.

Rural Resources - Greeneville
The “Seasonal Suppers” project will link arts and cultural programs to local food events in underserved neighborhoods, at a Dogwood Park Arts Performance, and at events held on farms and in homes.

Tennessee Overhill Heritage Tourism Association - Etowah
“Lora’s Legacy” will be a retrospective exhibition of the quilted wall hangings, poems and essays created by Lora Creasman, as well as an exhibit dedicated to Ms. Creasman.

Tusculum College
Summer arts workshops at Doak House Museum will be offered for adults in broom making, basket making, ballad singing and papier mache sculpture.

Category III: Arts in Education

Community House Cooperative
A summer theatre program will be offered for local area underserved youth, in partnership with Cocke County Schools, Newport Theatre Guild, and Walters State Community College drama department.

Community School of the Arts (CSA) - Knoxville
“Our Stories: Poetry on Film” is a two-year creative writing/drama/film initiative which will be a hallmark project of CSA’s 20th anniversary.

Kingsport Ballet
DANCE CO (Developing Artists and Nurturing Cultural Education through Community Outreach) is a free, year-round dance education program for at-risk youth.

Knox County Government
The Public Defender’s Community Law Office’s Arts Academy program will provide weekly after-school arts opportunities for children from the area’s low-income, high-crime neighborhoods.

Tribe One - Knoxville
As part of the literacy-based Children’s Defense Fund Freedom School summer program, children will complete mural and tile art projects.

TOTAL FUNDING AWARDED: $115,000
East Tennessee Foundation’s Neighborhoods Small Grants Program, is a partnership with the City of Knoxville Community Development Department, with funding support from the City of Knoxville. The program supports low- to moderate-income neighborhood organizations and crime watch groups in Knoxville by supporting a wide range of community-based initiatives through grants and technical assistance.

Beaumont Community Organization  
**Fiscal Sponsor: East Tennessee Community Design Center**  
A community fair will bring neighborhood residents together for a day of family activities, music, and food.

Cold Springs Neighborhood Watch  
**Fiscal Sponsor: East Tennessee Community Design Center**  
Residents will prepare a community flower garden to bring neighborhood residents together and beautify a once-blighted area.

Dandridge Avenue Neighborhood Watch  
**Fiscal Sponsor: East Tennessee Community Design Center**  
The Odd Fellows Scholars Program is designed to elevate the academic, social, and technical skills of young people residing in the Walter P. Taylor Homes and surrounding areas.

Edgewood Park Neighborhood Association  
**Fiscal Sponsor: East Tennessee Community Design Center**  
Neighborhood newsletters and a neighborhood block party will improve neighborhood communications and bring residents together.

Fourth and Gill Neighborhood Organization  
The Communications Committee will continue production of the newsletter, flyers and posters announcing neighborhood events.

Green Hills Residents Association  
**Fiscal Sponsor: East Tennessee Community Design Center**  
Healthy lifestyles will be promoted among residents, and the green spaces outside Green Hills Learning Center will be landscaped and enhanced with grills and picnic tables.

Highland Neighbors Association  
**Fiscal Sponsor: Legacy Parks Foundation**  
An additional phase of Highland Park will be completed, thereby making park access safer for pedestrians.
Continued from page 5

Lyons View Community Group
Fiscal Sponsor: East Tennessee Community Design Center
Continued restoration of the community center will result in useable space for neighborhood activities.

Mechanicsville Community Association
Fiscal Sponsor: East Tennessee Community Design Center
The annual Homecoming event will bring community members together, build neighborhood pride, and promote educational achievements and community history.

Mechanicsville Neighborhood Watch Association
Fiscal Sponsor: East Tennessee Community Design Center
Neighborhood signs will be installed, neighborhood watch signs and window decals will be available, and public trash bins will be mounted.

Old North Knoxville, Inc.
Neighborhood visibility will be improved by installing neighborhood banner signs at identified entrances to the neighborhood.

Parkridge Community Organization
The First Annual Parkridge Food Festival will highlight neighborhood food, gardening and music.

Pond Gap Neighborhood Association
Fiscal Sponsor: East Tennessee Community Design Center
A Neighborhood Night Out event will bring residents and local businesses together with members of the police and fire departments and other public officials.

South Knoxville Neighborhood & Business Coalition
Fiscal Sponsor: East Tennessee Community Design Center
A Welcome Packet will be created for new residential owners and renters in single family homes.

