



Early voting in Knox Co. only a week away

TAMMY CHEEK
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Farragut voters accustomed to voting early in elections in Farragut Town Hall will have new locations for early voting during the Tuesday, March 5, Primary Day in Knox County.

Because of the renovations to Town Hall, leaving it closed through 2024, “we had to relocate out of there, where we’ve been at least since my 10 years here,”

said Chris Davis, administrator with Knox County Election Commission.

“It is a big change for us,” he added. “It’s hard to find a really good spot in Farragut ... We’re going to hear some screaming and yelling ... It’s hard to leave, but you can’t vote there.

“We’ll be looking for some different options for early voting in July for the August election, and, of course, the presidential (and federal election day) in November. Early voting for presidential is crazy,

wrapped around the building.”

For now, however, “we’re going to be conducting early voting from Wednesday, Feb. 14, through Tuesday, Feb. 27, at West Knox Senior Center, located downstairs at Farragut Community Center, 239 Jamestowne Blvd.,” he said.

“There’s a specific room we will direct people to,” he added. “We’re going to have people helping with

See **EARLY VOTING** on Page 5A

Fleming focus on Civil Rights youth during Town’s Black History event

STAFF REPORTS
editor@farragutpress.com

The community is invited to a free Black History Month program starting at 2 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 25, in Farragut Community Center, 239 Jamestowne Blvd.

Guest speaker Dr. Cynthia Fleming will discuss the role played by local and national youth in the Civil Rights era.

“Fleming was the first black woman to earn a (doctorate degree) in history from Duke University,” a Town press release stated.

“In 1982, she became one of the first two black women faculty members in UT’s College of Arts and Sciences. She chaired and oversaw the growth of UT’s African-American Studies program,” the released futher stated.

The program begins with the Presentation of Colors by Tennessee Wing Civil Air Patrol Color Guard and includes a performance by the Royal YOUTH Dance Ensemble, a local nonprofit organization that provides a safe, creative outlet for youth. Winners of the “Making Their Mark” essay contest also will be recognized.

Following the program, a reception hosted by Farragut Museum Committee will include finger foods and the music and artwork of local performer W. James Taylor.

Annual event

Town of Farragut annually hosts a Black History Month presentation, which has occurred both in Farragut Museum and in the boardroom of Town Hall, both of which are currently under renovation.

See **RELATED STORIES** starting on pages 2A and 4A



Photo submitted

Amadeus Chamber Ensemble concertmaster, violinist Miroslav Hristov — who has called Farragut his home for the past nine years — will be featured soloist in two free 2024 concerts in The Cathedral of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Internationally renowned violinist, Town’s Hristov, soloist at Sacred Heart X 2

STAFF REPORTS
editor@farragutpress.com

The Amadeus Chamber Ensemble announces its concertmaster, the illustrious Bulgarian violinist Miroslav Hristov — who has called Farragut his home for the past nine years — will be a featured soloist in two free 2024 concerts.

The internationally renowned artist will be a featured soloist in the Ensemble’s French Opera Jewels program beginning at 6:30 p.m., Sunday, March 3, playing the beloved “Meditation” from Massenet’s rarely performed opera, “Thaïs.”

At 5:30 p.m., Sunday, May 26, Hristov will be heard in Albéniz’s dazzling “Una Noche en Sevilla,” the opening selection on the Ensemble’s Fiesta Española! program.

Both concerts are part of the Cathedral Concert Series at The Cathedral of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, 711 S. Northshore Drive in West Knoxville.

Brian Salesky, former director of Knoxville Opera who will conduct both concerts, recalls, “It has been my great pleasure and privilege to collaborate with Miro throughout the past two decades. We first worked together when he was a member of the Knoxville Symphony Orchestra and I was director of Knoxville Opera.

“Over the past five years, his devotion to the Amadeus Chamber Ensemble has given Knoxville audiences many opportunities to enjoy his exemplary artistry in a wide variety of repertoire,” Salesky added.

See **HRISTOV, SACRED HEART** on Page 3A

Propst: Hall of Famer ... and a lot more

Lori Simerly Propst is one of nine former Farragut High School standout athletes or coaches to be inducted into the FHS Hall of Fame Class of 2024. But Propst’s story is so much bigger since graduating FHS in 2002. A graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, and a former lieutenant Intelligence officer in the U.S. Navy for 10 years — and a disabled veteran — Propst and husband, U.S. Army Major Spencer Propst, a foreign area officer (the couple with children Cora, 7, and Luke, 5), reside in Washington, D.C. “We just moved about a month or two ago from Italy,” she said. “The Army has asked him to do language training. He speaks Arabic and French, but he is learning the Libyan dialect of Arabic. ... Then we’re off again in September. ... We’re moving to Tunisia. I’m now a stay-at-home mom who just finished ... my master’s of arts (degree) at Johns Hopkins University in global security studies.”

Photos submitted

See **HALL OF FAME SECTION**, pages 1C-4C



public comments sought

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the Town of Farragut will hold a public hearing beginning at 6 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 22, in Farragut Community Center, 239 Jamestown Blvd, to hear citizen’s comments on the following ordinance:



Ordinance 23-20, an ordinance on first reading to amend the Farragut Zoning Map to rezone the property located at 209 N. Watt Road from R-1 to C-1, 1.70 Acres (Debra Wilkerson, applicant)




Farragut Museum Committee is sponsoring a middle school and high school


committee’s essay contest

student history essay contest during the first two weeks in February called Making Their Mark on History. “We are asking students to highlight people who should be featured in the Farragut Museum,” an FMC press release stated.

Committee will pick three entries to honor Sunday, Feb. 25. The winning student will read his/her essay at Town’s Black History Month event before they pick their swag bag. Entry forms available at the Community Center, from area social studies teachers and in Farragut Knox County Pubic Library, North Campbell Station Road.

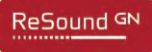



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A nutshell review: Black History in United States

FRANK ROBINSON
Special to farragutpress

February is Black History Month. Tell the children our story. We hope that we will never go through the things that our ancestors endured, but their story and words are a thousand hugs. Black history is not to cure the darkness of the past but to light the strength of our future.

Our history is bad, it is good, it's beautiful, it is ugly, but it is our history. It is American history. History denotes and enhances the concept of our true value. Black history gives all Americans a realistic view of America and helps heal the great divide, and with healing comes a new and positive growth for America.

History informs us how to use our past to shape our future. No group or no one knows America better than those who were owned by America. The heritage of our past are the seeds that we use to harvest our future. Our history is how our ancestors as slaves descended into a cycle of despair, beaten into submission, and yet forged forth their path in liberty.

If you don't understand the history of Black Americans, you cannot understand the history of America. We cannot say the past is the past without surrendering the future.

Many of our black youth do not have a positive concept of their value. They did not get affirmation from family or society, so they grew up not knowing how wonderful and needed they were. Everyone has value, and when you know your past, you know your worth. You can build on your sense of worth by focusing on your positive attributes. The way one views their history depends on just how tinted one's rose-colored glasses are. We use our past to determine who we are today.

Dr. Carter Woodson is credited with creating Black History Month. He contended that black history is essential to ensure that the intellectual and physical contributions made by Black Americans become a part of the larger American community.

Black history in what is now the United States

Our ancestors first arrived in the Americas by slave ship in 1619 at Jamestown, Virginia. Slavery is a repugnant hate of humanity. Slavery officially ended with the ratification of the Thirteenth Amendment in 1865. The American Revolutionary War began April 1775 and ended 1783. Slaves were freed to fight for America's independence from the British.

One of the first patriots to fall during the Revolutionary War was Crispus Attucks, a Black American. Other Black Americans who distinguished themselves in the Revolutionary War were Peter Salem, Seymore Burr, Alexander Ames and Cato Howe. There were all-black regiments that fought in the Revolutionary War.

When the war ended, Black Americans were again enslaved. Black Americans believed intensely in America and fought and died in every American conflict.

Our ancestors survived through relentless faith and dreams — dreams that they nourished — with the diligence of a dragon slayer, until the abstract became concrete. A dreamer is the bearer of unseen possibilities — that enlarged horizon, the great "I AM." They knew and believed that there is a "Balm in Gilead." Dreams conceived in truth and justice can never die.

After slavery: apartheid

When slavery ended, it was replaced by apartheid. States en-

See **BLACK HISTORY** on Page 3A

KCSOreports

• **At 3:09 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 3, a Knox County Sheriff's Office unit responded to a disturbance at TopGolf, 11400 Outlet Drive.** Victim/complainant advised officers he was having his son's birthday party at the business.

Victim told officers he moved his wife's vehicle to load the presents in the vehicle. Complainant said he saw the suspect, wearing a maroon hoodie, in a white Oldsmobile driving in the parking lot. Victim said that after he came back outside with more presents, "there was a bumper sticker on the passenger side rear bumper with an explicit sexual text on it," a press release stated.

Victim advised officers the suspect was the one who did this. Victim told officers "he was building a harassment case against (suspect) due to multiple other similar incidents that have occurred," the report stated. Victim said he knew suspect "because their kids used to be friends."

When asked how he knew where he would be, victim said that kids invited to his son's party must have told suspect's son. Victim further said "there was no reason (suspect) should have

been at the business. ... Management pulled up camera footage of the parking lot showing a white sedan pulling up and stopping behind (victim's) vehicle.

