

What n Earth

Is Happening in the Clearfork Valley

Comments and suggestions to What On Earth P.O. Box 81 Eagan TN. 37730
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April 25, 2015

Volume 15 Issue 4

EARTHDAY CELEBRATIONS! On Saturday April 18th it was sunny, little flowers was popping out and there was something going on down at the old Eagan school. There was kids running around, old friends seeing one another and new friends being made. It was our annual Earth Day celebration.

It was a little different this year we did not have any music which was a disappointment because I really love music, and Dal Macon was not there to draw us. Despite the setbacks we had a great time, one of the best Earth Days I have attended and I have been to most of them. The Honor Guard was present to raise the flags and the food was the best yet; BBQ pork, coleslaw, baked beans, chips, drinks and cake aplenty.

Those who were there played bingo, corn hole, darts, a duck pond, basketball and a cakewalk. They also had the chance to learn a lot about renewable energy and the 3Rs sorry I am old school 4 Rs which are reduce, reuse, recycle and rot. This is what Earthday is all about remembering what our Earth does for us and what we can do for our Earth. This is our home do you like living in a dirty home?

If you don't there are ways to clean it up, instead of buying bottles of water grab a reusable jar with a lid they even make fancy filtration systems to go in it. That is what my friend April tells me. She reuses old glass bottles to make eye catching centerpieces for tables, old ties to make new aprons. She has been making new out of old and used and selling the wonderful stuff she creates, all it takes is a little imagination and everyone benefits including our sweet and dear Mother Earth. Let's start

treating her a little better and she will take care of us longer. ~Candace Horn

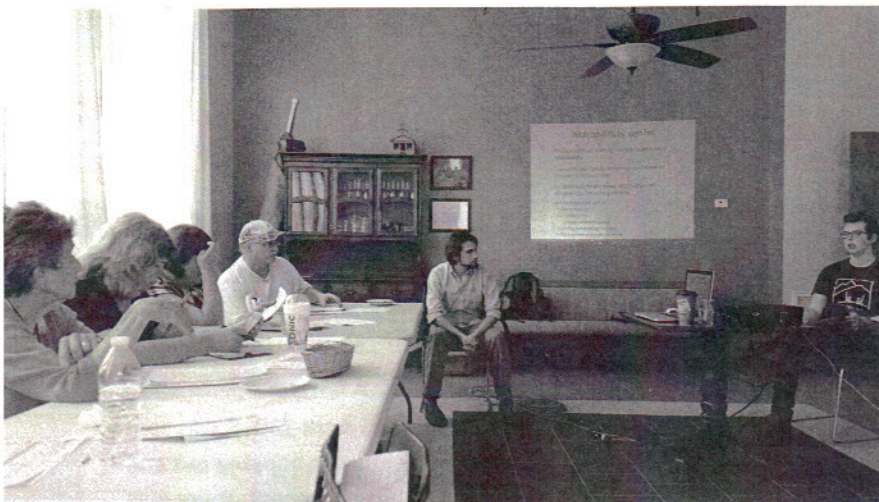


CCI wants to thank the many who donated items for Earthday Including Dollywood, Cheesecake Factory, Panera Bread, Woodland and all the locals, Janie, George, Kenny, Eddie and Timbo. We also want to thank all the beautiful Ladies throughout the valley who donated cakes, they were delicious, and especially thank you to those who gave up their day to volunteer and see it through. A special Thank You too Robin Mason, assistant to the mayor Jack Daniels, for coming and reading the proclamation, to the Veterans that were present to raise the flag and lead us in the Pledge, and to all those I may have forgotten to mention. **THANK YOU!!!**

If we are going to bring out the best in people, we, too, need to sow seeds of encouragement. - Joel Osteen

www.brainyquote.com/

On April 9th, Appalachian Transition Fellows Eric Dixon (Appalachian Citizens' Law Center) and Kendall Bilbrey (The Alliance for Appalachia) presented their research at the Clearfork Community Institute. Kendall and Eric have been pursuing research into the potential for Abandoned Mine Lands funds in the region to put local people to work and leverage funds for economic opportunity. The administration's Power+ Plan currently proposes \$1 Billion over 5 years to come into the region to reclaim abandoned mine sites. There was a lot of excitement and participation from the audience at CCI, and the biggest crowd of the fellow's Tennessee tour. The AppFellows would like to thank the organizers and participants of the meeting, and were blessed to have the opportunity to come to Eagan on the tour.



