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Annual Independence Day Parade, Freedom Run approaching

MICHELLE HOLLENHEAD
mhollenhead@farragutpress.com

Town staff and volunteers are readying for Farragut 35th Annual Independence Day Parade, set to begin at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, July 4.

After 34 years under the guidance of former Town Park & Recreation director Sue Stuhl, who retired earlier this year, this will be the first year under new Park & Rec director Ron Oestreich.

“My predecessor did an amazing job organizing this over the years,” he said. “All I have had to do is read over her notes and follow the project plan she developed.

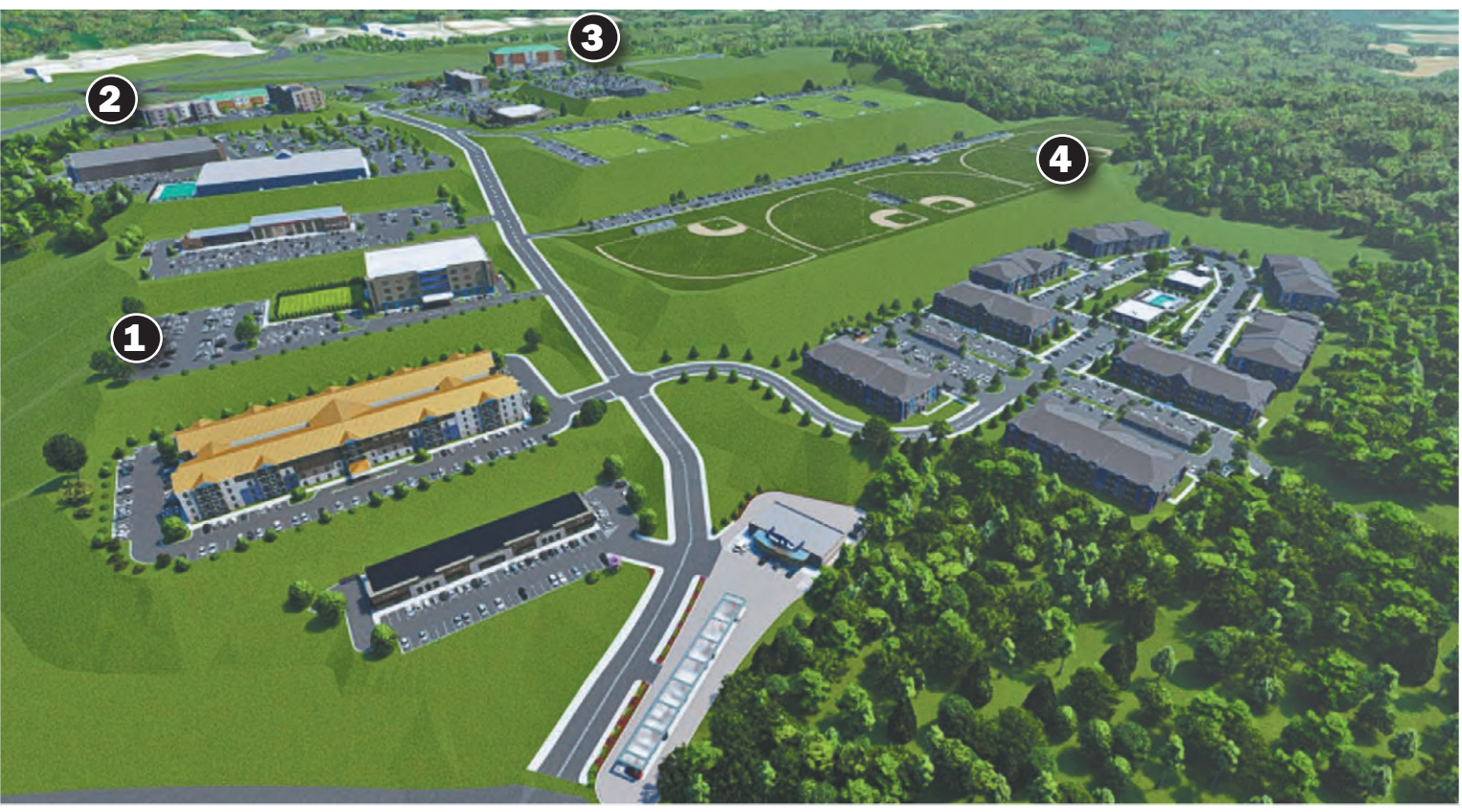
“It really is like a well-oiled machine.”

Oestreich also credits the former and continued assistance from Public Works director Bud McKelvey and his staff.

“Bud is a wealth of information, and he and I have driven the route and parking lots in preparation of the parade,” he said. “He has been a great help.”

As this event “is one of our largest of the year, it is all hands on deck, between our full-time and part-time Park and Rec and Public Works employees, along with about 50 volunteers,” who will be working the event.

Oestreich said setup and staging will take place Monday, July 3, in the Farragut



The back side of a Prosperity Crossing site plan rendering shows: **1. Site for Potential Medical Center:** Adjacent to sports facilities **2. New Watt Road Interchange:** Re-work of dysfunctional interchange, which is the last ‘60’s era interchange in Knox County to allow redevelopment. **3. Pad Sites:** For hotels, restaurants, entertainment, retail development adjacent to and in coordination with the Sports Village. **4. Prosperity Sports Village:** Laid out for full-size rectangular fields; can also be configured for baseball. Expected usage include tournaments 40+ weekends per year and local use eight to 12 hours daily during the week.

New entertainment complex is coming to West Knoxville

TAMMY CHEEK
tcheek@farragutpress.com

Prosperity Crossing, a sports entertainment complex featuring hotels, restaurants, retail and apartments currently is under way for West Knoxville.

Grading is taking place on the 230-acre complex at the southwest corner of Watt Road, across from Flying J Travel Center and just outside of Farragut, according to Steve Maddox, president and owner of Maddox Companies, which include Maddox Property Management and Sales,

Maddox Construction and Maddox Development Companies.

The crew broke ground in February, but he said there will be an official groundbreaking in September.

Currently, Maddox said excavation and earthwork are being performed, which he expects will take 12 months; some utilities are being installed; others are being designed; and engineering on the overall site has been done. The next stage will be to complete installation of the utilities and the roads at the same time the apartments and ballfields are being constructed.

Then, as the roads are finished, he said the hotels, medical offices and other buildings will start being built.

Contrary to earlier reports about the development, Maddox said it will be anchored by a 12-field sports complex.

“I think it was quoted that the development is going to have apartments at the top and a bunch of offices,” he said, then clarified, “It’s going to have zero offices other than medical.

“Retail, yes; grocery store, no; a whole-

See PARADE on Page 4A

See COMPLEX on Page 5A

'23 Senior awards

Farragut High School Class of '23 Senior Awards were presented May 18 in the Vickie B. Wells Auditorium. Levi Brasfield, left, received The Beacon Award from FHS special education teacher Abigail Carter. See additional photos from the ceremony on **Page 8B, West Side Faces.**



BOMA tackles \$5.5 million land purchase June 22

STAFF REPORTS
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A proposal to consider purchasing 55 acres off McFee Road for \$5.5 million as potential Town park land will be on the Board of mayor and Aldermen agenda this Thursday, June 22.

Under business items, approval of a letter of intent to purchase the property and approval of a professional services agreement with Cannon & Cannon Inc., “for due diligence investigation” of the property are listed on the agenda.

The property is described as “being adjacent to the railroad track, and located on the Knox County Tax Map 24.02

and 24.03,” and the cost to the Town would be \$5.5 million.

According to background support described in documentation for the agenda item, “The Town of Farragut has four main park facilities ... more open space, parks and town greenways are always high on the list of citizens requests each time we update our parks and recreation master plan.

“Currently, the Town has no additional acreage to grow and enhance our park facilities ... and [officials/staff] have been in discussion with the Scott family about the potential purchase.

“To coincide with the purchase of the 55 acres of land, the Scott family would then

donate 15 acres of land, which would give the town a total of 70 acres of property for this acquisition.”

Additionally, the LOI “would include a restrictive covenant that the property is to only be used for governmental, conservation or park purposes. No building on the donated parcel could have more than a 6,000 square foot footprint and all buildings could not exceed 12,000 square feet.”

The Town would also agree to plant a landscape buffer, “in accordance with Town buffer regulations,” and “a final condition for the donated tract is that a 50-foot access easement be granted across the donated

See BOMA on Page 4A

community

“But I definitely was a very, very nervous broadcaster going into that first (college) game.”

~ **Recent University of Tennessee, Martin, graduate Davis Gregory, describing a step along the way to his true calling. See story beginning on Page 4B.**

sports

“For five to seven minutes, it pulled me and I pulled it.”

~ **Abdul Freeman, about a special “catch” he made from Concord Park. See story on Page 1B.**



CHECK OUT
the **Summer**
Talk of the Town
pg 1C
In this Issue!



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FMPC Chairman Holladay retires

TAMMY CHEEK
tcheek@farragutpress.com

After 25 years of volunteering with the Town, of which she served 17 years on the Farragut Municipal Planning Commission 17 years — Chairman Rita Holladay has decided “it’s time” to retire.

FMPC members and Town staff recognized Holladay’s contributions during a reception honoring her before the FMPC meeting Thursday, June 15.

As she plans to move on, she said time with family was a major consideration for retirement.

“We have three grandchildren here, in Bearden and two in Atlanta,” Holladay said. “Whatever they’re doing, we try to go.”

That may be baseball, soccer, track, cross country, dance and gymnastics, she noted. “It’s a full slate.

“And, we help them get the kids places,” Holladay said.

“We do it anyway, but (getting to those places) will be easier, and I won’t have to miss that third Thursday (grandchildren’s activity).

Still, “I hate to leave the people,” she said. “There’s been some really, really good people that I’ve come in contact with — (former Vice Mayor) Dot (LaMarche) and I have become really good friends ... Ed St. Clair ... we’ve known Ed for a long, long time ... and (Community Development director) Mark (Shipley).

“Dot is after my husband and me to volunteer at the



Tammy Cheek

Farragut Municipal Planning Commission Chairman Rita Holladay was honored with a retirement reception before the FMPC meeting Thursday, June 15. She spent 25 years serving the Town as a volunteer. Of those 25 years, she spent 17 on the Planning Commission.

(Farragut) Museum, which I’ll probably do,” Holladay added. “And, (do) nothing.

“Other than that, I’m glad to be doing something else.”

Having moved to Farragut in 1991 from South Carolina, she started volunteering in the late 1990s.

Before joining FMPC, she was involved with the Town in various volunteering capacities, such as the Town’s Personnel Committee.

“I went from that to the Planning Commission (in 2006),” Holladay recalled. She was appointed chairman in 2009 until her retirement last week.

While on FMPC, Holladay said the two people who inspired her most were the late Ralph McGill and the late Rob-

See HOLLADAY on Page 3A

Northshore homeowners pleased with planned upgrades

MICHELLE HOLLENHEAD
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Northshore Drive homeowners, concerned with the roadway’s safety, are pleased a suggested \$1 million in Knox County-funded upgrades are slated for implementation later this calendar year.

Bayou Bend HOA president Ed Mee and Jack Shafe, Montgomery Cove HOA president, along with Angela Russell, treasurer of Bayou Bend HOA, have been leading a group of about a dozen HOAs in asking for evaluation and potential solutions for Northshore Drive since early this year.

“Just since February, we started contacting area HOAs,” said Russell. “We have 12 on our distribution list and seven who have actively attended one of our two meetings. So we are trying to get a group together so we can coordinate our efforts, in order to reach and educate our elected officials about what is going on down here.”

They were initially spurred into action by the ongoing Pedestrian Safety project, which has been spearheaded by Knox County Commissioner at large Larsen Jay (11th District).

“Our fear has been they were going to spend money on a walking trail that goes right along side the road, and not focus on the road,” said Russell, describing Northshore as “narrow and in many places does not have even a shoulder.

“A walking trail is more of a recreational luxury, but the road itself is a necessity,” she added. “People’s lives should be the priority. People on a walking trail have a choice, if it’s dangerous or not dangerous, but we don’t have a choice. We only have one way to go to work, only one way to pick up food, only one way for



Michelle Hollenhead

Choto area Home Owners Association members, from left, Ed Mee, Jack Shafe and Angela Russell are leading a coalition of about a dozen HOAs to address road improvements to Northshore Drive, as well as other issues impacting their portion of Knox County.

medical attention and only one way for police officers to come and protect us if we need them to.”

“The safety issue is our main concern,” agreed Shafe, who said his HOA spends thousands of dollars a year in front entrance repairs due to car accidents.

Discussions about the issue with Knox County Commissioner John Schoonmaker (5th District) earlier this spring led to conversations with Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs and Jim Snowden, Knox County’s senior director of engineering and public works.

“I met with Jacobs, and he was very enthusiastic about helping make this a priority,” said Schoonmaker, who also inspected specific areas of Northshore with Snowden to see what could be accomplished.

Recent state funding specifically earmarked for roadways will be utilized for the Northshore improvements, according to Mike Donila, senior director of communications for Knox County.

“We will be using approximately \$1 million from the

recent state aid one-time infusion of \$8.2 million,” he said. “For context, we normally get \$500,000 to \$600,000 annually in state aid, so we are getting a very large increase.

