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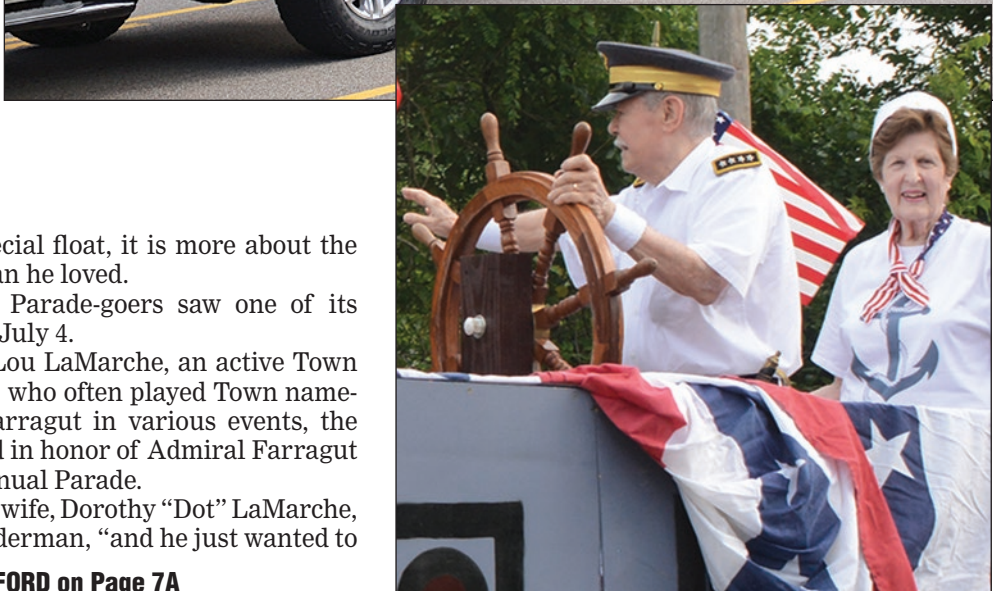
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## Lou's Parade float retired

But loving bond lives thru passings



**Above photo by Brandon L. Jones/left photo, file photo**  
**(Above)** U.S. Navy Cmdr. Thomas Roberts, commander of the USS Farragut, during his crew's six-day visit to the Town bearing the same name, walks alongside Farragut Museum's USS Hartford float at the Town's annual Independence Day Parade Thursday, July 4. Built in 2016 by the late Lou LaMarche, himself a U.S. Army veteran, the float — considered a piece of Farragut history — was retired after this year's Independence Day parade. **(Left)** Lou "pilots" the USS Hartford float in 2023 alongside his wife, Dorothy "Dot" LaMarche, former Board of Mayor and Aldermen vice mayor and Museum Board chair.

**BRANDON L. JONES**  
editor@farragutpress.com

While this is story about a special float, it is more about the man who built it — and the woman he loved. Farragut's Independence Day Parade-goers saw one of its floats for the last time Thursday, July 4. Built back in 2016 by the late Lou LaMarche, an active Town volunteer and U.S. Army veteran who often played Town name-sake Admiral David Glasgow Farragut in various events, the float replicating the USS Hartford in honor of Admiral Farragut first appeared that year in the annual Parade. "He loved what he did," said his wife, Dorothy "Dot" LaMarche, a former Farragut vice mayor/alderman, "and he just wanted to

See **LOU-USS HARTFORD** on Page 7A

### candidates, voting

- Farragut Board of Aldermen, Ward 1 (non-partisan): Alex J. Cain vs Jeffrey Devlin;
  - Farragut Board of Aldermen, Ward 2 (non-partisan): Randal Roberts vs Drew Burnette;
  - Knox County Commission, District 5: S. Arthur Moore (Democrat) vs Angela Russell (Republican);
  - Knox County Commission, District 6: Daniel Greene (Democrat) vs Terry Hill (Republican);
  - Knox Board of Education District 5: Terrte Whitaker (Democrat) versus Lauren Morgan (Republican);
  - Assessor of Property: Drew Harper (Democrat) vs Phil Ballard (Republican);
  - Law Director: Jackson Fenner (Democrat) vs David Buuck (Republican);
  - State Senate, District 6: Domonica Bryan (Democrat) vs. Becky Duncan Massey (Republican);
  - State House of Representatives, District 14: Amanda Collins (Democrat) versus Jason Zachary (Republican);
  - State House of Representatives, District 89: Cary Hammond (Democrat) versus Justin Lafferty (Republican).
  - U.S. House of Representatives, District 2: Jane A. George (Democrat) versus Tim Burchett (Republican);
- Last day to vote Absentee, Thursday, July 25; Last day of early voting, Saturday, July 27; Election Day, Thursday, Aug. 1**

### West Side Faces, FHS Marching Admirals



Tammy Cheek

Farragut High School Marching Admirals' band camp is all about learning its new show, "HiScore. Jumping during a drill are Audrey Aiken, front left, a rising senior, and Anna Kate Harris, rising junior. (See related photos in West Side Faces, page 2B, and photo/story in Community, 3B)

## Hardin Valley Road widening, at Solway Road 1 mile west, to 5 lanes; starts summer '25

**STAFF REPORTS**  
editor@farragutpress.com

**KNOXVILLE** — Knox County Engineering and Public Works Department on Monday, July 22, announced construction crews are putting plans in place to begin a road-widening project at one of the busiest intersections on Hardin Valley Road — at Solway Road, with the widening going roughly one mile westward. "My team identified a project to take this three-lane section of road and convert it to five lanes," said Jim Snowden, the department's senior director. "That way we can essentially double our capacity and still maintain our center turn lane for safety."

### From the Mayor

Work on the roughly \$2 million project is expected to start next summer. "The project should take between one and two years to complete and will cost considerably less than most comparable road projects that often take between five to 10 years to wrap up and cost upward of \$20 million," stated a release from Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs' office.

"We all know the Hardin Valley area faces some serious challenges when it comes to congestion," Jacobs said. "I'm really happy about this project because it's a cost-effective way of greatly improving traffic flow in this area, which is good for the people of Hardin Valley and all of Knox County."

### Knox County Commissioners

"We're going to continue to work hard to get that supportive infrastructure in the Hardin Valley community and hopefully ease the pressure of that growth and development," said Kim Frazier, At-Large Seat 11 Knox County Commissioner. "Our economy thrives when local government works to support the free flow of goods, services — and more importantly, people within our community," At-Large Seat 10 Commissioner Larsen Jay said.



Check out our annual **BACK TO SCHOOL** section!  
Find it starting on page 1C of this paper.

July 26-28  
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# Mixed Use Town Center Vision: plan or ordinance?

**TAMMY CHEEK**  
tcheek@farragutpress.com

Farragut Municipal Planning Commission can be expected to recommend the Board of Mayor and Aldermen adopt the Town's Mixed Use Town Center Vision Plan as a plan, not an ordinance.

While FMPC took no formal action at its Thursday, July 18, meeting on the agenda item, the consensus among its members was to vote recommending it as a plan only, not an ordinance, at its Thursday, Aug. 15, meeting. This came on the heels of hearing Town attorney Tom Hale advising against adopting it as an ordinance after a presentation on why he came to that conclusion.

After reviewing previous meetings, Hale said, "I think I need to give everybody some context about the way our state law is set up when it relates to planning and zoning.

He referred to a Court of Appeals decision and the judge's opinion, which stated: "... The General Assembly has the empowered county and municipal legislative bodies to zone property.

"At the same time, it has delegated the land use planning function to local and regional planning commissions. The power to zone must be distinguished from the power to plan. Zoning and planning are complementary pursuits that largely concerned with the same subject matter. They are not, however, identical fields of municipal endeavor. Planning involves coordinating the orderly development of all interrelated aspects of a community's physical environment, as well as all the community's closely associated social and economic activities.

"It is a continuous process carried out indefinitely through time. Common sense and reality dictate that a general plan is not like the law ... it must be subject to reasonable change from time to time as conditions in the community change. Zoning, on the other hand, involves the territorial division of land into districts according to the character of the land or buildings, their suitability for particular uses and the uniformity of these uses. ..."

"Not adopting (the Vision) by ordinance does not make it non-existent," the attorney said. "It just operates as a general plan without having it being adopted as an ordinance."

While the Board can adopt the Vision as a plan or an ordinance, Hale said, "I personally prefer not have it adopted as an ordinance. I prefer to have the plan as a plan ... it's a guideline.

"This is a great document," he added. However, he pointed out it is 97 pages.

Rather than being an amendment to the Town plan adopted in 2012, Hale said, "It is a document that has been created to build consensus as to the recommendations for what the plan ought to be as it's set out in this document."

The Town attorney added he doesn't think anyone has considered how the two documents could be married together.

"I think that's what has to happen before you can amend your existing (2012) plan," Hale added. "We don't want to make this (Vision) so detailed that it becomes kind of like a zoning ordinance."

Vice Chairman Ed St. Clair pointed out one of the pages of the Vision regarding Concord Road properties while an item on the July 18 agenda has a change to the zoning for some Concord Road property, "which is clearly not in sync with what is (in the Vision)," he said. "I can't see adopting something here I know I'm going to vote to change in a few minutes.

"We're kind of chasing our tails," St. Clair added.

"It still, in my opinion, has to go back to have some work done and take out the stuff that doesn't need to be in there," Hale said.

Vice Mayor Louise Povlin, also an FMPC member, agreed, "This is going to be a work in progress anyway. We're not done with this."

"There's no rush" to make a decision, said Mayor Ron Williams, also an FMPC member.

After hearing FMPC's reaction to Hale's advice, a few residents who signed up to speak had backed out, but Michael Wilson spoke on another issue with the Vision.

He questioned the inclusion of vertical mixed use in the Commercial zoning areas.

"The Vision Plan Steering Committee included language that allows for up to three stories of vertical mixed-use in the Commercial areas found on pages 59, 63 and 69," Wilson said. "This applies to the future commercial developments found on the Ford property and along Concord Road in the Biddle Farms development.

"One would assume that this would apply to any redevelopments of existing commercial properties, such as the West End and Village Green shopping centers," he added. "That's a lot of acreage to consider, probably upward of 90.

