



(Almost) Total Eclipse in McFee Park set

STAFF REPORTS

editor@farragutpress.com

“It won’t happen again for 20 years, so Farragut Parks & Recreation plans to celebrate the coming solar eclipse, even though East Tennessee will only experience 90 percent of the total eclipse,” a Town of Farragut press release stated. The (Almost) Total Eclipse in the Park party runs from 2 to 3:30 p.m., Monday, April 8, at the McFee Park Great Lawn.

The free event is open to all ages.

A limited number of eclipse glasses will be available for viewing the peak of the eclipse at 3:07 p.m.



“Remember, it’s not safe to view the eclipse with the naked eye or by looking through unfiltered optical devices, such as binoculars or telescopes,” the release stated.

For tips on watching the eclipse, visit exploratorium.edu/eclipse/how-to-view-eclipse.

“In addition to the natural wonder of the eclipse, the event will

feature craft and yard games,” the release stated.

“In terms of refreshments, Happy Dog Creamery will be on-site with homemade ice cream for purchase.”

For more information, contact Recreation and Event manager Rachel Malone at rmalone@townoffarragut.org.

Smoak replies to TDOT’s 10-Year Plan Campbell snub

STAFF REPORTS

editor@farragutpress.com

Town of Farragut officials apparently were caught off guard when learning Tennessee Department of Transportation’s 10-Year Plan, released recently, did not include the Interstate 40/75 Campbell Station Interchange reconstruction, thought to be a vital step toward improvement of Town traffic flow along North Campbell Station Road, in addition to improved Interstate flow.

David Smoak, Town administrator, released a statement apparently representing Town of Farragut’s position on TDOT’s decision:

“The Town signed a contract with TDOT in February 2023 for the construction of the new interchange at Campbell Station Road,” Smoak stated in the release. “The Town was responsible for \$8.75 (million) of the estimated \$50 (million) cost of construction. We paid \$500k in (fiscal year) ’23 and had \$2,062,500 budgeted to go toward the project in FY ’24.

“Seven road projects received special appropriations from the state in early 2022, and all of them are

See TOWN VS. TDOT on Page 4A



Alan Sloan

Courtney era goes forward

One Courtney era ends, yet another begins. Geoff Courtney was named new Farragut High School football head coach during a ceremony in the program’s Team Room Friday morning, March 22. Offensive coordinator since 2017 who has coached at FHS since 2010 — a former Ads standout receiver/defensive back/Class of 2006 — Courtney replaces the father he played and coached under: Eddie Courtney, a 2021 inductee into the TNFCA Hall of Fame who was Ads skipper for 28 years before retiring in early March. Thanking his family, FHS administrators, fellow coaches and his players. “Our vision is going to remain the same, we’re just going to take it to the next level,” the new boss said. “I’ve watched him grown up; he’s an outstanding young man and he will do really well,” FHS athletic director Donald Dodgen said.

Benefit Home Run Derby April 6

2024 Matthew Parsons Homes Home Run Derby to Benefit TNKidsBelong runs from noon to 6 p.m., Saturday, April 6, on two fields at Mayor Bob Leonard Park.

• For teens ages 16-and-up and adults, it’s first come, first served in terms of batting slots, which will not be reserved unless buying a ticket in advance and arriving before 2 p.m. A \$10 donation buys three outs, while a \$15 donation buys five outs. An out is any hit that is not a home run. “There is a six home-run limit per at-bat due to possible time constraints and to allow as

many people as possible to participate,” according to a rules press release. “Most home runs hit by an individual puts them on the leaderboard. We will not be measuring for distance.”

A home run for the adults is your typical “over-the-fence” shot. “For the adults, we will be using a pitching machine,” the release stated.

Winners in each age group will win a prize. Prizes and prize levels are dependent upon monies raised.

• For children and youth ages 7-to-15, rules stated above

apply, except for: A home run on Field 1 for children will be based on markers placed in the field and dependent upon age: 7-9, 10-12 and 13-15

• Pre-purchasing a ticket does not ensure participation if participant arrives after 2 p.m. Tickets are non-refundable. In case of inclement weather, “the make up day will be Saturday, April 13, same times and location.” For equipment/bat rules and other information, visit matthewparsonshomes.com

Separating the Belleaires now official: FBC in charge

TAMMY CHEEK

tcheek@farragutpress.com

First Baptist Concord received the green light from Farragut Municipal Planning Commission, during FMPC’s meeting Thursday, March 21, on its proposed site plan to remove the old Belleaire Drive access to the church on 11704 Kingston Pike, and relocate it.

FMPC approved the site plan with a unanimous vote, with three subject to’s, that depicts replacing the old church access onto Kingston Pike with a new one that lines up with Russgate Boulevard to the north.

The church will be financially responsible for the construction of that relocation.

“I feel great,” said Mark Stooksbury, FBC director of business administration. “I’m glad that we can have an approval and move forward.”

After a motion from Vice Chairman Ed St. Clair and a second from Commissioner Jon Greene, FMPC voted unanimously for approval of the site plan.

“I appreciate the fact that they did extend the decel lane (on the existing Belleaire Drive),” said David White, Belleaire subdivision resident and Town alderman. “That’s very helpful, and we’re very happy with everything that’s going on.”

However, he added, “I think it’s important there should be some note, which lets everybody know — the church, the contractor and



White



Shipley

us and keeps us informed — that if something happens — construction has a lot of problems, doesn’t get completed on time — that the old Belleaire entrance is still to close Dec. 21.”

The site plan shows removal of a playground and a portion of an existing building to accommodate the new access, and it shows how the remaining building would be re-faced.

“This project has a long background, which began in March 2008, when the First Baptist (Concord) Church came to the Planning Commission to request approval of a master site plan for future development of the church property,” Town Community Development director Mark Shipley said. “At the time, there was significant discussion of relocating Belleaire Drive to the east, where it is now located, and eventually lining up the access of the old Belleaire Drive with Russgate Boulevard to the north.”

In previous Town meetings, residents have stressed the current Belleaire Drive and old Belleaire access are too close to each other, causing a traffic hazard.

Shipley said the existing Belleaire Drive is 188 feet east of the old Belleaire access.

“During discussions with the Planning Commission in 2008, the old Belleaire Drive access onto Kingston Pike was to be a temporary con-

See BELLEAIRE MOVE on Page 4A



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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 is a great way to share your time, talents and enthusiasm with the Farragut community,” a Town press release stated. “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 Catholic 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 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 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.

KCSOreports

• **At 12:41 p.m., Sunday, March 24, a complainant called Knox County Sheriff’s Office Teleserve Unit to report a motor vehicle theft** at a Torrington Court residence. Complainant said his daughter was the driver of his 2018 BMW 4-Series, “and she last parked the ... unlocked vehicle with keys inside attached to ... keychain wallet” at 12:30 a.m., Sunday. Complainant’s daughter discovered it had been stolen at 9 a.m., Sunday.

Value of loss was listed at \$27,025. Complainant said the neighbors have ring camera footage of the vehicle leaving the location at 12:48 a.m. Complainant said he would e-mail pictures and video evidence to be attached to report.

• **At 6:56 p.m., March 24, a complainant called KCSO Teleserve Unit to report fraudulent impersonation** at a Maple Tree Drive residence. Complainant advised he received mail from Verizon “stating five accounts were opened using his name and address on (March 16), 2024, and he owed \$548.42,” the report stated. “The complainant advised he did not authorize these accounts. and when speaking with Verizon, they told him to make a report.”

• **At 8 a.m., Thursday, March 21, a complainant called KCSO Teleserve Unit to report theft of his license plate** from the parking lot of Hampton Inn, 11340 Campbell Lakes Drive. Complainant said the license plate was on his 2015 Chevrolet Silverado pick-up truck

when he parked for the night on Wednesday, March 20.

• **At 7:08 a.m., March 21, a complainant called KCSO Teleserve Unit to report a vehicle burglary** from a South Campbell Station Road parking lot. Complainant advised an unknown suspect smashed both front windows of her 2020 Toyota RAV 4 and stole items hidden under the passenger seat. Complainant said a nearby Starbucks may have surveillance footage.

Total value of loss was listed at \$3,850, which included a Louis Vuitton purse with a listed value of \$2,500, a bag with an estimated \$600 worth of items and windows damage estimated at \$500.

• **At 2:48 p.m., Monday, March 19, a complainant called KCSO Teleserve Unit to report vandalism** of her 2005 Hyundai Tucson at a Butternut Circle residence. Complainant advised she went outside early that morning and noticed the driver’s side of the listed vehicle vandalized. Complainant advised the known suspect “is who she assumed to have done it, as she has been having issues with her,” the report stated.

Complainant advised the known suspect “wrote words and made lines side-to-side and top-to-bottom on the listed vehicle with what the complainant believes to have been a pen or pencil,” the report stated. No value of damage was listed in the report.

Little Turkey Creek Greenway opening extends Farragut’s walking enjoyment

TAMMY CHEEK
tcheek@farragutpress.com

Farragut greenway travelers now can get in more walking distances, as Farragut cut the ribbon on the extension of Little Turkey Creek Greenway Tuesday, March 19.

“After almost a year of planning and construction, the new Little Turkey Creek Greenway is complete,” Mayor Ron Williams said.

“The extension links Sheffield and Vista subdivisions to Brookmere and Sugarwood subdivisions, as well as Kingston Pike,” he added.

“The new greenway section is approximately 1,400 feet long, 8 feet wide and features 650 feet of gravity wall with handrailings,” a press release stated.

“We use this greenway a lot already,” said Alice Thornton, a Sugarwood resident.

“A unique feature of this new greenway is a three-car parking area off Virtue Road, with a paved trail leading down to the historic Virtue Mill Water Wheel,” Williams



said. “Long-time residents might remember Virtue Mill, which was built in the mid-1800s. “There was a movement to preserve the mill and have it placed on the National Register of Historic Places, but it was destroyed by fire in 2002,” he added.

See GREENWAY on Page 3A

Farragut Mayor Ron Williams (center, with scissors) was among Town officials cutting the ribbon on the Town’s most recent expansion of its Little Turkey Creek Greenway Tuesday afternoon, March 19, near Brookmere subdivision off Virtue Road. Joining him were, from left, Ryan Rhodus, Town Park program coordinator; Ben White, senior engineering tech; Town engineer Darryl Smith; Williams; Alderman Drew Burnette; Vice Mayor Louise Povlin; and Parks and Recreation director Ron Oestreich.

Tammy Cheek

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• As a resident of Farragut living in the parent responsibility zone, I drop off and pick up a child at Farragut schools every day.

I must take issue with the speeding and the flagrant running of the four-way stop signs at the Farragut Intermediate School and the Farragut Middle School drop-off area.

At the same time I once again take issue with illegal speed bumps that block the disabled and provide proof that speed bumps are an absolute waste of taxpayer money in a futile attempt to mandate morality.

The speed limit in the intermediate/middle school drop-off area is 5 mph. I have to come to a complete stop to cross the horrendous speed bumps in the school drop-off.

People however, fly across the speed bumps in excess of 25 mph passing vehicles parked in the afternoon pick-up line.

This is just in one hour of every single school day.

In addition to every other vehicle, I also witness Knox County Schools vehicles (a d law enforcement) vehicles speeding in the 5 mph zone on a daily basis.

The only way to stop flagrant speeding and running stop signs is men and women in blue writing hefty tickets.

I am at the very front of the pick-up line every afternoon. I challenge the farragutpress to send a reporter to video and report on the immorality of people flying across speed bumps in the intermediate school drop-off area.

I personally have 100s of videos I am about to start sharing on social media.

Greenway

From page 2A

Citing the area’s contribution to the Civil War, “This area is also where the 17th Michigan Volunteer Regiment took a stand against Confederate forces on Nov. 16, 1863, as part of the Battle of Campbell Station,” the mayor said. “The Little Turkey Creek Greenway provides a critical greenway connection, meeting the Town’s strategic goal of providing excellent parks, recreation, cultural amenities and programs.”

Williams said construction began in May 2023 and was completed in February.

“This was a challenging section of greenway to build due to the difficult terrain,” he added.

Farragut resident, Sierra Club chair, says Knox Growth Plan must be revised

The proposed Knox County Growth Policy Plan will come before the Farragut Board of Mayor and Aldermen on March 28 for an up or down vote. This will be the last chance for the public to send the plan back to the drawing board.

Residents of Farragut should be aware that the vast majority of public comments before the Growth Policy Planning Committee, the Knox County Commission and the Knoxville City Council were in opposition, both to the Comprehensive Land Use and Transportation Plan and to the Growth Policy Plan, which is supposedly based on the former.

