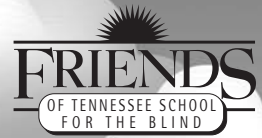


FOCUS on FRIENDS



The Newsletter of Friends of Tennessee School for the Blind

Reaching New Goals Through the Support of the Nashville Predators Foundation

In May of 2015, representatives and students from TSB joined the Nashville Predators Foundation and 88 other organizations at the Bridgestone Arena for a very exciting day! Friends of TSB was awarded a \$6,368.00 grant for the purchase of new goal ball equipment for TSB.

Through this generous donation, Friends of TSB updated the goal ball program at TSB with two aluminum goal ball frames, a full set of visors, shin, knee and elbow pads, chest protectors, shirts, pants and balls.

In addition, on October 19th, our friends from the Nashville Predators stopped by on their 10th Annual Community Relations Day to visit and observe the TSB goal ball teams in action with their new equipment. Preds players Victor Bartley and Craig Smith even joined in a friendly game of goal



TSB goal ball teams with new equipment and goals purchased through the Predators Foundation grant.



Left to right: Predators Assistant Coach, Kevin McCarthy, TSB goal ball coach, Patrick Hector, TSB senior, Chris Cook, Friends of TSB Vice President, Ralph Brewer, Predators Assistant Coach Phil Housley, TSB senior, Alyssa Loggins, Gnash, Friends of TSB Grant Coordinator, Pat Galvin

ball with the TSB teams.

Our sincere thanks to the Nashville Predators Foundation for their continued support and generosity to the Middle Tennessee community of non-profits! 🌞



Preds Victor Bartley and Craig Smith speaking to TSB on their 10th Annual Community Relations Day.

New Music Opportunity Resonates with TSB Students

You probably know how important the music program is to TSB students, and that many expand upon these skills when they graduate from TSB. Did you also know that music has many therapeutic benefits? In September, Friends of TSB embarked upon a new fund raising effort to update the condition and technology of the Music Therapy Room.

The key component of the room is its resonating, floating floor structure which after valuable, constant use for many years has become worn and outdated, limiting students in their use of advances in therapy. The technology of the vibrating floor structure provides the sensory input of touch to the musical experience through its speaker system.

This project will benefit TSB students ages 3-22, and provide therapy benefits to children with verbal delays, motor issues and behavioral challenges. Benefits for students have included an increase in verbal, motor and social skills.

With your support, we hope to reach our goal of \$16,000 to begin this project during this school year. If you would like to donate to this worthwhile project, please indicate "Music Therapy Project" with your donation. 🌞



Making a Difference Throughout the Year

Your generous support of Friends of Tennessee School for the Blind made these enrichment opportunities available to the students of TSB in 2014 and 2015!

Not only did students have a great time, they also learned about plants, animals and the seasons in relation their science lessons when they took field trips in October 2014 to the Honeysuckle Hill Farm.



TSB ECC students presented a fashion show in November 2014 to the school. Students received a budgeted amount to purchase clothing and to mix and match clothes and accessories.



Students attended a wildly imaginative, musical performance of *James and the Giant Peach* at the Nashville Children's Theater in November, 2014.



Featuring tall tales, music and unlikely heroes, *Jack's Tale* and *Elephant and Piggies* at the Nashville Children's Theater in January and February, were a treat for our TSB students who love music!

The TSB Varsity Cheerleading Squad attended Vanderbilt Women's basketball games this year to observe college cheerleading, chants and crowd interaction as well as developing travel and mobility skills.



In January of this year, students experienced a memorable performance of *Hamlet* at TPAC.



Ever wonder what Einstein might have been like as a child? TSB students took a fun look at that question in *Einstein is a Dummy* at the Nashville Children's Theater in September of this year.

At the end of each year graduating seniors are presented with a "Bon Appetit" bag that contains specialized cooking items to use in their own kitchens, helping them to continue their independent skills.



Each year Senior Independent Living Grants are provided which allow students a budget for groceries in order to teach independence, responsibility and financial skills.

FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

The wonderful things that FTSB accomplishes for TSB's students don't just happen. It truly is a team effort on the part of our all volunteer board and hundreds of others. From January through June I temporarily reassumed the superintendency of TSB and stepped aside as board president. Thank you John Harris and Ralph Brewer for your extraordinary efforts in completing projects, reports,

and fulfilling the goals of FTSB.

Donna Richmond spends countless hours developing this newsletter, maintaining our Facebook presence and website, while tracking and acknowledging donations. Pat Galvin writes our grants, searches websites, and contacts foundations, corporations and individuals for support and donations. Bobby Bass, Sue Glone and Carla Caraway provide wise fiduciary counsel. DeeGee Lester is always there with enthusiasm and "out of the box" innovation.

Debbie Propst maintains a vital connection between FTSB and the Alumni Association. The TSB staff board members let us know what is needed and how we can best focus our efforts.

The most important team members are our fund-raising sponsors, grant and corporate benefactors, and of course YOU.

And our TSB students are the big winners!

Thanks Team,

Jim A. Oldham

Friends of TSB Board President

thank
you!

On November 20, 2014, the PARKS Mt. Juliet office sponsored the **14th Annual Brunch and Bid** fundraiser. The proceeds of \$17,700 from the 14th anniversary of this successful event brought the total amount raised by PARKS to \$178,500 to benefit students at the Tennessee School for the Blind.

April 22, 2015 marked the **15th Annual Blindness Awareness Golf Scramble** held by the Murfreesboro Breakfast Rotary Club. Twenty-four teams and generous community members and businesses raised \$10,655 during this successful event!

