



The Emerald Youth Foundation opened the Haslam-Sansom Ministry Complex Thursday. This is one of two turf soccer fields at the new sports and community facility located on Truss Avenue.

By Ken Lay

The Emerald Youth Foundation opened a community center in Londale last week. The new Haslam-Sansom Ministry Complex officially opened Thursday. It's located on Truss Avenue between Stonewall and Sherman Streets.

It features space of outdoor soccer fields, a gymnasium with four courts, a workout room, a café, which doubles as the concession stand for sporting events, an art ministry room and a community room.

The 30,000 square foot facility is home to educational facilities and a health center, which is a joint venture run by Cherokee Health Systems and UT Medical Center.

The facility cost approximately \$8 million and was funded by Dee and Jimmy Haslam and Deborah and Bill Sansom. The center will be leased to Emerald Youth Foundation for \$2 per year.

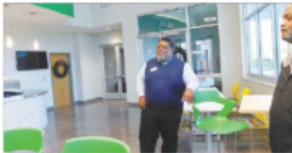


Photo by Ken Lay

Emerald Youth Foundation Director of Londale Area Ministries Kevin Duffow conducts a tour of the new Haslam-Sansom Ministry Complex, which opened last week. Pictured with Duffow is longtime Londale resident Joey Ryle.

Community Development Corporation.

The City of Knoxville had a hand in the construction of the facility as it upgraded the infrastructure around the perimeter of the complex. The city added sidewalks, street light and other amenities.

Emerald Youth Foundation

"My message as we open the facility is very simply one of gratitude," Duffow said. "I am grateful to the owners who are not only coordinating their resources to this project but believing with us that Knoxville is a city where every child, in every neighborhood, can have the opportunity for

awacity."

The facility celebrated its official grand opening in a ceremony Thursday afternoon, but members of the media were given a tour of the complex earlier in the day.

The tour was guided by Kevin Duffow, the director of Londale Area Ministries for

a zoning change request for those three properties in January and to approve the closure of Myrtle Street when they meet in February.

She is asking the director of parks to then include the three city-owned parcels into the programming of Central Park. Many Parkville residents had no objection to housing for the homeless but wanted to save the three pieces of property. Mayor Roggio says the compromise will reflect the city's support of housing and benefit the residents as well.

TVA Tower move hits snag

By Mike Steely

Tennessee Writer
steelymike@outlook.com

When the Polk County Commission meets today in regular session the proposed easement agreement with TVA to move the school administration offices to the East Tower may see difficulty in passing.

During the commission work session last week Polk County Law Director Richard (Bud) Armstrong pointed out that the agreement is "very complex" and has too many blanks spaces.

"I'm not happy with what you have before you tonight," Armstrong told the commissioners. He said he prefers a lease instead of an easement. He also said that the commission "does not have the right to pick school property. He said picking a site for the school offices is the