"I question why the Vision plan would include vertical mixed-use in these areas. Roughly four years ago, the Town decided that vertical mixed use was not viable due to the need for a parking structure or large parking areas. In addition, the Town has promised there would be no more apartments. (This) opens up multiple areas of the Town Center to potential apartments."

Otherwise, Wilson said he supported the Vision.

# KCSO reports

• At 11:37 a.m., Saturday, July 20, a complainant called Knox County Sheriff's Office Teleserve Unit to report a theft from Farragut High School, 11237 Kingston Pike.

"Complainant (said) he gave his son (a check payable to (a music store) in the amount of \$50" at noon, Thursday, July 18. His son confirmed he gave the check to an administrator there for band shoes," the report stated. "Complainant (said) he was notified the check was cashed" at 10:30 a.m., Friday, July 19, to a (person) in the amount of \$5,000.

• At 9:48 p.m., Sunday, July 15, a Knox County Sheriff's Office unit responded to Kroger, 189 Brooklawn St. in Farragut, in reference to recovering a stolen vehicle reported out of Loudon County Sheriff's Office.

The vehicle, a silver 2022 Nissan Murano, was determined to have been "abandoned with damage to the entire passenger said," the report stated. Complainant, who reported the vehicle had been stolen, said the vehicle was still in probate as far as the ownership. Complainant's daughter took possession of the vehicle.

• At 9:16 p.m., Monday, July 15, a complainant called KCSO Teleserve Unit to report a vehicular burglary at a Richwood Lane address. Complainant advised he noticed a handgun was missing at 8:30 p.m., and said "he

recalls last seeing the gun on (around 1 p.m., July 1) when he placed it in his rental vehicle (2023 Dodge Charger)," the report stated.

Total value of loss was listed at \$500. "Complainant advised he did not know when or where the unknown suspect gained access to the unlocked vehicle."

• At 4:43 a.m., Saturday, July 14, a KCSO unit arrived at TnBank, 11200 Kingston Pike, in regard to an ATM alarm. Upon arrival, officer said he "witnessed a white F-250 (pick-up truck) in the parking lot with a chain attached to the rear, which was used to break into the ATM machine by ripping the money safe open," the report stated. "It appeared that all of the money from one of the money boxes in the ATM had been stolen

"Upon arrival, the driver-side door of the vehicle was open." A K9 officer "and his partner (dog) responded to assist with the search of the suspects. The K9 was unable to track anyone."

Total value of loss was listed at \$160,000.

Though discovering the pick-up's owner, "officers were unsuccessful in contacting an owner. Key holders from the bank responded along with the Knox County Forensics Unit to process the scene."

See REPORTS on Page 4A

# towncalendar

• Town of Farragut Parks & Recreation Department and Visit Farragut are teaming up to present the 2nd Party in the Park, which will take place from 6 to 8 p.m., Friday, July 26, at Founders Park at Campbell Station, 405 N. Campbell Station Road.

"This is a free family-friendly event. ... It's part of our summer concert series, so there's a musical element to it, but there'll be a DJ instead of live music, Town Recreation Event manager Rachel Malone said.

The party includes "food trucks, entertainment, games and activities for kids of all ages

— and kids at heart," she added. "No registration is required" to attend.

In the event of inclement weather, check Farragut Parks & Rec social media for updates. For more information, contact Malone at rmalone@townoffarragut.org.

• Town of Farragut Community Development Department will offer a Planning and Zoning Introduction workshop for homeowners beginning at 6 p.m., Wednesday, July 31, in Farragut Community Center, 239 James-

See CALENDAR on Page 5A

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REPUBLICAN

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# RE-ELECT DREW BURNETTE

ALDERMAN SOUTH WARD

Drew and his wife Brooke have been married 20 years and have 5 children. Drew graduated from Farragut High School in 1999 and Carson Newman in 2003. After graduation, he moved back to Farragut where he lives raising his family. They are active members at First Baptist Concord and currently lead a Sunday School class.

## Advocating For Controlled Development

- Future land use map and Comprehensive Plan amended to exclude further development of apartments within the Town of Farragut
- Additional protections provided with amendments to several zoning ordinances to further protect Farragut from unwanted multi-family projects
- Acted on citizen input and advocated for less density in Farragut
- Creation of the Outlet Drive corridor and bringing TopGolf to Farragut

## Focusing on Infrastructure and Safety

- Soon to be completed and operational Automated Traffic Management System will mitigate traffic flow issues at all lighted intersections. Will adjust timing of all lights to optimize traffic flow in real time.
- \$25 Million budgeted for the next six years to further address road and infrastructure needs
- Additional lighted intersections budgeted to improve traffic flow throughout Farragut
- Worked closely with TDOT on the I-40 corridor project which will make Campbell Station exit a priority, and create additional lanes on the Interstate to reduce cut through traffic along Kingston Pike

## Promoting Parks and Greenways

- McFee Park Phase 2, including tennis courts, a basketball court, the Great Lawn, and Farragut's first adaptive biking and walking trail. Also includes the future Dog Park and additional parking.
- Farragut's first all-inclusive playground behind Town Hall
- Continuing to connect the community by investing in our 260+ acres of dedicate Park space, 80 miles of sidewalks and 25 miles of greenways through fiscally responsible funding allocations



**Early voting  
ends July 27<sup>th</sup>**

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**Election Day is August 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Re-Elect Drew Burnette**  
ALDERMAN SOUTH WARD

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# presstalk

# letterstotheeditor

• **Living between Virtue Road and McFee Road, I support the Turkey Creek Greenway extension.** Like many others, we are isolated between two very short gaps in the greenway, including the dangerous curve near the bridge at the west end of Turkey Creek Road.

We would love to be able to walk or ride safely to get to the parks that our tax dollars support (Anchor, the Cove, McFee) and other amenities (schools, Davis Y, restaurants). Despite being so close, we can't reach any of them without walking in the road, which will become even more dangerous with new development. Economic studies show that the presence of a greenway increases property values.

Nevertheless, a handful of property owners are litigating the extension along Turkey Creek. I urge Farragut residents to vote for Alderpersons who support closing gaps in the greenway.

• **A huge thank you to all the women and men who work for the Town of Farragut** for putting on such a fantastic July 4th Parade. Also, thank you to the Knox County Sheriff's Office, who kept everyone safe.

• **On a recent trip to Kentucky, I was surprised to see a person at the welcome station promoting tourism for the Town of Farragut.** (Town officials) have ... said they want to re-

See PRESSTALKS on Page 5A

### Presstalk rules

- keep calls to a 90-second maximum (call 865-671-8255 24 hours a day, seven days a week);
- 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 (including public figures) will not be published.

### Letter to Editor rules

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

## Reports

From page 2A

• **At 12:29 p.m., Friday, July 12, Knox County Sheriff's Office units responded to a reported burglary at a Butternut Circle address.** Upon arrival, officers cleared the perimeter of the house, then made contact with complainant/property owner/victim. She reported smelling "a strange body odor in the house while she was alone," the KCSO report stated.

Victim said she "went downstairs to witness an unknown male suspect by the stairway. Upon initial contact, the male ran from (victim) and left the house."

Victim said she couldn't get a good description of the suspect based upon "how brief the contact was," the report stated. A witness said he saw a gray GMC SUV "circling the neighborhood shortly before the incident." Officers also spoke to another witness "who showed officers her ring door bell camera," the report stated. "The camera showed the same GMC SUV with a ... possibly Hispanic driver driving past multiple times shortly before the incident."

Forensics documented a

back door on the south side of house that had shattered glass looking (to have been) broken with a window punch plus an

unknown boot prints on the floor toward the stairs. Total value of loss was listed at \$500.

## Town Center traffic now an ongoing concern

As we head into the second half of summer, many parents, teachers and students are starting to prepare for another school year. Our respite of less morning and afternoon traffic along Kingston Pike will soon be coming to an end as well.

Those that have to traverse across the Town Center area are already planning for the extra time to get through the area as they head to work, the gym or just out to do their daily errands.

Recently a resident filmed the amount of time it took him to make a left turn off of South Campbell Station onto Kingston Pike (west-bound) at around 4:30 p.m. on a weekday. His video shows it took approximately four minutes

tion to all schools from primary through high school. The PRZ ends at the intersection of Sonja Drive and Admiral Drive.

We also measured the width of our side of Sonja Drive from Admiral Drive to the entrance to the Stone Crest neighborhood. The average was 18 feet.

We compared that to the width of Sonja Drive from Admiral Drive to Campbell Station. The average was 16 feet. The section of Sonja labeled as "narrow" and "dangerous" is actually wider than the side that the BOMA isn't going to work on.

We are also gathering a petition to request that the BOMA stop the project. We are going door to door and have found that the claim that the neighborhood supports the project is false. We have talked to more than half of the residents and have only found one household (3

See SONJA DRIVE on Page 5A

(240 seconds) from the time he entered the left turn lane at Municipal Center Drive.

Back in 2020, the Biddle Farm Traffic Study estimated that by 2025 the delay time through this intersection would be 101.1 seconds. That delay garnered a Level of Service grade of F (failing).

This estimate accounted for the optimized signal timing currently being installed. So, in the summer of 2024, the left turn delay is already more than twice the predicted delay time for 2025, which was already failing. What will that time be when school is in, the businesses are open and the apartments are leased?

See TRAFFIC on Page 5A

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for Alderman  
Ward One

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- Farragut Neighborhood HOA Board Member
- Farragut Personnel Committee
- Farragut Parks and Athletic Council
- Farragut Board of Zoning Appeals
- Farragut Municipal Planning Commission
- Youth Lacrosse Coach (Farragut/Webb)
- 30 Plus Years in Emergency Services

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Paid for by Jeffrey Devlin for Alderman



**Traffic**

From page 4A

Today, much is being made about the new traffic management system currently being installed. No doubt this system will help improve traffic flow.

As we can see, it is not the end all-be-all solution. The intersection is still failing during peak travel times with the predicted 101.1-second delay. If you add in double left-turn lanes, the afternoon delay becomes 51.2 seconds garnering a grade of D for Level of Service, a passing score.

That is still not good, but it is much better. Seems consideration to add these additional lanes would be a priority for the Town of Farragut. It is not. The current administration has pushed any discussion off until at least 2026.

**Sonja Drive**

From page 4A

percent) that supported the project.

