

Connections

East Tennessee Foundation

2011 Issue 4

Thoughtful giving for stronger communities, better lives

A MONUMENTAL YEAR



Mike McClamroch

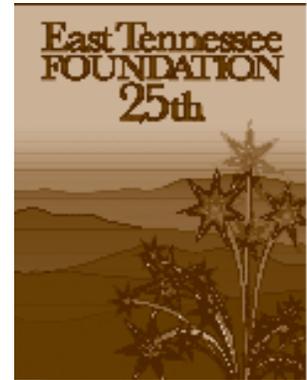
2011 has been a monumental year for East Tennessee Foundation and for me personally. If you don't know by now, I am pleased to announce that the Foundation celebrated its 25th anniversary. This edition is filled with news about how we celebrated our anniversary. We did what we do best: we made special anniversary grants in each of our 25 counties to very worthy organizations, we created an endowment for a long-standing organization that has had far-reaching impact on our region, and, of course, we celebrated. Our evening at Historic Middlebrook

honored all our constituencies – our leadership over the years, our grantees, and our many loyal supporters.

In addition, I'm proud to say that in 2011 I completed my 10th year as President and CEO of this amazing organization. What I have learned is that if time flies when you're having fun... it REALLY flies when your singular mission at work every day is to try and make life better in East Tennessee! I am so thankful to be here. All during my tenure at East Tennessee Foundation, I have been constantly sustained by the folks who have made this Foundation great throughout its history – our honorary lifetime board members, our past chairs who meet together regularly as a group and provide continued leadership and direction, our board of directors, and our dedicated staff who greet me each morning with a smile.

As our 25th anniversary year draws to a close, I wish to express my heartfelt thanks to all of you who have been our partners in building our region's foundation and wish all of you the many blessings of the holiday season.

Michael T. McClamroch,
ETF President & CEO



Save the Date



First Annual

Women's Fund Luncheon

March 1, 2012

Cherokee Country Club



*A Fundraiser for the
Women's Fund of East Tennessee
Honoring the
Women of East Tennessee
Recognizing the Founders
of the Women's Fund*
Special Guest: Lisa Ling



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www.easttennesseefoundation.org

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ETF 25th ANNIVERSARY!

How We Celebrated



Neighbors caring for Neighbors

To celebrate our 25 years of thoughtful giving and to demonstrate what the Foundation does in our 25-county service area, ETF:

- Hand-delivered 25/\$2,500 grants (one \$2,500 grant to one nonprofit in each of the 25 counties we serve). See separate listing on this page.
- Awarded one \$25,000 recognition endowment to Tennessee Overhill.
- Gave a party at Historic Middlebrook to raise funds for the ETF Opportunity Fund, the Foundation's only unrestricted fund.

\$2500 to 25

Outstanding Nonprofits

Loudon County - Shangri-la

Therapeutic Academy of Riding

McMinn County - Community Action Group of Englewood

Monroe County - Coker Creek Heritage Center

Campbell County - Community Health of East Tennessee

Sullivan County - Literacy Council of Kingsport

Carter County - East Tennessee Spay and Neuter

Anderson County - Community Mediation Services

Hancock County - Jubilee Project

Grainger County - Clinch Powell RC&D Council

Hamblen County - Rose Center and Council for the Arts

Jefferson County - Rural Medical Services, Inc.

Morgan County - Historic Rugby

Sevier County - Mountain Hope Good Shepherd Clinic, Inc.

Washington County - Appalachian RC&D

Claiborne County - Lincoln Memorial University for the benefit of the Abraham Lincoln Museum

Union County - Union County Humane Society

Blount County - New Hope Blount County Children's Advocacy Center



Johnson County - Heritage Hall Grant Presentation

Johnson County - Heritage Hall Inc. for the benefit of the Young Artist Program

Unicoi County - Change is Possible (CHIPS) Family Violence Center

Roane County - Roane County Heritage Commission

Cocke County - Community House Cooperative

Greene County - Rural Resources

Scott County - Children's Center of the Cumberlands

Knox County - East Tennessee Community Design Center



Claiborne County - Abraham Lincoln Museum Grant Presentation

\$25,000 Endowment to One Extraordinary Nonprofit



Linda Caldwell, Executive Director of Tennessee Overhill Heritage Association, accepted the \$25,000 endowment certificate

The Tennessee Overhill Heritage Association began in 1990 when the southeastern Tennessee counties of McMinn, Monroe, and Polk were selected as a pilot area for the National Trust for Historic Preservation's "Heritage Tourism Initiative." A diverse group of people, organizations, and government agencies serving the three counties came together to build a different kind of tourism program, one that honored local history, traditions, culture, and natural resources. East Tennessee Foundation began its partnership with "the Overhill" in that same year.



