



"The Duke of Paducah"  
Whitey Ford

Did you Know Whitey Ford, AKA  
"The Duke of Paducah" lived in Brentwood?

Yes, Benjamin Francis "Whitey" Ford of the Grand 'Ole Opry lived in Brentwood on Old Smyrna Road and raised chickens! He had quite an operation. In 1952 he had a 55-acre farm with over 5,000 caged layer hens; chicken feed was sent to the chickens via electric motors; the eggs rolled down a wire rack in front of each cage. They were taken daily to local area grocery stores.

Whitey's previous occupation was a stand-up comic on the Opry and other radio programs. He performed on the Chicago radio station WLS in the early 1930s and toured with Gene Autry. By the mid-1930s he was on KWK in St. Louis. During his many years of performing, he collected an enormous library of jokes. Many of his funnies found their way to the popular tv show "Hee Haw." His education at "the University of Hard Knocks" served him well.

During the late thirties and early forties, Whitey joined Louise Massey and the Westerners on the NBC radio show "Plantation Party." The Duke of Paducah became a familiar voice on the Grand Ole Opry in the late 40s and 50s. During these years, Whitey also toured with the very popular singing star, Eddy Arnold.

Whitey's most famous line was his exit line: *"I'm going back to the wagon, these shoes are killing me!"* When he got off the wagon, he was home with his chickens.



**Save the Date**

The Brentwood Historic Commission and the Middle TN Genealogical Society present the 29th Annual Genealogy Seminar Saturday, November 18, 2017 — 8:15 am — 4 p.m.

***The Legal Genealogist — Judy Russell, JD, CG, CGL***

***Tracing Your Family History: DNA, Legal Records and More***

**The Bugle**

*A publication of the Brentwood Historic Commission*



**Eddy Arnold Amphitheater**

**E**ddy Arnold's music flows through radio airwaves; old record albums and now from internet sites like iTunes. His timeless lyrics still touch us.



In March 2000 Eddy donated \$300,000.00 to help fund the tensile roof which now covers the stage of the amphitheater and protects the musicians and their instruments. As thanks for his contribution, the City named the outdoor arena the "Eddy Arnold Amphitheater."

Eddy was born in the small town of Henderson in Chester County, Tennessee. He grew up to be one of the most recognized names in country music. His cross over songs gained the love of many pop fans as well. Not only a singer, song writer, television star, he was a businessman. He owned the first water company formed in the city of Brentwood.

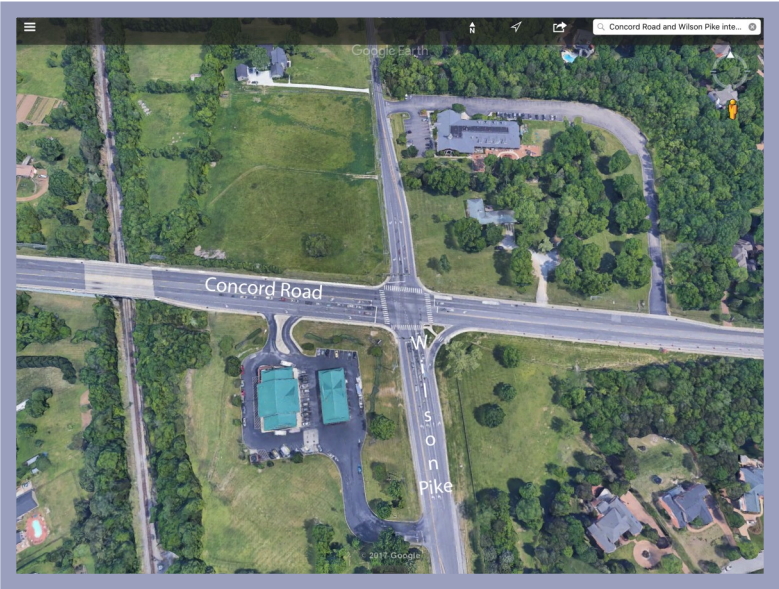
Eddy's daughter, Joann Pollard said she "could not think of a better place" for her father's involvement.

Eddy loved writing songs, making music, and sharing his love of music with everyone. We remember him as we enjoy our summer concert series while the musicians perform under the protection of this canopy.