The Sierra Club joins these citizens in their opposition and asks our elected bodies and the appointed Growth Policy Planning Committee to restart the process with the intent to frame a Comprehensive Land Use and Transportation Plan and a Growth Policy Plan that provides for a sustainable future for our region. The plans should require:

• Tree preservation measures, including the replacement of removed trees, using a formula like that used in the Town of Farragut, and the protection of existing con-

tiguous tree canopies.

• Detailed transportation planning that creates bike paths, bus lanes and other measures that give people transportation choices other than private vehicles. The connection of natural areas through wildlife corridors that enable wildlife migration.

• The creation of a Natural and Cultural Features GIS map showing, but not limited to: wetlands, buffer areas, ground and surface water resources, natural habitats, prime farmland soils, threatened and endangered species, geological features, steep slopes and ridge tops and historic features.

• An open-space rating system to identify and protect the most valuable natural features.

• The protection and maintenance of farmland in all rural areas in the county, including in the Town of Farragut.

• Incentivizing the most modern energy efficiency measures in all new residential, commercial and industrial development.

• Identification of specific tracts of land to be acquired for parks in the identified “park deserts.”

• Protection of all ridge-tops and slopes steeper than 15 percent from destruction by development.

• That adequate infrastructure, such as improved roads, sewers, water supply and electricity be in place before new developments are approved.

Because the law requires that zoning rules in the County be consistent with a Comprehensive Plan and the Growth Policy Plan, it is essential that these plans be revised with these mandates fulfilled before the County begins its revision of the zoning ordinance, scheduled to take place over the next two years.

The County is under intense pressure to create more housing and economic opportunities for people moving here. Most citizens opposing the proposed Growth Policy Plan are not opposed to growth per se.

But the proposed measures have gutted the protections in earlier plans without creating new safeguards.

Irresponsible development is already affecting areas by the Watt Road/I-40-75 interchange, in the Choto area and in

See LETTER on Page 4A

Dogwood Trails, including Farragut, set to officially open April 1

STAFF REPORTS

editor@farragutpress.com

Dogwood Arts is celebrating 69 years of blooming trails by featuring the Trails of West Knox County this year, including Farragut (sponsored by Pam Owen, Realtor, Realty Executives Associates) along with Sequoyah Hills, Westmoreland, Deane Hill and West Hills.

“Since 1955, Dogwood Arts has hosted Knoxville’s favorite springtime celebration. What started as a neighborhood beautification project has blossomed into a year-round celebration of our region’s art, culture and natural beauty. With the month of April quickly approaching, Dogwood Arts is gearing up to do it all again with events and programs for the entire community to enjoy,” a Dogwood Arts press release stated.

Knoxville’s historic Dogwood Trails date back to 1955, and today cover more than 90 miles in 13 neighborhoods throughout Knox County.

“The Dogwood Trails, Open Gardens and Camera Sites are open April 1 through April 30, and visitors are invited to drive, walk or bike the Trails as they take in the natural scenic beauty of East Tennessee in the springtime,” the press release further stated.

Open Gardens and Camera Sites are open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., daily.

A ribbon-cutting and community celebration to “officially” open the Dogwood Trails is scheduled from 5 to 7:30 p.m., Thursday, April 4, in Talahi

Park “along the Sequoyah Hills Dogwood Trail — the first trail, established in 1955,” the release stated. “The event will take place at 1034 Cherokee Boulevard and include a ribbon-cutting ceremony with City of Knoxville and Knox County officials, food vendors, music and a maker market.”

Visitors can find Trailhead addresses, trail maps and a list of Open Gardens, Camera Sites and Walking Trails online at <https://www.dogwoodarts.com/trailsandgardens>. Printed Trail Guides are available at Visit Knoxville, all ORNL Federal Credit Union Branches and the Dogwood Arts office, 123 W. Jackson Avenue in Knoxville.

The Dogwood Trails & Gardens Program is made possible



Photo courtesy Dogwood Arts

by sponsorship support from ORNL Federal Credit Union, Realty Executives Associates and Town of Farragut.

Find out more at dogwoodarts.com/trailsandgardens.

Dogwood Arts, presented by ORNL Federal Credit Union, is a 501(c)3 organization with a mission to promote and celebrate our region’s art, culture, and natural beauty.

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Photo submitted

A performance by music artist Hailey Joy was one of the features of the inaugural Farragut Spring Festival, hosted by 35 North Bar and Grill, 11321 Kingston Pike, at the corner of Kingston Pike and North Campbell Station Road, Saturday, March 16.

35 North kicks off spring with festival

TAMMY CHEEK
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The inaugural Farragut Spring Festival, hosted by 35 North Bar and Grill, unfolded into a spectacular celebration of music, community and camaraderie Saturday, March 16.

“With a stellar lineup of 10 bands performing over two days, the event attracted an impressive crowd of more than 2,500 attendees,” said Vinit Sharma, owner of 35 North Bar and Grill, 11321 Kingston Pike.

Excited about the success of the festival, he emphasized its significance as one of the annual events planned by the establishment.

“We’re thrilled to have brought the first Farragut Spring Festival to life,” Sharma said. “This event is a testament to our commitment to fostering community engagement and providing a platform for local talent to shine.”

The free event showcased a diverse range of musical genres, with bands delivering performances that had audiences dancing and singing along throughout the event, he added.

Groups included Ethan Vincil Band, Short Term Memory, Boombox, Southern Style Band, Hailey Joy, Emi Sunshine, Jeremy Johnson, Michael Cass and Sara Williams, Sexy Beat and Liquid Velvet.

“From rock and blues to folk and jazz, the

lineup catered to a wide variety of musical tastes, ensuring there was something for everyone to enjoy,” Sharma said.

The festival also offered a plethora of family-friendly activities to keep children entertained. “Renowned three-times world record martial artist Leif Becker offered the thrilling opportunity for kids to break boards under his guidance,” Sharma said. Other attractions included an ice-cream station, popcorn stand, a photo booth for capturing memories, children’s Leprechaun Play Station and mini-golf for some friendly competition.

Sharma extended his gratitude to Town of Farragut officials, including Mayor Ron Williams, Vice Mayor Louise Povlin and fire marshal Charles Wilson, as well as all the event sponsors, for “their unwavering support and guidance in bringing the festival to fruition.

“We couldn’t have made this event happen without the incredible support of our community leaders and sponsors,” he added. “Their collaboration and assistance were instrumental in ensuring the success of the festival.”

Local vendors offered a variety of culinary delights and refreshments.

“With its triumphant debut, the festival has undoubtedly cemented its place as a beloved tradition in the Farragut community ...,” Sharma said.

businessbriefs

- **Mason Speanburgh recently joined the team of agents at Weichert, Realtors - Advantage Plus in Knoxville.**
Speanburgh assists clients in Knoxville and surrounding areas with all their real estate needs.
- **Diane Russell recently joined the Engel & Volkers Knoxville brokerage firm** as brokerage manager. Russell, who comes from Keller Williams in Knoxville, brings her expertise to help best service East Tennessee clientele.
- **Tennessee Memory Disorders Foundation has announced** its board of directors has appointed Celia Gruzalski as the organization’s executive director.
Gruzalski brings valued, seasoned experience to TMDF, having spent more than 12 years working in the nonprofit sector in East Tennessee, most recently serving as founding executive director of Our Place Adult Day Center.
Her previous experience also includes lead-



Russell

ing the CADES Adult Day Program as its executive director and several years of nonprofit work with the geriatric community in Denver with Jewish Family Services of Colorado.

- **Blake Brown, director of the AgResearch and Education Center at Milan with the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture, recently was named the 2024 recipient** of the Research Center Administrators Society Distinguished Service Award.
An RCAS member for 25 years, Brown has served in leadership roles including secretary, vice president and president and currently is chairman of the Site Selection Committee.
Along with other UT AgResearch and Education Center directors from across the state, Brown coordinated and hosted the fall 2023 meeting of RCAS, sharing UTIA’s decades of scientific and agricultural contributions with their fellow research center managers, directors and administrators from institutions throughout the United States.
- **University of Tennessee Medical Center recently was awarded** on the Forbes list of America’s Best Employers 2024.

Farragut couple wins international award



Photo submitted

Travis and Kirsten Hibbert of Farragut recently accepted an international honor: the 2023 Franchisee of the Year award for “being an outstanding franchise establishment owner-operator” of Donatos Pizza Knoxville at the 64th Annual International Franchise Association Convention in Phoenix.

TAMMY CHEEK
tcheek@farragupress.com

Farragut’s own Travis and Kirsten Hibbert, owners of Donatos Pizza Knoxville, recently earned 2023 Franchisee of the Year honor for “being an outstanding franchise establishment owner-operator” at the 64th Annual International Franchise Association Convention in Phoenix.

“This prestigious award recognizes the couple’s incredible customer service, operations and community engagement on the national level as Donatos Pizza franchisees,” said Betty Anne Richardson, franchise elevator and public relations account representative with IFA. “So far, the Hibberts run two very successful Donatos locations in Knoxville, where they serve delicious pizza and give back to the community.”

The locations are: 1012 Ebenezer Road in West Knoxville, which opened in August 2021, and 6738 Malone Creek Drive in Karns, opening in June 2023. Both locations are open from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., Sunday through Thursday, and from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m., Friday and Saturday.

“We were truly honored and proud to have received this award,” Travis said. “This recognition speaks volumes about the success and growth of our business.

“As owners, it reflects not only our dedication but our team’s dedication, hard work and commitment to upholding the standards and values of the Donatos Pizza Brand,” he added. “It showcases our ability to lead effectively, drive results and provide exceptional service to our customers.”

The Hibberts got into the pizza franchise business because of their love for pizza.

“First of all, we love pizza and we love franchising,” Jason said. “As current franchise owners of another brand, (General Nutrition Center), we wanted to diversify and try something new.

“Donatos is based out of Ohio, and one of our good friends from there recommended we try it,” he added. “When we were driving through Ohio, we stopped at one of their Donatos locations to give it a try. We fell in love not only with the pizza, but also the brand and everything it stood for.

“Donatos in Latin means ‘to give a good thing.’ That’s exactly what we strive to do, as we want to give a good thing to those around us and in our community. This is a huge part of our core values. Without the support of the community, we would not be where we are at today.”

The Hibberts have done fundraisers for schools and churches, as well as sponsorships and donations to various charities.

“We strive to make a positive impact on the lives of our customers and employees,” he said. “From a pizza standpoint, we feel what separates our product is our famous thin crust with an abundance of edge-to-edge toppings.”

“Franchisees of the Year exemplify what franchising is all about — providing opportunity, serving others and fulfilling the American dream,” said Matthew Haller, IFA president/CEO. “We are proud to recognize Travis Hibbert with the highest honor IFA awards to individual franchisees, and I have no doubt his work is changing lives and making a lasting community impact.”

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Nice soccer start



Photos courtesy of Carlos Reveiz/crfoto.com

(Above) Farragut's Uday Sujithkumar (17) battles a Gallatin player for possession of the ball during this Bearden Invitational soccer match at Turner Field/Radcliffe-Kelly Soccer Complex Friday evening, March 22. The Admirals won 3-0 in their season opener behind goals from Sujithkumar, Brooks Burnette and Franklin Von Hagen. (Below) Farragut's Zach Guigou (2) races to beat a GHS player to the ball. Guigou's corner kick found Sujithkumar, whose header was the match's first goal against Science Hill, in the 72nd minute, in an eventual 2-0 win during Invitational play at Bill Young Field Saturday evening, March 23.

Ads blank Gallatin 3-0, Sci. Hill 2-0 at BHS Inv.

ALAN SLOAN

editor@farragutpress.com

BEARDEN — Finding different ways to win while opening its season, perhaps a good indicator of improvement in hopes of many more Farragut boys soccer victories in 2024. After dominating Gallatin 3-0 in its season opener, which came during the annual Bearden Invitational at BHS on day two Friday, March 22, the Admirals pulled off some late corner-kick magic to break a scoreless tie in the 72nd minute, going on to beat Johnson City Science Hill 2-0 Saturday, March 23. "We're learning how to win again, I guess you could say," Admirals head coach Bradley Culbreth said. "The last couple of years have been hard, so they're hungry. We're just trying to build on being better each game. Our mentality is right. Our team chemistry is right. I'm very happy with where we're at right now. We've got a lot of work to do. "It's obviously the beginning of the season, but we are taking it 40 minutes at a time,"

See **SOCCER 2-0** on Page 7B



Wild 4-4A finishes; 3-1 Wildcat Classic for FHS softball

ALAN SLOAN

editor@farragutpress.com

CHATTANOOGA — A wild start to its District 4-4A season saw Farragut battle back from deficits at friendly James Bellamy Field, only to lose a rare home game to rival Bearden, 8-6, in eight innings Tuesday, March 19. The Lady Admirals, (7-5 overall, 1-1 in district entering this week) then failed to hold leads of 5-0, 6-1 and 7-2 against Maryville at its John Sevier Elementary School home field Thursday, March 21, as the Lady Red Rebels scored three in the bottom of the seventh to tie the issue 7-7.

