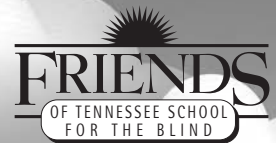


Welcome to Our Fall 2012 Newsletter!

# FOCUS on FRIENDS

The Newsletter of Friends of Tennessee School for the Blind



## Bowling Returns to TSB Through Generous Community Support

You may know that Tennessee School for the Blind students have achieved excellence in the areas of music, swimming, wrestling, golf, track, and even art. Did you also know that TSB once had State Champion bowlers? The bowling alley at TSB, consisting of two lanes, was built over 60 years ago. It was a great source of recreation, achievement, and learning for many students. Ask TSB alumni about their memories of the early bowling alley and you will hear some great stories of fun and rivalry!

The old, original, manually operated pinsetters were replaced in the mid 1970's with used electric pinsetters donated by a bowling alley. Over the years it has been refurbished multiple times. Eventually, parts became outdated and the lanes were unusable.

In February, 2012, the Friends of TSB board voted to undertake a multi-year funding project to renovate the two antiquated bowling lanes by replacing all of the working parts including the pinsetters, ball returns, bumper system, foul

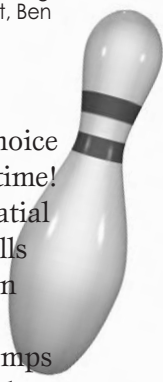


Friends of TSB board president, Jim Oldham shares some bowling tips with student, Ben Waddell

detectors, masking, coverboards, and capping. During the school's summer break, the renovation project took place, and students returned to a fully functioning bowling alley, as well as new bowling shoes and balls! Just a few months into the school year, it is clear that bowling has been happily embraced by the students and once again incorporated into the school's recreational and physical education programs.

Bowling provides students with an activity that provides exercise, offers learning opportunities, and develops an interest in what might

become an adult recreational choice – while having fun at the same time! Math, body positioning and spatial awareness, as well as social skills are reinforced while bowling. In addition, with the use of some adaptive equipment, such as ramps for wheelchair users, every student at TSB is able to take advantage of the bowling alley and all it has to offer. For students to again have this setting for learning the myriad of skills necessary to go to any bowling alley in the world, and participate with peers who are sighted, is a most worthy cause. ☀



CAMPAIGN TO  
**BRING BACK**  
**BOWLING**  
TO TSB

Friends of TSB is grateful to report that through the support of businesses, foundations, community organizations and individuals we have reached the midway point this year in our fundraising goal of \$62,000 for the renovation. We would like to express our sincere thanks to the many people who have supported, and continue to support the "Bring Back Bowling to TSB" campaign.

# Major Fundraisers Give Huge Boost to Funding of Bowling Alley Renovation

Friends of TSB is very grateful for the continued support and enthusiastic commitment to the bowling alley renovation by three of our major supporters: Parks and Bob Parks Realty, the Murfreesboro Breakfast Rotary Club and the TSB Alumni Association. The fundraising efforts of these three groups in the past year represent a combined total of over \$22,000. Plans are now underway for this year's events. We hope everyone will support these generous groups!

## Bob Parks Realty

An Evening with Friends - 2011



## Murfreesboro Breakfast Rotary Club 2012 Blindness Awareness Golf Tournament

Jim Oldham, President of Friends of TSB (second from Left) is shown presenting a plaque to Greg Tidwell, chairman of the tournament. Also pictured are Bobby Bass (L) Treasurer of Friends and Andy Joiner (R) TSB Teacher.



Winning Team – Consolidated Mill Supplies (L-R) Michael Ward (TSB Student), Spencer Provow, Rick Hudson, Clint Russell, Chuck Russell and Elizabeth Harden (TSB Student).



**LEFT PHOTO:** Michele Friedrichsen, chair of the Bob Parks 2011 auction event, presents a check to Friends of TSB board President, Jim Oldham and TSB Superintendent, Dr. Martin Monson. Students also pictured (L-R): Austin Rodgers, Caleb Freeman and Brittney Luna.

