

## Ballfield light update passes

**TAMMY CHEEK**

tcheek@farragutpress.com

Farragut Board of Mayor and Aldermen voted 2-1 to approve an ordinance that changes the Town's lighting ordinance regarding ballfield lights on final reading during its meeting Thursday, Jan. 12.

While Mayor Ron Williams and Alderman Drew Burnett voted in favor of the ordinance, Alderman David White, who voted against the change, reiterated his previous objections. Vice Mayor Louise Povlin and Alderman Scott Meyer were absent.

The ordinance now defines ballfield lights and adds exceptions for outdoor site lighting and restrictions.

Several months ago, Farragut Neighborhood Preservation Partnership submitted an application to add restrictions to the Town's existing ordinance.

While there was an earlier ordinance draft, it came with concerns raised regarding zoning districts in the Town that would be affected by the changes.

**See UPDATE PASSES on Page 5A**



## Best Buy last day open in T-Creek is March 4

**TAMMY CHEEK**

editor@farragutpress.com

Best Buy's Turkey Creek store, 11491 Parkside Drive, will be closing its doors following business on Saturday, March 4, as confirmed by a Best Buy Corporate spokesman Monday, Jan. 23.

The local home of Geek Squad, the orange and black computer repair business originally known for

its Volkswagen cars, Best Buy and its patented blue and yellow sign have been a part of Farragut for many years while carrying high-tech computers, tablets, television, home theater, video games, cell phones, audio equipment, smart home, security and Wi-Fi, cameras, camcorders, drones, wearable technology and appliances.

Store's hours are from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Friday, and from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturdays.

## Southbound Virtue stretch to close, detour about '2 weeks'

**TAMMY CHEEK**

tcheek@farragutpress.com

Motorists usually traveling along Virtue Road again can expect to see another detour sign.

Farragut Municipal Planning Commission, during its meeting Thursday, Jan. 19, voted unanimously to approve the installation of an 8-inch HDPE sanitary sewer force main in the center of the southbound lane of Virtue Road, from Virtue Cumberland Presbyterian Church to the intersection with Turkey Creek Road.

"It would be in the southbound on part of Virtue Road, about a little over 600 feet," Community Development director Mark Shipley said. "There will be a temporary closure of a portion of Virtue Road, so there'll have to be a detour route in all directions that might be affected."

With the installation approved, Russ Rackley, owner/engineer with Rackley Engineering, which is doing the project, said, "I'd like to start in about a week."

"So, we need to get that word out to everyone," said Vice Mayor Louise Povlin, also an FMPC member.

"How long is that going to take?" FMPC chair Rita Holladay asked.

"Ideally, in good conditions and good weather, two weeks," Rackly answered. However, he noted he is budgeting three weeks.

"We chose the road closure to accelerate that (time frame)," he added. The road "will be closed to through traffic at the McFee intersection with staggered barriers for local residents to drive around, and a hard closure just past the church driveway at the south of the intersection of Turkey Creek and Virtue (roads). Everyone would have a clean way around."

"And, then we'll have a single-lane closure — there's about 60 feet that passes in front of the intersection of Turkey Creek and Virtue, up to Evans Road."

**See VIRTUE DETOUR on Page 5A**

## Spartans legend, team honored as latest PureMagic HWWW champions



Alan Sloan

As part of Webb School of Knoxville's football banquet celebrating a strong 10-1 season, held at Calhoun's on the River along Neyland Drive in Knoxville Sunday evening Jan. 22, the program was presented PureMagic How the West Was Won awards for having the best regular season record among six teams farragutpress covers (a perfect 9-0). Hall of Fame head coach Dave Meske (middle in red shirt)

and his senior players were presented \$1,000 (\$500 checks from PureMagic Carwash and farragutpress) and the Stetson Hat Traveling Trophy. Unveiling the symbolic check during the presentation are Tyler Silvey, PureMagic director of operations, and Charlene Waggoner, farragutpress Advertising manager. **(See much more about Meske and the banquet in next week's issue)**

### business

"I provide individual sessions at my home, and sometimes we meet out on the back patio. It has a stream, so it really creates a serene, reflective environment,"

**-Carol Mullen, a Farragut businesswoman who has found her calling in directing others to spiritual growth. (Read story beginning on page 3A)**

### community

"I love our community and I have always loved my job, but it was just time. We have a lot of things we would like to do while we are able to do them,"

**-Sue Stuhl, a longtime local government employee who is retiring after decades of service. (Read story beginning on page 7B)**

### sports

A father-son duo, who have teamed up in baseball as player and coach for several years, were jointly honored on a state level recently, as both were key elements in bringing their school yet another state championship trophy last spring.

**(See photo and information on page 1B)**



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# Delighted December Sampler champ

Seth George, Farragut resident and sales professional, is delighted to meet with Admiral Nutrition store manager Alexis Hughes to receive his December 2022 Town Sampler prize package from Shop Farragut. He holds a bag filled with gift cards, gift certificates and other goodies from Town businesses. The January contest (all prizes transferable), a \$220-plus value, features the following: \$30 gift cards from Clean Eat and Farragut Golf & Games; \$25 gift cards from Longhorn Steakhouse (free appetizer), Tropical Smoothie and International Flair Jewelers; and \$25 gift certificates from Bahia Tans (plus skin lotions), The Shrimp Dock and Farragut Cleaners — plus other swag. Enter contest at <https://wfiv.com/contests/34/shop-farragut-january-2023>



Photo courtesy of Stephen Krempasky/Shop Farragut/FBA

# KCSOreports

• At 3:26 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 19, a complainant called Knox County Sheriff's Office North Precinct to report a theft of debit card numbers at a Kimball Lane residence. She advised an unknown suspect used her debit card numbers to make purchases online through Walmart. She advised 14 transactions in a row were charged to Walmart, totaling \$3,500. She advised she received five large boxes from Walmart Wednesday, Jan. 11. On Thursday, Jan. 12, she received seven more large boxes from Walmart. She advised she did not order any of the items, but said she has kept the items until she hears back from a detective advising her as to what she needs to do with them.

• At 7:20 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 18, a complainant called the KCSO Teleserve Unit to report a burglary to his vehicle at Quality Inn, 11717 Campbell Lakes Drive. He advised he discovered an unknown suspect had gained access into his 2013 Dodge Dart and had taken items with a listed value of \$150. He said the doors may have been unlocked because there was no damage made to gain entry. Complainant advised he was not aware he had to file a police report until he was informed when getting a replacement for the stolen items.

• At 9:46 a.m., Jan. 18, a complainant called KCSO Teleserve Unit to report theft from Costco, 10745 Kingston Pike. Complainant advised she has a previous report with Hariman Police Department for theft of her wallet. Complainant noticed a charge on her Simply Bank debit card at Costco. Complainant advised the debit card has been cancelled. Total value of loss was listed at \$80.