FOUNDATION, GRANT, BUSINESS and COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION SUPPORT

Parks/Bob Parks Realty and the Mount Juliet office
Murfreesboro Breakfast Rotary Club
Donelson Lions Club
Louis R. Draughon Foundation
Nashville Predators Foundation
The ASCAP Foundation
Brad Paisley Foundation
The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee
Ryman Hospitality Properties Foundation
United Way of Metropolitan Nashville
TSB Alumni Association
Verizon Foundation
Stones River Woman's Club
RCA Music Nashville
Jane and Richard Eskind and Family Foundation
Middle Tennessee Chapter Southern Dames of America
Delek Fund for Hope
Gene Gibson and the Moonlighter's Band

INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS

Raymond Beck
Dr. Deborah Hatton
David B. Taylor
Pat and Jennifer Leech and the family and friends of Samantha Leech
Kay Livesay

FRIENDS Donors

We would like to 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.

Through your generosity, Friends raised over \$75,000 in 2014/15 towards projects to benefit TSB students.

Major Frank W. Young USAF, (Ret.) and Mrs. Young
Pat Galvin
Mike Galvin and Family
Bill, Kathy, Ryan, Will and Anna Galvin
Blake and Lee Tidwell
Kay Livesay
Francis Alexander
Randall and Carol Ann Beasley
Donnie Helton
Evangeline Morris
Robert and Elizabeth Reams
Judy Wheatley
Sherietta Thompson
Chris Gilbert
James and Sharon Perdue
Leroy and Joyce Krantz
William Hudson
Hilary Murtagh
Erin Hornsby
Jonathan Adams
Taronda Williams
Gordon Dykes
Mary Hammock
Jeannie Seely
Ronald E. Harmon
Sharon Langford
Tammy Wright
Robert Sircy

Gift in Memory

Gifts in memory of Robert W. Denning:
Mildred Adams, Margaret Riegel, Tiffany Cantrell, Natalie Miner, Katherine Eggers, Pat Galvin, Ralph and Linda Brewer, Jim Oldham and Carolyn Davidson, Judy Denning
Gifts in memory of Elmer E. Young:
Kelly and Jane Mosteller, Sara Young
Yvonne Callis Moles in memory of Cassidy Sneed
Chuck Farrer in memory of Pat Farrer

Friends of Tennessee School for the Blind Mission Statement

The 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.

H. Gene Bell *in memory of Jerry Edward Bell*
Ginger Gibson *in memory of Phillip Hebert*
Pat Galvin *in memory of Sister Mary Beata*
Robbie M. Burton *in memory of Robert L. Sullenger*
Gifts in memory of Gaynelle Smotherman: Pat Galvin, Rick and Karen Allison
Gifts in memory of Lorene Burton: Susan and Bill Carpenter, Linda Patterson, Jackie Sisk, The Children of Clay and Lena Farris, Jim and Freida Andrews, Eddie and Diane Waller, Ramona Bailey, Rosalie Jackson
Deborah Boshears-Gunter *in memory of Jonathan Davis*
Lynn Wright *in memory of Leo Sinor*
Jim Oldham *in memory of Austin Smith*
Gifts in memory of Joseph Adams: Deedra Finch, Pat Galvin, Judy Buckman, Donna Richmond, Anne Kelley, Mildred Adams, Melanie Gordon, Kari Harold, Vicki De Salvatore, Jim Oldham and Carolyn Davidson

Gift in Honor

Catherine Keating *in honor of James Keating*
Virginia Russell *in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Wright*
Ralph and Linda Brewer *in honor of Paul Murray and Judy Wheatley*
Clifford Wilson *in honor of Judy and Robert Denning*
Judy Denning *in honor of Ralph Brewer*
Gifts in honor of Jim Oldham: Keith and Kris Dixon, Christine and Bruce McMeans, Carolyn Davidson

Students Attend Space Camp at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center



This September, 3 students from TSB were selected to spend a week in Huntsville, Alabama at Space Camp for Interested Visually Impaired Students (SCI-VIS). Corgan Waters, Carlos Medrano and Nehemiah Rembert had an action packed week with real life

astronaut training! "There was no down time for these three kids all week, every minute was filled with some sort of discussion, class or adventure." said TSB VI Teacher, Patrick Hector. The students learned about space history, medicine and safety as

well as building their own rockets and completing their own missions. They also experienced astronaut training by riding in the multi-access trainer, the manned maneuvering unit, and scuba diving to simulate gravity-free movements. Students from all over the U.S. and the world attended the camp and the students made lasting friendships. Our thanks to the Stones River Woman's Club and the TSB Alumni Association for their donations which made this 2015 trip possible. Students will participate once again in September of 2016 thanks to a recent donation by the TSB Alumni Association. 🌞



MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS Friends of Tennessee School for the Blind

- Jim Oldham, President
- Ralph Brewer, Vice President
- Sue Glore, Treasurer
- Donna Richmond, Secretary
- John Harris
- Bobby Bass
- DeeGee Lester
- Carla Caraway
- Debbie Propst
- Pat Galvin
- Jody Baker
- Kathy Segers
- Nathan Travis
- Lamont Bassham

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 Tennessee School for the Blind.



If you would like to make a donation to Friends of TSB, or desire more information, contact us, or visit our website at www.friendsoftsb.org

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Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/FriendsofTSB

Friends of TSB 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 contact your Human Resources Department.