Town Hall East, Inc.
Fiscal Sponsor: East Tennessee Community Design Center
Residents will begin the third phase of developing a neighborhood pocket park on a previously undesirable piece of land.

Vestal Community Organization
Fiscal Sponsor: East Tennessee Community Design Center
A neighborhood newsletter will be published, National Night Out activities will be planned, and reusable yard signs will announce neighborhood meetings.

TOTAL AMOUNT OF FUNDING AWARDED:
$29,770
PEACE IN THE VALLEY

In his column in the Knoxville News Sentinel a few weeks ago, Sam Venable reported the results of a recently released report from the Institute of Economics and Peace. This organization was founded in 2007, and it releases an annual Global Peace Index that ranks 149 countries according to their “peacefulness.” The basic premise of the index is that an environment of relative peace creates more economic benefits than violence or war. Peace is conducive to business, and areas of minimal violence are attractive to business investors. In case you are interested, the United States ranked 85th in the world in peacefulness in 2010.

Of more interest to Sam Venable was the first-ever report from IEP on the U.S. Peace Index by state. When I read in Sam’s column that Tennessee was ranked next-to-last just ahead of Louisiana, my first reaction was, “Are you kidding me?” How much more peaceful can a place be than the Volunteer State? And if you can accept the assumption that peacefulness, or the lack thereof, is pretty evenly distributed across the state, then our beloved East Tennessee is besmirched by this report. I couldn’t sit still for what I thought was an outrageous misrepresentation of the truth. So I did a little digging.

You might like to know the ten states that were ranked as the most peaceful. In rank order, they are Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Minnesota, North Dakota, Utah, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Iowa, and Washington. A few characteristics are shared by several of these states. 1 – All ten are located in the northern half of the country. 2 – Seven of these states rank 30th or lower in population. 3 – The first five border Canada, as does Washington.

OK, so maybe we can’t argue with many of the top ten, but what caused Tennessee to be ranked so low? All you have to do is look at the factors that were used to compile the index, and the evidence is embarrassingly clear. Here are a few of the measurements along with Tennessee’s rank: number of violent crimes per 100,000 people (48th); number of police employees per 100,000 people (48th); percent of population with at least a high school diploma (42nd); teenage pregnancy rate (44th); percent of the population living in poverty (43rd); life expectancy at birth (43rd). IEP used twenty measurable indicators, and Tennessee was 40th or worse in sixteen of them. You might quibble over IEP’s choice of indicators, but they are taken from the three major categories of crime, education, and health, and that seems pretty valid to me.

What does this have to do with East Tennessee Foundation? We all know that our tax dollars are insufficient to fully address the problems that make Tennessee “unpeaceful.” The slack is being picked up by nonprofit organizations that are working hand-in-hand with government agencies and, in many cases, on their own to deal with problems created by such factors as low graduation rates from high school, high infant mortality rates, and drug use among teenagers. ETF has served as a conduit for millions of charitable dollars to provide desperately-needed financial assistance for the great work that is taking place to push Tennessee up the ladder of the U.S. Peace Index.

For example, ETF grants have provided support for organizations that offer meaningful activities for young people to participate in, thereby intervening in their lives to prevent them from wandering into associations with those who would lead them down a destructive path. We administer thirty scholarship-granting funds that enable many graduating high school seniors to continue their education rather than having to enter the workforce on the bottom rung of the ladder. Those scholarships assist in raising the average education level of our region, in addition to making the recipients more employable. ETF has also provided significant support to organizations that administer mentoring relationships between adults and young people who are having trouble finding their way through difficult family and school situations. And we have made grants to underwrite programs for adolescents to reduce and eliminate alcohol and drug dependence.

The grants I have just described are only a sampling of the ways ETF is trying to make Tennessee more “peaceful.” Please join us in moving our state up the Index into a position we can be proud of. Call me at (865) 524-1223 and we will talk about how you can establish a donor advised fund or designated fund, thereby making you part of our own Tennessee Peace Corps.
25th Anniversary Grant Presentations
Continued from page 5

East Tennessee Spay and Neuter - Carter County
Community Mediation Service - Anderson County
ETF staff and board members will continue hand-delivering the $2,500 grant awards to outstanding nonprofits in our region through mid-October.

Has your contact information changed? If so, please let us know so we can keep in touch.

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East Tennessee Foundation respects, celebrates, and encourages diversity that positively contributes to our healthy and caring community.