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## Libertarian presidential nominee visits Farragut

**MICHELLE HOLLENHEAD**  
mhollenhead@farragutpress.com

Nominated by the The Libertarian Party as its presidential candidate, Dr. Jo Jorgensen wants voters to know she is “a genuine person who wants real change for real people.”

The Clemson University senior lecturer sought to demonstrate those qualities when visiting Farragut Tuesday, June 23, filming commercials and campaign promotions at four locations under the direction of area resident Austin

Tutor, owner of Vivid Videography.

Jorgensen, along with her campaign manager Steve Dasbach, had lunch at Water into Wine bistro & lounge in Farragut, dropped in on an area ice skating rink — as the candidate also is a long-time hockey player and fan — and visited Tutor’s home-based studio in Walnut Grove.

Jorgensen’s locally-filmed videos, in which she discusses her platform and political positions, were to be posted this week on her Facebook page

and her website, www.joj2020.com, Tutor said.

Candace Viox, Water into Wine owner, was “thrilled” her site was chosen for the historic visit and filming sites.

“This is very exciting for our business,” she said. “They wanted a small female-owned business, and saw the interview I did with (Knox County Mayor Glenn) Jacobs, so I believe that put us out there.

“I am not affiliated with any political party, but I am open

**See LIBERTARIAN on Page 5A**



Michelle Hollenhead

Libertarian Presidential nominee Dr. Jo Jorgensen, third from left, met supporters at Water into Wine bistro & Lounge Tuesday, June 23, one of four area locations where promos were filmed.



Photo courtesy of Wendy Smith

Ed St. Clair, a Farragut Municipal Planning Commission member, received a service award — in the form of a clock — for volunteering with the Town for 30 years during the Town’s Volunteer Banquet in Farragut Community Center Friday, June 26.

## ‘Clocking in’ at 30 years for St. Clair on FMPC

Leads way among volunteer time praised at annual Banquet

**TAMMY CHEEK**  
tcheek@farragutpress.com

Although the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in many closed events, Town of Farragut staff found a way to show its appreciation to its volunteers with a “Follow the Yellow Brick Road” take-out and drive-by banquet at Farragut Community Center Friday, June 26.

In terms of his years of service, Ed St. Clair led the way among volunteers recognized with a Service Award.

St. Clair, an engineer in Oak Ridge most of his career (remaining a consultant), has served on Farragut Municipal Planning Commission for 30 years.

“I’ve thoroughly enjoyed being on the Planning Commission and represent all the folks in Town and (work on our planned growth),” St. Clair said Monday. “It’s been an honor to work with each one of those who have served and been elected and all mayors.

“When I first came on, (the late) Bob Leonard was mayor,”

the special honoree added.

“... There always seems to be something happening in the Town about that point in time that I had an interest in. ... I have a technical background, and I always thought that brought something to the Planning Commission — a perspective of being able to look at projects and help others on the Commission understand things.”

Other volunteers receiving Service Awards were Nicholas

**See VOLUNTEERS on Page 6A**

## Back to school virtual, hybrid?

**KEN LAY**  
Correspondent

**KNOXVILLE** — With the upcoming 2020-21 school year scheduled to start in a little more than a month, Knox County Schools Community Reopening Task Force had its second meeting Monday, June 29, at Sarah Simpson Professional Development Center.

The Task Force, which is chaired by Dr. Jerry Askew, president of The Alliance For Better Non-profits, was comprised of nine community leaders chosen by members of Knox County Board of Education; each of the nine members selected a community or business leader from their respective districts. Susie Carr represents 5th District (including Farragut) on the Task Force.

First meeting of the Task Force was Wednesday, June 24, as Askew and KCS superintendent Bob Thomas mulled through data from a community survey, which was conducted from June 1 to June 19 online on the district’s website. It had more than 30,000 respondents from teachers, parents, administrators and students.

At the second meeting, Task Force members submitted questions to Thomas and other members of KCS administration. The meeting took place just hours after Gov. Bill Lee

extended Tennessee’s State of Emergency through Aug. 29.

“We would like to have students back in the schools by Aug. 10, and unless we are told by a higher entity, we’re planning on having schools open on Aug. 10,” Thomas said.

Thomas and Board of Education chair Susan Horn (5th District, including Farragut) said they would like to see all students in the classrooms when schools are slated to reopen in 37 days.

But that may not happen. Knox County Schools has three scenarios for reopening next month. The first model would have all students returning to school in-person. The second model is holding all classes online, as KCS just became a 1-on-1 school district thanks to millions in state funding, allowing all students access to computers.

Internet access for all, however, is a work in progress as KCS considers purchasing “hot spots” for those students currently not receiving Internet. The broader question was how to efficiently and cheaply provide Internet services to those in rural and inner city communities?

The third model is a hybrid, where classes would be held online one day for roughly half the students at each school, and in-person for the other half, then reversing the order the next day.

Steve Rudder, KCS director of Research & Assessments who outlined the three main options during the June 24 meeting said 54 percent of survey respondents chose in-

**See SCHOOL PLAN on Page 5A**



Horn

### business

“It was really good that we waited to move because what we found was just perfect. We didn’t want to go far from where we already are, especially since our clients are used to our location,”

- **Jeffrey Comas, owner of a business that is relocating — but remains close by in Farragut. (Read story beginning on page 9A)**

### community

“I’m, of course, extremely blessed and excited. ... I couldn’t have done it without outstanding support from friends and family. I worked hard in high school and I’m prepared to work even harder at the Academy,”

- **Tony Lyons, who will join FHS classmate Gabriel Reiman on a special appointment. (Read story beginning on page 3B)**

### sports

“He’s the type of kid that accepts every challenge. He’s always been a third baseman or an outfielder and this has taken some getting used to. But he’s always confident about accepting a challenge ...,”

- **Steve Ford, about a middle school athlete he knows well making lots of adjustments on the diamond. (Read story beginning on page 1B)**



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# Primary, General Election info, including paper voting classes

Voting schedule and candidate lists for Town of Farragut and Knox County General Elections, and State of Tennessee and Federal Primaries:

- **Tuesday, July 7**, final day to register to vote.
- **Friday, July 17**, first day of Early Voting period (registered voters can vote at any early voting location in Knox County)
- **Thursday, July 30**, final day to request an absentee ballot.
- **Saturday, Aug. 1**, final day for Early Voting period.
- **Thursday, Aug. 6**, Election Day (registered voters must vote at their assigned precincts).

### Candidates

#### Town of Farragut

- Alderman, Ward 2: Drew Burnette (or write-in candidate)
- Alderman, Ward 1: Louise Povlin (or write-in candidate)

#### Knox County General Election (contested races only)

- County Commission 5th District: Kimberly Peterson (Democrat) vs. John Schoonmaker (Republican)
- County Commission 4th District: Kyle Ward (Republican) vs. Todd Frommeyer (Democrat)
- Law Director: David Buuck (GOP) vs. Jackson Fenner (Independent)
- Public Defender: Eric M. Lutton (GOP) vs. Sherif Guindi (Independent)

#### State of Tennessee Primaries (contested races in either August or November only)

- House of Representatives
- Democratic Primary, District 14: Justin Davis
- GOP Primary, District 14, Jason Zachary

#### Federal Primaries (contested races in either August or November only)

- U.S. House of Representatives, 2nd District:
- Democratic Primary candidates: Chance C. Brown, Renee Hoyos
- GOP Primary candidates: Tim Burchett
- U.S. Senate Democratic Primary candidates: Marquita Bradshaw, Gary G Davis, Robin Kimbrough, James Mackler and Mark Pickrell.
- GOP Primary candidates: Clifford Adkins, Natisha Brooks, Byron Bush, Roy Dale Cope, Terry Dicus, Tom Emerson Jr., George S. Flinn Jr., Bill Hagerty, Jon Henry, Kent A. Morrell, Glen L. Neal Jr., John E. Osborne, Aaron L. Pettigrew, David Schuster and Manny Sethi.

#### Verity paper-based voting sessions

Knox County Election Commission is hosting two open houses/informational sessions about its new Verity paper-based voting system at two locations next week, including Bearden.

- **From 6 to 8 p.m., Monday, July 6**, at The Change Center, 203 Harriet Tubman St. in Knoxville, 37915

See VOTING on Page 5A

## corrections

• On page 1A of the June 25 issue of farragutpress, a headline read incorrectly that Verizon is planning to build a 38-foot cell pole for Village Green. The actual company is U.S. Cellular. We regret the error.

• A sentence in a page 1B sports story June 25 incorrectly stated that Jessie Stephens, new Hardin Valley Academy boys soccer head coach, “is the first woman to be a head coach of a varsity boys sport in the Knoxville area.” Among the female head coaches of boys sports in past years was Ann Ham, who led the Bearden boys tennis team to four consecutive Class AAA state titles (1998 through 2001). We regret the error.

# KCSOreports

• **At 5:47 a.m., Monday, June 29**, two officers with Knox County Sheriff’s Office were dispatched to a Stone Villa Lane residence in regard to a domestic disturbance. Upon arrival, officers made contact with complainant/victim/suspect who advised his wife (victim/suspect) had assaulted him. Complainant said he and his wife currently are going through a divorce and began arguing over a bath towel. He further advised the argument carried into the bedroom closet, where he blocked his wife from obtaining his belongings. Complainant advised his wife began pushing and grabbing at him in an attempt to get items from the closet. Wife advised her husband grabbed her by her right tricep and refused to let go, and she pushed him away in an attempt to get free. Complainant denied grabbing his wife. Reporting officer said he “did not observe any marks or bruising on either subject at the time of the initial investigation.” Both subjects were explained their rights and given domestic violence cards.

• **At 11:06 p.m., Sunday, June 28**, officers responded to a “be on lookout” advisement for a possible drunk driver in a Ford truck missing a tire throwing sparks in the area of South Northshore Drive Choto Road. Officers reported observing a White Ford F-250 missing a tire on the

driver’s side front. Vehicle was bearing a Tennessee tag and traveling north on McFee Road at Old Stage Road. An officer initiated his emergency equipment and attempted to conduct a traffic stop on the vehicle. Vehicle refused to stop and continued west on Old Stage Road and then turned right onto South Watt Road headed north. Vehicle eventually came to a stop at 110 S. Watt Road. Officers came into contact with the driver (eventual arrestee). While speaking to the driver, reporting officer said he detected a strong odor of alcohol from the eventual arrestee, and was unsteady on his feet. He had bloodshot, watery eyes, was slurring his speech and was delayed in his responses to officers showing signs of impairment. Reporting officer requested the arrestee perform standardized field sobriety tests, to which he refused. Arrestee was read his Miranda Warning and agreed to speak to officers. Arrestee admitted to drinking six 12-ounce Corona beers at a friend’s house. Officer stated he asked the arrestee if he saw the blue lights behind him, and he said “no.” Arrestee was read the Tennessee Implied Consent law and refused to provide a blood sample. A records check revealed the arrestee’s license was

See REPORTS on Page 6A

# Confusion, COVID questions from Town biz leaders as fiscal year ends

### ALAN SLOAN

editor@farragutpress.com

Questions and confusion remained, as expressed by some of Farragut’s top business authorities, more than three months into the task of Town businesses attempting to abide by state and Knox County directives concerning the coronavirus pandemic.

Announcing “Knox County is going to adopt the Tennessee pledge” was Stephen Krempasky, Shop Farragut/Farragut Business Alliance executive director, about the 101-page state report of COVID-19 prevention guidelines Knox County adopted starting Wednesday, July 1.

An in-depth discussion about the confusion came

during the Alliance’s monthly meeting Thursday morning, June 18, in Town Hall.

About all the updates and changes in state and Knox County pandemic requirements and guidelines since March, “My COVID bible just keeps getting bigger ... very frustrating for my staff, my patrons,” said Alliance chair Candace Viox, owner of Water into Wine bistro & lounge in Farragut.

In fact, “... No restaurant in Knoxville is doing the same



Viox

thing. And no one is enforcing this,” she added.

“I’ve already had a private meeting with (Knox County) Mayor (Glenn) Jacobs about it because I was really frustrated.”

Despite that meeting, Viox said her key questions remained.

If even inadvertently in violation of a COVID-19 prevention measure, “Am I going I be fined? Can I lose my license?” Viox said she asked. “Are we enforcing this?”

“I would love for someone to explain it to me because right now every restaurant is doing their own thing,” she added.

Knox County Health Department, led by senior director

See CONFUSION on Page 5A

ADVERTORIAL

# Balance & Fall Prevention: 4 Simple Ways to Test Your “3 Balance Systems”

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

Farragut- This week, we are building off the information we discussed last week about your 3 balance systems, and I’m going to tell you some simple ways you can test each of these systems at home. Recall from last week that maintaining your balance depends on 2 things: your ability to sense your balance, and your ability to make corrections. Your 3 balance systems (vision, sensation, and inner ear) help you with that first task by providing your brain with a constant stream of input. When one or more of these systems start to decrease in speed or quality, this can have a very detrimental effect on your balance.