"A white male wearing a maroon sweatshirt gets out of the car, walks up to victim's vehicle and appears to place something on the vehicle," the report stated.

• **At 11:07 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 31, an officer was dispatched to Tennova Turkey Creek Medical Center (10820 Parkside Drive) in reference to a trespass.** "The security officer advised he wanted both subjects trespassed from the hospital due to them camping there for multiple days," the report stated. Officer made contact with subjects and advised them "they were no longer able to be on the property." Subjects were escorted off property. Complainant advised they had been squatting for about a month.

• **At 6:19 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 28, a complainant called KCSO Teleserve Unit to report a swindle at his Sundancer Road residence.**

See **KCSO REPORTS** on Page 4A

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Early Voting: Feb 14-27
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Black history

From page 2A

acted “Black Codes” restricting the movement of Black Americans and assuring their availability for certain jobs. There were no rights to assemble. Segregation, lynching and laws were enacted to diminish the hopes of Black Americans. Laws that are promulgated to demise the quality of life of human beings are just a framework for a crime.

Contributions of Black Americans listed
Black Americans have always given and continued to give their genius to America. When trains needed an automatic lubricating devise to increase their efficiency, Eli McCoy, a black man, invented and patented the first automatic lubricating cup for large machinery.
Other black inventors: Granville Woods invented the first multiplex telegraph; Lew Latimer invented the first incandescent filament for the light bulb; Garrett Morgan invented the first gas mask and patented the first traffic signal; Charles Drew created the first blood bank; George Washington Carver revolutionized the agriculture industry and found more than 300 uses for the peanut; Otis Boykin patented the first resistors used in pacemakers and missiles; Katherine Jackson, mathematician at NASA, computed the speed and angle for John Glenn to orbit the earth and return; Jesse Wilkins perfected lens designated for microscopes and gamma shields; and Patricia Bath invented the laser probe for cataract treatment.
Many more inventions by Black Americans are in use in our everyday life.
We can celebrate our ancestors’ highs and accomplishments — but never forget the depths of their beginnings.

**Got a great story
you would like to have in print:
editor@farragutpress.com**

Hristov, Sacred Heart

From page 1A

Hristov was hailed by Fanfare Magazine for his “razor sharp technique” and a “full palette of tonal colors.” He presents master classes and performs extensively throughout the United States, Europe, Latin America and Asia.
As a soloist and chamber musician, he has performed in international festivals and concert series, including the Musical Treasures series in Carnegie Hall, Interharmony

International Music Festival in Italy, Sofia Music Weeks International Festival, Balabanov House Music Days, Big Arts Concert Series in Florida and Fredell Lack Series in Houston.
Recent performances include solo and chamber performances in the national recital halls of Taiwan and Singapore.
He also is a member of the internationally acclaimed Kaleidos Duo with pianist Vladimir Valjarevic.
Hristov has recorded for Centaur Records, Romeo Re-

cords, Blue Griffin Records, the Divine Arts Record label, Bulgarian National Radio and WUOT Knoxville.
A much-awarded professor of violin at the University of Tennessee, Hristov is founder/director of UT’s Ready for the World Music Series.
Admission for the Amadeus Chamber Ensemble concerts is free. Reservations are suggested and may be made starting two weeks prior to the concert on the Cathedral’s website <https://www.shcathedral.org/cathedral-concert-series/>.

File photo
Brian Salesky, former director of Knoxville Opera, will conduct two free concerts where internationally renowned violinist Miroslav Hristov, a Farragut resident, will be a featured soloist: Sunday, March 3, and Sunday, May 26, in Cathedral of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.

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Robinson, first African-American to attend UT, speaks with Wise at Pellissippi St. Feb. 13

STAFF REPORTS
editor@farragutpress.com

The first African-American man to attend the University of Tennessee will speak at Pellissippi State Community College in honor of Black History Month.

Dr. Theotis Robinson Jr., a trailblazer and advocate for equality for more than 60 years, will talk with Pellissippi State president L. Anthony Wise Jr. during February’s “Conversation with a Legend” event on the college’s Hardin Valley Campus.

The event, which is free and open to the public, will be held beginning at noon, Tuesday, Feb. 13, in the Goins Building Auditorium, 10915 Hardin Valley Road in West Knoxville.

It also will be livestreamed on Zoom.

“These conversation events utilizing guest speakers provide a platform for students to engage with various cultural traditions and promote social interaction, ultimately enriching their overall educational experience,” said Lauren Ziegler, Pellissippi State’s cultural engage-

ment and inclusion coordinator.

When he was a senior in high school, Robinson attempted to enroll in the all-white Knoxville East High School and became a plaintiff in a lawsuit to desegregate the city’s public school system in 1959. He also participated in lunch counter sit-in demonstrations in protest of Knoxville’s all-white eating establishments.

Robinson later applied for admission to the University of Tennessee but was rejected due to race. Following a meeting with the university president where he threatened to sue, Robinson was admitted and began classes on Jan. 4, 1961. His actions allowed Black undergraduate students to attend.

Robinson went on to have a successful career, serving over the years on Knoxville City Council, as vice president of Economic Development for the 1982 World’s Fair in Knoxville and as vice president of Equity and Diversity for the University of Tennessee System.

For information on other Black History Month events happening at Pellissippi State, visit www.pstcc.edu/black-history.

KCSO Reports

From page 2A

Complainant “advised he came across a Facebook Marketplace add for a moving sale in which he inquired on an outdoor furniture set,” the report stated.

Complainant said he and the suspect “negotiated price via Messenger and settled on that price, sending a \$25 deposit to hold the item and sent it through Zelle to the listed suspect,” the report further stated.

Complainant said “when he arrived to the given address, nobody was there and he waited for almost an hour for someone when he realized the property did not match the pictures in the post and left,” the report also stated.

• At 3:08 p.m., Jan. 28, a complainant called KCSO Teleserve Unit to report

swindle at a Russfield Drive residence of \$5,175.

“Complainant advised she received a call from a man who identified himself ... with the Department of Office of Inspector General claiming there was bank fraud and money laundering occurring with her Social Security number,” the report stated.

Complainant said “she was then instructed to speak with a man ... for further instruction on what she needed to do.” Complainant stated the first man instructed her to withdraw the money and take it to a Bitcoin machine and deposit it into the account associated with (a) phone number and then sent him a picture of the receipt,” the report further stated.

Complainant advised “she was told this would protect her funds from being taken or frozen while they investigated

her accounts for bank fraud and money laundering,” the report stated. “The complainant (said) she no longer has access to any of the funds she put into the Bitcoin machine.”

• At 6:32 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 27, a complainant called KCSO Teleserve Unit to report burglary of her vehicle at a Chapel Grove Lane residence.

Complainant advised her 2015 BMW 328 “was parked in front of her home ... and her parents were away from the home when the vehicle was accessed by an unknown suspect,” the report stated.

Complainant said “the entire car was in disarray,” and \$95 worth of items were missing, the report further stated.

Complainant said she believes she may have left the vehicle unlocked, so no damage was done when the unknown suspect gained entry.

lettertotheeditor

Alternates to street cushions told

Your recent front page article, “Bid \$ too high for speed bumps” by Tammy Cheek, was a well-written and complete review of the current situation with traffic calming measures pursued by the Town of Farragut.

As one of the several local residents of the Town that attended the public meetings on this issue, I am not surprised by the enormous costs involved. Perhaps that should have been expected by our representatives, as well as the city engineers, during the discussion phase as well.

I know several residents at those meetings mentioned alternatives to speed cushions. However, little interest appeared for those options initially. Well, we as residents of the Town of Farragut should now demand these more affordable options be considered. Our representatives that we allow to make decisions for us a group have no greater obligation than to be “good” stewards of the resources we have in Farragut.

Based on Ms. Cheek’s article, one has to presume there will be more and more neighborhoods in Farragut that will request speed-calming measures in the future. When that inevitability happens, our Farragut Board will be placed in an untenable situation.

Either Farragut will have to budget for speed cushions virtually anywhere they are requested by neighborhood groups, or the Board will have to selectively “pick and choose” which areas do they personally prefer to earmark the money. Of course, the selective process in which only some neighborhoods will be provided with speed cushions due to budgetary concerns is entirely unfair and undemocratic in this situation.

With likely hundreds of thousands of our tax dollars possibly being used for speed cushions in Farragut on an ongoing and annual basis, better and less costly options should be at the forefront of the discussion at this point. I spent four years on a “buildings and grounds” committee at a major university in the South where issues like these had to be addressed.

From my experience, less costly options, such as speed reminders painted into the road, speed detection systems with a flashing alert when the limit is exceeded, or even additional signage, usually solves these issues with a much, much more modest cost.

Again, the greatest duties of our Board are to be good stewards of the tax dollars we have available in Farragut, as well as treating everyone in this Town fairly and in an equitable manner. It has clearly become apparent that alternative speed calming measures beyond the terribly costly speed cushions need to be considered.

William Konomos, Farragut

No more Letters to the Editor will be published having to do with any primary election being contested in Knox County Tuesday, March 5.


The same applies to any submitted Presstalk. We appreciate our readers understanding the reasoning behind this decision.

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Early voting
From page 1A

parking and everything.
“We’ll do 12 days of early voting there.”

