

# Blogger ‘yells’ at Mayor? No polling violations found

**ALAN SLOAN**  
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A social media political blogger from Farragut, Sean Murphy, allegedly confronted Farragut Mayor Ron Williams at Town Hall “and began yelling at him” Saturday afternoon, July 23, a Knox County Sheriff’s Office report stated.

“Officers responded to (a) Sugarwood Drive (address) ... in reference to a report of a disturbance. Upon arrival, officers contacted Ronald Edward Williams, complainant,” the report stated. “The complainant advised that earlier in the day he had visited the Farragut Town Hall with his wife (T.C. Williams), and was confronted by Sean Murphy, suspect.”

“The suspect pulled his gold-colored van near to the complainant and began yelling at him over political differences, and the complainant’s access to the Town Hall building” in light of the Early Voting period being under way, the report further stated.

Asked to give more detail about the alleged incident to farragutpress on Monday, July 25, Williams submitted the following, saying he and his wife “visited the Farragut Museum — located in Town Hall — earlier in the day, which was opening day of its new 1982 World’s Fair 40th Anniversary exhibit,” adding he’s also “a member of the Museum Committee.”

Exiting Town Hall “and standing on the sidewalk,” Williams stated Murphy “drove toward us, very quickly and very closely. It was almost vehicular as-

sault. While driving toward us, he had his window down and was screaming at me that I was ‘breaking the law.’

“He threw the car in park, jumped out and continued to yell at me, flailing his arms, and said he was going to have me arrested for being in Town Hall during voting hours,” the mayor further stated. “I told him, ‘Go ahead,’ and then (Murphy) got even more upset, yelled at my wife to ‘move out of the way,’ and he went back into Town Hall.”

Williams “advised officers that he and his wife were able to eventually disengage in the verbal contact with the suspect and left the area,” the KCSO report

**See MAYOR-MURPHY on Page 8A**



## 1982 World’s Fair Exhibit featured at Farragut Museum

**MICHELLE HOLLENHEAD**  
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Farragut’s Museum is joining in the region’s celebration of Knoxville’s 1982 World’s Fair’s 40th Anniversary with a new exhibit unveiled Saturday, July 23.

“We have a lot of items in our permanent collection from the Fair, and have also had more items loaned to us by our volunteers,” said Julia Barham, Town Historic Resources coordinator.

Displayed items include a selection of beer cans, tickets, pins, glasses, programs and hats from various World’s Fair

(Above) Lynn Miller and her children, Owen and Hope, visited the new 40th Anniversary Worlds Fair Exhibit in Farragut Museum. (Below) A World’s Fair commemorative plate.



## Ballfield light restriction request: favorable feedback

**TAMMY CHEEK**  
tcheek@farragutpress.com

Residents making up Farragut Neighborhood Preservation Partnership received favorable feedback on their request to restrict ballfield lights in the Town.

During Farragut Municipal Planning Commission’s meeting July 21, Jeanne Brykalski, who represented FNPP, asked Commissioners to consider amending its lighting ordinance to restrict ballfield lighting only to Mayor Bob Leonard and McFee parks.

Farragut Community Development director Mark Shipley was asked to come back with a proposed ordinance amendment for FMPC’s next meeting.

“What we are trying to accomplish is to protect all Farragut neighborhoods,” Brykalski said.

Five other residents attended to support Brykalski, while no one spoke against the request. She said FNPP is made up of residents from Glen Abbey, Derby Chase, Shiloh Condominiums, Belleaire and Farragut Crossing neighborhoods.

Brykalski pointed out the request is intended to protect Farragut residents from incompatible development, intrusive lighting, from being commercialized and from noise while protecting property values and quality of life.

Shipley said the amendment would clarify the ordinance.

“The Town’s outdoor site lighting provisions are included in Chapter 4 of the zoning ordinance and were recently updated to organize the provisions and address newer technologies and lighting applications,” he said. “The outdoor site lighting provisions are intended to govern private property where the Town would otherwise have no controls in place to address the intent of the outdoor site lighting provisions.”

“The Town has had outdoor field lighting at Mayor Bob Leonard Park since 1989 and lighting at McFee Park since it opened in 2009,” Shipley added. “The request from FNPP would acknowledge and clarify this condition and prohibit where such lighting could be installed in other locations.”

However, Commissioner Scott Russ said he thought FNPP’s request was too restrictive, as it would limit the lighting to only two of the Town’s parks.

“By restricting this, say in five years, we put turf in Anchor



**Brykalski**

**See EXHIBIT on Page 6A**

**See BALLFIELD LIGHTS on Page 6A**

## A \$25,000 Dog Park Grant awarded to Town; McFee Park site targeted

**STAFF REPORTS**  
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All the hard work has paid off. Farragut officials were notified last week it was among 10 \$25,000 Tennessee Dog Park Dash Grant winners courtesy of

the Boyd Foundation.

Grants were distributed to communities demonstrating their desire for a dog park through social media.

“Those who follow the Town of Farragut on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter were encouraged to share

photos of their favorite pups with the hashtag #DogParkDash2022 and mention Farragut,” a Town press release stated.

“The Town also hosted a doggy ‘flash mob’ at the grand opening of Phase 3 of McFee Park that was filmed for the

Town’s social media campaign,” the press release added.

“Our community has expressed a desire for a dog park, and this grant will be a big help,” Mayor Ron Williams

**See DOG PARK on Page 4A**

### Tax-free August food ... tax-free gun safety incentives well into 2023

**Monday, Aug. 1, begins a month-long sales tax holiday on food items in the state of Tennessee.** From 12:01 a.m., Monday, Aug. 1, to 11:59 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 31, food and food ingredients may be purchased tax free, according to a press release from the state Department of Revenue.

**State officials also are offering a roughly one-year sales tax holiday extension for gun safes and gun safety devices,** currently ongoing and set to expire at 11:59 p.m. June 30, 2023. According to Tennessee Department of Revenue, “a ‘gun safe’ is defined as

a locking container or other enclosure equipped with a padlock, key lock, combination lock or other locking device that is designed and intended for the secure storage of one or more firearms.”

A ‘gun safety device’ is defined as “any integral device to be equipped or installed on a firearm that permits the user to program the firearm to operate only for specified persons, designated by the user through computerized locking devices or other means integral to and permanently part of the firearm.”



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# County Profiles: Commission At-Large Seat 11: it's Shipe, Frazier, Bridges

**Kim Frazier**  
Republican candidate  
*(Each candidate in this race was given a maximum of 400 words to answer three questions)*

- How will you, based on accomplishments, qualifications, and any other positives, be able to serve Knox Countians in a positive and productive way?

“Over 15 years, I have organized and served numerous community groups (Knox County Planning Alliance, Hardin Valley Planning Advocates, Hardin Valley Business & Community Alliance, Farragut Rotary), served on multiple boards (Junior Achievement, Paws & Badges, Knox County Rescue, The Restoration House, Hardin Valley Academy Foundation), committees (Hardin Valley Academy Advisory Council, Knoxville Knox County Planning Zoning Review, City of Knoxville Neighborhood Empowerment Education Series, Knox County Greenway Corridor Study, Advance Knox), focus groups (Planned Residential, TPO Transportation Study, NW Sector Plan Update) and discussion panels (East Tennessee Design Symposium, Ford Next Generation); was select-



Frazier

See FRAZIER on Page 4A

**Vivian Underwood Shipe**  
Democrat candidate  
*(Each candidate in this race was given a maximum of 400 words to answer three questions)*

- How will you, based on accomplishments, qualifications, and any other positives, be able to serve Knox Countians in a positive and productive way?

“As a community advocate for over 50 years, my experiences as a voice for the people will help me to continue serving from the other side of the podium. I bring to the table personal experience in many of the areas in which the Commission has to deal with and I will work collaboratively to bring change.

I have developed a CCC, a caring community cabinet made of community leaders, contractors, counselors, financial experts and others from all parts of the county. They will be my eyes and ears on issues so that when an issue is brought before the commission, I can make an educated, informed vote.”

- What are two or three things you hope Commission, with your help and leadership, needs to help Knox County accomplish in the next four years?



Shipe

See SHIPE on Page 4A

Repeated attempts by farragutpress, spanning weeks, to contact Donald Bridges, Independent At-Large Seat 11 candidate, were unsuccessful.  
We regret his platforms weren't stated in this forum.

