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Era ends for ‘excellent coach, better man’



Alan Sloan

44 years at FHS, 28 as Admirals skipper, Courtney retires

With Farragut High School brass calling a press conference in the FHS football program’s meeting room Wednesday afternoon, March 6, longtime Admirals varsity football head coach Eddie Courtney announced his retirement from coaching. In 44 seasons as a football coach at the school, which dates back to 1978, and serving as Admirals skipper for the past 28 years, Courtney led his 2016 team to the TSSAA Division I-5A state title while being named to the Tennessee Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 2021. He also earned Region Coach of the Year honors four times while compiling 204 career wins, fifth most among active head coaches in 2023. Known by many TSSAA coaching colleagues as an “excellent coach but a better man,” earning special awards after twice beating cancer, Courtney, at the podium above, made the announcement while receiving career praise from Dr. John Bartlett, seated right, FHS principal, and Donald Dodgen, left, athletic director. Such comments will be part of a bigger salute to Courtney, from farragutpress, with an upcoming special section this Spring.

BOMA to vote on Knox Growth Plan after criticism told

Farragut Board must approve, at its March 28 meeting, for plan to be implemented in Knox

TAMMY CHEEK

tcheek@farragutpress.com

Amendments to Advance Knox’s Knoxville-Farragut-Knox County Growth Policy Plan, heavily criticized by Town of Farragut’s Board of Mayor and Aldermen recently, are expected to come before BOMA during its Thursday, March 28, meeting.

While City of Knoxville and Knox County Commission have given the plan a thumbs up — with one contingency — Farragut’s elected leaders must also approve the plan, needing approval from all three Knox governing bodies to be implemented.

The Board will reconsider the plan and are expected to make a final vote Thursday, March 28, after Knox County Commission unanimously approved the plan during its Monday, Feb. 26, meeting — subject to also approving a Future Land Use Plan with more development specifics, which is expected to come before the Commission during its Monday, March 25, meeting.

Knoxville City Council also voted to accept the plan, by a 7-2 vote, during its Tuesday, March 5, meeting.

The plan attempts to pinpoint sectors of the county where commercial development would be sought, versus other sectors recommended to remain rural. These smaller geographic areas — based on census tract boundaries — are in the East, North, Northeast, Northwest, South and Southwestern parts of the county.

After County engineer Jim Snowden and Advance Knox representatives described recent Growth Plan changes to BOMA,



Burnette

See GROWTH PLAN on Page 3A

FHS off-campus Bible elective class gets Board-Ed nod

ALAN SLOAN

editor@farragutpress.com

KNOXVILLE — Without any opposition based on its vote Thursday evening, March 7, Knox County Board of Education approved a Bible study class, which allows Farragut High School students to take the off-campus course — for one full elective credit — during school hours in accordance with state law. Anchor Learning Center has the green light to

provide the class — to be held in at Faith Promise Church, 144 West End Ave. in Farragut — for five years beginning July 1. The class would be offered during a designated class period set by FHS.

“I mean, this is more of a parental rights issue, honestly, because it’s allowed by state law that students can take advantage of this,” said Susan Horn, District 5 representative (which includes Farragut public schools) during a Board workshop Monday evening, March 4, that included discussion about the

class’s course requirements. “And so I think we have to be really careful of trying to dictate or get too deep into what the content is as far as the specifics because that’s really protected under the state law, the way I read it, and I think we have to be sure that we’re evaluating it as we would any other course.”

“I would agree with that,” said Board chair Betsy Henderson, District 6 representative (which includes

See BIBLE CREDIT on Page 3A

Careers focus: 2nd-grade, FPS

Farragut Primary School’s inaugural Career Day saw 23 vendors representing various professions in the Knoxville metro area set up in the FPS gym for the school’s second-graders to visit Friday, March 8. Those second-graders included Lily Stinson and Adam Muldrew (near right) with Maria White, a quantum chemist, and Darina Kisakova (far right), at the NASA Cyber table. See many other second-graders with various vendors in an upcoming West Side Faces issue.

Photos by Alan Sloan



Key Knox Primary results

Knox County Primary election day Tuesday, March 5, featured a pair of razor-close finishes, one in the Republican Primary for Property Tax Assessor. Phil Ballard edged Jackie Raley by a mere 12 votes out of 42,558 cast to win that primary.

Ballard will face Democrat Drew A. Harper, unopposed in the Primary, in the August County General Election.

Locally, in the District 5 County Commission seat race, it was Angela Russell winning the Republican Primary, among a field of five, with 47.57 percent of the vote. She will face Democrat S. Arthur Moore, who was unopposed, in the August General Election.

Unopposed District 5 Board of Education candidates Terrye Whitaker, a Democrat, and Lauren Morgan, a Republican, also will face off in August.

CHECK OUT
the March
Farragut West Knox
Chamber of
Commerce
Newsletter
pg 1C
In this Issue!



Volunteer opportunities are available.



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Photo courtesy of Stephen Krempasky/Shop Farragut-FBA executive director

Mallen, area animal rescue volunteer, is February Town Sampler champion

Sarah Mailen, center, a West Knoxville resident and Shelter Animals Rescue Group of Oak Ridge volunteer, is delighted to receive her bag of Farragut merchant gift cards and promotional schwag as February Town Sampler champ. She visited Adorable Child & Next YZ Store in Village Green Shopping Center to collect her Shop Farragut prize package, which was presented by store associates Anna Gilreath, left, and Shawna Martens. She received a package valued at \$205-plus that included \$25 gift cards from Ricki’s Pet Depot, Burlington–Turkey Creek, The Adorable Child, Katy’s Hallmark Store, TopGolf, Kohl’s and The Fresh Market; plus a \$20 gift card from Subway and a \$10 gift card from Starbucks — and other Farragut schwag. Enter the March contest at <https://wfiv.com/contests/48/shop-farragut-march-2024>.

Towncalendar

• The window for applying to serve on a Town of Farragut volunteer committee is now open. Adults are welcome to apply, and civic-minded high school juniors and seniors can apply to serve as a youth representative. Serving on a volunteer advisory committee, council or board

See CALENDAR on Page 4A

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To replace old Belleaire Drive, FBC site plan studied by BOMA

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First Baptist Concord church’s site plan to replace the old Belleaire Drive access into FBC from Kingston Pike came under review during a Town Staff/Developer meeting Tuesday morning, March 5.

“It’s got a long history to it,” Community Development director Mark Shipley said. “Basically, the old Belleaire Drive is currently a driveway access into part of First Baptist Concord property. There’s going to be part of one building that’s going to be taken out in the playground area and the old road.”

The proposed access replacing old Belleaire Drive “kind of curves from the existing driveway and goes back to the school and it comes out and lines up with Village Green’s (Russgate) access there on the north side of Kingston Pike,” Shipley said. “This access here would be over 400 feet at either access point, east or west. It does line up with Russgate.

“That’s an ideal situation,” he added. “A better access than what they have right now, which is basically a pretty short distance between the old Belleaire Road and the Belleaire that was relocated and reconstructed a few years ago.

“The new access point will have a deceleration lane ... for east-bound travelers on Kingston Pike. You’ll be able to get out of the flow of traffic as you turn into the church property.

As for a timetable, “They are to have this completed by the end of the year,” Shipley said. “Their first step, with the Town, is to take this site plan through the (Farragut Municipal) Planning Commission, which they plan to do this month (Thursday, March 21). I think you all are still waiting to get (Tennessee Department of Transportation’s) approval.”

Alderman David White, who lives near the church, asked the length of the deceleration lane on the proposed access.

Ize Jeffers of MBI Co., an architectural and engineering firm, answered it would be 260 feet.

“That decel lane (to the current newer Belleaire Road) is too short,” White said.

“We’re not going to do any improvements to the new Belleaire Road,” Jeffers said. “That’s out of our scope.”

“That scope ain’t going to work, Mark,” White said. “The original plan for that thing was for (the church) to extend our decel lane, which is only 86 feet long. It should be 400 feet long, getting into the new Belleaire Drive, going east.

“We only got 86 feet and we have to dive in there, going about 30 to 40 miles per hour,” he added. “It’s going to have to be (FBC’s) scope, because in the original agreement that once that new Belleaire was open and the old one closed, the decel lane would be extended because everyone knew it was too short.”

“It doesn’t need to be 400 feet,” Shipley said.

“I’d like to know what the original agreement’s referring to,” said Mark Stooksbury, FBC director of business administration.

“I don’t know that it ever talked about that,” Shipley said.

KCSOreports

Though farragutpress requested reports from Knox County Sheriff’s Office Monday morning, March 11, none were received as of deadline at 10 a.m., Tuesday, March 12.