Specific times, days
According to the Commission’s schedule, early voting will take place (all locations) from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 14; from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 15, and Friday, Feb. 16; from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 17; and closed Sunday, Feb. 18.

Early voting will continue from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday, Feb. 19, through Friday, Feb. 23; from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 24; and closed Feb. 25.

It will also take place from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday, Feb. 26 and Tuesday, Feb. 27.

Davis advised people to vote on the weekends “because that’s when the lines are shorter,” he said.

“We ask that voters do not call the senior center with questions (about voting, days and times) but to call us at the Election Commission (865-215-2480),” Davis added.

In Hardin Valley, “it will be like it has always been, (early voting will be) in Karns Senior Center (8042 Oak Ridge Highway),” Davis said. “And, of course, we will be at Downtown West (1645 Downtown West Blvd.) for a lot of people who are in West Knox County who don’t go to Farragut.”

However, for Election Day, Tuesday, March 5, he said, “We’ve got a few new polling places.”

For the most part, Davis said residents vote in the precinct in which they reside, which will be listed on their voter’s registration card, so they only have one place to vote.

However, for voters who normally vote at Farragut Town Hall on Election Day, “we’re moving them across Kingston Pike to Faith Lutheran Church (225 Jamestown Blvd., beside Farragut Community Center),” he said. “That’s people who live in the southwest corner of the county, south of Farragut — they live in Choto, Montgomery Cove — and all those places.”

Others who vote in places, such as Farragut High School,

Farragut Middle School and Farragut Primary School, Davis said those locations are not changing.

He observed there are some voters who live near Fox Road and near Pellissippi Parkway who, if they used to vote at Shoreline Church, that church is under construction, so “we moved those voters to Ebenezer United Methodist Church (1001 Ebenezer Road) in West Knox County.”

For people residing on South Northshore Drive, for Election Day, “nothing changes for them,” Davis said. “They’ll still be at Northshore Elementary.”

Davis added all locations are on the Commission’s website.

The Election office is open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

For more information on voting locations in Farragu, Hardin Valley and Knox County, go to knoxvotes.org.

Offices sought
The following offices that are related to Knox County service in Farragut and Hardin Valley are on the Primary election ballot for Tuesday, March 5:

- Property Assessor**
- Drew Harper, Democrat
 - Jackie Raley, Republican
 - Phil Ballard, Republican
- Law Director**
- Jackson Fenner, Democrat
 - David Buuck, Republican
 - Daniel Herrera, GOP

- Criminal Court Judge Division II, District 6**
- Hector Sanchez, GOP
- County Commission District 6**
- Daniel Greene, Democrat
 - Terry Hill, Republican
 - Julie Fritts, Republican
- County Commission District 5**
- Arthur Moore, Democrat
 - Michael Bittel, Republican
 - Brad Hall, Republican
 - Angela Russell, GOP
 - Toni Scott, Republican
 - Dale Skidmore, Republican
 - Brian Walker, Republican.
- Board of Education District 5**
- Lauren Morgan, GOP
 - Terrye Whitaker, Democrat



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business
briefs

• Weichert, Realtors - Advantage Plus recently welcomed **Aaliyah Pryor** to its team of agents. Aaliyah will assist clients in Knoxville and surrounding areas with all their real estate needs.

• **Theresa Hernandez** recently joined Mountain Commerce Bank as vice president and assistant controller.

She has more than 15 years of experience in accounting and finance. Hernandez has worked in many capacities and areas of accounting. As a skilled financial analyst, she will oversee the bank's budgeting and financial reporting processes.

• Volunteer Ministry Center Board chair **Nancy Friedrich** recently announced the VMC board has named **Tracey Williams** as the organization's new new CEO. She succeeds interim CEO, the Rev. Bo Townsend.

• **SmartBank president/CEO William Y. Carroll Jr.** recently was elected to the board of directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta.

• **Net3 IT, a leading provider of Chief Information Officer and IT services**, commemorates its founding in April 2012 by Jeff and Suzanne Scott. Originally established with a vision to provide expert IT solutions and a commitment to assisting others, the company has undergone a transformative journey over the past decade.

In 2014, the company welcomed **Neal Arwood** to its leadership team, marking a pivotal moment in Net3 IT's evolution. Arwood swiftly earned an ownership stake and spearheaded a strategic shift, propelling the company toward becoming a renowned Managed Service Provider.

Net3 IT reached a significant milestone in 2019 by surpassing \$1 million in gross revenue. Subsequently, the company achieved year-over-year growth rates of 65 percent, 56 percent and 32 percent. Net3 IT anticipates another year of substantial growth, with projections nearing \$4.6 million in gross revenues.

• **Priority OnDemand**, a leading provider of integrated EMS, telehealth and patient logistics solutions, recently announced the launch of its new subsidiary, **OnDemand Specialty Vehicles**. This company further supports



Pryor

Peach
Cobbler
Factory
open

TAMMY CHEEK
tcheek@farragutpress.com

A Knoxville mother and daughter have teamed up to open The Peach Cobbler Factory, a dessert bar at 10911 Parkside Drive beside Everbowl in the Earth Fare center, which offers more than peach cobbler.

"The anticipation has been very high," said co-owner Komeisha Rogers, a Bearden High School Class of 2003 graduate who partnered with her mother, Ericka Toms, in the franchise under KNE Enterprise. "It's taken us a few months to get everything in motion and ready to open."

"We did have some challenges trying to open initially, but we are here," she added.

With a soft opening Wednesday, Jan. 31, they opened with a Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce-sponsored ribbon cutting that day at the Parkside Drive shop.

"We had a lot of sales," Rogers said. "We had a lot of people come through, try us out. People I've talked to have given us very good feedback."

"While it was a little stressful at times, it was very en-



Tammy Cheek

The Peach Cobbler Factory co-owners, Ericka Toms (with scissors left) and Komeisha Rogers (with scissors right) joined their staff and Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce members in opening the dessert bar with a FWKCC-sponsored ribbon cutting at 10911 Parkside Drive, Wednesday, Jan. 31.

joyable; and this is what we worked for," she added. "We're ready to serve the people in Knoxville. We have plans of growing and opening additional locations."

The new location "we'll consider our flagship Knoxville location, and we'll be venturing into Sevierville in the near future," Rogers said.

"We're going to continue with the soft opening for the rest of the week (through Friday, Feb. 9), open between the hours of 4 and 8 p.m., Monday through Friday," she added. "We're giving our staff the op-

portunity to train ... so we're ramping up."

A projected official opening is planned for the week of Feb. 12.

Rogers said the "dynamic duo" did some research on franchising because "during the pandemic, we were shut in, of course, and I've taken up cooking."

"I started looking around, trying different desserts and trying different recipes," she added. "I have a cousin who lives in Chattanooga. He told us about a franchise opportunity that had come to his city."

"He went out and tried the dessert shop and said it's really good. Once we stumbled upon this franchise, it was exciting for us because they offered different products that we hadn't ever seen served this way."

The menu starts with cobblers — peach honey apple, cherry, blackberry, strawberry, cinnamon peach, praline, mango peach, strawberry peach, caramel apple, blackberry peach, apple walnut raisin, sweet potato and pecan —

PEACH COBBLER on Page 7A

FWKCC ribbon cut for Carhartt along Parkside Drive



Tammy Cheek

Carhartt general manager Rob Ergenbright (with scissors) joins his staff, Farragut Mayor Ron Williams (second row, second from right), 5th District Knox County Commissioner John Schoonmaker, front row, second from right, representing Farragut, and Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce members in cutting the ribbon on Carhartt's opening during a recent FWKCC-sponsored event at the store, 11379 Parkside Drive.

BRIEFS on Page 8A

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Furrow Automotive’s new BodyWerks site

Leaders of Furrow Automotive, Mercedes-Benz of Knoxville and Land Rover Knoxville, as well as national company representatives and elected officials, celebrated the completion of the Knoxville Motor Company BodyWerks collision center at 10580 Parkside Drive recently with a ribbon cutting. On hand for the event were, from left, Jesus Rodriguez, Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs, Knoxville Mayor Indya Kincannon, Toni Milano, Hunter White, Knoxville Motor Company BodyWerks manager William Hayes, Mercedes-Benz of Knoxville and Knoxville Motor Company BodyWerks general manager Jeff Bender, Furrow Automotive president/CEO Lee Ann Furrow Tolsma and Furrow Automotive founder/chairman Sam Furrow.

Tammy Cheek



Peach Cobbler

From page 6A

but there’s much more.

The Peach Cobbler Factory also offers shakes; Belgian waffles topped with cobbler; 12 flavors of puddings, which includes banana pudding; cinnamon rolls; “bigger and better” cookies and brownies; churro stix with dipping sauce; and dessert flights.

“And we cater,” Rogers added.

Working with mama “is good working with her because, definitely, we know each other very well,” she said. “We know each other’s strengths and weaknesses — and most of all, we can trust each other.

“So, it has been good,” Rogers added “We just have to separate the business relationship from the parent-daughter dynamic.”

When Rogers told her mother about the franchise idea, “she asked me could she be a

part of it,” Rogers recalled. “She was sold on the product and the concept. She asked me, ‘Hey, let’s do it together.’”

Once the business is officially open, customers will be able to order online.

“We’re going to partner with all the delivery services: Uber Eats, Grub Hub and Door Dash,” Rogers said.