“Our recent investigation of Northshore Drive showed the road carried an average of 15,000 cars per day and had a pavement width of 21 to 22 feet, with little or no shoulders. The result of these conditions is errored road sides with drop offs immediately adjacent to the white line.

“In addition, due to the lake, we have no redundancy or alternate route that can provide relief should a wreck occur.

“As such, we have been monitoring this location for some time, but as part of the recent priority’s week of Advance Knox the public overwhelmingly recognized this need also. Therefore, the Mayor and Commissioner Schoonmaker have asked EPW to make safety improvements to this segment.

“These improvements will include widening of the road by 4 to 5 feet, repaving, and

See NORTHSORE on Page 5A

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Vining joins Visit Farragut

STAFF REPORTS

editor@farragutpress.com

Kristi Vining recently joined the Visit Farragut program as its new part-time tourism assistant.

“This position is a great fit for me,” said Vining, born and raised in Thomaston, Georgia, who moved to Farragut with her family in 2014 and who holds a degree in Public Relations from the University of Georgia. “I enjoy traveling and the tourism industry, and it’s easy to promote Farragut because it is such a beautiful gem. I feel very blessed to be here.

“We love the nice people, beautiful neighborhoods, fantastic parks and the great schools,” added the new employee, active in Farragut’s Parent Teacher Associations

and Parent Teacher Organizations while also serving as a Girl Scout Leader. “We enjoy the lake and the proximity to university excitement and downtown Knoxville options.”

Vining oversees all aspects of ARPA funding, for which she will create spending and reimbursement plans to ensure proper use of the monies, already being earmarked for initiatives including a wayfinding plan, an ambassador program and a Visit Farragut Visitors Guide, among others.



Vining

Having served as public information officer for the City of Newnan, Georgia, handling internal and external communications for Newnan’s mayor, city council, and city staff, she is now tasked with duties that include coordinating the Visit Farragut newsletter, the annual hospitality luncheon and the summer concert series.

“Kristi has been a great addition to our program, her prior experience and insight from working with a local government in Georgia, have been helpful in her role with the Town,” said Karen Tindal, Tourism manager. “And her experiences with the Farragut PTOs and community organizations gave her a love for the Farragut community that has carried right into her work with the tourism team.”

Holladay

From page 2A

ert “Bob” Hill, a former FMPC chairman.

“Bob was a really good per-

son, and I learned a lot from him, not just about Planning Commission but about a lot of the things that we’d done,” she said. “He was an interesting person.”

“He was chairman (of FMPC) since the start of it,” Holladay recalled. “He was an engineer in Oak Ridge. He had a good background for all of this.”

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lettertotheeditor

I am concerned and confused with Town of Farragut's Board of Mayor and Alderman's sense of urgency and lack of significant public outreach regarding the large plot of land off McFee that recently became available when Knox County pulled out of their purchase of the same property.

My understanding is much of the land is outside of the TOF borders in Loudon County. Why is TOF BOMA so intent on spending approximately five million more dollars on a park/ballfields on the edge of Town that will be more convenient for Loudon County residents than many TOF residents?

Why does TOF BOMA have a fever to spend \$50k on a recent survey to learn nothing about the TOF Strategic Plan, and yet where SPO would be useful they sneak around in the shad-

Parade

From page 1A

High School parking lot, then volunteers will be on hand starting around 6 to 6:30 a.m., July 4 "greeting people and helping get ready" for the parade itself.

As of Tuesday, June 20, "nine slots remained available" for those wishing to participate, said Wendy Smith, Town communications manager.

"I had been told on a non-election year, we typically have about 75 to 77 entrants, which is about where we are sitting right now," Oestreich added.

Road Closures

Kingston Pike will be closed from Concord to Boring Road from 8:30 a.m. to approximately noon, according to organizers. Kingston Pike will reopen to Campbell Station Road approximately 15 minutes after

the last parade participant has gone through the intersection, then Kingston Pike will fully reopen once all participants are off the road.

The following are parade detours: North side — Campbell Station Road to Grigsby Chapel Road to Smith Road to Kingston Pike (going west) or Campbell Station Road to Parkside Drive to Lovell Road (going east); South side – Concord Road to Turkey Creek Road to Virtue Road to Kingston Pike.

Route

The route begins in the FHS junior parking lot then proceeds down Lendon Welch Way to Kingston Pike. Floats and participants will head west down Kingston Pike then conclude at Boring Road, just east of Farragut Towne Square Shopping Center (former Ingles store site).

This year's grand marshal

ows as if there is something to hide?

Why is TOF spending a significant amount of money for an amorphous future when we have severe traffic problems now, especially near Biddle Farm and the schools?

Another consideration is the plans for Prosperity Park off Watt Road that will include ballfields. That will definitely be used for the community at large and won't cost TOF a penny.

It seems to me it would be more prudent to invest in the future I-40/Campbell Station exchange (it is more concrete, pun intended), the expansion of Kingston Pike/Campbell Station interchange without 10-foot lanes or the often-and over-promised ATMS that will benefit most TOF residents than to pursue the purchase of this land.

Adam Atherton, Farragut

is Eddie Courtney, Farragut High School football head coach.

For more information about the parade, call Farragut Parks & Recreation Department at 865-218-3376 or go to farragut-parksandrec.org/parade.

Freedom Run

Fleet Feet Sports hosts the annual Farragut Freedom Run 1-Mile & 2-Mile races, which begin at 100 S. Campbell Station Road and finish in Farragut Towne Square Shopping Center (former Ingles store site) along Kingston Pike.

Register at runsignup.com/farragutfreedomrun.

South Campbell Station Road from Kingston Pike to Brooklawn Boulevard and Municipal Center Drive will be closed from 8:30 to 9:15 a.m. while the run takes place.

presstalk

671-TALK (8255)
or editor@farragutpress.com

• I was astonished to read in this week's farragutpress that (Town officials) voted to budget \$5.6 million for another park on McFee Road without resident input. I went to the Town website and watched the June 8 budget meeting. The (officials) could not agree what the land on McFee Road would be used for. Some board members wanted ballfields, some a park — one said the Town would buy the land, but it would be 10 years before they decided what to do with it. This is not acceptable. Traffic in Farragut is horrendous. I've never seen it this bad.

We need those two new left-hand turn lanes at Kingston Pike and Campbell Station a lot more than we need to buy land on McFee Road the (officials) can't decide what to do with. I am very frustrated with the lack of representation. The (officials) should do what the Town needs, not what they want to do. I am tired of waiting for the promised traffic solutions. Please install those new turn lanes now and forget about any more parks until you fix the traffic mess.

• According to a meeting I watched, the (Town of Farragut) agenda to improve the

Campbell Station-Kingston Pike intersection has been pushed back to 2026. Meanwhile, the Town is looking to purchase land off of McFee Road for recreation purposes. It appears the intersection improvement is being pushed back for future Town leadership.

• I want a clear and accurate statement in Presstalk this week: that the Town of Farragut is not stonewalling Hy-Vee. The truth is, the Town of Farragut has been listening to residents' concerns, and they include not wanting a mega-grocery store like (inaudible) wants to build in the middle of a residential area that would add to traffic and (inaudible) issues, and de-value property values that are nearby. No. 2, [Panera] Bread was already in the Turkey Creek area when they closed their store. And No. 3, (not having Hy-Vee) will result in a (Town) property tax. That is certainly not true because they would not consider any kind of homeowners or property tax unless the residents of Farragut want it. It would have to be researched and workshopped and voted on.

BOMA

From page 1A

tract and the purchase tract to allow connectivity of the remaining farm owned by the Scott Family to McFee Road.

"The location of the access easement would be determined at the time the Town of Farragut conducts a master plan for the property," the documentation further stated. "The [LOI] would give the town a 90-day inspection peri-

od to survey the property and conduct all environmental assessments needed to ensure the property could be developed in the future. During this inspection period, the Town may elect to withdraw from the agreement for any reason without penalty.

"A contract will be developed outlining in more detail the parameters included in the Lol, with a closing date of no later than Nov. 5,2023."

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Complex

From page 1A

sale club, no,” Maddox said. “Hotel convention facilities, yes; and a bunch of other retail and outdoors fitters, yes — but the main point of the development is the sports center.

“We’ve got it designed for 12 multi-use, all-turf, lighted fields with all the amenities, plenty of parking, restrooms and concessions.

“The fields can be used for soccer, rugby, lacross, football,” he said. “They can also be turned cornerwise and be used for baseball and softball.

“What makes ours unique is seven of the fields and then five of the fields are all going

to be on one plane — one level — so that they’re basically one sheet of turf, from one end to the other so that you can move them and do anything with them that needs to be done,” Maddox said. “We’ve also had interest for archery and just all kinds of different uses.

“The construction has begun,” he said. “They will be starting construction on the fields starting later this fall.”

Seating capacity for the fields will be up to operators of the fields, according to Maddox. However, he said there would probably be at least 100 seats per field.

“That’s 1,200 or more seating capacity,” he added.

Along with sports, Maddox

said, the fields also can be used for concerts and other community, charity and similar events.

“There’s a study done by Knox County that’s said this development would bring in between 5,000 to 10,000 people per week for local play during the week and tournament play on the weekends,” he said. “The study also looked at locations in Knox County and determined that this location was the very best location because of its proximity to I-40 and I-75, and it’s right there on the interchange.

“This project also is the driver for the new Watt Road interchange, and the widening of I-40 and I-75,” Maddox said.

“And, it also helped Farragut with the Campbell Station Road exit.

“There’s going to be a apartments on the very back side of it,” Maddox added. “There will be some a m o u n t of retail and other entertainment venues.

“We’ve been discussing bowling, parquet-type operations, and we’ve also discussed a water park hotel; but the main focus



Maddox

is going to be the ballfields,” he said. “That’s what pulls it all together.

“Another thing I think is important is that my partner (Joe Hollingworth) and I bought out the Cupid’s Outlet, so that we could close it down,” Maddox said.

“We didn’t feel that that (business) was appropriate with all the kids that would be coming in and not a good appearance for Knox County, and Farragut for that matter.”

A Farragut High School Class of 1973 graduate, he was spurred to develop Prosperity Crossing from a Knox County study showing the development was needed “in an area where it has good access.”

Northshore

From page 2A

restriping, to accommodate a minimum of 2 to 3 feet shoulder throughout the entire segment.”

Donila said the improvements will not impact funding of the pedestrian safety project.

“We have engaged the civil consultant responsible for the pedestrian improvements to

incorporate these road improvements into the same plan,” he said. “By doing so, we can inconvenience folks only once and gain an economy of scale by bidding as one project.”

Snowden further elaborated on specifics.

“Commissioner Schoonmaker and my team met [recently] and strategized a good game plan,” said Snowden. “In sum-

mary, we will engage our on-call civil engineer to develop plans to widen Northshore in two segments: 1. Concord Road to Cove Park and 2. Cove Park to Choto Road.

“As part of this project, we will widen these two segments by a minimum of four feet, including a new pavement overlay to establish consistent width shoulders on both sides.

“By doing so, we will im-

prove the safety and operational capacity of these segments.

“We hope to get this work started late this year or early next, with a four- to six-month timeframe for completion”

Russell, Shafe and Mee praised their interactions with Schoonmaker, but acknowledged they needed the support of the county commission as a whole to effect ongoing change.

“We want to thank John for

carrying the ball on this,” Mee said. “But, we also want to get more HOAs to join us as we have other issues coming up that will impact this end of town.”

The group has plans to meet 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 28, in the Montgomery Cove Clubhouse.

For more information, contact Mee at 865-661-0092.





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Dock & Deck ‘White-glove’ treatment

TAMMY CHEEK

tcheek@farragutpress.com

Dock & Deck has moved its headquarters to Renaissance I Farragut, at 12744 Kingston Pike, Suite 107.

“We’ve done a lot of work in the Farragut area and West Knoxville, Lenoir City area and Tellico area,” said Taylor Varney, co-owner with father/founder, Jason Varney, and brother Hunter. “This (Renaissance location) is our new headquarters and main office.”

“I’m excited to open in Farragut,” Jason said. “It’s a great area to represent ourselves in.”

Being raised in Farragut since 1977 starting when he was 3, Jason said opening the business in Town is like “having it at home.”

“It’s only been a couple months since we’ve been here, but I’ve gotten compliments,” Taylor added.

Dock & Deck is an award-winning outdoor construction company, primarily targeting boat docks for residential and commercial use, he explained.

“Complete turn-key projects [are] what we prefer to do,” Taylor said. “From permitting to building, everything we do is kind of a white-glove service.”

They have won numerous national awards

“I’m excited to open in Farragut,”

~ Jason Varney, Founder

from the North American Deck and Railing Association, of which Dock & Deck is a member.

The company also constructs residential back decks, screened-in porches, patio areas, outdoor kitchens, paver patios, fire pits, hardscapes and other outdoor living spaces.

“We tell people ‘from your back door out, we can do anything,’” Taylor said.

Deck features can include fire features, such as fireplaces; televisions; railings; and water features, including fountains.

Likewise with boat docks, Taylor said clients can incorporate televisions, boat lifts, jet ski lifts, storage closets, sliding hammocks, water slides, second-story decks and even fire features.