ETF 25th ANNIVERSARY!

We Had Fun Raising Funds

The Opportunity Fund, an unrestricted endowment, is the only fund we have at our disposal for the purpose of addressing crucial issues and responding to opportunities as they arise in our communities. The Opportunity Fund allows strategic delivery of charitable dollars where even a small amount of financial assistance will have its greatest benefit to East Tennessee.



EAST TENNESSEE FOUNDATION

*is grateful to our
25th Anniversary
Sponsors*

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**Historic Middlebrook
Rick Fox and Ralph Cianelli**

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HOUSING

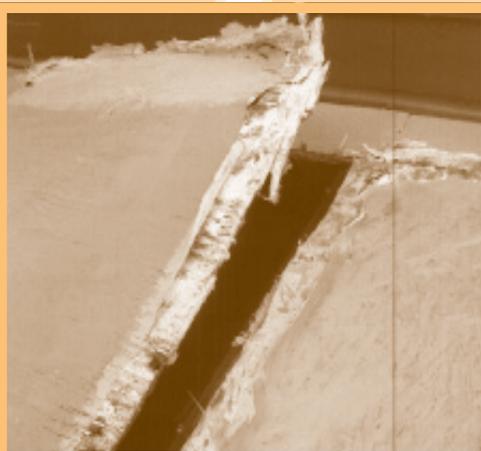
Rebuilding After Disaster

After last spring's severe hailstorms left tens of thousands of homes in need of roof replacements, siding repairs, and other urgent renovations, homeowners throughout our service area scrambled to find the resources and the contractors to get things fixed. Especially hard hit were low income homeowners who did not have insurance (or enough insurance) in place to help cover the costs of repairs.



When Workforce Connections, a division of Knoxville-Knox County CAC, received a federal grant for disaster relief, they decided to partner with CAC's Housing and Energy Services Division to channel the grant into helping these low income homeowners in Knoxville and Knox County. According to Jason Estes, Director of the Housing and Energy Services Division, the federal grant "could be used to pay for temporary labor. We could use it to hire construction workers who were on long-term (12 weeks +) layoff." CAC hired nine construction workers and one office worker to coordinate the intake of new cases. The grant could also pay for personal safety equipment (such as gloves, safety goggles, etc.), for gas and mileage, and for some tools and office supplies.

What the disaster relief grant could not pay for was construction material. So CAC applied for and received grants from Knox County and East Tennessee Foundation. Knox County provided up to \$50,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding and ETF's Affordable Housing Trust Fund provided up to \$50,000 to match the federal disaster relief grant. So far, Jason reports, "We have done mostly roof repairs, some tree work, many gutter repairs, rebuilding small retaining walls that had collapsed and needed to be rebuilt, replacing exterior siding. We've also done lots of sheetrock repairs



to fix water damage from the leaking roofs."

So far, the program has been working as planned. All of the workers have stayed with the program, working every day. Says Jason, "They are all very good, very skilled workers. I will hate to lose them when the program ends. Several have come into my office and thanked me for the opportunity to work. Even though it's temporary, they really enjoy and appreciate working here."

Estes notes that "the intent of the program was to get people back to work, even for a short period of

time, and that has happened. And

we have been able to repair a lot of homes for people who didn't have insurance. These repairs were able to keep the homes safe and prevented mold and deterioration." CAC staff shared a story of one client household, a woman who helped to care for her disabled brother in her home, which received major roof and window damage in the April storm. Water was running into her bedroom, the living room, and light fixtures, posing a serious safety hazard. CAC was able to make the

urgently needed repairs that allowed these clients to remain in their home. The client repeatedly thanked the staff, explaining that she didn't know what she would have done without this assistance.

Estes has applied for an extension of the federal grant, and hopes to keep the disaster relief program going for a little bit longer "because we still have more clients we can help." This Affordable Housing Trust Fund disaster relief grant is just one more example of how ETF helps to make lives better and communities stronger.

By Jeanette Kelleher,
ETF Housing and Financial Officer

AGENCY ENDOWMENT

New Hope, Blount County Children's Advocacy Center Creates Agency Endowment with ETF

The East Tennessee Region is fortunate to have many services provided by extraordinary nonprofit organizations that address a variety of issues and challenges facing our children and young people today. One of the most distinguished of these nonprofit organizations is located in Blount County and is part of a state-wide network of Children's Advocacy Centers. ETF is pleased to have the opportunity to partner again with New Hope, Blount County Children's Advocacy Center (New Hope Center), by being selected to manage the organization's newly created agency endowment.



