

Deadline for entering Big Old Tree Contest is April 7

While you're out in the neighborhood on these warm spring days, keep your eyes open for trees to enter in Nashville Tree Foundation's 17th annual Big Old Tree Contest.

Tree lovers may nominate as many trees of any species in Davidson County, but the deadline of April 7 is fast approaching.

The contest helps the Foundation keep an ongoing inventory of special trees in Davidson County, said Tree Foundation president Betty Brown. "It's a fun and economical way to find out where the city's biggest and oldest trees are."

Certificates will be awarded to the nominator and owner of each of the largest tree in each category at

the annual High Tree Party, held at the site of one of the winning trees April 30.

Brown suggests that you get permission from owners to enter trees not on your property.

For an application that includes how to measure a tree, visit nashvilletreefoundation.org/botc.html or call 292-5175. 🍀

NTF board member Ann Chapman dies

Ann Chapman, 61, member of the Nashville Tree Foundation board and long-time administrator of Metro Beautification and Environment Commission, died March 6 after a courageous 10-year battle with cancer.

Her commitment to and passion for a cleaner greener Nashville never wavered as she continued to raise the environmental consciousness of Nashville, creating programs to reduce litter and preserve trees throughout her illness and until she officially retired December 31, 2003.

gigantic task we had assumed after the tornado to replant trees an unqualified success. She was one of the most courageous and caring persons I have ever known."

Her influence on the beautification of Nashville was such that Mayor Bill Purcell turned the traditional Arbor Day Celebration in Centennial Park March 5 into Ann Chapman Day. Upon learning of her death, he said, "Every day is Ann Chapman Day in Nashville because she worked so hard to make this city a more beautiful and better place."

During his remarks at the Arbor Day celebration, Mayor Purcell recalled that when the Metro Board of Parks and Recreation honored Ms. Chapman for 29 years of public service at its January meeting, the Board committed to

his suggestion that a grove of trees be planted on the rebuilt public square as "an enduring legacy of beauty and strength that she well deserves."

Jim Fyke, deputy commissioner of Tennessee State



Ann Chapman worked in the administrations of both Mayor Bill Purcell and former mayor Richard Fulton.

"We collaborated with Beautification on numerous projects over the years, but none more rewarding than ReLeaf Nashville," said Foundation president Betty Brown. "Her logistical skills and knowledge of the city and its neighborhoods made the



The High Tree Party takes place under the boughs of a winning tree.

High Tree Party is set for April 30

The 17th annual High Tree Party will be held April 30 at the site of one of the winning entries in the Nashville Tree Foundation's Big Old Tree Contest.

Judge Shawn Bible, an urban forester, will describe each of the winning trees before awarding certificates.

Foundation president Betty Brown will present the Victor Johnson Award to an individual or business who has a special reverence for trees.

The High Tree Party begins at four o'clock in the afternoon, under the branches of the winning tree. After the presentations folks sip on apple tree tea and munch on tree-related finger food—black walnut bread, cherry tarts, pecan crescent cookies—as well as that staple of tea parties, cucumber sandwiches.

You're all invited to wear your favorite spring hat and attend. Check nashvilletreefoundation.org or call 292-5175 for the location of the party. 🍀

Nashville
TREE
Foundation

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TREE TALK

is published quarterly for friends and supporters of the Nashville Tree Foundation.

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Nashville Tree Foundation hotline



Call council to protect tree ordinance

A bill by freshman Metro Councilman Greg Atkins to exempt truck parking lots from tree density requirements of the Metro Tree Ordinance has been deferred until May 4 when a public hearing will

The Nashville Tree Foundation, one of the organizations that fought long and hard to get the Metro Tree Ordinance established, is opposed to the proposal. If successful, this proposal would severely weaken the ordinance, which already is not as strong as it should be.

During the long process in getting the Tree Ordinance written and enacted, many concessions were made, including providing that large spaces—such as truck parking lots—that could not meet tree density requirements of planting 14 units per paved acre could make an in-lieu payment to the city tree bank.

The owner of Western Express, on whose behalf a bill for a variance was introduced not once but twice, agreed in writing July 31, 2001, “to comply with the Metro Urban Forester’s requirements concerning tree densities on the

site” but has not paid the \$191,000 owed the tree bank. Apparently he signed the letter to get Codes approval for his project but never intended to pay the money.