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NOMINEE**

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FRAZIER**

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GENERAL ELECTION: AUGUST 4TH

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Paid for by Kim Frazier for Commission, Russ Frazier, Treasurer

**DOG DAZE**

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Shop Farragut

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**FREE 3 Day Festival  
of fun, food, shopping  
and competition!**

**Event Schedule:**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Fri Aug 12, 2022</b><br>Onsite Registration/<br>Practice ..... 4:00 pm<br>The POOCH PLUNGE!<br>Try DockDogs ..... 4:00-7:00 pm  | <b>Sun Aug 14, 2022</b><br>Onsite Registration/<br>Practice ..... 9:00 am<br>Big Air WAVE # 5 ..... 10:00 am<br>Big Air WAVE # 6 ..... 11:30 am<br>Speed Retrieve<br>(All in one Finals) ..... 1:30 pm<br>Big Air Finals ..... start at 3:30 pm<br>(Pro, Semi-Pro, Contender & Amateur Finals)<br><i>The final rounds of competition and award presentations will take place late Sunday afternoon.</i> |
| <b>Sat Aug 13, 2022</b><br>Onsite Registration/<br>Practice ..... 9:00 am<br>Big Air WAVE # 1 ..... 10:00 am<br>Big Air WAVE # 2 ..... 11:30 am<br>Big Air WAVE # 3 ..... 1:30 pm<br>Big Air WAVE # 4 ..... 3:30 pm<br>Extreme Vertical (All in one) . 5:30 pm |   |

11505 KINGSTON PIKE • VENDOR INFO - 865-307-2486 • SHOPFARRAGUT@GMAIL.COM  
For more information go to [www.farragutbusiness.com/dogdaze](http://www.farragutbusiness.com/dogdaze)

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# Elect Bill Republican JOHNS for FARRAGUT MAYOR

Town of Farragut elections are non-partisan / Election Day is Thursday, August 4<sup>th</sup> / Early Voting is July 15<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>

**“Let’s Make Farragut Friendly Again!”**  
Proven conservative Bill Johns will:

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- 2** Control Farragut's growth to match its infrastructure and services,
- 3** Build trust and confidence through transparency and ethics,
- 4** Address traffic by bringing all parties to the table to tackle its root causes, and
- 5** Create an emergency preparedness plan and culture for the Town.



Leilani and Margaret Johns taking a break from the campaign trail.

*“OVER 75% of eligible voters stayed home during this past May’s Knox County primary. Voter turnout is essential to our democracy. We the people have an opportunity to effect the change our community needs. I invite you to take this journey with me and humbly ask for your support and vote!” – Bill Johns*

## WHY SHOULD YOU CONSIDER INNOVATIVE LEADERSHIP?

### ▪ PROVEN CONSERVATIVE!

35 years supporting GOP clubs and conservative causes, endorsed by the founders of the Concord-Farragut GOP club, Chairman – Knox County GOP, and Chairman – Tennessee Conservative Union / President - West Knox GOP club  
(Opponent has no leadership record with GOP/conservative entities or initiatives)

### ▪ EXECUTIVE EDUCATION!

Master of Business Administration (MBA),  
Master of Public Administration (MPA), Bachelor of Arts (BA)  
(Opponent does not hold an undergraduate degree or state license)

### ▪ EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP!

25 years serving as an outsourced executive helping other leaders of the Fortune 500, innovative entities, and public sector agencies with their \$M/\$B supply chains, channels, and special programs. Prepared “Day 1” to deal with the economic crisis (recession, inflation, supply chain disruptions, crime, etc.). (Opponent does not have this background)

### ▪ LOCAL GOVERNMENT EXPERIENCE!

Operational / “hands on” experience in every department and aspect of local government including first responder services, utilities, animal control, and partnerships. 25 years of local, state, and federal public sector activities/relationships.  
(Opponent does not have this experience)

### OTHER KEY DIFFERENCES:

- ☒ Opposes the Urbanization of our Community!
- ☒ Will Restore Civility in our Local Government!
- ☒ Against All Taxes including a Property Tax!
- ☒ Will Protect Civil Liberties of “We the People...”!
- ☒ Opposes Dangerous 10-Foot Traffic Lanes!
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- ☒ Will NOT Be Influenced by Outside Cronyism!

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and ELECTION DAY is AUGUST 4TH.**

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Bill Johns for Farragut Mayor • Phone: 865.352.1203 • email: bill.johns@tds.net  
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Shipe

From page 2A

1-“I want us to deal with the mental health crisis proactively by setting satellite centers like the Behavioral Health Urgent Care Center in order to reduce the number of mentally ill in the jails. I want us revisit the budget and include in it recurring funds or a separate crisis unit to respond to mental health crisis.

“I want to aggressively re-

cruit counselors from other areas of the country to be a part of this unit.

“This unit will also be responsible for transporting those needing additional help to Moccasin Bend or Nashville, thereby leaving our officers free to stay on their beat.

“I also want every officer CIT trained.

2-“I want to examine how every year we just turn over millions of dollars to the Board of Education and ask for no ac-

counting. I want the process to be changed so that there is a belief that every student can be helped.”

• **What is at least one thing needed in the 5th District that you support, and what about the funding to accomplish this?**

“I believe the current school situation needs to be looked at and if needed, funding provided in the budget to make necessary changes.”

Final round of County Profiles in next week’s farragutpress; early voting ends July 30

Frazier

From page 2A

ed as an emerging leader by the Community Action Committee and served as vice chair of the Knox County Government Ethics Committee.

“My interest and desire to continually learn inspired me to enroll and complete The University of Tennessee MTAS Elected Official Academy.

“I have been instrumental in bringing attention to traditional infrastructure needs like schools, roads, utilities and power supplies, recreational offerings, stormwater management, emergency services, law enforcement, mental health, housing options and student career exploration in communities in every corner of our county.

“Much of my time is spent educating and fostering relationships between citizens and officials to address fundamental needs and systems that support sustainable communities, economic prosperity,

intentional growth and development, improved planning processes and impactful local and state legislative solutions.

“I have spent years helping citizens with issues and concerns impacting their daily lives, and as commissioner I will continue this work.”

• **What are three things you hope Commission, with your help and leadership, need to help Knox County accomplish in the next four years?**

“My ‘boots on the ground’ experience and ability to connect with people has gifted me with an understanding of the limitations and capabilities of local government.

“As an At Large Commissioner I will continue to seek outcomes that best reflect the communities that I hope to serve by:

“a) supporting the creation of a long-range vision and policy framework for economic and physical growth that will address responsible develop-

ment with coordinated infrastructure, feasibility and cost analysis tools for decision making and fiscal impact, and impact on education and public safety;

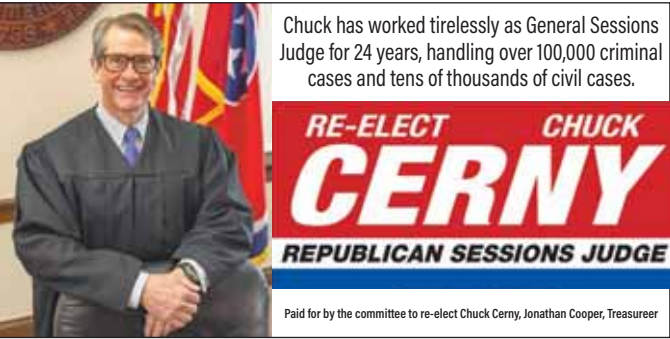
“b) continue to foster private public partnerships;

“and c) provide community focused problem-solving.”

• **What is at least one thing needed in the 5th District that you support, and what about funding to accomplish this?**

“I support the exploration of a more resilient transportation network that will help disperse traffic, improve safety and encourage walkability. I would pursue funding from the Regional Transportation Planning Organization, state of Tennessee and County Engineering.

“In addition, I would work to bring awareness of school overcrowding and seek plans for short- and long-term solutions.”



presstalk

865-671-TALK (8255)

or 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:

- No individual names will be published, even public figures.
- 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 businesses may not be published depending on the issue.

Dog Park

From page 1A

said after the announcement, which was made Friday, July 22, on Facebook.

“I’m grateful to the Boyd Foundation for the Dog Park Dash program and to the community for participating in our social media campaign,” Williams added.

The money will go toward placing a Dog Park on a back portion of McFee Park, “in the northwest section, behind where (the Dimmick house) sits now,” said Town Parks & Recreation director Sue Stuhl.

“We are very thankful for the funds from the Boyd Foundation to assist with the con-

struction of the Town’s first dog park,” she added, noting there is not yet a design, cost estimate or timeline at this point, but details will be worked on “in the upcoming months.”

This year’s grant recipients, by region, are: East Tennessee, Farragut, Lenoir City, Hixson and Dunlap; Middle Tennessee, McEwen, Lewis County/Hohenwald, Franklin, Clarksville, Livingston, Goodlettsville and Waverly; and West Tennessee, Overton Park, Whiteville, Jackson and Somerville.

Waverly received a special \$50,000 prize as the 100th and final Dog Park Dash winner, according to a Boyd Foundation press release.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

During Ron William’s four years as Mayor of Farragut, he has worked with Knox County, the State of Tennessee, and federal officials, as well as private property owners to accomplish projects that Farragut residents have said are their top priorities for the Town of Farragut.

In a time period that has been difficult for retailers, Mayor Williams has continued to work with developers of the “old” Ingles property and Kroger property. You can now meet your neighbors at Aldi’s. He has worked to bring about the restoration of the Ingles shopping center and is working to bring businesses to the center even in a difficult time for retail.

He has worked with Knox County, the Tennessee Department of Transportation, and federal officials to help ease traffic coming through Farragut while still encouraging area residents to Shop Farragut.

Ron’s successful business career in a variety of environments has prepared him to meet the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century. He has established successful working relationships with both state and federal agencies. Mayor Williams has worked to secure many improvements to our parks and infrastructure.

We are voting for Mayor Ron Williams and ask for your vote to Keep Positive, Proven Leadership for the Town of Farragut.

– Jim and Rita Holladay

Paid for by Jim & Rita Holladay

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My name is David White and I, once again, ask for your support and vote for Alderman, South Ward, 2. I have lived in this community for over seventy years. My wife, Sandy, and I graduated from Farragut High School in 1964 and now live in BelleAire Subdivision.