“If you can dream it, we can build it,” he said. “There’s really no limit on what we can do,” Taylor added.

Swimming pools are another aspect through its sister company, Tennessee Pool and Spas.

A few years ago, the Varneys had their own DIY show on HGTV that followed the boat dock builds they constructed.

“Just this week, we started filming something new,” Taylor said, noting, however, the network on which it will be is still “up in the air.”

The family-owned and operated company has been in existence since 2008, and has built close to 200 docks and decks since.

Dock & Deck is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday and by appointment only on weekends and after hours.

For more information, call 865-765-3625 or visit online at www.dockanddeck.com

Turkey Creek grows

From a new outdoor-centric store to an iconic active-wear brand

MICHELLE HOLLENHEAD

mhollenhead@farragutpress.com

Turkey Creek continues to grow and expand, as a brand new outdoor-centric store will be opening in the coming months in Turkey Creek, while a prominent activewear shop is hosting a grand opening July 1.

Crawford Square Real Estate Advisors, which manages Pinnacle Turkey Creek, announced last week Mountain

High Outfitters, a leading outdoor retail brand based out of Birmingham, Alabama, will be moving into 3,500 square feet of space near Torrid and Lizard Thicket.

“The highly anticipated addition to the shopping center will offer outdoor enthusiasts and adventure seekers a comprehensive selection of top-quality gear, apparel and accessories and is scheduled to open later this summer,” stated a press release from Pinnacle Turkey Creek Marketing associate Gabi Walsh.

Already known as “a premier retail destination known for its diverse mix of stores, restaurants and entertainment options, with the addition of Mountain High Outfitters, the center continues to solidify its position as a go-to destination for outdoor enthu-

siasts, hikers, campers, climbers and nature lovers,” the release continued.

“Our goal is to inspire and equip individuals to embrace the outdoors and live an adventurous lifestyle.”

With a wide range of products and knowledgeable staff, we aim to provide an exceptional shopping experience for outdoor enthusiasts in the Knoxville community,” Mountain High Outfitters founder and CEO Chris Groom said.

Athleta grand opening
Additionally, Athleta, described in a press release as “an iconic activewear brand,” is also opening in Pinnacle Turkey Creek and will host a grand opening event July 1.

“Athleta’s grand opening at Pinnacle Turkey Creek repre-

See **TURKEY CREEK** on Page 7A

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Photo submitted

The Town welcomes Dock & Deck headquarters, co-owned and operated by Farragut natives, from left, Taylor and Hunter Varney and their dad, company founder Jason Varney, at 12744 Kingston Pike, Suite 107, in Renaissance I Farragut.

businessbriefs

• National Association of Education Foundations recently announced the election of **Mike Taylor as chair of the NAEF board of directors**. He will serve with 18 other education foundation leaders from across the country.

• **Lenoir City Utilities Board** recently announced the first customer household went live with LCUB Fiber Broadband service Monday, June 19.

Groundbreaking construction for installation of the fiber optic broadband network began in August 2022. This new service offering is the result of LCUB’s

fiber optic network upgrade, which will provide electric utilities grid modernization and infrastructure for fiber-to-the-premise broadband services to all LCUB electric customers.

* TennGreen Land Conservancy has appointed **Andrew Rueff, the executive chairman of SphereCommerce, LLC, and TeamSnap** to its Board of Directors alongside Christopher C. Haigler, a Trust Officer with Southeastern Trust Company. Rueff is an East Tennessee native and global mover-and-shaker who resides in Knoxville

farragutpress
— BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT —

Chris Cowart
VMC CEO

Hunter Parnell
VMC Board Chair

Volunteer Ministry Center

It is my privilege to share about the passing of the torch in our leadership at Volunteer Ministry Center. On March 31st, Bruce Spangler retired from his position as CEO of VMC. Well, with every end there is a new beginning. When Bruce first let us know of his retirement a couple of years ago, the board began an exhaustive search for his replacement. We knew this person would have big shoes to fill, but it became very clear to us we had found our new CEO after hearing of his experience and his passion and belief in the housing first approach. Chris Cowart was named VMC’s CEO in February of this year. Chris comes to us after serving as the General Counsel/ Senior Director of Asset Management at the Knoxville Leadership Foundation. In his position, he helped to manage the agency’s supporting work to empower low-income and at-risk individuals through multi and single-family housing operations as well as mentoring initiatives and workforce development. I hope you will join me in welcoming Chris to VMC.

Chris is here because he believes along with all of our staff and board members in VMC’s mission to end and prevent homelessness through compassion, accountability and results. However, VMC’s programs, case management, and permanent supportive housing projects such as Caswell Manor could not happen without your ongoing support. Your time, talent and financial support allow VMC to continue to care for and serve our neighbors in need. For that I say thank you!

Hunter Purnell, VMC Board Chair

Turkey Creek

From page 6A

sents a significant milestone for both the shopping center and the local community,” a press release stated. “The 4,063-square foot store, located at 11325 Parkside Drive, will offer a wide array of high-quality activewear and accessories, designed to empower an active and confident lifestyle.”

The grand opening event “will be a celebration of fit-

ness, style and community,” according to the release.

Visitors will have the opportunity to explore Athleta’s latest collections and take advantage of exclusive promotions, special offers and exciting giveaways throughout the day.

“We are thrilled to welcome Athleta to Pinnacle Turkey Creek,” Walsh said.

“We are confident that Athleta will enrich our community and provide shoppers with an outstanding selection of activewear and accessories.”

Kooky Cookies celebrates one year



Tammy Cheek

Kooky Cookies owner Margarita McClure (with scissors) celebrates the first anniversary of her business with a ribbon cutting, sponsored by Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce, at the store, 10710-B, Kingston Pike. Joining McClure are her husband, Casey, third from left, oldest son Jacob, fifth from left, and a host of FWKCC members.



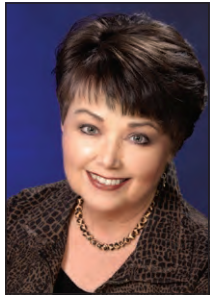
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FEATURED PROPERTIES



1324 Turning Leaf Lane –Primary Suite on the Main Plan, two car court entry garage, brick and fiber cement siding, 9’ ceilings on Floor, 9’ ceilings on Floor 2, 30 Year Roof ,4 Baths, 3 Bedrooms, Large Laundry (Utility), Hardwood Flooring on Floor 1 except for Bathrooms, Laundry and Garage Entry, Ceramic Tile Flooring in all Bathrooms, Laundry and Garage Entry, Carpet Flooring on Floor 2 and Bonus Room. Epoxy Flooring on Garage Floor, Hardwood Steps, Gas fireplace with stone veneer from floor to ceiling, Built-ins in Great Room, Tray ceiling in Master Bedroom, His/Hers WIC Master Closets, 11’ ceiling in Great Room with coffer ceiling, Kitchen Tops: Quartz, Laundry Tops: Quartz, Master Bath & Bath 2 Tops: Quartz, Bath 3 & 4 Tops: Granite, Natural Gas Heat, Natural Gas Tankless Water Heater, Gas or Electric Range, Electric Dryer connection, Crown molding on Floor 1 except for vaulted ceiling areas and closets, Home Warranty, Covered Porch Front Porch, Screen Back Porch. Amenities include: club house, exercise room, lawn care, sidewalks, swimming pool. **\$943,500 (1219634)**



8405 Nubbin Ridge - Rare find in the heart of west Knoxville! Charm and character. Great privacy in a 4130 square foot 3 bedroom 4 1/2 bath 2 car garage home. Lots 1 and 2 are being sold together for a total of 2.09 acres. Kitchen with granite counter tops , island bar, tile back splash, new refrigerator, and Bosch dishwasher. Sunken formal dining room with built in China cabinet. Fabulous primary bedroom 17 x 19 with sitting area , coffered ceiling, large windows and large deck off the primary suite which has a sauna which was completed in 2002. primary bath with whirlpool plus additional bath in primary suite with a walk in ceramic tile shower and 2 walk in closets. Plumbing for additional half bath or laundry directly outside the primary master suite. Vaulted 21 x 18 great room with, crows nest loft, and deck, wet bar, marble surround wood burning fireplace with gas starter and built-in shelving. Ideal separate living downstairs includes an office, 13x26 room, full bath and exterior entrance with no steps. Many floors of tile and hardwood. Recessed lighting. 292 square feet of storage/workshop with garage door. Gutter guards. Total of 3 decks. Private wooded lot with views of the Smokies and Cumberland mountains. Apple, Pear, and Plum Trees ,Russian mulberries, and blackberries. Lot 2 has an easement allowing for a potential second dwelling. Lot 2 with a separate address of 8403 Nubbin Ridge (vacant land) is included on this listing and sales price. **\$799,500 (1219605)**



1410 Turning Leaf Lane –Primary Suite on the Main Plan, two car court entry garage, brick and fiber cement siding, 9’ ceilings on Floor, 9’ ceilings on Floor 2, 30 Year Roof ,4 Baths, 3 Bedrooms, Large Laundry (Utility), Hardwood Flooring on Floor 1 except for Bathrooms, Laundry and Garage Entry, Ceramic Tile Flooring in all Bathrooms, Laundry and Garage Entry, Carpet Flooring on Floor 2 and Bonus Room. Epoxy Flooring on Garage Floor, Hardwood Steps, Gas fireplace with stone veneer from floor to ceiling, Built-ins in Great Room, Tray ceiling in Master Bedroom, His/Hers WIC Master Closets, 11’ ceiling in Great Room with coffer ceiling, Kitchen Tops: Quartz, Laundry Tops: Quartz, Master Bath & Bath 2 Tops: Quartz, Bath 3 & 4 Tops: Granite, Natural Gas Heat, Natural Gas Tankless Water Heater, Gas or Electric Range, Electric Dryer connection, Crown molding on Floor 1 except for vaulted ceiling areas and closets, Home Warranty, Covered Porch Front Porch, Screen Back Porch. Amenities include: club house, exercise room, lawn care, sidewalks, swimming pool. **\$943,500 (1219625)**

FEATURED PROPERTIES



Saint Andrews - 212 Rothesay Lane. Classic 2 story one owner home, 4 bedroom plus office 2 1/2 bath on a cul de sac. Wonderful floor plan. Formal DR with chair railing and plantation shutters. Kitchen open to the newly painted family room with new hardwood flooring and a gas log fireplace. Kitchen with quartz counter tops, kitchen faucet with drink water faucet, tile backsplash, new Bosch dishwasher, smooth top range, microwave, refrigerator, island bar, and eat in bay. Main level office with separate entrance. Generous primary suite with ceiling fan. Primary suite with walk in closet with custom shelving. Second bedroom with custom shelving as well. Plantation shutters in primary suite and at the front door. Primary bath with whirlpool tub and walk in shower. All new flooring on the upper level. Shelving system in the garage. Very private back yard with large deck and gas hook up for a grill. Exterior painted in 2022. One Pella window will be replaced in upstairs bedroom. Year old washer and dryer convey. Kinetic water system can be assumed by new owner. Security system. ADT security contract can be transferred. Irrigation system. Termite contract with Russell’s Pest Control. Next to walking trails and across the street from the Pilot Family YMCA. Convenient to West Town Mall, shopping, restaurants, and Interstate 40. **\$670,000 (1224546)**



Andover Place - 832 Andover Boulevard. Classic elegant home with circular drive. 4 bedrooms plus bonus, 4 1/2 baths, and 3 car back entry garage. Dramatic double door entry with huge window above allowing natural light as you enter the 2 story foyer. Hardwood on the main in entry, office, kitchen, formal dining room. Detailed crown moldings, French doors, and transoms throughout. Extremely bright and gracious home ideal for entertaining. All rooms are a generous size. Large eat in kitchen with island, tile back splash, double ovens, pass through to family room. Huge family room with double tray ceiling and fireplace. French doors lead to screened porch with brick pavers and a ceiling fan. Master bedroom on the main with a lighted double tray ceiling. Master bath with dual sinks and make up area, whirlpool, and separate shower. All bedrooms are ensuite with walk in closets. 29 x 24 bonus with wet bar, refrigerator, and skylights. Granite counter tops in kitchen and guest bath. Unfinished walk up attic with great storage Level back yard. Marvin windows on the front of the house. Very well maintained with neutral tones. Dual staircase. Tankless water heater. Large deck off the screened porch. Harley Davidson light in bonus room does not convey. At the back of the subdivision close to the pool, pickle ball, and tennis courts. All Farragut schools. Minutes to Turkey Creek and the interstate. **\$850,000 (1212758)**



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Photo submitted

Abdul Freeman shows off the 40-pound catfish he caught May 29 — with a little help — in the waters surrounding Concord Park.

40-pound CATFISH

Highlights Concord experience

MICHELLE HOLLENHEAD
mhollenhead@farragutpress.com

Abdul Freeman has a fish story to tell, and the pictures to prove it.

The Norwood resident, who fishes frequently in Fort Loudoun Lake waters around Concord Park, caught a 40-pound catfish on Memorial Day, Monday, May 29.

The haul was so large, two young men assisted in the eventual catch.

“I fish in the Concord Park area all the time,” Freeman said. “This particular night, I was at the Concord fishing pier nearest to the kayak launch. I wasn’t on the pier because people (were) there when I arrived.