The rest are against the proj-

Why? A couple of main reasons have been given; wider intersections negatively impact walkability and a wider intersection will take away from the character of the area. A key goal of Biddle Farms is to attract Farragut residents and those from surrounding communities into the area for shopping and dining.

Most (90-plus percent) will need to drive to get there. Creating traffic back ups will deter people from coming to the area. The character of the "Town Center" was changed when the iconic entrance on Main Street was removed and the buildings were pushed towards the curb.

While there is a block that has shops on either side, what was built hardly resembles what the community planned in 2012.

ect (97 percent). The current BOMA is prepared to spend over \$2 million on a project that is based on unsupported opinions. What other projects have been implemented or are

It seems our current Board of Mayor and Aldermen are more concerned with aesthetics, walkability and not functionality for traffic.

I have the luxury of not having to travel this area during peak times. I am not a parent who sits in the long lines on Kingston Pike and Concord Road to drop off or pick up kids from school or those that have to navigate through this traffic to get somewhere else.

How long will it take to focus on functionality over aesthetics? Perhaps when the Biddle Farm businesses complain that their customers won't come because of the traffic, someone in government will finally listen.

Until then parents set your alarm a few minutes early.

**Michael Wilson, Farragut**

in the works that are based on unsupported opinions? Farragut residents deserve better government than this.

**William Hodge, Farragut**

**Calendar**

From page 2A

towne Blvd. The workshop will include:

-An overview of zoning and other land use-related provisions;

-Discussion of how zoning and land use are applied in the Town;

-Assistance to homeowners with common zoning and property-related questions

-An opportunity to provide feedback on any development-

related issues;

No registration is required for this free workshop.

For more information, contact Community Development director Mark Shipley at [mshipley@townoffarragut.org](mailto:mshipley@townoffarragut.org).

**Presstalks**

From page 4A

duce cut-through traffic from Choto and Lenoir City. Then why are they paying a person to bring people from Kentucky to Farragut?

On the subject of interconnectivity, that sounds great

until you understand it means cut-through traffic going through neighborhoods instead of staying on Kingston Pike. Rush-hour traffic should not be routed through neighborhoods. That is not a solution. It is an admission that planning is not adequate.

We keep hearing how great

the new traffic-light system will be; all that can control is flow. The problem Farragut has is a large increase in volume.

The solution is new lefthand turn lanes at Campbell Station Road and Kingston Pike.

Our planning doesn't make sense.

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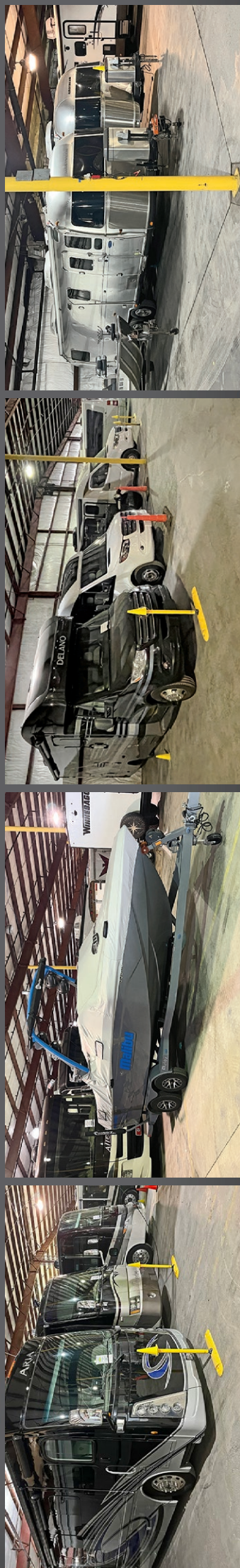
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## New physical therapist joins Balance & Hearing Institute

TAMMY CHEEK

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

With the addition of a new office, Balance & Hearing Institute, Farragut ENT & Allergy has welcomed a new physical therapist, Brandi Phelps.

"I love it so far," said Phelps, a Georgia native who traveled from Washington state, where she worked at an outpatient orthopedics clinic, to East Tennessee, a move closer to family, to take on the role.

Coming to Farragut, "I had an interest in working with vestibular disorders and balance," she said.

At Balance & Hearing Institute, "we treat disorders of the inner ear, and we also treat just general balance disorders as well," Phelps added. "I feel like I brought a fresh set of eyes because I'm the first (physical therapist) who worked here since the PT who started the program, about five years ago, and I pretty recently graduated," bringing knowledge of up-to-date education to the table.

Balance & Hearing Institute, 11000 Kingston Pike Suite 5, is a new physical therapy arm of Farragut ENT & Allergy, which provides ear, nose and throat testing and care at 144 Concord Road in Farragut.

"They didn't have any physical therapy treatment before they started the new (vestibular) program five years ago," Phelps said. "They had the testing for vestibular disfunction, but

they didn't have a way to rehab patients on site. That's what I bring to the table. I can take patients through rehab that corrects the issue."

Before Phelps came to the clinic, Alicia Flores "would do all our testing, and then we would have to refer out for people who needed physical therapy treatment," said Krystal Holcomb, office manager. "Then we opened this building here (in the Balance & Hearing Institute location) so we could do treatments on site."

"Which, makes it different than everybody else," said Flores, director of vestibular services and who has been conducting vestibular testing for the past seven years for Farragut ENT & Allergy. "We can do diagnosis and treatment all at the same place and follow up. The communication between Brandi and myself is something we can't find anywhere else."

"Vestibular sounds very complicated, but everybody has to use their vestibular system, or their balance system, for daily life," she added. "A lot of times, primary cares and other specialities don't really take into consideration all the possible factors that we have and patients suffer sickness, chronically, for several years and fall risks."

"We see that from a very wide perspective. We consider all the aspects of balance, from the inner ear to the toes. We can diagnose and treat that to improve their quality of life and prevent falls."

One tool to help in-patients' treatment is a computerized dynamic posturography, which "tests all the sensory systems relating to balance," Flores said.

With the new institute, she said patients get full-on care. "It's nice because we get to be with the patient all the way from the beginning all the way to the end of their care, and everything in-between," Phelps said.

The Balance & Hearing Institute is open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

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

"They didn't have any physical therapy treatment before they started the new (vestibular) program five years ago,"

— Brandi Phelps

Physical therapist new to Town



Tammy Cheek

Alicia Flores, left, director of vestibular services and who has been conducting vestibular testing for Farragut ENT & Allergy, introduced Brandi Phelps, a new physical therapist for FEA's Balance & Hearing Institute, 11000 Kingston Pike, Suite 5.

## City West at Turkey Creek apartments ribbon cutting



City West at Turkey Creek apartments officially opened with a ribbon-cutting at the apartments, 10865 Parkside Drive across from Turkey Creek Medical Center, Tuesday, June 11. On hand to cut the ribbon were, from left, Tommy Wolf, project manager with Dominion Management Group; Rachelle Howell, property manager with Dominion; Dale Torry, back row, vice president of operations for Dominion; Peter Hall (with scissors), Dominion president; Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs; and Daniel Levy, president of DK Levy architectural firm.

Tammy Cheek

## ETCH officials at networking



Adam Cook, East Tennessee Children's Hospital vice president of institutional advancement, and Kolby Williams, ETCH major gifts officer, mingled with Farragut West Knox Chamber members as co-hosts of the Chamber's networking with King University in Farragut Community Center Thursday, July 11.

Tammy Cheek

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**Lou-USS Hartford**

From page 1A

do something special for when we had the parade.”

There was no fanfare for Lou, the admiral in disguise all those years, in the 2024 Parade. He couldn't see the cameras trained on the float he built. He couldn't hear the applause as it passed along the crowd-lined streets.

Lou passed away five months ago, Feb. 24, after a bout with leukemia. He couldn't have known his float's last voyage would be in 2024.

“Everybody loved him,” Dot reminisced of the man who tried to take her hand after only a short time knowing

her. “He was kind, and he was pretty well known in the little Town of Farragut.”

After meeting in college, Dot fondly recalled, “He wanted to get married right away. I said, ‘Well, I don't really know you that well.’” He suggested a visit over Thanksgiving to meet his parents.

“And so, I go to my dad and I said, ‘You know, we're getting serious,’” she further reflected. “And he said, ‘Oh, no young daughter of mine travels alone with a man. No, you can't go.’”

Thanksgiving passed, but for Christmas she was presented with his offer again.

Her father, this time, acquiesced — but only if they traveled during the day, she

chuckled thinking back on the conversation. “What difference does that make?” she thought then, still laughing all these years later about the demand.

She did go after all. Her hand was wanted ever more. “I want to know you summer, spring, winter and fall.” she recalled telling her young suitor prior. “And when we've known each other a year, we can be married.”

The calendar pages were torn off as seasons came and went, and they became the La-Marches Oct. 8, 1960, spending 63 seasons together, bearing three daughters along the way, six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

“He was very kind,” Dot remembered of her late husband. “He loved life. And he always taught our children growing up, ‘Practice your faith and be educated, because I'm not always going to be able to care for you.’ And he always instilled in them just to be good people, kind people; and so far the three girls have done OK.”

Lou and Dot hopscoched about the southeast throughout their schooling and careers, Dot enjoying a workspace in the medical field and various positions in the Town of Farragut's public offices and committees before and after becoming instrumental in getting the newly incorporated Town established, including

becoming vice mayor, years later, and today serving as chairwoman of Farragut Museum Board.

Lou held a variety of contributing positions as well after shelving his years in varying industries and being a first lieutenant in the army, spending 32 years in the Reserves before retiring and helping Farragut remain what it long ago became.

Lou's float, like himself and his family, will go down in Town of Farragut's history.

Folks wanting to send ideas to Farragut Museum about a new float can send them to Ron Oestreich, Farragut's parks and recreation director, at roestreich@townoffarragut.org.



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<b>Sat Aug 10, 2024</b> Onsite Registration/ Practice ..... 9:00 am Big Air WAVE # 1 ..... 10:00 am Big Air WAVE # 2 ..... 12:00 pm Big Air WAVE # 3 ..... 2:30 pm Speed Retrieve Competition ..... 4:30 pm	<i>The final rounds of competition and award presentations will take place late Sunday afternoon.</i>

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# Randal Roberts

ELECT

**FARRAGUT ALDERMAN - South**

When TRUST Matters!