The value of trees to the environment, to quality of life, and property values is immense. It’s important to remember that the Tree Ordinance is not just about beautification: Trees make huge contributions to reducing heat and mitigating storm water runoff, two issues especially aggravated by large areas of asphalt.

Call your council representative and the five at-large members, asking that they vote against this bill. Tell them Nashville should be strengthening, not weakening, the ordinance.

For more information on the Tree Ordinance, call Urban Forester Stephan Kivett at 862-6488. 🌿

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Betty Brown



be held and the bill considered on second reading.

The Metro Planning Commission voted 8-1 February 12 to disapprove Atkins’ requested change to the zoning code. (See www.nashville.gov/mc/ordinances/bl2003_25.htm)

It disapproved a nearly identical text change proposal on December 6, 2001, and that bill was withdrawn from the Metro Council.

Ann Chapman (Continued from page 1)

Parks who worked with Ms. Chapman for 16 years while director of Metro Parks, said, “Ann was one of the most dedicated and loyal employees this city has ever had with caring and unselfish ways. She was truly a great friend.”

At the January event, former Mayor Richard Fulton said, “She has always been a very devoted and conscientious employee, always thinking of others more than herself.” Ms. Chapman served as his assistant from 1972 to 1975 when was a congressman and as a mayoral assistant from 1975 to 1987.

“Ann has truly made a difference and Nashville is the beneficiary of her efforts,” Governor Phil Bredesen wrote when he could not attend the retirement celebration. “For the tireless hours she unselfishly contributed to make Nashville a better place to live, thank you Ann.”

Her accomplishments as administrator of the Metro Beautification and Environment Commission from 1987 to 2003 are vast. Under her management, the city has:

- Dramatically reduced litter through Litter Bug Report Cards
- Implemented a Vacant Lot Cleanup Program, which has generated \$1.3 million in cost benefits to the city over a 14-year period
- Established the Adopt-A-Street program for people in neighborhoods to pickup roadside litter four times a year
- Secured passage of the Metro Tree Ordinance and the designation of Nashville as Tree City USA for 10 consecutive years through her staff support of Metro Tree Advisory Committee and Keep America Beautiful.

“The legacy Ann Chapman leaves of creating a clean and attractive city will benefit generations of Nashvillians,” said Christopher Armour, current chair of Metro Beautification and Environment Commission.

Funeral services were held March 8. Memorial contributions may be made to Loretto High School, David Lipscomb University, or The W. O. Smith Community Music School. 🌿

Arbor Day commemorates Ann Chapman

Nashvillians celebrated Tennessee Arbor Day in Centennial Park March 5 with ceremonial tree plantings, reading of essays about trees, and multiple tributes to terminally ill Ann Chapman, who died the next day.

Mayor Bill Purcell, upon accepting the flag denoting Nashville as a Tree City USA for the 10th consecutive year, devoted his remarks to the accomplishments of Chapman, retired administrator of the Metro Beautification and Environment Commission.

He said she worked tirelessly to meet the requirements for becoming a Tree City USA, including establishing a Nashville Tree Board, working to get a tree ordinance passed, and having an Arbor Day celebration.

“Ann Chapman created the script for what we are doing here today,” he said, declaring, “this day is Ann Chapman Day.”

Gerald Eaton of the state



Four students read their winning essays at the Arbor Day celebration.



Joan and Christopher Armour plant a tree given in memory of Lloyd Armour by the Metro Beautification and Environment Commission.

forestry division and Metro urban forester Stephan Kivett presented the Tree City flag to the Mayor.

Glenn Springer, chair of

the Metro Tree Advisory Committee, and Jim Fyke, former director of Metro Parks, praised Chapman's behind-the-scenes work on numerous projects that created a greener, cleaner Nashville.

Four students read their winning essays about Arbor Day: Dawn Kessler and Jennifer Margaret Dyer of Meigs Magnet Middle School tied for first place; Lindsey Free of Croft Middle School placed second; and Kathryn VanMater of Wharton Arts Magnet Middle School was third.