ADVERTORIAL

Can You Make Plantar Fasciitis Go Away?

Question: *I have been dealing with a case of plan-tar fasciitis now for over 6 months. It just doesn’t seem to be getting any better. I’ll try to rest and modify my activities and as soon as I try to become more active, the pain just flares back-up again. Can you make plan-tar fasciitis go away? Or is this just something that I’m going to have to live with? I really hope there is a solution because I’d love to start walking around my neighborhood or even playing pickleball again. I’m 58 years old and I’ve put on 10 extra pounds since this all began.*

- Sharon P

Dr. John-Mark Chesney
Ask The Physical Therapist

Answer: Sharon, thank you for your question. Plantar fasciitis is a painful condition involving the inflammation or irritation of the plantar fascia, a thick band of tissue that runs across the bottom of each foot and connects the heel bone to the toes. The most common symptoms of plantar fasciitis is a stabbing, sharp pain on the underneath part of the heel. Pain is worse first thing in the morning when getting out of bed. The first few steps in the morning can be quite excruciating with the pain typically decreasing after morning activity. Similarly, pain can also be quite bad with the first few steps walking after sitting for a period of time.

The frustrating part about plantar fasciitis is that it can last a really long time, and most people suffer for many months if not longer, like yourself. We see this cycle all the time where an injury like plantar fasciitis creates pain and the natural instinct is to avoid things that make it worse and to “rest”.

I’m sure you have tried the typical plantar fascia treatments such as rolling your foot on a frozen coke bottle, and stretching and/or foam rolling your calf. You may have even received a few other ankle strengthening exercises, or exercises like picking up marbles with your toes. Now these may help some people. **But what we find in the clinic is that no one takes you through the 3 stage recovery process for plantar fasciitis.** Most people just get stuck in phase one and never progress.

Phase one is all about reducing inflam-

mation. In this phase you will need to focus on modified activities and a short period of rest, and maybe some stretching. Using ice and trying to avoid flaring up the symptoms. But where people go wrong is they will stay at phase one for months. Prolonged rest and modification results in the plantar fascia getting weaker, the foot and ankle begin to stiffen-up, and many people will gain weight due to the prolonged inactivity.

When you stay at phase one for too long, you end up perpetuating the issue and further compounding the problem. This is why so many people suffer from plan-tar fasciitis for so long.

The initial inflammatory stage only lasts for a short time, maybe even just a few days. If you have been dealing with your injury for 6 months, then you likely DON’T have plantar fasciitis any more. The more accurate term is plantar fasciosis. Plantar fasciosis indicates that the plantar fascia is no longer inflamed, but it is still injured and the pain is now related to the weakening and degeneration of the plantar fascia. **The only way to recover from a weakened or degenerated fascia is to start strengthening it.**

Most people have never been taught how to properly strengthen and load the plantar fascia, and they are still receiving “phase-1” type treatment.

Sharon, to answer your question. YES- you can fully recover, and NO- you won’t have to live with this forever. I’m suspecting you just haven’t been taken through the correct phases of healing as your fascia has changed over the course of your injury. If you need help and guidance with this, feel free to reach out to me with my contact information listed below. And as always- Thanks for your question!

P.S. I have also written a **Plantar Fasciitis Guide- going into more detail about how to recover from this painful injury.** If you would like a **free copy**- just contact our clinic (865) 351-0615 and we will be happy to send one over! We have 8 copies in print, so first come, first serve.

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

Budget plan coupled with promising local tax revenue: Smoak

TAMMY CHEEK
tcheek@farragutpress.com

Farragut Board of Mayor and Aldermen started its 2024 budget process with a workshop Thursday, Feb. 22, featuring some good tax revenue news.

Overall, “the revenues in the start of our planning process look strong,” Town administrator David Smoak said. “We have been in a strong position in the last couple of years, and we think it’s going to continue into the future.”

“Next year, at this point, we’re projecting around \$16.8 million in overall revenue to the Town of Farragut,” he said. “The biggest portion of that revenue comes from our local sales tax.

“Local sales tax in the first six months of the fiscal year was up about 9 percent over last year,” Smoak said.

As of this meeting, “What we don’t have yet is the December sales tax

numbers in, which is certainly our biggest sales tax revenue producing month of the entire year,” the administrator added.

Still, “we’ll continue to monitor the sales tax to make sure we’re continuing the trend upward, but it’s going in the right direction so far,” he said.

The second largest source of the Town’s revenue is the State Shared Sales Tax, which is based on per capita income based on the state’s sales tax numbers it gets.

“We have not got this year’s numbers yet,” Smoak said. “Usually, these increase slightly from year to year. Right now, we get around \$170 per capita.



Smoak

With 23,506 residents, that’s a little over \$2.5 million per year we get in overall State Shared Taxes.”

Another stable revenue source is the Wholesale Tax, which includes whole-sale beer, liquor and mixed drink tax.

“Over the last four years, again, it has been very stable,” Smoak said. “We are projecting about \$1.58 million in tax (revenues) from those three sources in the FY ’24 budget and into next year.”

Expenditures

Heading into next year for the 2024-25 budget, he projected a 1 percent expenditure increase with an estimated \$10.6 million.

“The Town of Farragut is a service organization,” he said. “We provide services to the community, and to do that, your largest expense that you have is your people — having people to provide those services.

“Sixty-seven percent of our overall

budget is people,” Smoak added. “The rest is our operating expenses to get the job done.”

Looking at the Town’s 10-year history of personnel and operating costs, “you can see, in the last few years, we’ve had to keep pace with the local employment market when it comes to salaries and benefits,” he said.

“Those are things everybody has been tracking and trying to keep up with as much as we can,” Smoak added. “Those costs have accelerated a little bit over the last couple of years.”

On the whole, though, in looking at the General Fund over the last 10 years, he said the Board would see the Town’s revenues have far outpaced expenditures.

“That allows us to save money and pay for projects and things we want to do with cash, without having to go into debt to do a project,” Smoak said.

Bible credit

From page 1A

Hardin Valley schools).

Though voting to allow the class among seven in favor March 7 — District 1 rep, the Rev. John Butler “passed” and District 4 rep Katherine Bike was absent — District 2 rep Jennifer Owen requested further course evaluations during the March 4 workshop.

In response to Horn, Owen said, “I’m not asking for additional pieces to be evaluated. I know how our other curriculum is evaluated. That’s been explained to us multiple times. I don’t know how this is being evaluated.

“And so, I would like to know that so that can be part of my decision on whether to approve this or not,” she added. “In our policy, that’s what’s supposed to happen, and in the law that’s what’s supposed to happen. So I would like our administration to provide for us information regarding how it has been evaluated so that we can also evaluate it with those criteria.”

Growth Plan

From page 1A

some Board members were scratching their heads during a Feb. 22 meeting.

Alderman Drew Burnette saw the document as “ambiguous,” while Vice Mayor Louise Povlin — after relating the history behind the Growth Policy Plan — criticized it, saying the plan did not protect the rural areas of the county.

“The law is very specific about how the formulation of the initial and subsequent amendments to the plan are handled,” she said. “If the county or any municipality re-

jects the recommended growth plan or amendments thereto, there are methods of resolution disputes spelled out in the law (§6-58-104(b)).”

She noted the Town already rejected the plan Jan. 23, 2020.

The next step would be to “resolve this dispute,” Povlin said

However, “the steps were never taken,” she added.

“Knox County embarked on a two-year process to create an integrated land use and transportation plan for the unincorporated county in 2021,” said Michelle Forte of Advance Knox.

According to the county’s

presentation, the plan “establishes land use policies, principals and concepts to guide future development.”


Povlin said the proposed amendment deleted several sections of the plan.

“These sections governed development in the areas designated rural on the growth policy map,” she said, adding it “replaced those protections with the following language: ‘Rezoning in the Rural Area shall be consistent with and controlled by the applicable Sector Plans as adopted by the Metropolitan Planning Commission and Knox County Commission.’”

Snowden said Advance Knox is proposing to change the plan to read: “As of the effective date of this plan, all previously approved densities in the Rural Area shall remain in effect and are subject to all plan, regulations and/or conditions of their approval.’

“The task that we heard from the citizens about this two-year process was they wanted to reduce sprawl; they wanted to align infrastructure with all — utilities, the municipalities we work with, as well as schools — with the proposed growth — (and) also fiscal responsibility,” Snowden added.