**RIGHT PHOTO:** This year's Alumni Association event raised money for Friends of TSB through the auctioning of items including vintage bowling pins from the old TSB alley. (L-R) David Robbins, Ralph Brewer, Hargus "Pig" Robbins, and Linda Brewer. Mr. Robbins, a 1955 TSB graduate, received the "Ralph A. Brewer Award" and he graciously donated the monetary portion to Friend of TSB. Mr. Robbins has a prestigious career in the field of music and is a member of the Country Music Hall of Fame.

## TSB Alumni Association 2012 Auction



## FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

Despite the many economic challenges faced by foundations, businesses, and individuals, our efforts to serve the students of TSB have moved forward. We've had to work harder and dig deeper, but we have maintained progress and have reached the halfway mark in funding the bowling alley renovation project.

Some of us "old-timers" remember the original manual pinsetters in the '50s and '60s. We were so proud of the USED, automatic ones that were donated to TSB in the mid '70s. Several

years ago, even they, "gave up the ghost." Now bowling has returned to TSB and the students love it!!!

There are just too many "Friends" to thank in this limited space. Our longtime supporters including Bob Parks Realty – sponsors of the annual Brunch and Bid auction, the Murfreesboro Breakfast Rotary Club – sponsors of the Blindness Awareness Golf Tournament, the Louis R. Draughton Foundation, and the TSB Alumni Association have been there for the students since the beginning. Other contributions have come through the United Way, and employer matched giving. The Burtons, family of a TSB graduate, designated a significant

grant through the Clayton Foundation. A special shout out needs to be given to the Bible study students who honored their teacher with a car wash fundraiser. Several families remembered FTSB with holiday gifts and memorials in honor of loved ones.

On a personal note, I want to thank retiring charter board member Tim McFadden for his many years of service to FTSB, the alumni and the students. Your enthusiasm, wit, and profound love of the children, will be missed, but never forgotten.

Respectfully,  
**Jim A. Oldham,**  
President FTSB Board



# FRIENDS Donors

## Enrichment Grant

**T**SB students attended a 3 day Model UN Conference at U.T. Knoxville, in January 2012 through funding from Friends of TSB.

Student, Christopher Wright, shared his experience in a letter to the Board. *“On this trip we got to learn about global issues. I was really impressed by a woman in my committee who represented Pakistan. She was from a country that didn’t believe women should have a role in the economy and that was a hard role for her to play. Also, I learned that the problems with the economy in the U.S. are shared by other countries. Thanks again for giving us the ability to go to Knoxville and experience such a great weekend.”*

For the over \$46,000 this list represents in benefits to TSB students, we express our deepest appreciation to community organizations, business leaders, corporate foundations, and generous individuals who support and are an integral part of the charitable efforts of Friends of TSB.

## Schedule of Upcoming Events

### ***Bob Parks Brunch and Bid***

Date: Tuesday, December 4th, 2012

Time: 10 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

Food, silent auction and entertainment by the TSB chorus

Everyone welcome.

RSVP to

BrunchAndBid@gmail.com

### ***2013 Blindness Awareness Golf Tournament***

Date: April 24, 2013

Get a foursome together or sponsor a hole for this fun event!

Call 231-7307 for details.

## FOUNDATION, GRANTS AND BUSINESS SUPPORT

Bob Parks Realty  
Murfreesboro Breakfast Rotary Club  
TSB Alumni Association  
Louis R. Draughon Foundation  
AT&T United Way  
The Clayton Foundation  
HCA Caring for the Community  
United Way Nashville  
Mikey’s Motors  
Buddy Lee Attractions  
Donelson Lions Club  
Verizon Foundation  
Cullum & Maxey Camping Center, Inc.  
The Sugar Plum Girls Chapter of The Red Hat Society  
Cross Country Education

## INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS

Family and Friends of Samantha Leech  
Jim Burton  
Virginia Hubbard  
Wendell O. Mandrell  
Matthew Woods  
Michael E. Galvin  
Judy Hutchison  
Scott R. Redlinger  
James and Sharon Perdue  
Bobby Bass  
Martha Nichol  
Lesia Goddard  
Michael Sankey  
Randall and Carol Beasley  
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Larry and Nedea Keel  
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Christy Russell  
Alanna Dodd  
Marvin and Larhea Sanford  
Ron Harman  
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Hargus Robbins  
Kelsey D. Leavitt  
Leigh A. Hartmann  
Vijayalakshmi Saminathan  
Karen Stiteley

## Friends of Tennessee School for the Blind Mission Statement

**T**he mission of Friends of Tennessee School for the Blind is to supplement state appropriations by enhancing and enriching the educational, vocational, special skills and social development of students enrolled at the Tennessee School for the Blind.