## *I am RANDAL ROBERTS.*

*I am running for Farragut Alderman in our South Ward, which is all of Farragut south of Kingston Pike. Farragut has a serious traffic problem that is NOT BEING ADDRESSED by our Board of Mayor and Alderman. I need your vote and support to begin work on this traffic problem NOW, not later.*

We cannot take the “We have to be patient and let these projects play out to see their full impact before rushing into additional measures” approach to this problem. The allocation of finances on the 6/25/24 Capital Investment Programs 6-year projection clearly shows that addressing our traffic problems is NOT a priority with our current Board of Mayor and Alderman. Instead they prefer to allocate many MILLIONS of dollars for the construction of greenways/sidewalks rather than address our most pressing problem, which is traffic! This is unacceptable to those of us that have to endure the long waits at our primary intersections.

Road construction projects on Northshore Drive and Interstate I-40 will soon begin and Kingston Pike is the detour for both. Traffic improvements have to be initiated sooner rather than later before this onslaught of additional traffic floods Farragut. This is not only a matter of quality of life; it is a matter of PUBLIC SAFETY. We cannot have our emergency response vehicles (Police, Fire, Ambulance, Rescue, etc.) impeded by traffic jams when resident’s lives may hang in the balance!

Now is not the time to bring more people to our roads. If elected, I will demand funding for a new comprehensive traffic study for the purpose of identifying solutions to our traffic problem, which will entail the construction of additional left-hand turn lanes and other lane improvements to facilitate increased traffic flow through our intersections. In 2020, the national traffic engineering firm Wilbur Smith said Farragut HAD TO HAVE those turn lanes by 2025. In 2022 local traffic engineering firm Canon and Canon said the same thing. I will listen to the experts and act on their recommendations.



I will always seek tell you the unvarnished truth, even if it is not what you hoped or wanted to hear.

You need an Alderman you can TRUST to work on the behalf of the residents again.

I will represent the residents of Farragut to the absolute best of my ability to listen to you. I will never vote for the use of Eminent Domain to take residents front yards or other property for greenways against their consent. I will defend the property rights of each resident.

My opponent stated in the Farragutpress, “Some things that I’ve accomplished over the last four years: the creation of the Outlet Drive corridor and bringing Topgolf to Farragut, the Implementation of a new traffic management system that is currently being installed, working closely with TDOT on the I-40 Corridor project to make upgrading the Campbell Station interchange a priority and adding lanes to I-40 that will keep traffic on the interstate and reduce cut-through traffic in Farragut.”

I will not try and take personal credit for something that a group of other people did, nor will I seek to exaggerate my own accomplishments should you entrust me to work as your Alderman. I will always strive to serve the residents of Farragut with humility, faith, and trust. TOGETHER we will work for a better future for Farragut and our families.

*I would appreciate your vote during this election.*

## **Early voting runs through July 27th.**

The closest polling location is at  
109 Lovell Heights behind the Synergy Car Wash, one half mile east of Lovell Road.

**Election day is August 1st.**

Paid for by Roberts for Alderman Campaign



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## College World Series champ signs with MLB defending WS champs

Stark, ex-Ad, close to boyhood home: Rangers

Cal Stark, senior starting catcher for the 2024 College World Series champion Tennessee Volunteers, and a 2020 Farragut High School graduate and former Admirals player, wasn't chosen in the recently completed Major League Baseball Draft. However, Stark, 21, was signed by the 2023 MLB World Series champion Texas Rangers. Stark actually spent much of his boyhood years in Arlington, Texas, home of the Rangers, before his family moved to Farragut.



Photo courtesy of Kate Luffman/UT Athletics

## Gators, Piranhas, Stingrays finish in GKAIISA top 6

Locals set 3 'City Meet' records

### STAFF REPORTS

editor@farragutpress.com

**KNOXVILLE** — Three Greater Knoxville Area Interclub Swimming Association teams from Farragut finished in the top six, among a 27-team field, during the annual GKAIISA "City Meet" in Allan Jones Intercollegiate Aquatic Center on the UT campus Thursday through Saturday, July 11-13.

Finishing a close second overall behind powerful GKAIISA champ Knoxville Racquet Club (1,855 points) was the Village Green Gators (1,741).

Taking fourth place was Concord Hills Piranhas (1,428) followed in sixth place by Sugarwood Stingrays (1,211.50). Farragut's Fox Den Red Foxes finished 19th as a team.

### Individual, relay meet records

Individual champions included three Farragut swim team individuals and relays who set GKAIISA meet records:

- **Girls 13-14 50-freestyle:** Village Green's Emmy Zimmer (23.81, new meet record).

- **Men 15-and-Over 200-medley relay:** Concord Hills' Andrew Chou, Evan King, Leo Karnitz and Christopher Recor (1:32.29, new meet record).

- **Men's 15-and-Over 50-backstroke:** Concord Hills' Andrew Chou (22.70, new meet record).

### Other first-place finishers

- Mixed 8-Under 100-yard freestyle relay: Village Green's Hank Wells, Luka Shaw, Nicole Griffin and Thatcher Fowler (1:08.46).

- Mixed 9-10 100-freestyle relay: Sugarwood's Sam Vineyard, Delaney Baker, Keegan Estrada and Myla Dru Saffles (55.62).

- Mixed 13-14 200-freestyle relay: Sugarwood's Beck Sams, Caroline Priban, Emma Hackett and Garrett Roberts (1:40.75).

- Women's 15-Over 200-IM: Village Green's Karley Wolfram (2:09.14).

- Men's 15-Over 200-IM: Village Green's Stephen Zhukov (1:50.25).

- Boys 8-and-Under 25-freestyle: Village Green's Charlie Clement (15.38).

- Girls 9-10 25-freestyle: Sugarwood's Myla Dru Saffles (12.93).

- Boys 9-10 25-freestyle: Sugarwood's Sam Vineyard (13.25).

- Boys 8-and-Under 100-medley relay: Village Green's Hank Wells, Rodric Mallison, Charlie Clement and Zachary Cloar (1:24.07).

- Girls 13-14 50-backstroke: Village Green's Emmy Zimmer (27.13).

- Girls 8-and-Under 25-breaststroke: Concord Hills' Quinn McIsaac (23.74).

- Girls 11-12 50-breaststroke: Sugarwood's Lauren Hackett (33:43).

- Girls 13-14 50-breaststroke: Sugarwood's Emma Hackett (31.65).

- Boys 13-14 50-breaststroke: Sugarwood's Garrett Roberts (29.39).

- Men's 15-and-Over 50-breaststroke: Concord Hills' Evan King (26.06).

- Girls 9-10 50-freestyle: Sugarwood's Myla Dru Saffles (28.50).

- Girls 9-10 25-butterfly: Sugarwood's Myla Dru Saffles (13.96).

- Womens' 15-and-Over 50-butterfly: Village Green's Karley Wolfram (26.19).

- Men's 15-and-Over 50-butterfly: Concord Hills' Andrew Chou (21.93).

- Boys 8-and-Under 100-freestyle relay: Village Green's Charlie Clement, Rodric Mallison, Thatcher Fowler and Zachary Cloar (1:08.18).

- Girls 13-14 100-freestyle relay: Village Green's Katherine Buchanan, Scarlett Lane Adreon, Addie Brock and Emmy Zimmer (1:48.42).

## Fontenot, Tate are promoted to assistant ADs at Farragut

### STAFF REPORTS

editor@farragutpress.com

Two Farragut High School teachers who also have served as coaches and/or directors have been promoted to FHS assistant athletic directors to begin the 2024-25 school year, it was announced Wednesday, July 17.

Assuming those roles are Albert Fontenot and Jack Tate.

Fontenot, a Farragut High graduate and running backs coach on the 2016 state champi-

onship Admirals football team (coaching 2016 through 2021), is a special education teacher who has taught at the school since 2016.

Tate, a long-time Bearden High School teacher who, as



Fontenot

Bulldogs baseball head coach, led BHS to its best finish in program history (state runner-up in 2012), just finished his fourth school year at FHS as sports information director and a film studies teacher.



Tate

## Several FHS coaching spots still available

### STAFF REPORTS

editor@farragutpress.com

With the 2024-25 Knox County Schools year fast approaching, in addition to TSSAA fall sports (football, girls soccer, girls and boys golf; girls and boys cross country and volleyball), nine coaching positions, including head coaching, are open at Farragut High, according to Jack Tate, FHS sports information director.

Although the previously mentioned fall

sports jobs are not among the vacancies, the following positions remain available:

- wrestling (head coach and assistant);
- flag football (head coach);
- bowling (head coach);
- swimming (head coach and assistant);
- softball (assistant coach); and ...
- tennis (head coach and assistant).

To apply, contact athletic director Donald Dodgen at donald.dodgen@knoxschools.org or call 865-660-6142.

## A 'pink' look at FHS volleyball; team's August schedule is told

Decked out in pink during a recent summer event, the 2024 Farragut High School volleyball team will be ready to begin its regular season at 5 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 1, as the Lady Admirals visit Halls. Next is a Tuesday, Aug. 13, trip to Jefferson County (5 p.m. start). Beginning at 8 a.m., Saturday, Aug. 17, Farragut will be part of a Varsity Playday at Powell High School. The first "tri-match" involving FHS is with Heritage and Maryville at HHS from 5 to 8 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 20. The first home match in FHS's Lynn E. Sexton Gymnasium begins at 5 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 22, versus Concord Christian School. One day later, the Lady Admirals begin participation in Showdown at the Sunsphere, starting at 5 p.m., in Knoxville Convention Center. Showdown-Sunsphere then runs all day in KCC Saturday, Aug. 24. Finishing off the month is a 5 p.m. start Tuesday, Aug. 27, at Anderson County versus ACHS. Knoxville Catholic visits FHS two days later to close the month, beginning at 5 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 29.

Photo submitted



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## FARRAGUT HIGH SCHOOL Marching Admirals' band camp

Farragut High School Marching Admirals' band camp is in full swing with practice, learning new moves and a new show, "HiScore."

The band started Monday, July 15, and will continue through Friday, July 26, when it hosts a Parent Preview performance starting at 7 p.m. on FHS's Bill Clabo Field. As a reward for their hard work, band members and staff were treated to watermelon during one of the late-morning breaks.



