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# Awesome Aqua Ads



Alan Sloan

Winning the program’s first Knox-area Interscholastic Swim League Meet, or “City Meet,” title since 2008, Farragut High School swim and dive team members gather around their trophy (labeled Division I) after finals Sunday night, Jan. 23, in Allan Jones Intercollegiate Aquatic Center at UT. **(Read story starting on page 6A)**

## 3-Peat is ‘Pure Magic West’ at CAK



Alan Sloan

Winning his program’s third straight PureMagic How the West Was Won Contest for Best Regular Season Record among six high school football teams covered by farragutpress, Christian Academy of Knoxville head coach Travis Mzingo, second from left, accepted a \$1,000 check — \$500 each from sponsors PureMagic Carwash and farragutpress — and retention of the Stetson Hat PureMagic HWWW Traveling Trophy during the program’s annual end-of-season banquet Sunday, Jan. 23, in the school’s cafeteria. Representing PureMagic was Chris Peters, Sales & Marketing director, far left. Representing farragutpress was Cara Ford, Advertising manager, beside CAK seniors Garrett Brady, left, and Grant Sterchi holding the trophy.

# Pilson citizen input assists in Farragut ordinance change

**MICHELLE HOLLENHEAD**  
mhollenhead@farragutpress.com

When Farragut’s Board of Mayor and Aldermen vote on second reading to adopt its new outdoor lighting ordinance Thursday, Jan. 26, it will have been with the help of a Farragut resident and lighting expert.

Mark Pilson, who has worked with Lighting Trends for more than two decades, worked closely with Community Development director Mark Shipley on updating the Town’s lighting ordinance — and it was not the first time the lighting expert offered his assistance.

“Since I am a Farragut resident and also involved in the lighting profession, I contacted Mark’s predecessor, Ruth Hawk, to offer assistance with any of the Town’s lighting needs,” Pilson said of his involvement several years ago. “After Ruth’s departure, I contacted Mark with the same offer, and we have discussed issues from time to time and also discussed the need to update the lighting ordinance since lighting has changed so much in the past 10-15 years.”

The issue was discussed in October and November among Farragut Municipal Planning Commission

**See PILSON on Page 2A**

### business

“We consulted with a numbers expert, who helped us with naming our (business). ... Language was a problem, but now we are ready,”

**-Apicha Srisomboon, who immigrated here six years ago, about he and his family’s new business. (Read story beginning on page 3A)**

### community

“The whole experience was incredible. ... I was expecting nothing more than somewhere in the lobby ... but she really took to the idea and ran with it,”

**-Mitchell Moore, director of FHS choral program, about students taking a special “law” trip. (Read story beginning on page 7A)**

### sports

**While Sports begins on page 6A, also read the latest about FHS’s varsity hoops teams seeking district titles as the regular season winds down (page 10A).**

**Also read about the FHS Admirals wrestling teams, and how head coach David Garabrandt is overcoming a numbers issue. (page 10A)**

# Residents fear traffic, but FMPC nods Harrison-Watt mixed-use

**ALAN SLOAN**  
editor@farragutpress.com

Though saying they would rather have 9.22 acres at the North Watt Road-Harrison Road intersection rezoned to Neighborhood Convenience Commercial — to allow for mixed-use development of residential and small-scale non-residential instead of the current General Commercial zoning — two residents living in Amberly Court Meadows subdivision near this planned rezoning expressed concerns with traffic.

Jodie Scott and Mike Driver, who live near the intersection of Harrison Lane and Harrison Road, were two speakers of roughly 10 residents from this area who came to Farragut Municipal Planning Commission’s Thursday, Jan. 20, meeting in Town Hall boardroom as Commissioners voted on the rezoning.

“If this is going to be rezoned to where it’s going to go out to Harrison Lane, opposite of Watt Road, there’s going to be a major speed issue,” said Scott, a resident along Amberly Court.

“...With that many more cars going in and out, I think it would be beneficial to look at the traffic before approving it to be rezoned,” she added.

“... I don’t know what you all plan on doing, but it is a major problem.”

Upon coming out of her subdivision onto Harrison Lane near Harrison Road, “It’s hard to see left” at the intersection,” Scott said. “We have to see

**See REZONING on Page 5A**

# Thieves hit CUMC Garden, KAMA bus; help being sought

**MICHELLE HOLLENHEAD**  
mhollenhead@farragutpress.com

Community assistance is being sought following two recent incidents of equipment theft.

A service trailer, used specifically for the Concord United Methodist Community Garden, and a school bus servicing Knoxville Academy of Martial Arts, were both stolen in recent weeks. While the KAMA bus was recovered, it was heavily vandalized and damaged, and the trailer has not yet been found.

### CUMC’s trailer

The dual axel 16-foot open trailer “stayed at the church garden (alongside the church at 11020 Roane Drive) and was used either for the garden, or to help the church haul large items, such as furniture or railroad ties,” said church member Tracy Brison, who had purchased the trailer second-hand less than a year ago from a fellow parishioner.

It was stolen sometime over Thanksgiving week-endlast November, but church officials are hoping someone may have witnessed either the theft or receipt of the trailer.

**See THEFTS on Page 4A**



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Tammy Cheek

Hancen Sale, Government Affairs and Policy director for Knox Area Association of Realtors, was one of the featured speakers during Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce 2022 Breakfast Speaker Series — Housing ... Forecast for Farragut, West Knox & Beyond! — in Rothchild Catering & Convention Center, Tuesday, Jan. 18.

## Town, Knox housing forecast told at FWKCC Speaker B'fast

TAMMY CHEEK

tcheek@farragutpress.com

Concerns about the growing, seller-market real estate scene drew 120 local government officials, real estate representatives, Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce members and others to FWKCC's 2022 Breakfast Speaker Series — Housing ... Forecast for Farragut, West Knox & Beyond! — in Rothchild Catering and Convention Center Tuesday, Jan. 18.

In 2020, Tennessee was ranked No. 1 in inbound locations (new residents' housing sales), announced emcee Alan Williams with WVLTV Channel 8. "In 2021, we dropped to only No. 3."

"We were told so much about growth and what's happening ... Because of the growth that we have, and will continue to have, we

See SPEAKER SERIES on Page 4A

# KCSOreports

• At 5:45 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 15, a Knox County Sheriff's Office unit responded to 11501 Parkside Drive (At Home store) in regards to shoplifting. Complainant/manager said around 5:30 p.m., three unknown females walked into the store and stole two shopping carts of merchandise. Total value of loss was listed at \$500. Complainant said she has a photo of two of the unknown females. "The suspects left in a two-door, white Nissan Altima, with silver rims, tinted windows," the report stated. Complainant said the suspects had stolen store items previously.

• At 1 a.m., Friday, Jan. 14, a complainant called KCSO Teleserve Unit to report a vehicle burglary at a Turkey Creek Road residence. Complainant advised an unknown suspect took his checkbook out of his 2012 Chevrolet Silverado without permission some time between Monday, Jan. 10, and Wednesday, Jan.

12. Complainant advised he is unsure where the incident occurred, but another possible location was at Anchor Park, 11730 Turkey Creek Road. Complainant advised he was contacted by his bank regarding a check that was cashed at First Horizon Bank in Brentwood (Williamson County), then further advised three additional checks had been cashed by the suspects. Complainant advised they were able to put a hold on the account as well as cancel the checks with the fraud department at the listed banks. One was cashed for \$42,485 at an unknown location Jan. 10; one was cashed for \$2,479 at Regions Bank Jan. 11; one was attempted to be cashed at First Horizon Bank Jan. 10; and one was cashed for \$2,789 at Regions Bank, also Jan. 11.