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Gift prompts St. John Neumann Middle School expansion plans

STAFF REPORTS
editor@farragutpress.com

St. John Neumann Catholic Church and School recently received a gift to build a middle school expansion. This expansion will include state-of-the-art educational spaces and resources for current students and will accommodate the school’s growing student population, according to an SJN press release. Additionally, the new expansion will provide space for parish youth and adult ministries to use. “The donor, Lydia Melli, has always been passionate about the lasting impact education can make on one’s life, as it did for her,” the press release stated. “In 2022, Lydia initiated a conversation with St. John Neumann Catholic School leadership staff about how she could support students and teachers. “This led to an endowment she established to provide student tuition assistance, as well as resources for teachers’ salaries and professional development,” the release further stated. “In recognition of this endowment, the school leadership suite was named in honor of Lydia’s husband, Claude, who passed away in 2021.” “Lydia’s previous contributions to our parish and school will make a lifelong impact on our students, teachers and parishioners,” said Father Joe Reed, pastor of St. John Neumann Catholic Church and School. “This new gift from Lydia is truly awe-inspiring. “Lydia and Claude have established a remarkable legacy of sacrificial giving, service to others and a commitment to the mission of our school and parish,” he added. “I can’t overstate our gratitude for the Melli (family) generosity and the countless blessings this middle school expansion will bestow on generations of St. John Neumann students and parishioners.” The 6,000 square-foot academic expansion will involve the creation of innovative learning spaces, which accommodate evolving education needs, according to the press release. “It will include a state-of-the-art classroom, collaborative study areas, a research STEM lab and student gathering spaces,” the release further stated. “The expansion will seamlessly integrate with the existing campus architecture while embracing sustainable and energy-efficient design principles. “Ultimately, the expansion aims to enhance the overall educational experience, foster a dynamic learning environment for students and faculty, as well as create flexible spaces for parish youth and adult ministries and student before-and-after care.” “Most importantly, thanks to the Mellis’ generous gift, the expansion will be built without the parish and school taking on any debt,” the release also stated. Community Tectonics is the architecture firm assigned to the expansion. Paola Martinez, a St. John Neumann parishioner and school parent, is serving as lead architect.

Calendar

From page 2A

is a great way to share your time, talents and enthusiasm with the Farragut community. These are working committees, and applicants should be willing to give time to monthly meetings and committee projects and/or events. Some committees require a background in a professional area. There are openings on the following boards and committees: Arts & Beautification Committee, Farragut Education Relations Committee, Farragut High School Education Foundation representative and St. John Neumann Cath-

olic School representative, Board of Plumbing & Gas/Mechanical Examiners, Tourism/Visitor Advisory Committee and the Stormwater Advisory Committee. Applications are available at townoffarragut.org/committees or at Farragut Community Center (239 Jamestowne Blvd.). For more information, call the Administration Department at 865-966-7057. High school juniors or seniors who attend one of the public or private schools in Farragut or live in Farragut can apply to be a youth representative. (Homeschoolers are welcome to apply). Selected candidates are expected to

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lettertotheeditor

Tell BOMA ‘no’ to Knox Growth Policy Plan

On March 28, the Farragut Board of Mayor and Aldermen will vote on the Knox County Growth Policy Plan. In 2020, the Mayor and Aldermen voted 4-1 to not approve the plan because doing so would greatly increase housing density in Choto and north of Farragut and would result in much more traffic congestion in Farragut. Currently, housing density in Knox County is controlled by the Sector Plan, which limits density to three units per acre. Farragut is its own municipality and sets its own zoning rules on density. The Growth Policy Plan, if approved, will replace the Sector Plan, and in Choto and north of Farragut, housing density will increase from three units per acre to five units per acre, and in some places 12 units per acre in all areas on the Growth Policy Plan map marked Planned Growth Area. Areas marked Rural Area density would decrease from three units per acre to two units per acre. If you will look at the Growth Policy Plan map you will see almost all of Choto and north of Farragut is in the Planned Growth Area. Planned Growth Area is marked in yellow. https://archive.knoxplanning.org/plans/PS3-K29E_MPC_Knoxville%20Farragut%20Knox%20County%20Growth%20Policy%20Plan_2000.pdf These density numbers are from Knoxville/ Knox County Planning staff member Michelle Portier. I and other Farragut residents spoke with Ms. Portier after she spoke in the workshop for the Growth Policy Plan in the Mayor and Aldermen meeting Feb. 22. The goal of the Growth Policy Plan is to increase housing density on major roads, which can safely accommodate more traffic. Northshore Drive, Harvey Road and Choto Road do not meet those criteria. These roads have been greatly unchanged over the last 50 years. Northshore Drive has re-

ceived two roundabouts and a very small turn lane at The Cove, and that is the only improvement in 50 years. Harvey Road and Choto Road are unimproved over the last 50 years. Consider the alarming statistics, the crash rate on Northshore Drive between Choto and Concord is already above the statewide average, and accidents along the Northshore Corridor have increased by a staggering 39 percent in recent years. Tragically, we have witnessed at least two fatal accidents in as many years, claiming the lives of Susanne Russell and Jannett Guzman. The Knox County Primary election was a referendum on the Growth Policy Plan and Advance Knox, which is an overly that is on top of the Growth Policy Plan. In District 5 there were five Republican candidates and one Democrat. Of all these candidates, only Angela Russell, who lives in Choto, attended the entire Advance Knox planning sessions. Candidate Russell was the only candidate who opposed Advance Knox. Candidate Russell won the Republican Primary with more than twice the votes of the first runner up. Voters in District 5 are very concerned with increased housing density, and they showed that with their votes. I urge the Farragut Mayor and Aldermen to vote down the Knox County Growth Policy Plan. This is a matter of public health and safety. Emergency services cannot reach people who need help when there is traffic gridlock. As we just saw over the weekend when the Interstate was backed up, Farragut had a huge increase in local traffic. It is not safe to have that be a daily event. I hope each of you will call the Mayor and Aldermen and share your concerns about the Growth Policy Plan.

Mike Mitchell, Farragut

Editor’s Note: All farragutpress Letters to the Editor from a given author must have a minimum four-week period between publication — not to exceed 600 words — and must not have inaccurate information, such as wrong statistics, from which to form an opinion. We also reserve the right to reject publication based on factors to include, but not be limited to, threats, name-calling and foul language.

take part in all discussions and interact with fellow committee members, but due to legal constraints, the youth member will not have a formal vote. For more information about available opportunities and an online application, visit townoffarragut.org/youth. Application deadline for youth and adults is 4 p.m. Tuesday, April 30.



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One year in biz



Tammy Cheek

Lauren McCrossin, RN, co-owner of Drip Into Wellness with Dr. Dawn Riley, the company’s supervising medical director, celebrated the first anniversary of their business at 318 Erin Drive, Suite 5, in Bearden, Wednesday, Feb. 13. “I can’t believe it went by as fast,” she said. “When I originally opened, I was mobile, so I’ve only been in this brick-and-mortar spot since September. I’m hoping to add a second location in Hardin Valley sometime this year.” Riley is a board-certified physician in Tennessee. Drip Into Wellness provides a concierge infusion service, providing IV drip therapy and vitamin injections for holistic wellness, boosting energy, immunity, Myers Cocktail, beauty, anti-aging and other tailored treatments. It also offers corporate wellness. McCrossin and Riley share the space with Skintentional Beauty Spa. Drip Into Wellness is open by appointment only. To book an appointment, visit dripintowellness.com or call or text 865-214-6064.



Keely Starnes recently opened her own salon, K•M Salon Studio in Sola Salon Studios. She follows in the footsteps of her mother and grandmother, both hairstylists.

Tammy Cheek

Third generation
Starnes opens K•M Salon Studio in
Sola suites along Parkside Dr.

TAMMY CHEEK
tcheek@farragutpress.com

A third-generation hair stylist, Keely Starnes, has ventured out with her own salon, K•M Salon Studio, in Sola Salon Studios at 11324 Parkside Drive. The owner/designer serves men, women and children, providing haircuts, color, blonding, Biologes, highlights, gray coverage and hair extensions, for which she is Bellami-certified. Keely explained Bellami is a brand of hair extensions. “It’s a real good quality of human hair, and there are a bunch of techniques that I can use, depending on what someone may need or want,” she explained. Keely said people get extensions if they are having issues growing out their hair or if they have naturally fine hair. “There are a lot of different alternatives and methods of hair extensions that will help bring out someone’s confidence,” she said. “For myself, I really like to have them.” Also, “if someone wants longer hair or

thicker hair or if they want an accent color, you can do it with extensions,” said her grandmother, Phyllis Starnes, a retired hair dresser and the first-generation hair dresser. “So the white hair, it’s super popular to have pieces of it in the hair,” Keely said. “I can use the extensions.” She also can add silver, purple or other color extensions. “I can use the Bellami hair to prevent damage,” Keely said. “It’s an option not a lot of people know of, and it’s not permanent. It will help the (person’s natural) hair grow, too.” The salon also specializes in Kevin Murphy products, an Australian “mostly natural”

“Initially, we tried to talk her out of (hair styling), and that was a no-go,”

– Phyllis Starnes
Owner’s grandma

See THIRD GEN on Page 6A

businessbriefs

• **Scotty Ecklind, an agent with Weichert, Realtors - Advantage Plus in Knoxville, recently was certified** as an instructor with the Tennessee Real Estate Commission. The certification enables Ecklind to offer his “Wheel of Intention” course to local realtors. “The Wheel of Intention” is a time management system designed to support Ecklind and others to realize their passions. His course will help attendees enhance their time management abilities, aid in stress reduction and prioritize tasks.