But enter a junior transfer, Ava Barnes, the third pitcher used in the game by FHS head coach Nick Green.

Barnes not only held Maryville in check on the mound, but also delivered a two-out, two strike, 2-RBI double deep to center field in the ninth inning, which turned out to be the winning runs in a 9-7 FHS victory. "She came up big there," Green said of Barnes. "We were definitely having



Morrison

kind of flashbacks of the Bearden game where we're having a hard time scoring runs (late), getting base runners on there, but then not getting them in." Farragut's first six runs all came home with round-trip blows, as senior Hailey Nichols blasted a first-inning three-run homer, followed by senior Rilee Kate Ragan's two-run shot clearing the fence during the first Lady Ads at-bat. Junior Elsa Morrison added a solo home run in the third. Freshman catcher Rylee Raby throwing out a runner trying to advance to second on a wild pitch with one out in the eighth "was a big turn of events

right there, because if she's safe, that puts the winning run in scoring position with one out," Green said. **Wildcat Classic** Green and his girls headed to Warner Park in Chattanooga to play — thanks to action set for Friday, March 22, being rained out — four time-limited game Saturday, March 23. The Lady Admirals went 3-1. "We found a way to win against Maryville, and then we played some really good softball down in Chattanooga," Green said. "Hopefully we can carry that over

See **LADY ADS** on Page 7B

Sweep of Dawgs for FHS baseball: 4-3 thriller; 11-1

KEN LAY

Correspondent

BILL HOWARD

Correspondent

BEARDEN — Despite seeing his team earn a hard-fought victory over a bitter rival, Farragut High School baseball head coach Matt Buckner wasn't happy. "We should've won this game a lot easier than we did," Buckner said after the Admirals notched a 4-3 victory over rival Bearden in the battle for Kingston Pike bragging rights Tuesday, March 19, at BHS's Phil Garner Ballpark. "We left 13 or 14 runners on base. "But give them credit, they did a good job and they've got a good club," he added. The Admirals (5-4 overall, 3-0 in District 4-4A after the win) scored the game-winning run as courtesy runner Aidan Flagg scored when Cole Draper grounded out in the top of the seventh inning. Michael Delph led off the inning with a single and was lifted for Flagg, who took second on a wild pitch. He would also advance to third on a wild pitch before scoring on the in-field groundout. Delph retired the Bulldogs (7-1 overall, 0-1 in 4-4A after the loss) in order in the bottom of the seventh to end the game. Farragut cashed in the scoring chance but squandered several opportunities. The Admirals stranded two runners in the first inning. Despite scoring two runs in the second and another in the third, they left the bases loaded. FHS left one on in the fourth, two more in the sixth and two more in the seventh. Furthermore, Farragut had at least one base runner in every inning. The Admirals took a 2-0 lead in the second inning as Draper came up with an RBI single and Jake Merrick drew a walk with the bases loaded. The visitors would extend their advantage to 3-0 in the third as Delph came home when Lukas Buckner walked with the bases loaded. Bearden tied the game with three runs in the bottom of the third. The Bulldogs scored their first run without the benefit of a hit.

See **CLOSE ONE** on Page 7B

See **11-1 FHS** on Page 7B



Delph

Missing pieces, setbacks overcome by Bearden, in a big way, vs. Notre Dame

ALAN SLOAN
editor@farragutpress.com

BEARDEN — You wouldn't have known Bearden boys soccer actually had a 1-2 record, based on the SoccerDawgs' dominance versus Chattanooga Notre Dame in its second BHS Invitational match, this one on Turner-Allender Field at the Radcliffe-Kelly Soccer Complex Saturday evening, March 23.

Such dominance was quite evident despite missing what might be the team's top scoring threat, senior Jack Raulston, while losing promising junior Daniel Kinney to a season-ending ACL tear and missing yet another key Dawg, returning defender Shepard McMurray, due to injury — and supposedly rebuilding its offensive attack after heavy 2023 graduation losses.

In fact, "Counting off the top off my head, I think only three players that played valuable varsity minutes (in 2023) were out there on the field for us tonight," SoccerDawgs head coach Ryan Radcliffe said after his team's 4-1 win against the Fighting Irish.

Two goals by senior Dillon Sims, the first one a penalty kick less than three minutes

into the match, to go with one from about 15 yards out to cap the second-half scoring, led the way. Goals also came from junior Jashua Garcia from about 15 yards, and a roughly 10-yard header goal from junior Cole Stopka.

Assisting on two of the goals was junior Lucas Ford. "I thought both of the Ford twins, (juniors Preston and Lucas), played well," Radcliffe said. "How many times (did Lucas) really drive at the back line in that first half; that's a kid that didn't get a single varsity minute last year. Then obviously Dillon, who was out all last season, is a big piece to our puzzle going forward."

"I thought Nic Prins was great for us the last couple of games," he added about the senior defender. "He's one of our few returning starters."

As for challenges, "Some of that's due to injury," Radcliffe said. "And we've got a lot of juniors that just haven't had a lot of experience. That's why we're going through learning curves, but we're not necessarily that young."

Raulston, a standout attacking midfielder, was "out with a red card suspension, but he'll be back," the coach said.



(Above) Bearden junior Lucas Ford (11) manages to stay on his feet in pursuit of the ball, unlike these two Notre Dame players, during this BHS Invitational game at Turner-Allender Field/Radcliffe-Kelly Soccer Complex Saturday evening, March 23. The SoccerDawgs won easily 4-1. **(Left)** Bearden senior Omar Hewezi battles an NDHS player for possession as teammates Preston Ford, left in back, a junior, and senior Jack Tirgrath, right, react.

Photos by Alan Sloan

Dominant start, lots of goals, for Dover's HVA Soccer Hawks

KEN LAY
Correspondent

HARDIN VALLEY --- Hardin Valley Academy's boys soccer team closed out its stay at the Bearden Invitational with a 6-0 victory over Alcoa Sunday, March 24, at Bearden's Turner-Allender Field.

The Hawks (6-1) posted a dominant victory over the Tornadoes.

Ben Brophy had a hat trick, scoring a pair of first-half goals. One of his early markers was assisted by Nathan Holbrook.

Despite seeing his side open a 2-0 lead by halftime, Hardin Valley head coach Ray Dover cautioned his side not to let up against Alcoa, a Class A state

tourney runner-up in 2023.

"It was 2-0 at halftime and I told the guys that we needed a third goal," Dover said. "We learned a tough lesson in the preseason against Science Hill."

"We had a 2-0 lead and we didn't get another one. They got one, and then all of a sudden, we were in a situation where we had to hang on."

And the Hawks certainly didn't want a repeat of that performance — and they made sure that it didn't happen.

After the break, Brophy completed his hat trick. Asher Stimson tallied off an assist from Dane Hammer before Frank Manrod and Ali Tarchane scored after halftime for the Hawks.

Dover said he appreciated the opportunity to play at Turner-Allender Field.

"I'm glad we got to play on Bearden's field," he said. "It's as wide as our field but it's not as long. You can measure that by cutting off the 18-yard box at Farragut."

"I know that because I've done it. I've walked it off."

Hardin Valley opened the Bearden Invitational with a 5-1 victory over Webb School of Knoxville at home Friday night, March 23.

Again, the Hawks had a 2-0 lead at halftime, as Brady Hammer scored off an assist from Dane Hammer, and Marques Powers found the back of the net in the first 40 minutes.

Brophy tallied twice af-

ter the break, and one of his markers was assisted by Brady Hammer. Daniel Perez also

scored in the second half. Dane Hammer was credited with an assist on that goal.

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would like to thank all who participated as well as the prize donors and sponsors who helped make the 2024 contest a success!

Be sure to join in the fun when our Halloween Coloring Contest returns this October!



Above photo by Tammy Cheek

farragutpress Easter Coloring Contest winners were announced Monday, March 25, with the chosen recipients gathering at the newspaper offices for prizes and recognition.

### 2024 Winners:

**AGES 4-5 CATEGORY**  
First Place: Mia Winter  
Second Place: Judah Stoddard  
Third Place: Zoe Foster

**AGES 6-8 CATEGORY**  
First Place: Annabelle Wynkoop  
Second Place: Ava Reyes  
Third Place: Elliot Ginder

**AGES 9-11 CATEGORY**  
First Place: Eleanor Bottini  
Second Place: Audrey Ball  
Third Place: Luke Dunn

**AGES 12-112 CATEGORY**  
First Place: Claudia Dunn  
Second Place: Megan Stoddard  
Third Place: Lydia Erikson

**SPECIAL NEEDS CATEGORY**  
First Place: Ivy Grace Edwards

Also pictured is **Erin Stidham** of the Davis Family YMCA, which was presenting sponsor for the Coloring Contest.

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# Life Scout Leads Tate’s School recovery

On Aug. 7, 2023, a devastating category 2 tornado ripped through West Knoxville and Tate’s School near Cedar Bluff Road. More than 100 trees were downed, multiple campus buildings damaged and one was destroyed. Though Tate’s School teachers were on campus during the tornado participating in training, no one was injured — and no students were present on campus that day.

Seeing the devastation while driving through campus “was gut-wrenching for William Patterson, who graduated from Tate’s Middle School in 2023,” a Tate’s press release stated. As a long-time Boy Scout with Troop 20 who is now a Life Scout, “he wanted to make a difference and began talking with administrators about how he could help. Patterson submitted his Eagle Scout Project with helping Tate’s School in mind. He wanted to fundraise and replant the school’s apple orchard and replace the large trees beside the spring-fed pond.”

“They had an orchid here, but everything was pretty much destroyed except for a couple of trees in the back. And so we’re just filling that area in,” Patterson, 14, said Sunday afternoon, March 24, as he and several Scout Troop 20 volunteers led the way in planting 11 fruit trees (five apple, four peach and two plum trees). “I’ve organized everything.”

About helping Tate’s, “I went here for 11 years (starting in pre-school), and I’ve really liked nature, and being outside has a big impact on you, especially when you’re growing up,” Patterson said. “And this place has just really been impactful for me, and it just really hurt me to see how all of the damage came, and it was just really sad.”

The orchard “was very important in our learning, to be out in nature and to experience things,” he added.

Moreover, “They planted three willow trees by the pond in January and they are thriving,” the release stated.

Photos by Alan Sloan



From left in back, Phillip Patterson, William Patterson’s father; William; Andrew LaPointe (yellow); Jack Patterson, William’s brother; and in front is Elaina Martin.



George Mancini digs one of the 11 holes for a tree



Paula Tate-Gunter, a member of the Tate Family, plants a tree with help from her daughters, Mollie & Maggie, both of whom attend Tate’s Middle School.



Boy Scout Troop 20 volunteers joining William Patterson (orange shirt, second from right) to help him complete his Eagle Scout Project and help replenish the fruit trees on the Tate’s School campus are, from left, Jameson LaBlanc, Jack Patterson (William’s brother), Andrew LaPointe, George Mancini, Phillip Patterson (William’s brother), Jude Bacon, Turner Shelton and William, along with Elaina Martin.



Tracey Van Hook, director of Communications & Resource Development at Tate’s School, alongside one of three willow trees planted in January (the other two in the background) along the campus pond.



William Patterson flanked by his parents, Dr. Kelly Patterson and Phillip Patterson.



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Walk for Water

Local Rotarians looking to help international fundraiser April 13

TAMMY CHEEK  
tcheek@farragutpress.com

Some Rotary Club of Farragut members will join other teams walking to raise money and awareness of the global water crisis at the 2nd Annual Walk for Water, a fundraising event benefitting Water Mission.

The event takes place starting at 10 a.m., Saturday, April 13, at the Marble Pavilion in Lakeshore Park, 5930 Lyons View Pike in Knoxville near The Cathedral of the Most Sacred Heart.

Any businesses, organizations and individuals may form teams to participate in the walk. Each of those communities support those teams and help fundraise.

During this event, participants have the opportunity to “walk in the shoes of our global neighbors,” according to Water Mission’s website.



Walk for Water “is an immersive experience,” said Katie Romba, event coordinator of WM’s Knoxville Walk for Water. “On average (in impacted areas), women and children are walking around 3.5 miles a day to get water, so we want to emulate that.