• At 10:28 p.m., Friday, Jan. 14, officers responded to a Brighton Court residence in

See KCSO REPORTS on Page 4A

## Pilson

From page 1A

members, which recommended approval Nov. 18. BOMA approved the updated ordinance, 21-20, on first reading Thursday, Jan. 13.

"Some of the Town's existing provisions are outdated or do not address certain types of lights," stated a BOMA report from Shipley.

"Specifically, staff noted that standards were needed for decorative string lights and how to address the brightness of some LED lighting."

Pilson "helped us tremendously," establishing specific standards and updating others, Shipley added during the Nov. 18 FMPC meeting.

"We went through the whole ordinance and reorganized it, to make things easier to find/ He also noted existing provisions and performance standards were clarified for pole-mounted lights, wall mounted lights, and under-canopy lights.

Additionally, the new ordinance as written establishes Kelvin temperature standards

to help control brightness and glare. Along with the decorative string lighting standards, it also establishes standards for bollard and landscape lights; and organized and clarified lighting plan submittal and verification requirements.

During the Nov. 18 meeting, Pilson said he "had a lot of experience trying to work with

regulations within the Town. It has sometimes been challenging, so I thought if I can assist with making it easier for everybody, I felt that would help."

In a separate interview, Pilson said, "I started with little knowledge on lighting and have learned through training with manufacturers and through my own research."

In addition to his hands-on experience, Pilson said six years ago he tested for and received a professional certification for lighting, known as an "LC," through the National Council on Qualifications for the Lighting Professions.



Pilson

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# Balance & Fall Prevention: How We Helped Janet Improve Her Balance & Mobility

By - Leading Physical Therapist, Dr. John-Mark Chesney



story, I'm going to tell you how we assessed her 3 Balance Systems as well as the other various factors that contribute to her balance. Then we'll discuss how we used this information to design a successful treatment plan for her.

**Here's Janet's story in a nutshell:** Janet came into the clinic after she fell 2 months ago while walking to her car in a gravel parking lot. She ended up with a couple bumps and bruises, but otherwise was uninjured. However, over the next several weeks, she became more and more worried about having another fall, so she started limiting her activity level, and she specifically avoided things like walking on uneven surfaces (since walking on the gravel was part of why she fell). She decided to come in for physical therapy because lately she's feeling even more unsteady on her feet, and she's had several near-falls where she had to catch herself on a piece of furniture or a wall inside her home.

**After talking with Janet and assessing her balance, her physical therapist discovered some key findings:**

- On the Romberg, she loses her balance quickly when she closes her eyes, especially when standing on the foam. This indicates weakness in her inner ear (vestibular system).
- She has weakness in her ankles, hips, and core.
- Janet walks with short steps and tends to look at the ground.
- She has normal sensation, with no signs of neuropathy, and no signs of vertigo.
- Janet also has a sore left hip, which makes it hard to put weight on her left leg at times and causes her to shift her weight towards her right side when standing and walking.

As you can see, there were several factors con-

tributing to Janet's poor balance abilities, including: inner ear weakness, limited strength, altered walking (due to fear) and left hip pain. To design a successful treatment approach for Janet, her therapists had to take all of these factors into account.

**Here's what successful treatment looked like for Janet:**

1. Balance exercises in the clinic to improve her inner ear function
2. Specific strengthening exercises
3. Hands-on soft tissue work and massage of her hip pain, as well as specific stretches

**And the result?** 4 weeks later, Janet has made improvements in all areas. Her performance on the Romberg is significantly better, and she can now maintain all positions for up to 30 seconds without falling. She's also walking normally again, with longer steps and without looking at the ground. And since her hip isn't bothering her, she's putting weight on both legs equally, which also improves her balance.

**And most importantly:** Janet has regained her confidence and is no longer afraid that she's going to fall when doing her daily activities. She's back to taking long walks with her friends, even if there are hills and uneven terrain at times. She knows that she'll have to keep working hard to keep herself in top shape, but she has all the tools she needs to keep her balance sharp and her muscles strong.

I hope Janet's story helps you understand 2 things. First, if you're worried about your balance, you're not alone. And second, it's very likely that you don't have to just put up with it. With the right treatment approach, you can make significant improvements to your balance and get back to enjoying those activities that you've had to give up. Stay tuned for next week's article- we are going to be announcing hot off the press guide on how to "Improve Your Balance and Prevent Another Fall". Check in next week for details (: Talk to you again next week!

The author, John-Mark Chesney, is a Doctor of Physical Therapy and Owner of Simply Physio. He's happy to answer any questions about balance and fall prevention by phone or text at (865) 351-0615 or by email at john-mark@simplypt.co

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businessbriefs

• **Dr. Grace Ivy, PT, DPT, certified in comprehensive Vestibular Rehabilitation, joined Simply Physio, 111 Loudon Road, Farragut, Monday, Jan. 10.** Ivy is Simply Physio's balance, falls and vestibular specialist who will be helping grow this program for the practice. For those who have had a fall, are dizzy or feel unsteady, she is the area expert and currently is accepting new clients.



Ivy

• **Lonnie T. Brown Jr. recently was named Dean of University of Tennessee's College of Law and Elvini E. Overton Distinguished Professor of Law.** He begins his new duties in July. Brown, a Josiah Meigs Distinguished Teaching Professor who earned the A. Gus Cleveland Distinguished Chair of Legal Ethics and Professionalism at University of Georgia School of Law, previously served in Georgia as associate dean for academic affairs for the law school and as an administrative fellow in the office of the senior vice president for academic affairs and provost.



Brown

• **Ron Feinbaum recently joined Knoxville Utilities Board of Commissioners.** He succeeds outgoing commissioner John Worden, who served on the board since 2015. Feinbaum is a member of the

Boldsquare Inc. team, a multidisciplinary strategy and communications practice that provides executive leadership teams with senior counsel in high-pressure situations to help businesses navigate through growth, crisis and comprehensive change.

Prior to his role at Boldsquare, Feinbaum spent more than 29 years at Scripps Networks Interactive in a variety of roles.

Most recently, he was senior vice president and general manager of Consumer Products and Home Promotions for Scripps Networks Interactive, where he negotiated contracts, developed marketing and promotional efforts for Scripps Networks Interactive's largest digital initiative, — the HGTV Dream Home and other high-profile products — and was involved with diversity and inclusion initiatives.



Feinbaum

• **University of Tennessee, Knoxville, recently received a \$3.7 million grant to fund a special education doctoral program. Three faculty members from UT's College of Education, Health and Human Sciences — Tara Moore, associate professor of special education; Zoi Traga-Philippakos, assistant professor of literacy education; and Kristen Secora, assistant professor of deaf education and special education — will receive the \$3.7 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education programs to provide doctoral-level training for future researchers and preparers of special education personnel.**

Drawing on luck, Pin Thai opens in Farragut

MICHELLE HOLLENHEAD  
mhollenhead@farragutpress.com

Every bit of possible good luck went into opening Farragut's new Pin Thai restaurant Friday, Jan. 21.

"We consulted with a numbers expert, who helped us with naming our restaurant — and even with determining the phone number," explained Apicha Srisomboon, who owns and operates Pin Thai along with his parents, Praphan "Pan" and Ratchada "Pin" and his sister, Nana. "Numbers are very important in our culture and in Buddhism."

The consultant also noted Pin's nickname signified "good luck," but paired with her husband's nickname, "not so much," said their son, who shared their story one day before the restaurant opened.

The Srisomboons, who now live in Knoxville, originally are from Thailand, with Pan and Pin leading the way to the United States 17 years ago, followed eventually by their children.

The couple, who owned a noodle shop in Thailand, continued to work in restaurants in the United States, most recently for 15 years at Taste of Thai in the Cedar Bluff community.