- Kendall Bilbrey



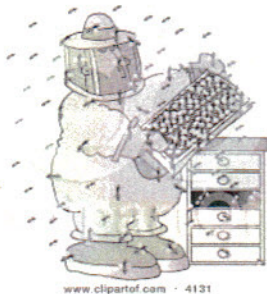
As you go along Highway 90 from Tracy Branch to Eagan, you will notice stretches where there is no trash! No plastic bottles or Wal-mart bags, no fast-food wrappers or pop cans can be seen. That's because more than ten Clearfork residents turned in 179 bags of trash. Yes, it would have been nice if we could be rid of all of it. It would be nice if every day was Great American Clean-Up Day! - Sharon Petro

The New Opportunity School for Women (NOSW) at Maryville College is accepting applications for its second program to be held July 12-August 1, 2015. The 21-day residential program is free to qualifying applicants. The school is designed to improve the educational, financial and personal circumstances of low-income, under-educated, middle-aged women in Appalachia

Applicants must have a high school diploma, or a GED, ; and do not have a college degree. Participants must be at least 30 years of age; of low income; be highly motivated and demonstrate an eagerness to learn. [865.981.8123](tel:865.981.8123)



NEW OPPORTUNITY
SCHOOL for WOMEN
Maryville College



Join us as Martin Trowbridge demonstrates how to start and maintain honey bees, also how to harvest the honey. We will meet at the Clearfork Community Institute, then visit Vickie Terrys' place for the workshop. Pizza and refreshments will be served afterwards. FREE Saturday May the 2nd at 2:00

Comments and Suggestions

Addressed TO;

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Email Woe.CCI@hotmail.com

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Students from Auburn University Spend Spring Break in Eagan

By Rachel Naftel, April 6, 2015

Every year since 2010, Dr. Mark Wilson from the College of Liberal Arts at Auburn University has led groups of students to Eagan, Tennessee during the week of spring break. This year was similar to previous years in that the students worked hard all week on projects throughout the community while building friendships with local community members. The students were able to detach themselves from their daily distractions that come with being a college student and were able to fully engage themselves in the experience that is Eagan. While I did notice several similarities between this year's group of students compared to other groups in the past, I also had the pleasure to observe several unique differences which I would like to share with you.

I was one of the five Auburn students who participated in this year's trip, and interestingly enough, I was actually a part of Dr. Wilson's first spring break class who came to Eagan in 2010. I was in my junior year at Auburn when I first came to Eagan. Since then, I have returned to Eagan on numerous occasions including supervising other Auburn spring break trips with Dr. Wilson. My friends and experiences in Eagan have such a special place in my heart; therefore, I was more than delighted when Dr. Wilson invited me to return this year. Without hesitation, I agreed to come back.

Having not met any of the other student participants until I arrived in Eagan, I was impressed to learn that three of the four students had participated in previous trips. They had chosen to return to Eagan for another memorable experience. Dr. Wilson then explained to me that unlike years past, this year's group was not receiving course credits for participating in the trip. This means that the students had agreed to spend their spring break volunteering at CCI even though they would not receive any direct benefits. After learning this fact, I was even more impressed with the four participants. Therefore, I spent much of the week discussing with the other students what personal gains they receive from their time in Eagan in search for an answer as to why these students chose to come.