I am saddened by what this Board of Mayor and Alderman has done to our town. Let’s recap, the beloved Town Center, this board so desperately wanted. What does the developer get??? He gets 284 apartments across the street from Farragut schools. Now he’s asking for rezoning of the property inside the town center to residential to build 47 Town Homes and a variance because as it is, it doesn’t fit on the property. So, he gets \$7,100,000 in tax relief from Knox County. By his own admission, the town homes would sell for \$600,000 to \$700,000.

So, 47 times \$600,000 equal to \$28,200,000 plus \$7.1 million which equals to \$35,300,000. What do we citizens get???? More traffic, more students in already crowded classrooms and more risk to our parents and students trying to get to school and home. I know you heard the saying...” I got the short end of the stick”. It’s not hard to see who got the short end of the stick!!!! This board is notorious for knowingly and willingly violating the towns Code of Ordinances to accomplish what they want. If reelected, they will continue to do so. Is this really how you want our town to be run??? The only way to stop it is to change the board, if not now, when??? I will quote the famous John Ward, long time sport commentator for the University of Tennessee. At his retirement dinner, he said, “I have a prepared statement and I will read it is in its entirety. “IT’S TIME”... It’s time we stand up and have a say where we go from here...

Sincerely,

David White, Candidate  
South Side Ward 2  
Farragut Alderman

Ad paid for by David White Candidate



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**Elect**

**Republican**

**Bill  
JOHNS**

**for FARRAGUT MAYOR**

Town of Farragut elections are non-partisan / Election Day is Thursday, August 4<sup>th</sup> / Early Voting is July 15<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>

First and foremost, I appreciate once again the readership’s patience and flexibility with another full-page advertisement but since I am not on social media, I would like to share a few more perspectives since last week’s issue of this newspaper. I also want to personally thank everyone who is striving to make each day better in our community and everyone who wants to make Farragut friendly again.

– Bill Johns

During the past week, there were many additional bad faith activities waged against my election but the one that spurred my motivation to revisit the official misconduct statute pertained to a senior level Town of Farragut employee’s “significant other” contacting me under false circumstances in a phishing exercise to interfere with my campaign. This is unethical on so many levels and once again supports that there has been a leadership failure (elected, appointed, administrative) at Farragut’s town hall. The culture of “protecting the few” versus serving “we the people” has been loud and clear not only for this election cycle but for a very long time as seen in some elected/administrative actions, process inconsistencies, and abuses towards the public’s trust. Simply stated, we have a very immature, toxic, and “self-preservation-oriented” culture that has been detrimental to our community’s progression.

I am a no-nonsense type of person based on my background, experiences, and values. With that being said, I am just going to be honest and direct with my fellow Farragut citizens. There is a reason why the third point of my platform is to “build trust and confidence through transparency and ethics”. No matter what happens after August 4th (election day), our community will still be here. Secondly, whether I am elected or not, the citizens of this community must take back their representative government and this starts by bringing in outside third parties (Tennessee Comptroller, TBI, etc.) with statutory and regulatory authority to examine how our community is managed. There is plenty of cause to do so. We the people must act by seeking assistance and it should begin shortly after the election of our Knox County district attorney.

Unlike private citizens, public officials (elected, appointed, administrators, employees, outsourced attorneys, etc.) are to be held to a higher standard. There is something called official misconduct in Tennessee, **T.C.A. § 39-16-402(a)**, and it is usually associated with obtaining a personal benefit at the public’s expense or not fulfilling one’s official duty. Elected officials and public administrators know of this law through their education (CTAS, MTAS, holding an MPA, etc.) and/or through their designated community’s attorney/ethics officer. Official misconduct, a Class E felony, has occurred in our region with a former Knox County chief of staff (using a golf cart), Knox County trustee (lying to gain bonuses), Knox County staff (misuse of purchasing cards), LaFollette mayor (using equipment and staff on private property), Ashland City mayor (using lawnmower and tools), Bristol police officer (using a database for personal reasons), and Kingsport community director (conflict of interest) to name a few.

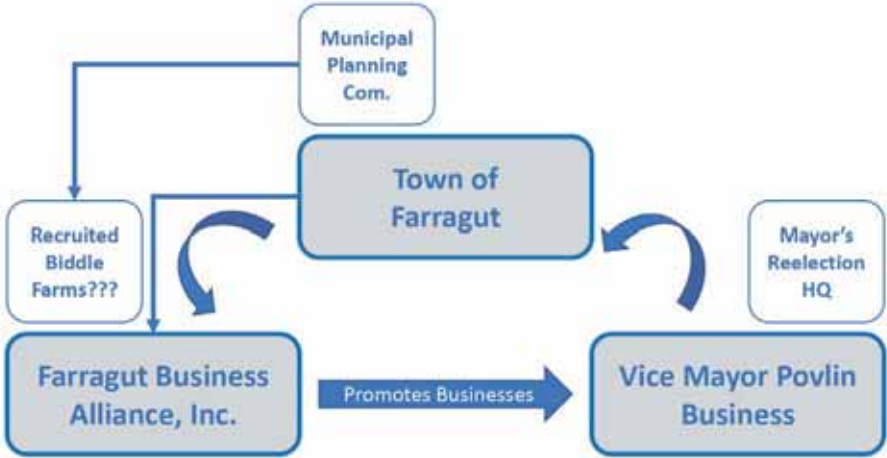
One of the most brazen examples of official misconduct occurred on this past April 20th at the WOW Expo. This official misconduct was not hidden at all, it was a direct benefit to my opponent, and was also supported by Vice Mayor Povlin and our town administrators (perhaps other employees / elected alderman as well). There was active campaigning utilizing Town of Farragut assets and equipment, personnel, and fees. The event guide listed the “Town of Farragut” as “Booth #5”. Although another candidate (#75) and political club (#84) paid to have their own booths, my opponent used the Town’s assets instead for his personal benefit. Vice Mayor Povlin and our town administrators failed to act to correct this when visiting or working at the booth.



There has been a pattern of questionable activities for some time including failure to properly notice the public on activities, curtailing citizens’ free speech, giving preference over proper public administration, and using public resources for private benefit. Likewise, the infamous March 24th BOMA meeting should be examined again by third parties regarding Vice Mayor Povlin’s nontypical research into a political rival (mayoral candidate) and his opinion counter to her views and my opponent; as there seems to be a familiar pattern.

Vice Mayor Povlin and my opponent have a very collaborative relationship as recently discovered in my opponent’s financial disclosure. Professionals looking from the outside may see this to be a conflict in aggressively backing a fellow voting member of the same governing body. Both my opponent and Vice Mayor Povlin serve on the Municipal Planning Commission together and are also fellow board members as seen on the Farragut Business Alliance’s website (although Povlin is not identified as an elected official).

The **FBA is a not-for-profit corporation, 501(c)(6)**, but is basically an “assumed name” (doing business as) of the Town as the TOF funds most of it including its executive director’s compensation. The FBA executive director compromised his neutrality once he signed the petition of my opponent and became politically active along with other FBA board members on non-business trade initiatives. This along with other activities may jeopardize the 501(c)(6) designation. Regardless, the FBA’s activities should be reviewed as part of the third-party audit from the Tennessee Comptroller in terms of its funding, activities, the Biddle Farms project, and potential direct/indirect benefits being delivered to the Vice Mayor and my opponent. **Please see the graph at right for simplicity.**



It saddens me that these are real issues facing our community and from a public administration perspective, I am bewildered by such troubling activities for such a small bedroom community whose policy makers are unpaid volunteers. Whatever happens after election day is nominal as the priority is to restore “we the people” back into our local government. Please do your part in the protection of our democracy and thank you for your support and attention to these matters.

PLEASE EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE: EARLY VOTING is JULY 15TH – 30TH and ELECTION DAY is AUGUST 4TH.

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## Ballfield lights

From page 1A

Park, hypothetically ... my biggest concern, with technology with the lights ..." Russ said.

"I thought there was an agreement with Anchor Park that was not going to happen?" Brykalski asked.

"To me, I think noise is the biggest nuisance, but there's some very good points (in the request). I know where you're coming from," Russ said.

noise from ballgames in the daytime can be annoying at times, she added, "at least you're not disrupting somebody's dinner time, their time with their kids, kids doing homework."

Shipley said the request, which originally stated “public properties,” was narrowed down to exclude Knox County Schools’ properties. While the schools are in the Town, he said the Town has no control, as they are exempt from Town requirements.

## Exhibit

From page 1A

exhibits and more.

Lynn Miller of Loudon brought her children, Owen and Hope, to the exhibit's Saturday kick-off.

"I had visited the Fair as a 4-year-old," Miller recalled, noting her family had traveled from Illinois for the event.

“(The memory) certainly holds a special place in my heart,” she added.

As the 1982 World Fair intro-

duced the chili and corn chip creation, Petro's, the unique food item was served Saturday as part of the festivities, and Miller and her children were among those enjoying the treat.

Children's coloring sheets, featuring World's Fair themes, also were distributed, and those already colored are part of the display, Barham said.

**If wishing to visit**  
Farragut Museum is located  
in Farragut Town Hall, 11408  
Municipal Center Drive.

Normal operating hours for the Museum are from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Barham said the new exhibit will remain in the Museum through the end of the calendar year.