So how do you know if your 3 balance systems are working properly? You test them! And while some people might require some sophisticated testing, especially if the inner ear is involved, there are some really simple tests we use in the clinic to test each of the systems.

I’m going to tell you how to test your balance systems below, **but first I want to give you a word of caution:** make sure you’re in a safe environment when trying these balance tests. If your balance isn’t quite as good as it used to be, these tests will probably make you feel unsteady, and the last thing we want is for you to have a fall. So again, be safe with these tests. Have your spouse or a friend help you if needed, and make sure you’re in a spot where you can easily correct your balance if needed (by grabbing onto a high countertop or with a chair behind you).

### 4 Simple Balance Tests

In the clinic, we call these 4 positions the “Romberg” test. Do your best to maintain your balance for up to 30 seconds during each test, with your arms crossed over your chest. The first 2 positions are performed on a hard, level surface:

**Position 1:** feet together, eyes open.

**Position 2:** feet together, eyes closed.

The next 2 positions are performed on a

squishy surface. We use a dense piece of foam in the clinic, but at home you can use a thick pillow or a couch cushion.

**Position 3:** feet together, eyes open.

**Position 4:** feet together, eyes closed.

A “normal” performance on each test would be an ability to maintain each position for 30 seconds with only minimal amounts of sway or wobbling. If you have to uncross your arms or touch your hand down, stop the test. And if you have to open your eyes on position 2 or 4, that also stops the test.

### How To Interpret the Tests

Most people will be able to complete the full 30 seconds on the first position with only minimal sway/wobbling. If you have difficulty with the first position, which is the easiest, you likely have more than one balance system involved. If you do fine with the first position but have difficulty with the second position, it’s likely that you’re visually dominant and have issues with both your sensation and inner ear. If you do just fine with the first 2 positions but then have difficulty with the third, you likely have issues with your sensation/proprioception, and possibly your inner ear as well. And finally, if you have difficulty with the fourth position alone, you likely have some level of difficulty with your inner ear only.

The majority of people that try the Romberg test in the clinic will have difficulty with at least one of the positions, especially when we ask them to close their eyes. **If the test interpretation seems confusing, let me give you the most common scenario we see:** many people are overly reliant on their vision and have inner ear “weakness”. In addition, there are several other factors that might be negatively affecting their overall balance. Next week, I’ll introduce you to Janet and how she overcame some additional barriers to correct her balance. Talk to you then!

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

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# Talk of the Town

A Publication of the Town of Farragut • Summer 2020



FARRAGUTPRESS THURSDAY, JULY 2, 2020 • 3A

The summer Talk of the Town has been condensed due to the postponement/cancellation of several events.

Please see [townoffarragut.org](http://townoffarragut.org) and [farragutparksandrec.org](http://farragutparksandrec.org) for updates on Town events, programs and meetings.



## Town updates events and adds classes/programs

Farragut Town Hall and Community Center are open, and there are several new events and activities scheduled for the coming months! The Knox County Board of Health voted to follow Tennessee Pledge, so the Town of Farragut is now making safety decisions based on that plan.

The community center is offering basketball and pickleball rentals in the gym for families/associated groups through Aug. 6. See [farragutparksandrec.org/programs-events](http://farragutparksandrec.org/programs-events) for details. Courts must be reserved at least an hour ahead of time by calling 865-218-3376. The website also has a list of safe, socially-distant classes, including TWRA Boater Safety



Education, Nighttime Insects with Ijams Nature Center and kids' yoga. Check back often for new classes. The Assembly Hall and classrooms are available for

rent with specific guidelines. Call 865-218-3376 for rental information.

In lieu of Farragut's annual Independence Day Parade, the Town is asking businesses and neighborhoods to participate in Festive Fourth at Home. This event, from 9:30-11 a.m. on Saturday, July 4, encourages residents to decorate yards, houses, cars, trucks, etc., and dress in festive attire for drive-by viewing. A map of participating neighborhoods and organizations will be available at [townoffarragut.org](http://townoffarragut.org) by Friday, July 3, so the community can enjoy a "reverse" parade!

The annual Bob Watt Youth Fishing Rodeo is Saturday, July 25, at Anchor Park. The event, which is already full,

will include two rounds of fishing from 8-9 a.m. and 10-11 a.m. Participants need to bring their own poles. Bait will be provided or participants can bring their own.

The Health and Fitness Fair, hosted by Shop Farragut and the Town, will showcase more than 30 local businesses that specialize in the care of the human body from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 8, at the Farragut Community Center. Presented by Turkey Creek Medical Center. For more info: [farragutbusiness.com](http://farragutbusiness.com).

Fun with Farragut's Fleet has been cancelled for 2020 due to an inability to properly sanitize surfaces.

### Learn more about the Town through Intro to Farragut

Applications are now being accepted for the 2020 Introduction to Farragut Program. Participants learn about the town's history, government structure and operations, and volunteer opportunities, among other topics. Farragut residency is not required for participation.

The program begins with a reception and kickoff at Farragut Town Hall at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 19. The class meets at 6 p.m. on the following Wednesdays: Sept. 2, 16 and 30, Oct. 21 and Nov. 4. Classes are at Town Hall and last approximately two hours. After completing the requirements, participants are invited to attend a graduation ceremony at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 11.

In addition to these dates, the class will have the opportunity to tour Farragut with Town Administrator David Smoak on Friday, Oct. 2.

Program requirements in-

clude attending the kickoff reception, at least four of the five classes, one Board of Mayor and Aldermen meeting (second and fourth Thursdays of each month), one Municipal Planning Commission meeting (third Thursday of each month) and participating in a class project by completing volunteer hours with a nonprofit of the Town's choosing.

Space is limited. Accepted applicants will be notified within 10 days of the application deadline, which is 4 p.m. Friday, July 31. Register at [townoffarragut.org/introtofarragut](http://townoffarragut.org/introtofarragut), in person at Town Hall or by email to Jennifer Hatmaker at [jhatmaker@townoffarragut.org](mailto:jhatmaker@townoffarragut.org). Farragut Town Hall is located at 11408 Municipal Center Drive, across from the Farragut Branch Post Office.

For general application information, email Jennifer or call 865-966-7057.



### Visit Farragut's summer campaign shows hometown love to businesses

Visit Farragut has temporarily pivoted its focus from tourism to showcasing Farragut businesses as they reopen. In times of natural disasters or crisis, many tourism programs change their emphasis to local advertising to support the community. With COVID-19 leading to major adjustments for businesses as they work to reopen with a safe experience for all customers, the Visit Farragut team is focusing on the variety of retail and service providers throughout town with the "Doors are Opening" marketing campaign.

Visit Farragut created five shopping districts – Campbell Station, Farragut West, Farragut East, Farragut Town Center and Turkey Creek – to highlight the town's unique offerings. Each shopping district will be featured in a video series on Visit

Farragut's Facebook and Instagram pages, and additional marketing includes TV, radio, newspaper, as well as social media advertising. Check out [visitfarragut.org](http://visitfarragut.org) for directories of each district, and follow Visit Farragut for the latest info on business reopenings.

Shopping in Farragut is important to the community because it generates tax revenue for roads, parks and other Town services. Since the Town does not collect a property tax, shopping local is crucial to the future of Farragut as well as the businesses that have struggled to stay afloat in recent months.

It's more important than ever that our community shows hometown love to businesses as they reopen. It's easy – all you have to do is shop, eat and drink local!

### Construction projects continue in Farragut

While much of the community has been working from home, planning and construction on several projects in Farragut has continued. Here are updates on two Town of Farragut park improvements and the Tennessee Department of Transportation widening of Concord Road.

**McFee Park:** Phase 3 improvements are underway. Phase 3 will include a great lawn, an additional walk trail, a new entrance road, four lighted tennis/pickleball courts, a large pavilion and restroom, additional parking, utilities and stormwater structures. New park facilities are expected to open in summer 2021.

**Campbell Station Inn:** Phase 3 improvements to the grounds of the historic Campbell Station Inn include construction of two new entrance drives, lighted parking, restroom building, park-like open areas and

plazas, landscaping, benches and interpretive signage. The third phase is expected to be completed at the end of summer 2021. The schedule for Phase 4, completion of the inn's interior, will depend on the future use, which has yet to be determined.

**Concord Road:** Improvements to Concord Road, which provides a connection between I-40/I-75 and areas along Northshore Drive, include widening the two-lane road to four lanes with curb and gutter. The widened roadway will have a 12-foot center turn lane that transitions to a 14-foot raised median, 5-foot sidewalks and an 8-foot greenway. Construction also includes replacement of the bridge over the Norfolk Southern Railroad. The widening of Concord Road is expected to be completed in fall 2021.

### From the Desk of the Mayor...

Life has been very much up in the air for the past four months, but one thing is certain—2020 will be an unforgettable year. We are all hurting from the events surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic as well as the painful scenes of injustice we've witnessed in recent weeks. My hope is that the suffering will bring us together and make us stronger as a community and as a nation. We can prevail over many hardships if we face them together.

There are still many unknowns, but there are finally things to look forward to! Farragut Town Hall and Community Center are now open, and there are several fun events on the Town calendar. Read about Festive Fourth at Home and the Bob Watt Youth Fishing Rodeo in this abbreviated issue of Talk of the Town. Also check out the new, safe programs and classes at [farragutparksandrec.org](http://farragutparksandrec.org). You really can have fun while staying safe!

Another positive change is that Town meetings will be in person beginning in July, although with social-distancing rules in place. Check the meeting location on each agenda. Some will move to the Assembly Hall at the Farragut Community Center.

I'm also encouraged by the fact that many public and private building projects have continued during recent months. Town staff helped all of these projects move along, even when the doors to Town Hall were closed. One of the most exciting future projects is the new Town Center at the old Kroger site. The current vision includes a new public street lined with smaller commercial buildings that transition to larger commercial buildings and multi-family residential to the south. The Municipal Planning Commission may vote on a concept master plan for the project in July. Learn about other projects in this issue.

In the coming weeks, please continue to be safe by following the Knox County Health Department recommendations about wearing face masks and staying 6 feet apart. Also, remember to be kind to your neighbors and grateful for our little town. There are many good things happening in Farragut.



Mayor Ron Williams



## boardviewBurnette Freedom, the virus, the holiday

For many people in our community, this coming weekend will involve grills blazing, hot dogs and hamburgers sizzling and families gathering to celebrate Independence Day. As these celebrations take place, a word that stands in the background is freedom.

Freedom is a word that I have taken for granted for much of my life, unlike my dad who served in the United States Army. Honestly, for a West Knoxville kid, freedom never felt like a big concern.

However, once the COVID-19 lockdown hit in March of this year, the concept of freedom seemed a lot more relevant. There were no extracurricular activities for the family, just the grocery store and Zoom meetings for work. I get it, these are "first world problems," and I know many in our community have been hit hard. Whether it was sickness, the death of a loved one, the loss of a job or something else, this has not been an easy time for the Farragut community.



Alderman  
**Drew Burnette**  
Town of Farragut

For many of us, there is something very odd and uncomfortable about being told where you can and can't go. I understand the concerns of our health officials and, like you, I want to do my best to help "flatten the curve" for the sake of my neighbors. But it certainly makes you appreciate the freedoms and privileges we normally take for granted.

Add to all this the killing of George Floyd and Ahmaud Arbery, as well as the unrest that continues to unfold, and yet again we've been forced to think about the concept of freedom. The video of these horrific events will shake you to your core and make you think about freedom (or the lack thereof) from a new perspective. These events and their aftermath have undoubtedly affected the people in Farragut in different ways. Not everyone has experienced (or is experiencing) freedom in the same way many of us experience it.

As a father of five, two of whom are African-American, this issue hits very close to home. Life is very different for my African-American kids than it is for my biological kids, and not usually in a positive way. While this can be an

See BURNETTE on Page 8A

## presstalk

671-TALK (8255)

or [editor@farragutpress.com](mailto:editor@farragutpress.com)

While there were no Presstalks submitted for this week's issue, we respectfully ask our readers to follow the following Presstalk rules when submitting their opinions:

- Please keep calls to a 90-second maximum (call 671-8255 24 hours a day, seven days a week);
- Please keep e-mailed Presstalks to 250 words maximum (editor@farragutpress.com);
- Libelous and malicious comments will not be published;
- Profanity will be edited out;
- Comments will remain anonymous;
- Names of individuals or businesses may not be published (including public figures) depending on the issue.

## letterstotheeditor

### A relative's response to June 18 letter about labels on matters of patriotism

This letter is written in response to Bill Johns' letter printed (June 18) in the farragutpress Opinion section.

Here we go again.

I first must thank the Editor for publishing my wife's letter on June 11 and Bill Johns' letter on June 18. One letter showed empathy and lamented the deaths of so many African American's at the hands of police. Her hope was for all people to look inward at themselves and start the journey to redemption.