Lowery McNeal, a senior on the trip majoring in history, explained to me that she chose to come back to CCI because of the unforgettable experience she had during her first visit. Lowery stated, "We are more than guests or visitors at CCI. We get welcomed into their community and are asked to learn alongside the community members. It's an honor and a unique experience. The folks in Eagan want to teach us about their way of life and about themselves while learning who we really are and what each of us bring to the table."

I agree with Lowery's words. In each of my return trips to Eagan, I am amazed at the hospitality exhibited by each of the community members we interact with. For example, Gary Garrett graciously spent his Sunday afternoon leading our group on a hike to the "Top of the World." During the hike, Gary proved to be a knowledgeable tour guide by teaching us the history of the area. Marie Cirillo serves as another example of someone who treated us with warmth and generosity. On our last morning, Marie invited us to her home for breakfast, which included freshly baked brown bread topped with homemade blackberry jam. When discussing hospitality, I cannot forget to mention Marie Webster who went beyond her duties as director of CCI to accommodate our group throughout the week. These examples are just a few of the many memorable interactions we had with community members during our stay in Eagan.

Tambour Thornton, another senior on the trip who is studying aerospace engineering, describes the members of the community as dedicated people filled with energy. Tambour stated, "In the rural Appalachia Mountains of Tennessee, one might expect to find a sleepy hollow; however, the Clearfork community has the most energetic people I have ever met. They are committed to improving their community, and it was wonderful to work with such dedicated people."

As the week progressed, we continued brainstorming why each of us chose to spend our spring break volunteering at CCI. As a group, we agreed that it is the meaningful interactions with the local community members that had brought us back. We agreed that the personal gains received after a week in Eagan far beat any possible direct benefits such as receiving course credits. Furthermore, our group came to the conclusion that time in Eagan is a freeing experience, rid of judgment. Lowery summed up this last sentiment by stating, "I feel like I can drop my pretenses at the door. I am required to learn from myself, to rely on my true self, and to take in what others are teaching. It could be something about the mountains and change of scenery, or it could just be that the people of Eagan are really something special and offer lessons and experiences that are hard to come by in my suburban life."

While we all enjoyed our week in Eagan, each one of us left with different memories and different experiences that touched us. We took away new and interesting knowledge on life in rural Appalachia; however, more importantly, each of us left Eagan with life lessons on how to connect with others. Whether it was working alongside April Potter as we picked up trash on Rose's Creek, helping Randall Hatfield collect firewood, assisting Vicky Terry with her backyard, or even listening to music at Ronnie's, every opportunity we had to interact with community members was seen as an opportunity to make new, lifelong friends. As a group, we would like to thank the folks of Eagan for the memorable experience. It is because of you that we continue to come back.

Obituaries

Mr. Walter B. Washam, 74 of Maynardville, Tennessee passed away Wednesday, April 01, 2015 at the Physicians Regional Medical Center in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Mr. James Doyle May, 71, of Clairfield, TN, passed away Thursday, April 9, at his home

Mr. James Danke Evans, 79 of White Oak, TN, passed away Sunday, April 19, 2015 at his home.



WHAT: Bingo

WHERE: Clearfork Volunteer Fire Department.

When: May 3rd 6:00 pm

Come on out and support the Fire Department.

Community Calendar

COMMISSIONER MEETING'S

Claiborne County: 3rd Monday of the month in large courtroom located on Main Street in Tazewell at 6:30 p.m.

Campbell County : Regular Business meeting on the 3rd Monday of the month.

CLEARFOEK UTILITY BOARD MEETING

3rd Thursday of the month at 6:00p.m.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY: meets every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at the Parent Resource Center.

CLAIRFIELD VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT meets on the 2nd Monday of the month..