“Our route is a 3.5-mile walk through Lakeshore Park,” Romba added. As participants walk, they carry 2-gallon buckets of water.

“Our ultimate goal is to raise \$75,000, and that will enable 1,500 people to have clean water,” she said. “So the more we have signed up, the more we are marketing to their employees and communities to join the walk.”

To sign up for participation, visit <https://walkforwater.rallybound.org/walk-for-water-knoxville-2024>

One Farragut Rotarian leading the way is Tory Kinson,

who became an advocate last year and again will be participating.

“It’s very dear to my heart,” said Kinson, a team advocate with Water Mission.

“This is one charity I was really attracted to because, A, where it’s putting its work; B, that it’s connected with Christian faith; and (C), almost every dollar goes to help the com-

See MISSION on Page 6B

(Above) Beth Fowler waved while joining thousands of Walk For Water participants last year to raise money for Water Mission. Community teams from businesses, organizations and families can take part at this year’s Walk, which starts at 10 a.m., Saturday, April 13, at Marble Pavilion in Lakeshore Park off Northshore Drive.

Photo submitted

Chili time with U.S. Air Force



Joining in at the U.S. Air Force Recruiting Office’s inaugural chili cook-off Friday, March 15, at its office near Farragut were, from left, TSgt David Greenway (kneeling), TSgt Spencer Smyser (standing in blues), Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs, Gideon Smyser (young boy), Farragut Mayor Ron Williams, Alexa Aguirre, Amber Greenway, Lt Col. Mike Wilson, MSgt. Curtis Jones, CMSgt. Aaron Akridge, Amelia Greenway (girl) and Avery Greenway (boy).



Left photo submitted/above photo by Tammy Cheek

Area residents, potential enlistees and others gathered around the chili for some tasting before voting for the Critics’ Choice Award during the inaugural Knoxville Air Force Recruiting Chili Cook Off at its 322 Recruiting Squadron headquarters, 10820 Kingston Pike, Friday, March 15. Among the tasters, from left, were William Seals, Georgia Lowe and Jason Seals.

322 Recruiting Squadron in Farragut holds special Critics’ Choice Award taste-testing

TAMMY CHEEK  
tcheek@farragutpress.com

The first Knoxville U.S. Air Force Recruiting Chili Cook Off was hosted at its 322 Recruiting Squadron headquarters, 10820 Kingston Pike in Farragut, Friday, March 15.

“It’s a fantastic grassroots effort,” said Lt. Col. Mike Wilson, commander of 332 Recruiting Squadron.

“We’re trying to make it an annual event,” Master

Sgt. Curtis Jones added.

Amber Greenway of Knoxville won the Critics Choice Award, while the Air Force Headquarters Award went to Alexa Agguire of Knoxville.

With about 30 people attending, there were about 12 chili entries. Judges from the Recruiting office decided on the Headquarters Award while attendees chose the best chili for Critic’s Choice Award.

The Air Force also presented Air Force Salute plaques to Farragut Mayor Ron Williams and Knox

County Mayor Glenn Jacobs “ for exceptional support for the Air Force recruiting efforts,” Jones said.

The recruiting office hosted the event “for more than just recruiting,” desiring to “get involved with the local community and community involved with us,” said David Greenway, Knoxville Air Force recruiter.

“It’s about changing lives,” he added.

See TASTE-TEST on Page 6B

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

• **RiverView Family Farm’s 13th Annual Spring Easter Festival will run from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday and Saturday, March 29-30, at the Farm, 12130 Prater Lane.**  
Event leaders encourage participants to bring a basket and hunt for Easter eggs and enjoy music, farm animals, games and food — all while enjoying a relaxing time along Fort Loudoun Lake. Cost is \$12 per adult or child. For more information, visit [www.river-viewfamilyfarm.com](http://www.river-viewfamilyfarm.com)

• **Donate to MEDIC Regional Blood Center through Sunday, March 31, and receive a pair of basketball-themed socks.** O Positive and O Negative donors will receive an e-gift card for donating. O donors receive \$20 for whole blood donation or \$25 for an AXYX/double red donation.  
Additionally, platelet donors receive a \$25 e-gift card anytime they donate. Or skip the socks and MEDIC will donate \$5 to the Ronald McDonald House.

Appointments can be made online at [www.medicblood.org](http://www.medicblood.org), via the MEDIC app, or by calling 865-524-3074. Locations include 11000 Kingston Pike in Farragut.

• **Tennessee Valley Au-**

**thority’s seasonal campgrounds are now open,** with the return of staff to visitor centers beginning Saturday, April 6, which include the following locations: Cherokee Dam Reservation in Jefferson City; Douglas Dam Reservation near Sevierville; Melton Hill Dam Reservation near Lenoir City.

The following four centers open April 6, and are staffed with friendly TVA retirees to answer questions and provide a firsthand experience of the TVA story: Norris Dam, located off Interstate 75, Exit 122 north of Knoxville. The center is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and from 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday. Visitor Center overlooks the powerhouse, Norris Reservoir and a marina.

• **Wellness Innovation Summit, from 4 to 6 p.m., Saturday, April 6,** in Knoxville Convention Center, 701 Henley St. in Knoxville, “is a one-of-a-kind event will feature a lineup of renowned speakers who are thought leaders in health, wellness, technology, entertainment and inspiration,” a WIS press release stated.

Dinner follows at 6 p.m. Tickets and more information

are on available online at [tickettailor.com/](http://tickettailor.com/). For sponsorship inquiries, visit [contact@crunchymamabox.com](mailto:contact@crunchymamabox.com). To express interest in speaking, submit your pitch to [contact@crunchymamabox.com](mailto:contact@crunchymamabox.com).

• **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. Breakfast is complementary, but RSVP is required. Contact Rachel Rendon at: [rachel@loudoncountyhabitat.org](mailto:rachel@loudoncountyhabitat.org).

• **Women, Men and Youth groups will come together at Ebenezer United Methodist Church, 1001 Ebenezer Road in Knoxville, Friday and Saturday, April 12-13** to raise funds for missions.

The sale runs from 4:30 to 7 p.m., April 12 with EUMW Rummage Sale, and continues from 7:30 a.m. to noon, April 13. Men’s Club and Youth Ministry will join together April 12 with Pit Smoked BBQ and a Bake sale. All proceeds go to missions.

For more information or to order barbeque before Tuesday, April 9, call 865-691-8330 or go to <http://www.eumcknox.org>

**Taste-Test**  
*From page 5B*

Wilson added the event also is “an opportunity to serve something better than ourselves.”

“We’re really just looking to get involved with the Farragut community,” Greenway said.

“What better way to do this than free food, healthy competition to see who has the best chili (people’s choice) and mingling with everyone to create relationships and community connections,” he added.



**Tammy Cheek**  
Tech Sgt. David Greenway, Knoxville Air Force recruiter, tastes one of the chili entries.

**Mission**  
*From page 5B*

munity. It’s not being absorbed into some kind of overhead,” Kinson said in a February 2022 interview.

For more information about the event, call Kinson at 865-313-5403 or e-mail to [icarusvic@charter.net](mailto:icarusvic@charter.net).

As a member of the WM team, Kinson is “one of our advocates to the Rotary Clubs in the area,” Romba said. “Rotary has been an immense connection to Water Mission for years. They funded many projects with Water Mission at corporate headquarters.”

WM invests in a lot of the areas Rotary Club is invested in as well, she added. “I believe we have three Rotary Clubs in the area involved: Farragut, Bearden and Oak Ridge. We have a really great community investment in the walk itself.”

Romba explained there are more than 2 billion people

around the world who lack access to clean water. That’s in developing countries that don’t have water systems as part of their community. She said those people are walking miles every day “to whatever watering hole there is and pulling their water from there.”

“A lot of times they are pulling water from the same area that the animals are drinking from and walking through. It’s muddy and all sorts of bacteria, so it’s not safe to be drinking,” Romba added.

Or, she noted those sites may be worn-torn or natural disaster areas, such as earthquake-affected, “where there once was easy access to water (but) now that infrastructure has been torn down.”

Water Mission is a non-profit Christian engineering organization headquartered in Charleston, South Carolina that designs, builds and implements safe water, sanitation and hygiene solutions.

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## Lady Ads

From page 2B

into this week,” Green said.

**FHS 5 Lawrence Co., Ala 0**

Winning pitcher Hallie Grace Johnson, only a freshman, pitched five innings while allowing no runs, four hits and one walk with one strikeout.

Offensively, Morrison went 2-for-2 with two RBI, while Nichols was 2-of-3 with a double and one RBI.

## 2-0 start

From page 2B

Culbreth added. “That’s what I’ve told them.”

A corner kick from junior Zack Guigou found freshman Uday Sujithkumar, whose header from about 10 yards in front put the Ads up 1-0.

“He’s fitting in well,” Culbreth said of Sujithkumar. “We’ve got a lot of young talent. ... Based off our results last year, they learned a lot of tough lessons in losing, but they were necessary. We’re healthy and hungry right now.”

Senior forward Brooks Brunette drew a penalty kick in the game’s closing seconds and converted the second goal.

Against Gallatin, Sujithkumar, Burnette and Franklin Von Hagen each scored.

“I’ve got the right attitude on the bench,” Culbreth said. “I don’t have any standouts. This team wants to win. .... The biggest thing we’re preaching in practice is, ‘are you willing to be a good teammate and sacrifice?’”

**FHS 7 Bradley Central 0**

Barnes pitched all six innings, allowing just one hit and one walk in addition to the shutout, with two strikeouts.

Senior Addison Pressley went 3-for-3 at the plate, scoring three runs and stealing two bases. Junior Amelia Dorset was 2-for2 with one run scored, while Morrison homered and doubled, producing four RBI along with a run scored.

**FHS 5 East Hamilton 0**

## 11-1 FHS

From page 2B

an earned run. He struck out four, walked one and hit a batter. “He’s been fantastic,” Buckner said of his starter. “He was good today; he was pretty tough to hit.”

Delph threw two perfect innings in relief. “The way our offense was working ... our offense jumped on them early,” Delph said. “It’s easy to pitch with a lead. Such a blessing beating them last week then getting to close out the game.”

Bearden’s lone run came in the fourth when Cameron Cooper’s double scored Matt Schroeffel.

The Admirals closed it out in

## Close one

From page 2B

Farragut starting pitcher Cade O’Leary walked Brody Benko and hit Gavin Bergeron before striking out Grayson Wright and Cameron Cooper. O’Leary hit Brooks Wright and

Winning pitcher Emma MacTavish, the team’s senior staff ace, allowed no runs and just two hits and one walk with five strikeouts.

Offensively, Morrison homered and doubled, while Johnson added two hits and one RBI. Ragan went 2-for-2.

**Cherokee Co., Ala. 5 FHS 1**

The only Lady Ads loss came in the last game. Morrison’s solo homer was the lone FHS run, as the junior went 3-for-3. Pressley added two hits.

the sixth when Davila made it to third on an error, followed by a walk to Merrick. Three straight doubles — by Evans, Seigler and Delph — made it 10-1. Pinch runner Benny Miller, running for Delph, scored the game-ending run on Brewer’s single.

“Throughout our order we have a lot of weapons,” coach Buckner said. “When they all put some at-bats together we’re pretty hard to handle.”

The Ads totaled 14 hits to only three for BHS. “We’re kind of in a slump right now at the plate and we gotta figure that out,” Prichard said. “We’re trying to play the long season; we have a lot of baseball left.”

walked Isaiah Whited to score Benko, making the score 2-1.

Delph, who started the game as the Admirals’ designated hitter, took the mound and was greeted by Riley Mahan, who promptly hit a two-run single.

“We had a bad inning there in the third,” Buckner said.

# Heins a Bassmaster champ



Photo submitted

Harrison Heins, a former student at Bearden High School, right, teamed up with Hunter Slone to represent Tennessee Tech and win the 2024 Strike King Bassmaster College Series at Douglas Lake, presented by Bass Pro Shops, Thursday and Friday, March 7-8. Heins and Slone won by tallying a two-day total of 32 pounds, 5 ounces, taking home the top prize of \$5,601. On Day 1, the TTU duo tied for 19th place with 13 pounds, 11 ounces. Stepping up their second-round game, they added a limit of 18-10. “This win means everything for us,” Heins said. “This is the first win that our school has ever had, so we’re hoping this will have a snowball effect and we’ll have many more to come.” Heins said he and Slone stayed within five minutes of the take-off site at Dandridge Boat Ramp and focused their efforts on boat docks in about 15 feet of water. “We just found good quality there in practice,” he said. “We knew that 2- to 2 1/2-pounders wouldn’t get the job done, and we found a lot of 3-pound-class fish. We knew there were big ones there.” Heins said they fished the same area on Day 1, but also tried other spots. In the final round, they decided to park in their main area and make the most of their time. “On Day 1, we caught ’em in the same spot where we won, but we ended up leaving to try to find some other stuff, but we (realized) there were more big fish on our main spot,” Heins said. “On Day 2, we knew if we stayed there ... that would be our best bet at 5 ‘big ones.’”