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# Biddle Farm Corporate Welfare Part II

As recently discussed, the Biddle Farm development was recently granted a \$7.1M Tax Increment Financing (TIF) package from the Knox County Commission. Instead of these future property tax increases going to Knox County, they will be used to purchase bonds to pay for a variety of costs for this project. 77% of the \$7.1M is calculated based on the residential portion of this development. Per the County Industrial Development Board (IDB) guidance, projects that are substantially residential will not qualify for a TIF unless there are “unusual or extenuating circumstances” (Paragraph 4.7). I have asked both Commissioner Schoonmaker and the County IDB what these circumstances are; they have yet to be provided.

Instead, I have been directed to other portions of the County IDB guidance. When asked, Commissioner Schoonmaker referred me to the language regarding blighted properties. The IDB referred me back to the original Resolution (R-21-5-903) from the Commission to the IDB. In reviewing the Resolution two things are clear. One, the Commission stated the project is "...not subject to the limits contained in the TIF Policies **relating to term or allocation of incremental tax revenues.**" [Emphasis Added] This means the maximum term of 15 years and 60% of future tax revenue increases were waived from the start. Second, the reason for the waiver for these two criteria is the project was not financially viable without the TIF. The Resolution states, "WHEREAS, the Developer has informed the County that the limits contained in the TIF Policies will result in an insufficient amount of tax increment financing being available to make the project financially viable..." Nowhere in this Resolution did the Commission waive other policies found in the County IDB TIF Guidance, including Paragraph 4.7.

One might understand use of this type of funding in underserved or economically depressed areas. Use of this incentive in Farragut seems nothing more than corporate welfare bestowed on wealthy developers to provide an additional 2.3% Internal Rate of Return (Levered) on their investment. The Developer estimated the Internal Rate of Return (Levered) without Public Assistance at 9.7%; with Public Assistance this percentage increases to 12.0%. Remember the overwhelming portion of the TIF (77%) is in based on two residential properties that include a high-end apartment complex and townhomes that are estimated to sell for \$600K - \$800K each. Currently in Farragut, these seem like solid investments as homes are selling for top dollar and there is a scarcity of apartments. If this project was not financially viable on its own, perhaps it should not be built or at least scaled back.

From my research, it is apparent that the County Commission advocated for this funding from the beginning - likely at the request of Town of Farragut elected officials. Ultimately this means that this \$7.1M of future property taxes will NOT go towards things such as new schools, teachers' salaries, additional Sheriff Officers, county road repairs, etc. Instead, it will go to improve the developers' Internal Rate of Return over the original estimation of 9.3%. If the developer defaults on the bonds, Knox County tax payers will be liable for the remaining balance owed. In my opinion, this is an abuse of tax payer dollars.

Michael Wilson  
Farragut, TN

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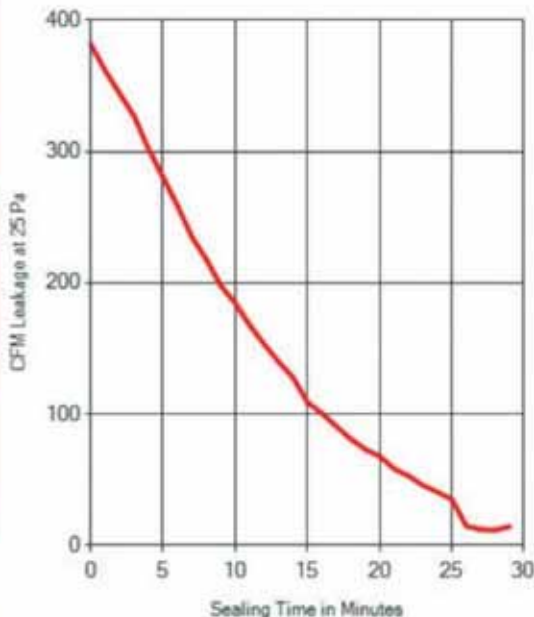
### AFTER SERVICE

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**NOTE:** Duct leakage results are calculated in Cubic Feet per Minute (CFM) measured at a STANDARD OPERATING PRESSURE of 25 Pa.

## Sealing Progress:



The graph illustrates the sealing progress over time. The y-axis represents CFM Leakage at 25 Pa, ranging from 0 to 400 in increments of 100. The x-axis represents Sealing Time in Minutes, ranging from 0 to 30 in increments of 5. A red line shows the leakage rate starting at approximately 381.6 CFM at 0 minutes and decreasing to approximately 14.3 CFM at 28 minutes.

| Sealing Time in Minutes | CFM Leakage at 25 Pa |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 0                       | 381.6                |
| 5                       | 280                  |
| 10                      | 180                  |
| 15                      | 110                  |
| 20                      | 70                   |
| 25                      | 30                   |
| 28                      | 14.3                 |

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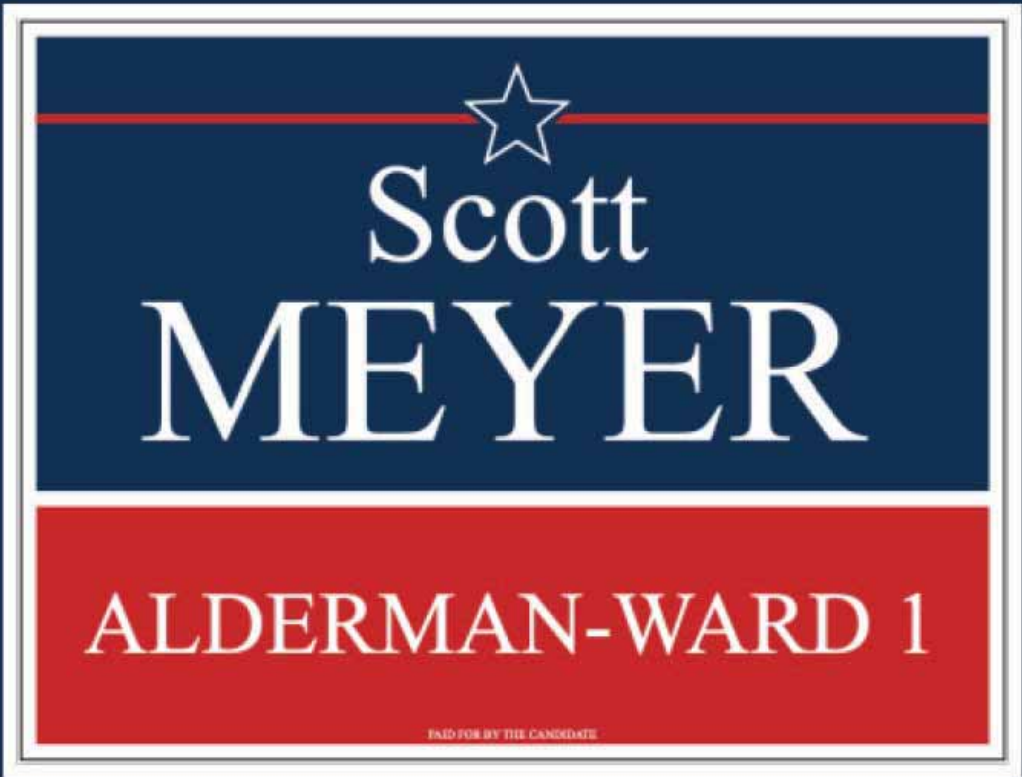
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“During my second term, I will advocate for sound barriers between I-40 and The Battery, Berkley Park, Woodchase, Weatherly Hills, and Fox Run, and will continue to champion traffic calming on Grigsby Chapel. I will partner with county and state officials to increase traffic capacity on Northshore, Loop Road, and Woody Drive to improve the Farragut area transportation network and access to I-40.”

- Alderman Meyer

“I will bring to my second term the same transparency, fiscal conservatism, and passion for protecting neighborhoods from high impact development of my first term. I am committed to reducing traffic congestion and expanding town amenities for all Farragut residents.”

- Alderman Meyer



EARLY VOTING ENDS JULY 30 • (Town Hall)  
ELECTION DAY AUGUST 4 • (Farragut Middle School)

[scottjmeyercpa@gmail.com](mailto:scottjmeyercpa@gmail.com)

Mayor-Murphy

From page 1A

stated, adding the mayor also said “that the suspect has a history of disrupting Open Forum Town meetings.”

Williams stated he was made aware of accusations by Murphy and others who had called Knox County Election Commission administrator Chris Davis, alleging Williams was “breaking the law” by being in Town Hall while early voting

— which began Friday, July 15 — has been taking place.

“Chris told me it was just like if the sheriff or county mayor is at the City-County Building — and he said he told them this, too — that it is where (our) offices are located, and I am within my rights to be in the building. It is where I work,” the mayor further stated July 25.

This newspaper repeatedly reached out to Murphy, but no response was received.

Davis addresses issue

Responding to a farragutpress request to clarify what is legally allowed, Davis stated, “Candidates cannot be within a 100-foot boundary of the polling place except to vote.

“The only time I have known of Williams to be in that line was last Tuesday (July 19) when he voted,” he further stated.

“I understand he has an office on the second floor, and I have told him he might want

to enter and exit the building in the back to avoid the polling place entirely.”

Davis did confirm one complaint Murphy made that was valid, which regarded an election worker’s car having magnetic “Ron Williams” stickers on it, which the KCEC administrator noted was parked too close to the polling location.

“I talked to the election worker, and it was unintentional on her part,” Davis further stated. “... there was no

malice involved ...”