"But owning our own restaurant has long been the goal," said Apicha, who immigrated here six years ago and also worked in restaurant settings as he honed his English-speaking skills.

"Language was a problem, but now we are ready," he said with confidence.



Michelle Hollenhead

Pin Thai is the new family-owned Thai restaurant in Farragut, which opened Friday, Jan. 21, at 723 N. Campbell Station Road. Owners are Ratchada "Pin" Srisomboon, left, her husband, Praphan "Pan," right, and their children, Apicha, second from left, and Nana.

In the meantime, they began scouting out locations about a year ago, finding the perfect spot at 723 N. Campbell Station Road, in the small strip shopping center across from Cracker Barrel.

They had hoped to be open in October but ran into some unforeseen delays, some relating to pandemic delivery issues and others with needed renovations in the space, which formerly housed a Cuban restaurant.

"We were able to get our

equipment by December," he said.

Nana was in charge of re-decorating and interior designs, Pan and Pin worked out the authentic Thai menu — Pin also did a bit of landscaping in front of the restaurant — while Apicha worked the business processes, including coming before the Town Beer Board in December to successfully apply for Pin Thai's beer license.

See PIN THAI on Page 5A

With more space, Cutting Edge Classroom finds new home



Tammy Cheek

Chef John Alunni, co-owner of The Cutting Edge Classroom, stands in one of the business' two classrooms at 150 N. Martinwood Road, Suite 402, in West Knoxville. Cutting Edge moved from Farragut in November.

TAMMY CHEEK  
tcheek@farragutpress.com

When the building at 817 N. Herron Road in Farragut was sold, The Cutting Edge Classroom had to find a new location.

That search took them to 150 N. Martinwood Road, Suite 402, in West Knoxville.

"I liked being in Farragut — we're going to miss that spot — but moving into a large space and being closer to the city, I think, is going to open up some opportunities to get people from Bearden, Knoxville — and still cater to the Farragut folks," said Chef John Alunni, co-owner of The Cutting Edge Classroom with his wife, Jaana. "We're more centralized."

Additionally, he said the business is a little closer to Kingston Pike and easier to find.

The husband-and-wife team moved into their new class-

room location in November.

"We just went out, my wife and I, just pounding the pavement. I think we saw a sign; we came in and we called the landlord," he said. "We love it."

"This is 3,000 square feet," the chef added. "We were in 1,200 (square feet)."

The additional space allows

See CUTTING EDGE on Page 5A

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Thefts

From page 1A

“It was really good-sized,” Brison said. “It could be used as either an equipment trailer or a car hauler. It has a hitch lock, so someone had to come ready to break it off, and it really had to have taken some effort.

“We thought maybe if we put it in the (farragutpress) maybe someone saw it, or someone could identify something, to maybe lead to its recovery.”

Brison said the trailer was more than 20 years old and didn’t have a serial number or any other way to identify it, such as a title or tags.

He said a police report was filed at the time of the incident.

“We are really missing it and would love to see it returned,” he added.

KAMA’s bus

The bus — one of eight servicing hundreds of students at the studio owned by Robert Butturini — was stolen earlier this month. But thanks to an observant Hardin Valley resident, it was fairly quickly located.

“They did a lot of damage and vandalized it,” Butturini said. “I have a real feeling we should be able to repair it and be able to use it again eventually.

“Because it is so large, the mechanic has to work on it outside the actual shop, and it’s been too cold to have the complete damage assessed, but I have a real feeling we should be able to repair it,” he added.

Since it was an older model school bus, Butturini didn’t have full coverage insurance.

“It never occurred to me someone would steal a school bus,” he said.

Megan Belcher, whose son is one of Butturini’s students, started a Go Fund Me account to

raise money for the repairs — and as of Saturday, Jan. 22, \$3,700 had been raised.

In addition to this latest incident, Butturini said he has endured vandalism and damage to every one of his business’ buses — with rampant catalytic converter thefts plaguing many businesses.

“We have had 15 catalytic converters stolen, which have cost \$15,000 to \$20,000 to replace,” he reported.

Fortunately, Butturini said he has been operating the transportation portion of the business “on a back-up plan we already had in place.

“We pick up hundreds of kids from school. If we didn’t have some kind of back-up plan, those 40 or so kids and their parents who rely on us would just have to find another mode of transportation,” he said. “That’s not the case right now — we didn’t miss a beat.

“But if something else happens, we don’t have a back-up plan for the back-up plan.”

While thankful for the person who reported the bus theft, which ensured its return, Butturini said he is disappointed with the fallout caused by persistent thefts.

“When you have small businesses and churches, just trying to help others, trying to do the right thing and better the community, then to have people steal from us where we keep having set back after setback, it’s just so frustrating,” he said.

“I will say, though, our community has really stepped up — and stepped up big. ... I am truly grateful for that.”

Anyone with any tips on the missing trailer may contact CUMC by calling 865-966-6728; Knox County Sheriff’s Office at 865-215-2243 or Brison at 865-963-5083.

For KAMA repair donations: [www.gofundme.com/f/repairs-for-vandalized-childcare-bus](http://www.gofundme.com/f/repairs-for-vandalized-childcare-bus)

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• We don’t understand the contributor to the Jan. 20 Presstalk. Why are they concerned about the Choto area?

We in Choto do not want to be taken in by Farragut. There is more to life than the growth of a town. Also, they should know that there are more than two ways out of Choto; we use roads that avoid Farragut: Northshore (Drive) takes us to Knoxville or Maryville; Martel takes us to Lenoir City, where we really like to shop and go out to eat. We pay the same County taxes for the schools as do the Farragut citizens. And being a part of Farragut is not a requirement to attend Farragut High School. So to whoever, please don’t nose into our business. Let us live peacefully.

• I haven’t got the (farragutpress) yet — I will. A friend of mine called and said there was a (Jan. 20 Presstalk, where a caller) wanted to annex the Choto-Northshore (area). They tried to do that once before; and I don’t know who ... wants to be in Farragut. If they want to be in Farragut, they need to buy a house in Farragut. ... I don’t want to do any business in Farragut if I can help it.

• Masks mask masks ... Will this ever end??? I thought masks were supposed to keep us from getting sick, but they have not been and we got out of school because of coronavirus. I think that wearing a mask should be an option for families. I think that the purpose of schools should be learning about reading, math and other important subjects and not worrying about masks. I recently went to a school board meeting and it lasted a few hours, and most of the meeting was talking about masks. They did spend some time talking about how money would be spent on us in our classes, and I think they should have spent more time talking about how to help us and our teachers in the classroom. I have to wear a mask for eight hours a day. It’s very annoying and I wish we could just focus on learning. I hate this topic has divided so many people. Some people think masks should be required and some don’t think they need to be required. I wish it was up to each family.

Presstalk rules

• No names of any public figures or other persons will be allowed in a Presstalk submission. • All Presstalk submission must have identification (for farragutpress purposes only; no names will be published with any Presstalk submission). • Please keep calls to a 90-second maximum (call 865-671-8255 24 hours a day, seven days a week); • Please keep e-mailed Presstalks to 250 words maximum ([editor@farragutpress.com](mailto:editor@farragutpress.com)); • Libelous and malicious comments will not be published; • Profanity will be edited out

KCSO Reports

From page 2A

reference to a hit-and-run on a mailbox. Total value of damage was listed at \$1,000. Victim/complainant said when he returned home around 6 p.m. that day his mailbox had been damaged. Suspect was unknown when this report was filed.

• At 1:09 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 13, a victim called KCSO East Precinct to report a theft at Firestone, 11215 Kingston Pike.