# towncalendar

• As part of the Town's project in evaluating potential uses for Farragut's historic Campbell Station Inn, two public open houses will be held this week at the Inn to solicit additional input. The Inn, located at the corner of Kingston Pike and North Campbell Station Road, will be open for self-guided tours from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday, Jan. 27, and again from 9 a.m. to noon, Saturday, Jan. 28. Possible uses for each room or space on the main and upper floors will be open to anonymous survey responses during the open houses. The working group — comprised of Town staff and members of the community, and lead by Assistant to the Town Administrator Trevor Hobbs — has met three times to discuss proposed purposes for the Inn, which has been structurally stabilized since being purchased by the Town a decade ago. Specific uses suggested so far by citizens include a gift shop, office space, historic display, classroom space and pos-

sible event rental space. Among considerations during the last working group meeting Tuesday, Jan. 10, Town Parks and Recreation director Sue Stuhl said the group should be careful about possible duplication of services. She also said staffing would need to be a consideration, too. "Most historic sites have regular volunteers they can count on," said Patrick Hollis, executive director and public historian for Mabry Hazen House. "But there might be some things that couldn't be delegated to volunteers, and might instead need to be accomplished by staff," Hobbs said. "I also think what we are looking at is a collection of ideas that might not be a reality for a while," he added. "At first, we may just offer a class, instead of several." Group member Cathy Briscoe, whose grandfather was a descendant of the Russell family and a prolific painter, said she is hoping some portion of the building will be used for lo-

cal artwork displays, including that of her late grandfather. "We could display it and also offer it for sale," she said. "We could do that for a lot of artists." Input received during this weekend's public meetings will be considered prior to the working group making a formal recommendation to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen. Hobbs said anyone unable to attend this weekend's meetings could contact him at [thobbs@townoffarragut.org](mailto:thobbs@townoffarragut.org) to make arrangements to collect a survey response. "I will find a way to make

See CALENDAR on Page 4A

# Farragut's 1st 'First Lady,' Marie Leonard, 96, passes

**STAFF REPORTS**  
[editor@farragutpress.com](mailto:editor@farragutpress.com)

Marie Leonard, the Town of Farragut's 1st "First Lady" who played a vital role in helping present the new Town of Farragut with dignity during a critical period in the early 1980s, has passed away at age 96 (see her obituary in Community section, page 8B). "She was one of the finest ladies that you could ever know," said former Farragut Mayor Eddy Ford, an ex-South Ward alderman and the Town's first vice mayor who was particularly close to Mrs. Leonard and her husband, the late Robert "Bob" Leonard, a highly re-

spected attorney and the Town's first Mayor (1980-1993) who passed away in 2012. "Her personality was ideally suited to be the First Lady of the Town of Farragut," he added. In meetings with other leaders of Knox and surrounding town and county governments, "Marie was always by Bob's side, always friendly,

See MARIE PASSES on Page 4A



Mrs. Leonard

ADVERTORIAL

# Will 2023 Be Your Best Year Ever?

**Question:** I recently moved her from California and with the move and stress, I have really let my health go down the drain. I feel a bit stuck and don't know quite where to start. I guess I need to connect with the Knoxville health community. Any suggestions for where to start?

~ Alice-  
Farragut newbie (:



**Dr. John-Mark Chesney**  
Ask The  
Physical Therapist

**Answer:** Hey Alice, well 1st of all welcome to Farragut! I grew up here in west Knoxville, graduated from CAK, moved away for school, but came back 6 years ago to raise our family here. I might be a bit biased, but Knoxville is a great place to be and I don't know if you could have chosen a better place! One tough thing about a new place is getting connected. Community is a real need and in my opinion, social media isn't community. We need something more. People you can physically be with and do life with. Part of this community is also your "Health Community". **You need a network of health professionals that you trust who can help keep you at the top of your game!** I'm a firm believer in investing in your health. You can have all the success and riches in the world, but if you don't have your health, you have nothing. Alice, your timing is impeccable! I'm hosting an event in less than 2 weeks. It's free to the public and is a really great opportunity to get connected to the health community in Knoxville in a unique way. **The Knoxville Health Summit is an online event where you can hear from 10 local health and wellness experts.** You'll have a chance to listen to 10 health experts talk on a variety of topics. A great chance to be introduced to these health professionals and also to ask follow-up questions. Many of the presenters will be offering some new patient specials and easy ways for you to get started. This special webinar will cover the topics:

- The Best and Safest Treatment for Arthritis
- Sleeping Like a Baby
- Solve Your Back Pain and Sciatica, Best Tips from a Physical Therapist

• Chronic Sinusitis: What To Do When Chicken Noodle Soup Won't Work  
• Rejuvenate Your Knees- 4 Critical Steps You Should Know for Long Term Success  
• Top 5 Natural Products to Support Healing & Recovery  
• Building Strength After 50: The ESSENTIAL GUIDE  
• Improving Bone Density through Osteogenic Loading  
• Living With Clean Water- Utilizing Rain Water Harvesting For Your Home

It is free to register for this event, but you must register to receive the log-in information for this virtual event.

For all the details and to register go here: [www.simplypt.com/health-summit](http://www.simplypt.com/health-summit)

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- You are interested in reclaiming and investing in your health.
- You are a bit lost or confused and interested in options that can help you achieve a more healthy and balanced life

If this describes you Alice- then be sure to get registered! And feel free to reach out to me if you have any more specific questions.

John-Mark Chesney is a Doctor of Physical Therapy and owner of Simply Physio in Farragut. If you have a question you'd like him to answer, call Simply Physio at (865) 351-0615 or email him at [john-mark@simplypt.co](mailto:john-mark@simplypt.co)



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REAL ESTATE

Mullen offers ‘spiritual direction’ at Soul’s Sanctuary

**TAMMY CHEEK**  
*tcheek@farragutpress.com*

Carol Mullen of Farragut has found her calling, as she directs others to spiritual growth with her business, Soul’s Sanctuary Spiritual Direction in Farragut.

Mullen provides spiritual coaching, along with workshops and retreats for individuals, churches and businesses.

“I provide individual sessions at my home, and sometimes we meet out on the back patio,” she said. “It has a stream, so it really creates a serene, reflective environment.

“And sometimes I will even offer mini retreats for women there,” Mullen added.

“Spiritual direction is a sacred space I provide — that is non-judgmental and safe — for individuals to

explore their spiritual journeys, their sacred stories.”

For example, “Oftentimes people come to me when they’re in a season of discernment or transition, feeling stuck or would simply like a trained companion to assist and guide them as they process their sacred journey,” Mullen said.

“You will be guided into a clearer awareness of the Divine’s presence and action in your life, allowing you to discern your unique identity and purpose,” she added. “Discovering your soul’s true home and authentic voice can seem complicated and confusing as many voices bombard us today.”

Spiritual direction is “really an ancient practice,”



Mullen

she said. “It’s been around, not just in religious settings, but in all different backgrounds.

“It’s kind of a space to slow down and process, where divine action and experiences are happening in their everyday lives, and they cannot be recognized,” Mullen added. “I can come to them, but generally, they come to me.”

Her own journey with spiritual direction started about 20 years ago when “I started experiencing an identity crisis ... I researched and found out more about spiritual direction,” she recalled.

For a while, Mullen had been working with groups and individuals “to help them on their spiritual journey and then finally recognized it was a calling.”

Her training included a two-year spiritual direction program with a third year of training, most recently

See SANCTUARY on Page 5A

Incredible Towns speeds up networking

**TAMMY CHEEK**  
*tcheek@farragutpress.com*

Area business owners and representatives have a unique opportunity to speed up their networking capabilities.

Incredible Towns, a home-based business co-owned by husband and wife Choya and Laura Hardin, are hosting Speed! Incredible Business Networking, from 7:30 a.m. to noon, Friday, Feb. 10, in Farragut Community Center, 239 Jamestowne Blvd.

“It’s like speed dating for businesses,” Choya Hardin said. “All businesses are welcome to be at this event.”

The event will allow 100 businesses at 12 tables — eight people at each table — in 12 rounds. Breakfast and snacks are included.

“Everyone is going to start

out seated at a table,” he said. “At the beginning of each round, the table members will introduce themselves and talk about their businesses.