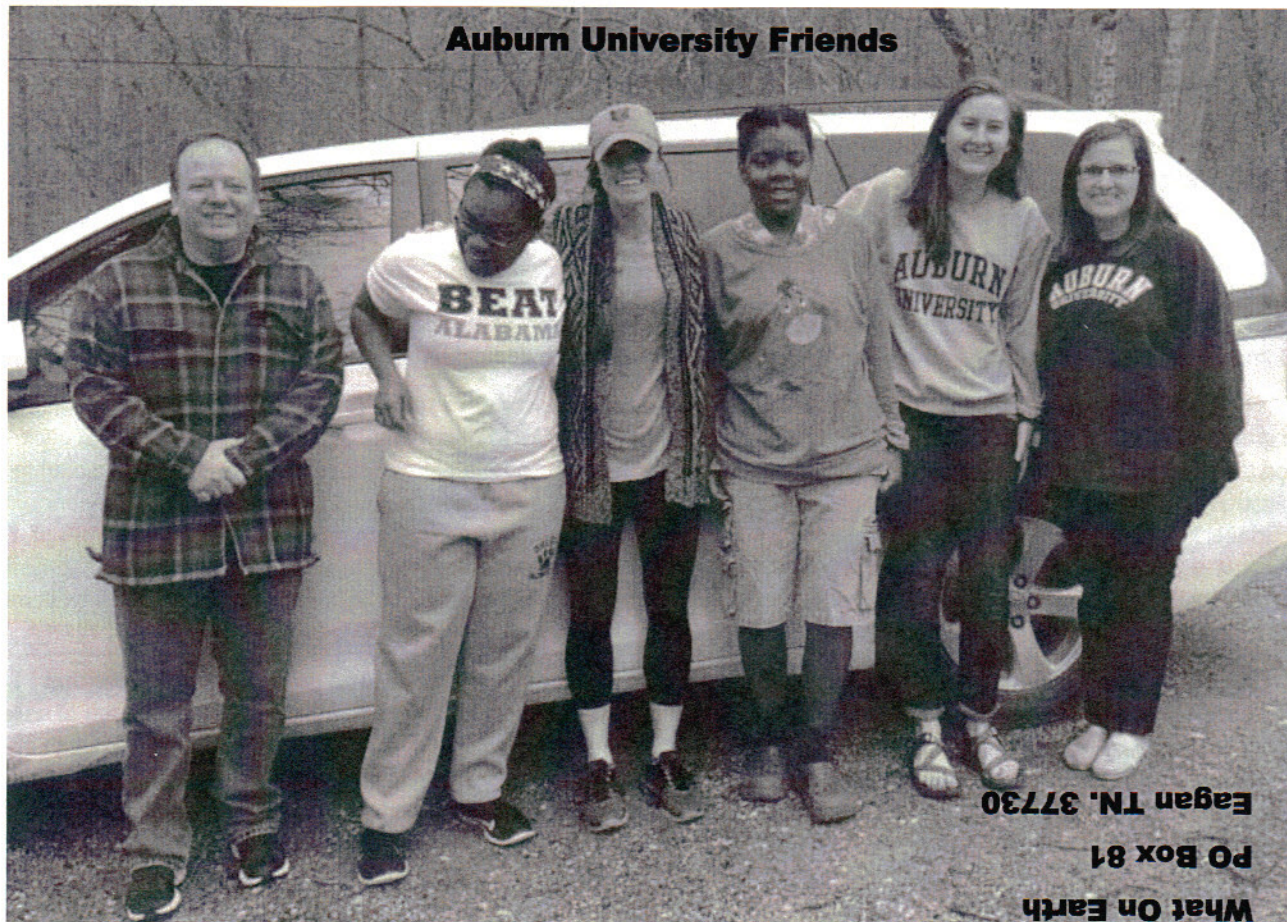
They need volunteers, need to be 18 years of age.

The Early Steps Program

through **White Oak Elementary School** works on building developmental skills needed for school readiness.

If you are interested in learning more about the program please contact : **Sheila Smith at 423-784-6690** between 8am and 4pm.

Auburn University Friends



Eagan TN, 37730

PO Box 81

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