The victim said between midnight and 6 p.m. the previous day, person(s) unknown stole two catalytic converters

off of his 2011 Toyota Tundra while parked at Firestone. Total value of loss was listed at \$1,500. The manager of Firestone said there are no outside cameras.

• At 10:12 a.m., Jan. 13, officers responded to a St. John Court address due to reports of damage to the soccer field. Complainant said a white Mercedes SUV had driven on the soccer field, causing ruts and damage, between the hours of 10 p.m. and 2 a.m.

Complainant said this has happened several times over the last six months. Cost to fix the field is \$500. Digital Intelligence Unit was notified to collect the surveillance video.

Speaker Series

From page 2A

need to be very diligent on our land planning and our growth planning, through proper zoning and density,” attendee Larry Sheumaker said.

As a mortgage loan officer, Vicki Williams said, “I love to hear different perspectives as to what other people think the economy is doing and the real estate market is doing.

She learned “it’s a hot market.

“Knoxville is in demand,” Williams added. “We’re always in the top five and top 25.”

Attendees heard from panel members Nick McBride, Knox County Register of Deeds; Hancan Sale, Government Affairs and Policy director for Knox Area Association of Realtors; and John Cook, president of Home Builders Association of Greater Knoxville and owner/president of Cook Bros. Homes.

“The focus of the moderated panel program, presented by The Knox Fox Real Estate Group, (was) a focused forecast on the housing landscape for Farragut and beyond for 2022,”

F W K C C president/CEO Julie Blaylock stated in a recent Chamber newsletter. “After a volatile period of soaring prices, low inventory and a dearth of relocations to the area, many residents and employers want to know what ‘exactly’ is next for 2022 and 2023.”

McBride said between 2019 and 2021 there was a 71 percent increase in the value of mortgages.

Cook said he also is seeing an influx of people coming in to buy properties in West Knox County.

“People are coming to Knox County from outlying areas,” Sale added.

However, he noted a vast number of buyers are from East Tennessee, and we should expect to see more.

Sale added he expects to see the “sellers market” trend to continue.



Cook

At the same time, “so many people are coming from different places, leaving New Jersey, New York and California,” McBride said. “It’s creating an impact on housing availability and infrastructure.”

Cook said he also sees a lack of developable lots, and that trend is continuing.

“Lots are not getting developed fast enough,” he added. “We need to look at density on the lots.”

Sale agreed and said, “We just need to build homes as efficiently as possible.

“You want young people to stay in their hometown,” he added. “Kids are not going to be able to afford to stay.”

He noted the Town of Farragut has the most restrictive land use ordinances in reference to density. However, Vice Mayor Louise Povlin countered the Town created those ordinances with “quality of life” in mind.

“We are nearly at build-out,” she added. “We wanted to preserve our character as we build out ... We don’t have a property tax so we ask developers to help with the costs of upgrading the roads.”



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Rezoning

From page 1A

through our neighbor’s yard if cars are coming before we get to the stop sign.

“.... You’re adding that many more cars going in and out on Harrison Lane. It is going to be a problem.”

Driver, a former Farragut High School sports coach and teacher, serves as Amberly Court Meadows homeowners association president.

“What concerns us as a neighborhood ... is about Harrison Lane ... we’re going to have a lot of people exiting this development,” Driver said.

“People are going to come out on Harrison Lane — we’ve seen it attending church at Two Rivers; we’ve seen the traffic pick up there quite a bit. It’s a narrow stretch from Harrison Lane (north) to Harrison Road, out to Watt Road,” he added.

“The concern is, when we come out of our subdivision at Amberly Court and turn right, and we go up left toward Watt Road off of Harrison (Road), it’s very dangerous. We’ve got a lot of older folks in our sub-

division, and I’ve had a couple of people say they’ve almost been hit.”

Nearby, “We’ve got a big apartment complex (also mixed-use) coming in behind Little Joe’s (Pizza),” Driver said about the complex along South Watt Road near its intersection with Kingston Pike, which is close to Harrison Lane’s north intersection with the Pike.

As a result, “It’s just going to pick up the traffic even more,” he added. “We hope to be back whenever it gets to the next stage in the process.”

“We don’t want to see it become a cut-through either,” Vice Mayor/Commissioner Louise Povlin said about motorists using Harrison Road/Harrison Lane to get from North Watt to Kingston Pike going west, and in the reverse direction.

Familiar with this area’s traffic issues, including the above-mentioned mixed-use complex construction along South Watt Road resulting in the closure of one eastbound lane of Kingston Pike at the Watt



Driver



Myers

Road intersection for the past several months, Commissioner Noah Myers said, “I suspect there’s a lot of cut-through traffic that’s going through Harrison Road and Harrison Lane right now.”

With a sizeable portion of Harrison Lane in Loudon County, “I would love to have a conversation with the (Loudon) County Commissioner and talk about what their plans are,” Povlin said.

“If there’s traffic calming they think might be effective on Harrison Lane,” she added.

“We try to weigh (the concerns) of both the local, immediate community, such as yourselves, as well as the rest of the community,” Myers said. “It’s a challenge. We do try to look at the whole picture.”

He added the rezoning “is compatible with the Town’s Land Use Plan.”

FMPC voted unanimously to approve the rezoning, which had been recommended by Town staff, said Mark Shipley, Community Development director.

Cutting Edge

From page 3A

the couple to have two classrooms, compared to the one classroom in the Herron Road location.

“One of the classrooms seats 28,” Alunni said. “The other seats 60.”

The space also allows them to provide a retail space, where they sell many of the cooking utensils and “gadgets” used in the classrooms, as well as T-shirts and other gift items, he added.

The Cutting Edge Classroom, started by John and Jaana in 2016, offers a variety of classes taught by professional chefs for students of all ages and skill levels.

He said the classes provide fun and an opportunity to meet new people with similar interests.

“The food is great,” Alunni added. “(The classes) are exciting and interactive, chef-taught — all the instructors are chefs — a safe environment and (students can) learn new skills.”

Classes range from baking bread and pastries to making pasta and sushi.

Alunni himself has many years of experience as an executive chef and as an instructor for culinary programs at the University of Tennessee and Pellissippi State Community College. “We do date nights, baking classes, kids’ classes, cooking clubs for adults, private groups and virtual classes,” he said.

The Cutting Edge also offers corporate team-building opportunities including office groups events, birthdays,

holidays — and it caters to sports teams, scouts, church groups, women’s groups and wedding rehearsal groups.

Classes meet from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., seven days a week. “We don’t take a day off,” he noted. “Weekends are our busiest times.” To book a class, visit [www.thecuttingedgeclassroom.com](http://www.thecuttingedgeclassroom.com)

“We supply everything,” Alunni said. “If they want a team-building or a private group event, they call.”

For more information, call 865-335-9370 or e-mail [jalunni@gmail.com](mailto:jalunni@gmail.com)

Pin Thai

From page 3A

The extensive four-page menu — including a full page of lunch specials — offers a wide assortment of Thai delicacies. Appetizers include Spring Rolls, Fried Tofu and Gai Jor, a crispy tofu wrapped roll of chicken, “glass” noodles and sweet corn.

All food is “authentic Thai, very little is Americanized,” Apicha said.

Salads include Som Tum (Papaya Salad), a spicy beef salad, and the “Pin Thai” specialty salad garnished with eggs avocados, carrots, cucumbers, and peanut sauce.

Soups — Tom Yum (Thai herb lemongrass), Tom Kha (Thai herb galangal coconut milk soup) and Moo Sub Soup with ground port glass noodles and tofu — along with main rice and noodle entrees fea-

ture a variety of vegetables and meats, along with sauces including Basil, Cashew and Ginger — and several curry options.