“They’ll have a chance to exchange cards, a few minutes to ask each other questions and potentially set up some follow-up appointments,” Hardin added. “Then, after that round is done, everybody gets up, spreads out and goes to different tables.”

Cost for admission is \$59.95. Those interested can register at [knoxville.incredibletowns.com](http://knoxville.incredibletowns.com)

“We’re just trying to cover the cost and make it approachable to people,” Hardin said. “Businesses are getting a lot for that money.

“It’s a small investment to be able to meet almost 100 other business people, get directly

in front of and talk with other business owners, entrepreneurs, sales managers and to make face-to-face contact,” he added.

“Throughout a morning at this event, people will be able to literally talk, hear from and interact with every single person in the room in a very organized manner, and that’s what makes it so special — because if you could cold call 100 businesses, successfully meet the decision makers and get their information in one morning, that would be a super power. We just make it to where people can actually do it.”

Hardin explained Incredible Towns is a marketing agency while Incredible Networking is the division of the business that does networking events.

“We use that as one of our primary ways to get out and



Photo submitted

Incredible Towns is presenting business people with a fast-paced morning of networking with an Incredible Business Speed! Networking event Friday, Feb. 10.

meet people, businesses and what-not, and we provide a forum for other businesses to do the same thing,” he said.

“We love networking,” added Hardin, who has a background in marketing. “We think it’s one of the best ways for small businesses to build their circle of influence, their referral networks and meet new friends.

“We like it when everyone helps each other do better.

Incredible Business Networking hosts business lunches around the area.

“We have one here in Farragut, West Knox, South Knox, North Knox, all over the place,” Hardin said. “Those (lunches) are free and open for anyone to attend.

“But what we’re excited about here is our big event — speed networking,” he added.

businessbriefs

• **Andrew McGranaghan** recently was named a partner at Coldwell Banker Wallace in Knoxville as part of CBW’s evolution and planned growth.

• **Knoxville TVA Employee’s Credit Union** will hold a **grand opening** of its Northshore branch from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Friday, Feb. 10, at the branch, 1974 Town Center Blvd., Knoxville. Food and refreshments will be served. There will be door prizes and giveaways while supplies last.

• **Dr. Megan Edwards** will serve as Knox County’s new public health officer beginning in late March. Edwards is



McGranaghan

a graduate of the University of Tennessee and received her doctorate at East Tennessee State University’s Quillen College of Medicine.

She currently is working at UT Medical Center, where she specializes in infectious diseases and holds an academic appointment with the UT Graduate School of Medicine.

Prior to that, she practiced medicine at Maine Medical Center in Massachusetts with BayState Medical Center, and held academic appointments at Tufts University.

She is board-certified in internal medicine, pediatrics and adult infectious diseases.



Edwards

Knoxville Health Summit brings experts to your home

**TAMMY CHEEK**  
*tcheek@farragutpress.com*

The Knox County community has an opportunity to learn more about a variety of health and wellness issues with Knoxville Health Summit, a free virtual event open to the public from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 4.

The summit is a seminar series “dedicated to helping you live your healthiest and most fulfilling life, right in the comfort of your own home,” stated Dr. John-Mark Chesney, physical therapist, DPT and owner of Simply Physio, 111 Loudoun Road, Suite 102, who organized the summit, on his website.

Chesney said he is using Zoom, similar to Skype or Facetime, to present the summit.

“It’s very easy to use and allows us to connect to you safely,” he added.



Chesney

“People can learn more about local health and wellness experts and topics,” Chesney added. “Ten health experts, all local, will each speak for 25 minutes during the event.”

Those interested can register to receive the link to join the Zoom summit by going to [simplypt.lpages.co/health-summit/](https://simplypt.lpages.co/health-summit/)

After signing up, “we will send you an e-mail with the Zoom link a couple days before the big day,” Chesney said.

Among the topics to be discussed are improving sleep, chronic sinus infections, solving back pain, the best medicine for arthritis,



Henderson



Baker

See SUMMIT on Page 5A

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Dick specifically honored while FMPC recognizes Founders Week



Tammy Cheek

Farragut Municipal Planning Commission presented Betty Dick, front row, third woman from left, one of the Town’s Founders and an FMPC member for many years, with a proclamation as it declared the third week of January as Founders’ Week during FMPC’s meeting Thursday, Jan. 19. On hand for the presentation were from left, Planning Commissioner Scott Russ; Founder Eric Johnson; youth

FMPC member Bailey Sims; Planning Commissioners Noah Myers and Shannon Preston; Vice Mayor Louise Povlin, (behind Dick), also an FMPC member; Founder Marianne McGill; FMPC member Ron Pinchok; FMPC chairperson Rita Holladay; FMPC member Jon Greene; and Founder Ron Simandl.

Calendar

From page 2A

it happen,” he said, as he updated the Town’s Tourism Advisory Committee about the project Jan. 17.

• **Farragut Quilt Show application deadline has been extended to Friday, Jan. 27.** The show itself will be Saturday, Feb. 18 and Sunday, Feb. 19 in Farragut Community Center.

For more information, or to download the application, visit <https://www.farragutpark-sandrec.org/quilt-show>.

Applications may be picked up at Farragut Community Center.

• **Town of Farragut will**

**begin accepting applications for community grants for fiscal year 2024** (from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024) on Wednesday, Feb. 1. Applications must be received at Town Hall by 4 p.m., Friday, March 17, to be considered for inclusion in the Town’s FY2024 budget.

Information regarding the community grant application process, including eligibility requirements, can be found at [townoffarragut.org/grants](http://townoffarragut.org/grants). Submit applications at Farragut Town Hall, 11408 Municipal Center Drive, by fax (865-675-2096, attention: Farragut community grants) or by e-mail to [jhatmaker@townoffarragut.org](mailto:jhatmaker@townoffarragut.org).

Marie passes

From page 2A

always talking to everyone,” Ford said.

“They presented an image of a stable environment for this new Town of Farragut,” he added, conveying the Town “was being led by responsive leadership and quality people, and that was an image that was important for the Town in those early years.

“Her heart was in this Town. ... The Town, the community

has lost another great person.”

“Marie and Bob Leonard were great pioneers for Farragut,” said Doug Horne, a prominent Farragut real estate developer and owner of Republic Newspapers, Inc., parent company of farragutpress. “They were leaders and set a great example for the Town in the very beginning.

“The Town got off to kind of a shaky start, but Marie and Bob Leonard were a strong force that helped keep it on the right path,” he added.

presstalk

865-671-TALK (8255) or [editor@farragutpress.com](mailto:editor@farragutpress.com)

• **Thank you for your article in the Jan. 18, 2023 issue explaining the recent First Utility District Rate Increases.**

While you focused on the elimination of the previous first 1,500 gallons as being “free,” it is also worthy to note that First Utility District is now charging a minimum “water” fee of \$14.39 for sprinkler meters, even when no water is used. The previous “no water usage” minimum fee was \$9.85, an increase of 46 percent.

It is disappointing that First Utility District did not reach out to their customers in advance of the rate increases.

• **I’ve driven on Peterson Road almost daily for 31 years. Not once have I seen anyone biking on Peterson because of multiple steep hills. Several years ago a bike lane was added to Peterson, which made both car lanes much too narrow, especially the lane from Kingston Pike into the neighborhoods.**

It’s so narrow, most people drive over the double yellow lines, forcing drivers in the opposite lane to veer into the bike lane to avoid a collision. I respect bike riders and am glad to share the road with them, but they don’t bike on Peterson.

Please do away with the unused bike lane — it’s causing dangerous conditions for drivers.