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

**AGENDA | March 28, 2024 | WORKSHOP | 5:00 PM | Capital Investment Program Workshop**  
**BMA MEETING | 6:00 PM**

**I. Roll Call**  
**II. Approval of Agenda**  
**III. Approval of Minutes**  
A. February 22, 2024  
**IV. Mayor's Report**  
**V. Resolutions & Ordinances**  
A. Resolutions  
1. Approval of Resolution R-2024-02, a Resolution to amend the Knox County Growth Policy Plan between Knox County, the Town of Farragut and City of Knoxville dated January 10, 2024, per Tennessee Code Annotated 6-58-101 et seq.  
2. Approval of Resolution R-2027-03, Municipal Banking Services  
B. Ordinances  
1. Public Hearing and Second Reading  
a) Ordinance 24-03, Ordinance to amend the General Fund Budget and Capital Investment Program Budget for FY23-24, passed by Ordinance 23-07  
2. First Reading  
a) Ordinance 24-01, an ordinance to amend the definition of a Public Tree and a Street Tree, as provided for in the Town of Farragut Public Tree Care Ordinance

b) Ordinance 24-04, Ordinance to amend the General Fund, Insurance Fund, Capital Investment Program and Tourism Budget for FY23-24, passed by Ordinance 23-07  
c) Ordinance 24-05, Ordinance to amend Chapter 2, Administration, Article 6, Finance, Section 2-267 Depository of Town Funds, of the Farragut Municipal Code  
**VI. Business Items**  
A. Approval of Contract for Wayfinding Sign Program Development  
B. Approval of Bids and Award of Contract 2024-12, Mid-Block Pedestrian Crossings  
C. Approval of Bids and Award of Contract 2024-13, Brooklawn Street Decorative Street Lighting  
D. Approval of Request for Supplement from JMT, Inc. for Additional Right of Way Acquisition Services for Union Road Improvements Project  
E. Approval of Town of Farragut's FY2025 Strategic Plan  
F. Approval of Board of Mayor and Aldermen meeting participation guidelines  
**VII. Citizens Forum**  
**VIII. Town Administrator's Report**  
**IX. Town Attorney's Report**

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



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**PUBLIC HEARING**  
**The Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the Town of Farragut will hold a public hearing on April 11, 2024, at 6:00 PM, at the Farragut Community Center, 239 Jamestown Blvd, to hear citizen's comments on the following ordinances:**

**I. Ordinance 24-01**, an ordinance to amend the definition of a Public Tree and a Street Tree, as provided for in the Town of Farragut Public Tree Care Ordinance  
**II. Ordinance 24-04**, Ordinance to amend the General Fund, Insurance Fund, Capital Investment Program and Tourism Budget for FY23-24, passed by Ordinance 23-07  
**III. Ordinance 24-05**, Ordinance to amend Chapter 2, Administration, Article 6, Finance, Section 2-267 Depository of Town Funds, of the Farragut Municipal Code

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**FARRAGUT MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**STAFF/DEVELOPER AGENDA**  
**Tuesday, April 2, 2024**  
**Assembly Room – Farragut Community Center**

**9:00 a.m.** Discussion on a request to amend the Future Land Use Map for Parcels 070 and 072, Tax Map 142, between Waverly Court Subdivision and Baldwin Park Subdivision, 341 Boring Road, from Open Space Cluster Residential to Very Low Density Residential, 12 Acres (Homestead Land Holdings, Applicant)  
Discussion on a request to amend the Zoning Map for Parcels 070 and 072, Tax Map 142, between Waverly Court Subdivision and Baldwin Park Subdivision, 341 Boring Road, from R-1 and R-2 to R-3, 12 Acres (Homestead Land Holdings, Applicant)  
**9:30 a.m.** Discussion on an amendment to the development concept plan for the commercial portion of the Kingston Pike Village/Farragut Junction Planned Commercial Development (PCD) project at the southwest intersection of Kingston Pike and S. Watt Road (Daniel Smith, Applicant)  
**10:00 a.m.** Discussion on amendments to the Sign Ordinance in association with the Mixed-Use Town Center area (JA Fielden, Applicant)

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FARRAGUTPRESS WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 2024 • 1C



## A healthy way of life

Dixie Lee Farmers' Market's mission to bring local products to the area

After developing rheumatoid arthritis in 2007, Ginger Cannon began looking into alternative means of treating the condition. "I was trying to deal with this without a bunch of medications," she said.

During her research, Cannon soon learned of the benefits of eating fresh, locally grown foods. "Some people I knew went to the Oak Ridge farmers markets, and you get really educated when you're surrounded by farmers and producers," she explained. "It changed my outlook on a lot of things, like where our food in the grocery stores comes from."

However, Cannon realized that while there were a few farmers markets throughout the greater Knoxville area, there was nothing of the sort in the Farragut community.

"There was a farmers market downtown and there was one in Oak Ridge, but out in this area, there really wasn't anything," Cannon said.

So, in 2008, Cannon and her husband Jeff, a horticulturist, launched Dixie Lee Farmers' Market.

"We started the market so we could bring better local, organic produce to our area and just try to eat better," said Cannon, noting that the couple quickly discovered the immense amount of local farmers and crafters. "It just really turned into sort of a mission to bring local products to the area and give people



Cannon



See MARKET on Page 2C

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Spring is finally here, which means farmers markets throughout the area are ramping up for the 2024 season. And with numerous markets to choose from, there’s no better way to welcome the warmer weather than by getting outside and supporting the local community.

**Circle Farmers Market**

8529 Rutledge Pike,  
Knoxville  
Second Saturday  
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Clinton Farmer’s Market**

245 N. Main St., Clinton  
Thursdays: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Dixie Lee Farmers’ Market**

12740 Kingston Pike,  
Knoxville  
Saturdays 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

**Eastside Sunday Market**

2020 Martin Luther  
King Jr. Ave.,  
Knoxville  
Sundays 1-4 p.m.

**Ebenezer Road Farmers’ Market**

1001 Ebenezer Road,  
Knoxville  
Tuesdays 3-6 p.m.

**Greenback Farmers and Craft Market**

6736 Morganton Road,  
Greenback  
Tuesdays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Second Saturday  
8 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Last Friday 4-8 p.m.

**Harriman Farmers Market**

401 North Roane St.,  
Harriman  
Saturdays 8 a.m. to noon

**Kingston Lakeside Farmers Market**

203 Kentucky St., Kingston  
Saturdays 8-11 a.m.

**Madisonville Farmers & Makers Market**

305 College St. N.,  
Madisonville  
Thursdays 4-7 p.m.

**Market Square Farmers’ Market**

Historic Market Square,  
Knoxville  
Wednesdays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Saturdays 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Maryville Farmers’ Market**

2003 E. Broadway Ave.,  
Maryville  
Saturdays 8:30-11:30 a.m.

**New Harvest Farmers’ Market**

4775 New Harvest Lane,  
Knoxville  
Thursdays 3-6 p.m.

**Oak Ridge Farmers’ Market**

281 Broadway Ave.,  
Oak Ridge  
Saturdays 8 a.m. to noon

**Tellico Village Farmers’ Market**

202 Chota Road, Loudon  
Wednesdays 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

**Wharf Street Farmer’s Market**

410 Wharf St., Loudon  
Thursdays 4-7 p.m.

**MARKET**

From page 1C

the opportunity to actually shake the hands of the people who are growing their food.”

Since its inception, Cannon said Dixie Lee Farmers’ Market has grown exponentially, in terms of both customers and vendors. In fact, the market started out with about 10 vendors and now has more than 30. This is likely due to a shift in perspective brought about by the coronavirus pandemic.

“It’s not a fad anymore,” she said of farmers markets. “You know, if you look at 15 years ago, you had these people that were very specifically farmers market goers, but now, I think it’s more of a way of life.”

**Opening for the season**

Dixie Lee Farmers’ Market will open for the 2024 season on Saturday, May 4, and run through the last weekend of October or the first weekend in November. It will be held each Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon at the Renaissance Farragut complex, 12740 Kingston Pike.

Cannon said a wide variety of local products are available, including fresh eggs and produce, grass-fed meats, homemade breads, jams and honey.

“We get all of our produce and all of our meat from the market in the summertime, and so do thousands of other people,” she said.

Not only are foods purchased from a farmers market fresher than grocery store products, they are also currently about the same price, thanks to inflation.

“In the beginning, it was a bit more expensive, but people didn’t mind because they know that the money they’re spending is staying in our region,” Cannon explained. “But since inflation, it’s really comparable. It’s really not that much more than going to the grocery store.”

In addition to food items, many of the market’s vendors offer homemade products such as organic soaps, skin oils and clothing detergents.

“We have people that specialize in herbs and essential oils, as well as woodworkers, furniture makers and glass blowers,” said Cannon, noting that several vendors have been with the market since its launch. “We’ve got about 20 permanent vendors, but every year we get new artists.”

Anyone interested in becoming a Dixie Lee Farmers’ Market vendor should submit an online application. The only requirements, Cannon said, are to be a producer or crafter in the state of Tennessee.

*For more information, visit [dixieleefarmersmarket.com](http://dixieleefarmersmarket.com).*

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# Golf is a full-fledged passion for Leahy

With his father in the golf industry, it seemed only natural that Corey Leahy would also find himself with a golf club in hand.

“We were definitely a golfing family,” remembers Leahy, noting frequent trips as a child to the driving range and visiting his dad at the golf course. “Golf easily became a family-oriented activity for us.”

For Leahy, the sport eventually transformed from a familial hobby into a full-fledged passion. Little did he know, however, that this passion would someday become his career.

“I started playing competitive golf when I was introduced to school sports in middle school,” he explained. “This was really when I caught the ‘golfing bug.’ After graduating college, I decided to take this passion and make it into a career.”

The avid golfer went on to spend the next decade in the golf business, serving as a club professional at various golf clubs in Florida before relocating to Tennessee to take a job at a top-rated course.

“What was considered work, was not work at all,” Leahy said.

### A lifelong sport

Unlike other sports, golf is perfect for nearly all ages. In fact, Leahy says he’s worked with golfers as young as 3 years old, as well as those into their 80s.

“Whether you are finding your forever sport or just looking to stay active, golf doesn’t care what age you are,” he said. “It is never too soon or too late to pick up the game... As soon as a child is able to hold onto a club and they are showing an interest in wanting to learn, give it a try.”

But for younger kids first starting out with the sport, Leahy added that safety is key.

“Golf has always been known as a ‘game of etiquette,’” he said. “Safety and etiquette were always the first points I would cover when introducing juniors to the game – it’s the foundation for creating a safe and inviting learning environment.”

Leahy said that junior camps are a great way to learn more about golfing etiquette and become better acquainted with an instructional setting. Camps also help foster a sense of camaraderie.

“With golf being mainly considered an individual sport, it can also be a team sport,” explained Leahy. “These camps help to create that team-oriented environment and provide an opportunity to develop friendships both on and off the golf course.”

The main goal, after all, is to simply have fun with the sport.

“The biggest advice I can give you is to be open to everything,” Leahy said. “Both good and bad shots are going to happen, but just have fun with it! Look at today’s greats we see on TV; even they have tough days playing the game.”

Along with camps, young golfers can also participate in leagues and tournaments offered by local golf organizations like First Tee of Greater Knoxville, PGA Jr. League and the Tennessee Golf Foundation. These initiatives are open to golfers of all experience levels.

“Golf is a sport you can play your entire life,” added Leahy. “Why not start today?”



Leahy



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# Playing golf offers valuable benefits

Since the age of 14, golf has been an integral part of Keith McElroy’s life.

“I’ve worked in the business for almost 30 years,” said McElroy, who’s held jobs at various local courses, including Three Ridges Golf Course, Concord Park Junior Golf Course and the Golf Academy of Tennessee. He’s also served as Gibbs High School’s golf coach for the past six years.

McElroy said golfers in the area are fortunate to have access to a variety of prime courses.

“There are many great courses in Knoxville,” he said, noting public courses like Three Ridges, Willow Creek Golf Club and Dead Horse Lake Golf Course.

In terms of private courses, McElroy recommends Holston Hills Country Club, Beaver Brook Golf Country Club and Fox Den Country Club.