FHS staff Karey Lowdermilk, left, and Amanda Edsell



Vivian Abbott, rising freshman



Tessa Schlomer



Rising senior Audrey Redmon



Rising senior Sara Kiser



Rising eighth-grader Weiler Kappel, front ensemble



From left: rising senior Josh Hambrick with rising juniors Tyler Goodman and Hayes Kappel



Instructor Giovanni Misciagna, front ensemble



Rising senior Isabella Nega



Rising freshmen Makenzie Kinser and Elena Morris



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**TOWN SAMPLER**

## 'HiScore' being mastered by FHS Marching Admirals

Parent Preview set for 7 p.m., July 26, on Bill Clabo Field

**TAMMY CHEEK**

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

Farragut High School Marching Admirals are 180 strong as band members brave the July heat to learn this school year's show, "HiScore."

"We have camp going on right now," band director Kenneth Carrico III said Wednesday, July 17. "It started on Monday, July 15, and will go to Friday, July 19 and then start again next Monday, July 22, and end on Friday, July 26."

"We will have a Parent Preview performance at 7 p.m., Friday, July 26, in the FHS football stadium," he added.

So far, Carrico said, the band is shaping up "great."

"We have around 180 in the overall program and 150 in the Competitive Marching Band," he said.

The drum majors leading this year are Maggie Doyle, Adriana Silvestri and Caroline Woods.

HiScore "basically is a pinball show," Carrico said. "The field and props will look like a pinball machine."

"The main music will be 'Pinball Wizard' by The Who, but you will also hear themes of popular old-school arcade games throughout," he added. "We just wanted to have some fun with this year's show theme and make sure it would be something the students would really enjoy. They are already really excited about it and working hard on it as we speak. There will be plenty of exciting highlights throughout the show ... even trying to work on some cool lighting effects, but that depends on a lot."

On top of the band as a whole, "there will be plenty of great individual and section features throughout the show," he said.

The band will be competing Sept. 21 at Clinton High School, Sept. 28 at Karns High School, Oct. 19 at Western Carolina University and Oct. 26 at Seymour High School.

Also, the Knox County Band Exhibition will be hosted at FHS starting at 1 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 22.

"We won the Clinton and Karns competitions last year," Carrico said. "We were sixth overall in music in Prelims out of 35 bands and did well overall at the (East Tennessee State University) Band of America Regional and was second overall out of 28 bands at the Alcoa competition."

The band performs during each FHS football home game, the first of which is Friday, Sept. 6 (versus Knoxville West), "which will be our first public performance," the band director said. "Our final public performance will be Thursday, Oct. 31, which is the final home game... and Senior Night (Maryville)."



**Tammy Cheek**

Chloe Phippen, a rising freshman in Farragut High School Marching Admirals band front ensemble, was practicing up on her drum work during band camp.

## Mission Pack the Bus during Tax-Free Weekend to help Appalachian needy

To help celebrate the upcoming statewide Tax-Free Weekend Friday through Sunday, July 26-28, Mission Pack the Bus returns for its 11th year at Turkey Creek Shopping Center, hosting the annual school supply drive benefiting Mission of Hope at OfficeMax, 11012 Parkside Drive. Families can drop off their school supply donations from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the school bus parked in front of OfficeMax. "Over the past decade, shoppers have filled buses with pencils, paper, notebooks, backpacks, crayons — and most importantly, love, generosity and hope for the children of rural Appalachia," a M of H press release stated. The donated supplies will aid more than 10,000 children in 29 rural Appalachian schools served by the nonprofit in Tennessee, Kentucky and Virginia. The Little Bus Co. generously provides the school buses used for collecting donations at the OfficeMax location. As a token of appreciation, donors will receive a free pizza from Blaze Pizza and a free cookie from Crumbl Cookies. (Right) A familiar face who helped Mission of Hope grow its outreach into Upper East Tennessee, Southeast Kentucky and Southwest Virginia for decades — and help impoverished family members to use their talents to earn college degrees and turn their lives around through M of H scholarships — is Emmette Thompson, retired M of H director. He is pictured enjoying Town of Farragut's annual Independence Day Parade Thursday morning, July 4, with his wife, Valarie Thompson, and grandchildren. From left, Emmy, 3, Wyatt, 5, and James, 6.

Photo/press release submitted



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[www.faithloves.org](http://www.faithloves.org)

Christian Friends of Israel  
P.O. Box 1813  
Jerusalem, 91015 Israel  
Gen 12:3 [www.cfijerusalem.org](http://www.cfijerusalem.org)

Sunday Bible Class 9:30 AM  
Sunday Worship 10:30 AM  
Nursery & Children's Worship Provided  
Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 - 7:30 pm  
Weekday Preschool - Monday-Thursday  
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136 Smith Rd. • 865-966-5025 • [farragutchurch.org](http://farragutchurch.org)

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Fredrick E. Brabson, Sr., Senior Pastor  
Worship Complex  
10319 Starkey Lane  
Knoxville, TN 37932  
Contact Information  
Church: (865) 671-3370  
Fax: (865) 966-2072  
Email: [newcovenant@newcovenantbc.com](mailto:newcovenant@newcovenantbc.com)  
Website: [www.newcovenantbc.com](http://www.newcovenantbc.com)  
Weekly In-Person Services  
Sun: Family Bible Hour (9:30 AM)  
Sun: Worship Service (11:00 AM)  
Recorded Services  
On ZOOM  
Wed: Prayer Meeting & Bible Study (6:45 PM)  
Wed: Cultivate (7:00 PM)  
"Wining Souls and Changing Lives for Jesus Christ is a Total Family Ministry"

First Farragut  
United Methodist Church  
Worship Service  
Sundays at 10:30 AM  
[ffumc.org/live](http://ffumc.org/live)  
12733 Kingston Pike  
865-966-8430 • [www.ffumc.org](http://www.ffumc.org)

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9 a.m.  
With a children's program for ages 3 and up.  
Traditional Sunday Worship  
11 a.m.  
Livestreams at [fpcn.org](http://fpcn.org)  
Loving Nursery from birth to age 3 at both services  
209 Jamestowne Blvd.  
Located behind Village Green Shopping Ctr.  
(865)966-9547 • [fpcn.org](http://fpcn.org)

**CONCORD UNITED**  
METHODIST CHURCH  
11020 Roane Drive  
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Traditional & Contemporary Worship  
9:00 and 11:00 AM | Concurrently  
All Worship Services on-site and online.  
Nursery available for both services.  
11:00 AM Kids Church (K-5th)  
[ConcordUnited.org](http://ConcordUnited.org)  
Watch our services on  
[Youtube.com/ConcordUnited](http://Youtube.com/ConcordUnited)

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WORSHIP SERVICES  
SATURDAY | 5:30P  
SUNDAY | 9:30 & 11:00A  
MID-WEEK TIMES  
WEDNESDAY | 6:30-8:30P  
Middle School Ministry  
High School Ministry  
The WELL (Prayer & Worship)  
/TwoRiversTN  
Web: 2RC.tv | P: 865.777.2121  
275 Harrison Ln., Lenoir City, TN 37772

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Knoxville, TN 37934  
865-671-1885  
Worship Times  
9:30 am and 11:00 am  
For more information go to [www.christcov.org](http://www.christcov.org)



# fp 10-Day-plus Press Planner

Send your events to [editor@farragutpress.com](mailto:editor@farragutpress.com) — For more Press Planner visit [www.farragutpress.com](http://www.farragutpress.com)

• St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Church, 110 Sugarwood Drive in Farragut, has announced its July Gift of the Month "to be a continuation from June collecting for the needs at Vine Middle Magnet School," a SEEC press release stated. The Drive By-Drop Off is from 1 to 2 p.m., Sunday, July 28, in the church parking lot.

The church is seeking the following items to be donated: lined paper, pencils, two-sided pocket folders, color pencils, Expo markers, sanitizing wipes and paper towels. "Each month we collect items for a different, local nonprofit organization," the release further stated. "We look forward to offering our neighbors in the community an opportunity to help.

"Vine Middle is an inner-city, low-income school. ... The attendance and test scores are problematic, so we are encouraged to help in a variety of ways since education is the best way to alleviate poverty."

For more information, visit: <https://stelizchurch.org/>

• American Red Cross asks

donors "to be a powerful force for good this summer by giving blood or platelets now and in the weeks to come," an ARC press release stated. "You can be the difference between someone's storm and their sunshine. Donors are critically needed right now after a sharp decrease in donations since late spring.

All blood types are needed, especially donors giving type O blood and those giving platelets. Help keep lifesaving blood products stocked on hospital shelves and book a time to give blood or platelets by visiting [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org), calling 1-800-RED CROSS or by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App.

All who come to give blood or platelets in July will get a Fandango Movie Ticket by e-mail and will automatically be entered for a chance to win a 2025 Ram 1500 Big Horn. See [RedCrossBlood.org/Twisters](http://RedCrossBlood.org/Twisters) for full details.

• Sixth Annual Great Smoky Mountains Hot Air Balloon Festival returns to Townsend from 4 to 9 p.m.,

Saturday, Aug. 17. at Townsend Visitor Center, 7930 E Lamar Alexander Parkway. "The festival will feature a stunning balloon glow, where professional balloonists will illuminate the evening sky against the backdrop of a breathtaking Smoky Mountain sunset," a Townsend Cades Cove Gateway Alliance press release stated.

In addition to the balloon glow, the festival offers a variety of family-friendly activities, including arts and crafts demonstrations, and a food truck court. For adults, there will be a beer tent to enjoy a cold beverage while taking in the beauty of the festival.

For those seeking an elevated experience, the VIP Lift Off! package is the perfect choice. This exclusive offering includes access to a premium tented area with close balloon viewing, a catered meal from The Abbey, signature cocktails by Company Distilling, a commemorative swag bag, and live music.

VIP ticket holders will also enjoy a tethered balloon ride

and complimentary parking. Parking is available by prepaid reservation for \$20, which includes two admission tickets. General admission tickets are \$7 in advance or \$10 at the gate, and children 12 and under are free. VIP tickets, which include parking, are available for \$200. Tethered balloon rides are \$25.