Sponsors of 2004 Tennessee Arbor Day included Mayor Bill Purcell, Metro Parks, Metro Beautification and Environment Commission, Metro Codes, Tennessee Department of Agriculture/Forestry Division, Metro Tree Advisory Committee, Nashville Tree Foundation, and You Have the Power. 🍀

New and renewed members since December 1

Randy Allen
 Joan Armour
 Arden Arrington
 Arthur Asbury Jr.
 Cal and Katrin Bean
 Tooty and Jimmy Bradford
 Martin S. Brown Jr.
 Chris Catanzaro
 G. William Coble II
 Barbara and Dewey Daane
 Keith Demoss
 Sandra D. Duncan
 Fred Dury Family
 Robert and Karin Eaton
 David R. Emery/The Emery Partnership
 Marge and Bill Ewers
 Brendan Finucane
 Peter and Patricia Flynn Jr.
 Combs Fort
 David Gilreath
 Margaret Greenlee
 Arthur S. Hancock
 Joanne F. Hayes
 B.N. Haynes
 Joann and Peter Heidenreich
 Douglas Henry
 Sarah M. Howell
 Lyn C. James
 Ruel Jones/Quality Tree Surgery
 Sydney F. Keeble Jr.
 Randall Lantz
 Revell Lester
 Ellen Hobbs Lyle
 Sally and John McDougall Jr.
 Ann Teaff and Don McPherson
 Carol L. McSwiney
 Nancy and Victor S. Johnson Jr. Foundation
 F.I. Nebhut Jr.
 Anne H. Nixon
 Terry O'Rourke
 Ben Page Jr.
 Ophelia Paine
 Dr. V. Douglas Pierce Jr.
 Phil Ponder
 Mary Potter
 Susan A. Primm
 Bob Pritchett/Tennessee Lodge #1 I.O.O.F.
 Mayor Bill Purcell
 Ragland Corporation
 Gayle and Norman Ray
 Beth Reardon
 Frank Reeves
 Naomi Regensburg
 Louis M. Rieke
 Margaret Ann and Walter Robinson Jr.
 W. Lucas Simons
 Harvey and Catherine Sperling
 John Stern
 Lem Stevens Jr.
 Catherine Sullivan
 Dr. Bobo Tanner IV
 Ann Thomason
 Laurence O. Trabue Jr.
 Chris Tyler
 Heather and Jamie Walsh
 Margaret Lindsley Warden
 Ruth R. Warner
 Ann Hendricks Wiley
 Justin P. Wilson

Trees planted

As part of the Arbor Day celebration, trees were ceremonially planted to memorialize and honor a number of individuals.

- Two green ash trees were planted by the Metro Tree Advisory Committee in honor of Ann Chapman, near the magnolia tree planted by the Chapman family in memory of Gelaine Hunt, Ann's sister.
- A white dogwood was given by Metro Beautification and Environment Commission in memory of Lloyd Armour, retired executive editor of The Tennessean.
- A serviceberry, was given by Metro Tree Advisory Committee for Neal McAlpine Sr., one of the founding members of the Nashville Tree Board, the predecessor of the Metro Tree Advisory Committee.

Ceremonial plantings included:

- A white dogwood given by Metro Parks and Recreation in honor of Jim Fyke for his 38 years of service.
- Tulip poplars given by You Have the Power in honor of Vince Gill, Judy and Steve Turner, BellSouth, Corrections Corporation of America, and Verizon Wireless.

In addition, an Eastern red cedar was planted to mark the beginning of the new Centennial Park Tree Tour. 🍀



**The best time to plant
a tree was 20 years ago.
The next best time is now.**
Join the Tree Foundation today!

Nashville Tree Foundation works to preserve and enhance Nashville's urban forest by educating the public, planting trees in urban areas, identifying the oldest and largest trees in Davidson County, and designating arboretums.

YES! I want to help Nashville Tree Foundation recreate the city's urban forest. I'm sending payment for membership.

NAME		
ADDRESS		
CITY	STATE	ZIP
PHONE (HOME)		(WORK)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 individual | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 supporting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$30 family | <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 sponsor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$30 garden club | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 corporate sponsor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 neighborhood groups | |

MAIL TO: Nashville Tree Foundation, 3322 West End Avenue Suite 407, Nashville TN 37203-6811.