Ecklind

• **Knoxville photographer Colby McLemore, owner of Colby’s Photos and Videos, recently received the Director’s Award at the Professional Photographers of America’s 154th Annual Convention.** This accolade, established in 1958, acknowledges individuals for their enduring and positive contributions to the professional photography industry. • **Weichert, Realtors - Advantage Plus recently was named to the prestigious Pre-**



McLemore

See BRIEFS on Page 6A

Got biz stories to share?

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Third gen

From page 5A

brand.

“She technically grew up in a salon,” Phyllis said of her granddaughter.

“My grandmother did hair, and my mom did hair, so being around it growing up, I knew it was something I liked and I got into it,” Keely said. “I graduated high school early and started (Douglas J. Aveda Institute) cosmetology school at 16 in 2016.”

“Initially, we tried to talk her out of (hair styling), and that was a no-go,” her grandmother said. “I think at that time, her mother and I were kind of burnt out. We had been doing hair for so long. People think that it’s glamorous, but it’s really hard work.”

“But she loves it,” Phyllis added about her granddaughter. “I can’t imagine her doing anything else.”

After cosmetology school, Keely worked at Natural Alternatives for a year as an assistant, and then Ulta Beauty in Oak Ridge for five years before she decided to branch out on her own “to have more control over my scheduling.

“A lot of people were waiting two to three weeks out to come in for appointments,” she added. “There was nothing more I could do on my side to help people be able to come in earlier. Now people don’t have to wait as long.”

“At Ulta, you can only work so many hours,” Phyllis explained. “It’s total freedom here.

“This is the fourth salon I have (helped) open over the years,” the grandmother added. “I come in an help. I guide.”

“Switching to K•M was like going back to my roots,” Keely said, adding she is using natural products that are environmentally friendly.

K•M Salon Studio is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday and Wednesday, and from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday and Saturday, and by appointment on Sunday. It is closed Monday and Thursday.

“I kind of come in whenever I’m needed,” Keely said.

To book an appointment, visit her website at keelystarnes.glossgenius.com, e-mail to Keely.Starnes.Hair@gmail.com or call 865-422-4648.

She also is on Facebook and Instagram, @Keeley_Starnes.

Ribbon cut for Island Fin Poke



Tammy Cheek

Co-owners Kristina Burkhalter (with scissors) and husband, Tab Burkhalter (Hawaiian shirt) stand ready to cut the ribbon on their new business, Island Fin Poke, during a Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce event at their restaurant, 11615 Parkside Drive, Wednesday, Feb. 28. Joining them are Farragut Mayor Ron Williams, far right; Ryan Addington, third from left, general manager; the owners’ daughter Abigail Burkhalter, between Kristina and Tab; Amanda Burkhalter (between Addington and Kristina); and a host of Chamber members.

Briefs

From page 5A

mier Client Group by Weichert Real Estate Affiliates Inc., earning distinction as one of the top-performing companies in the national franchise system in 2023.

Weichert, Realtors - Advantage Plus is one of only 30 companies – out of more than 230 from the Weichert national franchise system – named to this elite group of real estate brokerages. PCG members are identi-

fied based on sales performance from 2023.

• **The late James “Jim” Slyman, founder of Slyman Auction & Real Estate**, posthumously received the 2023 Lifetime Achievement Award from East Tennessee REALTORS Association. The inaugural award was presented during the organization’s annual Installation and Awards meeting held Feb. 1 in Tennessee Theater.

Slyman founded Slyman Real Estate & Auction in 1971 and

remained active in his business, church and community throughout his lifetime. He passed away in May 2023. “Slyman’s leadership within the industry shaped Knoxville’s Real Estate landscape and left an enduring legacy,” company press release stated.

• **Michael Graves Architecture recently acquired Studio Fou Design**, a Knoxville-based architecture design firm. The merger enhances the firm’s presence across sectors.

• **Twenty-four executives from campuses and institutes across the University of Tennessee system** recently were chosen to make up the 2024 class of the Executive Leadership Institute, which is operated by the UT Institute for Public Service’s Naifeh Center for Effective Leadership. It develops executive leaders for UT system needs.

• **Abhijit “AV” Verekar, founder/CEO at Avèro Advisors**, has been selected to be a member of a chief executive

peer advisory board in Knoxville by Vistage Worldwide Inc. He joins almost 400 senior executives, business owners and CEOs across Tennessee who are Vistage members. Under Verekar’s leadership, Avèro Advisors has grown from a one-man operation in 2016 to currently a team of 40 employees. Its approach emphasizes direct collaboration with top administrators to ensure the wise use of limited taxpayer dollars.

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Nice career start

Farragut rookie’s 1st Bassmasters Tourney nets a 4th-place finish



Photos submitted

In his first 2024 Bassmaster Elite Series Tournament, taking place at Toledo Bend in Many, Louisiana, “I made it to Championship Sunday, (Feb. 25), which is the top 10 and placed fourth, the highest of any rookie,” said Robert Gee, 24, of Farragut, holding up his catches.

Bouncing back from loss to Admirals, defending champ KCHS beats Central

KEN LAY
Correspondent

KNOXVILLE — Some seventh-inning heroics propelled Knoxville Catholic High School baseball into the win column for the first time this season late last week.

A one-out walk-off RBI single from senior Grant Tallent propelled pinch runner Harrison Vieira to lift the defending Division II-AA state champ Irish to a 3-2 win over Knox Central Thursday, March 7, at KCHS’s Gaylor Field. Catholic bounced back from an opening-season home loss to local power Farragut March 4.

Tallent’s seventh-inning heroics followed a two-out, two-run rally by the Bobcats in the top of the seventh inning. The senior, who played both left field and center field for the Irish against Central (1-1), said he had an idea what to expect on what proved to be the game’s final pitch.

“Coach (Caleb) Moore told me what to expect and I got it, put the bat on it and what happened, happened,” Tallent said. “It feels great to win this game.”



Moore

Catholic first baseman Nate O’Donnell opened the game-winning rally with a leadoff single and was lifted for Vieira, who promptly moved into scoring position on an errant pickoff throw. He would advance to third on a single by Cooper Williamson.

Hudson Lutterman was then issued an intentional walk to load the bases before Tallent delivered the game-winning hit.

Catholic (1-1) had a 2-0 lead heading into the top of the seventh inning before things came a bit unraveled for the Irish.

Central relief pitcher David Grimes, who escaped a bases-loaded jam in the bottom of the sixth, led off the top of the seventh and was hit in the head on a pitch by Lutterman, who would go on to retire the next two Bobcats.

Nick Riordan then singled, moving Grimes to third. Andrew Hill walked to load the bases before Cole Wessell delivered the game-winning two-run single to make it 2-2.

Central head coach Brandon Roberts commended Grimes for his effort.

“David Grimes is a kid who does things the right way, after he got them out and came in, we told him that he had to find a way to get on,” Roberts said. “And he did. He got hit in the head.”

Moore said Grimes getting hit changed the complexion of

the game.

“I hate to say it, but I think this is going to be the ‘MO’ this season,” Moore said. “You can’t hit a guy in the head with an 0-2 count and Hudson knows that.”

“Central is a good team. They have good players. They have good hitters and good arms,” the Irish skipper added. “This was a big win, and hopefully this will be a learning experience for us.”

Williamson started on the mound for the Irish and had to pitch around some trouble in the top of the first, as he hit Hill and walked Wessell, with one out, before Samuel Myers singled to load the bases. The KCHS pitcher, however, averted damage as he struck out a pair of Central hitters to end the top half of the frame.

Catholic took a 2-0 lead in the bottom of the second as Jameson Hussey came up with an RBI single and DJ Lowery came home on a wild pitch.

The Bobcats stranded two runners in the sixth, as Williamson walked the final two batters he faced before giving way to Lutterman, who slammed the door on Central by striking out the side.