Please note that the festival grounds feature moderately strenuous walking and rough

terrain, which may be challenging to maneuver. Pets are welcome but must be leashed.

• AARP Smart Driver Course offerings for 2024 include from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Thursday, July 25, and Friday, July 26, in West Knox County Senior Center, 239 Jamestowne Blvd, Suite 101. Instructor is Paul Johnson. To register, call 865-788-7805.

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# 6780 governor praises 'people of action' with Farragut Rotary Club

**TAMMY CHEEK**

tcheek@farragutpress.com

Saying he likes to get to know a given Rotary Club a little better before he comes in to speak, Rotary Club District 6780 Gov. Ron Dansereau told RCF members he "cyberstalked your club."

As a result, "you all do a pretty good job of getting the word out; you are people of action," he said to club members as featured speaker during RCF's regular meeting early Wednesday afternoon, July 17.

Showing photo slides of club members involved in a number of projects, "You step up, you make the difference," the 6780 governor added.

One of the programs in which the club was involved was Sleep In Heavenly Peace, which now has several clubs involved.

"Did you know you are one of the leaders in that program?" he asked RCF members. "... You're giving beds to children who don't have one."

Dansereau challenged club members to continue to make an impact, whether that is helping a young former Rotary

Youth Exchange student leave war-torn Ukraine or raising money to fight polio.

He shared Rotary's vision statement: "Together we see a world where people united and take action to create lasting changes across the globe in our community, ourselves."

Reflecting on the new governor's presentation, RCF member John Hoffman said his words were "inspiring, motivating, really defined why we're all here — to have fun, to do good work and to keep doing more good work."

"I think what Rob said sums up what we're really here for," RCF member Scott Brockamp said. "I'm really encouraged by what we're looking into for this year with his leadership and the club's leadership."

"I'm expecting us to do great things in our community," Bockamp added.

In light of Dansereau's presentation, the club presented awards to two members: Stephanie Markowitz received an award for "going above and beyond."

Normally, the club gives awards at the end of the year, but new RCF president Scott Bertini said he wants to acknowledge one member each month who has gone the extra mile.

Regarding Markowitz, "ever since I have known her, she has never said 'no,'" Bertini said. "She has gone beyond waiting to respond. She steps in and she asks 'What can I do to help?' ... She is OK with taking the jobs nobody else wants."

Additionally Rotary District past governor (2023-24) Susie Cantrell presented a 2023-24 Governor's Create Hope in the World Award to RCF member Bill Nichols for his work with Rotary Youth Exchange students through the years. Nichols continues to work with outbound RYE students.

"(Nichols) has been in schools; he's been in restaurants; he's been everywhere spreading the good word about

Rotary Youth Exchange,"

Cantrell said. However, Nichols said, "The members of this club make it happen."

On a similar note, RCF In-

teract advisor Leah Berry and Kate Russell, Interact Club advisor at HVA, presented Interact Club member Sydney Clemmer with a \$1,000 scholarship.



Dansereau

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## farragut

239 JAMESTOWNE BLVD | FARRAGUT, TN 37934 | 865.966.7057 | WWW.TOWNOFFARRAGUT.ORG

### FARRAGUT BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN AGENDA - JULY 25, 2024

**BMA WORKSHOP 5:30 - McFee Park Racquet Sports Discussion**  
**BMA MEETING 6:00 PM**

**I. Roll Call**

**II. Approval of Agenda**

**III. Approval of Minutes**

A. July 11, 2024

**IV. Mayor's Report**

A. Visual Resources Review Board update

B. Tree Board Update

C. Farragut Planning Commission Update

D. Board of Zoning Appeals Update

E. Farragut Education Relations Committee Update

F. Farragut Tourism/Visitor Advisory Committee Update

G. Stormwater Advisory Committee Update

**V. Ordinances & Resolutions**

**A. Ordinances**

**1. Public Hearing & Second Reading**

a) Ordinance 24-11, an ordinance on second reading to amend the Farragut Municipal Code, Chapter 22 – Article 5. Driveways and Other Access Ways, Section 22-147., Traffic Impact Study Requirements, to Provide for Additional Considerations for Pedestrians and Bicyclists

**2. First Reading**

a) Ordinance 24-10, an ordinance on first reading to amend the Farragut Zoning Map for Parcel 15402, Tax Map 130, west of the Cotton Eyed Joe's, from C-2 to OD-RE/E, 3.1 Acres (Cox Universal Group, Applicant)

b) Ordinance 24-14, an Ordinance on first reading of the Town of Farragut, Tennessee amending the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 General Fund and Capital Investment Program Fund budgets, passed by Ordinance 24-07

**B. Resolutions**

1. Resolution R-2024-09, Declaring Certain Town Property to be Surplus Property

**VI. Business Items**

A. Approval of Bids for Contract 2024-18, Anchor Park Pedestrian Crossing Improvements.

B. Approval of Purchase for One 2024 John Deere 6110M Tractor and Alamo Mowing System

C. Approval of Purchase for One 2023 Ford F550 Bucket Truck

**VII. Citizens Forum**

**VIII. Town Administrator's Report**

**IX. Town Attorney's Report**

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

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### PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the Town of Farragut will hold a public hearing on August 8, 2024, at 6:00 PM, at the Farragut Community Center, 239 Jamestowne Blvd, to hear citizen's comments on the following ordinances:

- Ordinance 24-10**, an ordinance on first reading to amend the Farragut Zoning Map for Parcel 15402, Tax Map 130, west of the Cotton Eyed Joe's, from C-2 to OD-RE/E, 3.1 Acres (Cox Universal Group, Applicant)
- Ordinance 24-14**, an Ordinance of the Town of Farragut, Tennessee amending the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 General Fund budget and Capital Investment Program budgets, passed by Ordinance 24-07

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

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# Notice of Early Voting

Federal/State Primary, County General, Town of Farragut Municipal Election

## EARLY VOTING

Friday, July 12<sup>th</sup> through Saturday, July 27<sup>th</sup>

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(July 12, 19, 26)

#### Saturdays

10:00 am to 3:00 pm  
(July 13, 20, 27)

Republican Primary			
<p>United States Senate Vote for One (1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Marsha Blackburn <input type="checkbox"/> Tres Wittum <input type="checkbox"/> Write-In</p> <p>United States House of Representatives District 2 Vote for One (1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Tim Burchett <input type="checkbox"/> Write-In</p> <p>Tennessee Senate District 6 Vote for One (1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Monica Irvine <input type="checkbox"/> Becky Duncan Massey <input type="checkbox"/> Write-In</p> <p>Tennessee House of Representatives District 14 Vote for One (1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jason Zachary <input type="checkbox"/> Write-In</p> <p>Tennessee House of Representatives District 15 Vote for One (1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Justin Hirst <input type="checkbox"/> Write-In</p> <p>Tennessee House of Representatives District 16 Vote for One (1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Michele Carringer <input type="checkbox"/> Write-In</p> <p>Tennessee House of Representatives District 18 Vote for One (1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Elaine Davis <input type="checkbox"/> Write-In</p> <p>Tennessee House of Representatives District 19 Vote for One (1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Dave Wright <input type="checkbox"/> Write-In</p> <p>Tennessee House of Representatives District 89 Vote for One (1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Justin Lafferty <input type="checkbox"/> Write-In</p> <p>Tennessee House of Representatives District 90 Vote for One (1)</p> <p>No Candidate Qualified <input type="checkbox"/> Write-In</p>	<p>Tennessee Senate District 6 Vote for One (1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Domonica Bryan <input type="checkbox"/> Write-In</p> <p>Tennessee House of Representatives District 14 Vote for One (1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Amanda S Collins <input type="checkbox"/> Write-In</p> <p>Tennessee House of Representatives District 15 Vote for One (1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Dasha Lundy <input type="checkbox"/> Sam McKenzie <input type="checkbox"/> Write-In</p> <p>Tennessee House of Representatives District 16 Vote for One (1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Lauren Carver <input type="checkbox"/> Write-In</p> <p>Tennessee House of Representatives District 18 Vote for One (1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Bryan Goldberg <input type="checkbox"/> Write-In</p> <p>Tennessee House of Representatives District 19 Vote for One (1)</p> <p>No Candidate Qualified <input type="checkbox"/> Write-In</p> <p>Tennessee House of Representatives District 89 Vote for One (1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Cary Hammond <input type="checkbox"/> Write-In</p> <p>Tennessee House of Representatives District 90 Vote for One (1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Gloria Johnson <input type="checkbox"/> Write-In</p> <p>State Executive Committeeman District 5 (Unexpired Term) Vote for One (1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> D. Scott Hammond <input type="checkbox"/> Write-In</p> <p>State Executive Committeewoman District 7 (Unexpired Term) Vote for One (1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Dana E. Moran <input type="checkbox"/> Write-In</p>	<p>County Commissioner District 2 Vote for One (1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Debbie Phillips Republican Party Nominee <input type="checkbox"/> Courtney Durrett Democratic Party Nominee <input type="checkbox"/> Ethan Grantham Independent Candidate <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in</p> <p>County Commissioner District 4 Vote for One (1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Garrett Holt Republican Party Nominee <input type="checkbox"/> Shane Jackson Democratic Party Nominee <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in</p> <p>County Commissioner District 5 Vote for One (1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Angela Russell Republican Party Nominee <input type="checkbox"/> S. Arthur Moore Democratic Party Nominee <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in</p> <p>County Commissioner District 6 Vote for One (1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Terry Hill Republican Party Nominee <input type="checkbox"/> Daniel Edward Greene Democratic Party Nominee <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in</p> <p>County Commissioner District 8 Vote for One (1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Adam Thompson Republican Party Nominee <input type="checkbox"/> Charles V Chandler Democratic Party Nominee <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in</p> <p>County Commissioner District 9 Vote for One (1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Andy Fox Republican Party Nominee <input type="checkbox"/> Matthew Park Democratic Party Nominee <input type="checkbox"/> Stacey Bryan Smith Independent Candidate <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in</p> <p>Assessor of Property Vote for One (1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Phil Ballard Republican Party Nominee <input type="checkbox"/> Drew A. Harper Democratic Party Nominee <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in</p> <p>County Law Director Vote for One (1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> David L. Buuck Republican Party Nominee <input type="checkbox"/> Jackson Fenner Democratic Party Nominee <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in</p> <p>Board of Education District 2 Vote for One (1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Anne Templeton Democratic Party Nominee <input type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Owen Independent Candidate <input type="checkbox"/> Pat Polis Independent Candidate <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in</p>	<p>Board of Education District 3 Vote for One (1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Angie Goethert Republican Party Nominee <input type="checkbox"/> Patricia Fontenot-Ridley Democratic Party Nominee <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in</p> <p>Board of Education District 5 Vote for One (1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Lauren Morgan Republican Party Nominee <input type="checkbox"/> Terry Whitaker Democratic Party Nominee <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in</p> <p>Board of Education District 8 Vote for One (1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Travis Wright Republican Party Nominee <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in</p>
			<b>Town of Farragut</b>
			<b>State General</b>
	<b>Knox County General Election</b>		<p>Alderman, Ward 1 Vote for One (1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Alexander J. Cain <input type="checkbox"/> Jeffrey Devlin <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in</p> <p>Alderman, Ward 2 Vote for One (1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Drew Burnette <input type="checkbox"/> Randal Roberts <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in</p> <p>Supreme Court – At Large Dwight Tarwater Vote for One (1) Shall Dwight Tarwater be retained in office as a Judge of the Supreme Court, At Large, or be replaced?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Retain <input type="checkbox"/> Replace</p> <p>Court of Criminal Appeals – Western Division Matthew J. Wilson Vote for One (1) Shall Matthew J. Wilson be retained in office as a Judge of the Court of Criminal Appeals, Western District, or be replaced?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Retain <input type="checkbox"/> Replace</p>
<p>Democratic Primary</p> <p>United States Senate Vote for One (1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Marquita Bradshaw <input type="checkbox"/> Lola Denise Brown <input type="checkbox"/> Gloria Johnson <input type="checkbox"/> Civil Miller-Watkins <input type="checkbox"/> Write-In</p> <p>United States House of Representatives District 2 Vote for One (1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jane George <input type="checkbox"/> Write-In</p>	<p>Criminal Court Judge Division II District 6 (Unexpired Term) Vote for One (1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Hector I. Sanchez Republican Party Nominee <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in</p> <p>County Commissioner District 1 Vote for One (1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Charles Frazier Republican Party Nominee <input type="checkbox"/> Damon L. Rawls Democratic Party Nominee <input type="checkbox"/> Write-in</p>		<p>A federal or State of Tennessee issued photo ID is required to vote, unless an exception applies. College student IDs will not be accepted. To learn more about the law and its exceptions, please call 865-215-2480 or visit <a href="http://www.GoVoteTN.com">www.GoVoteTN.com</a></p>