New Hope, Blount County Children's Advocacy Center received the ETF \$2,500 25th Anniversary grant award for Blount County.

New Hope Center was a recipient of one of ETF's 25th Anniversary grants recognizing the organization, staff and board for its exceptional work and an unyielding commitment to our children and young people. A long-standing partnership between ETF and New Hope Center has evolved over the years. In addition to being a multi-year ETF grantee, New Hope Center is the lead agency among the 13 Children's Advocacy Centers that will be funded again this year through a two-year \$50,000 grant from ETF's Youth Endowment. Funding will be made available to continue the support of a collaborative that provides training mandated by the State for the Child Protective Investigative Teams operating in each of the 13 Child Advocacy Centers located in ETF's service area.

The mission of New Hope Center is to lessen the trauma experienced by the child victim of abuse by providing a child-friendly center with a warm, home-like, supportive environment where intervention efforts are offered to reduce stress to the abused child and the non-offending parent or adult caregiver.

With great love and care New Hope Center and its Child Protective Investigative Teams provide educational programs to help prevent and identify child abuse. Unfortunately, this is no small challenge with an estimated 1 in 4 girls, and 1 in 6 boys who have been or will be sexually abused before the age of 18. Even more staggering is the number of cases never reported which has reached an estimated all-time high of 9 out of 10 children under age 18.

For more information or to make a contribution, please contact Terry Holley at ETF (865)524-1223 or by e-mail, tholley@etf.org or Trudy Hughes, Executive Director, New Hope Blount County Children's Advocacy Center (865)981-2000.

By Terry Holley,
Senior Vice President for Programs & Regional Development

**Watch ETF on
Community Television
of Knoxville
Channel 12**

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MONROE COUNTY GRANTS

**John D. Grubb and Louise G. Sumner
Fund for Monroe County**
An Affiliate Fund of East Tennessee Foundation
2011 Grant Awards

The John D. Grubb and Louise G. Sumner Fund for Monroe County was established in 1998 through a generous gift by Monroe County natives John and his sister, Louise. The Fund was created to benefit the economic, social, cultural and educational well-being of Monroe County residents and their communities. Grants from the Fund encourage creative use of area resources and contribute to the quality of life of Monroe County residents.

Boys and Girls Club of the Monroe Area
The Triple Play program will demonstrate how eating smart, keeping fit and forming positive relationships adds up to a healthy lifestyle.

CASA Monroe
Increasing public awareness of CASA Monroe and its benefits will lead to a larger number of advocates for Monroe County's abused and neglected children.

City of Sweetwater
Two new exhibits at Sweetwater Heritage Museum will focus on the history of Sweetwater High School and on Black History.

Coker Creek Economic Development Group, Inc.
Signage at both the Coker Creek Welcome Center and along TN Highway 68 will be improved and expanded.

Douglas-Cherokee Economic Authority, Inc.
The Monroe County Neighborhood Center will assist families who are in need because of high utility bills, loss of income due to illness, and other types of unexpected emergencies.

Douglas-Cherokee Economic Authority, Inc.
The Senior Nutrition Program at Cora Veal Senior Center will provide congregate and home-delivered meals to approximately 130 participants.

Good Shepherd Center
The heating and cooling initiative will benefit clients who lack the funds to efficiently heat and cool their homes.

Monroe Area Council for the Arts
Poetry Alive!, an interactive performances poetry company, will present programs in five Monroe County schools.

Monroe County Community Health Access Committee
Elderly and uninsured people will receive free flu shots, and the diabetes support group will meet monthly.

Sequoyah Birthplace Museum
Free public lecture series topics will address Cherokee history, culture, and their uses of native plants, and the Warriors of AniKituhwa will perform at a living history commemorative program.

Spay/Neuter Assistance for Pets, Inc.
A multi-year spay/neuter project will ultimately reduce the number of animals euthanized at the Monroe County Animal Shelter.

Sweetwater Home for Seniors
The "Get With It" program will address healthy living for those diagnosed with Alzheimer's.

VSA Tennessee
An animation film project will teach techniques related to animation and Foley (percussion art) to middle school students with autism.

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**Spay/Neuter Assistance
for Pets, Inc.**



**Douglas-Cherokee
Economic Authority, Inc.**



**Coker Creek Economic
Development Group, Inc.**



**Sequoyah Birthplace
Museum**



The Overlooked Holiday

Yes, I know Thanksgiving has once again crept onto our calendars and silently stepped aside in deference to the annual mad rush to Christmas. And I know that I should probably take advantage of everyone's feelings of goodwill during the holiday season to ask you for a gift to East Tennessee Foundation. But I've got an ax to grind regarding what I perceive to be the shabby treatment Thanksgiving is given by our society, so I am hereby lifting my voice in protest thereof.

