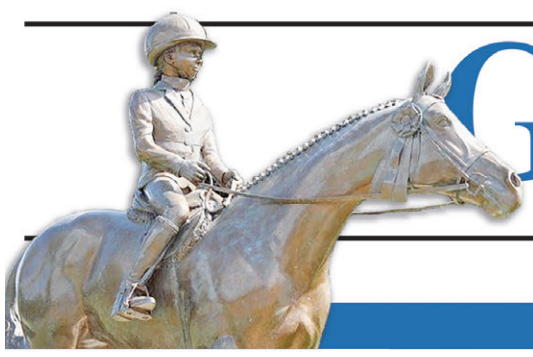


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The Germantown Athletic Club's annual coat drive continues through Oct. 31, collecting new winter coats and accessories for children and young adults served by the Vance Avenue Youth Development Center and Libertas Charter School. Community members can drop off donations at the club's customer service desk during regular operating hours.

Courtesy City of Germantown

GERMANTOWN ATHLETIC CLUB COAT DRIVE CONTINUES THROUGH OCT. 31

Community members still have time to donate new winter coats and accessories for local children and young adults in need.

GERMANTOWN, Tenn. — The Germantown Athletic Club is collecting new winter coats and accessories through Saturday, Oct. 31, as part of its annual coat drive to help keep children and young adults warm during the winter months.

The club aims to collect 150 new coats for children and young adults, ranging in age from 6

See **GAC**, *page 3*



GERMANTOWN TO UNVEIL METAL ART PROJECT WITH PUBLIC KICKOFF EVENT

Free event will feature live metal-casting demonstrations ahead of community scavenger hunt.

GERMANTOWN, Tenn. — The city of Germantown will host a public kickoff event Nov. 13 at Municipal Park to introduce a new public art project featuring nine bronze wolf sculptures that will be part of the upcoming Discover Germantown community scavenger hunt.

The Make Your Mark: Discover Germantown Metal Art Kickoff will offer residents and visitors a behind-the-scenes look at how the sculptures were created. The city is partnering with the Metal Museum to bring its Mobile Foundry to the park, where master artisans will demonstrate the metal-casting process, including live foundry pours.

Visitors also can explore the tools, molds and artifacts used to create the original bronze wolves.

See **Art**, *page 3*

GERMANTOWN ANIMAL SHELTER AT CAPACITY, SEEKS FOSTER AND ADOPTIVE HOMES

The shelter is encouraging residents to open their homes to dogs in need, either temporarily or permanently, to help make room for more animals.

GERMANTOWN, Tenn. — The Germantown Animal Shelter has reached maximum capacity for dogs and is asking the community to help by providing foster and adoptive homes.

Residents interested in fostering or adopting are encouraged to visit the shelter to meet the dogs currently available and learn more about their individual needs. Fostering can provide a temporary home for a dog, while adoption offers a permanent home and helps create space for other animals in need.

"Every foster home and adoption can help provide more room for dogs in need," according to the shelter's appeal to the community.

How to help

Residents considering fostering or adopting are encouraged to visit the Germantown Animal Shelter to meet the dogs in person and discuss their needs with shelter staff. Those who cannot take a dog into their homes can still help by sharing information about the available animals with friends, family and neighbors.

The shelter is located at 7700 Southern Ave. in Germantown. For information about fostering, adoption and current animal availability, call 901-757-7358.

Adoption hours are 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday. Residents should call the shelter for additional information about fostering and adoption opportunities.

See **Shelter**, *page 3*



Susan Berry, Dogwood Elementary's Teacher of the Year, exemplifies more than 30 years of dedication to teaching through her engaging classroom, strong relationships with students and commitment to mentoring and supporting colleagues..

Courtesy Germantown Municipal School District

SUSAN BERRY: A MASTER TEACHER WHO LEADS WITH HEART

Dogwood Elementary's Teacher of the Year draws on more than 30 years of experience to inspire students, mentor colleagues and make learning memorable.

GERMANTOWN, Tenn. — For more than 30 years, Susan Berry has dedicated her career to helping students learn, grow and discover what they are capable of achieving. This year, that dedication earned her the honor of being named Dogwood Elementary's Teacher of the Year.

A third-grade teacher and self-proclaimed bullfrog enthusiast — the bullfrog is her classroom mascot — Berry brings a calm, steady presence to her classroom. She is a master teacher who leads with a firm but caring approach, creating an environment where students know what is expected of them and feel supported as they work toward those expectations.

"She has an incredible impact on her students," fellow third-grade teacher Robin Snipes said. "Through her guidance, encouragement, and genuine connection, her students feel loved, confident, and proud of themselves and all they can accomplish."

Berry teaches math and science, subjects she brings to life through hands-on, student-centered learning. She is always looking for creative ways to make learning memorable.

When she wanted to celebrate her students' hard work and participation in a school fundraiser, she turned the classroom into a campout, complete with blankets and flashlights. Students had the chance to learn under their desks while completing math activities and investigating magnets.

For Berry, learning can — and should — be fun.

Her impact extends well beyond her own classroom. As a Blue Chip mentor, Berry supports teachers who are new to Dogwood, offering encouragement, guidance and the benefit of her many years of experience.

"When it comes to being a team player, Susan is always there -- ready to support, uplift, encourage, and lend a helping hand, always with a smile that can light up a room," Snipes said. "She has a true gift for making everyone around her feel valued and supported."

Berry's willingness to give her time and talents also makes an impact on students outside her classroom. She supports Dogwood's Got Talent, helping students overcome nerves and find the confidence to take the stage. She also works with the art teacher to help ensure Fine Arts Night is a success.

"Mrs. Berry is widely respected and admired by students, parents, and colleagues for her enthusiasm, dedication, and genuine belief in every child," said

See **Berry**, *page 7*

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