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Green McAdoo not just Clinton's anymore

Historic Civil Rights landmark will become part of Tennessee State Museum system

Heather Miller

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During its meeting Monday night, Clinton City Council unanimously passed a motion to authorize transferring the Green McAdoo Cultural Center in Clinton to the Tennessee State Museum.

"The state will reimburse the City [of Clinton] or Green McAdoo Organization for the expenses associated with the day to day operation and up-

keep and maintenance of that facility," explained Councilman Jim McBride.

Earlier this year, when the Tennessee General Assembly passed the state budget, \$100,000 was included in the budget for the Tennessee State Museum to use "solely for maintenance, restoration, and operational expenses of the Green McAdoo Cultural Center."

Tennessee Lt. Gov. Randy

McNally and State Rep. John Ragan have been credited for securing the funds for the museum in the budget.

The motion passed by city council Monday includes authorization of a property transfer deed in which City of Clinton officials will transfer the Green McAdoo Cultural Center property to the State of Tennessee.

Clinton City Councilman Larry Gann described several of the concerns city officials have had in the past about what would happen to the museum in the future should the political climate change or financial sources for the museum drastically fall.

He said that by transferring Green McAddo Cultural Center to the state it would ensure that the museum would always be in operation.

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The iconic statue of the Clinton 12 and the profound words of the Rev. Paul Turner are now part of the Tennessee State Museum system. — Photo courtesy CMS

Glen **Alpine** move a

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On the Clinton City Council agenda for the council meeting Monday night was discussion regarding the city's contract enforcement options for the Glen Alpine Convenience

The Glen Alpine agenda item appeared under old business and was discussed privately by city officials with their legal counsel Monday evening during the executive session part of their council meeting.

Although details of the legal discussion between city officials and their lawyer were not released to the public, city council reported after the council meeting

Adding to the legend that is 'Health Day'



Even the legend of Rocky the anciet sea creature of Coal Creek could not get this Briceville second grader to hold a fish. A promise to get her picture in the paper though ... Volunteer Charlie Saylor also had a hand in convincing the girl to hold on to Rocky. — Ken Leinart

A snake, a beaver, and first time fish **handlers**

Ken Leinart editor@mycouriernews.com

It may be one of the more fun days for Briceville students.

It is certainly one of the funniest.

The bosy become braver, the girls are "squealier," and volunteers love it so much they come back year after year.

It's Coal Creek Health Day and the 2017 version, held Wednesday, Oct. 25, will only make the legend of the event grow.

For years Briceville students have been catching

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Legend

from 1A

nate age, but for 17 years he has always seemed to manage to find the volunteer's net and thrill students with his size and status as legend. He has a smaller brother, Gravel, that is often found as well.

Charlie Saylor, dubbed the "Retired TVA Genius" has volunteered for this event every year it has been held — 17 and he says Health Day has its scientific values, but the most important aspect, for him, is getting the kids involved.

"It makes them aware of what they have," he said. "They can see fish, the plants ... The nature.

"And if they learn to appreciate it they learn to take care of it."

The Clinch River Chapter of Trout Unlimited is behind Coal Creek Health Day, an offshoot of the club's efforts to clean up the watershed.

But Health Day has become more. It has become legend and it goes beyond finding really old fish (SPOILER ALERT: Rocky is not the same fish every year) and little boys proving they will touch anything that comes out of the water that wriggles and little girls will wriggles out of the way to keep from touching things that come out of the water.

It's the new mindset for Briceville students: This is ours, let's protect it.

About two hours into Wednesday morning's activities a large splashing sound and movement not 50 feet away from the volunteers and the students stopped all fish gathering and fish holding.

Swimming away from the activities was beaver heading upstream, away from the ruckus.

Less than five mnutes latee one of the volunteers from the University of Tennessee held up a snake that looked more like a nightcrawler (actually it was smaller than a nightcrawler) and held it out for the students to "Ooh" and "Aww" over — and the boys to try and grab.

The volunteer list for the 2017 Health Day included:

Alford, Brian – UT Forestry, Wildlife, and Fisheries

Brown, Steve - Clinch River Trout Unlimited

Buffington, Buzz - Clinch River Trout Unlimited

Coombs, Joyce – UT - Forestry, Wildlife, and Fisheries

Douglas, Terry - Clinch

River Trout Unlimited Ferguson, Jim --- Clinch

River Trout Unlimited Geiger, Dick – Clinch River

Trout Unlimited Moore, Carol - Coal Creek

Watershed Foundation Oates, Frances - Clinch

River Trout Unlimited

Saylor, Charlie – Retired TVA Genius

Thacker, Barry - Coal Creek Watershed Foundation

Wolbert, Justin – UT Forestry, Wildlife, and Fisheries

Species found this year

Bigeye Chub Bluntnose Minnow Striped Shiner Redline Darter Rainbow Darter Largescale Stoneroller Spotfin Shiner Northern Hogsucker Blacknose Dace Northern Studfish **Rock Bass Snubnose Darter Smallmouth Bass** Redbreast Sunfish **Black Redhorse** Scarlet Shiner

"You won't see a lot of different species from year-toyear, but we have seen a reemergence of some Darter species," Saylor said.

Students were also given some basic lessons in fishing – fly tying a favorite — and conservation.

This year also marked a sort of milestone: Two Coal



J. Brian Alford, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Fishery Conservation and Management with The University of Tennessee Department of Forestry, Wildlife, and Fisheries documented this baby snake —the first ever found during Health Day. — Ken Leinart

Creek Scholars took part in Health Day.

They now teach at their home school. Jenny Lindsay

and Jessica McKinney, both Coal Creek Scholars, told how they assessed the health of the creek when they were students at Briceville School.



Volunteers and students check out what their fish nets have brought in from Coal Creek during Health Day. — Ken Leinart

State parks saw increase in volunteers in 2016

Tennessee State Parks benefitted from the helping hands of 1,000 volunteers on National Public Lands Day – a 15 percent increase from the same day last year.

Norris Dam State Park has had 18 volunteers in 2017. compared to zero in 2016.

"Some of our popular as well as lesser known parks saw exceptional growth in the number of residents coming out to help," said Brock Hill, Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation deputy commissioner of parks and conservation. "This spirit speaks to the value our public lands offer Tennesseans: healthy recreation

service cuts to EMS!

opportunities, local economic engines and responsible land conservation."

Volunteers came out to support 52 different parks in Tennessee's statewide system on Sept. 30. Justin P. Wilson Cumberland Trail State Scenic Trail State Park had the most helpers at 122. Pickwick Landing State Park in West Tennessee and Hiwassee/Ocoee State Park near Chattanooga saw the biggest increases in participation – from two and six volunteers in 2016, respectively, to 50 and 32 volunteers in 2017.

Other parks, including David Crockett Birthplace in East Tennessee and Cedars of Lebanon in Middle Tennessee, saw upwards of 80 individuals mulching, constructing hiking trails, cleaning playground equipment and more.

Tennessee State Parks hosts five signature hikes annually to encourage visitors of all skill levels to get outside and enjoy our public lands.

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Nov. 3,4, 5. Pige

Smoky Mtn. Conv. Ce

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