

## **BAXTER SEMINARY PARK PROJECT UNDERWAY**

Baxter, Putnam Co., TN  
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BY PAIGE STANAGE

Sidewalks and areas for benches are being constructed for the Baxter Seminary Park project, which has been in the works for years.

"Right now, it's (the project) is in phase one" said Baxter Mayor John Martin. "Phase one includes the sidewalks, lamp posts and 12 benches. We're hoping to have all that done soon."

Right now, there are only funds for eight benches. For those who wish to donate for the completion of the park, please contact Jeanie Lee, Baxter Beautification director, at 372-9663.



The future park will also include an amphitheatre and a splash pad, Martin and Lee said.

(Pictured: Baxter Mayor John Martin talks about the history of the former Baxter Seminary School. The school used to have an "Ivy Hall for Girls," which included the girls dorm).

"It's all going to be so useful to our community," Lee said. "People will

be able to host events, weddings, and the schools will be able to use it."

Martin added that the amphitheatre could host concerts and plays.

"Ultimately, we hope to connect the Seminary Park to our Baxter City Park," Martin said.

**The Seminary Park is named for the former Baxter Seminary School that was located at the property.**

**"A fire destroyed it, and the rest had to be condemned after so many years," Lee said.**

**"We're hoping to have photos and information by the benches that explain the history of each building and the old school itself."**

**Baxter Seminary was founded in 1910 by the joint action of the Central Tennessee Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church and the church's Board of Education, according to reports.**

**It was later renamed Upperman High School.**

"We want to resurrect history because a lot of it's gone," Lee said.

Read more about Baxter Seminary in Baxter, Putnam Co., TN at: <http://www.ajlambert.com>