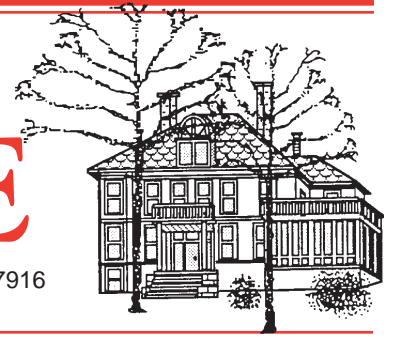


# RONALD HOUSE

1705 West Clinch Avenue

Knoxville, Tennessee 37916



[www.knoxrmhc.org](http://www.knoxrmhc.org)

## It's Telethon Time in Tennessee



Kristin Farley interviews the Morgans.



Gene Patterson visits with the Gentry family.

Although the Saint Patrick's celebration was a day earlier, we still saw plenty of "green" at our 15th Annual WATE-TV6 "Helping Hands" Telethon held on March 18.

Just prior to signing off

the air, drums rolled as the final tote board revealed that an incredible \$108,874 had been raised.

The event, co-anchored by Matt Hinkin, Gene Patterson, and Kristin Farley, was a true "labor of love" for the

scores of people that worked so hard to ensure its success.

From the 25 TV station staff, to the volunteers behind the scenes, the local D.J.'s manning the phone bank, and the families who

traveled to town to share their heart-warming stories, all played an integral part in compelling our community to make that call in support of the work we do. ♥

### Mark Your Calendar

- ♥ **May 20:** Classic Chevy Car Show at the Music Road Hotel in Pigeon Forge
- ♥ **June 2 & 3:** RMH Charity Golf Tournament at Egwani Farms
- ♥ **June 10:** The Fourth Annual Splash Country Float-A-Thon
- ♥ **August 5:** The Keys Fillauer Invitational Golf Tournament at the Oak Ridge Country Club



The retro-look is "in" as baby boomers can attest to as they see today's teens sporting their tie-dye shirts and hip-hugger jeans.

And not only fashion has been affected by this popular trend...but décor as well which is evident by the resurgence of lava lamps, mood rings, and "Speedy", the McDonald's icon from the early 60's.

On April 4, hundreds of well-wishers joined the Cochran family in celebration of their official ribbon cutting for the reopening of their newly renovated West Hills restaurant.

The store is artfully decorated with memorabilia from those early days in McDonald's history.

## The Sixties Are Back

Making the event even more special was the presentation of \$4,500 made by Tom Cochran, to RMH Director Sue

Beverly in honor of his family's 45 years of serving hungry Knoxvilleians. ♥

### Consolidated Products... Friends and Family

For eight years now, Consolidated Products has included us as part of their family and employees have wholeheartedly found new ways to lend their support to us. At their annual holiday dinner on December 21, RMH Director Sue Beverly was delighted to receive a check for \$5,000 that will

provide new flooring in the bedrooms at our annex. After six years of constant use, the light-colored carpet had been cleaned to death and was simply worn out. It will be replaced with Pergo that should last for years to come. All thanks to the employees at "the company that cares".



## Calling All Cooks!

Who wouldn't like to come home after a hard-day's work to find a wonderful meal ready and waiting!

Well, that's just how our

families feel when they come "home" to our RMH and smell a pot of chili simmering on the stove...or when they come downstairs in the morning to find a plate of homemade muffins beside the coffee pot. The gift of food couldn't be more appreciated...and there are several ways to get involved.

- Some groups like to bring their groceries and pre-

pare a meal at the House enjoying the fellowship with each other and our families.

- Others like to cook at home and simply drop the meal off ready to serve. Nothing fancy...casseroles, soups, sandwiches, etc.

- Some folks come in groups once a month; some may come with a friend several times a year as their time allows.

Whatever works best for you is great for us!

While some chefs prepare a meal, others bring sweets to enjoy throughout the day. Who doesn't like to nibble?! (We firmly believe in the medicinal qualities of chocolate!)

So, won't you please dust off those cookbooks and call the House for more details?

### Dillard's... Music to Our Ears

For the last twelve holiday seasons, Dillard's stores across the country have lovingly supported Ronald McDonald Houses raising over \$3.5 million dollars and this year was no exception.

A new twist was added to their musical offering...they featured a CD with hits from Broadway's most popular shows.

During retail's most hectic season our dear friends at Dillard's continued to find time to help us and we so deeply appreciate all their efforts on our behalf.



## Home Depot Day at RMH

As you can imagine, trying to maintain 18,000-sq. ft. of living space is quite the challenge considering the number of people who pass through our doors each year.

Although our staff has received extensive training in the art of basic tool use (with minimal bleeding), often our needs go well beyond our level of expertise.

That's why we were thrilled when Debbie Donley of Maryville's Home Depot called last fall and offered a

crew of experts for the day.

On November 3, a legion of volunteers from area stores brought real tools and their many talents to our House and by day's end, our annex had new blinds, the rec room and library had been painted, and the entire lower level had finishing trim installed.

They also donated new bench swings for our family garden and a new gas grill. "You can do it...we can help" ...and "help" they did!!



Our home improvement experts...

## Good Friends...Great Cause

While standing in line at the grocery store, you're probably thinking of the next errand on your list and not how affordable your cart full of food really is. But the folks represented by the Farm Bureau Federation think a great deal about it since so



many of their clients help produce the meats, vegetables, and



The bounty arrives...

dairy products vital to our everyday life.

Several years ago, Food Check-out Day was created to signify a milestone...the day the average American has earned enough to purchase groceries for the

entire year. On February 2nd, we opened our doors and our cupboards to members from area Farm Bureau Chapters who spent \$2,320 on food much to the delight of RMH Staff and families alike. ♥

We were delighted to have Jane Martin and Julie Howard express a desire to return to our board for another 3-year term. And we'd also like to welcome long-time volunteer, Cindy Spence, into the fold for what we hope will be the first of many terms.