Your membership helps the urban forest

Plantings by Nashville Tree Foundation and MDHA:

- 2003** Hope VI Homes in Preston Taylor: 2 red maples, 2 red oaks, 3 ash, 3 crabapples, and 3 redbuds
- 2001** Main Street: Planted 50 trees for the Streetscape Project
- 2000** Madison Towers: 4 red maples, 4 sugar maples, 4 purple white ash
- 1999** Vine Hill Homes: 3 southern magnolias, 6 red maples, 2 golden raintrees, 3 sugar maples
- 1998** Edgefield Manor: 8 2.5-inch red maples, 5 three-inch red oaks, 3 crabapples
- 1997** Sam Levy Homes: 10 three-inch red maples, 2 three-inch sweet gums
- 1996** Edgefield Manor: 5 red oaks, 5 red maples, 3 white dogwoods
- 1995** Edgehill Homes: 6 autumn purple ashes, 6 sycamores (London plane tree)
Terrance Murray Memorial Garden: 6 crabapples
- 1994** Vine Hill Homes: 8 three-inch kwanzan cherries, 8 three-inch calloway crab apples
- 1993** Andrew Jackson Courts: 4 Japanese black pines, 4 three-inch zelkova, 4 Yoshino cherries
- 1992** Tony Sudekum, J.C. Napier homes: 8 three-inch tulip poplars, 7 three-inch pin oaks
- 1991** Sam Levy Homes: 7 sweet gums, 7 pin oaks
- 1990** J.C. Napier Homes: 6 pin oaks, 3 tulip poplars, 3 sweet gums
- 1989** Parkway Terrace: 5 three-inch green ashes and red maples

- 1989** Cumberland View: 8 three-inch tulip poplars and sweet gums
- 1988** Edgehill Homes: 3 golden rain, 3 two-inch Zuma crabapples, 9 three-inch water oaks and baldcypress
- 1987** Vine Hill Homes: 15 two-inch crab apples, 6 two-inch shade trees
- 1986** Parkway Terrace: 12 three-inch red maples
- Other Foundation projects:**
- 2003** Used Urban Forestry grant to conduct anti-topping and proper pruning campaign. Used Urban Forestry grant and collaborations with Nashville Electric Service and seven neighborhoods to plant 367 trees.
- 2001** Worked through ReLeaf Nashville to replace 200 ReLeaf trees that did not survive.
- 2000** Worked through ReLeaf Nashville to plant 2,000 trees, completing in three years the commitment to replace 6,500 shade trees.
- 1999** Worked through ReLeaf Nashville to plant 2,450 trees in Nashville. Contributed 500 trees to The Hermitage. Contributed 50 trees to Clarksville and 50 trees to Jackson, Tenn., after tornadoes damaged trees there.
- 1998** Established ReLeaf Nashville with Metro Parks/ Beautification and Environment following April tornadoes, with a five-year plan to replace 6,500 shade trees. Planted 1,457 trees in November.

- 1996** Distributed refrigerator magnets to 15,000 homeowners with phone numbers of whom to call about trees, developed informational advertisements for newspapers, prepared public service announcements on radio, and placed newspaper articles. The campaign was funded by a matching Urban Forestry Grant.
- 1995** Launched a "Don't Top Trees" awareness campaign targeted to the general public and tree trimming companies, using matching Urban Forestry Grant.
- 1994** Held demonstration plantings at three locations with Dream House playhouses built by volunteers and developed a packet of educational materials on trees distributed to teachers and individuals funded by a matching Urban Forestry Grant.
- 1993** Educated the public on importance of urban trees through advertisements, news articles, and water bill inserts using matching Urban Forestry Grant.
- 1991** Planted an 18-foot pin oak in Centennial Park to replace a tree damaged by age and weather.
- 1989** Transplanted two mature hemlocks and two mature dogwoods from Airport Estates to median on Magnolia Blvd.
- 1988** Paid to transplant a 15-foot evergreen from Ensworth School to Music Square Park.
- 1986** Planted a large red maple in the median of 8th Avenue North. Replaced crab apple trees on Shelby Avenue so that nearby residents could continue to make their apple jelly.

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