“The main difference between public and private courses is that public courses have daily fees to play and anyone can make a tee time and go play there,” he explained. “Private courses have a monthly fee and you cannot play there unless you are allowed to join and start paying the monthly dues.”

But no matter the type, McElroy said Knoxville’s courses are perfect for beginner golfers, as well as those more experienced in the sport.

“All these courses are set up to have several sets of tees to challenge the best golfers and to make beginner golfers have a course that they would enjoy playing,” he said.



McElroy

**Benefits of golf**

Playing golf offers a slew of valuable benefits, from strengthening heart endurance to improving muscle tone. As a result, regularly playing the sport can significantly boost your overall health, keeping you fit and encouraging weight loss. Golf is also an excellent way to reduce stress, enjoy the outdoors and meet new people.

But perhaps one of the greatest advantages of golf is the fact that it can be played by people of all ages. However, for those just starting out, McElroy suggests taking the time to truly understand the sport.

“The most difficult part of learning to play golf is to realize that you are learning to make a swing with a club and not trying to hit the ball,” he said. “Once you begin making a swing under control then golf becomes more enjoyable to play.”

- Area Golf Courses  
Beaver Brook Golf Country Club  
6800 Beaver Brook Drive, Knoxville  
865-689-5178
- Centennial Golf Course  
101 Centennial Blvd., Oak Ridge  
865-483-2291
- Concord Park Golf Course  
10909 S. Northshore Drive, Knoxville  
865-966-9103
- Dead Horse Lake Golf Course  
555 Frank Gardner Lane, Knoxville  
865-693-5270
- Egwani Farms Golf Course  
3920 S. Singleton Station Road,  
Rockford  
865-970-7132
- Fox Den Country Club  
12284 N. Fox Den Drive, Knoxville  
865-966-9771
- Green Meadow Country Club  
1700 Louisville Road, Alcoa  
865-982-0391
- Holston Hills Country Club  
5200 Holston Hills Road, Knoxville  
865-523-4119
- Island Pointe Golf Club  
9610 Kodak Road, Knoxville  
865-933-0100

- Knoxville Municipal Golf Course  
3925 Schaad Road, Knoxville  
865-691-7143
- Lambert Acres Golf Club  
3402 Tuckaleechee Pike, Maryville  
865-982-9838
- Oak Ridge Country Club  
150 Gum Hollow Road, Oak Ridge  
865-482-2436
- Tanasi Golf Course  
450 Clubhouse Point,  
Loudon  
865-458-4707

- Three Ridges Golf Course  
6101 Wise Springs Road, Knoxville  
865-687-4797
- Whittle Springs Golf Course  
3113 Valley View Drive, Knoxville  
865-525-1022

- Williams Creek Golf Course  
2351 Dandridge Ave., Knoxville  
865-546-5828
- Willow Creek Golf Club  
12003 Kingston Pike, Knoxville  
865-675-0100
- WindRiver Golf Club  
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# Tennis

Fun for young and old

Keith McElroy has spent nearly three decades in the golf business. The avid golfer has worked at a variety of local driving ranges and courses, including Three Ridges Golf Course, Concord Park Junior Golf Course and the Golf Academy of Tennessee.

But in addition to his golfing expertise, McElroy is also an experienced tennis player. In fact, his background in tennis goes all the way back to his childhood.

“I started playing tennis at a young age when my mom took me when she was getting some lessons,” McElroy said. “I played throughout my teenage years with my friends.”

McElroy now serves as both the golf and tennis coach at Gibbs High School. In a way, he said, the two sports are actually quite similar.

“Tennis and golf are both sports that can be played for a long time as you get older,” he explained. “Both can also be enjoyed no matter what your skill level is from beginner to advanced.”

And, like golf, tennis can also be introduced at any stage of life.

“Tennis is best if you start at a young age, but it can easily be picked up at a later age,” said McElroy, noting the physical benefits of tennis. “You receive a great workout while playing tennis. It will give you a great cardio workout.”

The Knoxville area is also home to several excellent tennis courts – both public and private. For public courts, McElroy suggests Tyson Park, 2351 Kingston Pike, and West Hills Tennis Center, 7624 Sheffield Drive.

“These are maintained by the city and are great places to play,” he said.

Private courts, which require a membership, are located at Cedar Bluff Racquet Club, 701 Racquet Club Way, and Knoxville Racquet Club, 5535 Lonas Dr, Knoxville.

For more information about local tennis courts or to sign up for lessons, leagues and clinics, visit [playtennisknoxville.org](http://playtennisknoxville.org).

“I started playing tennis at a young age when my mom took me when she was getting some lessons,”

~ Keith McElroy

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## Explaining the wildly popular sport of pickleball

Crowded pickleball courts are a testament to the popularity of a sport that has taken many communities by storm. A 2023 report from the Sports & Fitness Industry Association indicates just under nine million people played pickleball in 2022, which marked a stunning 159 percent increase in participation over just a three-year period.

With such significant increases in participation, pickleball undoubtedly has piqued the curiosity of millions more who have not yet picked up a paddle. Individuals whose curiosity has compelled them to give the sport a try can consider this rundown of pickleball so they're as prepared as possible upon picking up their paddles.

### The sport

Pickleball, invented by a congressman from the state of Washington and two friends in the 1960s, combines components of badminton, ping-pong and tennis. A ball made of plastic is used in pickleball, and the ball is slightly larger than a tennis ball. Tennis courts, which many communities have now re-designated as pickleball courts, are still widely used as playing surfaces for pickleball players. The nets for pickleball are lower than for tennis, and that's due to science. According to the paddle and apparel manufacturer Paddletrek, after the first bounce a tennis ball retains about 60 percent of its

bounce, which means it can reach a height of nearly 46 inches. A pickleball retains between 38 and 44 percent of its energy after bouncing, which means it peaks around 30 to 34 inches. That's why tennis nets are typically lowered for pickleball competitions.

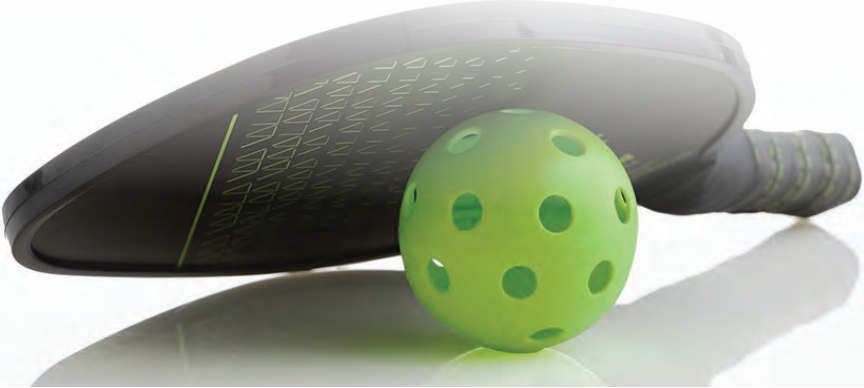
### Is pickleball a team sport?

Socialization is one of the foremost health benefits of pickleball, potentially helping to reduce feelings of loneliness that can increase risk for depression and other conditions. Pickleball can be a team sport if players prefer doubles competitions, but it's also played in one-on-one settings as well. But even players who prefer singles competitions can reap the socialization benefits of pickleball by engaging with their competitors and the wider community of local players.

### When does a pickleball game end?

Debate is ongoing as to whether professional pickleball should institute a shot clock to increase the pace of play, but no such clock currently governs the game. According to USA Pickleball™, games are normally played to 11 points, and players must win by two. Tournament games may play to 15 or 21 (win by two).

The popularity of pickleball has exploded in recent years. Non-players who are curious are urged to give this beloved sport a try.







# Choto Marina

dedicated to ensuring an enjoyable boating experience

A Farragut staple, Choto Marina is dedicated to ensuring a convenient and enjoyable boating experience on Fort Loudoun Lake.

The full-service marina offers covered dry stack storage, wet slips, and trailer storage, as well as a fuel dock, ship’s store and onsite service and boat dealer – Rockingham Marine. Visitors also have access to the property’s popular restaurant – Cheers at Choto, which boasts great food, live music and an inviting atmosphere.

Situated directly across from Prater Flats, one of the most popular coves on Fort Loudoun Lake, it’s easy to see how Choto Marina has become an ideal destination for the area’s boating community.

In fact, owner Justin Church has many fond memories of frequenting Choto Marina throughout his childhood – so much so that he and his wife Shanna decided to purchase the marina in 2021.

“I grew up next to this marina and boating on Fort Loudoun,” he explained. “It has been a big part of our family’s life.”

After purchasing the marina, the couple sought to further elevate its offerings with Carefree Boat Club. Church says this provides an alternative to boat ownership, enabling members to enjoy Choto Marina’s impressive fleet of more than 20 first-class boats.

All members have to do is use the marina’s online reservation system to select their desired date for their outing and choose from Choto Marina’s premium lineup of boats, ranging from tritoons to bow riders to wakeboard and surf boats.

“You reserve your boat, which has a full tank of fuel, take the boat out, have a blast, and when you bring it back all you have to do is take your belongings

that you brought, and you are done,” said Church, noting that Choto Marina also handles all boat maintenance. “We will refill your boat, clean the boat, and wait for you to come visit us again. You do not have to pay for a slip, boat insurance, or deal with the overall maintenance of a boat. Basically, we take care of all the headaches.”

With over 140 Carefree Boat Club affiliates across the world, members also have the opportunity to visit different club locations. This includes numerous locations throughout the United States and Canada, as well as those in the Caribbean, Panama and the Philippines.

“For example, if you frequently visit Hilton Head, S.C., Carefree has a boat club there where you can reserve a boat,” said Church. “It is as easy as it sounds.”

Choto Marina’s Carefree Boat Club even offers varying membership tiers to accommodate all boating preferences and budgets. Church said anyone interested in learning more about the club should contact the marina’s office at 865-320-3040 to set up a visit.

“We want you to come and see what we have to offer. We want to get to know all of our members so that we can provide the first class experience that you are paying for,” he said. “Our marina is family owned and operated and that is how we will treat you when you are on property... Whether you are a member of the marina or boat club, our team will help you make the experience you have at Choto Marina the easiest and most fun possible – and “Carefree” of course!”

*For more information about Choto Marina, visit [chotomarina.com](http://chotomarina.com).*



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# Talk *of the* Town

A Publication of the Town of Farragut



Spring 2024

## Spring brings Fishing Rodeo & Living History to Farragut

Warm weather brings outdoor fun for kids and adults this spring! Mark your calendars now to participate in these entertaining and educational offerings brought to you by the Parks & Rec Department.

On Saturday, May 11, kids 12 and under are invited to create their own fish tales at the 40th annual Bob Watt Youth Fishing Rodeo at Anchor Park. Spend the morning baiting your hook and casting your line while competing for prizes. This event is free and open to the public. Register for one of two timeslots, 8-9 a.m. or 10-11 a.m., at [townoffarragut.org/register](https://townoffarragut.org/register) beginning April 1.

The Town of Farragut will provide limited worms for bait, and a limited number of fishing poles will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis. Participants are encouraged to bring their own poles. Participants may also bring their own bait.

From 1:30-4 p.m. on Sunday, April 28, step back in time during Living History at Pleasant Forest Cemetery. This free event allows you to wander one of the oldest cemeteries in the area, with a chance to listen to the real-life stories of notable Farragut locals. Parking is limited at the cemetery, so visitors are encouraged to use the free shuttle service between Farragut Community Center and Pleasant Forest Cemetery. For more information, visit [farragutparksandrec.org/livinghistory](https://farragutparksandrec.org/livinghistory).

Both events will be held rain or shine; however, in the case of severe inclement weather, check Farragut Parks & Recreation's social media for updates.



## Ribbon is cut on Little Turkey Creek Greenway



After almost a year of planning and construction, the Little Turkey Creek Greenway is complete. The trail was formally opened with a ribbon cutting in March.

The extension links Sheffield and Vista subdivisions to Brookmere and Sugarwood subdivisions as well as Kingston Pike. The new greenway section is approximately 1,450 feet long and eight

feet wide.

A unique feature of this new greenway is a three-car parking area off Virtue Road with a paved trail leading down to the historic Virtue Mill water wheel. This area is also where the 17<sup>th</sup> Michigan Volunteer Regiment took a stand against Confederate forces on Nov. 16, 1863, as part of the Battle of Campbell Station.

## Attend one of two meetings on April 9 to ask questions and provide input about town center area

A second round of public input regarding future development of Farragut's town center area continues with two public meetings at 11:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 9, at the Farragut Community Center (239 Jamestowne Blvd.). Anyone interested in learning more about future development in the town center area is encouraged to attend.