Williamson and Lutterman combined to record 13 strikeouts in the contest. Lutterman, who earned the win, had four in relief, while Williamson finished with nine.



Photo courtesy Pam Rhoades, KCHS sports information

Former Vol JaJuan Smith is new KCHS boys hoops head coach.

Smith, ex-Vols hoops standout, promoted to new KCHS head coach

4th Irish boys basketball boss in 4 years

STAFF REPORTS
editor@farragutpress.com

CEDAR BLUFF — JaJuan Smith, former Tennessee Vols Basketball shooting guard (2004-2008), has been promoted to varsity boys hoops head coach at Knoxville Catholic High School. He’s the fourth KCHS boys head coach in the last four years.

A Cleveland (Bradley County) native, Smith served as a Fighting Irish boys assistant coach during the 2023-24 season. “Prior to joining the Fighting Irish family, Smith spent two years as the assistant head coach at Speights Academy in Florida,” a KCHS press releases stated. “That team had two undefeated seasons and were two-time post-grad national champions.”

“Smith is a basketball enthusiast with a rich background in the sport,” the release further stated. “After a short stint in the NBA with the Dallas Mavericks, Smith went on to play over a decade of professional basketball overseas ... in Turkey, France and Croatia.”

During his four-year career at UT, Smith earned All-SEC Defensive First Team honors for the 2008 SEC regular sea-

son champion Vols. He made 253 career 3-pointers (third all-time in program history), 183 steals (fourth all-time, program-wise) and 1,384 career points.

As a coach, Smith has “trained and coached AAU teams and post-grad players,” the release stated. “His passion for developing young talent and helping players reach their full potential is evident in his coaching style. Smith’s unique perspective as a former player at various levels brings a valuable perspective to his coaching, allowing him to mentor and guide aspiring athletes effectively.”

“Coach Smith brings a wealth of basketball knowledge to our program,” KCHS athletic director Jason Surlas said. “From his humble beginning as a walk-on player at Tennessee to leaving in the record books — along with a long professional career — allows him to relate to players and push them to never settle for anything less than being great. JaJuan is dedicated to developing their talents as athletes and build their character as young men. He is committed to fostering a culture of teamwork, discipline and excellence.”

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‘Good Man, Charlie Brown’ at Church of Christ; 4 shows

TAMMY CHEEK

tcheek@farragutpress.com

The Palace Players, founded by Farragut resident Xandria Cross, once again will take to the stage with a nostalgic flair to present “You’re A Good Man, Charlie Brown, The Musical,” starting at 7 p.m., Thursday, March 21, and Friday, March 22, and at 2 and 7 p.m., Saturday, March 23, in Farragut Church of Christ, 136 Smith Road.

Friday, March 22, “we’re going to have a special guest there,” Cross said of “Melanie Kohn, one of the original voices of Lucy in the ‘Peanuts’ TV show back in the ’70s.

“We’re really excited to have her there,” he added. “She’ll be there from 6 to 7 p.m. She’s going to be in Town for her birthday ... doing meet-and-greet and maybe attending the show.”

After seeing they were doing the production, Cross said Kohn reached out by e-mail. Additionally, this year is the 50th anniversary of two of Kohn’s specials, “It’s a Mystery, Charlie Brown,” and “It’s the Easter Beagle, Charlie Brown.”

The Palace Players is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization affiliated with a larger organization through ACT International.

Tickets are \$15 per person and can be purchased at the door or on Players’ website, ThePalacePlayers.com or Facebook and Instagram, [@ThePalacePlayers](https://www.instagram.com/ThePalacePlayers).

Based on the comic strip “Peanuts” by Charles M. Schultz, the

See CHARLIE BROWN on Page 5B



After a “ride” on the school bus (**below right**), The Palace Players cast members, from left, Julia Heaton as Sally, Hannah Campbell as Lucy, Noah Standifer as Charlie Brown, Hayden Toon as Linus, Eli Solomon as Schroeder and Remington Stavros as Snoopy, will be swinging in the Players’ production of “You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown.”

Photos submitted

‘Carnival-like’ Family Fun Night, from FIS PTO, is April 5

TAMMY CHEEK

tcheek@farragutpress.com

Farragut Intermediate School Parent-Teacher Organization invites everyone to the school’s Family Fun Night from 5 to 8 p.m., Friday, April 5, in the school, 208 West End Ave.

“Join us for a carnival-like event, a night of fam-

ily fun with inflatables, games, arts and crafts, food, a bake sale and a silent auction,” said Amie Abram, FFN event chair. “We kind of have it all.

“The silent auction begins online on Thursday, March 28, and continues to an in-person silent auction at the event,” she added.

FFN is held in the school’s cafeteria, common area and gymnasium.

“We also use part of Farragut Middle School, their gym, where our inflatables will be set up,” Abram said. “It’s a big event for the Town and for the school. This is our version of (Farragut Primary School’s) Fall Festival, so to speak. It’s a really big event, anywhere from 500 to 700 people — over 300 families —

See FAMILY FUN NIGHT on Page 4B

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• **Newcomers Club welcomes women who “are new to the area, or who just want to make new friends,”** to come and join them for lunch and a program Wednesday, March 20, in Bearden Banquet Hall, 5806 Kingston Pike. Program will be The Tennessee Valley Golden Retriever Rescue. For reservations, call 865-705-0309 no later than Wednesday March 13.

• **Hope Rises, a conversation about trauma and post-traumatic stress disorder,** runs from 2 to 4 p.m., Sunday, March 24, in First Farragut United Methodist Church, 12733 Kingston Pike.

“Traumatic events may affect us temporarily, but when they linger and begin to interfere with day-to-day functioning, it may be PTSD,” a Hope Rises press release stated. “Symptoms can include trouble sleeping, feeling angry ... anxiety or fearfulness.

“Samantha Pitkin and Amiko McPherson will describe ways to recognize signs of trauma and PTSD, to heal and to move forward,” the release further stated. “The conversation includes a presentation, small group discussions and a question/answer session. The event is appropriate for both adults and teenagers.”

For more information, or to register, visit Register online at [www.ffumc.org/event](http://www.ffumc.org/event) or call the church office at 865-966-8430.

• **Dogwood Arts Festival has been nominated as one of the Best Art Festivals in the Country** in USA Today’s 10 Best Reader’s Poll. An expert panel nominated its top 20 picks, where Dogwood Arts Festival has been placed alongside events in Chicago, San Francisco and Denver among others. “Vote, share, and vote again — every day through Monday, March 18,” a DAF press release stated. To vote for DFA, visit [shannon@dogwoodarts.com](mailto:shannon@dogwoodarts.com)

• **Local families have the chance to learn more about adoption, foster care and kinship care** at a conference hosted by Knoxville Area Foster Care and Adoption Ministries. KAFCAM’s 9th Annual Regional Conference will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, March 23, in Faith Promise Church, 10740 Faith Promise Lane in Knoxville.

KAFCAM is an alliance of churches, agencies, ministries and community advocates who

serve foster, adoptive and kinship children and families, as well as advocate for family preservation when possible,” a KAFCAM press release stated. “... Target audience for the conference is prospective and active foster, kinship and adoptive parents as well as those looking to support the Knox County adoption, foster care and kinship care community.

“The conference is designed to encourage, equip and connect families and bring awareness of the needs of vulnerable children in our community,” the release further stated. “There will be informational tables from many local agencies, time to connect with like-minded people and ways to learn to be more effective in helping orphaned and vulnerable children.”

Registration is available at [www.kafcam.org/conference](http://www.kafcam.org/conference) for \$15 per person. A light breakfast as well as lunch are included.

• **Jubilee Community Arts presents “The Resonant Rogues” at Laurel Theater,** 1538 Laurel Ave. in Knoxville, starting at 8 p.m., Saturday, March 30.

Rooted in the mountains of Western North Carolina, The Resonant Rogues are fronted by songwriting duo Sparrow and Keith Josiah Smith, who share a passion for movement and sound. Before meeting, falling in love and forming the band in 2013, both traveled extensively throughout the United State: Keith by hopping freight trains, Sparrow with a circus troupe.

In addition to their holler homestead, New Orleans and Nashville are their other musical homes, and the influences of both can be felt on The Resonant Rogues’ self-titled fourth album. They incorporate sounds of Appalachian old-time, classic country and vintage soul.

Tickets are available at TicketLeap ([jubilee-community-arts.ticketleap.com](http://jubilee-community-arts.ticketleap.com)), by mail or at the door 30 minutes prior to show. Cost is \$20 at the door, \$15 general audience advance and \$14 for JCA members, students and seniors age 65-plus.