The second letter acknowledged the senseless murder of George Floyd, while ignoring the underlying causes for his death. Then he immediately goes into the attack mode and tries to divert the focus of the letter by labeling people he has never met as communist. Really.

It seems that any person expressing any opinion or thought other than that of Bill Johns is labeled a communist. I don't know Bill Johns and he does not know our family. But he, like many people of his ilk, abhor anyone who expresses concern that his American way of life, as he sees it, does not equally apply to all people. He seems to believe that if you don't agree with his philosophy, then you are a communist. My wife felt anguish and empathy for the 8 minute-an-46-second slow death of Mr. Floyd, and now she is labeled a communist or communist sympathizer. Where is America going? Why does one side automatically label any-

See RESPONSE on Page 8A

## letterstotheeditor

### Issues with Town's state representative

For many years I was quiet about my political positions, only voting, and not doing much else. I focused on my career and my family, and I thought there was no way I could make an impact. I was an observer and resigned to the politics of Knox County.

About five years ago that changed. I slowly began to be more vocal about my observations of the way things are and the way they ought to be for the good of society. I believe that government's first and most important responsibility is for the safety and well-being of the people of our country, states, counties and cities.

We have been faced over the last six months with a period of upheaval, uncertainty, and now, visible and insistent demands for change.

Here in House District 14 we have an elected representative (Jason Zachary) who has participated in the following actions over the past

two years. He correctly voted against a voucher bill that has since been adjudicated to be unconstitutional, but then allowed his mind to be changed by the Speaker's words. He changed his vote after some 40 minutes, allowing the bill to pass.

Government has a responsibility to provide resources for a strong public education system, not to put money in the pockets of those citizens who choose to use private schools.

Recently, he sponsored a bill that legislates agricultural wastewater provisions (House Bill 2206). The bill impacts the rural areas of the State far more than our local more urban community, and it allows for the unwise contamination of fresh water sources. What could possibly be his motivation for sponsoring such a bill, and

See STATE HOUSE on Page 8A

### A 5G 'pole' response to story, pair of letters

This is in response to the article in the June 25 edition (of farragutpress) by Michelle Hollenhead, and the letters from Jerry Guthrie and Vice Mayor Louise Polvin in that same issue.

If I were living in a subdivision with underground utilities, I can certainly understand folks being upset with the placing of any large above-ground structures in utility easement areas of their properties.

However, I do wish everyone would stop calling the 5G structures "towers." The utility "pole" next to the road in front of my house is around 36 feet high.

These poles have never been called "towers."

I'm sure at least one of the reasons some insist on calling the 5G poles towers is the very negative cell tower image it brings to mind. There are real reasons for not wanting these poles; let's not muddy the waters and stick to them.

One issue that concerns me more which I haven't seen mentioned: what will happen when carriers other than Verizon want to bring their 5G service to the Town?

Charles Reeves Jr.  
Farragut

### Perspective about racial tensions

Derek Chauvin, a former Minneapolis police officer, has been charged with 2nd-degree murder after pressing his knee into George Floyd's neck and holding it there until he died. Chauvin will face a trial and sentencing, as we are a country based on the rule of law, although you wouldn't know that by watching the evening news.

We see looting and burning of businesses, and tearing down statues, not just of Confederate leaders but also the 26th President of the United States. We haven't been informed of what Teddy Roosevelt's sin was, but his statue is to come down. We saw police cars being destroyed, attacks leaving police officers injured and former African American retired St. Louis Police Department Capt. David Dorn killed trying to defend a business from looters.

We also see young people wearing T-shirts with the letters BLM

See PERSPECTIVE on Page 8A

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Publisher..... 218-8883  
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<p><b>Editorial Department</b></p> <p><b>Alan Sloan,</b> Editor.....218-8880 <a href="mailto:editor@farragutpress.com">editor@farragutpress.com</a></p> <p><b>Tammy Cheek,</b> Writer.....218-8873 <a href="mailto:tcheek@farragutpress.com">tcheek@farragutpress.com</a></p> <p><b>Michelle Hollenhead,</b> Writer.....218-8890 <a href="mailto:mhollenhead@farragutpress.com">mhollenhead@farragutpress.com</a></p> <p><b>Production Department</b></p> <p><b>Tony Christen,</b> Production Manager.....218-8872 <a href="mailto:production@farragutpress.com">production@farragutpress.com</a></p> <p><b>Cindy Wilfert,</b> Designer.....218-8872</p>	<p><b>Advertising Department</b></p> <p><b>Laura Sayers,</b> Account Executive.....218-8879 <a href="mailto:lsayers@farragutpress.com">lsayers@farragutpress.com</a></p> <p><b>Charlene Waggoner,</b> Account Executive.....218-8877 <a href="mailto:cwaggoner@farragutpress.com">cwaggoner@farragutpress.com</a></p> <p><b>Linda Tirban,</b> Classified Display, Service Directory.....218-8881 <a href="mailto:linda@farragutpress.com">linda@farragutpress.com</a></p> <p><b>Receptionist</b></p> <p><b>Lori Timmis</b> .....218-8871 <a href="mailto:lori@farragutpress.com">lori@farragutpress.com</a></p>
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**Editor email:** [editor@farragutpress.com](mailto:editor@farragutpress.com)  
**Website:** [www.farragutpress.com](http://www.farragutpress.com)

**Phone:** 865-675-6397 **News Fax:** 675-1675 **Advertising Fax:** 675-6776

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**Confusion**

From page 2A

Dr. Martha Buchanan, released the following “enforcement” information:

“The local guidance, as well as the state guidance, is largely education-based. Knox County’s Law Department has advised that there is no enforce-

ment power behind the guidance, apart from situations in which known transmission is occurring.

“Both the local guidance and the state guidance largely rely on businesses and individuals to do the right thing,” the release further stated. “If individuals have a concern/complaint regarding a business, they can call 3-1-

1. A member of our business guidance team will follow up and provide education to the business where it’s needed.”

“It’s changing on a daily basis. It’s very frustrating,” said Vice Mayor Louise Povlin, owner of Farragut’s Anytime Fitness.

As for the 101-page state report, Farragut Mayor Ron Williams said Knox

County “may have some additions to it.”

“One of the things about the state is, they’re updating things (where) they don’t necessarily re-phase it,” said Sue Stuhl, Farragut Parks and Recreation director. “There’s new things that come out from time to time. They’re pretty good about announcing that.”

**Libertarian**

From page 1A

to the community and open to hosting anybody,” she added.

“The fact that she came to Farragut is very cool.”

Megan Lee of Farragut, Lauren McCloud of North Knoxville and Courtney Hildago were Jorgensen fans already, and just happened to visit Water Into Wine the same day.

“I was in favor of her already,” McCloud said. “We definitely need a stronger third-party candidate.”

“I would love to see a female presi-

dent I could respect,” Lee added.

The trio briefly talked to Jorgensen about current events and issues.

“I just don’t understand why reputable candidates keep selling out on firearms,” Hildago said.

Jorgensen said federal dollars have been appropriated to local law enforcement, enabling some departments to be obtain equipment seemingly better suited for combat.

“Some departments have even bought tanks and grenade launchers, for example, making them more like soldiers than law enforcement,” noted the candidate, who concluded the dis-

cussion with hugs for all three women, then stated, “I think most people are Libertarians, they just don’t know it yet.”

Jorgensen, who also was The Libertarian Party vice presidential nominee in 1996, was awarded the party’s presidential nomination last month. Joining her on the ticket is vice presidential candidate Jeremy “Spike” Cohen.

The pair will appear on the ballot in all 50 states.

While advocating the Libertarian Party directive for “much smaller government,” Jorgensen’s platform includes health care reform: “We can re-

duce the cost of health care 75 percent by allowing real price competition,” she said.

She was the only one of the three presidential-ballotted candidates who visited Minneapolis during “June-teenth” celebrations in the wake of George Floyd’s death at the hands of that city’s police officers.

Jorgensen agreed this is the perfect time for a viable third party candidate, as her web site notes: “Independents are the largest group of voters in America – nearly 40 percent of the electorate.”

**School plan**

From page 1A

person back-to-school versus about 30 percent choosing the hybrid model.

“We all know that students learn better when they’re in the classroom and have direct access to their teachers,” Horn said Monday.

However, “We did plan to have a virtual model for people who don’t feel comfort-

able sending their children to school physically,” Rudder said June 24.

He also said extending the school year into June was unpopular in the survey: “The students, teachers and administrators do not like this idea.”

Askew encouraged Task Force members to continue submitting questions “before I make my presentation to the Board” at its next work session meeting Wednesday,

July 8.

That meeting is set to begin at 5 p.m. in the Andrew Johnson Building. It also will be streamed on the KCS website.

Thomas then would make his decision on re-opening at the board’s regular session meeting Wednesday, July 15.

A myriad of issues were addressed Monday, which also included accommodating students with disabilities and other medical issues, difficul-

ties of social distancing on school buses and how to hold students accountable during online classes.

**Voting**

From page 2A

• **From 10 a.m. to noon, Saturday, July 11,** at its Downtown West Early Voting Center, 1645 Downtown West Blvd. in Bearden.

Election Commission representatives will show voters the voting system and how to complete and cast a paper ballot.

More information, including videos on how to cast a ballot and a flyer on the proper way to complete a ballot, can be found on the front page of [www.knoxvotes.org](http://www.knoxvotes.org).

Early voting for the State

and Federal Primary/County General/Town of Farragut Municipal Election begins Friday, July 17.

Voter registration forms will be available for anyone wish-

ing to register to vote.

Everyone is welcome. Social distancing will be enforced and attendees may have to wait in line, depending on attendance. Masks are highly encouraged.

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**Reports**

From page 2A

suspended for failure to show proof of insurance on Nov. 5, 2014. Arrestee was taken into custody and transported to Roger D. Wilson Detention Facility for booking. Officers observed damage on the driver rear quarter panel of the vehicle.

• **At 4:09 a.m., June 28,** officers were dispatched to 11341 Campbell Lakes Drive (Clarion Inn & Suites) in reference to a suspicious person that was refusing to leave the property. Officers came in contact with complainant/employee, who said suspect was sitting in her vehicle and was refusing to leave the property. Complainant said the suspect was causing issues with other guests in the lobby and said she was waiting on Robert De Niro. Complainant requested officers to trespass her from the property. Upon speaking with the suspect, she was uncooperative and refused to answer many questions. Suspect denied taking any type of medication that would alter her mental state. She refused medical treatment. Officers issued a trespass warning.

• **At 5:14 p.m., Saturday, June 27,** an officer responded to a Chapel Point Lane residence in regard to a suspicious person. Suspect was covered in leaves and was mumbling to herself. Suspect said she took some methamphetamines last night and shot some heroin this morning. Suspect could not sit still and could not keep a train of thought. Suspect said

she stayed at the Hilton along Western Avenue, got a ride to Lovell Road, then walked around and ended up on Grigsby Chapel Road. She was still intoxicated from the drugs she had taken and was in danger to herself and others, and was placed into custody and transported to Behavioral Health Urgent Care Center.

• **At 11:05 a.m., June 27,** officers were dispatched to an Oran Road residence in regards to a domestic disturbance. Upon arrival, officers made contact with complainant/victim (father) and victim (mother), who advised their son, the suspect, assaulted them. The mother advised the suspect became irate when he couldn't take the victim's vehicle due to her having to work. Mother advised a verbal altercation began in the kitchen, and the suspect grabbed her glasses off of her face and pushed her to the ground. Mother advised at that time, the father came into the kitchen and got in between the suspect and his wife to prevent any additional assault. Father advised a struggle began, and the suspect was pushed into the kitchen cabinet, breaking several glasses and knocking the cabinet over. Father further advised the suspect grabbed his glasses off of his face and threw them on the ground before leaving the residence. Suspect was not on scene upon officer's arrival. Both victims were advised of their rights and given domestic violence cards. Warrants will be placed on file due to the corroborating statements by both victims.



Tammy Cheek

Nicholas Moskal, Farragut Board of Plumbing & Gas/Mechanical Examiners, holds up a commemorative cutting board he received as a reward for his 20 years of service to the Town during a drive-thru of the Town's Volunteer Banquet, which was held this year in and around Farragut Community Center Friday, June 26.

**Volunteers**

From page 1A

Moskal, Board of Plumbing & Gas/Mechanical Examiners Committee member, for 20 years; Mark Lower, Board of Plumbing & Gas/Mechanical Examiners, and Alderman Ron Pinchok for 10 years each; and Marie Meszaros, Stormwater Advisory Committee member, for five years of volunteer service.

"I love it," Moskal said about the banquet as he was driving through to pick up his meal.


"We are so glad that we were able to honor the volunteers during this crazy time," Farragut Special Event and Program coordinator Brittany Spencer stated. "We wouldn't be able to do a lot of what we do without them, and volunteers will now be more important than ever."

