

Wetlands being planted at Fountain City Lake

Last week, contractor crews began planting two wetlands at Fountain City Lake - one of the last steps in the City's ongoing commitment to improve the lake's water quality.

Once the plantings are completed, the springfled lake will refill and saturate the new beds. The fast-growing plants - including cardinal flower, blue flag iris, button bush, soft rush and water hyacinth - should flourish in the new wetlands beds by this summer.

For years, buck algae has overwhelmed the lake. The City's aim has been to repair the lake's infrastructure so that the ecosystem can regain its long-term balance.

"Restoring Fountain City Lake to better health and beauty has required persistent effort and a lot of patience," Mayor Madeline Roggio said. "But we knew from the beginning it would take time to correct prob-

quality and discourage algae growth. The wetlands do that two ways.

1. There's now better water circulation in the lake, because the most shallow, stagnant areas - conducive to the formation of toxic algae - have been converted into the wetlands wildlife habitat and.

2. The wetlands plants absorb nutrients that otherwise would promote the growth of algae.

"These wetlands plantings were selected because they'll do well and require little maintenance," McGinley said. "They'll grow to between 2 and 4 feet tall. These will be controlled wetlands - not jungle, but not manicured."

Late last fall, the wetlands contractor, Ronald Franks Construction Co., finished building the glass basins, which were then filled with more stones and soil. The contractor also removed more rock from



State Senator Becky Duncan Moore and Knox County School Board Vice Chair Amber Boush join the news staff during the ribbon cutting of the new library at South-Doyle High School.

21st century library dedicated at South-Doyle High

By Mike Stealy
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South-Doyle High School has a new library that will be the envy of every other school in Knox County. The new facility, complete with a coffee and snack shop, movable furniture to fit any function, a media studio and, of

course Superintendent of Schools, Superintendent Bob Thomas, school board member Amber Boush, and Principal Tim Berry.

The plans were presented to Senator Randy Boyd, a graduate of the old Doyle High School who has helped the school out before with the Career

and Arts Center. "I was a part of it," he said. "I was proud to be a part of it."

Berry said the plan began by asking students what they wanted. He said the planners also went to the Apple Store in the mall to get ideas. He said that led to the amount of glass partitions in the new library and they added