



Issue 32

www.parksrec.com

December 2012

East Tennessee Christmas Classic

This 16th annual middle school basketball tournament began on December 14 and will conclude on December 22. Games are being played at the Everett Recreation Center, Eagleton Middle School and Union Grove Middle School. This year we are pleased to host teams from the following schools from several Eastern Tennessee counties:

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| Alcoa | Maryville |
| Caton's Chapel | Northwest |
| Coalfield | Sacred Heart |
| Eagleton | Seymour |
| Heritage | Union Grove |
| Jefferson | Vine |
| Karns | Webb |

Congratulations Triple Crown Winners

The Reindeer Run, final race of the "Healthy Blount Triple Crown of Running" was held on December 1 with 646 participating in the 5K road race and fun run/walk. To be eligible for the Triple Crown awards runners must participate in three races each year; the Spring Sprint, Scholars Run and Reindeer Run. The following were the winners in the 2012 Triple Crown:

Overall Female

- Stephanie Gibson-Pesterfield
- Amy Viars
- Jennifer Brigati

Overall Male

- Alan T. Horton
- Jason Altman
- Geoff Martin

Masters Female (40 +)

- Marsha Morton
- Susan Roberts
- Shelly Kirsch

Masters Male (40+)

- Geno Phillips
- Keith Gemeinhart
- Greg Johnson

A big **THANK YOU** goes to the Triple Crown Sponsors for partnering with Parks & Rec to conduct this popular yearly event:

- Gold Sponsor - Ruby Tuesday
- Silver Sponsor - Marathon [Mr. Gas] McNutt Oil Company
- Bronze Sponsor - Maryville Orthopaedic Clinic

Celebrating Kwanzaa

This year will be the 46th year of celebrating the African American holiday season known as "Kwanzaa". Kwanzaa is not a religious celebration and is not meant to replace the celebration of Christmas. It is a seven-day celebration based on the year-end harvest festivals that have taken place in Africa for thousands of years. Each of the seven days honors one of seven principles meant to promote the building of strong families and communities: unity, self-determination, collective work or responsibility, cooperative economics, sense of purpose, creativity and faith.



Locally this year, Kwanzaa is being celebrated December 8 - 19 in community churches. On December 27 at 6:00 p.m. the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center will host the culminating event of the Kwanzaa celebration. The program will be conducted by local youth who will demonstrate the Kwanzaa symbols. The public is invited to attend this free event.

The Parks and Recreation Office will be closed December 24-25 for Christmas and January 1 for the New Year's holiday. All of us at Parks & Rec would like to wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.



RECYCLE YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE AND HELP THE ENVIRONMENT!

Bring your Christmas tree anytime between

DECEMBER 26TH - JANUARY 7TH
to the designated drop off at:

DROP-OFF LOCATIONS

- SANDY SPRINGS PARK PARKING LOT
- AND
- SPRINGBROOK POOL PARKING LOT

PLEASE!
REMOVE ALL LIGHTS, NAILS, WIRES AND DECORATIONS FROM THE TREE.

HELP SAVE SPACE IN THE LANDFILL AND PROVIDE FISH AND WILDLIFE SANCTUARIES ALONG WITH MULCH FOR OUR AREA PARKS.

Sponsored by:



Keep Blount Beautiful



Special thanks to the City of Alcoa and the City of Maryville.

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Special Olympics News

Area 15 Special Olympics recently received two donations from special fund raising efforts of area youth. Four senior members of the Maryville High Girls Soccer Team planned a soccer game between Maryville and William Blount High School which was played at John Sevier Elementary School as a benefit for Special Olympics. A total of \$844. was raised. Also recently, a donation was made by 8 year old Cannon Johnson in the amount of \$100. Cannon generously asked those who attended his birthday party to bring a donation for Special Olympics in lieu of birthday gifts. Thanks to these young people for their unselfish efforts to support our special athletes.

On December 27 a special benefit basketball game will be played at Maryville High School during half-time of the high school basketball game. Area 15 Special Olympics adult men's team, the Blount Blazers, will play a team from Lenoir City representing Area 22. Thanks to Maryville High School for their continued support of Special Olympics.