After the official opening, hours will be from noon to 8 p.m., seven days a week.

Got biz story ideas? e-mail tcheek@farragutpress.com

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Kick & Fit Club cuts ribbon for its Parkside location



Kick & Fit Club co-owner Paulie Baio (with scissors) prepared to cut the ribbon for the business during a Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce event Wednesday, Jan. 3, at the club, 10905 Parkside Drive. Joining him were instructors Jazz Decker, front row, far left; and Andrew Gibbons, second from left; co-owners Alan Carpenter, between Gibbons and Baio; Tiffany Carpenter, beside Baio and third from right; and instructors David Isaacs, second from right; and Lecresha McKinney, back row, between Isaacs and FWKCC board member Angela Harvey.

Tammy Cheek

Briefs

From page 6A

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GABLES & GATES, REALTORS®

"2023 Gold Key Awards Celebration of Excellence"

Gables & Gates, Realtors® presented their annual Gold Key Awards January 25, 2024. Designed to celebrate excellence in real estate transactions throughout the east Tennessee area, Gables & Gates, Realtors® associates gathered to honor their peers for their outstanding achievements.

Company owner, Susie Lash, said, "We feel it's important to recognize the professional, hardworking associates who have produced so well during such a difficult year. It is an honor to maintain our position in the area as a leading, locally owned, independent real estate firm."

Top honors went to Janet Hensley with the prestigious Associate of the Year award for combined listings and sales volume of \$22,182,885. Janet also received the Top Residential Selling Associate with \$12,028,185 in closed selling volume. Top Residential Listing Associate with \$11,521,700 in closed listing volume went to Debbie Holloway. The award for most transactions went to Janelle Poland with 47 transactions.

In closing Lash said, "The GOLD KEY AWARD exemplifies exceptional service and professionalism, exceeding the needs and expectations of all. The BEST people in real estate are at your service... that is what distinguishes Gables & Gates, Realtors®. Communication and determination are keys to success in every negotiation as we assist buyers and sellers through the intricacies of our dynamic real estate market. In my opinion... no one does it better! Congratulations on another great year. We are so thankful to all our associates and staff for their hard work and dedication, and because they are the very best, we are looking forward to another great year in 2024!"

The GOLD KEY AWARD was also presented to the following agents for combined listing and sales volume in excess of \$3,000,000.



Janet Hensley
\$22,182,885



Debbie Holloway
\$16,041,800



Janelle Poland
\$14,741,199.50



Kara Dunn
\$10,296,200



Josh Hood
\$7,526,200



Debbie Boeck
\$4,967,500



Landis McMillan
\$4,887,100



Tara Ayers
\$4,233,700



Bob Patterson
\$4,087,650



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State Farm

A solid 2nd in Dist 4-4A, Lady Admirals top HVA; boys fall twice in OT

BILL HOWARD
Correspondent

It was either team's game for three quarters Thursday night, Feb. 1, when Farragut High School's girls basketball team hosted District 4-4A foe Hardin Valley Academy.

In the fourth quarter, the Lady Admirals took care of business on both ends of the floor. The result was a 56-45 district win for Farragut (14-11, 7-1)

"Our offense, we weren't really executing in the first half," Farragut head coach Jason Mayfield said. "Second half was much better. I'd say we got a lot more offensive rebounds in the second half."

"They hit a couple shots (in the fourth quarter) and then we came down and we didn't hit those shots," said Lady Hawks head coach Jennifer Galloway, whose team is 12-11 overall, 4-4 in district. "And they got those rebounds and put 'em back in. I think rebounding was a factor."

FHS post guard Jaci Neubert led her team with 19 points. "We kept on pushing like we were supposed to,"

Neubert said about the Lady Ads' fourth-quarter effort.

Sophomore KJ McNealy, FHS's reliable post player, added 14 points and grabbed 13 boards. Lady Hawks guard Kamryn Butcher was high for HVA in points with 19.

HVA 71 Farragut 67 OT

When Farragut's boys basketball team led visiting Hardin Valley Academy 57-47 Thursday night with only 2:47 to play, it appeared the game was in the bag for the Admirals. The Hawks' Bryson Frey had other ideas.

Over the next 46 seconds, Frey scored seven points to bring HVA to within three. A 6-3 Hawks' run to close the fourth quarter knotted the score at 60 and forced overtime, in which Hardin Valley (12-13 overall, 1-7 in District 4-4A) prevailed 71-67.

HVA's Barron Scheetz led all scorers with 22. Dom VanAcker led Farragut (7-18, 1-7) with 18. Aiden VanAcker added 13.

"I was really proud of the toughness that our guys displayed," Hawks head coach Andy Arendt said. "I felt like tonight we had a breakthrough. They understand

Big Orange Player of the Week



Photo courtesy of Jack Tate, FHS sports information

Dominic VanAcker, Farragut High School standout junior wing, was honored as Big Orange Tip-Off Club Player of the Week in the Knoxville area in late January. He is joined by J.P. Burris, right, FHS varsity boys head coach, and Dean Craig of Knoxville Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

what wins: toughness."

"We just kept going back to the screen and roll until they could stop it," Frey said. "We never quit, ever."

"Another game where we had our opportunities and we didn't take advantage of it down the stretch," FHS head coach J.P. Burris said.

In overtime, the Ads were down 66-65 with 1:47 to play. A travel gave the ball to HVA,

which hit three free throws on its next two possessions to lead 69-65 with 30 seconds left. A layup by FHS's Britton Lewis made it 69-67 with 13.5 seconds to go, but the Hawks closed it out with two more free throws.

WBlount 81 FHS 80 OT

It was almost a complete opposite finish for the Ads two nights later when hosting William Blount, trailing by 10 points late before a rally forced

overtime. But the Govs (3-6 in 4-4A) got a game-winning 15-foot jumper by star forward Grady Robertson at the OT buzzer to edge Farragut 81-80.

While star forward Caden Windle scored a game-high 37 for WBHS, Dom VanAcker had 28 — five three-point baskets. Ads sophomore guard Parker Lane added 24, including some big late points, and senior post Berkley Naro scored 19.

Twenty-one honored on CCS 8th-Grade Night



Photos submitted



Twenty-one Concord Christian Middle Schoolers were recognized during CCS basketball's 8th-Grade Night Friday, Jan. 26. Boys hoops players, **top left**, from left, are Connor York, Isaiah Thomas, Hudson Willis and Shawn Cooper. Cheerleaders, **top right**, from left, are Addy Gruidl, Sarah Moon, Claire Newsome, Abby Campbell, Elyana Courtley and Mason Burkett. Girls hoops team members, **above**, in no order: Avery Orlando, Presley Horst, Brooklyn Brown, Emory Thomas, Piper Haun, Gracie Harrill, Jalyn Sherritze, Palin Patterson, Elizabeth Reed and Kennedy Whitworth.

CANDIDATE SPOTLIGHT



Ballard on the Ballot 24

Phil Ballard is on the 24 Ballot for seeking election for Assessor of Property. Experienced in this position with award winning staff and knowledge of the area from his Real Estate experience, Ballard prides himself on accurate and fair appraisals. "I promise to continue my legacy of fair and equitable property assessments in Knox County and will attain this with the most experienced staff and highly trained appraisers in Knox County," states Ballard.

During his term of office, Ballard achieved a level five assessment certification – Tn Master Assessor designation – which was retired by the State in 2016 upon leaving office. He has been a member of good standing with the International Association of Assessing Officers since 2008. He completed 7 courses for certificates, plus passed a Master's Exam with Assessment Administration taken at the University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill – School of Government. Knox County is once again in need of Phil Ballard's management and experience to restore the office through technology, training and certification to where it was during his previous administrations.

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Hodge’s ‘1,000’ celebrated as BHS girls rule late vs. Farragut; boys roll

STAFF REPORTS
editor@farragutpress.com

BEARDEN — Later honored for reaching a special milestone less than halfway through her career as a star point guard at Bearden, sophomore Natalya Hodge was again super-dominant — and she and her Lady Bulldogs responded in the clutch.

Trailing rival Farragut 42-40 with 4:47 to play in the fourth quarter at BHS Friday night Nov. 2, Hodge and her Bearden teammates clamped down hard, ending the game on a 12-2 run to win 52-44. The sophomore’s fifth three-point jumper of the game, with 4:21 left, gave her team a 44-42 lead it would not relinquish.

Hodge led the Lady Bulldogs (23-1, 8-0 in district) with a game-high 33 points. Kendall Anne Murphy, junior wing, added six.

Jaci Neubert, junior guard, paced the Lady Ads (14-11, 7-1) with 13 points, followed by freshman post Trinity Curry with 10.

“I was really proud of our defense those last four minutes,” BHS head coach Justin Underwood said. FHS head coach Jason Mayfield said his team “let Hodge get loose there; she a great player. ... We’ve got to learn to make those championship plays.”

Bearden boys 64 Farragut 40

Bearden’s boys built as much as a 27-point edge in the second half. Sophomore guard Justin Nordin led all scorers with 19, followed by sophomore post Brody Smith with 14 and junior guard King Hubbard scoring 12. The Dawgs improved to 23-5, 5-3.

Dropping to 7-18 overall, 1-7 in district, Farragut was led in scoring by senior post Berkley’s Naro’s eight points. Britton Lewis, sophomore wing, added six.