• **“Black and Gifted: A Cultural Expression,”** curated by LaKesha Lee, will be on display in the Dogwood Gallery, 123 W. Jackson Ave., Knoxville, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday through April 15.

Explore galleries, studios,

and artist collectives; roam through shops hosting open houses and local artist exhibits; enjoy performance art and live music at a variety of venues; drop in restaurants along the way and treat yourself to drinks and great food,” a Dogwood Arts press release stated.

Participating artists include: Francis Akosha, Jonathan Adams, Mene Manresa Bodipo, KaReena Goodwin, Jackie Holloway, LaKesha Lee, Jeremy Myles, Layla Moore, Nyasha Madamombe and Gary White.

• **Tenth Annual Houses & Hope Breakfast runs from 8 to 9 a.m., Tuesday, April 9,** at The Venue in Lenoir City, 7690 Creekwood Park Blvd. Registration opens at 7:30 a.m. “Enjoy a great breakfast and share about our work in Loudon County,” an H&H press release stated. “This year, we will be taking a closer look at #costofhome, and how we can impact the need for affordable housing in our area.” Breakfast is complementary, but RSVP is required. Contact Rachel Rendon at: [rachel@loudoncountyhabitat.org](mailto:rachel@loudoncountyhabitat.org).

• **Knoxville Writers Guild announces “an enchanting evening of poetry** featuring celebrated poets Linda Parsons and Susan O’Dell Underwood,” a KWG press release stated. The event will take place starting at 7 p.m., Thursday, April 11, in Addison’s Bookstore, 126 S. Gay St. in downtown Knoxville.

For more information, contact Rhea Carmon, with KWG Publicity & Community Engagement: [info@knoxville-writersguild.org](mailto:info@knoxville-writersguild.org)

## Best ways to treat dogs with epilepsy; med levels matter

**Q:** “Brandy” is the best dog we’ve ever had. She started having seizures when she was 2 years old. Our vet in California diagnosed her with epilepsy. We give her medicine faithfully every day, but she still has seizures one or two times each month. We even saw a specialist before we moved. Your thoughts or suggestions would be appreciated. E.S., Farragut



Ask Vet  
**Dr. Stephanie Myers**

**A:** Epilepsy, a common cause of seizures in young dogs, can range in severity. Unfortunately, it sounds like Brandy may have a severe case. I’m glad to hear that you give her medication regularly; that is very important for her. Most dogs can be controlled with only one-seizure medication, but it sounds like that is not the case for Brandy. A small percentage of patients will need two medications for better control, and an even smaller percentage require three medications.

If your previous veterinarian recommended following up after moving, please know we also have veterinary neurologists

See ASK VET on Page 4B

## obituary

### In Loving Memory of Leland D. Sayers

Leland D. Sayers went home to Jesus on March 3, 2024, in Louisville, Tennessee. Born on June 3, 1933, in Coleman, Michigan. Leland spent his life in sales and building successful businesses. Married to Lillian Sayers until her heavenly departure in 1996, he later married Jo Moran, enjoying retirement in Lakeland, Florida.

He was an active member of the Gideons in East Tennessee and served as an elder at Cedar Springs Presbyterian Church.

As the first in his family to graduate from college, Leland pursued a successful career in energy conservation and home improvement, inspiring all four of his children to follow in his business-related footsteps.

He was proceeded in death by his parents, Foster and Fern Sayers; his first wife, Lillian; siblings, Burt Sayers and Hilda Laudeman; and his dear friend Homer Jackson.

He is survived by his four children, Laura, Kendall (Debbie), Roger (Laura and Stephen (Diane); 11 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. Also survived by his brother and sister, Bud Sayers and Foora Sayers, and sister-in-law, Shirley Sayers. The family extends gratitude to the staff of Autumn Care in Farragut and Lifecare of Blount County for their exceptional care.

A celebration of Life followed by visitation will be held beginning at 1 p.m., Saturday, March 23, in the main sanctuary at Cedar Springs Presbyterian Church, with visitation immediately following. In lieu of flowers, donations be made to Gideons International at [www.gideons.org](http://www.gideons.org)



Mr. Sayers

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‘Family Fun Night’  
From page 2B

usually at this event.  
“This is an annual event that the school hosts every spring,” she added. “We invite families and the community members to come and enjoy an carnival-like event.

“We seek many volunteers from the public ... churches; organizations like United Healthcare. ...”  
The event “offers the community a chance to come together, have some fun and support our school,” Abram said.  
Family Fun Night also raises funds for the PTO. However,

she said FFN really is a “fun night out.” as it seeks community sponsors.  
Advance ticket sales begin Tuesday, March 26. Tickets and wristbands also are available at the door.  
For more information, contact Abram at 1-941-928-7401 or visit FISPTOFFN@gmail.com

Ask Vet  
From page 3B

here. If Brandy is not getting adequate seizure control with medications, they may discuss advanced imaging, such as CT or MRI, to rule out other causes of seizures.  
Sadly, there is no cure for

epilepsy, only medication to aid in seizure control. Treatment is lifelong. Hopefully Brandy can have fewer and shorter seizures soon.  
  
If you have questions about your pet, you may e-mail Dr. Myers at lenoircityac@gmail.com



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4. No entries accepted for judging after 4 p.m. EST on Thursday, March 21, 2024

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Entry Form

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(Please print and sign) \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

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Charlie Brown

From page 2B

book, music and lyrics are by Clark Gesner. “It’s neat to see how the writers took the stories of the Peanuts and added songs and fun things for the characters to be involved in, storywise, (with) different skits and sketches,” she said.

“The show was originally produced in the ’60s, but in the early ’90s they redid it and added songs, characters and fleshed it out even more,” said Cross’ brother, Remington Stavros. “Remi (Stavros) here is directing, and he’s in the show,” Cross said. “I’m vocal directing and assistant choreographer.”

“We’re doing the ’90s version of it, and it’s so much fun because it’s a colorful, fun comedy show (and) nostalgic, but it can get crazy at times,” Stavros said. The production has six cast members: Christian Academy of Knoxville student Noah Standifer as Charlie Brown, Farragut home-schooled se-

nior Hannah Campbell as Lucy, FHS student Hayden Toon as Linus, Eli Solomon of Bearden as Schroeder, Julia Heaton of Farragut as Sally and Stavros as Snoopy. “We also partnered with Farragut Church of Christ,” Cross said. “They have been incredible, just welcoming us and giving us the space that al-

lows us to do more in the Farragut community, which that was our heart in the first place, growing up in Farragut. ... “You always had to drive, like, 20 or 30 minutes to get to a rehearsal or something like that, and we know that there’s a lot of people in Farragut, in the community, who love theater,” Stavros said.

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**FARRAGUT BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN**

Farragut Community Center  
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**AGENDA • March 14, 2024**  
**BMA MEETING**

The March 14, 2024 Town of Farragut Board of Mayor and Aldermen is CANCELED

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 MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSION AGENDA**

**March 21, 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 for the February 15, 2024 meeting

3. Discussion and public hearing on a site plan for the relocation of the old Belleaire Drive Kingston Pike access at the First Baptist Church Concord, 11704 Kingston Pike, Zoned R-1 and R-3 (MBI Companies, Applicant)

4. Request for approval for the installation of six inch Medium Density Polyethylene (MDPE) pipe along a section of the south side of Kingston Pike east of Little Turkey Creek Commons to and along a portion of the west side of Old Stage Road and two inch MDPE from Old Stage Road to Windham Hill Road and from Old Stage Road along a short section of the north side of Somersworth Drive just past the intersection with Gwinhurst Road (KUB, Applicant)

5. Approval of utilities

6. Citizen forum

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Nathan Deane and daughter, Alexandra, 10



Annabella, 5, and her dad, David Sydes



Vaughn Dill with daughter, Aviana, 7



Nick Gentile with daughter, Nadia, 8



Erik Wendland with daughters, Rosemary, 7, left, and Colette, 9



Matt Besche with daughter, Maia, 5



Gary Null with daughter, Kallani, 8



William Gotto with granddaughter, Olivia Campbell, 7



Michael Below and daughter, Clara, 4

ST. JOHN NEUMANN CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL

Daddy-Daughter Dance

St. John Neumann Catholic Church and School fathers and their daughters spent the evening in the school’s gymnasium Saturday, Feb. 25, dancing, enjoying refreshments and being the subject of photos as the featured attraction of the church and school’s Snow Ball Daddy-Daughter Dance. A photo booth was occupied by the couples during breaks in the dancing, and daughters also caught up with their friends and played on the gym floor. Later in the evening, the girls were escorted out of the gym for a special ceremony. As each girl was announced upon re-entry into the gym, each father gave his daughter a rose.