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Saturday, July 13: 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. • Saturday, July 20: 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. • Saturday, July 27: 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.  
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# Tennessee's annual Tax-Free Weekend starts Friday, July 26

Tennessee's annual Tax-Free Weekend, the state's traditional sales tax holiday on clothing, school supplies and computers, begins at 12:01 a.m. on Friday, July 26, 2024, and ends at 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, July 28, 2024.

"During this time clothing, school supplies and computers may be purchased tax-free," a state Department of Revenue press release stated. "Certain restrictions apply. Items sold online are also eligible. Items must be purchased for personal use, not for business or trade."

"During this holiday, Tennesseans can save nearly 10 percent on qualifying clothing, school supplies and computers," the release further stated. "Tennesseans can purchase clothing and school supplies tax-free if they are priced at \$100 or less and buy computers tax-free if they are priced at \$1,500 or less. Qualifying items may be purchased online and in stores."

"With the start of the school year around the corner, we encourage Tennessee families to take advantage of these savings," Revenue Commissioner David Gerregano said. "This is the only sales tax holiday this year."

#### CLOTHING

##### Exempt:

- General apparel that costs \$100 or less per item, such as shirts, pants, socks, shoes, dresses, etc.

##### Not exempt:

- apparel items priced at more than \$100;
- Items sold together, such as shoes, cannot be split up to stay beneath the \$100 maximum;
- Items such as jewelry, handbags, or sports and recreational equipment

#### SCHOOL SUPPLIES

##### Exempt:

- School and art supplies with a purchase price of \$100 or less per item, such as binders, backpacks, crayons, paper, pens, pencils and rulers, and art supplies such as glazes, clay, paints, drawing pads, and artist paintbrushes

##### Not exempt:

- School and art supplies individually priced at more than \$100
- Items that are normally sold together cannot be split up to stay beneath the \$100 maximum

See TAX HOLIDAY on Page 4C

# Study tips for a strong start in school

Studying is vital to academic performance. At the dawn of a new school year, students get a fresh start to improve upon or continue strong their study habits. Teachers will be rolling out their curricula, and that may feel overwhelming. However, optimizing study skills can boost confidence in school and in areas outside of the classroom. These study tips can put students on a path for success.

#### • Find your optimal study space.

The ideal study spot varies from student to student. Some need a quiet nook in the library, while others may prefer the sounds of nature while seated on a park bench. There's no one-size-fits-all study location, so students may need to experiment with what works best for them. Also, The Princeton Review says that a student doesn't need just one study space. He or she may find a change of scenery

See STRONG START on Page 3C

## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

Big "thank you's" go out to JCPenney in Turkey Creek and Cool Sports for their cooperation with farragutpress in this Back to School issue.

Cool Sports graciously allowed the use of their campus for our photo shoot.

JCPenney made available their back to school clothing lines for local models, who served enthusiastically, as demonstrated on the pages of this Back to School issue. JCPenney went above and beyond with their time and effort, lending their back-to-school styles to make these young models look ready for the 2024-25 school year.

**Pictured above:** Back row, from left: Bentley Qualkenbush, Leeaira Seiber, Riley Millsaps, Evelyn Unthank, Nolan Seiber and Lydia Enger. Middle row, from left: Graham Millsaps, Emmaline Unthank, Connor Austin and Lynlee Seiber. Front row, from left: Sophia Pham, Beau Scott and Shanelle Casiano.

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**Pictured from left to right:** Shanelle Casiano, Beau Scott, Sophia Pham, Leeaira Seiber, Lydia Enger, Bentley Qualkenbush, Connor Austin (kneeling), Evelyn Unthank, Nolan Seiber, Riley Millsaps and Graham Millsaps.

## Parental involvement is a key factor in students' performance

Success in school can carry over to successful experiences later in life. That underscores the benefits of developing skills in the classroom. Students learn in their own way, and at times there may need to overcome various obstacles.

The job of education does not fully fall on educators and administrators. Education begins at home. Research has found that kids benefit significantly when parents and other caregivers are strongly involved in a child's education. A 2020 study published in the *Journal of Prevention and Intervention in the Community* found that parental involvement in a child's education is associated with improved academic performance. Specifically, children whose parents are more involved in their educations have higher levels of academic performance than children whose parents were not as involved.

A 2005 study from researchers at the Johns Hopkins University Center of

School, Family and Community Partnerships showed that school practices that encourage families to support their students' math learning at home led to higher percentages of students scoring at or above proficiency on standardized math tests. Additional research indicates the benefits also extend to other subjects and areas of learning, including language comprehension and expressive language skills.

With so much to gain from parental involvement in students' educations, parents can embrace these strategies to get more involved.

- **Develop a partnership with the teacher.** Open communication with the teacher(s) can help parents stay up-to-date on what is going on in the classroom and learn early on where a student may need extra support. Then parents can offer extra guidance if it is feasible, or look into an

See **PARENT INVOLVEMENT** on Page 5C

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### Strong start

From page 1C

can prompt the brain to retain information better.

• **Devise a study plan.** Setting goals and a plan of attack allows students to space out their studying over several days. This can reduce stress and make the task seem less cumbersome.

• **Avoid cram sessions.** Devising a study plan is better than cramming the night before a test. The American Psychological Association says students may perform well on a test for which they’ve crammed, but that doesn’t mean they’ve truly learned the material. Studying with a goal of retaining the material long-term is important.

• **Learn how to actively study.** Some students think that studying requires reading over the material or highlighting text. Active studying involves engaging with the material and constructing meaning from the text. One way to engage with the material is to try acting as the teacher and explaining concepts to another person. Creating a study guide or even concept

maps also helps one actively study.

• **Balance intensity with laid-back study approaches.** Students may procrastinate with their studying because they don’t want to devote a lot of time to the task. Instead, they can do shorter sessions mixed with longer sessions of studying. In fact, The Learning Center at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill says shorter, intensive study time can be more effective than drawn-out studying.

• **Ask for help.** Asking a teacher or another student for help is not a sign of weakness. It’s a good strategy to develop early on. The longer one waits, the more difficult it may be to catch up on material. Asking for help goes hand-in-hand with setting up a buddy system for studying. Study groups enable students to go over material together, which can provide different perspectives and help the material resonate more effectively.

Students will spend a lot of time studying while in school. Learning how to do it effectively is vital to fulfilling one’s academic potential.






