

Science discoveries brought to Sequoyah

By Theresa Edwards

Sequoyah Elementary School hosted a science exhibit provided by East Tennessee Discovery Center for an exciting, fun-filled, hands-on educational outreach program Nov. 28. Various "stations" demonstrated science principles in an easy-to-understand way, inviting student participation with interesting experiments. Parents and grandparents were also invited to share in this science experience.

Students learned about alternative energy sources from CURENT, a National Science Foundation Engineering Research Center which is led by UT Knoxville. The students watched model cars roll along the floor when a light is shined on their solar panel. They also saw fuel cell vehicle models which use electrically charged water for energy.

Also from UT was an information exhibit describing the solar house that is now on display at UT Gardens through the end of January before it goes on tour to Nashville, then Washington, D.C.

UT won a funding grant in competition with 20 teams. Research associate Diane Bossart explained, "The contest was based on how well you can build a solar house within their parameters." This house may be viewed noon to 4 p.m. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at UT Gardens.

The DNA extraction experiment using smashed strawberries in test tubes attracted students, although they may not know how to



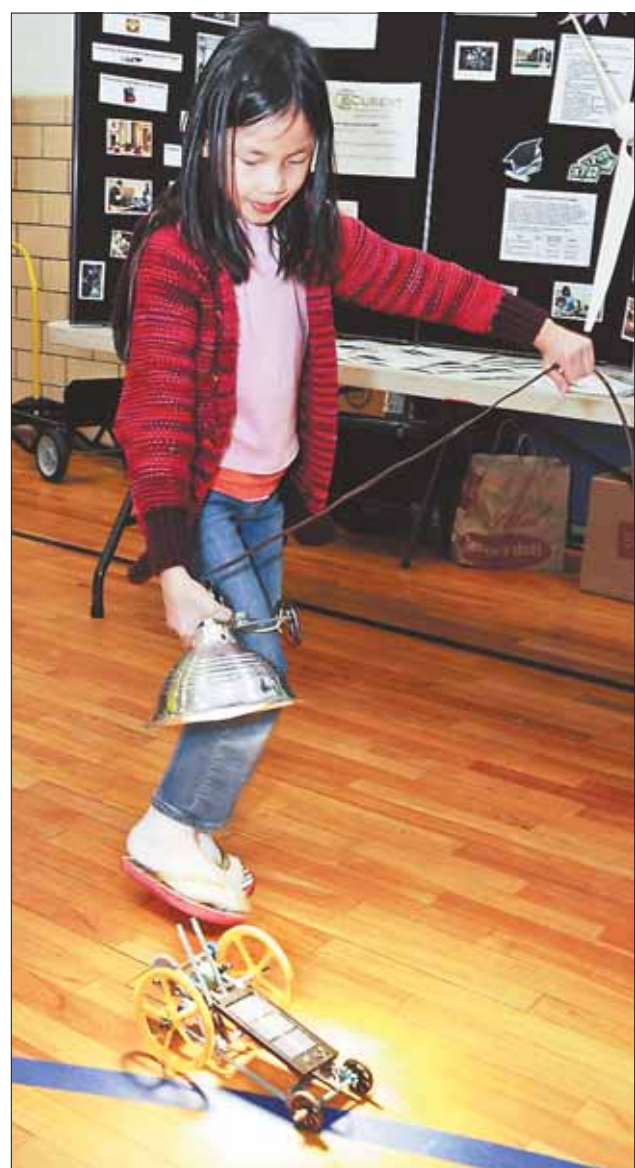
Paolo Taylor watches as the static electricity follows his hand placed on the "plasma ball." It tingles, like a light shock!



Caroline Powell and Jane Kelly glue a plant cell model at the hands-on science exhibit.

pronounce deoxyribonucleic acid. For those who like crafts, another station provided materials to create a plant cell model. Other stations included the sugar testing exhibit, farming for fuels and bean planting.

