

Foster still in school at 90

Dibrell students help substitute teacher celebrate milestone birthday

BY **MARGARET HOBBS**
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(McMinnville, Tennessee)

Christine Sullivan Foster recently celebrated a milestone birthday doing one of her favorite things, being with the children at Dibrell Elementary.

The 90-year-old is a substitute teacher at the school, and is affectionately called "Granny" by both students and faculty. In fact they had a birthday party celebration for her, complete with refreshments and a purple and gold decorated cake. Since this is the school's colors, she chose to wear her purple pantsuit for the occasion.

The highlight of her day was visiting with students and receiving handmade birthday cards from them. In all, she received 500 well wishes from the group.

Christine is an active senior citizen who still drives herself wherever she needs to go, helps with her cows and tending to chores around the farm. She does receive help from two of her nephews in keeping the farm running.

"My late husband, Thomas, and I ran a 100-acre farm for many years, while I was a school teacher at Dibrell and other schools around the county," said Christine.

Her parents are the late Loyd and Cleo Sullivan, with her father graduating from Dibrell College in 1922, with her graduating from the high school in 1945.

"I have an attachment to Dibrell School and the community," said Christine. "I live in the house I was born in just down the road."

She enjoys substituting because she feels it helps her stay active and keeps her mind filled with other things.

When asked if she uses a computer, her quick reply was, "I avoid them as much as possible." But she does have a cellphone to use in an emergency.

The healthy and spunky lady attributes her long life to being in the genes, and just being ornery.

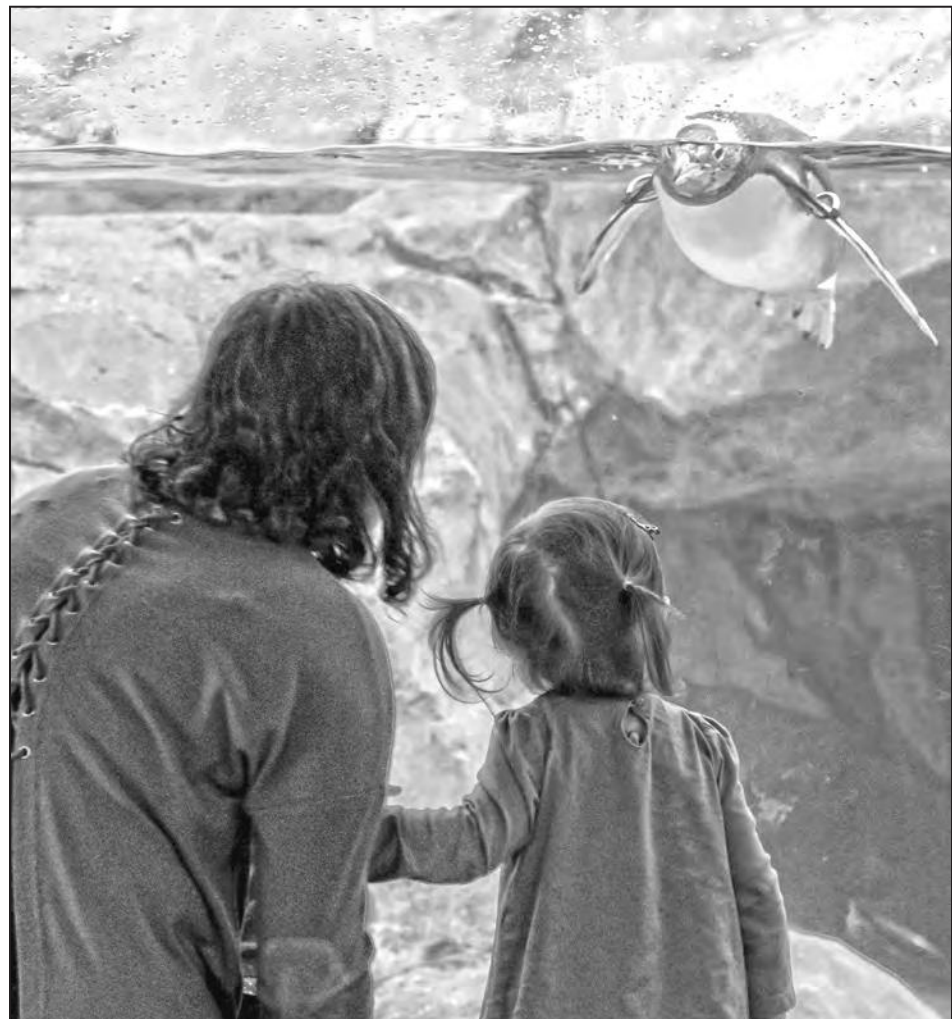
She has one son, Tommy Foster, three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. She enjoys attending church at Bluff Springs Church of Christ.