Boxed meals were catered by Apple Cake Tea Room.

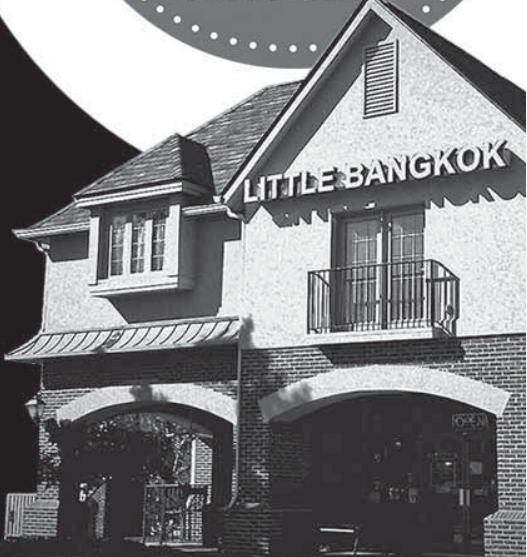


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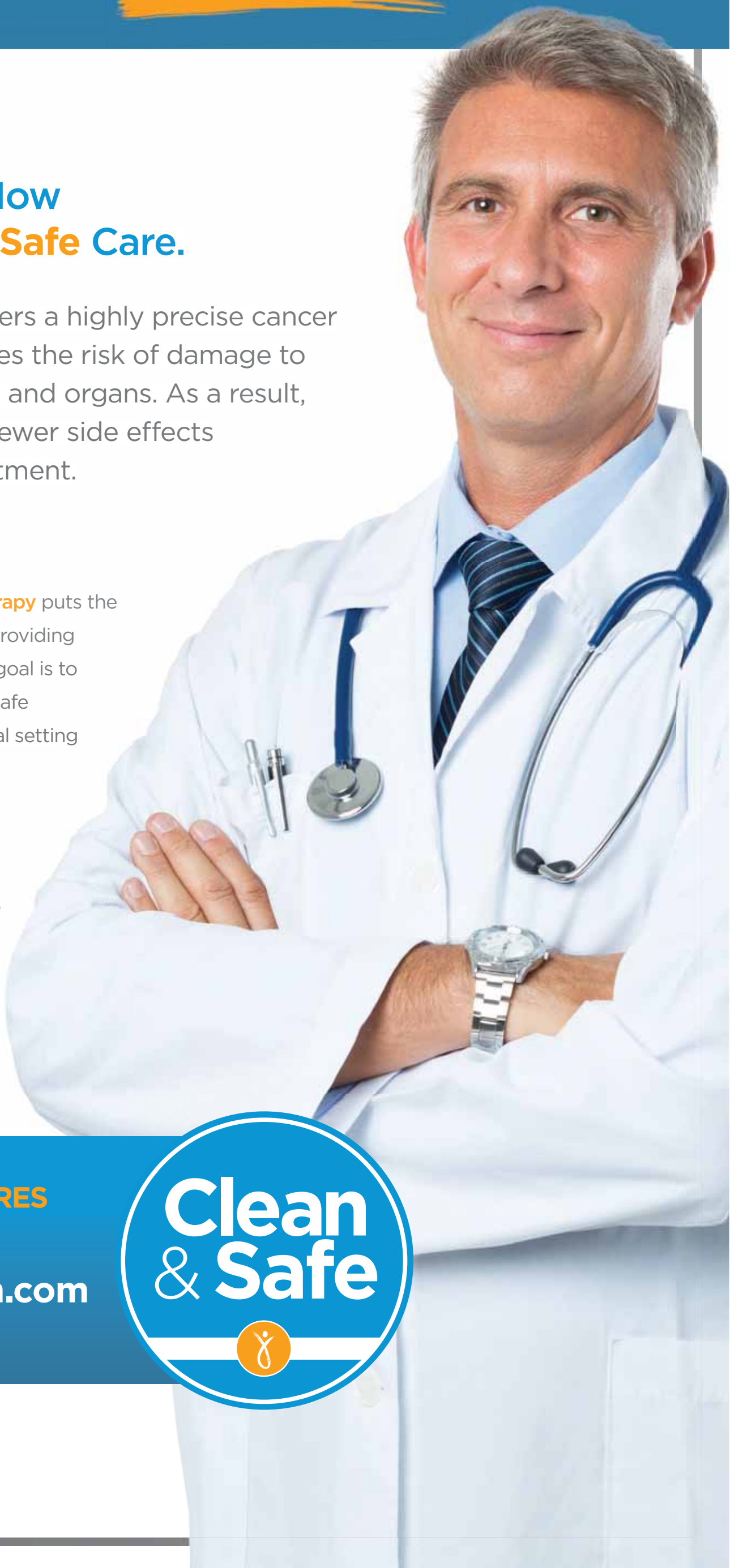
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## Perspective

From page 4A

on them while they march with fists in the air in solidarity with this movement. Do the young people know what Black Lives Matter really stands for, and do they care?

Learning a little about the movement, you associate yourself with might be a wise decision.

Black Lives Matter Foundation, Inc. was founded in 2013 by Opal Tometi, Alicia Garza and Patrisse Khan-Cullors. This foundation is a global organization in the United States, UK and Canada, and its mission is to eradicate white supremacy according to blacklivesmatter.com.

The founders of BLM have a vision of reconstituting the Black Liberation movement. Those in the liberation movement include Assata Shaku, a self-described Marxist revolutionary who stated in her original letter "To My People" she had declared war on the rich ... and the heartless robots (police) who protect them and their property."

The hatred of the rich is seen in the constant criticism of President Donald Trump. Trump earned his wealth through his own hard work.

This sentiment was not lost on BLM. This movement did not discriminate between black and white business owners and preceded to loot and burn down businesses under the guise of racist dogma.

Our representatives should not change laws based on a movement that chants for the death of police officers.

Yes, George Floyd deserves justice, and so do those who lost businesses — and especially for the police officers, and their families, who were injured and killed during the Floyd riots.

**Brenda Miller  
Farragut**

## State House

From page 4A

how does it positively impact the health and safety of constituents here in District 14?

In March, our representative placed the vote for religious release time on the Consent Calendar, which is generally used for non-legislative votes.

Sadly, because representatives didn't read all the actions, that bill passed the House 94-0, completely misrepresenting and ignoring the objections that many raised in committees and that local LEA's had expressed this past school year.

## Response

From page 4A

one who does not share their thoughts as liberal, leftist liberal, socialist or communist?

As you read his letter, he showed little interest in the concerns expressed in this letter.

I wonder if he also had any empathy for the fathers and mothers of the children killed at the Sandy Hook Elementary School in Connecticut, Parkland High School in Florida or the people killed at Mother Emmanuel AME Church in South Carolina, and the recent killing of Ahmaud Arbery in Georgia.

Members of our family have served this country proudly in the military in every conflict from World War I to present

## Burnette

From page 4A

uncomfortable topic for some, it's a conversation that we need to have, and it needs to be done in love.

All that to say, I know we will experience freedom in a

variety of ways heading into this July 4 holiday, particularly in light of recent events.

Once again, the negative impact on public education was ignored by a representative catering to a small segment of the public.

Release time for religious instruction, which has for hundreds of years been the responsibility of parents, should not be provided at the expense of academics.

Finally (in late June) the District 14 representative voted (present not voting on) a resolution to recognize a Black teenage girl (Ashanti Posey) who was murdered in Nashville in April.

She was working two jobs, a graduating senior, and set to

attend Western Kentucky University. She was loved by her family and community, and hers was one of many such resolutions announced and voted on in the House. Instead, Rep. William Lamberth impugned her character and repeated unsubstantiated charges against her for which she was never tried.

She is dead, and her parents watched as representatives voted against acknowledging her accomplishments and the tragedy of her murder, specifically because their leader uttered bigoted generalizations on the floor of the House of the State of Tennessee.

We have a choice in the primary on Aug. 6 and in the General Election on Nov. 3. We can elect a new representative to serve State House District 14 in Nashville.

We can elect a person who will protect the safety and well-being of our children in public schools, our citizens in need of healthcare, to say nothing of protecting the rights of all to cast a ballot in safety.

Vote for Justin Davis for House District 14 Representative. Be the change we must see.

**Marcia Power  
Knoxville**

"you should love you neighbor as yourself." If, as God commanded, you love your neighbor, you cannot look at them with malice as you seem to indicate in your letter.

I may be wrong, but all I glean from your letter is hatred for anyone that does not believe the way you do. I wonder if the real issue is that you are uncomfortable discussing the racial injustice system addressed in her letter.

In order to understand the meaning of being a racist or antiracist, I would like to suggest that everyone read the book "How To Be An Antiracist" by Ibram X. Kendi.

**Harold Hicks,  
BSME, MBA retired  
Farragut**

Get real Bill Johns. We have earned the right to express our opinion, just as any citizen in this country earned that right.

My wife spent over 30 years in teaching and administration in the public schools, and there is not one peer, one student, one administrator who did not love and respect her for her thoughts and opinions.

Fire her?  
Not in your lifetime.  
Matthew 22:39 says that

economic status, political affiliation, etc.— and to long for them to be treated as we ourselves want to be treated. It's been said "great things in life are on the other side of a difficult conversation." That's true, and I would submit this is a conversation worth having.

## Rules on submitted views of candidates after July 23 issue

All opinions about candidates running in the upcoming Thursday, Aug. 6, Elections and Primaries, which take the form of a Letter to the Editor or as a Presstalk, must be submitted by noon, Monday, July 20, for publication in our Thursday, July 23 issue.

No such opinions will be published in our July 30 or Aug. 6 issues, unless it is a rebuttal to a July 23 opinion.

The rebuttal must be from the candidate himself/herself, and can only answer points made in the July 23 issue. No post-July 23 rebuttals will be accepted if opposing view was expressed in an issue before July 23.

### Letters 600 words max

All Letters to Editor, regardless of contest, must not exceed 600 words in length. Thanks for understanding these rules.

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## business briefs

# Making move happen: KAM

• The University of Tennessee Medical Center has named **Dr. Brian Wiseman** as vice president of the Brain & Spine Institute, one of the medical center's seven Centers of Excellence. Wiseman replaces retired leader, Dr. J. Russell Langdon, who had worked at UPMC since 1984.



Wiseman

• Beginning June 1, **Staffing Solutions, Medical Solutions and Resource Accounting** in Knoxville operated as RemX, The Workforce Experts. RemX is the professional division of parent company EmployBridge. This change allows the brands to expand their access to the RemX branch network and leverage the strength and stability of a national brand.

• EXIT Real Estate Professionals Network, 9821 Cogdill Road, Suite 1A in Knoxville, announces **Carol Bush, Joe Presz, Michelle Anderson** and **Tony Anderson** have joined its growing team of real estate sales professionals.

• **Susan Hamilton**, the recently retired director of the UT Gardens, recently received the American Public Gardens Association Award of Merit for 2020, which will be presented at the American Public Gardens Association 2020 virtual conference held online through July 9. The award recognizes an APGA member who has performed with distinction in the field of public horticulture and excelled as a public garden professional. The award is a career capstone Hamilton.



Hamilton

• Pellissippi State Community College recently honored its faculty and staff members with a virtual awards ceremony. Recipients are: Roger Crowe Excellence in Teaching Award, **Kathleen Affholter**, a full-time physical and environmental sciences professor; Innovations Award, the team of professor

See BRIEFS on Page 10A

**MICHELLE HOLLENHEAD**  
mhollenhead@farragutpress.com

Knoxville Academy of Music is making a bold move and is hoping to offer classes in its new West End location in early July.

The studio, which has been in the former Kroger shopping center since 2014, is moving to 165 West End Ave., taking the place of EXIT Realty, which recently relocated to Cogdill Drive.

Owner Jeffrey Comas said he had been actively looking for a new site for about two years, but two factors recently hastened the planned move.

"They are building a new development here (tentatively labeled Farragut Town Center at Biddle Farms) and I'm not sure how much of the current building will survive," he said.

"If they tear it down, we just don't have time to wait for the rebuilding," Comas added.

A recent air-conditioning failure further sped up the process.

"It was really good that we waited to move because what we found was just perfect," he said. "We didn't want to go far from where we already are, especially since our clients are used to our location."

"We really like the West End property, it is well-run and has been well-maintained," Comas



Photo submitted

Knoxville Academy of Music owner/director Jeffrey Comas and assistant director Brandi Clifton-Cowan point to appropriate inspirational slogans left over from previous occupants in what will be the business' new location at 165 West End Center.

added. "We can't wait."

Comas, his daughter, operations director Jody Comas, and the business's assistant director, Brandi Clifton-Cowan, have been hard at work on the transition plans, working with

Town of Farragut on signage, as well as a slight redesign and construction of a wall within the business.

"We are just waiting on our certificate of occupancy and we'll be ready to go," he said.

