



Photo provided

As a result of WCTE's Splash and Bubbles Pool Party, 512 books were donated to the Magness Library. From left, McMinnville Parks and Recreation coordinator Kyle Clyde, Magness Children's librarian Mary Albritton, WCTE-PBS events manager Jodi Pitts, McMinnville Parks and Recreation representative Megan Anderson and Magness Library director Brad Walker celebrate the addition.

# Splash and Bubbles Pool Party a success

WCTE celebrated another successful Pool Party at the McMinnville Parks and Recreation's Gilley Pool. The Splash and Bubbles themed Pool Party allowed free admission with a book donation.

WCTE collected 512 books, all of which were donated to Magness Library. Throughout the event WCTE welcomed an average of 1,000 attendees all whom enjoyed the Splash N Bubbles Pool event.

During the party, WCTE gave out 250 branded

water bottles and 1,200 popsicles to the pool guests. Activities at the event included; creating a sea mural out of recycled materials, water pollution demonstration as part of the Reef Ranger program, and the event wrapped up with a Splash N Bubbles movie in the gymnasium.

"Thank you to everyone who came and enjoyed the beautiful sunshine and pool with us!" says Sam Chambers, WCTE events assistant and volunteer coordinator. "This community engagement event

is really unique because we are able to hold it at a pool and relate it back to our programming. It's educational and fun for all ages!! Seeing the smiles on the kid's sweet faces makes me so happy to be a part of it."

Much thanks and appreciation is extended to McMinnville Parks and Recreation, Bill Holt Chevrolet, Middle Tennessee Natural Gas Utility District, as well as the Jim Henson Company for the Splash and Bubbles grant.

# Sixty years of sermons

BY MARGARET HOBBS  
Lifestyles Editor for the Southern Standard  
(McMinnville, Tennessee)

Kenneth W. Kirby delivered his first lesson from the pulpit at the young age of 17. The age when most young boys are interested in cars and girls, not necessarily planning sermons.

"I was a very anti-church person who hoped to one day become a singer, but was converted at 16 while attending a revival," said Kirby. "I had never read the Bible, but I feel I received a special calling as to what I needed to do."

Kirby's first sermon was delivered July 9, 1958 in White County, with this month marking his 60th year of preaching the gospel.

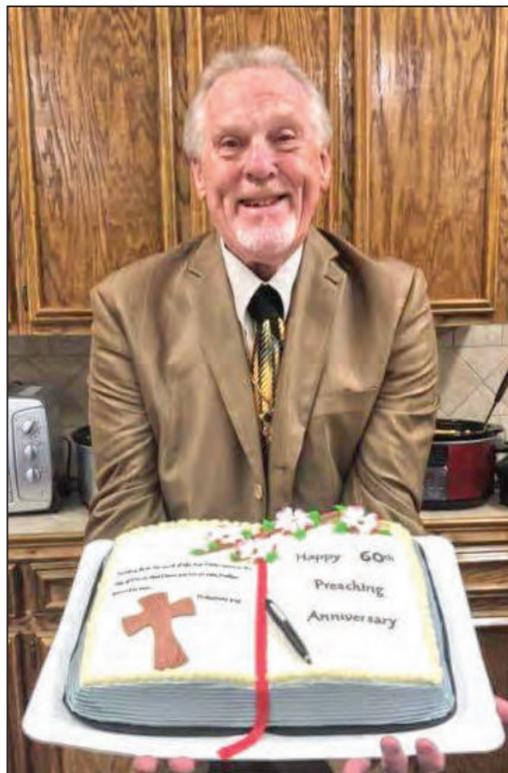
"I have 60 years of sermons filed away in many boxes," said Kirby. "Sometimes I do go back and make a few adjustments and use one again. You have to remember, no two sermons are alike, and I think that's amazing."

He married the love of his life, Sephronia Johnson in 1962 and moved to Warren County that same year. His purpose was to minister to the First Free Will Baptist Church on Red Road, staying there over seven years. He preached in numerous states until 1973 when they returned to Warren County to stay. They are parents to Michelle Hill and Valerie Hobbs, have four grandchildren and one great-grandson.

The Kirby's have been with Victory Free Will Baptist on Highway 8 since its organization in 1979.

"It's a wonderful congregation. We may be small, but we are full of love," said Kirby. "This congregation has been a great experience for me and my family."