Margaret Hobbs photo

Christine Foster celebrates her 90th birthday with some of her favorite people, the children and staff at Dibrell Elementary. The school held a party for the birthday, making 500 birthday cards for her. Joining her in the celebration are pre-K students, from left, Hartley Adams, Bryson Carroll and Briggs Davis.

Tennessee Aquarium offers Summer Family Pass



The Tennessee Aquarium serves as an important living classroom by providing opportunities to get up-close to captivating animals like penguins. Each day Aquarium experts provide more than one dozen special programs that are offered free with admission.

Every year, hundreds of thousands of visitors experience the teeming galleries of the Tennessee Aquarium like stones skipping across a lake. In their rush to see dozens of exhibits and thousands of animals, they cover a lot of ground in a hurry, but they rarely dip too far below the surface.

Experienced at such a drive-by pace, it's easy to miss some of the natural behaviors and amazing interactions that make the Aquarium such a beloved destination for repeat visits.

This summer, the return of the Summer Family Pass will let parents and grandparents slow down and peer deeper into these lively exhibits, safe in the knowledge that they can come back as often as they want. Guests will be able

to pause and marvel at details like the powerful grip of a red-ruffed lemur's hind feet as it dangles from a branch, the gaping jaws of a filter-feeding paddlefish or the vibrant colors and busy bustle of the live coral tank.

The \$90 pass will be available May 1 at Chattanooga, Cleveland and Dalton-area Food City locations and will be sold through May 31. Pass holders enjoy unlimited daily admission to the Aquarium for two adults and up to five children (ages 18 or younger) through Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 3.

Parents often take on the role of first teachers for their children, and the Aquarium serves as a kind of living classroom with countless lessons to impart. With so many ani-

mals to see, Summer Family Pass holders can ensure their kids see new behaviors, take in special programs and experience the kinds of memorable moments that will spark a lifelong curiosity and love for nature.

The Aquarium's Summer Family Pass also includes the following benefits:

- Save \$4 per person for each 45-minute IMAX with Laser film
- Additional discounts on Backstage Pass tours and guest tickets
- Save 10 percent at Aquarium gift shops and on concessions

For questions, call the Tennessee Aquarium's membership department at 423-267-FISH (3474). For more information, visit <http://www.tnaqua.org/summer-family-pass>

FCEC NEWS

Vinson's Crossroads FCEC held its March meeting in the Magnolia Room. The meeting was called to order by president Frances

Hobbs. Alda Bandy gave the devotional by reading a poem called "A Poem." Wilma Davenport led the prayer, and Hobbs

led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was answered with 15 attendees naming a favorite flowering tree. Secretary Lori Yates read the minutes from the Feb. 15 meeting, and were approved. Treasurer Becky Phillips gave the financial report. Davenport and Sandra Blair handed out papers to keep up with our State projects as a group to be turned in quarterly.

Bandy gave a demonstration on a quilt piece and woven wreath she is working on. Reading reports were given by Sue Shetley, Lois Self, Irene Fuston and Naomi Smith. There was final discussion regarding the menu for A & R Day.

The meeting was adjourned after the Club Creed was read, with several members having lunch at the Bonnie Blue Inn.

Join us!

Troop 499's

19th Annual

Chili/Spaghetti

Supper and Auction

April 21st

Eastside School

5:00pm

Tickets only \$5

Auction will start around 5:30pm

Help support your local Boy Scout Troop!

Bridal Gift Registry...

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Happy Mother's Day

May 13th

Every mother and grandmother is unique, but they all have one thing in common: No matter how busy they are, they're always there for you. This Mother's Day, show Mom or Grandma, stepmom or special aunt, daughter or sister how special she is - show her off in a special way for everyone to see!

EXAMPLE

Cindy Smith

Happy Mother's Day Mommy love Tommy

We'll place your mother's or grandmother's picture and special message, in example as shown, in the Southern Standard for everyone to see how proud you are and how much that you love her!

Cost is \$15.00

(30 word message only with no photo \$8.00)

DEADLINE Wed., May 9th, 2018

MOTHER'S NAME: _____

GREETING FROM: _____

Mail or bring photo & information with payment to:
Southern Standard, PO Box 150, McMinnville, TN 37111