

East Knox AREA NEWS

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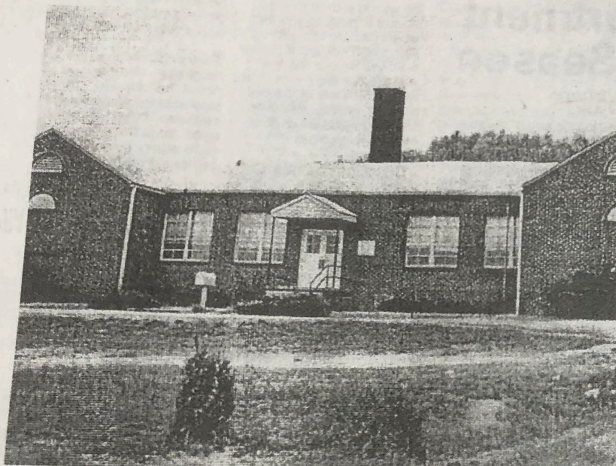
Locally owned, operated and serving the East Knox Area Since 1969

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Three Big Losses, One Bigger Win



Skaggs Elementary School in East Knox County

Compiled by Jody Davis,
Knox County Museum of
Education

When historical preservation tries to be of importance, sometimes progress stands in the way and eventually wins out. Such was the case of three prominent, but aging east Knox County elementary schools succumbing to the progress of the need of new school facilities.

John Sevier Elementary,

located on Charlotte Drive; Mascot Elementary, located on Tipton Drive; and Skaggs Elementary, located on Skaggs School Road, off Rutledge Pike, were the three doomed schools closed in 1979 and combined in to the new East Knox County Elementary School, located at 9315 Rutledge Pike, Mascot. Previously closed Clear Springs and Arminda Schools were also in the general vicinity

and also contributed to the new East Knox school student enrollment.

East Knox County Elementary School was built in 1978 & 1979, opening its doors to students in August 1979 with approximately 850 students in attendance, covering kindergarten through 8th grade. The school was under the watchful eyes of the first Principal, David Wetzel, with Wanda Cameron and Sara Eastridge its first

school secretaries. Forty five teachers, 9 cafeteria workers and 4 custodians greeted those 1979 students.

Property where the school now stands had been purchased from J. J. Nicely several years earlier where the county had planned to build a middle school. However, the middle school was later built at Carter and the property was available for an elementary school. Interested persons from the three communities had the opportunity to submit suggestions for a name for the new school. Since each school community wanted the school to be named after that particular school, the School Board stepped in and finally named the school East Knox County Elementary School.

Today's enrollment of approximately 450 students, covering pre K through 5th grades is administered by nearly 80 staff members. The 6th through 8th grade students previously schooled at East Knox now are split between Carter, Gibbs and Holston Middle Schools. After Dr. Wetzel, seven principals have watched over the student body: Ms. Judy Cupp, Mr. Scott Haynes, Ms. Susan Dunlap, Ms. Darlene Justice, Ms. Barbara Clark, Ms. Kay Dawson, and presently under the capable hands

of Ms. Kristi Woods.

The Knox County Museum of Education, located in the Sarah Simpson Professional Development Technology Center (former South High School) at 801 Tipton Avenue, next to Dogwood Elementary School in South Knoxville, collects and displays anything and everything pertaining historically to the schools of Knoxville and Knox County. It is a hands on museum allowing visitors to actually touch, inspect and enjoy the collection. The collection includes hundreds of school yearbooks, scrapbooks, photos, trophies, athletic uniforms, band uniforms, cheerleader uniforms, books, historical reflections, and much, much more.

All items the Museum has on display are

generously donated to the Museum by members of our community. The Museum's collection of historical information, artifacts and memorabilia on John Sevier, Mascot, Skaggs, Arminda, Clear Springs Schools as well as East Knox County Elementary School is somewhat lacking. We are reaching out to the members of each of those communities who may have items pertaining to those schools who would want to donate those items to the Museum. That would allow those items, instead of being lost stored away somewhere, to have a permanent home to be displayed for others to enjoy. The Museum is open Monday, 11 am - 4 pm. Please visit.....and bring your items to be donated.



A young girl on the steps of John Sevier Elementary from the late 1950's. The first person who call's 1 (865)579-8264, ext 5, with her identity will win two 'Four Dots and a Dash' Doo Wop group, singing in the 50's and 60's. The group is made up of Knox School Personnel.

Christmas Tree Recycling at Knox County Convenience Centers

After the New Year, Knox County residents can bring their unwanted, live Christmas trees to participating Knox County Convenience Centers for free disposal. Knox County residents will be able to drop off trees throughout the entire month of January at no cost. Trees must be cleaned of all ornaments, lights, wire, string and other decor before being delivered to a Center.

bare trees at the curb for pick-up by public service workers as time and resources allow during the ongoing leaf collection season.

Normal hours of operation for all Knox County Convenience Centers are 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday; they are closed on Sunday. The Centers will be closed on Tuesday, Jan. 1, 2019, in

normal hours and ready for tree recycling on Wednesday, Jan. 2, 2019. Please note that Center users may experience higher than normal wait times during the holiday season.

The Knox County Convenience Centers are located at the following:
-Carter Convenience Center, 8815 Asheville Hwy.
-Dutchtown Convenience Center, 10618 Dutchtown

-Halls Convenience Center, 3608 Ne
-John Sevier Co Center, 1950 W
-John Sevier Hw
-Karns Conveni
Center, 6930 K
Crossing Lane
-Powell Conve
Center, 7311 N
Ln.
-Tazewell Pike
Convenience
7201 Tazewe
Trees will b
the above loc