“Time was going by quickly. Finally after a couple hours I get my first catch. A striped bass. It was small — too small to even take a picture of,” he added, noting his model is “Catch, pose and release.”

Then his second catch came and it was a skip-jack — from which he used the head for bait.

Then, just as Freeman least expected it, the big fish came along.

“When it hit, the drag on the pole took off,” he recalled. “(Two) young men heard it all the way on the pier. One of them hollered ‘You got a big one.’ Before I knew it, I had a growing audience.

“For five to seven minutes, it pulled me and I pulled it.”

The young men came to his aid as he wrangled the fish and brought it up out of the water.

“I have to say, this catch was indeed my biggest yet,” Freeman said. “Forty pounds, and had those two young men not been there I don’t know how I would of gotten that fish in. But, thanks to them, an amazing show was put on.

“Memories that will last a lifetime happen while fishing,” he continued. “Those two young men face-timed their dad and friends to show them this big cat. We all took turns taking pictures of it, then released it back into the water.

“A grandfather and his granddaughter(s) were even present. The grandfather asked me about the bait that I used to catch it with, and I told him it was skip jack. And that’s when he told me who he was with, trying to make memories.

“Memories that will last a lifetime happen while fishing,”

~ Abdul Freeman

“So, since I was leaving, I gave him the rest of the minnows I had left and exchanged a few pleasantries with him and continued packing up.”

Freeman said he makes the 20-minute trip to Concord Park frequently.

It also serves as a welcome respite, as his daughter, Aleina, 3, has been battling cancer at East Tennessee Children’s Hospital.

“She’s in remission now — shout out to the wonderful staff at Children’s Hospital,” he said. “My Aleina is a soldier. And spoiled rotten.

“A lot of times I’d leave from the hospital and go to Concord Boat launch area,” he added. “Most times, I’d fish; but sometimes I’d just sit out there listening to the water and watching the stars and clouds. My first large catfish, I caught here after a hospital visit.

“Fishing helps me maintain my sanity and work on my patience. I recommend everyone try it. Especially if life has you cornered.”

Bearden High School Senior Tennis Team



Alan Sloan

Above: Senior (Class of 2023) members of the Bearden High School boys tennis team last spring, from left, were Luc Juneau, Preston Young and Segev Koenig.

Left: Senior (Class of 2023) members of the Bearden High School girls tennis team last spring were Ayla Hauser, left, considered one of the top 10 Division I-AA singles players in the state, and Stephanie Cho.

New Lady Admirals coach



This photo released by Farragut High School sports information Tuesday, June 13, announced Andre Alves as new Lady Admirals volleyball head coach.

Photo Submitted

Signed National Letters of Intent



Four Concord Christian School Class of 2023 student-athletes signed National Letters of Intent during a May ceremony in the school gymnasium, cheered on by family members, teammates and friends. Signees, from left, are Eli Campbell (football/Brevard College, North Carolina); Jalen Spiller (soccer, Covenant College, North Georgia); Raleigh Jack Walker (basketball, Covenant College); and Kate Turner (rodeo/Murray State College, Kentucky).

Michelle Hollenhead

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Annual Fox Den Country Club Ladies 18-Hole Guest Day



Twelve teams added up to 48 participants during Fox Den Country Club's annual Ladies 18-Hole Guest Day Thursday, June 15.

Champions with a score of 123 were the foursome of Jane Martin, Annie Orme, RJ Whitfield and Dena Bower; second place (126) were Donna Farinella, Susan Grady, Carole Zehring and Nittaya Parawong; finishing third (127) was the team of Sue Oh, Jean Tenhulzen, Judy Strandquist and Mary Lemense; and capturing fourth place was the quartet of Jamie Knowling, Manuela Davis, Tina Sanders and Noi McKay (128).

Other participating teams were the foursomes of Linda Trotter, Janet Kincaid, Diane

McMillen and Sandy Thompson (130); Kathy Jackson, Anne Parkhill, Catherine Manning and Vicki Whitmore (130); Betty MacDonald, Ernie Patterson, Annette Stevens and Sharon Kelly (132); Whitney Childers, Katie Brinker, Stephanie Haywood and Chamie Riley (133); Traci Smith, Holly Warlick, Lynna Rader and Jackie Ansley (134); Debbie Siddons, Kay Hinkle, Sally Hedgepeth and Ellen Reeves (134); Grace Mutz, Kelly Ascherbrenner, Linda Hopkins and Kathy Sabbe (136); and Carol Hornstra, Patty Manney, Brigina Wilkerson and Missy Corcoran (139).

Individually, Closest to the Hole Award on Hole No. 2 were Childers (member) at

47-feet-9 and Bower (guest) at 9 feet. Closest Award on Hole No. 6 were Siddons (member) 14-feet-11 and Davis (guest) at 9 feet.

Various prizes were given away based on each member or guest having a corresponding number to what was drawn.



Left: Catherine Manning (pink) shoots out of a bunker at 18 as teammate Anne Parkhill observes.

Above: Champions of Fox Den Country Club's annual Ladies 18-Hole Guest Day are, from left, Dena Bower, Annie Orme, Jane Martin and RJ Whitfield.

Alan Sloan



Estate Planning

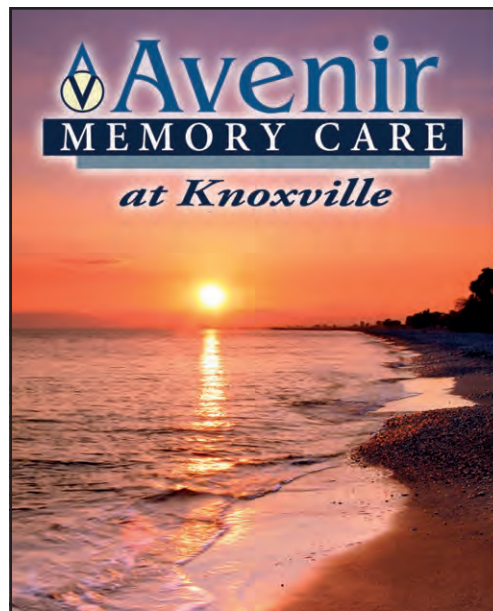
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Golden Anchor, Binnacle and Duke awards given



(Right) Farragut High School Principal Dr. John Bartlett presented the 2023 Farragut High School Binnacle Award to Cindy Lindsey Thursday, May 25. The award was bittersweet, as Lindsey also retired at the end of the school year. “Cindy has been the backbone of FHS for years,” Bartlett said. “Her hard work and dedication have been vital to the success of our school. As she is retiring, she will be sorely missed.”

Right and above photos by Michelle Hollenhead



(Top, left) The Farragut High School Education Foundation presented its annual Golden Anchor Awards Thursday, May 25, following a brunch to close out the 2022-23 school year in the FHS Commons. From left are FHSEF board members Kristy Bruce, Mary Cook and Christi King, along with this year’s honored teachers Jeffrey Gatewood and Dennis Tabisz, both social studies teachers; Holly Kelly, science; and Kelly Loveday, world languages. Not pictured is social studies teacher Ben Collins. Parents and students nominated a record 47 teachers for the award. Winners also received a \$1,000 grant each. (Above) The 2023 Tyler Duke Award, given in honor and memory of 2006 Farragut High School graduate Tyler Duke, who passed away in 2009, was given to Valerie Cagle. Tyler’s father, Stan Duke, presented the award in partnership with FHS Education Foundation. “This award [is] given to an outstanding educator, known for their dedication to the teaching profession,” and also commemorates the recipient’s “positive impact and making a difference in the lives of their students,” stated information from FHSEF. “She [also] helped make our first Freshman Academy a success.”

Adams replacing departing Edmonds at FMS

MICHELLE HOLLENHEAD
mhollenhead@farragutpress.com

After nearly a decade as Farragut Middle School principal, Weston Edmonds has taken a new administrative role with Knox County Schools, while a new principal has already been named. As of July 1, Edmonds will become supervisor of assessments and Greg Adams is the new FMS principal. Edmonds has been principal at FMS since 2015, but served as an assistant principal there from 2013-15. He began working with KCS in 2004 after graduating from the University of Tennessee and was first a teacher

at Farragut High School, then served as an assistant principal at Central High School in 2012. In an e-mail to parents, Edmonds announced and explained his move. “I am excited about this new opportunity, but it also means I will be leaving a place I have grown to love,” he said. “For the past eight years, I have had the privilege of serving as the head principal at Farragut Middle School.



Edmonds

It has been an amazing journey and I am grateful for all the wonderful people I have met in this community. From teachers to students and parents, it has truly been an honor to work with everyone here. “I am so proud of the work we have done together,” Edmonds continued. “The students, families and staff at Farragut Middle School have created a special teaching environment that



Adams

has been an example for other schools in our district and beyond. I know that you will continue to do amazing things here and I am excited to watch your continued success. “The magic of FMS has always lied in its people. As you move into the next school year, I want you to remember what an incredible group of students we have here, and that each and every one of them has the potential to achieve great things. You should also be incredibly proud of our wonderful faculty and staff who are dedicated to both motivating and supporting our students.

See REPLACING on Page 7B

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Gregory is on the right path

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MARTIN – Identifying a career path is challenging for many people, but not for Davis Gregory.

Broadcasting a Rose Bowl game is first on his professional bucket list, and this Farragut resident began the journey toward realizing that dream after graduating from University of Tennessee at Martin Saturday, May 6, with a degree in mass media and strategic communication.

An early interest in sports broadcasting has grown into a passion for Gregory, who developed his skills while following major college sports in the home county for University of Tennessee Athletics.

Although he followed UT athletics during his middle school and high school years, Gregory is an unabashed Auburn Tigers fa, and counts the late Auburn radio voice Rod Bramblett as one of his sports broadcast idols along with CBS's Kevin Harlan



Photo submitted

Davis Gregory is joined by his stepfather and mother, Kerry and Karen Witcher, outside the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center at the University of Tennessee, Martin, before his May 6 graduation.

and Fox Sports' Gus Johnson. "They (these announcers) got me excited about the game because they were excited about what was happening on the field or court or whatever it was," he said,

adding he doesn't attempt to imitate them. "but, definitely I've taken some stuff that they've done and how they call games and adapted that to

See GREGORY on Page 5B

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• **Knoxville Museum of Art, 1050 World's Fair Park**, presents Eco Tone: Courtney Egan Featuring Collaborations with Natori Green, on view through Sunday, Aug. 27. This free event is open to the public.

• A special **MEDIC blood donation drive**, which runs through Friday, June 30, includes various prizes.

While supplies last, donors can visit Rowdy Bear's Smoky Mountain Snow Park in Pigeon Forge and receive a free one-hour unlimited ride wristband for outdoor tubing, outdoor axe throwing, Ski Lift Shootout and Avalanche Snow Coaster (no snow tubing), a \$28.99 value.

During this period, donors also can become eligible for prizes by posting a photo of themselves donating blood and tag it with the hashtag #Endlessblood, then filling out the entry form.

Visit the MEDIC website to scan the QR code to receive an entry form.

• **Knoxville Children's Theatre**, in partnership with Clay-

ton Foundation, will present a live production of "Tinker Bell" through Sunday, June 25, in the KCT theater, 109 E. Churchwell Ave. in Knoxville.

Performances begin at 7 p.m., Thursdays and Fridays; 1 and 5 p.m., Saturdays; and 3 and 6 p.m., Sundays. Tickets available at www.knoxvillechildrenstheatre.com

• **Alzheimer's Tennessee Caregiver Workshop** Thursday, June 22, in Rothchild Event Center, 8807 Kingston Pike, Knoxville. Check-in at 8:30 a.m., followed by lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Workshops offer a half day of education and inspiration for family and professional caregivers. Continuing Education Credit is available for professionals. Advance registration is required for the events that begin at 8:30 a.m. and conclude at 1:30 p.m. Fees are being waived for both family caregivers and health-care professionals (CEU credits will be available).

See PLANNER on Page 6B

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Gregory

From page 4B

what I try to do.”

A graduate of Christian Academy of Knoxville, Gregory learned about football as a manager for the team and began broadcasting baseball, basketball, lacrosse, soccer and softball for CAK’s Warrior Network, which is part of the NFHS Network that broadcasting high school sports nationally. His work led to being named his senior year as a top-three finalist for best high school sportscaster in the nation.

His WUTM 90.3 “The Hawk” student broadcasting debuts were anything but perfect, as he pushed through a sinus infection during the Westview football game. Then, for the SIU Carbondale game, a different challenge emerged – a case of nerves. His broadcast partner, fellow student John Thornton, advised him to calm down, “And once I got through the first couple minutes and first couple drives, I calmed down a whole lot more,” he remembered. “But I definitely was a very, very nervous broadcaster going into that first (college) game.”

Gregory’s broadcasting world expanded as a member of WUTM’s “The Bench” sports talk show team. The show primarily covers UT Martin sports but ventures into news and conversations about the sports world in general. He learned quickly that engaging sports talk is “not about just getting in front of

the mic and talking.

“It’s about the prep work that you have to do for an hour show,” he added. “You’ve got to spend definitely more than an hour prepping and make sure that it’s a good show. ... There’s so much that goes on behind the scenes.”