Service times on Sunday are class at 9:45 a.m. and sermons at 11 a.m. and 5 p.m., with Wednesday Bible study at 7 p.m. Kirby encourages anyone interested to come for a visit at



Kenneth W. Kirby was honored recently at Victory Free Will Baptist for his 60 years of delivering the gospel.

any time.

When the topic of retirement comes up, it's not something on Kirby's mind, or something discussed too often.

"We have talked about retiring, but I cannot really accept that would be the right thing," said Kirby. "I did try it sometime back, but the church committee asked me if I was happy with my decision, and I answered with one word, no. So my thought is that I will just let the Lord lead me."

A special celebration was held earlier this month, with longtime friend and mentor David L. England delivering the message.

"He is such a wonderful person," said Kirby. "He just celebrated his 70th year as a pastor, and I was so happy he could join us."

Kirby says he doesn't have any hobbies, but the

closest he has is the love for his back-to-back truck completed in 2005. The unique vehicle is actually two trucks miraculously combined to make one. He and a friend took a 1984 Chevy truck and a 1984 GMC and worked over 4 months to complete the transformation.

"It's such a fun vehicle," said Kirby. "I got my inspiration for it over 50 years ago when I saw one in an automotive magazine, and knew it was something I would enjoy."

After talking with Kirby for just a few minutes, it's obvious he loves life and has a positive outlook and disposition.

"I'm a people person who wants to help others," said Kirby. "My greatest challenge has and will continue to basically reach as many people as I can both spiritually and emotionally through the gospel."

## FCEC NEWS

Bonner FCE Club met on July 3 at 11 a.m. at the residence of Linda Nixon. President Teresa Priestley called the meeting to order by welcoming 10 members and one visitor, Janet Hobbs. We opened the meeting by reading the FCE Creed. Brenda Mitchell read "God Working Through Us" for the devotional. The roll call answered by each one present naming their favorite variety of apple.

Minutes for the June meeting were waived. Linda Nixon gave the financial report. Our family life leader, Irene Fuston will give her report from the recent training she attended at our next meeting. Mitchell gave a report about sassafras, and she also gave everyone some word games to play for July 4. County agent Hilda Lytle gave us a challenge to prepare some infused water at our last meeting, and Fuston and Donna did the challenge.

Priestley discussed with us about donating items to Hope Lodge, such as note pads, pens, word search books or to do a monetary donation. The club decided to do a donation. She also gave us another name of a military person to send a card to.

Cultural Arts Day was held July 12, with first, second and third-place craft winners going to the regional competition. Everyone enjoyed the healthy meal and shared recipes.

Everyone wished Connie York a happy birthday coming up on July 30. The clubs are encouraged to do an outing this month, with our club going to The Cookie Jar in Dunlap. We will meet on July 27 at 10:30 a.m. in the 4-H room to prepare goody bags for the residents of Fannie B's. Members volunteered for items to go into these bags.

On July 31 the clubs will

be feeding the McMinnville fire fighters and Warren County volunteer fire fighters at the McMinnville Fire Department. Club members decided what they would bring for this meal.

We updated our gold stars, and the meeting was adjourned for us to enjoy our sack lunches and fellowship time.

**PUPPY LOVE**  
Trash & Treasure Thrift Store  
presents a

**DOG WASH!**  
Saturday, July 28 10-2

\$8 wash \$4 nail trim  
\$10 for both!  
plus  
**50% off Sale**  
in the Thrift Shop!  
Lots of new items!

**PUPPY LOVE**  
TRASH & TREASURE

936  
Old  
Smithville  
Road

- Pointe • Ballet
- Lyrical • Jazz
- Hip Hop • Tap
- Talented Tots
- Pre-K • Kindergarten
- Leaps & Turns
- Contemporary

**Paula's Dance Academy**  
119 Main Street • 473-0505

**Open House**  
Registration  
August 2nd • 2:30-6pm

**Too Many Things in Life Are Uncomfortable...**

*Your furniture doesn't have to be!*

*Stop by to let us introduce you to comfort in our showroom, and we'll help you find comfort for your home!*

**Barr's INC.**  
Fine Home Furnishings

643 BEERSHEBA ST. - McMINNVILLE | (931) 473-3536

**www.barrsfurniture.com**