

Developers request to purchase old Blue Building bricks



Lisa Hobbs photo

The newest building on Main Street is expected to be complete this fall. Developers, Investment Partners LLC, have expressed interest in purchasing Blue Building bricks from demolition in 2013. McMinnville officials have made no decision at this time.

BY **LISA HOBBS**
Reporter for the Southern Standard
(McMinnville, Tennessee)

An informal verbal request to purchase used bricks from the Blue Building's gymnasium is under consideration.

Investment Partners LLC has expressed an interest in purchasing bricks from the city of McMinnville in order to use them for a construction project the group has underway on East Main Street.

That proposal came through Alderman Steve Harvey and was presented to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen.

"I've been approached by the developers that are building on the lots that we sold about the potential of using brick from the Blue Building that was torn down when they took the gym and auditorium off," said Harvey. "I don't know if there is enough to do the entire building. Regardless, they are interested in it. I wanted to see what everybody thought about selling it to them."

The gymnasium and auditorium were removed in 2013. The following year, the bricks that survived were cleaned, stacked on pallets, and stored.

State law prohibits local governments from arbitrarily selling assets to any one prospective buyer.

Instead, items must be deemed surplus and offered to the public through sealed bids, live auction or online auction.

While city attorney Tim Pirtle was not in attendance during the meeting, Alderman Everett Brock said he had

a prior conversation with him.

"I talked to Tim about it and he said we would have to take sealed bids," said Brock. "If we wanted to try and keep it local, we would be better off to advertise it locally and not on surplus.gov where everybody in the United States would have a shot at it."

It is unknown how many bricks are being

requested due to the lack of a formal request.

"The problem is, I don't know if they are talking about just the façade or the whole building," said Brock. "If it is the façade, it would be an extremely small amount in comparison to the whole thing."

Officials tabled discussion until a formal request has been received.



Pictured are bricks salvaged from the destroyed portion of the Blue Building when the city removed the gym and auditorium in 2013.

Program looks to create Principal Pipeline

BY **LACY GARRISON**
Reporter for the Southern Standard
(McMinnville, Tennessee)

The first Principal Pipeline fellows, which include Todd Willmore, Haley Wood, Clark George, Brandy Wilcher, Rex Crabtree and Shea Panter, were recognized for dedicating their time outside of their normal work to start the new program.

Principal Pipeline is an initiative meant to transform the leadership of Tennessee's schools by improving the preparation, retention and development of school principals.

"A lot of times in the past, as we've had principal positions come up, the people who have filled those positions have not had the benefits of this type of program where aspiring leaders can really come together and learn about the work of a principal from all aspects," said director of teaching and learning Autumn Turner.

Added Turner, "This addresses how to be keen observers of effective classroom instruction, how to provide targeted and specific feedback to grow teachers, and also the business mechanics of a school. What about hiring practices? All those nuts and bolts kind of things that principals have to deal with day in and day out while also keeping the student learning going on in the building."

Those currently in the program have read numer-



Lacy Garrison photo

The first Principal Pipeline fellows were recognized for dedicating their time and energy outside of their normal work to start the new program. Pictured, from left, are Todd Willmore, Haley Wood, Clark George, Brandy Wilcher, Rex Crabtree and Shea Panter.

ous books throughout the year, gone to monthly meetings to identify and reflect on their learnings and mentored other teachers in their school. In addition, they've attended knowledge forums at Belmont University presented by Dr. Mike Rutherford, whose discussions ranged from what it is like to live a life of a principal, time management and teacher growth.

"I think we've learned a lot honestly," said Haley Wood to the Board of Education. "I think when the time comes and we get

the opportunity to become principals, I think we will make you really proud."

Turner explained the plan is to leverage the original six members of the Principal Pipeline as leaders for each of the following groups.

"Every year for the next three years, we plan to add

six additional Principal Pipeline fellows," said Turner. "Eventually, they can take this program over and be able to sustain it long term."

The group will have another hands-on session in May for more feedback and coaching.

"What we know is the

No. 1 impact on student achievement is teacher effectiveness and what goes on in the classroom. The thing that leverages

teacher effectiveness is the effectiveness of a leader so this is a really important thing for our district," said Turner.

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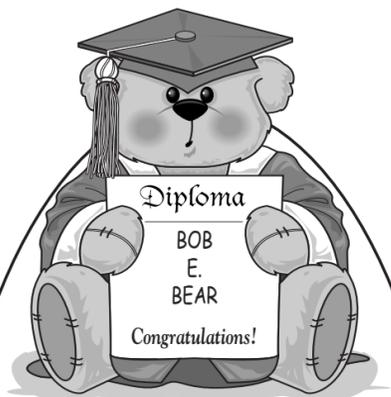
RIVER TRAIL NORTH WORK DAY - MAY 5TH

An Earth Day event will be held as a work day for volunteers beginning at 9:00AM on Saturday, May 5, 2018 at Rocket Park. Some workers will use chains saws and weed cutters to cut privet and other alien brush. Others will apply herbicide to the cut stumps. Workers will be needed to carry the cut brush to stack for removal later. A team of people will be needed to use wheel barrows to carry river rock to others who will spread the rock on the trail tread way.

Another team will use weed trimmers to cut weeds and grass from the trail corridor.

Please bring chain saws, weed trimmers, brush cutters, large loppers, wheel barrows, shovels, garden rakes and garden forks. Each person should wear gloves but no open toed shoes. Bring water and your snacks. Each adult will be required to sign a waiver of liability and each non adult should have a form signed by a responsible person. Work will be over around noon. The work is sponsored by the City of McMinnville, the Greenway Council and the Friends of the Greenway.

Let Wally Bigbee know if you will come by calling 473-5968. Call him if you have any questions.



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FRI., MAY 18 - 12 Noon

Voter turnout

Continued from page 1A

Four Warren County Commission races had candidates eliminated in the 1st, 7th, 10th, and 11th Districts. With only the top two candidates advancing, one candidate was eliminated from each of those districts.

The General Election will feature 46 County Commission candidates vying for 24 seats. Two of the county's 12 districts are set.

In the 6th District, Phillip Stout and Deborah Evans were the only two candidates to qualify so they are elected without opposition.

In the 7th District, all three candidates were running in the Democratic Primary. That means the winners, Tommy Savage and Gary C. Martin, are the two elected commissioners.