"We are very excited," Clifton-Cowan added.

The new site will offer "about the same amount of square footage," Comas added

See MOVING on Page 10A

## Food truck events offer personal chef experience

**TAMMY CHEEK**

tcheek@farragutpress.com

Choto resident Dale Akins is bringing the personal chef experience to three Knox County communities using his business, The Chef's Workshop.

"The whole concept is to bring a personal chef experience into a neighborhood," said Akins, president of The Chef's Workshop, 10433 Hicko-

ry Path Way in Knoxville.

"That's the whole idea, and to give people - especially during COVID - a different dinner option."

Akins' concept offers another win for area residents and other subscribers: The events are drive-through.

"Most of our customers never get out of their cars,"

See TRUCK on Page 10A



Tammy Cheek

Henry Bieber, left, one of the pastors of the neighboring Shoreline Church, receives his food order from Grant Coggin, managing orders for The Chef's Workshop at one of the businesses' food truck events at Montessori Internationale School, 10019 S. Northshore Drive, Wednesday, June 24. The school is one of three food truck event locals held each week.

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Farragut resident, Cory J. Gerlach, a Financial Advisor with Edward Jones, has relocated and opened a new office in the Century Plaza complex at 10820 Kingston Pike, Suite 20. Joining Cory at this new location is Branch Office Administrator, Sherri Eaker who relocated from an Edward Jones office in Oak Ridge.



Cory and his wife, Christie, have lived in the Farragut community for nearly 20 years. Christie is a third-grade teacher at Farragut Intermediate School and their two daughters, Madison and Olivia, are students at the University of Tennessee.

At Edward Jones, Gerlach's key focus areas include helping individuals and families with retirement savings strategies, retirement income strategies, college savings, divorce finances, estate and legacy strategies and insurance and annuities.

To contact Gerlach, call 865-671-1718, e-mail to cory.gerlach@edwardjones.com or visit his website at

www.edwardjones.com/cory-gerlach.

**Photo submitted**

Residents and motorists along South Northshore Drive and Hardin Valley at Pellissippi State Community College's AYSO Soccer Fields might see a truck from The Chef's Workshop on any given Wednesday or Thursday. The food truck business is holding community food truck events at those locations, as well as another in the Choto area on Sundays.



**Truck**

From page 9A

he said. "Everything is online. We don't go all over town. We don't go to different subdivisions. We only stay in our three sites."

He set up community food truck events at Montessori Internationale School, 10019 S. Northshore Drive, on Wednesdays, Pellissippi State Community College AYSO soccer fields, 10915 Hardin Valley Road, on Thursdays, and a private Choto residence, the Boyd-Harvey house, on Sundays.

Local chefs rent his food trucks and provide food. "This is what we call a food

truck hot spot," he said. "The idea behind it is that you go to neighborhoods. Residents are able to come in, drive around, pull back on the road and go home."

Sign-ups for the service are at [thechefsworkshop.com/](http://thechefsworkshop.com/), where you can order meals. Customers receive a text to begin the meal and another when the meal is ready.

"That way it's completely COVID-compliant," Akins said. "You're not waiting in line with other people ... it's there and it's ready."

"So far we've done really, really good and have had no more than one or two cars here (at a time)," he added.

"What's nice about a food truck is it's completely compliant and it meets the same requirements as a restaurant. We have the health inspections."

While Akins has been doing food truck events for three years, he launched online ordering last February.

With a background in real estate, a chef came to him two years ago looking for space to rent.

Instead of renting a space for a restaurant, they decided on a mobile kitchen — a food truck, and the rest is history.

For more information, call Akins, 865-693-5066, or [cheeswhiz@thechefsworkshop.com](mailto:cheeswhiz@thechefsworkshop.com)

**Briefs**

From page 9A

**Minoo Askari**, professor **Susan McMahon**, laboratory technician **Kristen Kover**, instructional media technician **Leslie Owle** and instructional media technician **Gary Hinshaw**, who created an online accessible microbiology lab manual; the Gene Joyce Visionary Award to instructor **Cristina Carbajo**, program coordinator for Pellissippi State's Water Quality Technology program; and **Jennifer Cozart**, career specialist for the Universal Pathways to Employment Program, who took home the Staff Excellence Award.

• **Roane State Community College** recently joined with a select few higher education institutions to receive the National Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense Education designation. Roane State is the only community college in East Tennessee to receive the designation, which has been only bestowed on five other higher education institutions statewide.


• **Blue Cross Blue Shield Association** has designated The University of Tennessee Medical Center as a Blue Distinction Center for five specialty service lines: cardiac care, bariatrics, knee and hip replacement, spine surgery and maternity care. The Blue Distinction Center recognition is presented to healthcare facilities and providers for their expertise and efficiency in delivering specialty care.

• UT president **Randy Boyd** recently selected six UT faculty and staff members to honor with the 2020 President's Awards: Educate honoree **Richard Robinson**, UT Martin professor of communications; Discover honoree **Robert Williams**, UT Health Science Center professor and chair of genetics, genomics and informatics and UT-Oak Ridge National Laboratory Governor's Chair in Computational Genomics; Connect honoree **Karen Armsey**, director of UT Institute of Agriculture's Human-Animal Bond in Tennessee (HABIT) outreach program; Support (Exempt) honoree **Ashlie Cysz**, UT System executive recruiter and director of human resources programs; Support (Non-Exempt) honoree **David Rash**, UT Martin senior heating, ventilation and air conditioning specialist; and Diversity honoree **Michael Alston**, UT Health Science Center assistant vice chancellor for equity and diversity and Title IX coordinator.

• **UT Law Enforcement Innovation Center** recently announced plans to develop a training program to minimize biased-based policing in the law enforcement community. **Rick Scarbrough**, LEIC executive director, stated in a press release that LEIC began discussions with the Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles in early June to create a national certification program for law enforcement agencies across Tennessee and nationwide.

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**Moving**

From page 9A

— enough to accommodate up to 500 students weekly.

Knoxville Academy of Music offers music lessons encompassing "just about every instrument except for brass and woodwinds," Clifton-Cowan said. "We give lessons in piano, guitar, drums and voice, along with bass, banjo, mandolin and the ukulele."

He estimated 80 to 90 percent of their clientele is "between the ages of 5 and 15."

Pre-COVID, Comas said the studio had "well over 300 students a week," a number that dropped during the pandemic. "But we have really picked back up in recent weeks."

He is grateful for Town support, both government- and customer-based

"I do want to say we appreciate so much the Town of Farragut and our clientele," he added. "We have been well-supported by the community and we really appreciate that."

**Early background**

Comas actually has an almost two-decade-long history with the Farragut community, as he began giving lessons locally in 2004, following more than 10 years of giving lessons as a music-studying college student at Belmont University and Austin Peay.

His decision to teach followed a period in his 20s when he worked as a traveling musician, a career that took him to Minneapolis for a time in the late '80s, where he came into contact with Prince more than once.

"He used to come to these weekly Blues Jam sessions they had every Monday night," Comas recalled of the late prolific genius. "I met him more than once."

Comas grew up in Cedar Bluff, attending those schools then graduating from Bearden High School in 1979.

After traveling the country, he came back to Tennessee to study guitar, ultimately graduating from Austin Peay with a degree in composition.

Comas said he began specializing in teaching younger children in 1998, when he opened his first music school, where he taught almost 100 students each week.

While he no longer teaches, and instead focuses more on the marketing side of the business, Comas now has 15 instructors working at Knoxville Academy of Music while Clifton-Cowan oversees the day-to-day operations.

"Brandi really is the face and voice for most of our clientele," Comas said.

For more information, call 865-675-1655.

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# The Third Great Title-Deed of Anglo-American Liberties

Winston S. Churchill | July 4, 1918

Liberty Day Meeting | Central Hall, Westminster (Excerpts)

*“I move that the following resolution be cabled from the meeting as a greeting to the President and people of the United States of America: This meeting of the Anglo-Saxon Fellowship assembled in London on the 4th of July, 1918, send to the President and people of the United States their heartfelt greetings on the 142nd anniversary of the Declaration of American Independence. They rejoice that the love of liberty and justice on which the American nation was founded should in the present time of trial have united the whole English-speaking family in a brotherhood of arms.”*

We are met here today at Westminster to celebrate the national festival of the American people and the 142nd anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. We are met here also as brothers-in-arms facing for a righteous cause grave injuries and passing through times of exceptional anxiety and suffering. We therefore seek to draw from the past history of our race inspiration and comfort to cheer our hearts and fortify and purify our resolution and our comradeship.

A great harmony exists between the spirit and language of the Declaration of Independence and all we are fighting for now. A similar harmony exists between the principles of that Declaration and all that the British

people have wished to stand for, and have in fact achieved at last both here at home and in the self-governing Dominions of the Crown.

The Declaration of Independence is not only an American document. It follows on Magna Carta and the Bill of Rights as the third great deed on which the liberties of the English-speaking people are founded. By it we lost an Empire, but by it we also preserved an Empire. By applying its principles and learning its lesson we have maintained our communion with the powerful Commonwealths our children have established beyond the seas.

Wherever men seek to frame politics or constitutions which safeguard the citizen, be he rich or poor, on the one hand from the shame of despotism, on the other from the miseries of anarchy, which combine personal freedom with respect for law and love of country, it is to the inspiration which originally sprang from the English soil and from the Anglo-Saxon mind that they will inevitably recur. We therefore join in perfect sincerity and simplicity with our American kith and kin in celebrating the auspicious and glorious anniversary of their nationhood.”

~ [winstonchurchill.billsdale.edu/churchill-on-july-4th/](http://winstonchurchill.billsdale.edu/churchill-on-july-4th/)

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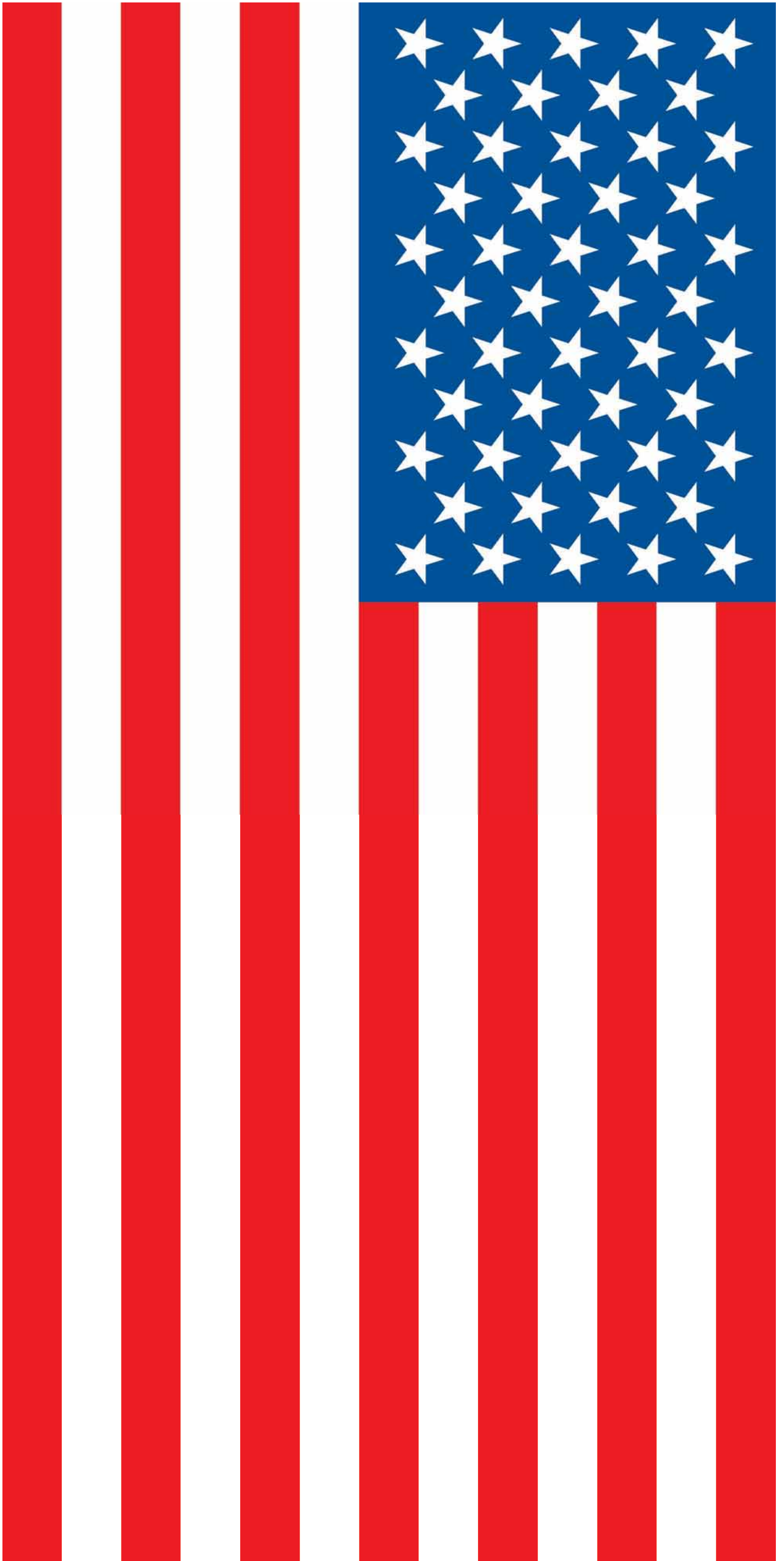
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## J.D. 'exactly what we were looking for:' Estus

**KEN LAY**  
*Correspondent*

**KNOXVILLE** --- Christian Academy of Knoxville athletic director Ried Estus has found his next boys basketball head coach.