# CHAMBER LIFE

"MISSION: TO STRENGTHEN, PROMOTE, AND CREATE BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH RELATIONSHIPS AND EDUCATION THAT ENCOURAGE MEMBER SUCCESS."

VOL. 38, NO. 3

A PUBLICATION OF THE FARRAGUT WEST KNOX CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

MARCH 2024

## Little Space Left for EXPO 2024

Less than a dozen booths remain available for the chamber's Business EXPO 2024 presented by Slamdot taking place on Wednesday, May 1, from 2pm to 6pm at Rothchild Event Center. Booth spaces are now open to both chamber members AND non-members at the respective price of \$250 and \$350. Member food businesses can still snag a booth for only \$100 in exchange for providing product samples at the event.

The Business EXPO is a business to business oriented showcase and will feature over 80 businesses from across the area who are seeking to connect with new vendors and clients alike. Tickets for the event are discounted at 2 for \$5 and will be \$10 on May 1 at the door.

Like last year, attendees can participate in a sponsor scavenger hunt and submit their completed cards into one of several door prize drawings. Door prize baskets last year were valued well into the

**Business  
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2024**

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Other sponsorship levels remain in limited quantities. For a PDF copy of the booth registration form and event rules,

email [julie@farragutchamber.com](mailto:julie@farragutchamber.com). To sign up online or to buy tickets, go to [farragutchamber.com](http://farragutchamber.com) > Events.



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- Increase brand awareness and raise reputation
- Build trust with current and future consumers
- Engage AND even recruit staff through volunteer opportunities and purposefully putting your money where it has a specific impact
- Facilitate connections that create other opportunities for individuals or groups

The chamber prioritizes giving back to and serving the community where our members work and live through donations to member non-profits, collections of items, and individual volunteering.

Whether you're a community member looking to serve, or a business who wants to broaden your impact, you can learn more about multiple non-profits in one easy time and place this month! Join us for a convenient networking event on Thursday, March 21, 8-9am at the Farragut Community Center!

Featured/Confirmed Member 501(c)(03) organizations you'll meet include Boys & Girls Club of the Tennessee Valley, Bridge

See **NON-PROFITS** on Page 2

You're Invited to a Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce

## LUNCH N' LEARN

### Business Ethics Do's & Don'ts

Panelists:

- **Donn King**  
Pellissippi State Community College
- **Drew Rutherford**  
Transworld Business Advisors
- **Gregg Bostick**  
SBDC
- **Steve Lipsey**  
Lipsey Morrison Attorneys

Farragut Community Center  
239 Jamestowne Blvd, Farragut, TN 37934  
Thursday, April 4, 2024 | 11:30AM - 1:00PM

## Lunch to Explore Ethics in Small Business

We believe we all know the difference between right and wrong, and, OF COURSE, you run or conduct your business with the guide of the best moral compass possible...

But what about those situations that aren't so cut and dry? Businesses and business professionals are OFTEN confronted with situations where the "right" course of action may not be obvious. Even if you don't have a big team or a board of executives to worry about... things can happen as

a result of your employee's or your own decisions that can hurt you or your business brand. Find out on Thursday, April 4, from 11:30am to 1pm at the Farragut Community Center about the ethical "pot-holes" that are out there today, so you can avoid falling into them.

Offered quarterly, the FWKCC's Lunch & Learn Series provides chamber members and members of the business community with an opportunity to learn Best

Practices on a variety of topics including, but not limited to: Cyber Security, HR Resources, Business Continuity and Business Budgeting and Finance. This member-to-member format lets panelists informally SHARE their helpful industry standard knowledge that is ALSO specific to the business climate and requirements of our own city, region and state.

The April program features the following panelists:

See **ETHICS** on Page 3

## Annual Membership Meeting

February 15, 2024



FWKCC Board Chair/Marketing Director AA-Air Company Christine Dean speaks to Member attendees about the 2024 Strategic Plan at the Chamber's Annual Membership Meeting held at Faith Promise Church Farragut.

# Enterprise Club

These Chamber members generously contribute to the Chamber and the Continued Development Grant Program above and beyond their annual dues.

### ADMIRAL ELITE



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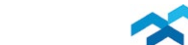
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For many small business owners, access to capital funding is a challenge, especially for start-up or early stage companies. A recent survey conducted by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce found 49% of small business owners find current access to capital or loans as good, compared to 67% in 2017. Three barriers to securing small business financing were identified.

**1. Time-consuming application process (52%):** Small business owners often have limited time and resources to dedicate to the lengthy process of applying for financing. Traditional lenders may require extensive documentation and review processes, which can be daunting for busy entrepreneurs.

**2. Lack of information on available sources of capital (46%):** Many small business owners may not be aware of the diverse range of financing options available to them beyond traditional bank loans. Alternative sources such as crowdfunding, angel investors, or venture capital, may be viable options, but without proper knowledge, entrepreneurs may overlook them.

**3. Insufficient revenue or assets to qualify for a loan (46%):** Traditional lenders often require businesses to demonstrate a certain level of revenue or have sufficient assets to serve as collateral for a loan. For newer or smaller businesses, meeting these requirements can be challenging, especially if they lack a solid financial history or significant assets.

Here is the good news! We are here to assist you to find the right financing solution for you to start, grow, and sustain your small business. We provide technical assistance and provide resources to our clients at no cost. Once you are prepared, we can assist in finding the right lending partner to meet your goals.

You are invited to attend our upcoming “Becoming Bank Ready to Access Capital” class on April 3, 2024 at the Farragut Community Center. Our panel of lenders and advisors will discuss what business owners need to prepare in order to become bank ready. You can register at <https://clients.tsbdc.org/workshop.aspx?ekey=21440020>, or visit our website, [www.tsbdc.org](http://www.tsbdc.org) to schedule an appointment with one of our Business Specialists. We hope to see you soon!

### Non-profits

From page 1

Refugee Services, Childhelp, Children’s Museum of Oak Ridge, Emerald Youth Foundation, Iva’s Place, Kids First Child Advocacy Center, 9th Judicial District, Knoxville Habitat for Humanity, Operation Inasmuch, Second Harvest Food Bank of East Tennessee, Shangri-la Therapeutic Academy of Riding, Volunteer Ministry Center, and Young Williams Animal Center.

There is no cost to register and guests are warmly welcome! Visit [farragutchamber.com](http://farragutchamber.com) > Events.

# Networking

## Farragut High School Education Foundation

February 8, 2024



Charlie Barnard, *Matlock Tire, FHSEF Treasurer* Mary Cook, and *FHSEF Recording Secretary* Christi King pause for a photo.



FHS Virtual Enterprise students share an inaugural program with networking attendees.

## Salon Biyoshi - February 22, 2024



Salon Owner Brandon Harris and his team smile for a photo during the morning networking.



Raeus Cannon, *Founder/CEO of REO*, Danielle Wright-Harris, *Chiropractor at Eden Family Chiropractic*, and Major Harris gather for a quick photo.

## ADS Phoenix - February 29, 2024



Graphic Designer Misty Keller, Business Development Tina Finney, and Owner Dave Kerschbaum gather for a photo.



Attendees participate in networking activities at ADS Phoenix Marketing.

## EXPO Bootcamp - February 27, 2024



FWKCC Board Chair/Marketing Director AA-Air Company Christine Dean facilitates the Chamber first Business EXPO Bootcamp to prepare attendees for the May 1 Business EXPO or any tradeshow they plan to attend.



11826 Kingston Pike, Suite 110 | Farragut, TN 37934

(865) 675-7057 | (865) 671-2409 Fax

e-mail: [info@farragutchamber.com](mailto:info@farragutchamber.com) | [www.farragutchamber.com](http://www.farragutchamber.com)

This newsletter is published monthly by the Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce.

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# Ribbon Cuttings

## Farragut Junction

February 13, 2024



Property Manager Bethany James, joined by her team, Chamber members, friends, and family, is ready to cut the ribbon on the new Farragut Junction apartment property.

## Slim Down Wellness

February 20, 2024



Dawn Bertin and Tonya Bellinghausen steady the scissors for the ribbon cutting with their team and community members joining them.

## Island Fin Poke

February 28, 2024



Owner Kristi Burkhalter holds the ribbon-cutting scissors with her husband, Tab, the rest of the Island Fin team, and all guests including Mayor Ron Williams, alongside her ready to celebrate.

# Member Briefs

Looking for more details on a specific event, special or job?

Go to **[www.farragutchamber.com](http://www.farragutchamber.com)** to see these and other member items!