“We use curries, like they do in India,” Apicha said. “But

Thai food is more flavorful, and is a mix between Chinese and Indian styles of cooking.”

Its teas include those known as bubble and jelly teas, along with Thai coffee, Sticky Cocoa Milk, Coconut Smoothies and

Lychee Slushees.

“I am so glad to be opening this restaurant with my family,” Apicha added.

Hours are from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. each day (closed Monday). For more info: 865-392-1135.



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After 14 years at KISL ‘City Meet,’ FHS No. 1 again

ALAN SLOAN  
editor@farragutpress.com

KNOXVILLE — At one time the 26th-ranked 400-meter individual medley swimmer in the world, plus an NCAA meet finalist, freshman Jessica Hill Abrahamson was a key contributor to Farragut High School’s 2004 Knox-area Inter-scholastic Swim League “City Meet” championship. With that winning pedigree perhaps taking hold of her team 18 years later, coach Abrahamson’s Aqua Ads captured the KISL crown in blow-out fashion Sunday, Jan. 23, in Allan Jones Intercollegiate Aquatic Center at UT. “First time FHS has won this meet in 14 years,” the Admirals skipper said, adding her team’s 718.5 points — 339.5 points better than runner-up Maryville’s 379 — “was the largest margin win the City Meet has ever had,” which

dates back “to the late ’70s; on-line records date back to ’98.” Individually and relay-wise, Farragut won five of the 24 events, led in part by junior Camden Gerchar capturing first in the boys 500-yard free-style at 4:48.60. Freshman Karly Wolfram was champ in the girls 100-breaststroke at 1:06.08. The FHS foursome of Wolfram, Abigail King, Kendall Hudgens and Grace LaCharite won the 200-medley relay at 1:48.96. Another Admirals quartet was champion in the girls 200-free relay: Sophia Kovalevskaya, Karolina Nosarzewski, Iris Chen and Sophie Lu (1:43.01). Gerchar was among the Farragut boys foursome to win the 400-free relay, along with Yohan LePape, Ryder Hicks and Cade Austin (3:21.91). Highest scorers for the FHS girls at the KISL Meet were LaCharite, Lu, Katelyn Kram-



These six Farragut High School swim and dive team members celebrated Senior Night Sunday, Jan. 16, in Allan Jones Intercollegiate Aquatic Center at UT following a meet versus rival Hardin Valley Academy, where the Aqua Admirals won 13 of the 16 events. Team members with their families (top row, from left), are Gabby Maine and her parents, Greg and Kelly Maine; Paul Greene and his father, Jeff Greene; and Jessica and Abigail King with their father, Harry King. Families in the (bottom row, from left), are Ethan Thomasson with parents, Kris and Lee Thomasson; Emma Kim and her mother, Lee Soyoung; and Troy Gleckler with his mother, Tammy Jo.

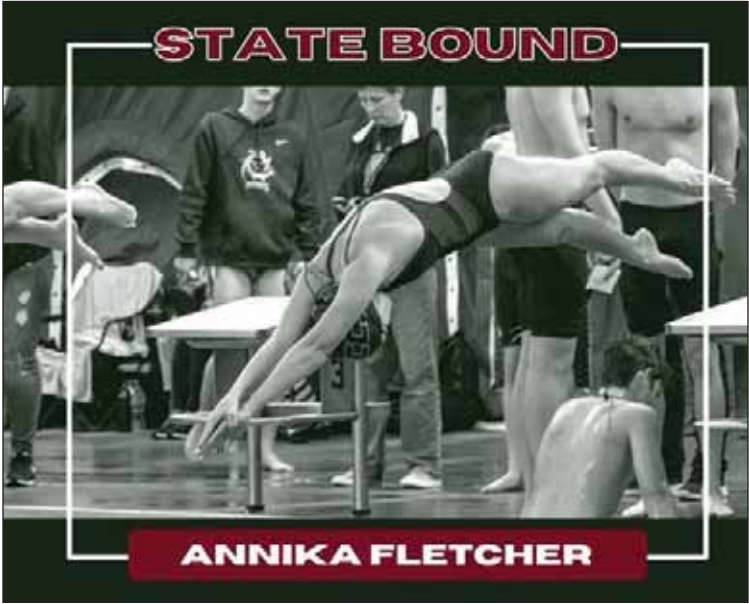
er, Allison Pye and Jessica King. “These ladies are fantastic,” Abrahamson said about her individual champs and top overall scorers. “They know how to get the job done. “We have a great deal of

gratitude to them and their round team coaches at TNAQ, ACAC, Prime Aquatics and Victory Aquatics.” Highest boys scorers were Gerchar, Hicks, LePape, Charlie Houston and Leo Karnitz. “This group of guys are

on track to break some long-term school records, and I am here for it,” Abrahamson said. “This group of guys are so well-balanced it makes it impossible to compare them.

See CHAMPS on Page 9A

Breaking new ground in water, on court at CCS



(CCS swim accomplishments, starting above) Only a freshman, Annika Fletcher has become Concord Christian School’s first female swimmer to qualify for a state meet. She will be competing in the 100-yard backstroke during the state championship meet in Nashville Feb. 11-12. (Above right) Members of the CCS swim and dive team with their Division II third-place trophy, earned at the Knox-area Inter-scholastic Swim League “City Meet” in UT’s Allan Jones Intercollegiate Aquatic Center, with finals held Sunday evening, Jan. 23. Among the entire KISL field, the Lions’ 200-yard medley relay boys was one of the school’s three first-place finishers — two by the same foursome: Logan Hall, Christopher Rector, Kolby Leach and Kade Leach combined to finish 1:39.08 in that 200 relay win, then came back to capture first in the 200-freestyle relay (1:28.72). Kade Leach was a part of all three top finishes, winning the boys 50-yard free (21.95).

Lady Lions win

Behind a game-high 20 points from senior guard Kylie Phillips (see photo above) and 16 from M. Sulish, Concord Christian School’s girls hoops team improved to 8-8 on the season by edging Berean Christian 55-54 Friday, Jan. 21.

(CCS hoops signee, below right) Kylie Phillips, standout Concord Christian School guard, became the first Lady Lions basketball player in school history to sign scholarship papers with a college. With a gym full of supporters, the senior inked with Bryan College in Dayton (Rhea County) during the ceremony Wednesday, Jan. 12. “She is a trailblazer in our program,” CCS girls hoops head coach Denard Bertram said. “... She’s stood the test of time with her hard work and her ability, so now it’s paying off.” Bryan head coach Bryon Lawhon said Phillips “is a young lady who’s been on our radar for a couple of years. ... It’s more than just basketball; She works hard in the classroom. She represents everything our program’s about.” Seated alongside Phillips are her parents, Jessica and Kyle Phillips. Standing are her siblings, Bryce and Katie; and grandparents, from left, Tony and Anita York, and Trudie and Doyle Phillips.



CCS swim team and Kylie Phillips signing photos by Alan Sloan/Annika Fletcher photo submitted

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Opening General Assembly

‘Chair-ish Moment’ at FHS accepted



MICHELLE HOLLENHEAD  
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Town leadership and area business owners have stepped up to help “Chair-ish the Moment” at Farragut High School.

Mayor Ron Williams confirmed last week he has purchased a number of replacement auditorium chairs as part of an effort — begun last year by the Class of 2021 — to replace seating in the Vickie B. Wells’ Auditorium, which is more than 40 years old.

The campaign is tagged “Chair-ish the Moment,” and each replacement chair is \$199, which can be personalized.

“As you know, (as a Town), we donate money every year (to our schools) and we have been doing volunteer school projects at every Intro to Farragut class,” Williams said. “I encouraged everyone on the library project (FHS library facelift) as well as speaking at the kickoff for the chair campaign this past December.