It's J.D. Johnson, who has been coaching at Christian schools in North Carolina during the past several years.

"Johnson is exactly what we were looking for when we

opened the search," Estus stated in a recent press release. "He is a Godly man, an experienced and proven coach and has the academic credentials worthy to join our excellent teaching faculty."

In addition to coaching basketball, he'll teach high school history.

"For me, I've been a full-time social studies teacher and this will be my 14th year," Johnson said. "I've been teaching at pri-

vate Christian Schools for the last eight years."

Having coached in North Carolina since 2007, "When I was doing my research, CAK looked like a place where I could be for a long time and build a program," he added.

Johnson hails from the Cleveland, Ohio, area. He played college basketball at Lake Erie College.

"I love working at a Christian school and having the

opportunity to share my faith and the Gospel with students on a daily basis," Johnson said. "I'm excited that CAK has a simultaneous commitment to spiritual development and academic excellence while recognizing the importance of athletics and the role it plays in education."

He was head coach at Cape Fear Christian Academy during the 2018-2019 campaign, finishing with a 19-16 record.

Johnson left Cape Fear to become associate head coach at Freedom Christian Academy under former Grace Christian Academy head coach Brandon Clifford, who led the Rams to the 2018 Division II-A state championship.

He also had coaching stops at High Point Christian Academy and Statesville Christian.

Johnson was assistant head

**See NEW COACH on Page 2B**

## Diamond adjusting for KCS 8th-grader

**KEN LAY**  
*Correspondent*

Carpenter Ford is spending his summer playing in a high school baseball league, and that certainly is normal for any player this time of year.

He's one of many players on the diamond right now as a pair of leagues in East Tennessee are giving athletes a chance to play after the COVID-19 pandemic ended the 2020 spring semester and sports season, and he's relishing his most recent chance to get on the field just like any player.

What makes Carpenter unique is he's a rising eighth grader playing for Knoxville Christian School, as most players in the league are either recent high school graduates or currently enrolled in high school.

And if that's not tough enough, Carpenter has been the Knights' primary starting catcher since the league started last month. He's also still learning the position.

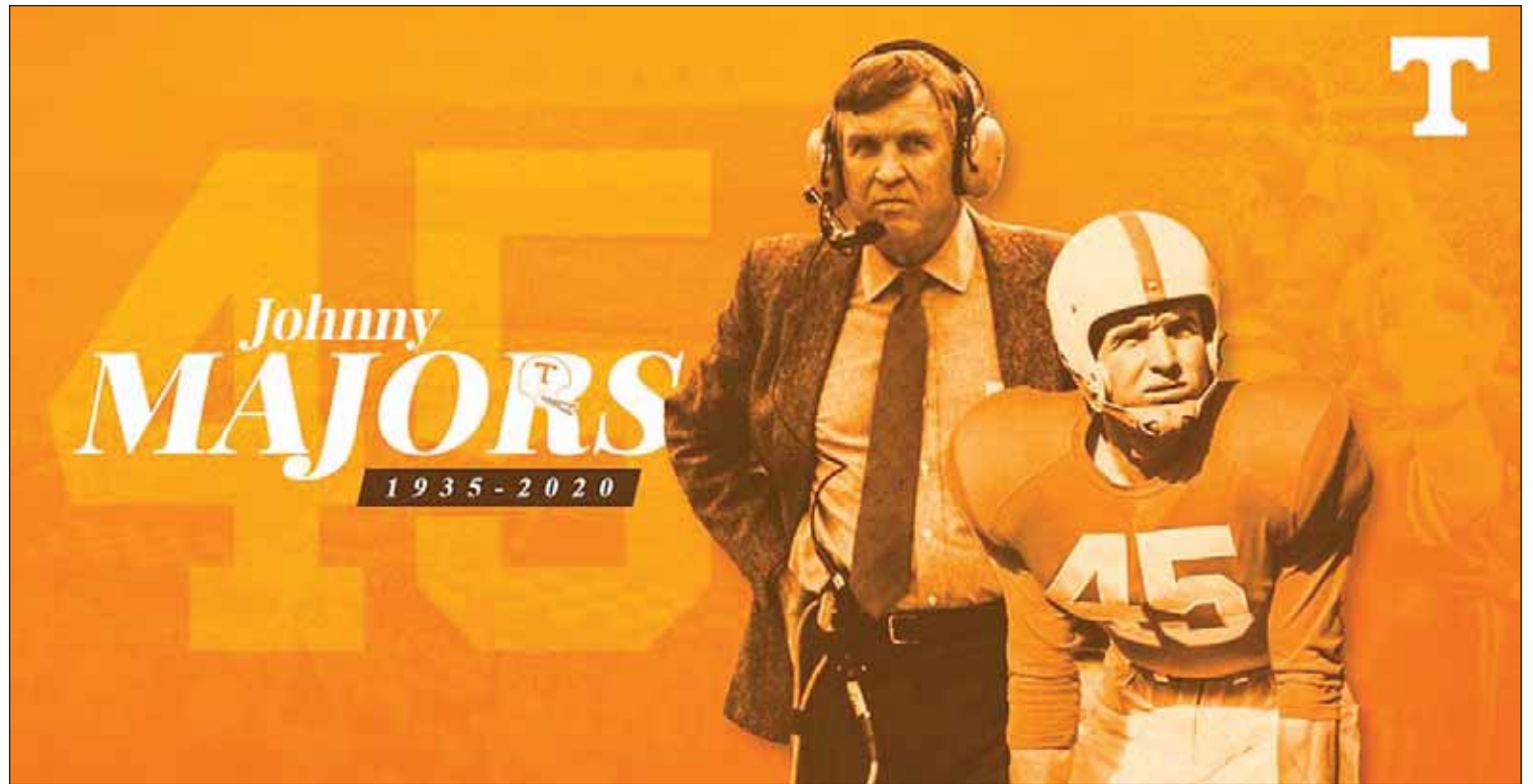
But don't look for Carpenter to be intimidated by the duties of handling some top high school pitchers.

You see, he plays high school hockey for the Farragut Admirals club.

"I do really play catcher. I started playing last year," said Carpenter, who has spent the majority of his career at third base or in the outfield. "Sometimes it's hard, but now it's getting easier to handle our top pitchers."

"I used to be nervous about catching (recent KCS graduate and staff ace) Devon (Cogossi),

**See ADJUSTING on Page 2B**



Above illustration courtesy of UT Sports Information

Johnny Majors as a Heisman Trophy runner-up running back at UT in 1956, and as a national-championship-winning head coach.

## Already missed, Johnny has one 'Heck' of a story

**TOM HECK**  
*Special to farragutpress*

Tennessee lost one of its heroes when Johnny Majors recently passed. Coach Majors is a legend as a Hall of Fame player and coach, but he also touched many lives in Tennessee as a man.

In the 1980s while coaching at Rule High, I would attend coach Majors' coaching clinics at the University of Tennessee. He was always working the crowd and talking with high school coaches.

I was fortunate to be with Don Ward, and John would always spend five or 10 minutes talking with Don about Knoxville high school football, and I would get to be a fly on the wall. Coach Majors and Don would always exchange coaching gems that would open my eyes to the little things that so many coaches overlook.

In the early 2000s while on the staff at Knoxville Central High, I attended a Coach

of the Year Clinic in Atlanta. Coach Majors owned the Coach of the Year Clinic. He had purchased the business from legendary Michigan State head coach Duffy Daugherty and held clinics in different cities across the nation.

The Clinic was well-organized and featured major college coaches as speakers. Again, like the UT clinic, coach Majors was very active and visible while having informal talks with coaches outside the formal sessions.

I was now an old man on the staff and was acting as a mentor for a couple of younger coaches. It was Saturday night and I directed my young friends to the free sandwiches and beer provided by the clinic. We ended up sitting in the lobby watching all the coaches coming back from their nights out on the town and laughing at their returns.

Coach Majors came in from his dinner and recognized the Central coaches and

came to talk with us. He remembered my face and spoke of the '80s and entertained us with stories of his days as a young coach.

Coach Majors understood that to be effective as a coach you had to reach the player on two levels. The first level was the personal level, where you as a coach demonstrated that you care for the player as an individual, that he is more than an object — that he is a person that matters beyond his role on your team. His life is what is important and his success in his life is the ultimate goal of the relationship between the coach and player.

Coach did that with my young friends by spending those few minutes in the lobby.

The second level is that of a leader. As a leader the coach has to make hard decisions and enforce harsh penalties. On Sunday morning at his Coach of the Year

**See JOHNNY on Page 2B**

## Whiston sisters, with local tie, earn All-SEC honors

**STAFF REPORTS**  
*editor@farragutpress.com*

Perhaps Waverly Whiston's positive experiences working at and playing the golf course at Fox Den Country Club has enhanced her overall positive experience as a University of Tennessee student-athlete.

Whatever happened, little sister Nicole Whiston must have been impressed, following Waverly to UT — all the way from San Diego — to create a sibling pair on the UT Lady Vols Golf Team during the 2019-2020 season.

Both enjoyed much success, earning

All-SEC awards, the league office recently announced.

Waverly, a junior, was named to the All-SEC Community Service Team. A SAAC representative, she spent time during the year working and teaching at the women's team's golf clinic and participated in the team's pen pal program. She also participated in a Christmas gift program, adopting a child at Christmas and providing that child with presents.

"Waverly is very deserving of the All-SEC Community Service Team honor," UT head coach Judi Pavon said. "She always looks forward to representing Tennessee

and the golf team in the community and helps out when she has an opportunity." On the course, Waverly ranks eighth all-time in UT history in career stroke average at 74.53.

Nicole, a freshman, was named Second Team All-SEC and earned a spot on the All-Freshman SEC team. She is just the third Lady Vol to be named All-SEC First or Second Team and earn All-Freshman honors in the same season.

Despite a shortened season, Nicole had the second lowest single-season average in Lady Vol history at 72.21, while her 13 rounds of par or better ranked eighth all-time in program history.



Waverly Whiston

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J.D. Johnson

**New coach**

From page 1B

coach at High Point when the team made an appearance in the North Carolina state championship game.

Johnson then became head coach at Statesville, where he shattered school win records and took his team to the Elite 8.

The new Warriors boys boss has had some interaction with his Christian Academy 2020-21 team.

And he's thrilled with his squad in Knoxville.

"We have a young and hungry team that is eager to learn," Johnson said. "The time that I've spent with them has been absolutely joyous."

Last season CAK finished 21-12 and made it to the Division II-A state tournament.

**Adjusting**

From page 1B

but now it's just another inning of catching."

Carpenter noted that as tough as catching can be, it's not necessarily the most difficult part of his athletic life.

"I play hockey for Farragut against the same-aged kids, and hockey is probably a little tougher because it's a more physical sport," he said. "I also

like to rock climb."

KCS head coach John Barry knows Carpenter is going to have some tough days as he continues to hone his skills behind the dish. But the coach has had the rewarding experience of watching his young player improve each time the Knights hit the field.

"He's not really a catcher," Barry said. "We're making him one. He started catching last year and he kind of got

thrown into it.

"He's getting better and that's great to see," he added.

Carpenter sees the improvement as well. "It's getting easier for me to handle some of our guys who throw fast," he said. "I've made very good progression since the beginning."

Barry is approaching summer baseball as an opportunity to have his players learn on the field, and he's patiently watching Carpenter learn.

His father, Steve Ford, is an assistant on Barry's staff — and also provides support for his son behind the dugout.

"He's the type of kid that accepts every challenge," Steve Ford said. "He's always been a third baseman or an outfielder, and this has taken some getting used to.

"But he's always confident about accepting a challenge, but he's never arrogant about it."

**Johnny**

From page 1B

Clinic, coach Majors would demonstrate that leadership quality to my young companions.

Our boss, Joel Helton, had made it very plain that we were to attend a session on Sunday morning. The whole staff was there, on time, prepared to take notes and bring

the information back to Bobcat land. It did not take long for us to realize the speaker was not discussing his advertised topic. Coach Helton was not the most patient man, and he soon closed his notebook and walked out of the room.