Do you remember how much you loved scratch-and-sniff stickers as a child? What if you could evoke that same joy with your mail marketing campaign? Thanks to new printing advancements, **Printing Image** now offers printed mail pieces with scented inks. Call them today for more information! (865) 584-8503

No dental insurance? No problem. **Heritage Family Dentistry** has a membership program designed just for you! Call today to find out if their program is right for you. (865) 800-4664

Beginning Saturday, March 2nd, **Concord Veterinary Hospital** will begin offering walk-in Urgent Care services for dogs and cats on Saturdays and Sundays from 9:00am to 9:00pm. They can accommodate abscesses, coughing or sneezing, ear infections, fever, hives/swelling reactions, limping, skin allergies, minor GI upset, and more. Call today at (865) 966-4135.

Congratulations to Wendell Decker of **Via-media**, who was named "Synopsis Standout for Q4 2023". Synopsis Standouts recognizes exceptional individuals who have left a significant mark in the past quarter by creating and implementing innovative solutions in diverse areas, including technology, team management, fostering team spirit, and beyond.

Are you a local business owner looking to reach our community? With a wide range of partnership options available, including print and digital, **West Knoxville Lifestyle** magazine can help you craft a campaign that meets your specific objectives. Contact them today at (865) 607-7071.

### Ethics

From page 1

Donn King, Pellissippi State Community College: As an Associate Professor of Communications for over 32 years (plus being a Pastor, speaker, and owner of his own communications company), Donn has an extensive background in teaching the importance of not just how to communicate, but also building and maintaining your ethical integrity as a leader and professional.

Drew Rutherford, Transworld Business Advisors: You might not be thinking about selling your business today, but don't you want to be prepared if a great opportunity comes along? Drew helps businesses ensure they've taken all the right steps to make their business as attractive as possible to a buyer, and that includes ensuring there's nothing that might raise an ethical red flag for that buyer.

Gregg Bostick, Small Business Development Center (SBDC): As the Executive Director of our SBDC, Gregg deals DAILY with advising businesses of all sizes and industries who've made ethical mistakes and those who have successfully navigated ethical dilemmas. He also brings his prior corporate business career and experience to the conversation.

Steven Lipsey, Lipsey Morrison Attorneys : A former member of the chamber's own board of directors who served extensively as an Executive Officer, Steve's legal expertise focuses on Bankruptcy and Debt Collection, as well as Civil Litigation, helping parties who have been damaged by another person or business. He navigates the legal consequences that can arise from minor contract disputes up to complex commercial litigations.

Light lunch refreshments will be provided, included at NO COST to existing chamber members, or for \$15 for non-members. Attendees may also bring a Brown Bag. Register online at [www.farragutchamber.com](http://www.farragutchamber.com) > Events.

# Welcome New Members!

**The Chamber welcomes these businesses who joined us recently in February!**

Did you know businesses/organizations can submit an application & payment online? Visit [www.farragutchamber.com](http://www.farragutchamber.com) and click "Join the Chamber!"

Increase your home's curb appeal and protect your most important asset with their professional exterior roofing team. If it is on the outside of your home, they can handle it! For a free estimate, visit <https://smithroofingservice.com/>



A streetwise alternative to Crumbl Cookie, Cookie Plug slangs the most unique stacks the streets have to offer. Part cookie, part cake, and part brownie. Visit <http://www.cookieplug.com> or call (865) 444-1115.



MR10 Realty is a family-owned and operated real estate firm located in Knoxville but serves the greater East Tennessee community. Their team of experienced, high-performing real estate professionals is ready to help you with all your home needs. Their philosophy is based on the client. Your goals. Your Needs. Your timeline. Your happiness comes first. <https://www.mr10realty.com/> or (865) 737-4567.



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See NEW MEMBERS on Page 4



# Welcome New Members!

## New Members

From page 3

seasoned experts navigating the intricate world of real estate transactions with finesse and precision. From residential havens to commercial ventures, they’re your partners in making property transactions seamless and stress-free. Visit <https://renaissancetitleandescrow.com/> or call (865) 625-0400.



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Located in the heart of Turkey Creek, you will appreciate the convenience of walking to upscale shopping and dining, or enjoy a short drive to experience the beautiful Smoky Mountains. Their all-suite hotel features modern furnishings and innovative room layouts that give you the space and amenities you desire for both work and pleasure. Visit <https://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/tyskw-springhill-suites-knoxville-at-turkey-creek/overview/> or (865) 966-8888.



Now CFO provides immense value by taking a unique approach to analyzing company financials from the bottom up, by providing in-depth insights on the entire lifecycle of the customer journey, from the initial touchpoints to the completion of a purchase. The team ranges from staff accountants to Controllers and CFOs. Call (865) 315-0633 or visit <http://www.nowcfo.com>.



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Basement and crawl space services include inspections, structural repairs, and moisture control. For a complete listing of services visit <https://crawlspaceandbasementpros.com/> or call (865) 606-8500.



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A non-profit organization formed because of a group of volunteers who realized the need for an organization dedicated to fulfilling the special dreams of children battling life-threatening or chronically debilitating illnesses. Its objective is to raise charitable contributions exclusively for fulfilling the “once-in-a-lifetime dream come true” of children between the ages of three and eighteen. One hundred percent of its contributions go to fulfilling the dreams of the children it serves. <https://dreamconnection.org/wp/> or call (865) 293-6089.



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# Thank You for Renewing Your Membership!

*The Farragut/West Knox Chamber thanks these businesses who have renewed their investment in the Chamber as of February 2024. We can count them as Farragut/West Knox Chamber of Commerce members! We urge members to patronize one another when the goods or services a member can provide are needed. We also hope that area residents recognize a business’s commitment to its community when it becomes part of its local chamber of commerce and reward that commitment with its patronage.*

A special thank you goes to these renewing members who are continuing their support of our chamber and the businesses it serves through their above-and-beyond Enterprise Membership:



**NHC Place Assisted Living**  
*Thank you for your Anchor Enterprise Membership!*

865it  
AA-Air Company  
Broadway Carpets, Inc.  
Chick-fil-A  
Chuck Carringer Executive Coaching LLC  
Computer Systems Plus  
Dixie Lee Wines & Liquors, Inc.  
Doubletree by Hilton Oak Ridge/Knoxville  
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Kara Hudgens Photography Co.  
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McClain’s Painting  
Miser Wealth Partners, LLC  
New Hope Healthcare Institute, LLC  
Promo Depo

Sarah A Coaching  
Smoky Mountain Service Dogs, Inc.  
Stonebridge Advisors  
Tennessee Credit Union; The  
Title Group of Tennessee  
Tropical Smoothie Cafe  
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Kings of Real Estate Team

# Calendar of Events: March/April 2024

Members can quickly RSVP for events in their Member Portal at <http://members.farragutchamber.com/login>. Call (865) 675-7057 or email [Suzanne@farragutchamber.com](mailto:Suzanne@farragutchamber.com) for a link to create your account! Visitors/Guests can register by clicking the links on the Chamber Calendar ([www.farragutchamber.com](http://www.farragutchamber.com) > “Events”) and registering under “Not a member?”.

**Tuesdays at the Chamber: FREE Business Mentoring for ANY business with SCORE Greater Knoxville. MUST Email [Caudill@SCOREvolunteer.org](mailto:Caudill@SCOREvolunteer.org) to pre-schedule**

**Wednesdays at the Chamber: FREE Business ADVISING for ANY business @ Chamber with SBDC. Visit [www.tsbdc.org/request-advising/](http://www.tsbdc.org/request-advising/) to pre-schedule**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                   |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>March 14th</b><br><b>4:30p</b><br><i>Triple Hosted Networking:<br/>Signature Self-Storage at Choto,<br/>Johnny Brusco’s, and<br/>Van Edom’s Wine Bar</i><br>1620 Choto Markets Way<br>Knoxville 37922 | <b>March 21st</b><br><b>8a</b><br><i>Non-profit Showcase Networking</i><br>Farragut Community Center<br>239 Jamestowne Blvd.   Farragut 37934 | <b>April 11th</b><br><b>4:30p</b><br><i>Express Employment<br/>Professionals Networking</i><br>8805 Kingston Pike<br>Suite 101<br>Knoxville 37923 |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <b>March 28th</b><br><b>4:30p</b><br><i>Lenoir City Utilities Board</i><br>Farragut Community Center<br>239 Jamestowne Blvd.   Farragut 37934 |                                                                                                                                                   |

**Would your business love to host one of our popular weekly networkings?**  
*Members can do just that! Call us at (865) 675-7057 to learn more or to book for this year!*