“I personally purchased 10 chairs and also challenged some of our local business leaders to step up and buy some for their family members,” he added.

Meeting that challenge so far has been area businessmen

See ‘CHAIR-ISH’ on Page 8A

Chocolate Fest set in H-Valley

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The inaugural Hardin Valley Chocolate Festival & Crafter’s Fair will be held from noon to 5 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 5 — just in time for Valentine’s Day.

More than a dozen chocolate vendors from across the region have signed up, along with more than 40 crafters, organizer Theresa West said.

The event takes place at 10613 Dogwood Road, which is a shared community building between Emmanuel Church and Citizens Church.

Tickets are \$10 for the tastings, but admission is free for those wishing only to shop.

“Each ticket gets you a sample of every chocolate vendor at the show, along with a ballot to vote for the best,” West

See CHOCOLATE FEST Page 8A

Lawmakers join FHS Advanced Mixed Choir to sing anthem; NJROTC presents Colors

TAMMY CHEEK  
[tcheek@farragutpress.com](mailto:tcheek@farragutpress.com)

NASHVILLE — Farragut High School’s Advanced Mixed Choir teamed up with FHS’s Navy Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps Tuesday, Nov. 11, to present the Colors and sing the The Star-Spangled Banner for the opening session of Tennessee General Assembly.

There were 38 choir students, four NJROTC students, Mitchell Moore, director of FHS’s choral program, Gunnery Sgt. Craig Cooper and five parents who made the trip to state capital.

“The whole experience was incredible,” Moore said. “When we arrived, we were given a tour of the capital grounds and then had the chance to meet with Rep. (Jason) Zachary (R-District 14, which includes Farragut), Sen. (Becky Duncan) Massey (R-District 6), Sen. (Richard) Briggs (R-District 7, which includes Far-

ragut), Lt. Gov. (Randy) McNally and Gov. (Bill) Lee. “At the beginning of the session, the choir and NJROTC presented the Colors and sang “The Star-Spangled Banner” and we were able to stay and watch the remainder of the session,” the choral director said. “Afterward, we took a quick lunch break at Opry Mills Mall then headed back to school.” Moore said the students got the opportunity because “our students are incredible students. “This started with a quick e-mail to Sen. Richard Briggs’

Photo submitted

ragut), Lt. Gov. (Randy) McNally and Gov. (Bill) Lee.

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See FHS-LAWMAKERS on Page 8A

ESK students honor Dr. King

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Episcopal School of Knoxville middle school students had a lesson in reflecting on the late Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s teachings while creating “prayer” flags to keep them top of mind.

Led by middle school art teacher Jessie Winston, every student from fifth to eighth grade created a flag that included a word or phrase encompassing King and his legacy.

“The New Year is the perfect time to reflect upon our lives, the com-

munity and the world,” Winston said. “Coupled with the celebration of the life of Martin Luther King, I wanted students to think about his lessons and how they apply today.

“The prayer flag project is meant to be a visual reminder to promote unity and wellness in our community” she added.

“I liked having people give examples of peace and equality,” ESK seventh-grader Pip Vogel said. “It was a good way for people to share ideas and show positive messages.”

Photo submitted

Episcopal School of Knoxville sixth-grade students Coleman Miller, left, and Aidan Aljadir, paint their prayer flags as part of a project last week to commemorate the late Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Monday, Jan. 17.



See MLK-ESK on Page 8A

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• **Davis Tarwater, SafeSplash Swim School owner and 2012 Olympic gold medalist, is offering its first community give-back session in January by holding free swimming classes to a group of young children and toddlers from the Down Syndrome Awareness Group,** introducing them to the water and encouraging water safety beginning at 6 p.m., each Thursday night.

“Children with Down syndrome are very curious and most times unaware of the dangers around them. Swimming lessons are a great way for children with Down syndrome to work on muscle tone, learn water safety and have fun with their parent or caretaker and friends in the water with them ...,” said Angie Holbert, executive director for Down Syndrome Awareness Group.

Drowning is the leading cause of death for infants and children – and that statistic steeply increases for children with Down syndrome. Enrollment is open and class information can be found at [safesplash.com](http://safesplash.com) or by calling 865-263-1800.

• **A blood drive seeking all blood types, which will be administered by MEDIC,** will be held in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 11837 Grigsby Chapel Road in Farragut, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 12. Donors will be directed to the church's gymnasium.

Donors must be at least age 16. For donor requirements of non-adult teenagers, and requirements and examination protocols for all donors, visit [www.medicblood.org](http://www.medicblood.org).

• **Knoxville Bar Association announces a Faith and Justice Legal Advice Clinic** will be held from 9 a.m. to noon, Saturday, Feb. 12, in Cokesbury United Methodist Church North Campus, 9919 Kingston Pike. The church is located between Harper Auto and The Gem Store. Enter under the blue welcome sign.

This is a general advice and referral clinic, with volunteers prepared to advise on a wide variety of legal issues. Masks will be required for all volunteers and attendees.

• **MEDIC Regional Blood Center is urging East Tennesseans to donate** with their local blood bank. “We have critically low inventory levels for O Negative and O Positive and severely low inventory for a Negative and B Negative blood types ...,” said Kristy Altman, MEDIC director of communications.

Appointments are preferred, but walk-in donors are welcome. Donors can call 865-521-2682 or 865-524-3074 to schedule their appointment. Donors also can visit [medicblood.org/donate](http://medicblood.org/donate) to search for a drive closest to them and schedule their appointment.

MEDIC is the primary blood product provider for major area hospitals including Blount Memorial Hospital, Covenant Healthcare System, East Tennessee Children's Hospital, Tennova and the University of Tennessee Medical Center along with other regional centers. For more information on MEDIC Regional Blood Center, visit its website at [www.medicblood.org](http://www.medicblood.org) or contact Altman at [Kaltman@medicblood.org](mailto:Kaltman@medicblood.org) or by phone at 865-805-2008.

• **“Humpty Dumpty is Missing!” is first show of the 2022 season** for Knoxville Children's Theatre (109 E. Churchwell Ave. in Knoxville). In partnership with the Clayton Foundation, KCT is presenting this live production through Sunday, Jan. 30: starting at 7 p.m., Thursdays and Fridays; at 1 and 5 p.m., Saturdays;

See **PLANNER** on Page 9A

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## FHS-lawmakers

From page 7A

secretary about the possibility of singing on the capital grounds,” he said. “I was expecting nothing more than somewhere in the lobby out of the way, but she really took to the idea and ran with it.

“Because he knows the quality of work we do at FHS, Sen. Briggs ended up having us as guests for the opening session of the Tennessee Senate, where we were able to sing and present the colors,” Moore added.

“Every student said they enjoyed the trip. My favorite comment was about how the students were surprised at how positive the session was.”

Although Moore said the students were expecting a tense atmosphere, “the sena-

tors were making jokes and laughing with one another,” he said.

“I think most of the students’ favorite part was when Lt. Gov. McNally invited the students to take a picture at the front of the chamber and allowed them to bang the gavel he uses during session,” Moore added.

“I was personally impressed by the amount of people who either spoke with me, Gun-nery Sgt. Cooper or the students about how impressed they were. We had legislators from every part of the state telling us how honored they were to host the students and how they rarely get to see/hear anything to the level of what the students presented.”

As for possibly making an impact, “One legislator even commented on how moved he was by their performance and

how they have positively influenced his opinion on the importance of the fine arts and electives at schools,” Moore said.

“Rep. Zachary spoke about his own path to the State House and his experience as a Farragut High alumnus,” the choral director added. “Sen. Briggs and Sen. Massey both encouraged the students to stay active in politics ....”