• **The Hy-Vee development (proposed) on the property west of (Campbell Station**

**Road-Kingston Pike intersection) would be wonderful for the Town, the community. The Hy-Vee is a big commercial store, and the sales tax revenue would be wonderful for the Town.**

Also, it would be so good to have Glen Abbey and Park Place (subdivisions) come out at a red light onto Kingston Pike, rather than it be a hazardous exit from that area when you turn left onto Kingston Pike.

The traffic signal would be moved from the Kohl’s development to line up with Jamestowne Boulevard, which would be a wonderful thing.

It would give Glen Abbey and Place Place residents another way out of their development onto Kingston Pike. It would be a very, very wonderful thing if it happens.

I hope our Town leaders will be wise about that.

We ask our readers to follow these Presstalk rules:

- No names used, including public figures;
- Business names may or may not be used depending on the issue;
- Keep calls to a 90-second maximum (call 865-671-8255 24 hours a day, seven days a week);
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Update passes  
From page 1A

“The Town attorney ended up working with the staff to develop the language that is in Ordinance 22-12,” Community Development director Mark Shipley said. “We shared that with the applicants, and they were satisfied with what was put together and were in support of the ordinance language.”

“We came together earlier (last year) to try to develop a proactive, constructive means to safeguard all Farragut residential neighborhoods,” said Jeanne Brykalski, a spokesperson for FNPP. “The result of our almost year-long effort is this amendment that provides ground rules and structures to prevent incompatible or intrusive development ... We had a lot of interaction with Town staff and our elected officials, who have worked diligently with us to guide us along this process, which we are extremely grateful for.”

Farragut Municipal Plan-

ning Commission voted to recommend approval of the ordinance, then the Board approved it in December on first reading with White casting the lone vote against Ordinance 22-12.

White contended the ordinance was a way to deal with the lights at McFee Park’s basketball court, which he said was approved under the Town’s existing lighting ordinance that prohibited the lights.

“There’s a little more to this ordinance than people are understanding,” he said. He noted after the Town had submitted plans for a basketball court in McFee Park, and the plans passed.

“The only problem was it didn’t comply with the code that existed at the time that they are trying to change to-



White

night,” White added, also noting the original code allowed only 28-foot lights in any facility, which included the Town parks.

White then warned people living near Anchor Park, where lights are not permitted as a result of a resolution years ago, “If you think you’re safe with the resolution, if this (ordinance) passes, you are at risk.”

“I do not believe that to be the case at all,” the mayor said. “It does not change any protection.”

Town attorney Tom Hale contended the Town did not violate its own code. He said it could put up the lights at McFee Park despite its lighting ordinance because, while there is no case law in Tennessee, the State Supreme Court would rule with the majority of other states that allow municipalities to take actions that would go against their own ordinances.

“I don’t think the amendment changes the resolution for Anchor Park,” Hale said.

Virtue detour  
From page 1A

As a result, “We will do a single-lane closure there, and that will slow us down just a little bit, trying to work in a confined space,” Rackley said.

“This line will be part of a system that will service that general part of the Town, so it’s a pretty important section,” Shipley said.

“We’ve been working on this for a year-and-a-half,” Rackley added.

“They originally tried to bore under the inlet to Turkey Creek Road, but they failed on three attempts,” Shipley said. “That would have lessened the impact to Virtue Road.

“And, really how that section of Virtue Road is – there are steep sides on each end of it, there’s a depression, there’s some culverts in the area — there’s just not enough physical space to bore outside of the road,” he added.

So, “they’re requesting to actually open a trench and in-

stall this section through that southbound lane of Virtue Road,” he said. “(Rackley has) been working with our Town engineer on this project.”

Rackley said his crew also tried to work inside the creek but failed there as well.

**Other business**

In other construction-related business, FMPC unanimously approved the installation of underground fiber optic cable for:

- Comcast from Kingston Pike, along the east side of Concord Road, then under Concord Road to the Town Center at Biddle Farms.
- Zayo, which will go along the south side of Outlet Drive, from the western Town limits, across the frontage of the old Outlet Mall building and end to the east at the Knox County/Loudon County line.
- TDS Telecom, which also will go along the south side of Outlet Drive from the western Town limits, across the front of Outlet Mall to the east at the Knox/Loudon line.

Sanctuary  
From page 3A

in Ignatian Accompaniment and Discernment. She has earned a life coach certificate and an art therapy degree, and has received still more training in leading retreats and workshops.

“I’ve been practicing for about eight years now, but I just now decided that it’s a

business, not just a hobby,” Mullen said.

She is offering 30-minute Zoom sessions so participants can explore the spiritual direction process.

To book a session or retreat with Mullen, call 865-216-0407, e-mail beingwiththe1@gmail.com or visit [www.soulssanctuaryspiritualdirection.com](http://www.soulssanctuaryspiritualdirection.com)

**Summit**  
From page 3A

improving bone density and building strength after 50.

“Our speakers are locally recognized health and wellness experts,” he said. “Whether you are trying to eat healthier, get fit, sleep better, be mindful, get rid of back or knee pain, the Wellness Expo will help you learn actionable steps to living

a healthier, happier life.”

Chesney also said some speakers might provide special rates to viewers interested in their services. Speakers include Andrew Henderson, owner of Fitness Together; rheumatologist Dr. Tonya Baker; Lisa Hall, owner of OsteoStrong; Chesney; Dr. Luke Howell, DO, with Pillar Primary Care; Dr. Stephen Wireless, otolaryngologist with Park-

west ENT and Fort Loudoun Medical Center; Dr. Michael Blair, physical therapist and DPT, also with Simply Physio; Krystal Goodman, nutritionist; Daniel Rochat with Perfect-Water; and health expert Julie Callis.

This is the third year Chesney has hosted such a seminar.

“I started it during COVID to create an opportunity to get good information,” he said.



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‘Wall’ing off Irish boys at Webb; KCHS girls roll with defense

ALAN SLOAN  
editor@farragutpress.com

KNOXVILLE — Lukas Walls put the Webb School of Knoxville Spartans on his back, putting on a basketball clinic on how to score versus rival Knoxville Catholic, which happened in Lee Athletic Center at Webb Friday, Jan. 20.

“We played with everything we had tonight,” said Walls, a 6-foot-5 senior wing who scored 29 points. The senior and his Spartans (17-6 overall, 2-0 in Division II-East Region) used an 11-0 run to turn a 15-11 deficit into a 22-17 lead in the first 3:30 of the second quarter en route to a 72-64 win, played before a packed house.

“I think it was playing with pace, matching the physicality,” said Zach Gulmire, Webb interim coach in absence of head coach Ricky Norris, about a 17-4 third-quarter run giving the Spartans a 54-40 lead. “... Effort and execution kind of married.”

About Walls, his coach said, “That’s just kinda what he’s done all year. He’s a big-time player for us.”

Jaylen Pompey, Webb sophomore point, scored 13. Freshman wing Shavar Young had nine.

“They came up with some 50-50 balls that really hurt us,” said Luke Smith, first-year head coach for the Irish (15-4, 2-1). “Pompey hit two threes off of offensive rebounds ... Lukas Walls was terrific all night. He drives down the lane and we don’t pick up the ball.”

Three Irish were in double figures scoring: junior guard Caleb Asbaty (18), senior guard Yesan Warren (17) and sophomore post Deondrea Lindsey (13).

**Lady Irish 46 Webb 28**

Getting payback Friday, 46-28, after losing to Webb 55-48 during a December tourney in Cleveland, Travis Mains’ Lady Irish girls (12-10, 3-0) used a tough zone defense to hold the Lady Spartans (12-7, 1-1) to only five points the final 12 minutes of the first half.