Photo courtesy of Tammy Kregel

Joined by family members, Natalya Hodge, Bearden’s talented sophomore point guard, was honored for reaching the 1,000-point career scoring mark — accomplished Monday, Jan. 29, at home versus William Blount — as celebrated during a break in the action as Farragut visited BHS Friday night, Feb 2. While capturing this special moment, Tammy Kregel also was recognized Feb. 2 for her years of sharp-imaged camera work on behalf of Bearden athletics.

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Tammy Cheek

Winning Farragut High School’s Poetry Out Loud competition are: from left, Tiyanna Dudley, third place; Hayden Toon, second place; and champion Andrea Galloway, who recited poetry during the schoolwide competition in FHS’s Vickie B. Wells Auditorium Tuesday, Jan. 30.

Galloway is Poetry Out Loud champ

TAMMY CHEEK
tcheek@farragutpress.com

Seven Farragut High School students put their poetic recitation skills to the test as part of the schoolwide 2023-04 Poetry Out Loud competition, with senior Andrea Galloway winning the championship.

“I feel pretty good about winning,” said Galloway, daughter of Kellie and Nick Galloway. “I worked really hard, and I have been really passionate about this competition.

“I actually would record myself and play it in my car, so ... every time I drive, I rehearsed,” the senior added.

The first-place winner goes on to compete in the state finals March 1-2, in Nashville. The winner of the state competition then competes in the national finals in Washington, D.C.

Galloway, who received \$100 for first place, recited “Epilogue” by Robert Browning for Round 1 and “Nowhere Else to Go” by Linda Sue Park in Round 2. She currently is serving as Future Farmers of America East Tennessee region president and FHS chapter president.

The champ said she enjoys all things agriculture, helping on her family farm and enjoys competing in public speaking.

Haden Toon, a junior, earned second place and will compete in the state competition if Galloway is unable. Tiyanna Dudley, captured third place.

Toon, who recited “Zoom” by Simon Armitage and “The Definition of Love” by Andrew Marvell, respectively, is a member of

See TOPS IN POETRY on Page 7B

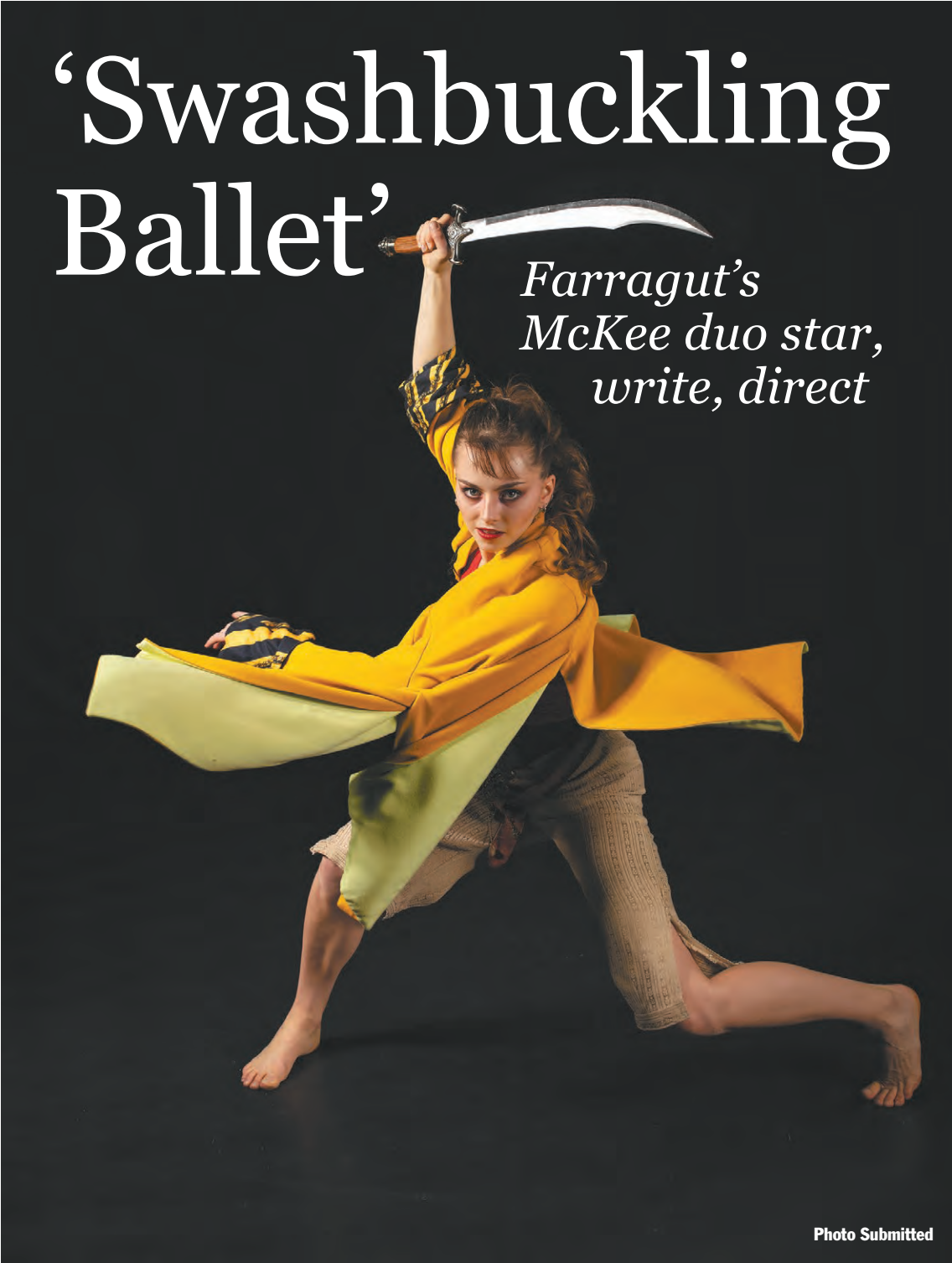


Photo Submitted

STAFF REPORTS
editor@farragutpress.com

KNOXVILLE — GO! Contemporary Dance Works sets sail in its 20th season with “The Barbarosa: A Swashbuckling Ballet,” in Bijou Theatre, 803 S. Gay St. in downtown Knoxville, Saturday and Sunday, Feb 24-25.

Micah McKee, Farragut resident and recent George Ma-

son School of Dance graduate, will dance the role of Anne Bonny.

“Micah is perfect as Anne. She can present her with youthful, devious playfulness in act one and then switch to Anne 10 years later in act two as a commanding pirate who is always ready for a good brawl,” stated ballet author Lisa Hall McKee, who also is director. This contemporary

ballet includes aerial artistry, sword fighting and world-class choreography to tell the tale of legendary pirate.

“This large scale, two-act inventive ballet takes a historical figure in a fictional direction and features 50 dancers including professionals, pre-professionals and a youth cast,” the author further stated.

See GO! BALLET on Page 6B

Even in cold, snow, Tate’s students take it outside



Photo submitted

From left are Cruz Kowaleski, Jack Madigan and Reeve Brumit on one of Tate’s School’s seventh-grade snowshoeing trips.

TAMMY CHEEK
tcheek@farragutpress.com

Even with the recent snowstorm, students at Tate’s School, 9215 Bob Gray Road, are discovering learning does not have to happen indoors.

The school’s faculty took advantage of the January weather as a teaching opportunity.

“We were so pleased to have students return to school (Tuesday, Jan. 23),” said Tracey Van Hook, Tate director of Communications. “

Physical education classes played Capture the Flag in a large field just off Bob Gray Road, while students used re-

cess to catch some B-Roll.

But enjoying the snow is not the only opportunity taken at the school, which is celebrating its 56th year.

“We have been a highly academic environment from the beginning,” said Lou L Tate, CEO and founder of Tate School. “We have a teaching garden, forest learning, zip lines and use of three pools to teach students swimming instructions each fall.

“(Using the outdoors has) been a big part of what we’ve done,” principal Kaye Simmons said. “Looking at the research of what’s been done showing the benefits of time

in nature and how that can reverse the negative effects of so much screen time (sitting at a computer).

“Even the little kids, even though they don’t have screens here at school, when they get home, they are on tablets, computers, video games,” she added. “As a nation, we’re realizing that all of this screen time is changing their brain,

“But now research is showing that time spent in nature actually reverses that.”

Scattered throughout the campus are outdoor teaching areas, where all classes use

See TATE’S OUTDOORS, Page 5B

Love Through the Decades
February 13 at 2:30 pm

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• **The public is invited to the 2024 Diabetic Social Health Fair**, hosted by its founder and CEO, Chaka Jackson, from noon to 4 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 17, in Community Evangelistic Church Multi-Purpose Building, 2650 Boyds Bridge Road, Knoxville. This year’s theme, “Understanding Your Journey with Diabetes, promises a wealth of information and support tailored to anyone navigating life with diabetes,” an event press release stated. “Don’t miss out on the chance to deepen your understanding of diabetes care, connect with the community and access valuable resources. Register at diabetic-social.org

• **Ladies who are new to the area, or just want to make new friends, come and join Newcomers Club** for lunch and a program Wednesday, Feb. 21, in Bearden Banquet Hall, 5806 Kingston Pike. Speaker will be Judge Tim Irwin. “We will be collecting new stuffed animals for the Juvenile Court,” a NC press release stated. For reservations, call 865-705-0309 by Friday Feb. 16.