My eyes followed Joel out of the room and saw him meet coach Majors. I knew their conversation was about why Joel was leaving. Coach Ma-

jors entered the room and went straight to the speaker and pulled him to a side bar. There was an obvious brief lecture by Johnny, and the speaker returned to the podium.

He immediately apologized for his presentation and explained there had been a miscommunication.

My young friends in the span of less than 12 hours had witnessed coach Majors' model

what coaching is. He had shown the caring of communication and the hardness of leadership.

I know L. A. Headrick at Fulton and Kevin Lane at Knoxville Catholic are now modeling the characteristics they witnessed in Atlanta at coach Majors' Clinic.

Coach Majors still influences the young people of Tennessee.

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## Following family, FHS pair appointed to USAFA

**MICHELLE HOLLENHEAD**  
 mhollenhead@farragutpress.com

Farragut High School had two elite graduates who reported for duty at the U.S. Air Force Academy, doing so just one week after coronavirus-delayed FHS graduation ceremonies were held Friday, June 19.

Both Tony Lyons and Gabriel Reiman received their official appointments to the prestigious military academy from Retired U.S.A.F. Col. Rick Kuhlman in a Saturday, June 13, ceremony.

The duo arrived on the Colorado Springs, Colorado campus Thursday, June 25, where

they joined fellow FHS alums already attending the Academy: rising sophomore Joely Gruhn, rising junior Kaitlyn Grunau and rising senior Spencer Flint, all of whom were home in Farragut earlier this year due to the coronavirus shutdowns.

Tony Lyons

"I'm of course extremely blessed and excited to have been appointed, and I couldn't have done it without outstanding support from friends and family," said Lyons, son of Gerald Lyons and Tian Lyons.

He also noted being from "a family of veterans" who has "wanted to serve my country

from a very young age. "I worked hard in high school and I'm prepared to work even harder at the Academy," he added. "Some important contributors to my appointment includes my participation in Boys State, summer seminars at U.S. Naval Academy and the USAFA, and my achievement of the Eagle Scout rank."

Gabriel Reiman

Reiman, too, points to a military background influencing his decision to serve.

"My maternal grandfather's father was in the Navy and Marines, my maternal grandfa-



Photo submitted

U.S. Air Force Academy appointees Tony Lyons, left, and Gabriel Reiman, Farragut High School Class of 2020 graduates, received their official appointments Saturday, June 13, from retired USAF Col. Rick Kuhlman, local Air Liaison officer for the Academy.

See USAFA on Page 5B



(Above) New Rotary Club of Farragut board members sworn in during its meeting in Fox Den Country Club Wednesday, June 24, from left, included: Doug Powell, Scott Weinstein, Howard Fass, Cindy Kraus, Sonya Ford, Kristin Abouelata, Mark Bialik, Arlene Weinstein, Josh Hornberger and David Bluford.

(Left) Outgoing RCF president Staci Wilkerson handed over the gavel to incoming president Edward Jones.

Photos by Tammy Cheek



## Changing of Guard at Rotary-Farragut

**TAMMY CHEEK**

tcheek@farragutpress.com

As the 2019-20 Rotary Club of Farragut officers and board step away from their roles, after setting fundraising and other records this past year, Rotary 6780 District Gov. Greg Maciolek swore in a new board to meet "unusual" challenges at the club's first in-person meeting since March in Fox Den Country Club Wednesday, June 24.

"You have a lot of responsibility," Maciolek said in addressing the new leaders among 39 in attendance. "And the rest of the club has a lot of faith in you."

Staci Wilkerson, RCF 2019-20 president, handed over the gavel to Edward Jones, who officially took the reins as RCF's 41st president Wednesday, July 1. She said the past Rota-

ry year was marked with firsts and broken records.

For instance, the club donated \$120,546 in charitable giving and donated \$2,718 volunteer hours, which is equivalent to more than \$69,000, Wilkerson reported.

Additionally, the club added a new project: a literacy project at Ridgedale Alternative School, she said.

RCF was chartered April 22, 1980, three months after the Town of Farragut was chartered.

"We had 24 charter members and we were sponsored by the Bearden Club," she said, adding the club finished the just-completed year with 98 members.

The club had planned to hold a celebration this year but had to cancel due to COVID-19.

See NEW GUARD on Page 5B

## Stepping up to meet virus-era toy need: St. John Neumann, His Security-Tech

**MICHELLE HOLLENHEAD**  
 mhollenhead@farragutpress.com

Due to the lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, East Tennessee Children's Hospital is in desperate need of new toys for its patients—and Farragut is more than stepping up to the challenge.

According to a press release, hospital patients are not allowed to visit the common play areas, and brand new toys are needed to bring into the patients' rooms.

St. John Neumann Catholic School is the latest entity to support the cause, and are calling it "Christmas in July." The event will kick off Monday, July 6, and continue to Sunday, July 19, with plans to delivery the toys Monday, July 20.

"We have had a lot of positive feedback already," said Mary Marlowe, director of admission for SJNCS, who is leading the drive with Patrick Wade, the school's director of development.

"I think people want something to feel good about and to be able to help the community right now," she added. Marlowe said when they decided to host the drive, they reached out to ETCH to find out what items still might be most needed, and they recommended the following: DVDs (rated G through PG-13), coloring books, crayons, Barbie dolls, action figures, LEGOS (for any ages) and card games (UNO, Skip-Bo, Phase-10). Bins will be in front of the school from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.,

and also will be located in the school's and church's Narthex during the drive. "We are putting the bins outside for those who might not feel comfortable with coming inside right now," Marlowe said.

SJNCS is not the only group helping ETCH with this great need this summer.

Farragut's His Security & Technology held a toy drive during few days in late June, with hundreds of toys donated. They were delivered Monday, June 22.

Additional volunteer help came from Terri Jo Fox and her husband, Eric Whitener, of The Knox Fox Real Estate Group, along with Farragut

See TOYS on Page 5B



Photo submitted

Lucy Wood, volunteer programs manager at East Tennessee Children's Hospital, sorts toys donated through recent efforts of St. John Neumann school, His Security & Technology and others.

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## Town of Farragut

• In lieu of cancelling annual Town of Farragut Independence Day Parade, Town officials are asking businesses and neighborhoods to participate in Festive Fourth at Home. This event, from 9:30 to 11 a.m., Saturday, July 4, encourages residents to decorate yards, houses, cars, trucks, etc. and dress in festive attire for drive-by viewing. The Town asks participants to send their location to [media@townoffarragut.org](mailto:media@townoffarragut.org) by 5 p.m., Thursday, July 2, for inclusion on a map of participating locations.

• Annual Bob Watt Youth Fishing Rodeo will be Saturday, July 25, at Anchor Park along Fort Loudoun Lake. The event will include two rounds of fishing from 8 to 9 a.m. and from 10 to 11 a.m. Pre-registration is required, and families will be assigned a location upon arrival. Register for one session only at [townoffarragut.org/register](http://townoffarragut.org/register). Participants need to bring their own poles. Bait will be provided or participants can bring their own.

• Town's Health & Wellness Fair is from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 8, in Farragut Community Center, 254 Jamestowne Blvd.

• Farragut Town Hall and Community Center is now open to the public, with regular business hours from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Masks and social distancing are requested. Classes and gym times at the Community Center have been restructured.

Athletic fields in Farragut parks are opening with specific regulations. For up-to-date information about Community Center programs and field use, visit [farragutparksandrec.org](http://farragutparksandrec.org). For more information on Town Hall re-opening, visit [townoffarragut.org](http://townoffarragut.org).

• Lawn Chair Series' June concert in Founders Park at Campbell Station has been moved to Sept 19; concerts running from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, July 18 and Aug. 15 remain in place, but alternative formats are planned.

• Taste of Farragut will run from 4 to 7 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 4 (location still undetermined).

## Other local happenings

• U.S. Census officials have put out a call for Farragut-area citizens to join its 2020 Census Team as a census taker, a Knox County team press release stated. Those interested must be at least 18 years old, have a valid drivers license and access to a vehicle. Apply online at [2020CENSUS.GOV/JOBS](http://2020CENSUS.GOV/JOBS). For more information or for help applying, call 1-855-JOB-2020.

• Knox County Health Department has launched a COVID-19 Public Information Line, 865-215-5555, or call toll-free at 888-288-6022, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

• MEDIC Regional Blood Center is in critical need of O Positive, O Negative, A Positive and A Negative blood donations. Locations to donate in Knox County include 11000 Kingston Pike, Farragut, and 1601 Ailor Ave. in downtown Knoxville. MEDIC is requiring donors at community drives (mobile buses, churches, businesses or other community organizations) to wear a mask or face covering.

If a donor does not have a mask or face covering, MEDIC will provide one. Appointments can be made online at [www.medicblood.org](http://www.medicblood.org) using the donate link. Appointments also can be made by calling 865-524-3074. For more information, visit the MEDIC website at [www.medicblood.org](http://www.medicblood.org) or at Facebook: [@medicblood/](https://www.facebook.com/medicblood/), Twitter: [@medicblood](https://twitter.com/medicblood) or Instagram: [@medicbloodcenter](https://www.instagram.com/medicbloodcenter)

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• MEDIC Regional Blood Center is seeing a significant increase in demand for COVID Convalescent Plasma and is encouraging those who have had a positive COVID-19 diagnosis via confirmed lab test to donate as soon as possible. As a reminder, donors must have had the positive lab test and must be symptom-free for 28 days. If a donor has any questions about the deferral changes and time periods, they should call 865-524-3074.

In addition, MEDIC has eliminated the deferral period for the following: association with a U.S. military base in Europe from 1980 to 1996; lived in Europe for more than five years (still deferred if in France or Ireland for more than five years from 1980 to 2001; or three months or more in the UK from 1980 to 1996) For more information about MEDIC Regional Blood Center, visit the website at [www.medicblood.org](http://www.medicblood.org).

• Voters in Farragut and Knox County will have an opportunity to hear from candidates for the Tennessee State Senate (District 6), U.S. Congress (2nd District) and Knox County Commission in a series of Zoom meetings in July. The forums will be moderated by Blake Stevens of WATE-TV 6.

The forums will begin at 6:30 p.m.: Tuesday, July 7, and feature Tennessee State Senate District 6 and U.S. Congress 2nd District. Thursday, July 16, will feature Knox County Commission.

The forums also will be live-streamed and posted via most of the partners' Facebook pages. To RSVP and receive forum information, e-mail [martinarc@aol.com](mailto:martinarc@aol.com).

• Tennessee Athletics' inaugural "Smokey's Sprint" virtual 5k, run is set for Saturday, July 11. Running enthusiasts throughout Vol Nation, along with any UT fans looking for a reason to get active, are encouraged to join Smokey and his squad for a Fun Run (a 1-mile run for kids), a 5K or a 10K experience. Participants choose their own route and pace.

Fans are encouraged to get started by registering online at [AllVols.com](http://AllVols.com) and downloading their race bib before beginning training on their custom route. Registration fee is \$40, and registrants will be shipped a Smokey's Sprint T-shirt and a "Finisher" medal.



Photo submitted

A plaque from Tennessee Department of Health serves to honor Tennova Turkey Creek Medical Center for achieving Level III Trauma Center designation earlier this year. It is displayed among members of TTCMC's Trauma Performance Improvement Committee. From left are Rina Brackett, RN, director of Bariatrics, Orthopedics & Medical-Surgical; William Snyder, MD, neurosurgery; Michelle Feigel, RN, director of Critical Care; Ben Ridder, Chief Operating officer; Emily Roberts, RN, Trauma Program coordinator; Tony Benton, Chief Executive officer; Mark Howard, PA-C, neurosurgery; Emily Job, RN, Nursing supervisor of Emergency Department; Travis Simmons, RN, Chief Nursing Officer; and Nitan Rangnekar, MD, general surgeon and Trauma Center Medical director.

## Only Level III Trauma Center in East TN: Tennova T-Creek

ALAN SLOAN

[editor@farragutpress.com](mailto:editor@farragutpress.com)

As East Tennessee's only Level III Trauma Center — with University of Tennessee Medical Center the only higher-level trauma unit between Bristol and Chattanooga — Tennova Turkey Creek Medical Center's distinction officially was recognized by State of Tennessee Department of Health last month.

Culminating a roughly 18-month process beginning with the closing of St. Mary's Medical Center near downtown Knoxville, with Level III Trauma care capability realized in February, this Farragut hospital was granted "provisional status" in June.

"Receiving designation as a Level III Trauma Center allows us to treat more patients with more complex trauma injuries," Travis Simmons, TTCMC chief nursing officer, said. "Trauma patients may have a short window of time from the occurrence of the injury to definitive specialized care, and this designation means that we can provide trauma patients with the right level of care as quickly as possible."

"A lot of it has to do with the expertise of your physicians and medical staff, and your capabilities that you're able to handle from a patient perspective," Tony Benton, TTCMC chief executive officer, said.