\* Photo courtesy of <http://www.gettyimages.in/photos>

Inside this issue:	
Callendar's Station	2
Down Memory Lane	4
Geocaching	7
The Duke of Paducah	8



### Callender's Station – A Lost Brentwood Neighborhood

Readers of the Nashville newspapers of 100-plus years ago often saw news from **Callender's Station**, a neighborhood in what is Brentwood today that has been lost as the city has grown and changed.

Located in the area where Concord Road meets Wilson Pike, it was named for the family who owned a large farm in the area, including the place where Lipscomb School was built. Thomas Callender deeded land to the Williamson County Board of Education in 1878 for Lipscomb Academy. He also deeded 12 acres to Professor William Lipscomb in 1884. Lipscomb's land was on Concord Road between Lipscomb Drive and the railroad.

Thomas Callender came from Pennsylvania to Nashville in the 1820s and became a wealthy merchant. When his first wife died, their two small sons went to live with their aunt, Catherine Owen, in Brentwood. The Owen family founded Owen's Chapel and owned a large farm, which the Callender nephews inherited.

When the railroad came through the area, a small station house was built and called Owen's Station. It later became known as Callender Station. Described disparag-

ingly in a 1906 dispute between the city of Nashville and the telegraph company:

Callender consists of one small station house about 25 feet by 30 feet in dimensions alongside the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, with no other house or habitation within a half mile. It is a way station at which people living in the surrounding country get on and off the local . . . or interurban trains, operated . . . between Nashville and Columbia.

While the station itself may not have been noteworthy, the neighborhood around it was a busy and social place. In 1899 the Woodmen of the World fraternal organization held a picnic at Redmond's Grove near Callender Station, and 300 people attended via a special train from Union Station in Nashville

In 1907 W.H. Callendar, "one of the state's most successful farmers," addressed the cantaloupe meeting at Hohenwald and went into great detail about his methods for raising canteloupes on his farm at Callender's Station.

The Tennessean newspaper ran this advertisement on Sunday, August 2, 1914:

**GOOD FARMS  
FOR SALE**

180 acres, Callender Station; every inch good land; all level; excellent improvements; river and springs; \$190 per acre.

93 acres, Callender Station, plenty of water, good improvements; land cannot be excelled anywhere; all level; price, \$16,500.

270 acres, Wilson Pike; improvements extra good; plenty of water; \$125 per acre.

Although the Callenders owned the land on which the WSM tower was built, Callendar Station/Road/Lane lost some significance when the WSM Tower was constructed. The road was instantly recognizable by the tall tower. The locals called it WSM Tower Road.

Based on an article by the late T. Vance Little published February 13, 2008 in the Tennessean, Brentwood roads were known by landmarks instead of names until the 1950s when the Williamson County Commission "decided that the time had come to name all the roads in the county." Mr. Little's father wanted to rename WSM Tower Road Concord Road because his (the elder Mr. Little) mother had gone to Concord Church.

"The old Callender home stood on the north side of the present day Concord Road at the I-65 interchange. The spot is marked in the spring by a colorful crop of daffodils." The Callenders may have lost their name to the road but the daffodils can remind us each spring of Callender Lane, Callender Road, and Callender Station.



## Down Memory Lane in Crockett Park

While you are enjoying your walk or run in Crockett Park, one of Brentwood's historic parks, think about the history of the two historic buildings located in the park.

As you enter Crockett Park from Crockett Road you will see "The Cool Springs House." Built ca. 1830, it was moved from the intersection of Mallory Lane and Cool Springs Boulevard in 1993 when modern bulldozers threatened its existence.

The original owners of the home were James and Penelope Barfield Carothers who passed it to their son, Dr. Robert Carothers. The parcel the house now sits on was land owned by the family of Martha Jane Crockett. Martha Jane was the first of Robert Carothers' six wives.

By 1888, William Jordan owned the house. In 1932 A. M. Grant bought the house and lived there only four years when he sold it to Dr. Charles Robinson who lived in the home for 32 years. Over the years with many owners, the house has changed a bit but the two original chimneys still stand.

The house is now the property of the City of Brentwood. Although the house still retains its historic nature, it can now be used for parties, weddings, receptions, etc. Check out our city's website: <http://www.coolspringshouse.com/> for details.



As you travel the path just a little farther, you will see a log home built by William Temple Sneed 163 years ago in what became the Old Smyrna Road area of Brentwood. William married Elizabeth Crichlow. This log cabin was home for their seven children. They called their home *Brentvale*.