• **Concord Sailing Center, 11600 S, Northshore Drive, is providing a Boating Safety Class** for the community on from 5 to 8 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 21. It is required you bring your Type 600 Boating Safety Exam Permit.

You must be at least 12 years old to take the exam. After studying the boating safety material, you must first purchase, for \$10, a Type 600 boating safety exam permit from any business (license agent) that sells hunting and fishing licenses (WalMart sporting goods, bait stores, etc.). You

will need your Social Security number and driver’s license if applicable.

Take this permit to the class/exam as it will be validated when you pass the exam and serve as your temporary certification until the card is mailed to you. TWRA will provide study materials or you can study online at <https://www.boat-ed.com/tennessee/studyGuide/10104402/>

Request home study materials by e-mailing your address to Canella.G.Cole@tn.gov or by calling 615-781-6566 and leaving your name and address. Registration will be from 3 to 5 p.m., Feb. 21. You must bring your Type 600 Boating Safety Exam permit with you.

Concord Sailing Center (CSC) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit founded in 1995 and dedicated to providing educational outreach activities that promote sailing and sailing-related seamanship skills.

For more information, visit: concordyachtclub.org/concord-sailing-center

Tate’s outdoors

From page 4B

them as a bonus to the learning process.

In the science arena, fourth-grade science teacher Michelle Clark shows her pupils about agriculture with a broccoli garden, in which students a couple weeks ago, harvested broccoli, which survived the storm, and micro greens.

“The chef is going to put that (broccoli) in a salad,” Clark said.

They also are raising trout from eggs, learning about water quality and water resources, engaging in a stream habitat study and learning a conservation ethic, Van Hook said.

In middle school, students are taught fly-fishing, boating and have a ski club.

“Our middle school students love the outdoors and most participate in our adventure club and snow skiing club,” the founder said. “We like to embrace the winter weather and students benefit. These are memories they are making today.”

Also in middle school, eighth-grade science teacher Alex Edwards uses camping trips to Mount Rogers in Virginia to teach students about wildlife species, such as the Weller’s salamander, they



Photo submitted

From left, Ezra Hodge, Justin Leitch and Tiana Ling are harvesting broccoli to be used in Tate’s School’s kitchen.

would never see otherwise.

“They keep active field journals,” researching 300 native species on their own, Edwards said.

The school even has its own summer camp.

Additionally, students and faculty relieve stress with the help of Luna, a 2-year-old mini Labradoodle therapy dog.

“One day a week, she is an all-day dog,” said Heather Jenkinson, administrative assistant and licensed social worker who handles Luna. “She’s here (in the principal’s office) for anyone who needs her.”

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FIS fifth-grader is 2024 Civics Essay Contest winner



Photo submitted

Nancy Claire Johnson, a fifth-grader at Farragut Intermediate School, is pictured holding a certificate honoring her as third-place winner statewide in the 3-5 Grade Division of Tennessee Secretary of State Tre Hargett's 2024 Civics Essay Contest. She was among FIS "fourth- and fifth-graders who participated in a civics-based activity that would help them discover the value of problem-solving and recognize the importance of their role in society," a Knox County Schools Hall Pass press release stated. Nancy Claire's efforts also earned her a TNStars 529 Program College Savings scholarship and a trip to the State Capitol in Nashville. Joining Nancy Claire, from left, were Haley Smith, her FIS science and social studies teacher; Katie Love-Pride, her FIS homeroom teacher; Suzanne Parham, FIS principal; Cody Sipe, FIS science and social studies teacher and Civics Essay co-chair; and Dacia Maxwell-Hix, FIS science and social studies teacher, Civics Essay co-chair and Social Studies Department chair.

Go! Ballet

From page 4B

GO! will hold three performances, beginning at 2 and 7 p.m., Feb. 24, and starting at 2 p.m, Feb. 25.

Both dangerous and grandiose, this riveting two-act ballet follows Anne's transformation from privileged plantation life in South Carolina to her pirate adventures on the open seas. Giving its audience an insightful look into her life, act one delves into Anne's childhood on her father's plantation in the Carolinas. Act two takes place on board The Barbarosa with clashing sword and knives, mermaids and sirens, and pirates swinging in the air on ropes and nets.

"Historians do not have many details about Anne. She shows up in history for only three years, yet she is one of the most notorious pirates known today," Lisa Hall McKee stated in the release. "She was said to be a rebellious child with a fierce and courageous temper. We present her from that perspective and that her rage and disdain for traditional Victorian life drove her to piracy. As a pirate she was said to be robust, fearless and tenacious, fighting alongside men, gaining their respect."

As part of their outreach, GO! will offer free Anne Bonny educational packets to young audience members at the performances. GO! also will hold a "Twelve on Twelve" ticket day, where students can purchase a Tier 2 ticket for \$12 on Monday, Feb. 12.

Tickets are available at www.ticketmaster.com. For more information, visit gocontemporarydance.com or call 865-539-2475.



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PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the Town of Farragut will hold a public hearing on February 22, 2024, at 6:00 PM, at the Farragut Community Center, 239 Jamestown Blvd, to hear citizen's comments on the following ordinance:

I. Ordinance 23-20, an ordinance on first reading to amend the Farragut Zoning Map to rezone the property located at 209 N. Watt Road from R-1 to C-1, 1.70 Acres (Debra Wilkerson, 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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FARRAGUT BEER BOARD

Farragut Community Center
239 Jamestowne Blvd
February 8, 2024
5:55 PM

I. Approval of Minutes
A. January 11, 2024

II. Beer Permit
A. Approval of Class 6, Special Occasion Beer Permit for St. John Neumann Derby Auction

This meeting can be viewed live on the Farragut YouTube Channel and the Town of Farragut website
www.townoffarragut.org/livestream.
The meeting will be held at the Farragut Community Center, 239 Jamestowne Blvd

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FARRAGUT MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSION AGENDA February 15, 2024 • Farragut Community Center Assembly Room 7:00 p.m.

For questions, please e-mail Mark Shipley at mshipley@townoffarragut.org or Bart Hose at bhose@townoffarragut.org.

1. Approval of agenda
2. Approval of minutes – December 21, 2023 (the January 18, 2024 meeting was cancelled due to weather)
3. Discussion and approval of the 2023 TDEC, Local Parks and Recreation Fund grant projects at Mayor Bob Leonard Park and McFee Park
4. Request for approval for the Turkey Creek B-Line Interceptor Project (First Utility District, Applicant)
5. Discussion and public hearing on a request to amend the Future Land Use Map in the Comprehensive Land Use Plan Update for the property located at 209 N. Watt Road from Parks and Recreation to Commercial (Debra Wilkerson, Applicant)
6. Discussion and public hearing on a site plan for a tire storage enclosure and bollard barrier for the

- Firestone Group Auto Care, 11215 Kingston Pike (SGA Design Group, Applicant)
7. Discussion and public hearing on requested variances from the Subdivision Regulations and approval of a preliminary plat for Somerset Farms, 12960 Allen Kirby Road, 4 Lots, 37.98 Acres, Zoned Agricultural (A) (LeMay & Associates, Applicant)
8. Request for approval for the installation of 650 linear feet of two-inch gas line along a portion of Boring Road and Boring Lane to service the residents at 217 Boring Lane (KUB, Applicant)
9. Discussion and public hearing on amendments to clarify certain definitions provided for in the Town of Farragut Public Tree Care Ordinance
10. Approval of utilities
11. Citizen forum

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FARRAGUT BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN Farragut Community Center • 239 Jamestowne Blvd

AGENDA • February 8, 2024 | WORKSHOP Emergency Management Plan 5:15 PM
BEER BOARD 5:55 PM See Beer Board Agenda | BMA MEETING 6:00 PM

- I. Roll Call
- II. Approval of Agenda
- III. Approval of Minutes
A. January 25, 2024
- IV. Presentation of Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023
- V. Mayor's Report
A. Wreaths Across America
- VI. Ordinances
A. Public Hearing and Second Reading
1. Ordinance 24-02, Ordinance to amend the ARPA Fund Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024, passed by Ordinance 23-07
- B. First Reading
1. Ordinance 24-20, an ordinance on first reading to amend the Farragut Zoning Map to rezone the

- property located at 209 N. Watt Road from R-1 to C-1, 1.70 Acres (Debra Wilkerson, Applicant)
- VII. Business Items
A. Approval of 2024 Forget Me Not Race
B. Rejection of bids for Contract 2024-10, On-Call Speed Cushion Installation
C. Approval of Professional Services Agreement with O.R. Colan Associates, LLC for Acquisition Services on Sonja Drive/Admiral Road Sidewalk Project.
D. Approval of Professional Services Agreement with Cannon & Cannon, Inc. for Design Services for Anchor Park Pedestrian Crossings Project.
- VIII. Citizens Forum
- IX. Town Administrator's Report
- X. Town Attorney's Report

This meeting can be viewed live on the Farragut YouTube Channel and the Town of Farragut website
www.townoffarragut.org/livestream.