Margaret Maddox, director of the East Tennessee Discovery Center, invites visitors to its center and planetarium, located at Chilhowee Park. Its website is www.etsdiscovery.org, and it is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. To schedule a science program at your school, email Maddox at mkmaddox@etsdiscovery.org.



Lilly Bahrami has fun making the model car go using light heat, learning about alternative energy sources. Photos by T. Edwards of TEPHOTOS.com



Alexis Lister and brothers Alex and Connor Austin examine test tubes showing the DNA extraction process using smashed strawberries at the science exhibit at Sequoyah Hills Elementary School.

SCHOOL NOTES

- **Bearden Middle School's Scholastic Book Fair** will be held 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. the week of Dec. 5, with extended hours of 4-6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8.
- **West Valley Middle School's 7th and 8th grade band concerts** will be held 6:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 13.
- **Parents of West Valley Middle School students** are invited to a parent-to-parent chat noon Monday, Dec. 19, to discuss topics related to their teen or pre-teen. Hosted by the WVMS PTSA. Info: Email Debbie

Bretscher at dbretscher@yahoo.com.

- The students at **A.L. Lotts Elementary** will present programs for International Children's Day at 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 1:10 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15.

BHS NOTES

- **The band concert** will be held 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 6; the choir concert, 7-9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8; the orchestra concert, 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 13.
- **College Workshop Financial Aid Night** will be held 6 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15, in the library.

SPORTS NOTES

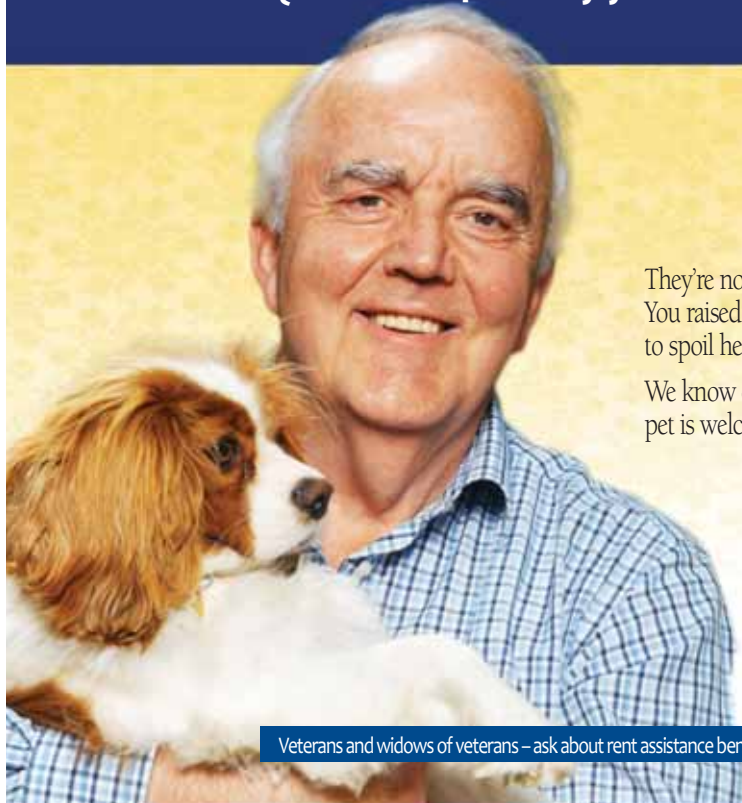
- **Basketball tournament**, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Dec. 17-18. U8 through U12 boys and girls rec team, all-

star and open team divisions. Fee is \$90 with a three game guarantee. Certified refs, centrally located. Info: Dwayne Sanders, 388-2512 or email dsanders@fca.org.

Bearden chorus concert on Dec. 8

The Bearden High School Holiday Chorus Concert, featuring the Female Chorus and the Bearden Singers, is 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8. Tickets are \$5 at the door, and a reception will be held afterward in the West Mall.

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