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Bob Kesling to be speaker for Holston Home benefit

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Bob Kesling, director of broadcasting/play-by-play for Vol Network, will be the guest speaker on Wednesday, May 24, at a special luncheon for Holston United Methodist Home for Children.

Seating is limited at the event, which starts at 11:30 a.m. and takes place at First United Methodist Church of Cleveland.
For more information, please contact local representative Nancy Casson, 423-413-8103, or Nicole Rader at Holston Home, 423-787-8753 or email nicolerader@holstonhome.org (mailto:nicolerader@holstonhome.org).

“We are looking forward to hearing from Bob Kesling this year,” says Casson, member of the Cleveland community and event chair. “It will be exciting to hear the voice of Tennessee Football advocating for the Children at Holston Home.” Kesling has been the lead announcer on Vol Radio Network since 1999. His career in broadcasting began in 1974 while he was still a student at UT. In 2015 Bob Kesling was inducted into the Greater Knoxville Sports Hall of Fame.

Proceeds from the event will go directly to benefit Holston Home, which has been providing “hope and healing for children and families struggling with life’s challenges” since 1895.

Eric, Ashley, and Ally were a few of these children. With only a tent to call home, they were placed in foster care through Holston United Methodist Home for Children.

In their foster homes, they received needed structure, predictability, and encouragement. During that time, Holston staff helped their parents secure jobs and a safe place to live. Thankful to God for His provisions, the family is now reunited living under a solid roof.

Holston Home serves more than 300 children on any given day through residential and foster care programs.
“Last year, Holston Home touched the lives of 740 children and youth,” said Bradley Williams, president of HUMHC. “By supporting our Friends of Children events, such as this one in Cleveland, you are giving children like Eric, Ashley, and Ally hope for a brighter future.”

Holston Home, headquartered in Greeneville, also has family service centers in Johnson City, Knoxville, Chattanooga and Bristol, Va.
Kesling has been the lead announcer on Vol Radio Network since 1999. He also hosts the weekly coaches call-in radio show, “Vols Calls,” the “Big Orange Hotline” during football season, the “Butch Jones Show” and “Rick Barnes Show” on the Vol Television Network.

Kesling began his work with the Vol network when he was still a student at UT. In 1974 John Ward hired him as a film editor for the “Bill Battle Show.” He went to work with John Ward for 15 seasons, booth spotting and handling game-time interviews.

In 1976 Kesling became the sports director for WIVK Radio in Knoxville. From 1980 to 1999 he served as sports director for WBIR-TV in Knoxville until he joined the Vols Network in 1999.

Other credits include:

* Play-by-play announcer for the SEC football and basketball championship games on the SEC radio network
* NCAA Women's Basketball Final Four on CBS/Westwood One radio Network
* NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament on CBS/Westwood One radio network
* College baseball on Fox Sports and Tennessee baseball
* Lady Vol basketball on the Vol Network package carried on Fox Sport South.

Kesling is married to Tami Kesling and they have two children, Allison and Melissa. He currently gives back to his community by serving on the board of directors for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, Goodwill, and the Knoxville Sports Hall of fame. He also served as the 2013 United Way Campaign chairman.

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