Sydney Mains, KCHS junior wing (the coach’s daughter), scored a game-high 17 despite a sprained ankle. Amaya Redd, sophomore guard, added 11.

For Webb, freshman point Meeyah Green led with nine points. Senior forward Madelyn Ladd had eight.

Top 8 dual wrestling finish at prestigious tourney for Admirals

ALAN SLOAN  
editor@farragutpress.com

KARNS — Farragut wrestling’s performance in Duggar Duals at Karns High School Saturday, Jan. 21, is a sure sign of much improved depth for head coach David Garabrandt’s program.

Despite missing the team’s top two wrestlers, the grappling Admirals won four of five dual matches — beating Fulton, Sevier County, McMinn Central and Knoxville West before losing to Anderson County — ensuring a top eight finish among a field of 18 teams at KHS.

“We got some good wins,” Garabrandt said about individual wrestlers coming through repeatedly Saturday. “We got some good match-ups for our guys.”

“Especially considering our No. 1 and (No.) 2 wrestlers were out; our 170 (senior Aidan Enders, who has been ranked in the top five statewide at 170 this season) ended up breaking his nose on Thursday (Jan. 19). Our 182 (senior Zach Martin) hurt his shoulder and was taking a rest day to recover.”

Garabrandt said Enters will be out until the first few days of February to allow “the bones to set” before “wearing a mask” for protection upon his return.

**Top performances at Karns**

“Our 113, freshman Joe Parsons — this is his first year wrestling — he ended up going 4-1 on Saturday,” Garabrandt said. “He did really well; he ended up getting three pins and one win

See FHS WRESTLING on Page 4B

Jessie Howard Hall, FHS 2006, a C-N Hall of Famer

STAFF REPORTS  
editor@farragutpress.com

JEFFERSON CITY — The second youngest among eight who were inducted into Car-



Photo submitted  
Jessie Howard Hall, FHS Class of 2006 and Carson-Newman Sports Hall of Famer, with David Moore, her high school softball head coach.

son-Newman University’s Sports Hall of Fame Friday evening, Jan. 20, Jessie Howard Hall stole 143 bases in 149 career attempts for the C-N Softball program, an astounding 96 percent success rate.

A two-time All-South Atlantic Conference honoree who led her team in hits, steals, runs scored and triples — as a freshman — this former Farragut Lady Admirals star third baseman (Class of 2006) went on to lead the conference in hits, runs scored and stolen bases as a Lady Eagles sophomore (moved from third to shortstop) with a team-leading .454 batting average.

Hall also earned All-American honors as a sophomore in 2008.

While it would be more of the same as an upperclassman

See HALL OF FAME on Page 6B



Photo courtesy of Jack Tate/FHS sports information

Father-son state honors for FHS’s Buckner duo

During Tennessee Baseball Coaches Association banquet in Franklin Saturday, Jan. 21, Farragut High School baseball standout Lukas Buckner, left, a junior shortstop, was named 2022 TBCA Class 4A Tennessee High School Baseball Player of the Year. Admirals head coach Matt Buckner, right, Lukas’ father, was inducted into the TBCA Hall of Fame after leading FHS to the program’s 11th state championship — most of any TSSAA program — winning the Division I-4A crown last May. This was coach Buckner’s fifth state title at FHS (also 2010, 2011, 2014 and 2019).

Senior Swim Night at UT means Aqua Ads dominance

STAFF REPORTS  
editor@farragutpress.com

KNOXVILLE — Farragut High School’s swim and dive team completed an unbeaten dual-meet season — the second perfect regular season for the Aqua Ads’ 15 seniors — after defeating rival Hardin Valley Academy 203-134 Sunday, Jan. 15, during FHS Senior

Night in UT’s Allen Jones Intercollegiate Aquatic Center.

The seniors were honored during a break in the meet: Savannah Brennan, Sydney Brennan, Katelyn Kramer, Taylor Webster, Grace LaCharite, Ridhima Singh, Allison Pye, Raina Desai, Etah Hi, Camden Croy, Liam Cronin, Camden Gerchar and Jacob Chenot.

“I love the tradition of honoring our

seniors with small tokens of appreciation for not just them, but for their parents as well,” FHS head coach Jessica Abrahamson said. “... They truly are a special group that has a mark on our team that will never be forgotten.”

**Individual highlights**

- Ella Roettger, only a freshman, took first in the 200-yard free while Riley Brown finished second.

- Iris Chen and Aydan Skelton finished as the top two in the 200 IM while Noah Roettger and Evan King were second and third.
- Keira Shafer took first in the girls’ 50 free. Claire Shields swam a personal best and dropped 3 seconds.
- For the boys, Gerchar pulled out

See SWIMMING on Page 6B

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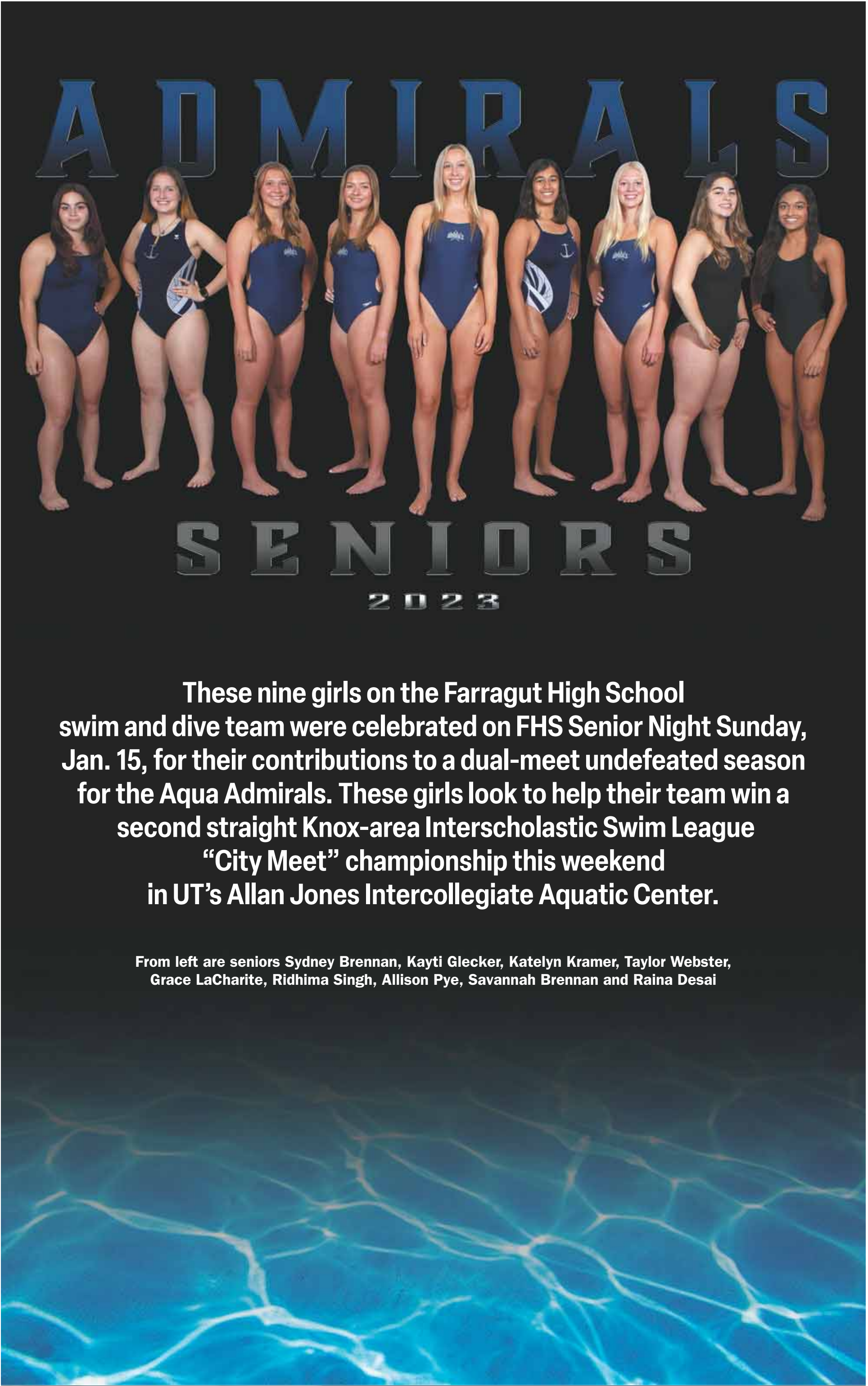
**Small in numbers, perhaps, but big in impact are the 2022-23 Farragut High School boys swim and dive team seniors. Celebrated for their season accomplishments on FHS Senior Night Sunday, Jan. 15, these Aqua Admirals finished a second straight campaign with an undefeated dual meet record.**