See LEVEL III on Page 6B

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## New guard

From page 2B

"We said goodbye to Staci Wilkerson as our 2019-2020 president with a standing ovation and a beautiful, engraved vase with red roses," past president Tom King, Public Image Relations chairman, stated in his club's newsletter.

"First, I thank Staci for leading us through a tough year," said Jones, who as been an RCF member since 2006. "Second, I'm honored to be your president, and I'll work hard to make this a great year as we continue to deal with this virus and these unusual times, and live up to this year's Rotary motto of 'Rotary Opens Opportunities.'"

While Jones said he looks forward to his new role, he acknowledged, "It's an unusual

year to step into the presidency with all the stuff that we've got going on.

"We'll have to make appropriate adjustments and move forward, continuing to do the things that we are known to do and continue to serve," he added. "That's going to be a hard one, the reason being it's not business as usual, so I think a lot of work of this administration is going to be laying the groundwork on what the new normal is going to be."

However, Jones also said, "We've got some good people that we're working with, and we're thinking outside of the box on what we can do and how we can do it."

"We have a responsibility not only to the community that we serve but we also have a responsibility to the members," the new RCF president added.

"We got a lot of things going on, Staci does, and I want to continue what she's got going. But one of the things I was involved with early on in coming to the club was our literacy project. I would like to see us continue initiatives in that arena and perhaps expand on what we already have going."

Jones, a Farragut resident since 1978 and a South Carolina native, is president and owner of Jones, Kirkpatrick Financial Services.

Prior to his business venture, Jones was a chemist in Oak Ridge for 23 years.

He and wife, Emma Jones, have been married for 43 years and have two children, Gregory Jones and Tonya Jones.

Their infant first grandchild, Isabella Elizabeth Jones, was born on Easter Sunday morning, April 12.

## Seven Dean's List honorees told

Rochester Institute of Technology Dean's List for spring semester includes two Farragut residents: **Buchanan Underwood**, who is in the motion picture science program, and **Anna Johnson**, who is in the biomedical sciences program.

Three students at Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama, earned Dean's List recognition for Spring Semester:

**Grace Sommi, Ellie Fussell and Kaci Deakins.**

To qualify, a student must earn a minimum 3.5 grade-point average out of a possible 4.0 while attempting at least 12 credit hours of coursework.

Wheaton College (Illinois) Spring 2020 Dean's List includes students **Kyle Carter** and **Caleb Kuhn.**

## USAFA

From page 2B

ther was in the Army and my father graduated from West Point and served in the Army for almost 24 years, eventually retiring as a lieutenant colonel. He was a Green Beret and served in the Seventh Special Forces Group. He was also (a military police officer) in Bolivia," he said.

"... My church's choir/youth group was doing some mission work in Texas, and we swung up into Colorado to visit the Academy, as one of our pastors had a connection there," he added. "Long story short, we sang in the Cadet Chapel, and I fell in love with the campus, not at all realizing what exactly the Academy was."

"Thus began a distanced fascination ... that eventually solidified into a tangible desire to attend when, the summer after eighth grade, I met Spencer Flint and he told me about how he was going through the application process."

With Flint a positive influence, "I took this as a sign that if the most able, qualified person I knew wanted to go, then surely that was an environment I was meant to be in," Reiman said. "And during my junior year I started that same application process, which led to my eventual appointment — an appointment that would not have been at all possible without the extensive guidance and support of my parents and my Air Force liaison officer, Col. Rick Kuhlman."

"While I am at the Academy, I will likely major in biology and minor in one or more foreign languages, though my eventual hope is to pursue a career as a combat rescue officer," he added.

At FHS, Reiman was a member of the National Honor Society and received the American Council of Teachers of Russian's Russian Scholar Laureate Award.

He ran track and cross coun-



Michelle Hollenhead

U.S. Air Force Academy appointees Tony Lyons and Gabriel Reiman (not pictured), Farragut High School Class of 2020 graduates, are just the latest Farragut alums to be attending the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Rising senior Spencer Flint, left, rising sophomore Joely Gruhn and rising junior Kaitlyn Grunau (not pictured) came home to Farragut earlier this year amid the COVID-19 shutdowns.

try for FHS and swam on the Village Green neighborhood swim team.

He is the son of Chad Allan Reiman and Amber Nicole Albritton-Reiman.

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## Toys

From page 2B

West Knox Chamber of Commerce, Shop Farragut, The Rotary Club of Farragut and Home Builders Association of Greater Knoxville.

"The outpouring of love through toy donations was amazing," said Cheryl Allmon, director of volunteer services and programs for ETCH.

"I don't have an official count on the number of items, but I can tell you there are boxes all over the office. The toys are being sorted and taken to patient floors as quickly as possible."

"As the pandemic goes on the need to give toys directly to patients will go on," she added. "We appreciate the community's efforts and generosity so much during this time."



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Photo submitted

Webb School of Knoxville FIRST Robotics 1466 team members work on their robot, handling different components, early in 2020.

## Webb history made by school's robotics

### STAFF REPORTS

editor@farragutpress.com

While FIRST robotics high school teams across the country and around the world had their 2020 competition seasons cut short due to the COVID-19 global pandemic, Webb School of Knoxville's 1466 team still garnered high accolades and made school history by earning two FIRST blue banner honors – Chairman's Award and Woodie Flowers Finalist Award.

Chairman's Award Considered the highest recognition given during the FIRST Robotics competition season, the Chairman's Award is presented to the team that "best represents a model for other teams to emulate and best embodies the purpose and goals of FIRST," according to its website.

FIRST officials opted to judge individual and team awards based on interviews and submitted documentation from the some 4,000 teams scheduled to participate in the

150-plus suspended events.

Webb 1466 was selected for the Chairman's Award among 54 teams from eight states and Canada that were slated to compete at the FIRST Smoky Mountain Regional March 25-28 in Knoxville.

"As the first FRC team in East Tennessee, we've played a longtime role in mentoring other local teams and supporting program growth through education and volunteer work," said Jenifer Lawrie, Webb Upper School science teacher and 1466 mentor/coach.

Lawrie added the program has intensified its efforts toward connecting Webb's elementary, middle and high school robotics teams to form a unified program where older students mentor and share workspace and outreach projects with younger program members.

Flowers Finalist Award

As for Lawrie earning the Smoky Mountain Regional 2020 Woodie Flowers Finalist

See HISTORY on Page 7B

## obituary

**Margaret "Peggy Sue" Cypherd, 73**, passed away peacefully surrounded by her loving husband and family Friday, June 19, 2020, in Farragut, Tennessee, after a long, courageous battle with pancreatic cancer.

Family received friends from 1 to 2 p.m., Saturday, June 27, at Click Funeral Home Farragut Chapel with a service celebrating Peggy following.

Afterward there was a reception next door at Milestones Event Center.

Peggy was born in Williamston, North Carolina, to William Mullen and Elsie Hyman Schultz, and raised in Robersonville, North Carolina, where she was the homecoming queen and graduated from Robersonville High School in 1964.

After her high school graduation, Peggy attended Richard Bland College for two years. Peggy was a four-time cancer survivor and a pioneer in trying experimental treatments at John's Hopkins University Hospital that helped save her life and further cancer research.

In 1973, Peggy moved to West Palm Beach, Florida, and was

hired by Burnup & Sims, Inc., a nationwide infrastructure construction company, and soon met her future husband, John. Peggy happily married John M. Cypherd Jr. June 28, 1974.

In 1980, they started their own engineering and construction company, STS, Inc., located in Orlando. In 1995, they sold the company and retired to the mountains of North Carolina.

In 2016, they wanted to be closer to their daughter and grandchildren and moved to Farragut. Peggy loved spending time with her family and pets.

She enjoyed adventure and travel, gardening, playing golf, Purdue football games and Corvettes.

Peggy touched many lives with her inspirational stories and passion for life, and her Southern accent captured the hearts of everyone she met.



Peggy Cypherd

Peggy was preceded in death by her parents, William Mullen and Elsie Hyman Schultz; father-in-law, Donald Schultz; brothers, Thomas Mullen, James T. Taylor and Kenneth H. Taylor; aunt, Elizabeth Hyman Taylor; and uncle, James W. Taylor Jr.

Peggy is survived by her husband of 46 years, John M. Cypherd Jr. of Knoxville; daughter, Kathryn R. Nagy and husband, Philip, of Knoxville; sons, Christopher T. Cypherd and wife, Ronda, of Orlando; Robert Gregory Cypherd and wife, Gail, of Fishers Island, New York; John M. Cypherd III and wife, Stacy, of Tampa; daughter, Sonya Gauer, of Orlando; brother, Dallas W. Taylor, and wife, Ann, of Greenville, North Carolina.; sister-in-law, Toni C. Taylor, of Greenville; niece, Bebee Mullen Bugge and husband, Adam, of Thief River Falls, Minnesota; surrogate son, Peter Zike and fiancée Sonia, of El Paso, Texas; 13 grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

In Lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to UT Hospice and the Pancreatic Cancer Research.

### Level III

From page 4B

That "expertise," in addition to Simmons, also includes Dr. Nick Rangnekar, the center's Trauma Medical direc-

tor who also serves in general surgery and gastrointestinal endoscopy.

"We ultimately felt there was a need for (Level III) Trauma service to be brought into this particular area because

there's not many trauma hospitals," Rangnekar said.

Attaining Level III also required hiring a Trauma Program coordinator: Emily Roberts, RN and nurse practitioner, was hired in June.

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**History**

From page 6B

Award, "This award recognizes robotics team mentors who lead, teach, inspire and empower students to reach their goals, and celebrates effective communication in the art and science of engineering and design," a Webb press release

stated. "FIRST named one adult team mentor a Regional WFFA recipient at each of the some-75 regional competitions, worldwide.

"Robotics team members pick candidates for the Finalist Award and must submit an essay describing the qualities of their nominee and why he or she deserves the honor," the

release further stated.

In her nominating essay, 1466 co-captain Meryl Ye, Class of 2020, said Lawrie "promotes thinking and understanding in each Webb robotics team member. However, she doesn't spoil the probable outcome of our endeavors because, as I have learned from her, failure is the greatest teacher.

"Dr. Lawrie encourages us to focus on the root of our problems and to keep an open mind on potential solutions," Ye added. "Dr. Lawrie encourages us to reach out to students interested in business, journalism, art, and film."

Lawrie is the second team mentor to earn Woodie Flowers Finalist Award honors in

the history of Webb's robotics program.

In addition, 1466 junior members Henry Partridge and Emory Wineland were named FIRST Dean's List Semifinalists in recognition of their technical expertise, leadership, measured contributions, commitment to STEM outreach and academic success.

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## Catholic Graduates

Knoxville Catholic High School graduated 149 members of the Class of 2020 on the school's Hollin Football Field inside Blaine Stadium Friday, June 19, just a little over a month after its May 16 original graduation date. Unlike Knox County public schools, which this year conducted graduation ceremonies on their football fields rather than Thomson-Boling Arena on the University of Tennessee campus, KCHS always holds graduation in Blaine Stadium. Among the graduates: National Merit Finalist Lincoln Murr; U.S. Military Academy at West Point appointee Blaine Dolin; and its top students, Mary Elizabeth Cox and Michael Stapelton, who received the Sedes Sapientiae Award.

**Photos by Kelly Kearse, KCHS**  
 (Top) "Every year, the leader of the CCC (Knoxville Catholic's spirit section - Crazy Catholic Corner) leads the final cheer and send-off at graduation just before the cap-toss," said Pam Rhoades, director of marketing and communications for KCHS. "Major Hollin led the group this year. It's a mix of 'rah's' side to side (like a rollercoaster) and the chorus of 'Don't Stop Believin' by the band Journey, followed by the cap-toss. It's really fun to see."

(Above) Knoxville Catholic High School teachers from left, Fletcher Williams, Jared Kimutis and Dani Waldrop, leap for joy before the ceremony.



Heading into the stadium are graduates-to-be, from right, Cody Duncan, Claire Earl, Olivia Escher and Kathy Fan.



Joshua Borja sported his own unique face covering.



Akeem Odisupe

Graduate Alyssa Lucci socially distances by touching elbows with Bishop Richard F. Stika of Sacred Heart Cathedral as she receives her diploma. Stika always confers diplomas, and was joined this year by Sacred Heart Cathedral rector, Father David Boettner.



Graduate Tim Amet bumps elbows with Father David Boettner, rector of Sacred Heart Cathedral, after receiving his diploma.



Mary Elizabeth Cox and Michael Stapelton (not pictured) won the Sedes Sapientiae Award, considered the "highest honor that Knoxville Catholic High School confers on its graduating seniors." It is voted on by the school's faculty and the administration and is presented to two seniors who "best epitomize loyalty, service, scholarship and authentic Christian leadership," according to the KCHS Senior Awards web page.



Spencer Belanger leads his section during the annual "final cheer and send off" rollercoaster-style just before students tossed their mortarboards.



Natalie Dale