(Betcha can't serve just once!)



## Key Clubs Continue Their Support

Trying to conceive an "original" fundraising idea can be a challenge but area Key Clubs have exceeded our expectations again this year.

♥ Members of the Cocke County High School Key Club did just that when a brainstorming session resulted in a "penny war" last year. This creative group set up a display with four containers...one for each grade level. Any greenbacks or silver coins were positive points and the copper penny

was deemed a negative point. When a truce was called at year's end...our House was the true victor to the tune of \$1,200.

♥ The Bearden High School Key Club found a winning event to support us taking advantage of "Big Orange" fever that seems to surface each fall. Five hours prior to every U.T. football home game, faculty sponsor Ernie Roberts and a host of dedicated members brave the elements to sell parking places to ardent fans...rais-

ing \$6,447 last season.

♥ When people ask what the House needs, we always reply..."think of things you need at your house and multiply that by the 15 families we can accommodate each night".

And for the last several years, members from William Blount High School's chapter have so thoughtfully met our holiday needs by providing presents for all ages. When Santa arrived at the House on December 24th, children found toys and their parents were given both

phone and discount store gift cards courtesy of our special McElves from Blount County.

We're truly in awe of these special teens who continue to devote so much time and energy to helping us and our families.

## The Impact of Kid Power...

There's no denying the impact of "Kid Power", as illustrated by...

♥ The kindergarten classes at Sequoyah Elementary School who sold bricks for 5¢ to fill up the house-shaped cut-outs they were given, raising \$770.

♥ The students in the Builder's Club at Edgemont Elementary School in Cocke

County who have gathered items for us from our wish list, donated mounds of pull-tabs, brought Valentine treat bags for our families and raised \$150 selling silk roses.

♥ The Kid's Care Club at Eaton Elementary School that raised \$475 by selling candy-grams to their classmates.

♥ The Student Council at Farragut Intermediate School that raised \$150 selling lollipops prior to Valentine's.

♥ The third grade classes at South Clinton Elementary that collected \$100 at Christmas and told us to buy whatever items we needed the most (which were pots and pans).

## Valentine's Day

What could be more appropriate than the "House that love built" receiving a \$1,000 gift on Valentine's Day thanks to realtor-extraordinaire Iris Greer, who by the way has a heart of gold.

She's been a top producer with Gable & Gates for years now and in honor of her being the #1 agent for January 2006, she was asked by Susie Lash and Jerry Whitehead, the company's owners, which charity she wished to receive the monetary prize and we were thrilled she chose us!



A young fan supporting her team.

## ADPi and the Lady Vols

It was a sea of orange that greeted fans who came to watch the last Lady Vols home game on Sunday, February 26th, thanks to the lovely ladies of ADPi.

Enthusiastic sorority members, sporting orange shirts, were everywhere canvassing the crowd displaying RMH posters and collecting donations.

On the entrance



A cool day for a hot deal on UT wear!

ramps leading up to the stadium 2 large tents were erected where the ladies were selling "Big Orange" tee shirts, giving away candy, and taking donations to paint the faces of zealous fans.

Co-chair of philanthropy Kara Smith said that they hope to grow this into an annual event to support the House and this year's revenue of \$3,000 was a huge first step! ♥



Who could resist making a gift?...

# Ronald McDonald House

1705 W. CLINCH AVENUE • KNOXVILLE, TN 37916  
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Joanne Huddleston	
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David Martin	

## Law & Order... and Concern



Knox County Mayor Mike Ragsdale makes the presentation.

Typically our legal system brings to mind lawyers, judges, and justice.

Another element... compassion...was brought to the forefront by the caring employees at the Knox County Juvenile Court.

Months ago, the employees at Juvenile Court met to brainstorm ways in which they could "give back" to their community.

Since two employees had used other Ronald Houses elsewhere, they made a case to adopt our local home.

Since then, they have designated each month to collect certain needs from

our wish list. Upon hearing what good deeds the court employees were doing, the Bright Start Wellness Team wanted to honor them by making a monetary gift to the RMH.

On February 17, Board President Keys Fillauer and Director Sue Beverly met with these kind-hearted folks in Judge Tim Irwin's court to offer a personal "thank you" and receive a \$250.00 donation. They hope other agencies and businesses will follow their example...that is, find a community agency they believe in and offer their ardent support. ♥

## Lady Eagles Soar to Help RMH

We were delighted when Bernice Whittner presented the members of the Ladies Fraternal Order of Eagles Auxiliary #2514 called and asked if they could visit last fall, as we love nothing more than "showing off our House".

After their tour, the group's president,



Ronald accepts a gift for his House.

House with a check for \$700 which represented proceeds from the auction of a U.T.-themed basket complete with football tickets. We're so grateful to all the Eagle's members and to the Faris McDonald's for their loving support. ♥

## Chocolate-Covered "Cash"?

The majority of folks spend the days leading up to our most romantic holiday, February 14th, by planning ways in which to surprise their sweethearts.

During that time, members of the University of Tennessee's Inter-Fraternity Council were hard at work trying to help foster those surprises by engaging in a most unique venture, "Dippin' 4 Dollars".

For 2 days prior to Valentine's, participants

were assigned a time from 11pm until 7am to "dip" strawberries in a rich, chocolate coating to help the South's Finest Chocolate Factory keep up with the incredible demand for their luscious treats.

And, dip they did! U.T.'s "big-orange dippers" were responsible for dipping and boxing over 1,000 pounds of fruit that resulted in a gift of \$2,744.25 from the Factory to our House.