Williams also stated his wife “was very upset” by the alleged encounter, and stated he conferred with KCSO Capt. Brad Hall about the incident, saying Hall recommended an incident report be filed.

“My wife is still upset, and even had a nightmare about what happened just last night,” he added July 25.

“I plan to talk to my lawyer about what we should do.”



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HOW THE WEST WAS WON

**2022 High School Football Preview**



Panera Bread considers Farragut Kingston Pike locale

**TAMMY CHEEK**  
tcheek@farragutpress.com

Panera Bread is considering property in front of Village Green shopping center, between Truist Bank and Campbell Station Inn, as a possible location for a new restaurant.

R2R Studio, LLC., architects representing Panera Bread Restaurant, presented an exterior design for the proposed restaurant for review during a Farragut Municipal Planning

Commission Staff/Developer meeting Tuesday, July 5.

However, the architects were asked to return to the Town with another design that would feature a pitched roof, “or have the appearance of being two stories,” according to Farragut Community Development director Mark Shipley, while also requiring more neutrally colored signage.

“Most of the comments from the initial staff review are dealing with building elevations,”

Shipley said. “When I look it (the design), it looks like a one-story to me.

“This is in the Mixed-Use Town Center overlay portion of the General Commercial zoning district, so the criteria that applies to land within that overlay comes into play here,” he added. “The building itself has to be two stories” or appear to be two stories.

“From our perspective, there’s a fair amount of work to do.”

“I’m inclined to agree with you,” FMPC member Jon Greene said.

The design also featured a tower with Panera Bread’s green branding.

Regarding the Town’s iconic element requirement, architect Stefanie H. Genua said, “Panera corporate was envisioning our green tower as the iconic element for this. Is that not what you would consider?”

“Well, it’s not what I would consider,” Shipley answered.

“I would say more muted colors would be more appropriate in this area.

“The iconic element and all the stuff that’s required in the Architectural Design Standards would come into play specific to the Mixed-Use Town Center part of the Town,” he added.

Panera Bread architects opted to postpone discussions on the plan at the Thursday, July 21, FMPC meeting.

Baggas new owners of Turkey Creek’s Bombay Palace

**TAMMY CHEEK**  
tcheek@farragutpress.com

Bombay Palace, 10901 Parkside Drive, has new owners: Nikhil Bagga, along with wife, Jill Bagga, the restaurant’s administrative organizer.

“For now, it’s all going to be kept the same,” Jill said about the restaurant they bought in May, adding they are looking to renovate the restaurant’s interior some time in the future.

Customers are finding the same menu favorites: chicken tikka masala, one of the main signature dishes of India; a wide variety of vegetarian selections; tandoori grilled meats; samosa, a savory pastry stuffed with slow-cooked potato, peas and onions wrapped in the puff pastry, deep-fried and served with a sweet tamarind sauce; and phali, a sample of entrée dishes.

“We have a vegetarian phali and a non-veg phali,” Jill said. “It’s a way where people can try a couple of different entrée options all together in one.”

The vegetarian phali fea-

tures sag paneer, chana masala, vegetable korma. Meanwhile, the non-vegetarian phali features chicken or a lamb phali, and the samplers that can accompany it are dal turka, a slow-cooked lentil dish with ginger, garlic, cilantro and onions; vegetable korma; chicken tikka masala; or boti (lamb) tikka masala.

“My personal favorite signature dishes I tried after we bought (Bombay) were the lamb bhuna and the gobi (cauliflower) chili, an appetizer,” Jill said, explaining gobi chili is a deep-fried cauliflower tossed in a sweet-and-salty red chili sauce.

Although Indian food has a reputation of being spicy, Jill pointed out “at our restaurant you can control how hot or mild the food is.”

As for the couple themselves, “Our whole background is food, beverage and hospitality before we moved to Knoxville in 2017,” she said. “Nik’s really excited about it.

“My husband is from Punjab, India, so there’s a connection to why we bought an Indi-



Photo submitted

Jill and Nikhil Bagga, with son, Nikhil, at Bombay Palace, 10901 Parkside Drive.

an restaurant,” Jill added.

Hours are from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and from 4:30 to 9:30 p.m., Mondays and Wednes-

days through Sundays, but closed Tuesdays. Place to-go orders via its website at [www.bombaypalaceknoxville.com](http://www.bombaypalaceknoxville.com);

through the food delivery services, such as Grub Hub, Door Dash, Bite Squad and Uber Eats; or call 865-671-6667.

CAVA brings Mediterranean to TC

**TAMMY CHEEK**  
tcheek@farragutpress.com

A new restaurant gives a Mediterranean flavor to Turkey Creek.

CAVA, 11378 Parkside Drive, opened June 3. “It is a fast, casual restaurant that serves a fully customizable menu of well-sourced and nutrition-forward ingredients prepared in-house daily,” said Jessica Rodriguez, a spokesperson for CAVA.

“CAVA serves vibrant, flavorful Mediterranean food that guests feel good about eating every day,” she added. “Its menu includes customizable, curated bowls and pitas featuring flavor-packed ingredients, sometimes in unexpected combinations, like our lemon chicken bowl with preserved lemon vinaigrette.”

Customers start with a base: a salad with “SuperGreens,” arugula, spinach, romaine or “SplendidGreens,” a mix of greens and grains; a mini pita; grain bowl with saffron basmati rice, brown basmati rice,



Tammy Cheek

CAVA is a new casual restaurant, having served up Mediterranean cuisine at its 11378 Parkside Drive location in Turkey Creek since early June.

rice, black lentils or “RightRice” (a high protein and high-fiber grain made from 90 percent vegetables, such as lentils, chickpeas and peas) or pita bread.

It follows with dips and spreads plus a protein — falafel spicy lamb meatballs, harissa honey chicken, grilled chicken, grilled meatballs or braised lamb — and roasted vegetables, toppings and dressing.

The Parkside Drive location is the second in Knox County, with the other at 6638 Kingston Pike.

A national brand, CAVA is based in Washington, D.C., with more than 200 locations and growing.

CAVA is open from 10:45 a.m. to 10 p.m., seven days a week.

For more information, visit [www.CAVA.com](http://www.CAVA.com) or call 865-288-9905.

businessbriefs

- **The Association of Fund-raising Professionals Great Smoky Mountain Chapter** recently was named a 2022 Ten Star Gold Chapter and will host a celebration of non-profit leadership from 6 to 10 p.m., Friday, July 15, at Cumberland House Knoxville. Tickets for the celebration are \$30 and are available online at [www.apfknox.org](http://www.apfknox.org).
- **Y-12 Federal Credit Union recently announced its Y-12 FCU Gives Foundation** has received a charitable contribution from partner Visa, a leader in digital payments that pledged its support directly to the Y-12 FCU Gives Foundation because of the company’s shared values of investing in community programs that aid those in need.
- **For the second year in a row, TDS Telecommunications LLC.**, was named Best Place to Work for Disability Inclusion, earning a score of 90 on the Disability Equality Index.

In the last year, TDS associates raised awareness about neurodiversity and invisible disabilities in the workplace by creating a three-part video series to help associates have a better understanding of individuals on

the autism spectrum. The series also included tips for leaders with team members suffering from neurodiversity on recruiting and best practices to improve the interview process for those who are neurodivergent.

- **As a result of Give a Little Love and Shamrock Shake campaigns, Ronald McDonald House Charities of Knoxville** recently was awarded more than \$71,000 from local McDonald’s restaurants. Leading up to Valentine’s Day, McDonald’s customers could purchase a \$1, \$2 or \$5 heart, which would be displayed inside the McDonald’s restaurant with proceeds going to RMHC. Also, continuing with Shamrock Shake’s role in building the first Ronald McDonald House, participating McDonald’s restaurants donated 25 cents from every Shamrock Shake to local RMHC chapters.
- **Stephanie M. Noble**, Proffitt’s professor of Marketing and William B. Stokely Faculty Research Fellow in University of Tennessee’s Haslam College of Business in Knoxville, recently was named to **Poets & Quants for Undergrads’ List of 10 Best Undergrad Professors for 2021.**

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For the past few weeks I have been asked by many of our Farragut citizens to refute the negative ads and comments that have been posted by a few of the other candidates and their friends. As the Mayor of the Town of Farragut, I choose to live in the positive not the negative. If I were to try to correct every negative comment out there, it would consume all my time with no time remaining to do the daily work of the citizens of the Town of Farragut.

The politics of personal destruction is a popular tool used in state and national elections. Unfortunately it has found its way into our local Farragut election. Elections should be contested in the arena of ideas not in made up accusations and false allegations. While my record of service to our incredible community is up for discussion and debate, it’s my integrity, education and ethics that have been attacked in order to convince others to vote for the other guy. I refuse to resort to the opposition’s negative campaign of name calling, fearmongering and misinformation. Everything people read on social media is not accurate.

EDUCATION

While my education does not provide me with capital letters after my name, it did provide me with the qualifications to have a successful career in engineering. I worked two plus jobs to pay for my time at the University of Tennessee and State Area Vocational School. I completed the Republic Steel Apprenticeship Program and the Sunnen Products Engineering Looper Program and was honored to be elected to the grade of a Senior Member of the Society of Manufacturing Engineers. I worked as a Manufacturing Plant Director of Operations for five years and as a Senior Field Engineer for one of the leading worldwide machine tool manufacturers for 28 years until I retired in 2015. The skills of problem solving and digging into the details while understanding the big picture are very applicable to my service to our Town as an elected official.