The meeting will be held at the Farragut Community Center, 239 Jamestowne Blvd

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Tops in poetry
From page 4B

the Admiral Performing Arts Company, Model United Nations, Key Club and National Spanish Honors Society, National Honors Society, volunteering with Teen Board of Knoxville and acting in community theater productions

for such companies as Oak Ridge Playhouse.
As Toon has a passion for debate, acting and public speaking, when he heard about Poetry Out Loud, he “knew it was the perfect opportunity.”
Dudley is an active member of DECA, APAC, Creative Writing Club, NHS and more. She recited “Another One of the

World’s Liars” by Mohja Kahf in Round 1 and “Broken Promises” in Round 2.
Other competitors were Nicholas Thomas, a junior, who recited “Awakening” by Maya Angelou and “After the Dinner Party” by Adrienne Su; Kathleen Cook, a senior, recited “Of Molluscs” by May Sarton and “Siren Song” by


Margaret Atwood; Jaden McChristian, a senior, performed “Abandoned Farmhouse” by Ted Kooser and “So This Is Nebraska” by Ted Kooser; and Rashim Rasheed, a senior, recited “The Destruction of Sennacherib” by Lord Byron and “God’s Grandeur” by Gerald Manley Hopkins.
Poetry Out Loud is a national

poetry recitation competition sponsored by National Endowment of the Arts, the Poetry Foundation and various state/jurisdictional arts agencies.
The program began in 2005 to promote an appreciation for poetry, and since then, more than 4.2 million students have participated, according to a Poetry Out Loud press release.




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JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

Temple dedication & groundbreaking

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints congregation celebrated the dedication and groundbreaking of its Knoxville Tennessee Temple Saturday afternoon, Jan. 27. Before ground was broken, church members plus local, state and federal government officials gathered at Knoxville Tennessee Stake Center, 11837 Grigsby Chapel Road in Farragut, for a dedication ceremony before a select few attended the groundbreaking.



Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs, left, and Elder Shayne M. Bowen



From left, Jeffery Pizzino, Katherine Montierth and her husband, Don Montierth



From left, Eric and Joni Olsen and Kristi Olsen



From left, Jennifer Handy, Lisa Burcham and Lynn Beal



From left, Larry and Mary Lou Perkins; Michael Gettings and Daniel Broyles



From left, Jean Connatser, Larry and Toni Sparks, and Carolyn Purcell



Pam and David Delk



Aubrey and Jack Kelly



Wanas Martin

Hall's Class of '24



Danielle Spetar Ashley 2001-softball, basketball

An All-state softball outfielder at Farragut, Ashley was a three-time All-District honoree and two-time All-KIL selection. An East Tennessee State University centerfielder, Ashley was Conference Player of the Week for March 18, 2002. In 2003 she was a Second-Team All-Conference selection.

Spetar Ashley

See ASHLEY QUOTES, PHOTOS, Page 4C

Ben Bosse 2005-basketball

An All-state post as a senior in 2004-05 at Farragut, Bosse was KIL leader in blocked shots a junior who was a three-time TSSAA Outstanding Scholastic Award honoree.

Playing at UT, Bosse earned All-SEC Academic Honors twice, then transferred to King University, Bristol, and was a standout post.

See BOSSE QUOTES, PHOTOS on Page 4C



Bosse



Julia Hsu 2010-tennis

A TSSAA doubles champ her junior year in 2009 who was ranked No. 69 in USTA Southern Region for Girls 16 Singles, Hsu never lost a regular season district singles match and was a two-time district champ.

Her stellar academic record earned Hsu a scholarship to MIT in 2010.

Hsu while at FHS

See HSU QUOTES, PHOTOS on Page 4C

Craig Humberd 1989-baseball

An All-state honoree, Humberd finished his Farragut pitching career with a 22-3 record, a 2.11 ERA with one no-hitter. Was KIL and Knoxville Area Baseball Coaches Association Player of the Year as a senior who went on earn a spot on Tennessee Tech's All-Century team.

See HUMBERD QUOTES, PHOTOS, Page 3C



Humberd



Brad Jones 2006-swimming

A four-time All-American, two-time state champion and seven-time KISL champ who held three Southeastern records for 15 years, Jones went on to swim at the University of Iowa ss a Big Ten title finalist and NCAA Division I Championship B qualifier finalist.

Jones

See JONES QUOTES, PHOTOS on Page 3C

Dennis Lindsay 1991-2017 soccer coach

Leading Farragut girls soccer to five state runner-up finishes with 447 career wins from 1991 through the 2016 season, his Lady Admirals won 12 region titles. Lindsay also led his girls to five other state tournament appearances while named 2004 State Coach of the Year.

See LINDSAY QUOTES, PHOTOS, Page 3C



Lindsay while coaching



Lori Simerly Propst 2002-volleyball, track, hoops

One of the Knoxville Metro area's top sprinters in the early 2000s helping FHS win a state title in 2000 who also was a key contributor for the FHS volleyball and girls basketball teams, Propst went to the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis and served in the U.S. Navy as a lieutenant intelligence officer for 10 years.

Simerly Propst

See PROPST QUOTES, PHOTOS. Page 2C



Vest

Danny Vest 1990-football, baseball

Danny Vest was a standout receiver/defensive back — “and I did punt- and kick-returns — in football, he said. In baseball, Vest was equally versatile as a “shortstop, outfield, pitcher — and I played catcher half of my senior year.” He was a key contributor to the Admirals’ state runner-up baseball finish in 1988.

See VEST QUOTES, PHOTOS on Page 2C



Slagle Rust from FHS days

Mimi Slagle Rust 2005-volleyball

A two-time All-state volleyball honoree and District Co-Player of the Year as a junior and KIL Player of the Year as a senior, Rust helped the Lady Admirals earn the program's first state tournament trip in 2002 while being named KIL Sophomore of the Year.

See RUST PHOTOS, QUOTES on Page 2C



Farragut High School Hall of Fame Ceremony

February 10, 2024

5:00pm

FHS Commons

Inductees:

Ben Bosse

Craig Humberd

Julia Hsu

Brad Jones

Lori Simerly

Melissa “MiMi” Slagle

Danielle Spetar

Danny Vest

Coach:

Dennis Lindsay

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In’Vest’ed in FHS X 2

Danny Vest’s favorite FHS baseball memory was “being a sophomore and coach (John) Heatherly asking me to come down and to work out with that group, and them allowing me to prove myself to play with those guys on that team,” he said.

As for his biggest moment in the 1988 playoffs, “In the district tournament, we were down to South-Doyle and I hit a game-winning home run in the top of the seventh to win that game,” said Vest, a starting left fielder that memorable season.

As for football, “it would be the ‘no quit’ ’89 team ... we came back and beat Central in the playoffs,” Vest said. “We were down 20-7. That’s where Central had Todd Helton. They were loaded.”

Individually, “I had one of those games that a kid dreams about,” he said. “First play after halftime, I catch a pass for an 80-yard touchdown. And In overtime, we lined up to kick a field gold and ended up beating them 34-28 (because) I threw a fake field-goal pass” for the winning touchdown, he added.

As a waste management specialist at CNS Y-12, Vest and wife, Tina Vest, have two sons: Daniel, 33, and Brandon, 19.



State, ‘Hall’ special: Rust

“Mimi” Slagle Rust, a star middle hitter for FHS Lady Admirals volleyball, helped break new ground for a program that would, roughly a decade later, earn three straight Division I-AAA state runner-up finishes.

Rust fondly recalls her sophomore season in the fall of 2002.

“We made it to the state tournament for the very first time, like, in volleyball history,” said Rust, named KIL Player of the Year as a senior in 2004. “... We just had a lot of fun. Volleyball was so much fun. I think we loved it. We always had great teams.”

About being elected to the FHS Hall of Fame, “I was super excited,” this FHS Class of 2005 graduate said.

“Volleyball used to be such a big part of my life, and so it’s nice to go back and reminisce,” she added.

“It was just always something I love doing, so it’s nice to remember that almost 20 years later.”

A former kindergarten teacher for eight years with Knox County Schools who’s now a stay-at-home mom, Rust and her husband, Blake Rust (FHS Class of 2003), have four children: Benson, 7, Britton, 5, Bodie, 3, and Mellie, 1.

Lots of talent, service: Propst

A talented track sprinter, volleyball middle blocker and defensive specialist in basketball, Lori Simerly Propst had one special sports mentor.

In praise of her FHS track and field head coach Kellie Ivens, “She was probably my best memory of Farragut throughout the entire time,” Propst said.

“She was there for me academically, athletically. Personally, I think when I think back to Farragut High School, coach Ivens is the face I see,” she added.

While contributing to the Division I-AAA girls track & field state champions as a freshman in 2000, Propst also recalls being part of the first FHS volleyball state tourney team her senior season in 2002.

“It was a phenomenal experience to be a part of such a close team. We had a blast,” she said about her volleyball years. “There were five of us senior girls, and the underclassmen were just fantastic. ... We were all close friends and having a great time.”

(See related photo, information on page 1A)



Congratulations

from **farragutpress**

The farragutpress family offers our heartfelt congratulations to all of this year’s Farragut High School Hall of Fame inductees!

We applaud your accomplishments.



Total dedication: Lindsay

Jessie Stephens Burkhart, head coach of the FHS varsity soccer girls, was an All-state forward with the Admirals under Dennis Lindsay, and later coached under the new Hall of Famer.