My comments are in no way intended to diminish the importance or stature of any other holiday (although I may reserve a future article for blasting the outrageous trick-or-treating techniques of truckloads of teenagers!). No, I simply want to give a personal testimonial for my favorite holiday and the spirit it represents.

Ever since the fifty-three surviving Mayflower Pilgrims celebrated the first Thanksgiving with ninety Indians at Plymouth in the fall of 1621, Americans have gathered with family and friends in the fall of the year to set aside one day for the express purpose of voicing their gratitude for life's blessings. In 1863, Abraham Lincoln declared Thanksgiving to be a national holiday that would be officially recognized every year.

I will confess that I am not a purist in my esteem of Thanksgiving. Since childhood, Thanksgiving has meant a long weekend, lots of great food, family, a thankful heart, and football. Take notice of the fact that a thankful heart was thrown in as a minor aspect of my appreciation for this holiday; it ranked well below football, which was at the top of the priority list. As I got older and had a family of my own, football lost its place at the top of the list and was replaced by family. As a matter of fact, football has fallen to the bottom and family is permanently ensconced at the top. I will talk more about the thankful heart a little later.

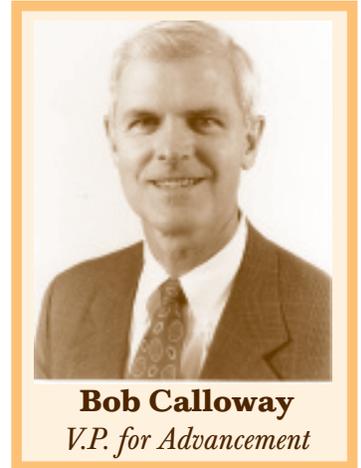
I am probably mistaken with this next remembrance, but it seems to me that retailers used to wait until the day after Thanksgiving before inundating us with advertisements and overloaded store displays touting their Christmas merchandise. Somewhere along the way, however, an insatiable desire to capture more shoppers replaced any homage that might have been paid to Thanksgiving, and retailers trampled my revered holiday, stretching all the way back to Halloween to start their big push toward December 25th.

I am not surprised at the inattention given Thanksgiving by stores and the media. After all, there's not much merchandise with a Thanksgiving theme, no costumes to sell, few cards to send. Sure, the grocery stores do a booming business during that week. And we see the President grant amnesty to a turkey at the White House, but that's about it. As far as the national spotlight is concerned, Thanksgiving is merely a pleasant rest stop on the highway between Halloween and Christmas. We even tend to leave "Thanksgiving" out of the name of the big parade so many of us watch on television. How often have you called it the "Macy's Day Parade?"

Could it be that we have to accumulate many birthdays before we view Thanksgiving as something more than a four-day weekend filled with good food and football? Some people may never get beyond that perspective, but for most of us thankfulness for our family rules the day. Do you remember the Norman Rockwell painting of the family gathered around the Thanksgiving table as Grandma sets the huge turkey in front of Grandpa? The carving tools are on the table, and you get the feeling that Grandpa is about to offer a prayer of gratitude.

A few years ago, my wife and I hosted a number of family members for Thanksgiving, and we went around the table saying something we were thankful for. A couple of our guests were unaware that my mother's nickname was "Gin," short for Virginia, so when I said I was thankful for Gin, they nearly spit out their teeth! Gin has passed away since then, but I continue to be thankful for her, my dad, and every single member of our family. What greater source of gratitude is there?

I was kidding earlier about asking for a gift, but we all know that our desire to give comes from a thankful heart. Certainly we don't confine our expressions of gratitude to one day or one weekend of the year, but Thanksgiving helps us to set aside our worldly concerns and focus on those things that really matter to us. So go ahead and circle November 22nd on your 2012 calendar, and make plans to let your family know how much they mean to you.



Bob Calloway
V.P. for Advancement

East Tennessee Foundation

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Monroe County Grants

Continued from page 6

Women's Wellness and Maternity Center

The "Get With It" exercise program will provide classes ranging from chair exercises for disabled women, to line dancing and Zumba classes.

**TOTAL AMOUNT OF FUNDING AWARDED:
\$46,350**

East Tennessee Foundation is once again proud to announce that it has been found in compliance with National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations.



Use of this National Standards Seal signifies that East Tennessee Foundation has met the highest standards in its field.

East Tennessee Foundation is a public, nonprofit, community foundation created for the purpose of building charitable resources to make communities stronger and lives better through thoughtful giving.

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



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To have a copy of this newsletter sent to someone, contact us by phone, toll-free (877) 524-1223, (865) 524-1223 or e-mail, etf@etf.org.

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