The meetings will cover the results of a recent survey regarding land use concepts developed by Tunnell-Spangler & Associates (TSW). TSW was hired to develop a vision plan for this area and provide other updates to the Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP). The land use concepts were developed based on the first round of public input in the summer of 2023.



## Application window opens for volunteer committees

Every spring, the Farragut Board of Mayor and Aldermen look to civic-minded residents to serve our Town by joining one of our many boards, committees and commissions. The Town truly values the input and dedication provided by engaged citizens. The window is now open to apply to serve on a volunteer committee.

Please note - 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 Catholic School representative), Board of Plumbing & Gas/Mechanical Examiners, Tourism/Visitor Advisory Committee and the Stormwater Advisory Committee. Applications are available at [townoffarragut.org/committees](https://townoffarragut.org/committees) or at the 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 also welcome to apply.) For more information, visit [townoffarragut.org/youth](https://townoffarragut.org/youth).

The application deadline for youth and adults is 4 p.m. Tuesday, April 30.



# WHO TO CALL

## Town of Farragut Contacts

*(All Town of Farragut phones have an 865 area code)*

Ron Williams, Mayor.....966-0214 (rwilliams@townoffarragut.org)  
Drew Burnette, Alderman (Ward II) .....203-5048 (dburnette@townoffarragut.org)  
Scott Meyer, Alderman (Ward I) .....288-0694 (smeyer@townoffarragut.org)  
David White, Alderman (Ward II) .....389-0028 (dwhite@townoffarragut.org)  
Louise Povlin, Vice Mayor, Alderman (Ward I) 805-7996 (lpovlin@townoffarragut.org)  
David Smoak, Town Administrator.....  
966-7057 (dsmoak@townoffarragut.org)

**Administration, Engineering,..... Phone 966-7057; Fax 675-2096**  
**Community Development**  
**and Public Works**

Alcohol License/Permits ..... Allison Myers (amyers@townoffarragut.org)  
FinancesAccounts Receivable ..... Pam Hall (phall@townoffarragut.org)  
Citizen Requests..... Jennifer Hatmaker (jhatmaker@townoffarragut.org)  
Engineering..... Darryl Smith (dsmith@townoffarragut.org)  
Event Permits .....Maria Rayas (mrayas@townoffarragut.org)  
Farragut Court..... Jennifer Hatmaker (jhatmaker@townoffarragut.org)  
Landscaping .....Mark Shipley (mshipley@townoffarragut.org)  
Sign Permits ..... Bart Hose (bhose@townoffarragut.org)  
Farragut Museum ..... The museum is temporarily closed, but inquiries can be sent to  
.....museum@townoffarragut.org  
Personnel ..... Michelle Pence (mpence@townoffarragut.org)  
Planning Requirements .....Mark Shipley (mshipley@townoffarragut.org)  
Zoning & Subdivisions ..... Bart Hose (bhose@townoffarragut.org)  
Public Relations..... Wendy Smith (media@townoffarragut.org)  
Stormwater Quality ..... Tyler Ellison (tellison@townoffarragut.org)  
Traffic Enforcement Program..... Jennifer Duggan Davis (jdavis@townoffarragut.org)  
Tourism ..... Hallie Riddle (visitfarragut@townoffarragut.org)

**Codes ..... Phone 675-2384**

Building Inspections..... Karen Richards (krichards@townoffarragut.org)  
and Permits.....Maria Rayas (mrayas@townoffarragut.org)  
Building Codes (Residential) .....Chris Brown (cbrown@townoffarragut.org)  
..... Tom Schneller (tshneller@townoffarragut.org)  
Building Codes (Commercial)..... Elliott Sievers (esievers@townoffarragut.org)  
..... Karl Swierzko (kswierzko@townoffarragut.org)  
Fire Safety/Inspections..... Charles Wilson (cwilson@townoffarragut.org)  
Codes Enforcement/ ..... Holley Marlowe (hmarlowe@townoffarragut.org)  
Property Maintenance

**Town Hall staff, now located at the Farragut Community Center**  
8 a.m-5 p.m. Monday-Friday  
239 Jamestowne Blvd., Farragut, TN 37934  
General email: towninfo@townoffarragut.org  
Website: townoffarragut.org

**Social Media**  
Facebook: Town of Farragut, Visit Farragut, Farragut Parks & Rec,  
Farragut Stormwater Matters  
Instagram: town\_of\_farragut, visitfarragut, farragutparksandrec  
X: townoffarragut, ToFFieldUpdate (athletics/field information),  
ToFVolleyball (volleyball league), FarragutParks  
YouTube: Town of Farragut, Visit Farragut

**Parks & Recreation ..... Phone 218-3376**

Athletic Field Rental & Athletic Programming  
Ryan Rhodus (AthleticFieldReservations@townoffarragut.org)

Community Center Gym & Classroom Rental  
(CommunityCenterRentals@townoffarragut.org)

Rentals:  
Pavilions and Community Center Events  
Arleen Higginbotham (PicnicReservations@townoffarragut.org)

Special Events, Programs and Volunteers  
Rachel Malone (ParksandRecInfo@townoffarragut.org)

General: Ron Oestreich (roestreich@townoffarragut.org)

General Parks & Rec information on programming and events:  
ParksandRecInfo@townoffarragut.org  
Athletic field reservations: AthleticFieldReservations@townoffarragut.org  
Pavilion rentals: PicnicReservations@townoffarragut.org  
Community Center rentals: CommunityCenterRentals@townoffarragut.org

**Farragut Community Center**  
Open 8 a.m-9 p.m. Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, 1-4 p.m. Sunday  
239 Jamestowne Blvd., Farragut, TN 37934  
Website: farragutparksandrec.org

**Anchor Park:** 11730 Turkey Creek Road

**Founders Park:** 405 N. Campbell Station Road

**Mayor Bob Leonard Park**

Main Entrance: 301 Watt Road, Farragut; West Entrance: 700 Harrison Lane, Loudon

**McFee Park:** 917 McFee Road

**Mayor Ralph McGill Plaza:** 11409 Kingston Pike

**BlueCross Healthy Place at Farragut Town Hall:** 11408 Municipal Center Drive

*It is the policy of the Town of Farragut not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, natural origin, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, religion, disability or veteran status pursuant to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Public Law 93-112 and 101-336 in its hiring, employment practices and programs.*

The Talk of the Town is a quarterly publication produced by the Town of Farragut.

For more information about this publication, please contact Wendy Smith at 865-966-7057 or media@townoffarragut.org.

# Tourism Talk



The Town’s tourism team has several new or updated projects that will be unveiled soon, including these:

- A brand-new Visit Farragut map, designed by Paris Woodhull
- An updated dining guide featuring our Farragut restaurants
- The debut of the first edition of the Farragut Visitor’s Guide
- Our social media series: Fun in Farragut, What’s up Weekend, Dog-Friendly Farragut and Live & Local

For our business partners, we have other opportunities coming up this quarter:

- Visit Farragut will host a Hospitality Partnership Breakfast with two guest speakers. More information about this event will be released soon.
- Farragut businesses can sign up for our industry newsletter. Visit Farragut uses this platform to send out media opportunities, event opportunities and program updates. Use the QR code above to sign up!
- All sales tax-producing and hospitality-based Farragut businesses can be listed on our website. Let the tourism team know if you want to be listed, or need your listing updated, by sending an email to Visitfarragut@townoffarragut.org.

Here are some spring events you won’t want to miss:

- 4/13 Forget Me Not 5k (Village Green subdivision)
- 4/26 Southern Tequila and Taco Festival (Mayor Ralph McGill Plaza)
- 5/11 Movies at McGill (Mayor Ralph McGill Plaza)
- 5/18 Puppy Palooza (Pinnacle at Turkey Creek)
- 6/20 Bluegrass Summer Solstice Concert (Founders Park at Campbell Station)

For more information about these events, explore Visitfarragut.org. For all things #FunInFarragut, follow Visit Farragut on Facebook and Instagram.



## Bluegrass Summer Solstice Concert

Get ready to kick off summer at the Bluegrass Summer Solstice Concert on Thursday, June 20! Enjoy some bluegrass tunes as we celebrate the longest day of the year. Join us at Founders Park at Campbell Station from 6-8 p.m. for toe-tapping melodies, yard games and food trucks. Follow Visit Farragut on Facebook and Instagram to see the artist lineup as soon as it’s announced!

For more details about spring and summer events in Farragut, explore Visitfarragut.org.

## Rain barrel sale benefits Water Quality Forum



Want to conserve water and reduce your water bill? Install a rain barrel! The Water Quality Forum (WQF) is currently offering 50-gallon Ivy Rain Barrels for just \$85, a discounted price that also benefits WQF, which protects, restores, and enhances the waterways of East Tennessee.

Order your rain barrel at [www.rainbarrelprogram.org/WQF](http://www.rainbarrelprogram.org/WQF) by Sunday, April 21, and pick it up 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, April 27, at the Farragut Community Center, 239 Jamestowne Blvd.

The website includes video directions for installing your new rain barrel.



# SPRING PROGRAMS & EVENTS

- Unless otherwise noted, register for classes and special events at [townoffarragut.org/register](http://townoffarragut.org/register), in person at the Farragut Community Center (239 Jamestowne Blvd.) or by phone (865-218-3376). **All classes held at the community center require a free membership. Farragut residency is NOT required for membership. Please stop by the community center during regular hours or arrive early for class to register!**
- Payment is due at the time of registration. Credit card payments (Visa, Mastercard and Discover) – whether online, in person, or by phone – will incur a 2% transaction fee. Cash and check payments are also accepted.
- The Town of Farragut is not responsible for costs associated with the

- purchase of supplies when a class is canceled.
- All events are held at the Farragut Community Center unless otherwise noted, and all league sports are held at Mayor Bob Leonard Park unless otherwise noted.
  - Some events may be canceled or postponed in the event of inclement weather. Please see Farragut Parks & Rec social media (Facebook, Instagram and X) for updated information.
  - Punch cards for community center gym programs may be purchased at the recreation office. Twenty punches are just \$30, and punch cards may be shared by family or friends.
  - **No refunds are given for programs and classes.**

## ADULT

### Cornhole League

Tuesdays, May 7-June 25, 5-7 p.m.  
Cost: \$50 per team  
Ages 18 and up  
Players of all skill levels are invited to join this eight-week league! All equipment will be provided, but you are welcome to bring your own bags. For more information or to view the complete rules, please visit [farragut-parksandrec.org/athletics](http://farragut-parksandrec.org/athletics).

### Beginner Crochet

Wednesdays, April 17-May 8, 7-8 p.m.  
Cost: \$20 per four-week session  
Ages 18 and up  
Are you looking for a relaxing hobby? Learn how to crochet with us! Beginners ages 18 and up are welcome to join us to learn the basics of crocheting. We will cover stitches, materials and easy projects!

### Art Class

Thursdays, 5-7 p.m.  
Cost: \$8, or four punches on a punch card per class  
Ages 16 and up  
No experience required. Come learn and practice new art techniques with a variety of trending projects! This class allows students of various ages, skill levels and interests to explore art and participate in popular new projects. These classes will be less focused on teaching and more on independent creativity.

## FAMILY

### Mahjong and Gaming Club

Every other Tuesday, beginning April 2, 3:30-5:30 p.m.  
Cost: Free  
Ages 9 and up  
Join us to learn new games! There will be special classes to learn mahjong, tong-its, chess, checkers and other organized board games. Participants may bring their own games and snacks to share.

### Get Your Green Thumb

Wednesdays, June 5-26, 1-2 p.m.  
Cost: \$20 per four-week session  
Ages 14 and up  
No experience required. In this class, we will plant seeds together and learn the basics of gardening.

## YOUTH

### Homeschool PE

Mondays and Wednesdays through May 22, 2:30-3:30 p.m.  
Cost: \$2, or one punch on a punch card per child  
Ages 6 to 12  
This Homeschool PE class features sports and group games that emphasize teamwork, good sportsmanship, physical activity and fun!

### Afterschool Art

Wednesdays, April 3-May 29, 3:45-5 p.m.  
Cost: \$4, or two punches on a punch card per child  
Ages 6 to 12  
No experience required! Come learn and practice new art techniques that change every

week! This class allows students of various ages, skill levels, and interests to explore art in a fun and ever-evolving environment.

### How-To Series

5-6:30 p.m.  
\$5 per session  
Ages vary per session  
  
• Glam Night – April 16  
Ages 8 to 16  
This class is for youth that want to practice the basics of makeup, braiding and more!

• Beading with Buddies – April 30  
Ages 6 to 12  
This class will focus on bracelet beading techniques and related crafts.