EXPERIENCE

I have more than 10 years of experience serving the Town of Farragut on the Board of Zoning Appeals, elected Alderman in 2016 and elected Mayor in 2018. This experience has been supplemented with hundreds of hours of continuing education including classes offered by the National League of Cities, the Tennessee Municipal League, the UT Municipal Technical Advisory Service, the State of Tennessee and Knox County. In addition to the continuing education, in my role as Mayor of the Town of Farragut I serve on a variety of boards with other Mayors, including the Tennessee Municipal League, the Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization, East Tennessee Development District, East Tennessee Human Resource Agency, The Development Corporation of Knox County and the Joint Economic and Community Development Board.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

During my time serving as an Alderman and Mayor, we have accomplished many projects. When I began my first term as Mayor my first priority was to start with a town wide cleanup. Long time derelict buildings needed to be torn down, remodeled or replaced. This was a critical first step for the revival of our community. The following list includes many of our accomplishments and future plans.

1. Campbell Station Road Exit edges landscaped on all sides

2. Old Silver Spoon demolished & replaced with Starbucks Center

3. Old Phillips 66 demolished & replaced with 35N & Summer Moon

4. Old tire store demolished & replaced with O’Reilly Auto Parts

5. Old Weigels store demolished & replaced with 3 Root Investment

6. Old U.S. Golf demolished & replaced with Storage Warehouse

7. Old mill building behind Century 21 demolished & land brought up to grade

8. Old Swan Farm Dairy house/barn demolished & Town homes built

9. Old Lutheran Church purchased & renovated for the Community/Senior Center

10. Old BP Gas Station demolished & replaced by Tire Distributor Store

11. Old Big O Tires building renovated & replaced by Pep Boys Tire Store

12. Old Elliot Boot building demolished & new building constructed includes Dunkin, Elliot, Urgent Care

13. Old Farragut Lawn & Tractor building demolished

14. Old Broadway Lumber Co. demolished & mixed use development in design

15. Old Court Café demolished

16. Old Outlet Mall building brought up to code & leased

17. Old Kroger building demolished & Aldi open for business

18. Old Concord Road burned barn demolished & cleaned up

19. Five burned down residential houses demolished & cleared

20. Many new small businesses have opened

21. Four billboards removed

22. West End Shopping Center renovated, now full

23. Campbell Station Inn stabilized and plaza constructed

24. Mayor Ralph McGill Plaza dedicated in May of 2021

25. Town Hall restrooms reconstructed & 3 new ADA approved installed

26. Mayor Bob Leonard Park fields & ADA restroom updates

27. Anchor Park trail & ADA restroom updates

28. Blue Cross All-Inclusive Playground constructed behind Town Hall

29. Mc Fee Park updates with new road, tennis/pickle ball, trails/ sidewalks & ADA restrooms

30. Kingston Pike sidewalk & guard rail installed in front of Willow Creek Golf Course
31. Concord Road bridge and road reconstruction (TDOT Project)

32. Watt Road/Kingston Pike intersection reconstruction

33. 2nd left turn lane from Snyder Road onto Campbell Station

34. 2nd left turn lane from Turkey Creek Road onto Concord Road

35. Virtue Road round-a-bout, bridge, stormwater & road project completed

36. Ivey Farms Road & Union Road round-a-bout constructed

37. ADA corner updates & paving from Lovell Road to Dixie Lee Junction (TDOT project)

38. Grigsby Chapel crosswalk pedestrian activated lights installed

39. Watt Road crosswalk installation

40. Smith Road/Andover sidewalk

41. Brookmere trail & bridge installed

42. Campbell Station Wall re-brick

43. Town wide stormwater pipe map & grade survey underway

44. Visual Security Systems for all Town property

45. At Home store relocated to Parkside Drive

46. Putt-Putt sold & renovated

47. New 2nd building beside Anytime Fitness leased by Lee Co.

48. New Admiral Dental in front of the new P3 Sportsplex

49. New Confident Smiles Dentist Office building

50. Future Tommy’s Watersports next to Buddy Greggs

51. Future Elkmont Station next to Starbucks

52. Future Panera Bread next to Truist Bank

53. Future Villages of Farragut expansion

54. Future Red Mill Dam pocket park

55. Future dog park at McFee Park

56. Future Brookmere to Sheffield trail connection

57. Future Evans Road rework from McFee Road east

58. Future red light control system to help mitigate traffic issues

59. Future LCUB substation on corner of Concord Road

60. Future \$35 million Watt Road Interchange reconstruction

61. Future \$48 million Campbell Station Road reconstruction

62. Future Skore Hotel on Outlet Drive

63. Future mixed use project called Biddle Farms in the Farragut Town Center

64. Last but not least, the new Top Golf set to open August 12th

I have dedicated my time to serving the Town of Farragut, following the community’s plan, providing an environment that attracts redevelopment and new small businesses. Many upgrades to our parks, sidewalks, trails and roads have been funded in a fiscally responsible way. For me to continue to be your Mayor I will need your vote. Early voting is underway until Saturday, July 30th and election day is Thursday, August 4th.

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## Gators close gap, take 2nd; Red Foxes 5th

Concord Hills  
7th at GKISA  
'City Meet;' 10  
champs lead  
Sugarwood  
to No. 9 finish

ALAN SLOAN

editor@farragutpress.com

With eight individual or relay champions during annual Greater Knoxville Area Interclub Swimming Association "City Meet" last weekend, Village Green once again finished near the top.

Earning 1,597.5 points among its 118 swimmers ages 7 to 18, the Gators were a close runner-up to perennial year-round swimming power Knoxville Racquet Club among a 29-team field Thursday through Saturday, July 21-23, in UT's Allan Jones Intercollegiate Aquatic Center.

"We are very proud because we are only summer swimmers, and KRC is a year-round swim team," Village Green head coach Natalie Ebnet said.

Karley Wolfgram, 14, highlighted the team's success by setting a meet record in the Girls 13-14 50-yard freestyle at 24.05 seconds.

Town of Farragut also was well-represented by the Fox Den Red Foxes, who finished fifth (1,050) while capturing five individual or relay first-place honors.

The Red Foxes were led by Harper Bodiscomassink, 10, winning two individual top honors and one relay title.

"I am extremely proud of how our team performed this year, especially as the underdogs in League 1 for a small team like us," Fox Den head coach Marissa Van Leuven said. "Even more important than our performance this season, I am even more proud of the character of our FDCC swimmers and how they treat others and encourage one another."

"As a head coach, I am extremely blessed to lead such a great group of bright, talented kids who make me a better person everyday," she added. "We are always recruiting at the Den and we are always welcoming swimmers to our family."

Concord Hills Piranhas finished seventh (907) with two individual champions.

While Sugarwood placed ninth (780), the Stingrays led all Farragut teams with 10 first-place finishes.

Three Stingrays were dominant: Myla Dru Saffles, 8, Sam Vineyard, 8, and Jackson Vineyard, 17.

### Village Green champs

Mixed 11-12 200-yard freestyle relay team of Emmy Zimmer, Taiyo Kurosaki, Katherine Buchanan and Lucas Spadafora (1:51.14); Mixed 13-14 200-free relay foursome of Adam Webster, Lydia Finnegan, Karley Wolfgram and Kuba Shaw (1:37.19); Boys 9-10 25-free, Bo Gary (14.03); and Girls 11-12 50-free, Emmy, (26.09).

Other Gators individual/relay champs were Girls 13-14 50-breaststroke, Karley (29.93); Boys 13-14 200-free relay foursome of Adam, Hayden Johnson, Hisato Kurosaki and Kuba (1:34.41); and Girls 15 & Over 200-free relay team of Karolina Nosarzewski, Elizabeth Martin, Kendall Hudgens and Sophie Thompson (1:41.42).



Village Green photo courtesy of Tim Finnegan/Fox Den photo by Alan Sloan

(Above) A happy bunch of Village Green Gators, both swimmers and coaches, celebrate the team's runner-up finish during annual GKISA "City Meet" following the finals Saturday, July 23, in UT's Allan Jones Intercollegiate Aquatic Center. (Below) A handful of Fox Den Red Foxes swimmers and coaches proudly display the fifth-place GKISA meet banner they earned.

### Fox Den champs

Girls 9-10 100-IM, Harper Bodiscomassink (1:14.65); Boys 11-12 200-medley relay team of Taylor Henderson, Ryan Nettles, Minseong Hong and Hunter Burris (2:07.65); Girls 9-10 25-backstroke, Harper (15.89); Girls 9-10 100-free relay foursome of Lauren Hackett, Eliza Long, Josie Pacelli and Harper (59.90); and Boys 9-10 100-free relay team of Alec Bentley, Matthew Henderson, Ethan Roettger and Alex Steward (1:00.60).

### Concord Hills champs

Boys 13-14 50-backstroke, Landon Hall (26.14) and Girls 13-14 50-butterfly, Aydan Skelton (26.91).

### Sugarwood champs

Mixed 8 & Under 100-free-style relay foursome of Delaney Baker, Sam Vineyard, Judah Bell and Myla Dru Saffles (1:07.93); Girls 8 & Under 25-free, Myla Dru (14.33); Boys 15 & Over 50-free, Jackson Vineyard (20.91); and Boys 11-12 50-breaststroke, Garrett Roberts (34.45).