“Like, he put everything he had into that program for 29 years,” Burkhart said. “Like, you know, from the field to the girls, just making sure that the program was always first to him.”

Moreover, “He didn’t do anything without thinking about how it would affect the program and how it would affect his kids,” she added. “... The selflessness that he had to make sure that everything for the program was the way it needed to be ... he gave so much of himself to all of that.”

Though Lindsay never played soccer, “He studied it really hard,” Burkhart said. “ ... He was always trying to educate himself or trying to stay up with the times on how to work and how to cope.”

About Lindsay’s leading role in turning the Farragut Intermediate School field into what is now the home of FHS soccer, “He put his blood, sweat and tears into that field,” Burkhart said. “... He wired the scoreboard and fixed it ... fixed sprinkler leaks. ...”



Jones ‘light years’ up

Former Aqua Admiral teammate Michael Tabler, also an FHS 2006 grad, remains a close friend of Brad Jones. “I probably spent more time with Brad between the ages of 10 and 15 than probably my family,” he said about first meeting Jones as kid swimmers with prestigious Pilot Aquatic Club.

Especially strong in the 50- and 100-meter sprint events, “Brad was kind of the star of the show when we were growing up,” Tabler added. “He was always, candidly, just kind of light years ahead of most of the folks in our age group. And it was always really cool to kind of see his success.”

Even beyond the pool, “If you could kind of keep up with him in anything, you felt like you were doing pretty good,” Tabler said. “He was just a beast. Man, back in the day, just had a lot of size that other folks didn’t have kind of early on.

“ ... From a work ethic standpoint, he’s one of the hardest workers I’ve ever met, and I think that actually has applied to pretty much anything that he’s been doing in his life,” he added.

A sommelier at Blackberry Farm in the foothills of the Smokies, Jones and his wife, Allison Gras, have one child: Harper, 4.

‘Loved it overall:’ Humberd

A four-year star pitcher who played first base his senior year at FHS, also earning All-state honors both pitching and at first, Craig Humberd recalled a special season as an Admiral.

“My junior year (1988), we lost in the state championship (game), but making a run to the state championship, we just had a special team, and it was a lot of fun getting to do that at Farragut,” Humberd said. “My best friends then, they’re still my best friends now. I would call them my best friends in life.”


Moreover, “I would say that I had the best baseball coaches you could have. ... (head) coach (John) Heatherly; and then having coach Herky Payne as an assistant was incredible, too,” he said.

“I loved my high school experience overall — athletically, academically, community-wise,” Humberd added. “I was really involved in Young Life in high school. That was really impactful.”


At Tennessee Tech, Humberd fired a no-hitter while second all-time in innings pitched and third in complete games.

An area director of Tri-County Young Life in Anderson, South Carolina, where he has served for 30 years, Humberd and his wife, Kelly Humberd, have one child: Sawyer, 9.






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Hsu, tennis = MIT

Josh Nelson, Julia Hsu’s FHS tennis coach, labeled the new Hall of Famer “an excellent tennis player. She was my No. 1 player for four years.

“She was also an excellent student, and she used her tennis and her academics, and she got into Massachusetts Institute of Technology,” he added. “And so, one of her main motivations for playing tennis in high school was really for her college prospects.

“But she also enjoyed the game and worked very hard to be as good as she was.”

Hsu, in fact, “was one of the top-ranked players in the state and worked very hard to achieve that,” Nelson said. “Her junior year, we were able to pair her with another excellent player, Leslie Roberge, and they were able to win the state championship in 2009.

“She had an outstanding college career as well at MIT.”

A senior mechanical design engineer in San Diego, Hsu is married to Eric Powers.

All section photos courtesy of Farragut High School

Precious times: Bosse

Remaining close to several ex-FHS teammates, “There’s two of us that live in Nashville, Ben Wilson and Kyle Huckins, and then Blake Denny lives in Knoxville still, as does Nolan Nevels,” Ben Bosse said. “... I still see Ben and Kyle probably every week. We still play basketball and run around like old men and goof off doing that. So I’ve been really fortunate to have those guys still be a part of my life years later and still get to enjoy the game with them and that kind of thing.

“But I think as much as anything, it’s the memories of just hanging out with those guys and being a really close-knit group to experience all that with and just the support that we received over the years from other students and friends and family,” the 6-foot-7 former post added. “That’s the highlight as you look back on it; I can really appreciate the fact that my parents (David and Cindy Bosse) were able to come, and my sister (Allison Bosse) played — she was a couple of years behind me. ... Getting to share all that with them.”

Owning a business in Nashville called Music City Screens for about two years, Bosse has two sons: Price, 12, and Charlie, 8.



Total FHS journey: Ashley

As for her own athletic experiences at FHS, “I truly just appreciate the coaches and the other friends that helped mold me through those four years,” Danielle Spetar Ashley said. “Just the memories that I took away from that are non forgotten. Just a really amazing experience.

“Athletically. I really loved the bus rides with both teams, softball and basketball — just having fun with the team before and after the game and stopping for dinner and sharing the memories of the game, good and bad,” she added.

Among her favorite classroom experiences, “I liked my algebra teacher; her name was Brenda McGrath,” Ashley said. “She was pretty cool.”

As for the total FHS experience, “I really enjoyed going to the football games,” she added. “And I loved Senior Night, where we wore the togas and everybody was just kind of there celebrating being seniors and it being our last year.”

A teacher at Farragut Primary School for 18 years — 13 in first grade, five in second grade — Ashley and husband, John Ashley, have three children: Jackson, 11, Madelyn, 8, and Lyla, 6.



Our ‘Caps’ off to you!

Congratulations to all the 2024 inductees.



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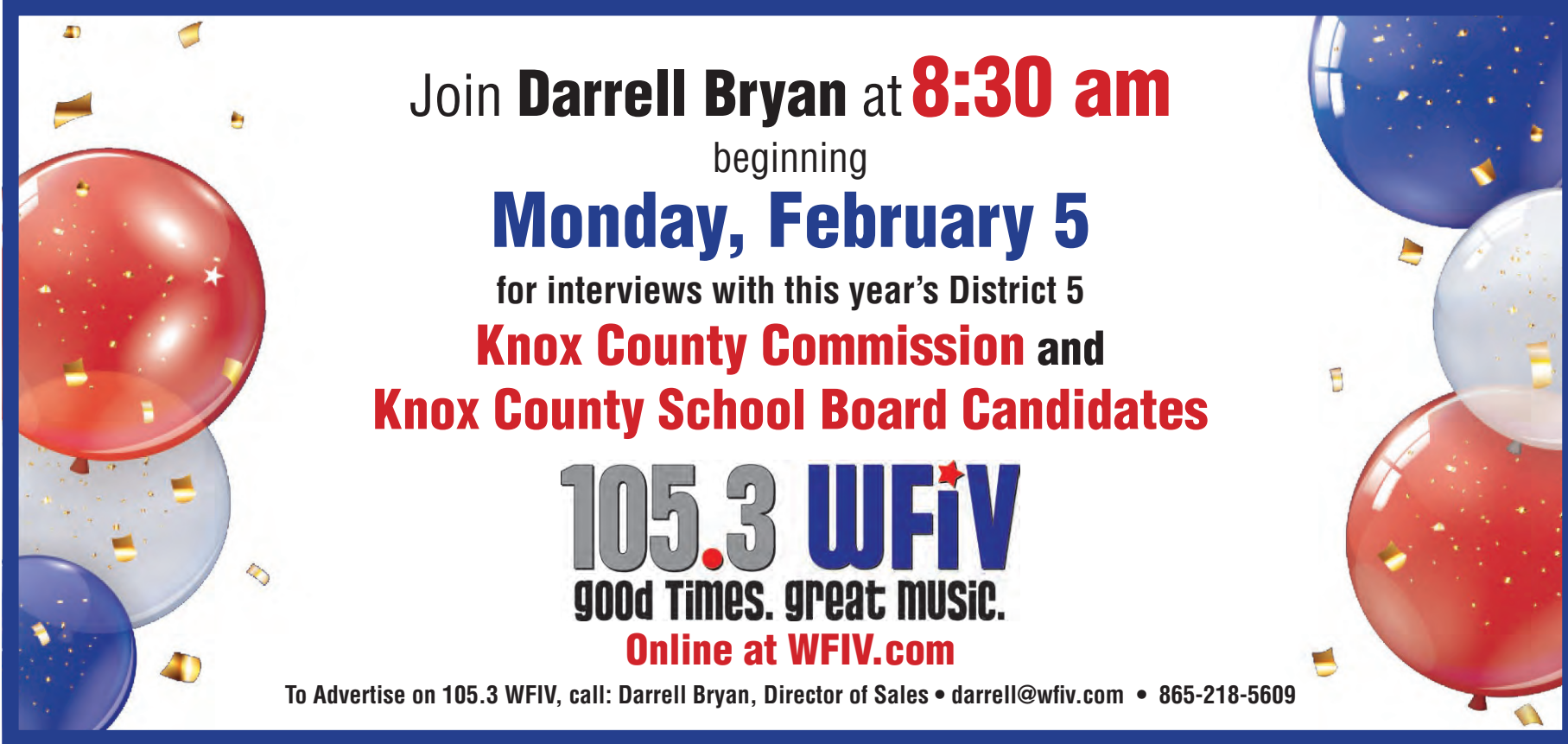
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