He also credited UT, Martin, alum John Hatler, Skyhawk football play-by-play announcer, for making him a better member of the talk show team.

“I remember my sophomore year, it was really tough for me because that was the first year of (being WUTM) sports director and getting stuff together. (I was) really stressed out and felt like I wasn’t being myself and talking enough on the show like a conversation.”

As a show guest that year, Hatler helped Gregory relax and enjoy the conversations that make sports talk shows popular.

While “The Bench” allowed him to expand his talents, play-by-play remains Gregory’s primary focus, and his classes, teachers and on-air experiences strengthened important skills. “I think the biggest thing is improving my vocabulary and not saying the same thing over and over again,” he said. “... You need to have different ways of describing the moment, and that’s probably been one of the biggest things to overcome and get better at as a broadcaster.”

Gregory’s work hasn’t gone unnoticed. He has been a part of two “Best College Radio Station in the South” recognitions in 2022-23 by the South-



Photo submitted

Davis Gregory (right) of Farragut in March at the 2023 Ohio Valley Conference Men’s and Women’s Basketball Championship in Evansville, Indiana, with fellow broadcaster Jared Davidson.

east Journalism Conference for WUTM 90.3 “The Hawk.” Gregory also was part of the ESPN+ crew that won the 2021-22 “OVC Call of the Year” award from the Ohio Valley Conference for his call on a homerun during a Skyhawk baseball game. He closed out his senior year by receiving the Outstanding Senior Award for broadcasting from the Department of Mass Media and Strategic Communication.

Thanks to hard work and perseverance, Gregory enters the competitive sports broadcasting profession with his bachelor’s degree plus seven valuable years of broadcasting experience. An entry-level position in radio that offers an opportunity to call games might be next. Farther down the road, he dreams of broadcasting major sports events, and he’ll pursue his dream “as long as God wants

me to pursue it.”

Proper technique also is important, and he learned about speaking through his chest instead of through his throat from Dr. Richard Robinson, professor and WUTM adviser.

“Davis has learned a lot, and whoever hires him will be lucky to get a young, talented broadcaster who will do an exceptional job,” Robinson wrote. “He has great potential as a sports broadcast talent.”

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Planner

From page 4B

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Celestina Pint receives PEO STAR scholarship

STAFF REPORTS

editor@farragutpress.com

Celestina Pint was awarded a \$2,500 Philanthropic Educational Organization STAR Scholarship in May.

She will be attending Massachusetts Institute of Technology this fall, where she will study Chemical-Biological Engineering with plans to pursue environmental or medical applications.

Pint graduated from Knoxville Catholic High School in May 2023 with a 4.57 grade point average. She has been active in numerous extra-curricular activities throughout her high school years.



Pint

Pint came to the attention of the nominating chapter, P.E.O. Chapter AU, Maryville, when she renovated the West Knox Fish Pantry, a delivery food pantry, as part of her Girl Scout Gold Award project.

P.E.O., founded in 1869, is

most recent appointment. He previously worked 18 years in Michigan, where he started his career rehabilitating at-risk youth as a youth specialist, according to information provided by KCS. He has worked as an assistant principal and athletic director at DaVinci High School, a special education teacher for Jackson Intermediate School, was a program director for Western Career Prep High School and assistant principal at Jackson High School.

He holds a bachelor's degree in Learning Disabilities/Special Education and a master's degree in Emotional Impairment, both from Michigan State University, and a certificate in Educational Leadership and Administration from the Michigan Association of Secondary School Principals.

one of the oldest organizations in the U.S. dedicated to empowering women through education and providing support to help them reach their highest aspirations, according to a press release.

The P.E.O. STAR Scholarship was established in 2009 to provide scholarships for exceptional women in their final year of high school to attend an accredited postsecondary educational institution in the

United States or Canada in the next academic year the release stated.

For information about applying for a STAR Scholarship, go to www.peointernational.org.

Replacing

From page 3B

"Leaving somewhere you love is always hard and I want you to know I will miss leading this amazing school, but I am excited about my new role professionally, and personally and my new personal role as an FMS parent.

"Thank you for the opportunity to serve such an awesome group of people and to make this school a second home."

Edmonds has a bachelor's degree in political science and a master's in education, both from UT, as well as an education specialist degree in administration from Tennessee Tech University.

About Adams

Adams joined Knox County Schools in 2021 as an assistant principal at Bearden High School, which was his



11408 MUNICIPAL CENTER DRIVE | FARRAGUT, TN 37934 |
865.966.7057 | WWW.TOWNOFFARRAGUT.ORG

ORDER IN THE MUNICIPAL COURT FOR THE TOWN OF FARRAGUT, TENNESSEE, Pursuant to Chapter 12, Section 12-1 of the Code of Ordinances for Farragut, Tennessee, it is ORDERED that the Town of Farragut Municipal Court will convene for the purpose of conducting hearings on any citations issued for Automated Traffic Enforcement and Code violations.

In addition to the regularly scheduled court dates for 2023, the Farragut Municipal Court will convene on July 19, 2023 at 6:00 PM.

Any cancellations or delays to the court schedule will be posted to the Municipal Court page of the Town of Farragut website at www.townoffarragut.org/court

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. It is also the policy of the Town of Farragut to reasonably accommodate all qualified individuals with disabilities in admission to, access to, or operation of its programs, services and activities, unless such accommodations would cause an undue hardship. Should anyone have a concern or question about the application of these policies, please contact the Director of Human Resources and ADA Coordinator, Michelle Pence, by e-mail at mpence@townoffarragut.org or phone 865-966-7057 or in person at Town Hall.

classifieds

Classified Advertising Rates

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Commercial 25 words \$57/4 weeks
Each additional word 25¢ per week
Display Ads
\$11.25 per column inch

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Thursday, June 29th at 7:00PM

OPEN HOUSE:
Tuesday, June 27th from 2-4PM

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Approx. 1602 SF craftsman style home | 2 Bedrooms | 1 Bathroom
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Convenient West Knoxville location

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FARRAGUT BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN

Farragut Town Hall, 11408 Municipal Center Drive

WORKSHOP 4:15 PM: Emergency Operations Plan Update, Committee Appointments, Discussion of First Baptist Concord access to Kingston Pike

AGENDA • June 22, 2023 • 6:00 PM

- I. Roll Call
- II. Approval of Agenda
- III. Approval of Minutes
- A. June 8, 2023
- IV. Mayor's Report
- A. Farragut Committee Annual Reports
1. Farragut Municipal Planning Commission
2. Parks and Athletics Council
3. Stormwater Committee
4. Museum Committee
- V. Ordinances
- A. Public Hearing and Second Reading
1. Ordinance 23-08, Ordinance to amend the Farragut Municipal Code, Chapter 2, Article 6-Finance, Section 2-299, Authorization of Purchases, by deleting in its entirety and substituting new language for purchasing authorization.
- VI. Business Items

- A. Approval of Agreement between the Town of Farragut and Smithfield Homeowners Association
- B. Approval of a request for a variance from the distance between driveways requirement, as provided for in the Driveways and Other Access Ways Ordinance, in association with a proposed access onto Kingston Pike for the Knoxville Tennessee Temple, 13001 Kingston Pike, Zoned C-1, 5.26 Acres (Moody Nolan, Applicant)
- C. Approval of a Letter of Intent to purchase property off McFee Road and adjacent to the railroad track in Farragut, TN, being a portion of Knox County Tax Map 24.02 and 24.03
- D. Approval of a Professional Services agreement with Cannon & Cannon, Inc. for due diligence investigation of proper-

- ty located off McFee Road and adjacent to the railroad track in Farragut, TN, being a portion of Knox County Tax Map 24.02 and 24.03
- E. Approval of the PJ Parkinson's 5K
- F. Approval of the Admiral's Run Against Leukemia
- G. Approval of the Town of Farragut Committee Charters Updates for the Arts and Beautification Committee, Education Relations Committee, Farragut Museum Committee, Parks & Athletics Council, Stormwater Advisory Committee, Tourism Visitor Advisory Committee, Visual Resources Review Board.
- H. Approval of the FY24 Town of Farragut Committee Appointments
- VII. Town Administrator's Report
- VIII. Town Attorney's Report
- IX. Citizens Forum

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

The meeting will be held at the Farragut Town Hall, 11408 Municipal Center Drive

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LEGAL NOTICE

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the Town of Farragut, at its meeting on Thursday, June 8, 2023, adopted the following ordinance on second and final reading:

1. Ordinance 23-05, an ordinance to amend the Farragut Zoning Map for 630 Everett Road, 2.3 Acres, from R-2, General Single-Family Residential, to R-1, Rural Single-Family Residential (Michael Reina, Applicant)

2. Ordinance 23-07, Ordinance of The Town of Farragut, Tennessee Adopting the Annual Budget for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2023, and Ending June 30, 2024



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FARRAGUT VISUAL RESOURCES REVIEW BOARD AGENDA

Farragut Town Hall Board Room
Tuesday, June 27, 2023 • 7:00 p.m.

1. Approval of minutes for the May 23, 2023, meeting.
2. Staff report - wall signs approved in the past month.
3. Review of an individual tenant panel sign for Life Stance Health, located at 11840 Kingston Pike.
4. Review of an individual tenant panel sign for Bentley Medical, located at 11668 Parkside Drive.
5. Review of an individual tenant panel sign for Kroger, located at 189 Brooklawn Street.
6. Review of an individual tenant panel sign for Island Fin Poke, located at 11615 Parkside Drive.
7. Review of a primary ground mounted sign for Taco Bell, located at 11217 Kingston Pike.
8. Review of a menu board sign for Taco Bell, located at 11217 Kingston Pike.
9. Review of a primary ground mounted sign for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, located at 13001 Kingston Pike.
10. Review of a landscape plan for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, located at 13001 Kingston Pike.

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FARRAGUT HIGH SCHOOL Senior Awards

Farragut High School Class of 2023 graduates-to-be were celebrated Thursday, May 18, during the Senior Awards ceremony in Vickie B. Wells Auditorium. More than 50 departmental and community awards were handed out to the class, who later in the day were further feted with a special senior lunch at The Venue in Lenoir City, in advance of graduation ceremonies held Sunday, May 21.

Photos by Michelle Hollenhead



1. East Tennessee Alumni Chapter of the University of Alabama awarded scholarships to, from left, Tessa Olivia-Rose Schlomer, Madelyn Rae Henrie and Mason Benedetti. **2.** Linda Reid, right, presented the National Achievers Society Stoles to, from left, Ivy Enyenihi, Natalie Wood and Shri Patel. **3.** John Duncan, second from left, and Samantha Harvey, second from right, received the annual Lendon and Charlotte Welch Scholarship, in memory and honor of the couple, from the Welch's son, Mark Welch, left, and their daughter, LeAnn Welch Mowery, right. **4.** CTE Ag Science awards were presented by CTE Ag sciences teacher Taylor Watson, center, to Chloe Judd, left, and Gracie Szymczak. **5.** World Language German awards were presented to Cathlene Horwege, left, and Claire Zhou, right, by German teacher Ryan Linger. **6.** Counseling ambassador awards were presented to Howie Sentell, left, and Mark Underwood by Natalie McMichael. **7.** Matthew Ferrari received the Lenoir City Utilities Board Community Award. **8.** NJROTC Awards were given to Gabrielle Brown, left, and Emily Halstead, center, by Cmdr. Kevin Smathers. **9.** Lili Plewniak, left, received the Community Bank Spirit Scholarship from Dean LaRue of Community Bank. **10.** Thomas Doucette, right, presented physical education awards to Sydney Brennan, center, and Barrett Smith. **11.** Anchor Award winners — given to 15 seniors considered "Anchors" for their class — were, front row from left, Claire Wingard, Annalise Bishop, Kate Ford, Evind Granroth, Anna Mahar, Abhikhya Gudala, Natalie Wood and Sam Garner. Back row, from left, were Will Duncan, Jay Smiley, Matthew Pulver, Noah Wagstaff and Ocean Edwards. Not pictured are Amzie Beeler and Thomas Nagy. "They were nominated by their teachers because they made FHS a special place," said FHS Spanish teacher Allison Maldonado, who organized the senior awards program.



Summer brings the Fun in Farragut

With the warmth of summer returning, it's time to soak up the sun with Farragut's summer events!

The town's annual **Independence Day Parade** starts at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, July 4. The parade begins at the Farragut High School junior lot and proceeds down Lendon Welch Way. It continues to Boring Road, just east of Farragut Towne Square Shopping Center (former Ingles store site). Bring the family and reconnect with the town at this community staple.

The grand marshal in this year's parade is Farragut High School football coach Eddie Courtney.

Fleet Feet Sports hosts the annual **Farragut Freedom Run 1 Mile & 2 Mile** prior to the start of the parade. This flat and fast course is USATF certified and perfect for all levels. Register at runsignup.com/farragutfreedomrun.

Fun with Farragut's Fleet, a Farragut family favorite, returns to Mayor Bob Leonard Park, 301 Watt Road, from 9-11 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 19. This free event is a way for kids to get up close and personal with big equipment used by the Town of Farragut and private companies such as Rural/Metro and Smyrna Ready Mix.

Art Fest is back in 2023! Enjoy interactive art activities from 1-3 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 10, at the Farragut Community Center, 239 Jamestowne Blvd. Activities are geared toward kids, but anyone can participate! This free event is sponsored by the Farragut Arts & Beautification Committee.