With the FHS students also meeting Lee, the governor “spoke about how they should continue to play a part in politics for their entire lives,” Moore said.

Overall, “I think the students feel more connected to the legislative process — that it feels real now and isn’t just some group of people hovelled away in a building on a hill,” the choral director added.

## Chocolate Fest

From page 7A

added. “We will even have gluten-free and dairy-free options.”

Valentine’s gifts — including soaps, candles and jewelry— also will be plentiful.

For more information, visit Hardin Valley Chocolate Festival & Crafter’s Fair on Facebook, where tickets may be purchased, [https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/events/3015865835292760)

[events/3015865835292760](https://www.facebook.com/events/3015865835292760). Tickets may also be pur-

chased the day of the event at the door.

## MLK-ESK

From page 7A

“I wrote about peace because it makes me think of the world being a better place,” sixth-grader Jane Perry Collins said. “If we have faith in ourselves, we won’t worry about the world.”

Winston said the project’s purpose was “to inspire students to actively participate in creating their own spiritual space and connect to our community by offering prayers for peace, healing and well-being.

“The project was simple,” she added. “Students wrote their own prayer, wish, intention or image on the empty flags. Then they dyed the fabric for visual impact.

“We hung the flags in our chapel so students will remain mindful of their prayers.

The flags then were displayed in the Lower School Chapel, where all ESK students were able to see them during a Tuesday morning, Jan. 18, chapel service. “We have chapel every day for both schools,” Winston said.

## ‘Chair-ish’

From page 7A

developers and FHS graduates Doug Horne and Budd Cul-lom. Horne, owner of Republic Newspapers, Inc., parent company of farragutpress, said he committed to purchasing five seats. Cullom has bought two.

About 800 replacement seats are needed for the ground-level portion of the auditorium.

For more info, or to buy a seat, e-mail history teacher Angela Breeding at [angela.breeding@knoxschools.org](mailto:angela.breeding@knoxschools.org).

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# It's Girl Scout Cookie time in Farragut

**TAMMY CHEEK**  
tcheek@farragutpress.com

Farragut lovers of Girl Scout cookies once again can support their local scouts while feeding their cravings. Troops, such as 21148, are taking orders now. “We are in our pre-order phase,” Troop 20148 leader Rachel Santana said. “So all the girls have their cookie sheets to take orders on, and they can also take orders on their own personal website. “We have a fairly small troop of six girls with a big goal of 2,000 boxes of cookies this year,” she added. “Our troop will be bridging from Brownie Girl Scouts to Junior Girl Scouts next year. “We plan to use our cookie proceeds to pay for everyone’s membership, uniforms, badges and activities for next year.” Turning in pre-orders last weekend (Jan. 22-23), “We should be able to pick up cookies in February,” Santana said. “But between now and then, the girls can keep taking orders on their goal-getter form, which gets them another patch if they sell 25 goal-getters.” The troops will start cookie booths around Town, starting Friday, Feb. 25, and continue to take in-person orders. The cookie booths will run through March 20.

Booths have been scheduled at Dick Sporting Goods, At Home and Kroger, “but they are going to roll out more booth locations for us in the next couple of weeks,” Santana said. “If people go online to ‘Find My Cookies’ there’ll be more options as they get closer to booth time.” Along with all the traditional favorites — Samoas, Thin Mints, Tagalongs, Do-si-dos and Trefoils — the scouts will have a new cookie, the Adventurous, a salted caramel brownie cookie, Santana said. “They are so good,” she said. “We got to try them when they rolled out for cookie season this year. I tell people they’re a one glass of milk to one cookie ratio.” There also are S’mores, Lemonades (shortbread cookies), Lemon-Ups, which were new last year, Toast-Yay and Toffee-tastic. “The boxes are \$5 each this year,” Santana said, conceding the price did go up for the first time in many years. “We have a gluten-free cookie that is \$6 a box,” she added. In addition to ordering from a scout or at a booth, cookies also can be ordered online at <https://DigitalCookie.GirlScouts.org/scout/troop21148-388> to buy cookies from Scout Troop 21148 or at <https://www.girlscouts.org/en/cookies/about-girl-scout-cookies.html> and find the troop they want. The cookies will be shipped directly to the buyer. Farragut’s scouts are part of the Girl Scouts of Southern



Photo submitted

Farragut Scout Troop 21148 members who are taking orders for Girl Scout cookies are, front row from left, Evangeline Chesney, Olivia Hensley, Ainsley Lewis, Talia Seaton, Olivia Santana and Stella Overton. Leaders in back are Sara Lewis, left, and Rachel Santana.

## Champs

From page 6A

“They are versatile in talent and strength in just about everything. “They genuinely make my job fun because when I get them together in a race, it really is a guessing game on who will take the event,” she added. “The best part about that is seeing what good teammates and friends they are with each other. “They are fantastic leaders of great sportsmanship.” Farragut swimmers and divers who qualified to compete in Tennessee Interscholastic Swim Coaches Association State High School

Swimming and Diving Championships, Friday and Saturday, Feb. 11-12, in Nashville are: Riley Brown (100-free), Chen (six events), Meira Desai (100-breaststroke), Raina Desai (100 free and 200 free), Gerchar (eight), Sarah Morgar Godbold (six), Hicks (eight), Paul Greene (100-breast), Houston (200-free and 500 free), Narva Hu (200-IM and 100-back), Hudgens (seven) and Hayden Johnson (500-free). Other Aqua Ads qualifiers are Karnitz (eight), Abigail King (five), Jessica King (seven), Kramer (eight), LaCharite (five), LePape (three), Lu (five), Sophie Thompson (50-free), Elliot Mandl (50-free and 100-free), Nosarzewski (four), Pye (six), Noah Roettger (four), Wolfgram (eight), Evan King (100-breast) and Cam Croy (diving).

## Planner

From page 8A

and 3 p.m., Sundays. Tickets are available online by visiting [knoxvillechildrenstheater.com](http://knoxvillechildrenstheater.com) or by calling 865-208-3677. • **Authors Guild of Tennessee will hold its monthly meeting** beginning at 11 a.m., Thursday, Feb. 3, at Faith Lutheran Church, Jamestowne Boulevard in Farragut. Social time and book exchange cer-

emonies begins at 10:30 a.m. Published authors are invited to attend. Authors Guild of Tennessee now is accepting applications for associate membership from among “serious authors only” who have written a book but are not yet published. In the event of inclement weather, check the Guild’s Website for updates and information at [authorsguildoftn.org](http://authorsguildoftn.org).

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# Martin, Penn, Thibeault top FHS wrestlers

**ALAN SLOAN**  
editor@farragutpress.com

**KARNS** — Though having just nine boys wrestlers on his roster, Farragut High School head coach David Garabrandt nevertheless has enjoyed the process of developing his mostly young and experienced grapplers.

“We haven’t won a lot as far as the team goes, but the chemistry in the room has been great,” Garabrandt said after his team competed in Karns Duals Saturday, Jan. 22, at Karns High despite having just five wrestlers on hand.

Saying all of his wrestlers are eager to learn, “As all coaches would know, getting somebody to try something is the first step to learning new stuff,” the coach added.

Two Admirals have stood out — also doing so at Karns: senior Cody Penn, who normally wrestles in the 138-pound class, moved up to 145 and still managed to win three of his four matches Saturday.

“He has some prior wrestling experience, but this is actually his first time wrestling in high school,” the coach said. “He said he (wrestled) two years back in middle school then took some years off. ... He’s got over a 50 percent win-rate this year as well.”

Same for junior Zachary Martin, who finished 3-1 in the 170 class at Karns. Martin finished third in a tournament in Mt. Juliet and sixth during the Maryville Invitational.