Looking to help their team win back-to-back Knox-area Interscholastic Swim League championships this weekend are seniors, from left, Ethan Hu, Camden Croy (diver), Liam Cronin, Camden Gerchar and Jacob Chenot.



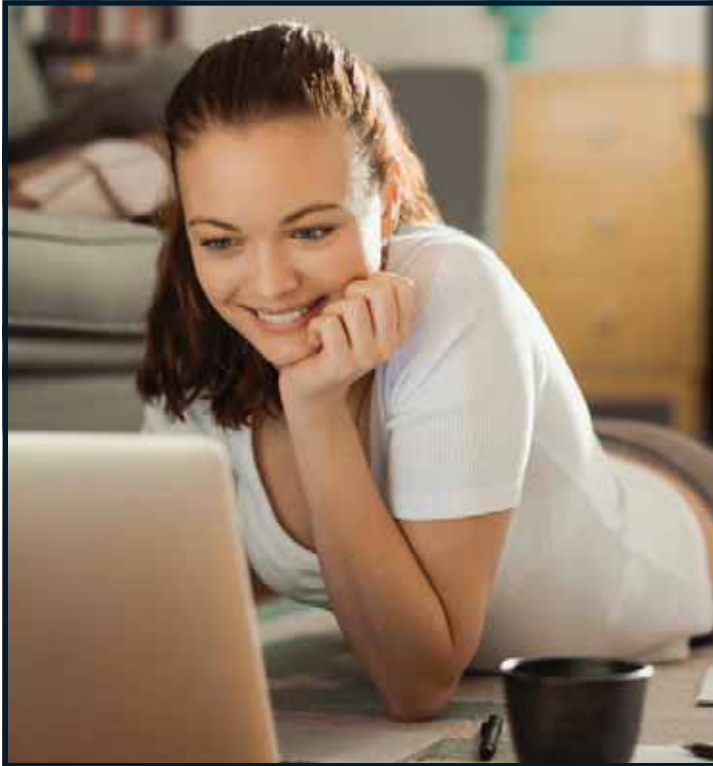
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**These nine girls on the Farragut High School swim and dive team were celebrated on FHS Senior Night Sunday, Jan. 15, for their contributions to a dual-meet undefeated season for the Aqua Admirals. These girls look to help their team win a second straight Knox-area Interscholastic Swim League “City Meet” championship this weekend in UT’s Allan Jones Intercollegiate Aquatic Center.**

**From left are seniors Sydney Brennan, Kayti Glecker, Katelyn Kramer, Taylor Webster, Grace LaCharite, Ridhima Singh, Allison Pye, Savannah Brennan and Raina Desai**



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# Mahoney new Webb football head coach

STAFF REPORTS  
editor@farragutpress.com

KNOXVILLE — Webb School of Knoxville announced last week the elevation of Don Mahoney, Spartans offensive line head coach in 2022, as new head varsity football coach and associate director of student-athlete development. On the field, Mahoney will succeed 38-year head coach David Meske, who will be retiring at the end of the 2022-2023 school year.

A 1990 All-Southern Conference selection and three-year starter at offensive guard at Marshall, Mahoney went on to earn his Bachelor of Arts de-



Mahoney

gree from West Virginia State University. He and wife, Carissa, have three children, Jake, Tulia and Domenic.

“Don brings with him an impressive resumé of competitive professional experiences. But what made him truly stand out throughout our interactions was his personal authenticity and passion for Webb School,” said Dan Gill, Webb’s incumbent athletic director.

“I am confident Don will continue to help us sustain a highly competitive and deeply connected program that is aligned with Webb’s mission.”

“He is committed to the mission of our school and will help develop our student-athletes to their fullest potential,” Meske said.

“I want to thank president Michael McBrien, athletic director and football coach David Meske, president-elect Ansel Sanders and ... Dan Gill for this opportunity,” Mahoney said.

## FHS wrestling

From page 1B

by points. For a first-year wrestler, that’s more than you can ask for.”

Parsons and Enters were Farragut’s top two finishers the week prior, each taking second place during Soggy Bottom Brawl at Franklin County High School (Middle Tennessee) Saturday, Jan. 14.

Also at Franklin County, Ads freshman Jonathan Laney finished fourth at 126.

Back at Karns during the Duals was Michael Phillips, an FHS sophomore at 195 who also finished 4-1. “He wrestled really well,” the coach said.

At 160, Admirals junior Jose Leyton — also a first-year wrestler — won three of his five matches.

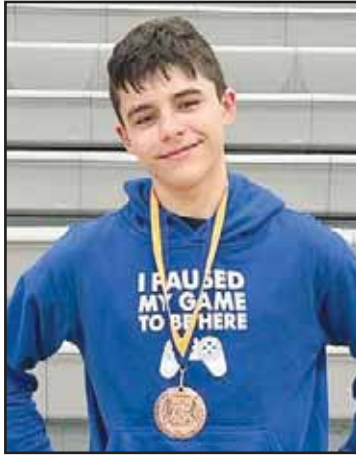
“Winning more than you lose is pretty good for a first-year wrestler,” Garabrandt said.

Among his entire team, “I believe everybody got a win,” the coach said about the five-match effort at Karns.

**Top girls at Franklin**  
Among the top Lady Ads at All Girls Mountain Top Invita-



Enters, Franklin County



Parsons, Franklin County

tional at St. Andrew’s-Sewanee School (Middle Tennessee), sophomore Sarah Jones (185) was champion.

Freshman Sarah Stinnett took fourth at 120.

At Karns (different format versus the boys), “Sarah Stinnett won all three matches,” Garabrandt said. “Mckenna Porter (junior at 126) won both of hers. Those two did well.”



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Bulldogs wake up to handle HVA; BHS girls continued perfect: 22-0

**BILL HOWARD**  
Correspondent

**BEARDEN** — Going into Friday night's home game against district foe Hardin Valley Academy, Bearden's boys team badly needed a win to stay in the District 4-4A mix. Down one at half, the Bulldogs used a commanding second half to pull away for a 55-

**BILL HOWARD**  
Correspondent

**BEARDEN** — It's gratifying for a team to hang in and win a ballgame against a challenging opponent. Then again, sometimes it's nice to have an easy day at the office. The latter was the case Friday night, Jan. 20, when the

**See BHS BOYS on Page 6B**

**See 22-0 on Page 6B**



Photo courtesy Carlos Reveiz/crfoto.com  
KJ McNealy, Farragut freshman wing, leads a fastbreak against visiting William Blount Tuesday night, Jan. 17.

