

# Homebound seniors get gifts of goodies

By Bonnie Burch  
The Tennessean

**BRENTWOOD** — Some seniors who aren't able to get out much received holiday cheer from several groups at the FiftyForward Martin Center.

Four baskets filled with snacks, warm blankets, towels and more will be donated to needy folks through the Full Tummies, Warm Hearts program, a Thanksgiving effort supported by the United Way.

The United Way pro-

vides basic information about each recipient, such as any dietary restrictions or personal preferences and information about their living situation. But it's up to the donors to select exactly what should make up each of the gifts, so each basket was tailored to the recipient's needs.

For instance, one elderly lady who had cats and wanted to learn how to knit was provided cat food for her pets, yarn and knitting needles. Another man, who got a jacket,

also had an electric skillet in his basket because his stove wasn't working, said Jennifer Broadrick, the Living at Home coordinator at the Martin Center.

Martin Center art, Pilates and billiard groups and the Card Crusaders, which hand-creates iris folding cards and sells them for charity, offered to put together the baskets this year.

Living at Home is a program for those ages 55 and older who need help living an independent life,

which could include transportation to doctor appointments, home repairs and in-home meal delivery.

"We connect these seniors to resources, so they can continue to stay in their homes longer," said Broadrick.

For more information on Living at Home Services, call 615-376-4334.

Contact Bonnie Burch at 615-771-5421 or [bburch@tennessean.com](mailto:bburch@tennessean.com).



Living at Home coordinator Jennifer Broadrick at the FiftyForward Martin Center sits with four baskets to be donated to the Full Tummies, Warm Hearts program. BONNIE BURCH/THE TENNESSEAN

# Tiny donkeys big hit at Martin Center

By Bonnie Burch  
The Tennessean

**BRENTWOOD** — Overcome with cuteness, there were plenty of "oohs" and "aahs" when three miniature donkeys were unloaded from their Half Ass Acres trailer in the FiftyForward Martin Center parking lot.

The donkeys — Roger, Lady Like and Solar — came to give seniors a ride in their carts.

"It was great. When he trotted he had just a little bounce in his step," said Martin Center member Colleen Reilly after her ride with Solar, a dark brown mini donkey.

Roger, a brown donkey with a tan muzzle, also gave cart rides with a lead. At 27 1/2 inches, he is the smallest cart-pulling miniature donkey "that we know of," said owner Dayle Haworth.

Lady Like, a brown and white miniature jennet, just watched the action and accepted plenty of pats from bystanders.

"They have personalities more like dogs than horses," Haworth said. "They just love attention. When I'm at home, it's always 'pet me, pet me.'"

Based in Chapel Hill since 1997, Half Ass Acres has 46 miniature donkeys at the moment. They got their first miniature donkey in 1990.

"I thought they were so cute. And they are just like potato chips. You can't stop at one," Haworth said.



Lady Like, a miniature donkey, watches all the action.



FiftyForward Martin Center member Dottie Radatz pets Roger, a miniature donkey.



FiftyForward Martin Center program director Sherry Coss sits in a donkey cart pulled by miniature donkey Roger while Dena Wilson holds the lead. PHOTOS BY BONNIE BURCH/THE TENNESSEAN

Contact Bonnie Burch at [bburch@tennessean.com](mailto:bburch@tennessean.com) or 615-771-5421.

# Harwell to speak at Woman's Club's luncheon

From staff reports

**BRENTWOOD** — Tennessee Speaker of the House Beth Harwell will be in town next week to talk with a local female civic group.

Harwell, the first

woman elected as speaker of the Tennessee House of Representatives, will address the Brentwood Woman's Club during the club's holiday luncheon Tuesday at the Brentwood Country Club.

The luncheon will begin with a social and vendor booth shopping at 10 a.m. followed by the program at 11 a.m., which will include entertainment by the Brentwood High School choir.

The luncheon, which is open to the public, costs \$26. Reservations can be made by email to [jean.hairston@yahoo.com](mailto:jean.hairston@yahoo.com) with checks sent to BWC, PO Box 964, Brentwood, TN 37024.

Information on the club can be found at [www.bwctn.org](http://www.bwctn.org).