For more information about Town of Farragut events, contact Recreation and Event Coordinator Claire Malmquist, at mmalmquist@townoffarragut.org or 865-218-3376.

Get acquainted with the Town through Introduction to Farragut

The Town of Farragut values civic-minded citizens. Introduction to Farragut is a series of classes tailored to equip those who want to learn, network, and engage, with info on the town's history, government structure, volunteer opportunities and more.

The program starts with a reception and campaign kickoff at the Farragut Community Center, located at 239 Jamestowne Blvd., at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 16. Classes will be held at the Farragut Community Center on the following Wednesdays: Aug. 30, Sept. 13, Sept. 27, Oct. 18 and Nov. 1, starting at 6 p.m. Class participants will also have the opportunity to go on a tour of the Town with the Town Administrator on the morning of Oct. 6.

Program requirements include attending the Aug. 16 reception and campaign kickoff, at least

four of the five classes, one Board of Mayor and Aldermen meeting (meetings held on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month), one Municipal Planning Commission meeting (meetings held on the 3rd Thursday of each month) and participating in a class project by completing volunteer hours at Farragut Intermediate School. More information about the volunteer projects will be presented at the Aug. 16 kickoff.

Space is limited and accepted applicants will be notified within 10 days of the application deadline, which is July 21 at 4 p.m. Applicants may apply online or download the application at townoffarragut.org/introtofarragut. Downloaded applications should be completed and returned to Farragut Town Hall or emailed to Jennifer Hatmaker at jhatmaker@townoffarragut.org.

New McFee Park bike trail is now open!

The Town of Farragut and Tennova Healthcare will cut the ribbon on the new Adaptive Mountain Bike and Hiking Trail at McFee Park at 10 a.m. on Monday, June 26. The trail, located behind the large pavilion next to the splashpad, is already open for use.

Tennova Healthcare donated \$50,000 to the Town of Farragut to help finance construction of the trail.

The 1.5-mile trail was constructed in accordance with the standards of the International Mountain Bike Association for riders of all skill levels, including disabled athletes riding adaptive equipment. Contour Trail Design began construction of the trail in January, and it was completed in April. The unpaved, wooded trail has a relatively low grade throughout. With a double-horseshoe design with cut throughs that allow for a customized distance, the trail is perfect for a walk or a ride.

Phase 3 of McFee Park, which included the



Great Lawn, lighted tennis/pickleball courts, a basketball court, a special event pavilion and new lighted walk trails, opened in June of 2022. Phase 4, a permeable paver parking lot that will serve the bike trail and future amenities (a trailhead, a dog park and a restroom), is expected to be completed in spring of 2025.

Founders Park Summer Concert Series kicks off June 21



A series of three summer concerts at Founders Park at Campbell Station (405 N. Campbell Station Rd.) begins with **Bluegrass Summer Solstice** from 6-9 p.m. on Wednesday, June 21. The show features Brand New Box of Matches, a bluegrass, folk and roots-inspired duo, and Outta the Blue, a family band featuring the Holloway sisters and their dad.

The family-friendly **Parks & Rec Party in the Park** is 6-9 p.m. Thursday, July 20, showcasing Sean McCullough performing a kids' singalong and Michael Messing offering a unique magic show. Sean is a National Parent's Choice Award winner, a children's radio host, a multi-instrumentalist and a seasoned performer. Messing has over 30 years of experience entertaining audiences with colorful and exciting magic shows. This event includes crafts and yard games like corn hole, ladder golf and giant Jenga.

Presented by the Lawn Chair Concert Series, the **2023 Lawn Chair Concert** is 5-9 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 19. Bands include the Farragut High School Marching Band, Pale Root, Roger Alan Wade, Vaden Landers and Guy Marshall. Pale Root is an Americana duo, and Roger Alan Wade is a singer-songwriter and Sirius XM Radio host. Landers is billed as "the yodeling country bluesman," and Guy Marshall is known for offering Appalachian cowboy music.

Food trucks will be available at all three shows. Admission is free; please bring chairs or blankets. The Pinnacle at Turkey Creek sponsors the sound for the Bluegrass Summer Solstice and Party in the Park.

Visit Farragut receives ARP funding

Visit Farragut recently was awarded a grant through the Tennessee Tourism and Hospitality Recovery Fund (ARP) for tourism marketing and development initiatives. Visit Farragut hired a new part-time tourism assistant, a position that is funded through the grant. The position involves handling all aspects of the ARP funding including spending and reimbursement plans.

With the ARP funding, Visit Farragut hopes to implement initiatives such as a wayfinding plan, an ambassador program and a Visit Farragut Visitors Guide. The Board of Mayor and Aldermen recently approved the purchase of a vehicle to be used as a mobile visitor center (MVC), and ARP funds will help purchase branded items such as tents and banners for the MVC. The MVC travels to hotels, parks, restaurants, attractions and special events to greet visitors and provide Visit Farragut information.

Another Visit Farragut program, a FAM (Familiarization) tour, is planned for Wednesday, Aug. 9. Stops on the tour will include McGill Plaza at Campbell Station Inn, McFee Park, Cool Sports, Top Golf, Cotton Eyed Joe, Pinnacle Turkey Creek and the Farragut Community Center.

Visit Farragut continues to film content of retail, restaurant and entertainment options to feature on Visit Farragut social media and its website to increase foot traffic and exposure to local businesses.

To be a part of the FAM tour or to discuss social media opportunities, call Visit Farragut at 865-218-3373 or email visitfarragut@townoffarragut.org.

Town Hall to close temporarily for renovations

In the coming months, Farragut Town Hall will close for major interior renovations. Details about the closure are not yet finalized, but the current estimate is that work will begin in early fall and require a closure of approximately 12 months.

During the closure, Town Hall staff will relocate to the Farragut Community Center, 239 Jamestowne Blvd. Some staff will be housed inside the community center and others will work in temporary office space located behind the community center. Public meetings and municipal court will also be held at the community center during renovations.

For information about the temporary closure of the Knox County Clerk and Trustee office located at Town Hall, please call 865-966-5205.

The Farragut Museum closed at the end of May to prepare for the renovation. All artifacts have been placed in climate-controlled storage until the museum reopens. The Farragut Museum will offer educational opportunities during the temporary closure. Anyone who would like to be involved can email staff at museum@townoffarragut.org.

To stay updated on Town Hall renovations, visit townoffarragut.org and follow Town of Farragut on social media.

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 Developmentand Public Works

Alcohol License/PermitsAllison 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 PermitsBart Hose (bhose@townoffarragut.org)
..... Holley Marlowe (hmarlowe@townoffarragut.org)
Farragut Court.....Jennifer Hatmaker (jhatmaker@townoffarragut.org)
Landscaping Mark Shipley (mshipley@townoffarragut.org)
Sign PermitsBart Hose (bhose@townoffarragut.org)
Farragut Museum.....(museum@townoffarragut.org)
Personnel..... Michelle Pence (mpence@townoffarragut.org)
Planning Requirements Mark Shipley (mshipley@townoffarragut.org)
Zoning &Bart Hose (bhose@townoffarragut.org)
Subdivisions
Public Relations..... Wendy Smith (media@townoffarragut.org)
Stormwater Quality.....Lori Saal (lsaal@townoffarragut.org)
Traffic EnforcementJennifer Duggan Davis (jdavis@townoffarragut.org)
Tourism Karen Tindal (visitfarragut@townoffarragut.org)

Codes Phone 675-2384; Fax 671-7652

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 (cswierzko@townoffarragut.org)
Fire Safety/Inspections..... Charles Wilson (cwilson@townoffarragut.org)
Codes Enforcement.....Holley Marlowe (hmarlowe@townoffarragut.org)
(Property Maintenance)

Farragut Town Hall
Open 8 a.m-5 p.m. Monday-Friday
11408 Municipal Center Drive, Farragut, TN 37934
General email: towninfo@townoffarragut.org
Website: townoffarragut.org
Town of Farragut TV: Charter channel 193 and TDS channel 3

Social Media
Facebook: Town of Farragut, Visit Farragut, Farragut Parks & Rec,
Farragut Stormwater Matters
Instagram: town_of_farragut, visitfarragut, farragutparksandrec
Twitter: townoffarragut, ToFFieldUpdate (athletics/field information),
ToFVolleyball (volleyball league), FarragutParks
YouTube: Town of Farragut, Visit Farragut

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

Parks
Lauren Cox (AthleticFieldReservations@townoffarragut.org)

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
(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 Thursday, 8 a.m-5 p.m. Friday and
8 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday
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

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Dog Daze returns on Aug. 11

Shop Farragut and the Town of Farragut have teamed up with Smoky Mountain Dock Dogs and Ricki’s Pet Depot to bring the community Dog Daze VII, a regional canine aquatics competition by Dock Dogs International. This year’s free event takes place Friday, Aug. 11, through Sunday, Aug. 13, in the Village Green Shopping Center parking lot, just south of Planet Fitness.

The fun begins 4-7 p.m. Friday afternoon, with the “Pooch Plunge.” This free event provides local dog owners the opportunity to have their pup try a dock dive as an introduction to the sport!

Actual competitions commence at 9 a.m. on Saturday and continue through Sunday.

There will be much to do and see over the course of the weekend. Spectators can stay busy between qualifying rounds by visiting local merchant booths and meeting pet food suppliers. Food and drink will also be available under the festival tent.

For more information about Dog Daze VII, including a complete event schedule and a link to register, visit farragutbusiness.com or contact Steve Krempasky at shopfarragut@gmail.com.

Cotton Eyed Joe celebrates 30 years in Farragut

One of Farragut’s most famous businesses, Cotton Eyed Joe, will celebrate its 30th anniversary in September. As part of the celebration, the Joe will welcome Sammy Kershaw on Friday, Sept. 1, and the Cleverlys with special guests Marques Puckett and 8 Second Ride on Saturday, Sept. 2. Tickets are now available at cottoneyedjoe.com. Other concerts are offered throughout the summer and fall!

Each week, more than 4,000 people enjoy the Joe’s 25,000-square-foot building and 2,500-square-foot dance floor. Follow Cotton Eyed Joe on social media for the latest anniversary news and updates.

Visit Farragut Trails

Are you ready to hit the trails? Visit Farragut will debut three new trails on July 10 to help you explore Farragut. If you’re looking for coffee, cocktails or cheap eats, we have a trail for you!

Made In Tennessee Drink Trail

Tennessee never tasted so good! Are you looking for flavors only found in the Volunteer State? You’re in luck! We’ve curated a drink trail that might make you a Vol for Life. Enjoy local brews, wines and cocktails that all have elements made in Tennessee.

Visit Farragut Coffee Lovers Trail

Are the caffeine cravings in full swing? No need to worry, we have curated the

perfect trail for all things coffee. Enjoy lattes, espresso, protein coffees and more from participating locations.

Visit Farragut Under \$10 Trail

Want the best flavors Farragut has to offer, but you’re on a budget? No worries, the VF Under \$10 Trail has you covered. From meals to quick bites or a tasty cocktail, this trail features items that are under \$10 so you don’t have to break the bank.

Participating locations will be announced soon, so follow @VisitFarragut on Facebook and Instagram to see the latest updates about trails and all things fun in Farragut.

Meet the Mobile Visitor Center



Have you seen the Visit Farragut Mobile Visitor Center around town yet? Find the Visit Farragut team around town and at local events helping visitors know where to eat, shop and have fun. To learn more about all things fun in Farragut, see the link to the mobile visitor center map in our bio on Facebook and Instagram. If you’re a local, you can still join in on the fun and get Visit Farragut swag, but you might have to answer a question or two about all things Farragut.

Want to take your Farragut knowledge to the next level? The Visit Farragut team is looking for ambassadors to join us at events to spread the word about Farragut dining, retail and entertainment options. Follow Visit Farragut on social media for the latest updates on the Mobile Visitor Center and our Ambassador Program.

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.

SPRING EVENTS

- Unless otherwise noted, register for classes and special events at 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.

FITNESS

Pickleball Open Gym

12-2 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Cost: \$4 per person, or two punches on a punch card, per session. No need to pre-register – just bring a paddle and a ball and get ready to play. During this time, the gym is on the challenge court system. Games are played to 11 points, winning by 2. 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 serve all and maximize community use, users may experience wait times.

Basketball Open Gym

2-9 p.m. on Mondays; 4-5 p.m. on Tuesdays; 2-5 p.m. on Wednesdays; 4-6 p.m. on Thursdays, 2-5 p.m. on Fridays. Cost: \$4 per person per session or two punches on a punch card. Special Tuesday rate: \$2 per person or one punch 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 serve all and maximize community use, users may experience wait times or be asked to restrict play to half court.

Toddler Takeover

10-11 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Cost: \$2, or one punch on a punch card, per child; adults are free. Participating children must be walking to 5 years old. Join us for this guardian-supervised indoor playtime and let your child explore our bright, colorful, age-appropriate equipment! Pre-registration is not required.

Total Fitness Classes

8:30-9:30 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Cost: \$4, or two punches on a punch card, per session. Pre-registration is not required, but spaces are limited. 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.