# Inspiring

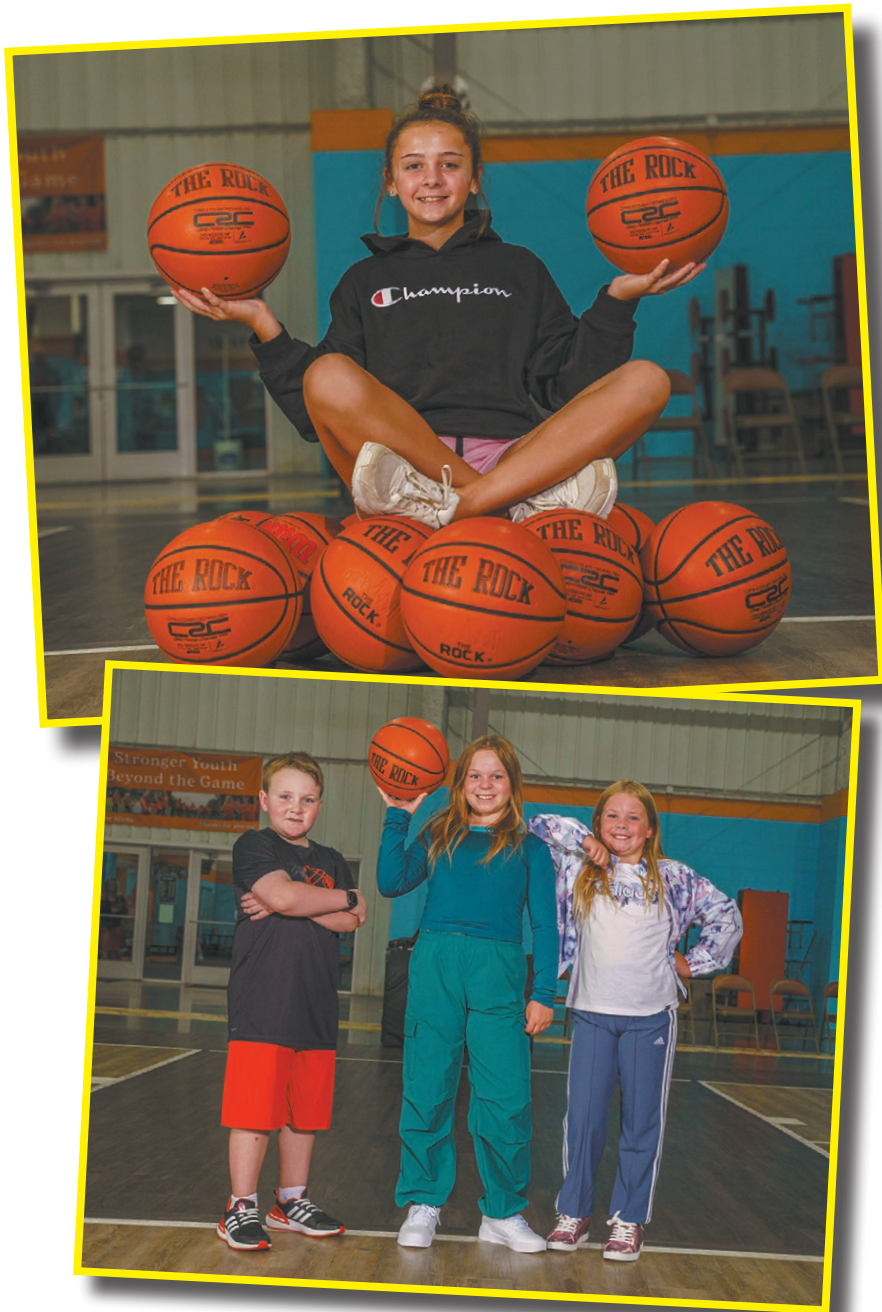
# Empowering

# Leading



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**Tax Holiday**

From page 1C

**COMPUTERS**

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- Computers for personal use with a purchase price of \$1,500 or less
- Laptop computers, if priced at \$1,500

or less, also qualify as well as tablet computers

*Not exempt:*

- Storage media, like flash drives and compact discs
- Individually purchased software
- Printer supplies
- Household appliances

**Left, top:** Lydia Enger

**Left, lower:** Left to right: Connor Austin, Leeaira Seiber and Lynlee Seiber

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**Parent involvement**

From page 2C

experienced tutor.

• **Be firm but supportive.** Too much academic pressure may cause a child to pull back or even test boundaries, and that can lead to students falling behind in school. Parents must find the right level of involvement and guide their kids without sounding like good grades are “make or break” the relationship.

• **Attend school functions.** Parents can go to open houses, back-to-school nights, conferences, and other events held at school to show support and

interest in their children’s education. Involved parents also build school-based networks this way, which can be called upon if their student needs additional support in the future.

• **Establish a schedule at home.** Students can benefit from a schedule, with regular bedtime, homework time and opportunities to relax. Knowing what to expect and when to expect it can take some of the stress out of learning and studying, according to Nemours health.

Parents working in concert with schools and their children can lead to better academic outcomes.

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# How parents can pick the right backpack

Students need many different supplies to help them move to the head of the class. Teachers frequently post lists online before school begins or advise students in the early days of the new year. Therefore, parents may want to wait to go back-to-school shopping until they learn what's needed. There is one piece of gear, however, that students will definitely need: a backpack.

Backpacks have been helping students transport books and other materials to and from school for decades. Backpacks are not a new invention, and they actually predate school. Ötzi, a man whose mummified remains have been traced to the Copper Age, carried an animal fur rucksack during his travels. American Civil War soldiers carried bindles, and Henry Miriam developed one of the first knapsacks for the U.S. military in 1877. It wasn't until the late 1940s that kids started using backpacks for school, as more materials were available to make these bags after World War II. Backpacks are now ubiquitous on school campuses around the world.

Backpacks are available in many different sizes and styles. Not all of them are created equal, and some may be better and safer for students than others. Here are some considerations.

- Look for even, secure stitching that will not come undone easily. Inexpensive backpacks may last a few weeks, but a more durable backpack can last the school year and beyond.
- Pass up backpacks with frayed fabric edges that could unravel, says Consumer Reports.
- Opt for backpacks with zippers that have fabric flaps over them to keep water and other elements out of the backpack, helping prolong its life span.
- Consider a synthetic material, which will be lighter to carry and more resistant to water.
- Choose a backpack with lots of compartments that can spread the weight of gear out across the bag.
- Look for bags that have padded backs and straps. The padding should be ventilated, so the backpack will not

get very hot when the child is using it.

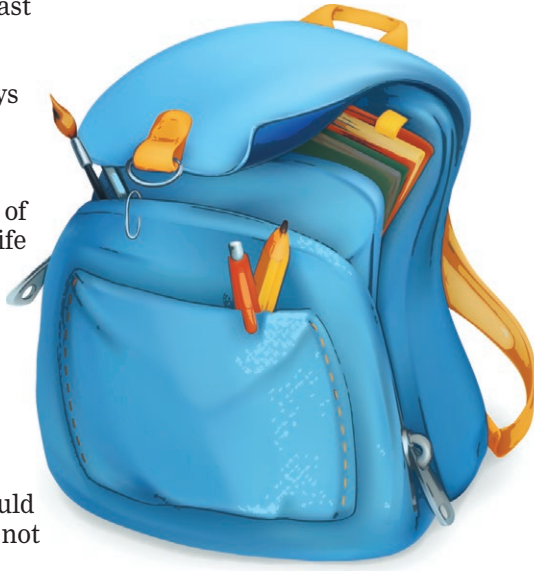
- Karena Wu, a physical therapist and owner of ActiveCare Physical Therapy in New York, encourages parents to choose backpacks with tapered straps that will conform better to their children's bodies. A waist strap can help keep the backpack centered on the child's torso to help disperse the load.

- If the school allows it, a rolling bag is a great way to prevent strain on the back. Verywell Family says children should carry no more than 15 percent of their bodyweight in the backpack. That means a 60-pound child shouldn't carry more than 9 pounds.

- Select a backpack that is sized accordingly to the child. It may be tempting to buy the largest one around, but that can be cumbersome and the student may overload it.

- Many students now use laptops or tablets for school. It is a good idea to buy a backpack that has a padded pocket for tech devices to protect them during transport.

Although it may not seem trendy to do so, backpacks should always be worn with all straps in place to distribute weight evenly; otherwise, strain may be placed on one shoulder or side of the body. This, in addition to choosing the right backpack, can keep students comfortable and safe.



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# Knox County Schools Calendar 2024-2025

# BACK TO SCHOOL CALENDAR

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### August

Thursday, August 1 First Day for Teachers (School Based In-Service Day)  
Friday, August 2 Systemwide In-Service Day (PreK-12)  
Monday, August 5 Administrative Day (Teacher Work Day)  
Tuesday, August 6 Systemwide In-Service Day (½ Day School-based); Administrative Day (½ Day Teacher Work Day); 6th and 9th Grade Orientation  
Wednesday, August 7 Administrative Day (Teacher Work Day)  
Thursday, August 8 First Day for Students (½ Day)  
Wednesday, August 14 Early Release Day for Students

### December

Friday, December 20 ½ Day for Students; End Second 9-weeks Grading Period; End First Semester Winter Break  
Mon., Dec. 23 – Thurs., Jan. 2

### January

Friday, January 3 Systemwide In-service Day (½ Day School-based; Administrative Day (½ Day Teacher Work Day)  
Monday, January 6 First Day for Students after Winter Break (Full Day)  
Monday, January 20 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (Knox County Schools Closed)  
Wednesday, January 22 Early Release Day for Students

### April

Thursday, April 17 End 4½-weeks Grading Period  
Friday, April 18 Holiday (Knox County Schools Closed)  
Monday, April 21 Systemwide In-Service Day (School-based)

### May

Thursday, May 22 Last Day for Students (½ Day);  
End Fourth 9-weeks Grading Period;  
End Second Semester  
Friday, May 23 Administrative Day (Teacher Work Day) – Last Day for Teachers

### September

Monday, September 2 Labor Day Holiday (Knox County Schools Closed)  
Monday, September 9 End 4½-weeks Grading Period  
Tuesday, September 17 Constitution Day (Knox County Schools Open)  
Wed., September 18 Early Release Day for Students

### October

Friday, October 4 End First 9-weeks Grading Period  
Mon.-Fri., Oct. 7-11 Fall Break

### November

Tuesday, November 5 Systemwide In-Service Day (PreK-12) (Student Holiday)  
Wed., November 13 End 4½-weeks Grading Period  
Wed., November 20 Early Release Day for Students  
Wed.-Fri., Nov. 27-29 Thanksgiving Holidays (Knox County Schools Closed)

### February

Wednesday, February 5 End 4½-weeks Grading Period  
Wednesday, February 12 Early Release Day for Students  
Monday, February 17 Systemwide In-Service Day (PreK-12) (Student Holiday)

### March

Monday, March 10 End Third 9-weeks Grading Period  
Mon.-Fri., March 17-21 Spring Break  
Wednesday, March 26 Early Release Day for Students

180 Instructional Days\*  
4 Administrative Days  
2 Unscheduled In-Service Days  
1 Unscheduled Parent-Teacher Contact Hours Day  
6 Scheduled In-Service Days  
10 Vacation Days

\*In accordance with T.C.A. § 49-6-3004 – 177 student instructional days plus 3 days accumulated under daily 7-hour schedule.

Note: This calendar allows cancellation of up to 8 instructional days due to inclement weather or serious outbreaks of illness before any make up days will be required.

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Check the Knox County Schools site for the earliest news on school closings due to weather.



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