Mr. and Mrs. James Keating *in honor of James R. Keating*

Jennifer and Charles Fisher *in honor of Karen Blankenship*

Keith and Barbara Price *in honor of Lane and Elizabeth Reams*

Donald R. Conley *in honor of Darleen Conley*

Jim and Carolyn Oldham *in honor of Margaret Riegel*

Kristina Dixon *in honor of Jim Oldham*

Col. Thomas Sarver *in honor of Brenda and Dan Dillon*

Yvonne C. Moles *in honor of Judy Buckman*

Mila B. Truan *in honor of Margaret Riegel*

Pat Galvin *in honor of Matt Johnston*

Pat Galvin *in memory of Tommy Mariah*

Kenneth Morton *in memory of Francis Morton and in honor of Evelyn Flippin*

Carolyn Yates *in memory of Dobie Gray*

Danielle Anderson *in memory of Dorothy Keel*

Lynda Miller *in memory of June Baron*

Mila B. Truan *in memory of Marietta Howington*

Denise Ledbetter *in memory of Martha Wright*

Jim and Carolyn Oldham *in memory of: Chad Whittset’s stepfather, Michael Holtsford and Mary Lynn Rotenberry’s mother, Mary Ellen Hunt*

*Gifts in memory of Thelma Lillian Tucker: The Dietrich Family, Sister Mary Theresa Bogdanowicz, Sister Josephine Andrew Bogdanowicz, Don Michael Bogdanowicz, Mary L. Bailey, Sally Weber, Kimberly Aiken, Lori Tucker-Sullivan*

# Car Wash Fundraiser Honors a Friend and Benefits TSB Students

This summer students from W.A. Wright Elementary had a unique idea to honor their guidance counselor and Backyard Bible Club teacher, Laurie Drummond, by organizing a fundraiser and donating the money raised to Friends of TSB.

On a hot Saturday in July, with buckets and hoses in hand, students held a three hour car wash at the Lebanon Road Burger King that raised \$555, for the bowling alley renovation.

The students were then invited to TSB, where they made a presentation of their check to Friends of TSB, and read a letter honoring Ms. Drummond.

Elaine Brown, TSB Director of Outreach and Admissions, along with



Friends of TSB board members, provided the children with a tour of the school, and a sneak preview of the completed bowling alley.

We are thankful to these children for their fine example of caring and giving back to the community! 🌞



Thank you to the supporters of this event who brought their cars and were so generous in their donations!



Friends of TSB president, Jim Oldham, receives a check for \$555 from Kaitlyn Osborne.



Laurie Drummond and the children pose for a group shot in the lobby of TSB.

## MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS Friends of Tennessee School for the Blind, Inc.

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- RALPH BREWER
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- DR. PETER SHENOUDA

The Board of Directors of Friends of Tennessee School for the Blind, Inc., would like to thank all persons and organizations that have assisted in the efforts to enrich the lives of students at the Tennessee School for the Blind.

**If you would like to make a donation to the Foundation or desire more information, please contact:**



### Friends of Tennessee School for the Blind, Inc.

c/o Jim Oldham, President  
115 Stewarts Ferry Pike  
Nashville, Tennessee 37214  
info@friendsoftsb.org  
(615) 231-7307

### www.friendsoftsb.org

Friends of Tennessee School for the Blind, Inc., is eligible for designations through the United Way of Metropolitan Nashville (UWMN) campaign, designation code 1038.

**Important:** Your gift may be doubled if your employer has a matching gift program. Please see your Human Resources Department today.