“This is actually his first year wrestling,” Garabrandt said. “He’s got quite a few years of jujitsu behind him to help him out. He’s actually been doing pretty well.”



Alan Sloan

Senior Cody Penn, left, FHS senior wrestler (145-pound class) grabs a Bearden wrestler during Karns Duals Saturday, Jan. 22.

“I expect him to be able to place in the top three or four in region and go to state.”

Other boys wrestlers are senior Matthew Gowdy (152), juniors Aiden Enters (160) and Andrew Celeste (182), sophomores Samuel Haskins (152) and Grant Jones (152), and freshman Ben Manning (120).

### FHS girls team

Making five count, Garabrandt spoke glowingly about his five Farragut girls wrestlers.

Senior Elaina Thibeault (165-pound class) “placed in state her sophomore year, which was her first year of wrestling; she took fifth at state,” the coach said, adding Thibeault “was unable to go to state last year. She qualified but was injured and unable to compete there.”

“I expect her to be able to place this year. She’s been really strong; she’s been winning a lot of matches.”

Among her major accomplishments this season, Thibeault “took first at Mt Juliet and she won Maryville Invitational,” Garabrandt said.

First-year FHS grapplers include freshmen Sarah Jones (152).

Jones “actually has been doing really well,” the coach said, with a third-place finish at Maryville Invitational and third at Mt. Juliet.

However, due to a rugby commitment, “She’s going to be unable to compete at region,” Garabrandt added.

“In the future, if she sticks with it, I expect her to be able to do a lot.”

Though dealing with lingering effects of a pre-season knee injury, Makena Porter (126) “has been about 50-50” in her winning percentage, the coach said. “But I think she could be near full strength by region time. I could see her placing fourth there and making it into state.”

Other FHS girls wrestlers are freshmen Trinity Byars (145) and Ruby Manning (100).

# 1st HHS girls 4-A loss at FHS

**BILL HOWARD**  
Correspondent

Friday night, Jan. 21, at Farragut High School, the competitive top half of District 4-4A in girls’ basketball got even tighter.

The Lady Ads entertained previously unbeaten Heritage, and sent the Lady Mountaineers home with their first district loss.

Farragut’s 48-42 win Jan. 21 — coupled with a blowout victory versus Greeneville in FHS’s Lynn E. Sexton Gymnasium one day later — improved the team’s record to 18-5 overall, 3-1 in the district, starting this week.

The teams traded baskets through the first quarter, and it ended with the score knotted at 14. The score was still tied at 19 with 2:49 left in the half when Farragut got some separation with an 8-0 run. The Lady Admirals led at half 28-21.

Scoring runs of 7-0 and, to finish the quarter, 6-2 by Farragut gave the FHS girls a 41-28 lead after three — a lead that seemed safe. It wasn’t.

The lead was still 11, 45-34, with six minutes to go when the Lady Mountaineers promptly scored eight straight — and Farragut’s lead was only three, 45-42, with barely two minutes left. But the Lady Mountaineers got no closer.

Senior wing Avery “Ace” Strickland, who recently decommitted from West Virginia and spoke with Vanderbilt’s recruiting coordinator after the game, led Farragut with 13, 11 in the second half. Keeleigh Rogers also had 13. Ashlyn Sheridan scored 12.

“We came in and fought really hard. This is a really big win, knowing that we can come off no practice (because of school being called off) and come beat this team,” Strickland said.

# Ads still district leader; easy win

**BILL HOWARD**  
Correspondent

It was domination in every sense of the word Friday night, Jan. 21, at Farragut.

The Admirals’ boys’ basketball team was equally prolific on offense and smothering on defense. The result was a 74-14 dismantling of Heritage to keep Farragut on top in District 4-4A at 4-0, improving to 15-5 overall.

Ten players scored for Farragut, led by senior post Elisha Brabson, whose 16 points included two dunks. Senior guards Dillon Atwell and Ryan Neal each got 12; Carter Mayfield added 10.

“We execute what we’re supposed to do and things like this happen,” Brabson said.

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## FARRAGUT BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN FARRAGUT TOWN HALL • 11408 MUNICIPAL CENTER DRIVE

AGENDA JANUARY 27, 2022

WORKSHOP • 5:00 PM

ACTION PLAN FOR THE FARRAGUT PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN 2022-2032

BMA MEETING • 6:00 PM

- I. Roll Call
- II. Approval of Agenda
- III. Approval of Minutes
- A. January 13, 2022
- IV. Mayor's Report
- V. Ordinance

- A. Public Hearing and Second Reading
- 1. Ordinance 21-20, an ordinance to amend

- the Farragut Municipal Code, Appendix A – Zoning, Chapter 4., Section XIII. – Outdoor site lighting, to create new provisions and update and organize existing provisions (Town of Farragut, Applicant)
- VI. Town Administrator's Report
- VII. Town Attorney's Report
- VIII. Citizens Forum

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

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## FARRAGUT MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSION STAFF/DEVELOPER AGENDA

Community Room – Farragut Town Hall

FEBRUARY 1, 2022

**9:00 a.m.** Discussion and public hearing on a zoning map amendment (rezoning) request from Agricultural District (A) to Rural Single-Family Residential District (R-1), 44.33 Acres, Tax Map 152, Parcels 33.03 & 33.04, 721 Virtue Road & 12444 Evans Road, (Robert G. Campbell and Associates, Applicant)

**9:30 a.m.** Discussion and public hearing on a site plan revision for the Renaissance Farragut development, proposed addition of two office buildings, 12756 & 12760 Kingston Pike, 22.15 Acres (total development site), affected area Zoned O-1, (Myers Bros. Holdings, Applicant)

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Spot color \$5/mo.  
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### Service Directory Advertising Deadlines

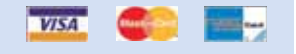
#### Display Ads

Space & Copy:  
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### Service Directory Payments

Payments may be made by cash, check or credit card. Prepayment is required on all classified advertising.

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FARRAGUT WEST KNOX CHAMBER OF COMMERCE’S

# Breakfast Speaker Series

About 120 Farragut and Knox County leaders and representatives from local businesses received an update on the dynamics of the local real estate market during Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce’s Breakfast Speaker Series — Housing ... Forecast for Farragut, West Knox & Beyond! — in Rothchild Catering & Convention Center, 8807 Kingston Pike in West Knoxville Tuesday, Jan. 18.

Moderated by Alan Williams of WVLT-TV Channel 8, attendees heard from panelists, which included Nick McBride, Knox County Register of Deeds; Hancen Sale, Government Affairs & Policy director at Knoxville Area Association of Realtors; and John Cook, president of Home Builders Association of Greater Knoxville and owner of Cooke Bros. Homes.

Additionally, Eric Whitener with The Knox Fox Real Estate Group introduced a new FWKCC Enterprise member, Mick Essex of Waverly. Essex then presented the Chamber’s Continuing Scholarships to Lisa Sulewski of Concord Veterinary Hospital (\$500) and Bruce Koopman of R&B Tax and Accounting (\$150).



Clockwise from left, Marion Seaton, Philip Jacobs and Steve Lunsford



Knox County Sheriff Tom Spangler and Kristi Reynolds with King University



Mick Essex, left, and Eric Whitener



Scott Brockamp and Vicki Williams



Teri Jo Fox with The Knox Fox Real Estate Group



From left, Richie Beeler, Mike Ragsdale, Mike Arms and Josh Spencer



From left, Continuing Education Scholarship recipients Lisa Sulewski, left, and Bruce Koopman, right, with Mick Essex, Enterprise member



Hancen Sale



Devin Driscoll and Lisa Dockery



Alan Williams