Break-even week, in reverse, for FHS hoops teams vs. W-Blount, Heritage

**STAFF REPORTS**  
editor@farragutpress.com

Farragut's basketball teams had different success stories against District 4-4A Blount County teams last week. The Lady Ads easily beat William Blount 51-29 at FHS Tuesday, Jan. 17, but lost a tough 53-50 decision at Heritage Friday night, Jan. 20. Against HHS, the Farragut girls (15-8 overall, 3-2 in dis-

trict) were led by sophomore point Annie Priest's 18 points. Maelyn McNealy scored 10. The FHS boys (13-10, 3-2) lost at home to state-ranked WBHS 78-71 Jan. 17, but bounced back big-time at Heritage last Friday to win going away 60-33. Dominic Vanacker, Ads sophomore wing, led in scoring against HHS with 16. Luke Johnson added nine points while Berkley Naro and Tyson Jackson each scored eight.



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Surrounded by her family, Marie Sharp Leonard, age 96, went to be with the Lord on Jan. 20, 2023.

She was born on Jan. 17, 1927 in Knoxville to Milburn T. Sharp and Elizabeth Hines Sharp. She had an idyllic childhood growing up on Oglewood Drive in North Knoxville. Marie graduated from Old Knoxville High in 1945.

After graduating high school, she attended and graduated from The University of Tennessee, where she was a proud member of Tri-Delta sorority. In 1950, Marie married Robert H. (Bob) Leonard, and their marriage thrived until Bob's death in 2012.

Their marriage resulted in three children: Robert, Elizabeth and Patrick. Throughout their marriage, Bob and Marie traveled to almost every state and several foreign countries, often through Bob's affiliation with Optimist International.

Marie was active throughout her life in numerous charitable and community organizations. Among other affiliations, she was heavily involved in establishing the Girls Club of Knoxville, volunteered with Ossoli Circle, taught art history in Knox County Schools, was

a proud and active member of the CWF (Christian Women's Fellowship), the Village Green Garden Club, Golden Girls, P.O.E.T.S., FCC Book Club and served as Elder Emeritus at First Christian Church.

In 1972, Marie and Bob moved from South Knoxville to the Village Green subdivision in Farragut where they resided until their respective deaths. At that time, Marie took a job with orthopedic surgeon Charles Gouffon, who soon partnered with Dr. Sam Marcy in the orthopedic group that became Gouffon, Marcy, Jackson and Cates — and that is now known as Tennessee Orthopedic. Marie enjoyed 22 years of working for "Charlie & Sam" and maintained their friendship throughout the rest of her life.

With Bob's election as Farragut's first Mayor in 1980, Marie served with class and dignity as Farragut's First "First Lady" until Bob's retirement from poli-



Mrs. Leonard

obituary

tics in 1993, so they could spend more time with their grandchildren: Seth, Maggie and Robbie.

Marie's love for Farragut continued throughout her life, participating in numerous Town activities and serving for years on Farragut's Beautification Board and as a volunteer docent at the Farragut Folklife Museum until reaching the age of 95.

Marie stayed active and continued to make new friends through the YMCA's Silver Sneakers program. Throughout her life, Marie was an avid UT Vols Football and Basketball fan. She continued to attend basketball games into her 95th year.

Marie was a devoted Christian who attended First Christian Church from birth until the church closed in 2015. To a large extent, Marie's and Bob's lives centered around FCC and the Disciple's Sunday School Class, which they helped establish.

Marie faithfully believed in the power and grace of Christ. Next to her Lord

and Savior, the most important thing in Marie's life was her family and friends. She celebrated their successes and comforted them in times of sorrow.

Marie was preceded in death by her parents, Milburn and Elizabeth Sharp; her of husband of 62 years, Bob Leonard; and her son, Robert M. Leonard.

She is survived by her children, Elizabeth (Beth) Bledsoe and husband, Jerry, and Patrick J. Leonard and wife, Sheri; her grandchildren, Joshua Seth Bledsoe, Robert Ellis Leonard and wife, Morgan, and Maggie Mariah Bledsoe. Great-grandchildren are Molleigh, Cali, Dani, Nash and Dax. She also is survived by much-loved cousin, Kay Moore, and husband, Robert, and cousins David Sharp and Ellen Davis.

Family will receive friends from 4 to 6 p.m., Friday, Jan. 27, 2023, at Click's Funeral Home Farragut Chapel, with a memorial service to follow. Officiating will be the Rev. CJ Bays.

Interment at Pleasant Forest Cemetery will be private. In lieu of flowers, memorial may be made to the Optimist Club of Knoxville's Henry Naff Scholarship Fund (P.O. Box 358, Knoxville, TN 37901).

Stuhl

From page 7B

the Blue Cross/Blue Shield playground behind Town Hall; and miles of greenways.

She said Founder's Park has long been her favorite, as it "was the first park I got to work on from beginning to end — It has a special place in my heart."

Working with many Town staff and officials down through the years, Stuhl has noticed a common thread.

"The quality and the willingness of the people who do not get paid, but who give their time and effort to this Town has really been amazing," she said.

Stuhl said she will miss the people with whom she works, and the volunteers who have been dedicated to helping keep programs running smoothly.

The Stuhls have called Farragut home for the last eight years — a move Sue resisted for many years. "I've always loved our community, but living here I have found I love it even more," she said.

A reception is planned in Stuhl's honor from 4:30 to 6 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 26, in the Community Center.



Stuhl, unknown year

fp 10-Day-plus Planner

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For more Press Planner visit [www.farragutpress.com](http://www.farragutpress.com)

• An Evening With Baseball Hall of Famer Andre Dawson, Presented by Secret City and the Hardin Valley Academy baseball program, runs from 5 to 8 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 9, in The Venue at Lenoir City, 7690 Creekwood Park Blvd.

Autographs with the former Chicago Cubs and Montreal

Expos Hall of Fame outfielder are only allowed with the purchase of a VIP ticket.

The Meet & Greet with Dawson begins at 5:05 p.m. To purchase tickets, go to [www.eventbrite.com/](http://www.eventbrite.com/). "A one autograph per ticket rule will be strictly enforced," an event press release stated. Each ticket will have an assigned seat.

Dinner starts at 6 p.m., courtesy of Brown Bag. "Purchase a general admission ticket to ensure your party can sit together," the event press release further stated.

The Leadoff Dinner Ceremony runs from 6:45 to 8 p.m. Event also features a silent auction.

No refunds will be given.

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**FARRAGUT MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSION STAFF/DEVELOPER AGENDA**

**Tuesday, January 31, 2023**

**Back of Board Room – Farragut Town Hall**

9:00 a.m. Discussion and public hearing on a driveway access revision and related variance from the distance between driveways and distance from an intersection requirements, as provided for in the Driveways and Other Access Ways Ordinance, associated with a site plan for the Concord Road Substation on a portion of Parcel 03701, Tax Map 153, 3.66 Acres, 1053 Concord Road, Zoned A (LCUB, Applicant)

It is the policy of the Town of Farragut not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, natural origin, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, religion, disability or veteran status pursuant to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Public Law 93-112 and 101-336 in its hiring, employment practices and programs. To request accommodations due to disabilities, please call 865-966-7057 in advance of the meeting.