Sunrise Stretch

8:15-9:15 a.m. on Wednesdays. 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

8:15-9:15 a.m. on Mondays and Fridays. 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!

Baby + Me Yoga

10-11 a.m. on Wednesdays beginning Aug. 9. Cost: \$67 for four classes or \$20 per class. Registration deadline for this four-week series is Aug. 6. The goal is to provide a safe and supportive environment for new parents and their babies (ideally six weeks to crawling) to spend time bonding while the parent gets to stretch and strengthen muscles, relieve stress and make connections with other new parents. Please bring a yoga mat, blocks, water, a baby blanket and whatever else you and baby need to be comfortable. Plan for roughly 30-45 minutes of yoga with time to mingle after class. Get out of the house and come join us! Spaces are limited.

Toddler Yoga

10-11 a.m. on Wednesdays beginning July 5. Cost: \$80 for four classes or \$20 per class. Registration deadline for the four-week series is July 4. Your little one will learn better self control, how to regulate emotions, how to reduce stress and anxiety and how to build strength and flexibility. In the process, they will train fine and gross motor skills. A parent is required to stay in the room throughout the class, and plenty of rest/water breaks will be offered. (Depending on your child's abilities, some parental involvement may be required.) Plan for 30 minutes of activity and 30 minutes of mingling and making friends.

Yoga in the Park

6:30-7:30 p.m. on Thursdays through Aug. 31. Cost: \$8 per person/per class. Pre-registration is recommended, but not required. This class is designed for ages 8 and up; all skill levels welcomed. Please bring a yoga mat, blocks, water and whatever else you need.

Mahjong and Gaming Club

3:30-5:30 p.m. every other Tuesday (check the calendar at farragutparksandrec.org/community-center). Cost is free. Ages 9 and up are welcome. Learn to play tile, board and card games.

- 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, Twitter, and Instagram) 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.

Retirement:

Making your Money Last

6-7:30 p.m. Thursday, July 20. Cost: free. Pre-registration is recommended, but not required. For ages 45 and up. Edward Jones Financial Advisor Cory Gerlach helps those who are thinking about retirement or have retired recently learn what to focus on and build financial strategy.

Foundations of Investing

6-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 24. Cost: free. Pre-registration is recommended, but not required. For ages 18 and up. Edward Jones Financial Advisor Cory Gerlach provides foundations to those who new to investing as well as those who need a refresher.

Standing Guard: Protect

What You've Worked For

6:00-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 7. Cost: free. Pre-registration is recommended, but not required. For ages 55 and up. Edward Jones Financial Advisor Cory Gerlach helps those who are approaching retirement, or have recently retired, strategize to guard their most valuable assets.

Adult Coed Softball League

Farragut Parks & Rec is bringing back the adult coed softball league beginning Monday, Sept. 11. Cost: \$325 per team. Registration opens Monday, July 3. The regular season runs from Sept. 11 to Oct. 16. The postseason single-elimination tournament will be played on Oct. 23 and 30.

SPECIAL EVENTS

35th Annual Independence

Day Parade

Beginning at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, July 4. See article on page 4.

Fun with

Farragut's Fleet

9-11 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 19, at McFee Park. See article on page 1.

Art Fest

1-3 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 10, at the Farragut Community Center. See article on page 1.

For more information about TownofFarragut events and programs, contact Recreation and Event Coordinator Claire Malmquist, 865-218-3376 or mmalmquist@townoffarragut.org.

A quick guide to rain gardens

Rain gardens are a valuable landscaping feature that can provide several benefits to both the environment and property owners. These gardens help improve water quality, reduce stormwater runoff and flooding and provide aesthetic and functional value to a property. Designing and installing a rain garden is a simple process that can be done by property owners with basic landscaping knowledge. The following are design considerations and ideas for designing your own rain garden! For more information, including example planting plans and a list of recommended plants, visit the Tennessee Smart Yards website by clicking the QR code on the photo.

Location: The rain garden should be located near a significant source of runoff such as a downspout or driveway. It should be at least 10 feet away from your structure to prevent water collection along the foundation. It's best to locate it

in a flat or low spot in your yard with the lowest point being the center of the rain garden.

Size: The best rule is to make the rain garden 10% of the contributing runoff area from a roof or driveway. For example, if the roof area connected to the downspout is 200 sq feet, your garden should be 20 sq feet. The garden should be designed with rounded edges following the contour lines of your space for optimal capture and drainage. Most gardens will look like a kidney bean or teardrop shape.

Excavation: After marking your rain garden area, dig out the area to a maximum of 4-6 inches deep creating a flat-bottom bowl with sloping sides. The lowest point along the garden rim will serve as an emergency spillway, so keep that in mind when designing.

Planting: Plants should be native to East Tennessee and tolerant of wet conditions.

Place the most water-loving plants in the center and slowly transition to less water-loving plants as you move up the sides of the bowl. There are many plant options out there with a range of availability, but we recommend including blue-flag iris in the wettest zone and a native grass such as big blue stem in the drier areas. Consider the mature size of the plants. Generally you want to stick to grasses, flowers, and small shrubs.

Maintenance: After planting, spread a one-inch layer of mulch over the rain garden, being careful not to smother any of your new plants. The mulch will help protect the new plants and break up water droplets to increase drainage. You may notice over time that your turf grass begins to creep back into the garden area; it is important to keep it out because turf grass forms a shallow root mat which decreases drainage capacity and rate.



Independence Day Parade participant rules

The Town of Farragut's Independence Day Parade starts at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, July 4, and parade participants are required to follow the following guidelines:

- Parade participants should arrive at Farragut High School no later than 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, July 4. Access to the high school is available from Campbell Station Road, West End Boulevard and Lendon Welch Way (the road next to the stadium).
- Only parade vehicles will be allowed to enter the parade line-up area. Older children and adults may be dropped off on the circle drive or on the drive to the Farragut Middle School. Those participating in the parade or those with small children will need to park in the circle parking lot at the high school or the parking lot at the middle school. Parade line-up numbers will be available on the Farragut Parks & Recreation website, farragutparksandrec.org, and posted on the Farragut Community Center front door by 8 a.m. on Friday, June 30. Line-up numbers will not be available by phone.
- Antique car participants: Plan on arriving at the high



school before 8 a.m. to avoid long lines and overheating your car. There is no special entrance or accommodation for antique cars, so please arrive early.

- Large floats may be taken to the line-up area at the junior lot at Farragut High School any time after 5 p.m. on Monday, July 3. A guard will be on duty from 5 p.m. until the parade on July 4.

- Giveaways: No candy or giveaways may be thrown from floats or cars. Walkers may distribute these and other free items along the side of the road during the parade. Children younger than 9 must ride (not walk) during the parade.

- All parade participants must be picked up at the Farragut Towne Square parking lot (former Ingles shopping center).

Independence Day Parade Road Closure

Due to the Independence Day Parade, Kingston Pike from Lendon Welch Way to Federal Boulevard will be closed from 8:30 a.m. to approximately noon on Tuesday, July 4.

Detours: north side - Campbell Station Road to Grigsby Chapel Road to Smith Road to Kingston Pike (going west) or Campbell Station Road to Parkside Drive to Lovell Road (going east) and south side - Concord Road to Turkey Creek Road to Virtue Road to Kingston Pike.

For more information about the parade, please call 865-218-3376 or visit farragutparksandrec.org/parade.

Parks & Recreation



Farragut Parks & Rec has a new and engaging way for you and your family to get out and enjoy the town's parks and greenways! Participation is simple. Visit each of Farragut's six parks and answer a question about each to earn a prize. Or, if you prefer hitting the greenways with a four-legged friend, track your miles on Farragut's greenways to win a prize for your pooch in the Pups on the Path Challenge.

Visit farragutparksandrec.org/parkschallenge for more information and to download your challenge packet. Turn in your completed form between July 24 and Aug. 11 at the Farragut Community Center (239 Jamestowne Blvd.) to collect prizes.

Do your part, pick up after your pup!

The Town of Farragut prides itself in offering some of the most beautiful and clean parks and greenways, providing residents and visitors with superb recreational opportunities for themselves and their pets.

It takes a community effort to keep our parks up to town standards. No one enjoys unpleasant reminders left by someone else's dog. We ask all who frequent our greenspaces to be responsible citizens and clean up after their pets. This is part of Farragut's municipal code.

No dogs are allowed on athletic fields, playgrounds, McFee Park tennis/pickleball courts or the splashpad. Pets must be on a leash whenever they are off the property of the owner.

Though we are in the planning stage of Farragut's first dog park at McFee Park, the closest dog park is at Concord Park, a Knox County property located at 10909 Northshore Drive. It offers water fountains for pets, a dock with access to the river and walking trails.

Softball returns to Farragut



After a four-year absence, softball is returning to the Town of Farragut! An adult, co-ed league plays at Mayor Bob Leonard Park from 6-10 p.m. on Monday nights, starting Sept. 11. The league is for ages 18 and up.

Registration opens on Monday, July 3. Cost is \$325 per team. Payment must be received at the time of registration. Rosters must be complete and turned in by the first game of the season.

New volleyball camp for rising 5th, 8th graders

A new camp for rising 5th-8th grade volleyball players will have two sessions in July. Session one is July 17, 19 and 21, and session two is July 24, 26 and 28. All classes are 6-8:30 p.m. at the Farragut Community Center, 239 Jamestowne Blvd. The cost is \$75 per session.

Coach Allie Thompson leads the camp, which will concentrate on individual skills. Athletes

The league includes six regular season games and a post-season single elimination tournament on Oct. 23 and 30.

This league is played by ASA rules. Please review league rules at farragutparksandrec.org/softball prior to registering.

For more information and to register, please call Ryan Rhodus at 865-218-3376 or sign up online at townoffarragut.org/register.

learn the fundamentals of passing, serving and hitting. This camp will be progressive, so it is essential to attend each class.

For more information and to register, call the Farragut Parks & Recreation office at 865-218-3376. Register online at townoffarragut.org/register or in person at the Farragut Community Center.

Community Center Corner



Summer is now officially in full swing! While we all enjoy this relaxing season, it can be hard to find indoor opportunities for recreation that allow us to avoid the heat. Fortunately, the Farragut Community Center boasts a variety of programs that allow you to get inside, engage with other members of the community and improve your mental and physical health.

This summer, popular programming such as Toddler Takeover, Total Fitness, yoga classes, and open gyms will continue, and we've added some fun, new programs. On Friday mornings, we host Toddler Yoga from 9:30-10:30 a.m. On

Thursdays, we offer Yoga in the Park in the Great Lawn Pavilion at McFee Park from 6:30 p.m.- 7:30 p.m. We will also have a Mahjong and Gaming Club meeting every other Tuesday from 3:30-5:30 p.m.

Come by the community center during regular hours to learn more about these opportunities for fun and fitness. Visit us Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m.-9 p.m., Friday 8 a.m.- 5 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. We look forward to helping you make the most of summer 2023!

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 Developmentand Public Works

Alcohol License/PermitsAllison 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 PermitsBart Hose (bhose@townoffarragut.org)
..... Holley Marlowe (hmarlowe@townoffarragut.org)
Farragut Court.....Jennifer Hatmaker (jhatmaker@townoffarragut.org)
Landscaping Mark Shipley (mshipley@townoffarragut.org)
Sign PermitsBart Hose (bhose@townoffarragut.org)
Farragut Museum.....(museum@townoffarragut.org)
Personnel..... Michelle Pence (mpence@townoffarragut.org)
Planning Requirements Mark Shipley (mshipley@townoffarragut.org)
Zoning &Bart Hose (bhose@townoffarragut.org)
Subdivisions
Public Relations..... Wendy Smith (media@townoffarragut.org)
Stormwater Quality.....Lori Saal (lsaal@townoffarragut.org)
Traffic EnforcementJennifer Duggan Davis (jdavis@townoffarragut.org)
Tourism Karen Tindal (visitfarragut@townoffarragut.org)

Codes Phone 675-2384; Fax 671-7652

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 (cswierzko@townoffarragut.org)
Fire Safety/Inspections..... Charles Wilson (cwilson@townoffarragut.org)
Codes Enforcement.....Holley Marlowe (hmarlowe@townoffarragut.org)
(Property Maintenance)

Farragut Town Hall
Open 8 a.m-5 p.m. Monday-Friday
11408 Municipal Center Drive, Farragut, TN 37934
General email: towninfo@townoffarragut.org
Website: townoffarragut.org
Town of Farragut TV: Charter channel 193 and TDS channel 3

Social Media
Facebook: Town of Farragut, Visit Farragut, Farragut Parks & Rec,
Farragut Stormwater Matters
Instagram: town_of_farragut, visitfarragut, farragutparksandrec
Twitter: townoffarragut, ToFFieldUpdate (athletics/field information),
ToFVolleyball (volleyball league), FarragutParks
YouTube: Town of Farragut, Visit Farragut

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

Parks
Lauren Cox (AthleticFieldReservations@townoffarragut.org)

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
(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 Thursday, 8 a.m-5 p.m. Friday and
8 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday
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.



Dog Daze returns on Aug. 11

Shop Farragut and the Town of Farragut have teamed up with Smoky Mountain Dock Dogs and Ricki’s Pet Depot to bring the community Dog Daze VII, a regional canine aquatics competition by Dock Dogs International. This year’s free event takes place Friday, Aug. 11, through Sunday, Aug. 13, in the Village Green Shopping Center parking lot, just south of Planet Fitness.