Other Stingrays champs were Girls 8 & Under 50-free, Myla Dru (32.13); Boys 8 & Under 50-free, Sam (34.92); Boys 15 & Over 100-free, Jackson Vineyard, (46.34); Girls 8 & Under 25-butterfly, Myla Dru (16.58); Boys 8 & Under 25-butterfly, Sam (19.63); and Boys 15 & Over 50-butterfly, Jackson Vineyard (22.75).



Photo courtesy of Sugarwood Stingrays

With 10 individual or relay champs during annual GKISA "City Meet" last weekend in UT's Allan Jones Intercollegiate Aquatic Center, the Sugarwood Stingrays placed ninth among a 29-team field.

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VBS at St. John Neumann Catholic Church and School

# Vacation Bible Schools

## St. John Neumann Catholic Church and School

St. John Neumann Catholic Church and School presented its Vacation Bible School on campus, 633 St. John Court, June 13 through June 17.

The 113 children who attended, from age 4 to rising sixth-graders, learned more about their faith with the theme, "Cool Kingdom Party: Mary Leads Me Closer to Jesus."

"It was our first VBS since before COVID, and it was a huge success," said Stephanie Greiner, SJN director of communications and administrative assistant to the pastor. "We had 113 attendees and many youth and adult volunteers."

"The students participated in crafts, games, music and devotions everyday, and the week culminated with a kick-off performance for parents and friends," she added.

Photos submitted

From left, kindergarteners George McCaskey, John McCaskey, Keeton Hearnberger, Allen Florek and Eli Martinez



Rising fifth-graders Mason Phan and Alaina Bustos



From left, Liam Walsh, Reagan Walsh, Flynn Walsh, Anthony Below and Luisa Del Ray



From left, Martha Scott, pastor, Zach Slimp and Makayla Halford



Delilah Mason

## Farragut First United Methodist Church

Images of tacos and pretzels were among the decorations in Farragut First United Methodist Church hallways, where church staff and volunteers presented a food-truck party-themed "Give Us Lord Our Daily Bread" Vacation Bible School in the church, 12733 Kingston Pike, June 29.

About 50 children in pre-kindergarten through the fifth grade heard Bible stories, watched a puppet show/play, made crafts, played games outdoors and learned the science of making ice cream — then eating it.

"The theme came from Matthew 6:11: Give us this day our daily bread," said Makayla Halford, FFUMC's new children's coordinator. "Each day, they're learning different stories in the Bible that revolve around food."

Photos by Tammy Cheek



Noah Harford, left, and Mason Thomas, 10



Johnny Hodoroaba, 6



Finn Pinckard, 3

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**Congressman Tim Burchett**  
"I am proud to support my friend and fellow Republican, Chuck Cerny, for General Sessions judge."

**Former Congressman John Duncan**  
"Judge Charles Cerny is a good, kind, intelligent and hard-working man. He has proven himself to be an honest and fair Judge. He has the experience and judicial temperament that the people of Knox county need in this very important Court, and he deserves to be re-elected."

**Sara Compher-Rice**  
Over the past 20 years, it has been a privilege to practice in front of the Honorable Chuck Cerny. His tireless work, dedication, and genuine concern for the citizens of Knox County is apparent to all who have the opportunity to meet him. Among his many accomplishments, I am particularly

grateful for Judge Cerny's involvement in championing one of only 6 Veteran's Treatment Courts in our state. My law firm has seen first-hand how this program can and has bettered the lives of those who fought for our country. Judge Cerny's compassion, commitment to upholding the principles of justice, and his great respect for our judicial system, combine to make him the best choice for Knox County General Sessions Court Judge, Division I.

**David Eldridge**  
"I have had the opportunity to know and work with Judge Cerny for over 30 years, first as an Assistant District Attorney and for the last 24 years as one of our General Sessions Court Judges. I have always found him to be fair and respectful to all those citizens who appear before him as well as the lawyers, law enforcement and court personnel who work in his Court. I have long admired the work he has done with Recovery Court and witnessed his commitment to the success of the participants in that Court while balancing that interest with the important need for the safety of the public. I strongly urge you to vote to reelect him to this position."

**Jim Gore**  
"I have known Judge Cerny and practiced in his court for over 20 years. I

know him to be a good person and judge who treats all parties and attorneys fairly and with respect, a trait that is both admirable and more and more difficult to find these days in our society."

**Wesley D. Stone, Attorney**  
"Over the past 22 years I have appeared in courts throughout 40 east and middle Tennessee counties, the appellate and Supreme Court for Tennessee and the federal district courts in Greeneville and Knoxville, Tennessee. Judge Cerny is an excellent example of what a jurist should be. He's fair and just to all parties who appear before him and his knowledge of the law guides him when reaching the correct decision. I fully support Judge Cerny for Knox County General Sessions Court Judge, Division I."

**Jeff Whitt**  
"I have gotten to know Chuck over the past 28 years both personally and professionally. No one works harder, whether it be a fitness routine or on the bench as Judge here in Knoxville over the last 20+ years. He leads by example as a devoted family man and highly respected jurist, void of any controversy that has become too common these days. We should all be proud that we have the opportunity to re-elect Judge Cerny for another term."

Learn more about Chuck Cerny at [www.chuckcerny.com](http://www.chuckcerny.com).

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He had ‘a keen ear for music:’ Joe Stutler

MICHELLE HOLLENHEAD  
[mhollenhead@farragutpress.com](mailto:mhollenhead@farragutpress.com)

The local musical scene and community at large lost a true friend when WFIV-FM 105.3 operations manager Joe Stutler passed away Tuesday, July 12.

“It’s still hard to believe,” said Mr. Stutler’s supervisor, Tony Cox, chief manager of Horne Radio, LLC. “We are a small radio company. Losing Joe is like losing a family member.

“We’re going to miss him greatly.”

The 53-year-old Illinois native had worked for the radio station since 2009, and was described by Cox as “a consummate promoter of the Knoxville music scene.

“He played local music in normal rotation and was always happy to speak to local and regional artists about how to ‘be noticed’ and get their music on radio stations in other markets,” he added.

“Joe was respected in the radio industry as being someone who had a keen ear for music. As our program director, many record label representatives and promoters would call him and ask his opinion on music.”

Lisa Stutler, Joe’s devoted wife of 26 years, said music and identifying up-and-coming artists was her husband’s true calling.

“He really just loved to support local music and trying to find new and unique ways to do that,” she said.

“He listened to new CDs and could tell immediately if anything on it was worth playing,” Lisa added. “Joe was one of the first to play Adele, before anyone else was, and he was an early fan and promoter of Los Lonely Boys, among many others.”

Joe was “always looking for ways to promote the music scene, from hosting the Preservation Pub Singer/Songwriter Series to the three ‘Homegrown for the Holidays’ Christmas CDs he did — using only local artists,” Lisa said.

Many of Joe’s outreach projects were to benefit local charities or projects. Proceeds from “Homegrown for the Holidays” CD sales went to both Knoxville Area Rescue Ministries and The Ronald McDonald House. The latter charity Joe also supported by sitting on its roof at one point to highlight the need for a new one.

“He was not coming down until they got a new



Photo submitted

Doing what he loved so much, operations manager Joe Stutler behind the mic at WFIV-FM, 105.3

roof,” Lisa said with a smile.

“Everything he did, he did for charity,” she added. “He loved coming up with new and different ideas.”

Joe also was well-known and admired for his interviewing skills.

“He had many people say Joe’s were the best interviews they ever did,” Lisa said, naming among them interviews conducted at the Bonnaroo Music and Arts Festival in Manchester.

The couple’s daughter, Paige, inherited her father’s extensive love for music and was thrilled to share his enthusiasm, Lisa said, noting she attended many concerts through his connections.

“As much as he loved concerts and music, though, he really loved his family and loved being at home,” she added.

Lisa said Joe’s love for the radio industry and music in general began before they even met.

“His dad tried to talk him out of it, told him he would never do well, but Joe just loved it — it was all he ever wanted to do,” she said.

Undeterred, Joe got his start in the Chicago area as a DJ and interviewer.

He moved with Lisa, Paige and their son, Garrett, to Knoxville in 2000, where his parents already were residing.

On the verge of quitting the industry entirely, he asked Lisa for “just two weeks” to find a radio job in Knoxville.

“He nailed his very first interview,” she said proudly, adding his first job locally was as an on-air radio personality at WOKI-FM, where he remained even after it changed hands and became The River 100.3.

“He really loved Knoxville and what this market al-

See JOE STUTLER on Page 6B

Polishing band skills during Concord Christian School camp



Photos by Michelle Hollenhead



Concord Christian School marching band was hard at work during its annual band camp during the week of Monday through Friday, July 11-15. That including flag corps members, from left, Annabelle Wiggins, Arie Brown, Kara Lynn Noggle and Athena Lester.

Concord Christian School marching band — comprised of 37 CCS students and three from Christian Academy of Knoxville in grades 8 through 12 — practiced Thursday, July 14, during the program’s annual band camp week. “We have a 23 percent increase in membership,” CCS band director Natalie Renfro said. This year’s program is “Blades and Bows,” featuring musical scores from movies Robin Hood, Hunger Games and Zorro.