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**PUBLIC HEARING**

The Planning Commission of the Town of Farragut will hold a public hearing on February 16, 2023, at 7:00 PM, at the Farragut Town Hall, 11408 Municipal Center Drive, to hear citizen's comments on the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION PC-23-02**

**FARRAGUT MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

**A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AMENDMENTS TO THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP IN THE COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN UPDATE, DECEMBER 2012, TO UPDATE FUTURE LAND USE MAP DESIGNATIONS SO THEY CORRESPOND TO THE DEVELOPED DENSITY OF EXISTING PROPERTIES**

NOTE: Resolution PC-23-02 and the associated map are available at the Farragut Town Hall at 11408 Municipal Center Drive. Please contact Mark Shipley at [mshipley@townoffarragut.org](mailto:mshipley@townoffarragut.org) if you have any questions or would like a copy sent to you.

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**PUBLIC HEARING**

The Planning Commission of the Town of Farragut will hold a public hearing on February 16, 2023, at 7:00 PM, at the Farragut Town Hall, 11408 Municipal Center Drive, to hear citizen's comments on the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION PC-23-03**

**FARRAGUT MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

**A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AN AMENDMENT TO THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP IN THE COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN UPDATE, DECEMBER 2012, TO AMEND A PORTION OF PARCEL 069, TAX MAP 142, NORTH OF THE INGLES, FROM OFFICE/LIGHT INDUSTRIAL AND MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL TO CIVIC/INSTITUTIONAL**

NOTE: Resolution PC-23-03 and the associated map are available at the Farragut Town Hall at 11408 Municipal Center Drive. Please contact Mark Shipley at [mshipley@townoffarragut.org](mailto:mshipley@townoffarragut.org) if you have any questions or would like a copy sent to you.

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**FARRAGUT BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN AGENDA • JANUARY 26, 2023**

**Farragut Town Hall, 11408 Municipal Center Drive**

**BMA MEETING 6:00 PM**

<b>I.</b> Roll Call	<b>A.</b> Approval of a Professional Services Agreement with Raffetis Financial Consultants, Inc. for strategic planning services
<b>II.</b> Approval of Agenda	<b>VI.</b> Town Administrator's Report
<b>III.</b> Approval of Minutes	<b>VII.</b> Town Attorney's Report
<b>A.</b> January 12, 2023	<b>VIII.</b> Citizens Forum
<b>IV.</b> Mayor's Report	
<b>A.</b> Proclamation for the Farragut Christmas Parade Committee	
<b>V.</b> Business Items	

**This meeting can be viewed live on the Farragut YouTube Channel and the Town of Farragut website [www.townoffarragut.org/livestream](http://www.townoffarragut.org/livestream). The meeting will be held at the Farragut Town Hall, 11408 Municipal Center Drive**

It is the policy of the Town of Farragut not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, natural origin, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, religion, disability or veteran status pursuant to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Public Law 93-112 and 101-336 in its hiring, employment practices and programs. To request accommodations due to disabilities, please call 865-966-7057 in advance of the meeting.

## Junior program

From page 7B

nearly 70 applications to be a Junior Commissioner this first year and have selected 11 tremendous young leaders to build what I hope will be a robust annual program.”

Patel, the son of Ashish and Arshita Patel, and Farrar, the daughter of David and Mina Farrar, have similar interests in politics and government, as both are in Junior State of America.

Both also indicated a possible future in the legal profession.

“At Farragut I have had a lot of opportunities to get involved,” Patel said, noting he also attended a Knoxville City Council meeting, which also piqued his interest.

“I would like to have more experience with the law and politics,” he added.

“I see a future in the law, and I want to go to law school, then possibly get into politics,” said Farrar, who also is involved in the DECA Club. “I get the feeling that that type of job will always be a passion of mine.”

Patel said he had not yet

met Schoonmaker, but Farrar said she had met Frazier in the past.

“I adore her,” she added.

For her part, Parker said she, too, “has always been interested in politics and government,” but it was just around her sophomore year she started thinking about the topics locally.

“I thought if I learned more about local government, I might know more about what it means to be a good citizen,” she added.

Parker said she had not yet met Jay but is “excited” about working with the county commissioner.

“I looked a little bit at what he has done,” she said. “I am also excited to meet with other students who are also interested in government.”

“I think it will be a good experience.”

She is the daughter of Joey and Elizabeth Parker and said she is considering medicine or journalism among her future career pursuits.

Junior Commissioners met with their counterparts Monday, Jan. 23, for orientation, then attended the regular

County Commission meeting.

Additional events include Knox County Commission work sessions; regular meetings in February and March; a zoning hearing; then a mock Junior Commission meeting March 29.

The program will conclude with a dinner (also attended by their family members) March 27, followed by graduation and recognition during the regular County Commission meeting.

Each Junior Commissioner also is required to attend one community event activity with his or her commissioner sometime during the program.

Additional Knox County students selected were: (District 1) Caroline Scoonover of Knoxville West; (District 2) Gabriela Sánchez Benítez of Fulton High; (District 3) Dain Shelton of Hardin Valley Academy; (District 4) Ethan Coffey of Christian Academy of Knoxville; (District 6) McKayla Muse of HomeLife Academy; (District 7) Lily Hutchison of Halls High; (District 8) Madelyn Dyer of Berean Christian School; and (District 9) Emily Child of South-Doyle High.



Michelle Hollenhead

Farragut High School juniors Anand Patel, left, and Maya Farrar are among 11 Knox County students chosen for the inaugural Knox County Junior Commission program.

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Concord United Methodist Church's 9th Annual  
Mission Blitz

Concord United Methodist Church's 9th Annual Mission Blitz brought together 694 people who supported 24 projects Friday through Monday, Jan. 13-16, with an end result that impacted thousands.

Two Crop Drops (bagging 40,000 pounds of sweet potatoes – twice — for distribution); two shifts of Operation Inasmuch, each packing 20,000 dry soup mix to support local food pantries; making pillow cases for Project Linus; packing sanitary supplies for United Methodist Committee On Relief; Farragut greenway cleanup; building picnic tables for Cedar Bluff Elementary School; making Valentine's and gifts for East Tennessee Children's Hospital nurses; treat making and visits to seniors; and praying over beds at Knoxville Area Rescue Ministries were just a few of the projects led by the church's Missions director, Jane Currin, her assistant, Marilyn Giles, and the Missions Team.

**Right:** Missions director assistant Marilyn Giles holds one of the oversized cards to be signed and given to area first responders.



From left, Caroline Thompson and siblings, Betsy Johnson and Nancy Claire Johnson, work on Operation Inasmuch.



Megan Wood, left, and Jhastha Tack ready for Operation Inasmuch's dry chicken soup packing.



**Photo by Katie Humphries**  
Anna Grace Humphries helps with the Jan. 13 Crop Drop.



Pete Lloyd, right, helps Tracy Brison with wood cutting for picnic tables.



LeighAnna Colgrove shows Anna Claire Wood how best to guide the sewing machine.



Vicki Eleazer shows the coaster project a group worked on for area first responders.



Layla Marshall, left, and Janie Wendelken help pack sanitary supplies for United Methodist Committee On Relief.



Charlie Turnbull unloads sweet potatoes.



Keith Montgomery works on picnic tables for Cedar Bluff Elementary School.



Rosie Wood, left, and Marvin Tack work on Operation Inasmuch.



Kathy Ruddy, right, shows Anita Oberdecker how to sew a pillowcase for Project Linus.

All photos by Michelle Hollenhead unless otherwise noted