The fun begins 4-7 p.m. Friday afternoon, with the “Pooch Plunge.” This free event provides local dog owners the opportunity to have their pup try a dock dive as an introduction to the sport!

Actual competitions commence at 9 a.m. on Saturday and continue through Sunday.

There will be much to do and see over the course of the weekend. Spectators can stay busy between qualifying rounds by visiting local merchant booths and meeting pet food suppliers. Food and drink will also be available under the festival tent.

For more information about Dog Daze VII, including a complete event schedule and a link to register, visit farragutbusiness.com or contact Steve Krempasky at shopfarragut@gmail.com.

Cotton Eyed Joe celebrates 30 years in Farragut

One of Farragut’s most famous businesses, Cotton Eyed Joe, will celebrate its 30th anniversary in September. As part of the celebration, the Joe will welcome Sammy Kershaw on Friday, Sept. 1, and the Cleverlys with special guests Marques Puckett and 8 Second Ride on Saturday, Sept. 2. Tickets are now available at cottoneyedjoe.com. Other concerts are offered throughout the summer and fall!

Each week, more than 4,000 people enjoy the Joe’s 25,000-square-foot building and 2,500-square-foot dance floor. Follow Cotton Eyed Joe on social media for the latest anniversary news and updates.

Visit Farragut Trails

Are you ready to hit the trails? Visit Farragut will debut three new trails on July 10 to help you explore Farragut. If you’re looking for coffee, cocktails or cheap eats, we have a trail for you!

Made In Tennessee Drink Trail

Tennessee never tasted so good! Are you looking for flavors only found in the Volunteer State? You’re in luck! We’ve curated a drink trail that might make you a Vol for Life. Enjoy local brews, wines and cocktails that all have elements made in Tennessee.

Visit Farragut Coffee Lovers Trail

Are the caffeine cravings in full swing? No need to worry, we have curated the

perfect trail for all things coffee. Enjoy lattes, espresso, protein coffees and more from participating locations.

Visit Farragut Under \$10 Trail

Want the best flavors Farragut has to offer, but you’re on a budget? No worries, the VF Under \$10 Trail has you covered. From meals to quick bites or a tasty cocktail, this trail features items that are under \$10 so you don’t have to break the bank.

Participating locations will be announced soon, so follow @VisitFarragut on Facebook and Instagram to see the latest updates about trails and all things fun in Farragut.

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8:15-9:15 a.m. on Mondays and Fridays. 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!

Baby + Me Yoga

10-11 a.m. on Wednesdays beginning Aug. 9. Cost: \$67 for four classes or \$20 per class. Registration deadline for this four-week series is Aug. 6. The goal is to provide a safe and supportive environment for new parents and their babies (ideally six weeks to crawling) to spend time bonding while the parent gets to stretch and strengthen muscles, relieve stress and make connections with other new parents. Please bring a yoga mat, blocks, water, a baby blanket and whatever else you and baby need to be comfortable. Plan for roughly 30-45 minutes of yoga with time to mingle after class. Get out of the house and come join us! Spaces are limited.

Toddler Yoga

10-11 a.m. on Wednesdays beginning July 5. Cost: \$80 for four classes or \$20 per class. Registration deadline for the four-week series is July 4. Your little one will learn better self control, how to regulate emotions, how to reduce stress and anxiety and how to build strength and flexibility. In the process, they will train fine and gross motor skills. A parent is required to stay in the room throughout the class, and plenty of rest/water breaks will be offered. (Depending on your child's abilities, some parental involvement may be required.) Plan for 30 minutes of activity and 30 minutes of mingling and making friends.

Yoga in the Park

6:30-7:30 p.m. on Thursdays through Aug. 31. Cost: \$8 per person/per class. Pre-registration is recommended, but not required. This class is designed for ages 8 and up; all skill levels welcomed. Please bring a yoga mat, blocks, water and whatever else you need.

Mahjong and Gaming Club

3:30-5:30 p.m. every other Tuesday (check the calendar at farragutparksandrec.org/community-center). Cost is free. Ages 9 and up are welcome. Learn to play tile, board and card games.

Retirement:

Making your Money Last

6-7:30 p.m. Thursday, July 20. Cost: free. Pre-registration is recommended, but not required. For ages 45 and up. Edward Jones Financial Advisor Cory Gerlach helps those who are thinking about retirement or have retired recently learn what to focus on and build financial strategy.

Foundations of Investing

6-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 24. Cost: free. Pre-registration is recommended, but not required. For ages 18 and up. Edward Jones Financial Advisor Cory Gerlach provides foundations to those who new to investing as well as those who need a refresher.

Standing Guard: Protect

What You've Worked For

6:00-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 7. Cost: free. Pre-registration is recommended, but not required. For ages 55 and up. Edward Jones Financial Advisor Cory Gerlach helps those who are approaching retirement, or have recently retired, strategize to guard their most valuable assets.

Adult Coed Softball League

Farragut Parks & Rec is bringing back the adult coed softball league beginning Monday, Sept. 11. Cost: \$325 per team. Registration opens Monday, July 3. The regular season runs from Sept. 11 to Oct. 16. The postseason single-elimination tournament will be played on Oct. 23 and 30.

SPECIAL EVENTS

35th Annual Independence

Day Parade

Beginning at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, July 4. See article on page 4.

Fun with

Farragut's Fleet

9-11 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 19, at McFee Park. See article on page 1.

Art Fest

1-3 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 10, at the Farragut Community Center. See article on page 1.

For more information about TownofFarragut events and programs, contact Recreation and Event Coordinator Claire Malmquist, 865-218-3376 or mmalmquist@townoffarragut.org.

A quick guide to rain gardens

Rain gardens are a valuable landscaping feature that can provide several benefits to both the environment and property owners. These gardens help improve water quality, reduce stormwater runoff and flooding and provide aesthetic and functional value to a property. Designing and installing a rain garden is a simple process that can be done by property owners with basic landscaping knowledge. The following are design considerations and ideas for designing your own rain garden! For more information, including example planting plans and a list of recommended plants, visit the Tennessee Smart Yards website by clicking the QR code on the photo.

Location: The rain garden should be located near a significant source of runoff such as a downspout or driveway. It should be at least 10 feet away from your structure to prevent water collection along the foundation. It's best to locate it

in a flat or low spot in your yard with the lowest point being the center of the rain garden.

Size: The best rule is to make the rain garden 10% of the contributing runoff area from a roof or driveway. For example, if the roof area connected to the downspout is 200 sq feet, your garden should be 20 sq feet. The garden should be designed with rounded edges following the contour lines of your space for optimal capture and drainage. Most gardens will look like a kidney bean or teardrop shape.

Excavation: After marking your rain garden area, dig out the area to a maximum of 4-6 inches deep creating a flat-bottom bowl with sloping sides. The lowest point along the garden rim will serve as an emergency spillway, so keep that in mind when designing.

Planting: Plants should be native to East Tennessee and tolerant of wet conditions.

Place the most water-loving plants in the center and slowly transition to less water-loving plants as you move up the sides of the bowl. There are many plant options out there with a range of availability, but we recommend including blue-flag iris in the wettest zone and a native grass such as big blue stem in the drier areas. Consider the mature size of the plants. Generally you want to stick to grasses, flowers, and small shrubs.

Maintenance: After planting, spread a one-inch layer of mulch over the rain garden, being careful not to smother any of your new plants. The mulch will help protect the new plants and break up water droplets to increase drainage. You may notice over time that your turf grass begins to creep back into the garden area; it is important to keep it out because turf grass forms a shallow root mat which decreases drainage capacity and rate.



Independence Day Parade participant rules

The Town of Farragut’s Independence Day Parade starts at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, July 4, and parade participants are required to follow the following guidelines:

- Parade participants should arrive at Farragut High School no later than 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, July 4. Access to the high school is available from Campbell Station Road, West End Boulevard and Lendon Welch Way (the road next to the stadiums).
- Only parade vehicles will be allowed to enter the parade line-up area. Older children and adults may be dropped off on the circle drive or on the drive to the Farragut Middle School. Those participating in the parade or those with small children will need to park in the circle parking lot at the high school or the parking lot at the middle school. Parade line-up numbers will be available on the Farragut Parks & Recreation website, farragut-parksandrec.org, and posted on the Farragut Community Center front door by 8 a.m. on Friday, June 30. Line-up numbers will not be available by phone.
- Antique car participants: Plan on arriving at the high



school before 8 a.m. to avoid long lines and overheating your car. There is no special entrance or accommodation for antique cars, so please arrive early.

- Large floats may be taken to the line-up area at the junior lot at Farragut High School any time after 5 p.m. on Monday, July 3. A guard will be on duty from 5 p.m. until the parade on July 4.

- Giveaways: No candy or giveaways may be thrown from floats or cars. Walkers may distribute these and other free items along the side of the road during the parade. Children younger than 9 must ride (not walk) during the parade.
- All parade participants must be picked up at the Farragut Towne Square parking lot (former Ingles shopping center).

Independence Day Parade Road Closure

Due to the Independence Day Parade, Kingston Pike from Lendon Welch Way to Federal Boulevard will be closed from 8:30 a.m. to approximately noon on Tuesday, July 4.

Detours: north side – Campbell Station Road to Grigsby Chapel Road to Smith Road to Kingston Pike (going west) or Campbell Station Road to Parkside Drive to Lovell Road (going east) and south side – Concord Road to Turkey Creek Road to Virtue Road to Kingston Pike.

For more information about the parade, please call 865-218-3376 or visit farragutparksandrec.org/parade.

Parks & Recreation



Farragut Parks & Rec has a new and engaging way for you and your family to get out and enjoy the town’s parks and greenways! Participation is simple. Visit each of Farragut’s six parks and answer a question about each to earn a prize. Or, if you prefer hitting the greenways with a four-legged friend, track your miles on Farragut’s greenways to win a prize for your pooch in the Pups on the Path Challenge. Visit farragutparksandrec.org/parkschallenge for more information and to download your challenge packet. Turn in your completed form between July 24 and Aug. 11 at the Farragut Community Center (239 Jamestowne Blvd.) to collect prizes.

Do your part, pick up after your pup!

The Town of Farragut prides itself in offering some of the most beautiful and clean parks and greenways, providing residents and visitors with superb recreational opportunities for themselves and their pets. It takes a community effort to keep our parks up to town standards. No one enjoys unpleasant reminders left by someone else’s dog. We ask all who frequent our greenspaces to be responsible citizens and clean up after their pets. This is part of Farragut’s municipal code.

No dogs are allowed on athletic fields, playgrounds, McFee Park tennis/pickleball courts or the splashpad. Pets must be on a leash whenever they are off the property of the owner. Though we are in the planning stage of Farragut’s first dog park at McFee Park, the closest dog park is at Concord Park, a Knox County property located at 10909 Northshore Drive. It offers water fountains for pets, a dock with access to the river and walking trails.

Softball returns to Farragut



After a four-year absence, softball is returning to the Town of Farragut! An adult, co-ed league plays at Mayor Bob Leonard Park from 6-10 p.m. on Monday nights, starting Sept. 11. The league is for ages 18 and up. Registration opens on Monday, July 3. Cost is \$325 per team. Payment must be received at the time of registration. Rosters must be complete and turned in by the first game of the season.

The league includes six regular season games and a post-season single elimination tournament on Oct. 23 and 30. This league is played by ASA rules. Please review league rules at farragutparksandrec.org/softball prior to registering. For more information and to register, please call Ryan Rhodus at 865-218-3376 or sign up online at townoffarragut.org/register.

New volleyball camp for rising 5th, 8th graders

A new camp for rising 5th-8th grade volleyball players will have two sessions in July. Session one is July 17, 19 and 21, and session two is July 24, 26 and 28. All classes are 6-8:30 p.m. at the Farragut Community Center, 239 Jamestowne Blvd. The cost is \$75 per session. Coach Allie Thompson leads the camp, which will concentrate on individual skills. Athletes

learn the fundamentals of passing, serving and hitting. This camp will be progressive, so it is essential to attend each class. For more information and to register, call the Farragut Parks & Recreation office at 865-218-3376. Register online at townoffarragut.org/register or in person at the Farragut Community Center.

Community Center Corner



Summer is now officially in full swing! While we all enjoy this relaxing season, it can be hard to find indoor opportunities for recreation that allow us to avoid the heat. Fortunately, the Farragut Community Center boasts a variety of programs that allow you to get inside, engage with other members of the community and improve your mental and physical health. This summer, popular programming such as Toddler Takeover, Total Fitness, yoga classes, and open gyms will continue, and we’ve added some fun, new programs. On Friday mornings, we host Toddler Yoga from 9:30-10:30 am. On

Thursdays, we offer Yoga in the Park in the Great Lawn Pavilion at Mcfee Park from 6:30 p.m.- 7:30 p.m. We will also have a Mahjong and Gaming Club meeting every other Tuesday from 3:30-5:30 pm. Come by the community center during regular hours to learn more about these opportunities for fun and fitness. Visit us Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m.-9 p.m., Friday 8 a.m.- 5 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. We look forward to helping you make the most of summer 2023!