The land was purchased many years later by country music singer Larry Gatlin and

his wife Janis. When the Gatlins sold the property to Roger and Barbara Mick, the Micks wanted to build another home on the lands of historic *Brentvale* but did not want the log cabin lost to history. The home was donated to the City of Brentwood. To make sure the house did not suffer from moving, Braxton Dixon and Maryanna McConnell of Heart and Soul Contractors dismantled the structure log by log. The logs were numbered to make rebuilding the home easier and to maintain the integrity of the building.



As you continue your exercise route around the soccer fields, notice the Eddy Arnold Amphitheater and the tennis courts. You may choose to continue your run for several miles. Go under the railroad through the tunnel; continue to River Park; cross the street and you're in Concord Park; continue around the Brentwood Library for another mile.

Remember we have Concerts in Crockett Park on Sunday evenings throughout the summer.

\* \* \* \* \*

From an undated "*Bugle*" Newspaper

Found in the Brentwood Room

Brentwood Library

Author unknown

Brentwood  
Life is brightest,  
Hearts are lightest,  
Far beyond compare;  
Flowers rich and rare,  
Beauty everywhere.  
And nothing else;  
'Cause it's the  
Only piece of  
Heaven given,  
This old world to see;  
Come and see it,  
You'll believe it. —  
Brentwood, Tennessee!

**The Brentwood Historic Commission**

<b>Anne Laine Goad, Chair</b>	<b>Chuck Sherrill</b>	<b>Carole Crigger</b>
<b>Ashley McAnulty, Vice-Chair</b>	<b>Hollie Cummings</b>	<b>Jodi Rall</b>
<b>Anne Dunn, City Commissioner</b>	<b>Kathie Greaves</b>	<b>Loyce Hooker</b>
<b>Linda Lynch, ex officio member</b>	<b>Katheryne Cowan</b>	<b>David Johnston</b>
<b>Sherry Hammond, Secretary</b>		

**Deanna Lambert, Community Relations**

**We invite you to join us in our efforts to preserve Brentwood’s past with a donation to the Brentwood Historic Commission.**  
**Your donation includes receipt of the Historic Commission’s newsletter, *The Bugle*, and information regarding events and activities.**

- \_\_\_\_\_ **Individual**                      **\$15**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Family**                        **\$25**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Contributing**                **\$50**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Corporate/Benefactor**   **\$100+**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Name**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Street Address, City and State, Zip Code**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Phone Number, Email Address**

Detach this form and send with your check payable to:

**Brentwood Historic Commission**  
**Attention: Deanna Lambert City of Brentwood**  
**Box 788 Brentwood, TN 37024-0788**

For more information: [www.brentwood-tn.gov/about-us/history](http://www.brentwood-tn.gov/about-us/history)



**Geocaching Comes To Brentwood**

On Saturday, May 6, the City of Brentwood’s Historic Commission launched a geocaching program called “Historical Scavenger Hunt.” “Cache in on Brentwood History,” began at the Brentwood Library at 9:30 a.m. with an “Intro to Geocaching” class taught by the Middle Tennessee Geocachers Club.

Never heard of geocaching? No problem. Geocaching is an outdoor treasure hunt using your smart phone or another GPS device. You use specific sets of GPS coordinates, along with sharp eyes to search for treasures, called “caches.” The treasures are trinkets contained in concealed boxes. Participants take a treasure and then leave something behind. It is like a modern-day scavenger hunt. The Brentwood geocache program consists of ten different sites leading participants

through the city and its past. The activity is free and a great way to enjoy the outdoors, while learning about the City of Brentwood and its history. The series, designed to be family friendly, is also perfect for new and seasoned geocache enthusiasts.

Read more about “Cache in on Brentwood History” on the city’s website:  
<http://www.brentwoodtn.gov/about-us/history/history-scavenger-hunt>

The first 200 participants to complete all ten sites will be eligible to receive a commemorative path tag coin. In addition, be on the lookout for foxes! Brentwood has a long history of foxhunting and some foxes have been seen hiding near some of the caches. Look for a calling card amongst the treasures in the cache boxes. If you are lucky enough to find one, turn in the card with your completed passport to get your very own geocache fox.

Join us in this educational, fun-filled, family activity.

