

The

# Norris Bulletin

CAROL MOORE - COAL CREEK  
WATERSHED FOUNDATION  
3502 OVERLOOK CIRCLE  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37909

Volume 72, Issue 3

Wednesday, January 17, 2018

AROUND  
**THE COMMONS**  
by Jack Mitchell

Well, here we go again. Several years ago, the alarm was raised about attempts being made by developers to raid our cherished public land within the boundaries of Norris Dam State Park and appropriate a significant portion of that facility for development of a high-rise hotel and convention center.

Now, we have received rumblings that another group is seeking to gather support from public officials in Anderson and Campbell Counties for the development of a water park resort and urge members of the Tennessee State Legislature, as well as officials with the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation to earmark a portion of Park land for similar commercial venture to be organized by private concerns.

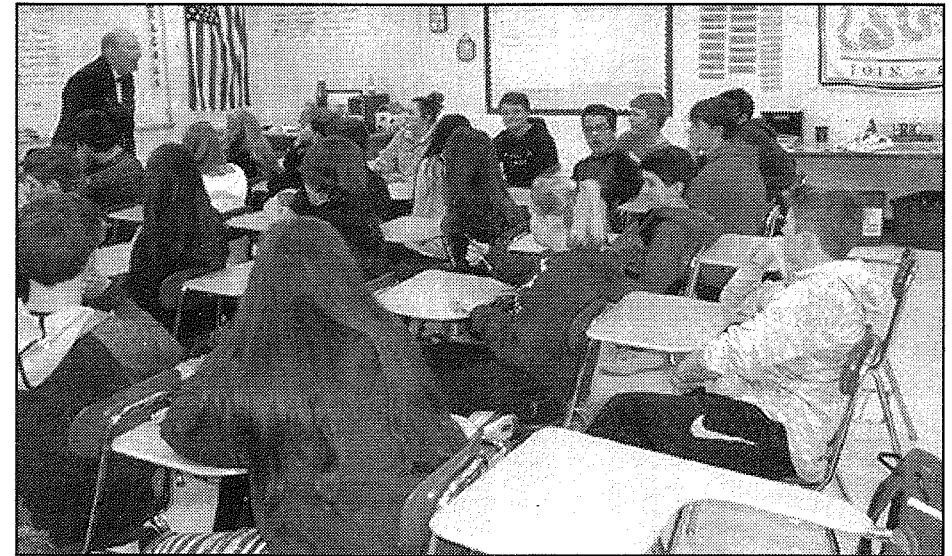
Apparently, discussions toward this objective have been launched among county commissions in both Anderson and Campbell County. While there has been little, if few, public commentary about this issue in local media, it is my under-

## Middle School Students Receive History Lesson On Norris

Thanks to noted local community activists, Barry Thacker and Carol Moore of the Coal Creek Watershed Foundation, eighth grade students at Norris Middle School were the privileged recipients of several hours of informative tutoring on the history of Norris, as well as detailed insights into the important contributions of its founder and TVA's first Chairman, Arthur Morgan.

Stressing that Morgan was the visionary force behind the development of Norris, Thacker pointed out that, in order to appreciate the history of the city, it was important to understand Morgan's life and how he came to envision Norris as an attempt to create a utopian community while at the same time spearheading the creation of Norris Dam.

During their time in the classroom with the students of history teacher Nick Corrigan's students, the two representatives of the Foundation painted a fascinating



story that left the youngsters with a much better idea of the foundations and heritage underlying the formation of Norris itself, as well as Morgan's influence on flood control and education throughout the world.

Perhaps for those residents living in Norris today, the greatest contribution made by Morgan was his decision to hire land planner Earle S. Draper who was given the responsibility to design the

master plan for the city, utilizing the English garden city movement of the 1890s, incorporating the pattern of winding roads following the contour of the terrain and open green spaces, which can still be seen in present day Norris.

For more details on the presentation given to the Middle School students, visit <http://www.coalcreekaml.com/NorrisMiddleJan2018.htm>.