• Personal Hygiene – May 7  
Ages 6 to 12  
This informative session will focus on the importance of activities like brushing your teeth, showering, and brushing your hair. We will learn with fun activities, but we will not be practicing during class.

• Hand Sewing – May 28  
Ages 8 to 16  
In this class, we will learn about sewing safety, how to thread a needle, sew on a button and make small seams.

• Creative Writing – June 4  
Ages 8 to 16  
Practice penmanship, curative writing, journaling and writing creatively. We will be practicing all these skills during this session!

• Mini Microwavable Meals – June 25  
Ages 8 to 16  
We will learn about quick and easy meals and snacks to make in the microwave. Eggs, mug cakes and more!

### Classical Beginner Ballet

Thursdays, April 4-May 9, 4-5 p.m.  
Cost: \$30 per four classes  
Ages 5 to 8  
This class will teach students steps, musicality, posture, flexibility, and teamwork dancing. Students will need to be prepared with ballet leotard, ballet shoes, pink ballet tights and hair pulled back!

### Tiny Tots T-Ball

Wednesdays, April 17-May 22, 5-5:45 p.m.  
McFee Park  
Cost: \$25 per child  
Ages 4 to 6  
Tiny Tots T-Ball is an introductory program that will teach tiny athletes the building blocks of T-Ball! We will focus on basic skills like catching, throwing, hitting and related gross motor skills. PLEASE NOTE: Parents are required to participate with their child.

### Tiny Tots Soccer

Thursdays, April 18-May 23, 4-4:45 p.m.  
McFee Park  
Cost: \$25 per child  
Ages 4 to 6

Tiny Tots Soccer is an introductory program that will teach tiny athletes the building blocks of soccer! We will focus on basic skills like dribbling, passing, shooting and related gross motor skills. PLEASE NOTE: Parents are required to participate with their child.

### Toddler Takeover

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10-11 a.m.  
Cost: \$2, or one punch on a punch card per child; adults are free.  
Ages walking to 5 years  
Join us for this guardian-supervised indoor playtime and let your child explore our bright, colorful, age-appropriate equipment!

## FITNESS

### Total Fitness Classes

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8:30-9:30 a.m.  
Cost: \$4 or two punches on a punch card, per session  
Join Rachel Piotrowski, certified group exercise instructor and personal trainer, for a total-body fitness class! This class is tailored to individuals of all fitness levels and focuses on functional exercises to improve overall strength and balance. A variety of body weight and hand weight exercises will be utilized to build upper and lower body strength, improve balance and strengthen the core. Low impact aerobic conditioning and stretching are also incorporated. Please bring hand weights or other weighted objects for your workout. If you do not have any, just bring yourself! Don't forget water and a mat.

### Zumba

Tuesdays, beginning April 16, 6-7 p.m.  
Cost: \$8 or four punches on a punch card, per session  
Ages 18 and up  
We take the “work” out of workout with Zumba at Farragut Community Center! Zumba is a Latin-inspired dance class that makes getting fit fun!

### Sunrise Stretch

Wednesdays, 8:15-9:15 a.m.  
Cost: Free  
Start your day off right with a sunrise yoga session! This 60-minute class is the perfect way to start the day for beginning to advanced yogis with registered yoga teacher Jenny Trussell. The class includes gentle and slow flow yoga sequencing, breathwork and a brief meditation set to relaxing music. Bring a mat (blanket and props are optional) and a smile for each participant. The instructor is glad to provide an introductory class for anyone new to yoga.

### Rise and Shine Yoga

Mondays and Fridays, 8:15-9:15 a.m.  
Cost: \$4 or two punches on a punch card per session.  
Rise and shine! Start your day off right with a morning yoga class led by registered yoga teacher Mindy Wise or Jenny Trussell! Bring a yoga mat, water and a positive attitude!

### Moving into Stillness for Self-Care

Fridays, 9:30-10 a.m.

Cost: \$10 per four-week session

We will introduce ways for participants to connect more deeply with themselves and others. Each session will include a guided meditation or reading, some silent time to reflect in stillness and a time for optional sharing of experiences.

### Knight's Long Hu Pai Kung Fu

Wednesdays, 5-6 p.m. and Sundays, 3-4 p.m.  
Cost: \$60 per four-week session  
Ages 8 and up  
Join us for this traditional Kung Fu class that will teach self-defense, form and fitness! All skill levels welcome.

## OPEN GYM

### Pickleball Open Gym

Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, noon-2 p.m.  
Beginning May 7: Tuesdays, 7-9 p.m.  
Cost: \$4 per person or two punches on a punch card per session  
Grab a paddle and get ready to play! During this time, the gym is on the challenge court system. Games are played to 11 points, winning by two. Limited equipment is available for checkout and nets are provided. Please arrive a few minutes early to check in and get your free community center membership. To maximize community use, users may experience wait times.

### Volleyball Open Gym

Mondays, 4-9 p.m.  
Cost: \$4 per person or two punches on a punch card per session  
Limited equipment is available for checkout and nets are provided. Please arrive a few minutes early to check in and get your free community center membership. To maximize community use, users may experience wait times.

### Basketball Open Gym

Thursdays, 4-9 p.m.  
Cost: \$4 per person per session or two punches on a punch card  
No need to pre-register – just bring a ball and get ready to play! Please arrive a few minutes early to check in and get your free community center membership. To maximize community use, users may experience wait times or be asked to restrict play to half court.

### Special Events

Earth Week  
April 15, 17, 19, 5-6:30 p.m.  
Founders Park at Campbell Station  
All ages  
Join us in a week full of festivities at Founders Park to celebrate Earth Day.

• April 15: Scavenger Hunt  
Kick off Earth Week with a scavenger hunt throughout the park!

• April 17: Embellish the Elements  
Enjoy a fun craft made with natural materials.

• April 19: Trail Treats  
Join us for a trail mix bar, fun tours of the park and games!

### Youth Pickleball Clinic

Saturday, April 27, 9:30-11 a.m.  
Farragut Community Center  
\$8/child, \$5/parent or guardian  
Youth ages 8 and up can join the Parks & Rec staff to learn the fastest-growing sport in the world! Parents/guardians are invited to participate for a discounted rate. All equipment will be provided.

### Living History at Pleasant Forest Cemetery

Sunday, April 28, 1:30-4 p.m.  
Free  
Take a stroll through the history books and learn about notable figures buried in Farragut's Pleasant Forest Cemetery in an engaging and interactive way! As there is limited parking at the cemetery, shuttles will take visitors from Farragut Community Center to the site. For more information, please visit [farragutparksandrec.org/living-history](http://farragutparksandrec.org/living-history).

### Bob Watt Youth Fishing Rodeo

Saturday, May 11  
Session 1: 8-9 a.m.  
Session 2: 10-11 a.m.  
Anchor Park  
Free  
Ages 12 and under  
Join us for the 40th annual Bob Watt Youth Fishing Rodeo at Anchor Park, where participants will compete to see who can catch the biggest fish! Registration opens April 1; spots are limited. For more information, please visit [farragutparksandrec.org/fishingrodeo](http://farragutparksandrec.org/fishingrodeo).

### Parents' Night Out

Friday, May 17, 5:30-8:30 p.m.  
\$10/child  
Ages 6 to 12  
Take the night off while the kids enjoy snacks, a movie, art and lots of games at Farragut Community Center! Pizza will be served.

### Chalk the Park

Saturday, June 8, 10 a.m.-noon  
McFee Park  
Free  
Be a parking lot Picasso at this family-friendly event! Yard games, crafts and lots of chalk will be available. This is a free event, but registration is encouraged.

### Family Campout

Friday, June 21-Saturday, June 22  
McFee Park  
\$30/family up to four people; \$10 per additional family member(s)  
Sleep under the stars with Farragut Parks & Recreation! Check-in begins at 4 p.m. on Friday, June 21, and checkout is by 10 a.m. on Saturday, June 22. Activities include family games, a campfire, flashlight scavenger hunt and more! Dinner and breakfast is included. Families must supply their own tent and sleeping bags.



# Community Center Corner

It can be challenging to find indoor recreational activities that allow you to escape the spring rains. Fortunately, the Farragut Community Center provides a range of events that let you interact with others while enhancing your physical and emotional well-being.

Many of our program staples are back at the Farragut Community Center this spring. Popular programs like Toddler Takeover, Total Fitness, yoga sessions, open gyms and more are ongoing.

We have revamped our open gym schedule for the spring! We will now host open gym pickleball on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 12-2 p.m. Open gym volleyball is Monday from 4-9 p.m., and open gym basketball is Thursday from 4-9 p.m. The cost for entry is \$4 for each, and you can stay as long as you'd like. Save money with our punch-card payment method! For just \$30, you'll get \$40 worth of credit toward any of our in-house programs or open gyms.

Stop by the community center during regular hours to learn more about these opportunities for fun and fitness. Visit us Monday through Friday from 8 a.m.-9 p.m., Saturday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sunday from 1-4 p.m. We hope to see you at the community center this spring!



# Parks & Recreation

## Farragut late summer adult volleyball leagues

Registration for late summer co-ed adult volleyball leagues begins Monday, April 8, with an absolute deadline of Thursday, June 20. The cost is \$175 per team for recreation and intermediate leagues. The cost is \$125 per team for the competitive fours league. Payment must be received at the time of registration.

The summer session consists of seven regular-season matches plus a post-season double elimination tournament for all levels of play. Recreational and intermediate leagues are played in the evenings at Mayor Bob Leonard Park on Watt Road. Competitive grass league is played in the evenings at McFee Park on McFee Road. *Please re-*

*view league rules prior to registering for leagues.*

- Recreational leagues (six players)  
Monday evenings beginning July 8. Each team must play with at least two women on the court at all times.
- Competitive fours grass league (four players) – This league is self-officiated. Each team must have at least two women on the court at all times. Games will be played on Monday evenings beginning July 8.
- Intermediate league (six players) –This league is for players who are developing their competitive game, have indoor experience and are making



strides toward their beach game, such as ex-high school players.

Thursday evenings beginning July 11. Each team must play with at least two women on the

court at all times.

For more information and to register for adult athletic leagues, please call the Farragut Parks & Recreation office at

865-218-3376, register online at [farragutparksandrec.org/volleyball](http://farragutparksandrec.org/volleyball) or visit the Parks & Rec office at the Farragut Community Center.



## Independence Day Parade registration available April 1

The Town of Farragut's 37th annual Independence Day Parade begins at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, July 4, on Kingston Pike between Farragut High School and Boring Road.

Registration to participate in the parade begins Monday, April 1, at [townoffarragut.org/register](http://townoffarragut.org/register) or at the Farragut Community Center during regular business hours (8 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. on Saturday, and 1-4 p.m. on Sunday).

Due to the overwhelming popularity of this parade, entries are limited to the first 90 registrants. Monday, June 24, is the last day to register if spaces are available. All entries receive a confirmation email once the online registration is processed.

The parade lineup is based on the date the registration form was received (per category). Register early if you want to be near the front of the parade! Parade lineup numbers will be available on the Town's website and posted at the community center at 8 a.m. on Monday, July 1. Parade lineup numbers will not be given over the phone.

To add your name (or group name) to the parade email list, contact Arleen Higginbotham at 865-218-3375 or [ParksandRecInfo@townoffarragut.org](mailto:ParksandRecInfo@townoffarragut.org).

## Adopt-a-Stream Cleanup at the Outdoor Classroom

Thank you to all the volunteers that participated on Feb. 24 for the first Adopt-a-Stream Litter Cleanup of 2024!

Sponsored by the Farragut Stormwater Matters and Wonderful Wildlife Programs, volunteers were briefed on:

- the utilization of a Stream Corridor Assessment Survey as a tool for watershed management
- the implementation of rain gardens in the

yard and around the community to treat stormwater

Over five hours, volunteers removed eight bags of trash, two tires, 10 wooden boards, one metal barrel and lid, two ceramic tiles and two concrete chunks with fence posts still attached from a portion of the Little Turkey Creek near the Outdoor Classroom!

## Adopt A Tree to honor a loved one

The Town of Farragut has a new way to honor a friend or family member. Our Adopt A Tree program allows participants to adopt an existing tree at the Mayor Ralph McGill Plaza, the BlueCross Healthy Place at Town Hall, McFee Park or Anchor Park that will be marked with a plaque. You can even choose your own tree! A map will be available on July 1 with the locations of all adoptable trees.

The adopted tree will be covered by a warranty so it will be around to provide shade and honor your loved one for years to come. To learn more about this program, visit [farragutparksandrec.org/adopt-a-programs](http://farragutparksandrec.org/adopt-a-programs).