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• **Tennessee's traditional Tax-Free Weekend begins at 12:01 a.m., Friday, July 29, and will end at 11:59 p.m., Sunday, July 31.**

To see a full list of items and restrictions, visit <https://www.tn.gov/revenue/taxes/sales-and-use-tax/sales-tax-holiday.html>

• **Ninth Annual School Supplies Drive by Mission of Hope at Turkey Creek Shopping Center, for children in need in rural Appalachia,** has been labeled "Mission Pack the Bus" and happens during Tax Free weekend Friday, July 29, through Sunday, July 31, at Office Max in Turkey Creek, 11012 Parkside Drive, and Office Max at 7111 Kingston Pike.

Families can drop off their school supply donations from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the school buses parked in front of both OfficeMax locations. Items sought include pencils, paper, notebooks, backpacks and crayons.

Those who make school supply donations will receive free pizza from Blaze Pizza and

free frozen yogurt from Sweet Frog. More than 12,000 rural Appalachian children at 29 schools are served by Mission of Hope.

• **The Summer Concert Series at Windy Hill Farm and Preserve in Loudon continues Saturday, July 30,** with Tyler Ramsey and Carl Broemel. The every-other Saturday schedule then runs as follows: Aug. 6 – Jill Andrews; Aug. 20 – Caroline Spence; Aug. 27 – Erick Baker; Sept. 3 – CC Stringband Bluegrass Bash; Oct. 1 – Chatham County Line; and Oct. 29 – The Steel Wheels. For more information and to purchase tickets: <https://www.windyhillfarmtn.com/music>

• **Tennessee Valley Machine Knitters Club will hold a workshop** from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 2, in Alcoa First United Methodist Church, to sit and knit items for Corryton's opossum race to benefit the Corryton Community Food Pantry. For more information, contact Marie Hickson at 865-457-0960.

• **Vietnam Veteran Monument dedication ceremony,**

which will honor Vietnam Veterans of East Tennessee who served in defense of our nation during the Vietnam War, both at home and abroad, begins at 9:30 a.m., Tuesday, Aug. 2, at East Tennessee Veterans Memorial at World's Fair Park in downtown Knoxville.

"This monument would not be possible without the enthusiastic support and dedication of the Vietnam Veterans of America Captain Bill Robinson Chapter 1078 of Knoxville and the many local supporters

who contributed both financially and with in-kind gifts," a Chapter press release stated.

• **Ladies who are new to the area, or who want to make new friends** are invited to Newcomers Club for lunch and a program starting at 11:30 a.m., Wednesday, Aug. 17, in Bearden Banquet Hall, 5806 Kingston Pike. Speaker will be from Young Williams Animal Shelter. For reservations, call 865-705-0309 before Friday, Aug. 12.

• **Knox County closes out**

**its Second Saturday Concert Series** for summer 2022 Aug. 13 at The Cove at Concord Park, 11808 S. Northshore Drive, which is the county's most visited park. Rockinfeleerz performs from 6 to 8 p.m.

Attendees are encouraged to bring their own blankets, lawn chairs and food. However, no alcohol is allowed. If any concert must be canceled because of weather, the county will post a notification to the Parks and Rec Facebook page and the Park's Twitter page.

farragutpress

## — BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT —

Nick McBride is running for re-election as the Republican nominee for Knox County Register of Deeds in the upcoming local election on August 4th (early voting is July 15-30). Nick is a lifelong Knox County resident and graduated from Farragut High School and Tusculum University.

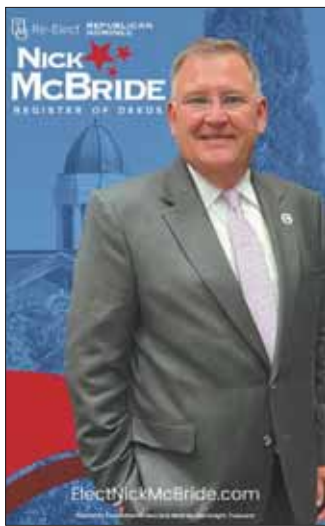
The Register of Deeds office in Knox County is tasked with the responsibility of providing the safety and security for the records of your largest investments and assets – Your Home and Property. It is a critical position in local government, as it affects more than \$10 billion in our local Knox County economy annually. Any mistake in this office could have a tremendous impact on a property owner, so this position is not the place for on-the-job training. Nick has worked in the Register of Deeds office for over 30 years, starting as an intern, to being elected to Register of Deeds in 2018, and will ensure that property owners' most important records are safeguarded and protected.

Nick has started several new programs since being elected in 2018. One of those is a new free property fraud alert system that will alert you if a document is recorded under your name. Go to this site: <https://alertme.knoxrod.org> Click on REGISTER HERE.

Nick has been elected by his peers and serves as President of the Tennessee Register's Association and serves as First Vice-President of the County Officials Association of Tennessee.

You can find out more about Nick and his experience at [ElectNickMcBride.com](http://ElectNickMcBride.com)

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2 FDIC National Rate applicable for deposits under \$100,000 for the week of 07/25/2022.



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9:30 am  
and  
11:00 am

For more information go to  
[www.christcov.org](http://www.christcov.org)



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Email: [newcovenant@newcovenantbc.com](mailto:newcovenant@newcovenantbc.com)  
Website: [www.newcovenantbc.com](http://www.newcovenantbc.com)

**Weekly Services**  
In-Person & LIVE Stream  
Sun: Worship Service (11:00 AM)

**On ZOOM**  
Sun: Family Bible Hour (9:00 AM)  
Wed: Prayer Meeting & Bible Study (6:45 PM)  
Wed: Cultivate (7:00 PM)

**"Winning Souls and Changing Lives for Jesus Christ is a Total Family Ministry"**

Joe Stutler

From page 3B

lowed him to do.”

Joe seemed to have found his true calling at 105.3, where he became “the heart of WFIV’s AAA/Americana Format,” Cox said, as Joe remained fiercely dedicated to his job, even after WFIV changed formats two years ago.

Joe was always willing to help behind the scenes as well.

Farragut Tourism manager Karen Tindal recounted working with Joe on several projects.

“Tony introduced me to Joe when I started to work on the first Farragut Songwriters Showcase (in 2018) and really didn’t know where to begin,” Tindal said. “When I met with Joe, it was very clear that he was a music guy and had a passion for making Farragut a great community.”

“He offered a lot of advice about how to make a showcase successful and started to educate and introduce me to music people in the area that could help me with the event.

“Joe was also very interest-

ed in the Visit (Farragut) program and offered monthly recorded interviews about what was happening in Farragut,” Tindal added. “I had no experience with radio, but Joe was an excellent interviewer and would spend the time helping me prepare and then edit the segments before airing.

“We did interviews on all of the major Town events like Freaky Friday Fright Night, Lawn Chair Concerts and, of course, Light the Park. He was generous of his time and so supportive of the brand new tourism program. When COVID came along in 2020, Joe helped me by recording off of our advertising scripts for our ‘Doors are Opening’ campaign, and we kept in touch through e-mail and phone calls.

“I will always remember Joe’s passion for independent radio, his love of all music, especially new artists, and his willingness to support all things Farragut. I can close my eyes and see Joe in the small basement studio at WFIV behind the microphone, doing what he loved.”

There is no service scheduled as of press deadline.

‘Meet the Admin’ July 29



Photo submitted

Farragut Intermediate School administrators are hosting a “Meet the Admin” event beginning at 5 p.m., Friday, July 29. New to the school this year are principal Suzanne Parham, center, and assistant principal Kristy Johnson, left, who are joining assistant principal Amy Schumpert. Meeting times are divided by grades: third grade parents and students meet from 5 to 5:45 p.m.; fourth-grade from 5:45 to 6:30 p.m.; and fifth grade from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m. To assist with parking, attendees are asked to visit during their assigned grade level time periods. Event will be held outside, but will be cancelled if severe weather hits.

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FARRAGUT BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN

Farragut Town Hall • 11408 Municipal Center Drive • July 28, 2022

RECEPTION for RON PINCHOK 5:00 PM

BEER BOARD AGENDA 5:55 PM

- I. Approval of Minutes
- A. June 23, 2022
- II. Beer Permit Request

- A. Approval of Class 1, on-premise beer permit for the Top Golf, 11400 Outlet Drive

BMA MEETING 6:00 PM

- I. Roll Call
- II. Approval of Agenda
- III. Approval of Minutes
- A. July 14, 2022
- IV. Mayor’s Report
- A. Presentation from Jeff Welch, Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO)
- V. Business Items
- A. Approval of Special Event Permit for St. John Neumann Catholic Church and School 5K race
- B. Approval of the Farragut Tourism / Visitor Advisory Committee (TVAC) Charter Amendment
- C. Approval of Supplement Request from LDA Engineering, Inc. for Additional Design Services on the Little Turkey Creek Greenway, Brookmere to Sheffield Project

- D. Request for approval of an updated concept master plan for an amendment to the Town Center at Biddle Farms PCD to include 47 town home units in an area identified on the original concept master plan as “future development.” (Budd Cullom, Applicant)
- E. Approval of Contract 2022-11, Dimmick House Demolition, 917 McFee Road
- F. Approval of Resolution R-2022-09, adopting changes to the State of Tennessee’s 401(k) Plan.
- G. Approval of updated Town of Farragut Policies and Procedures Manual
- VI. Town Administrator’s Report
- VII. Town Attorney’s Report
- VIII. Citizens Forum

This meeting can be viewed live on the Farragut YouTube Channel and the Town of Farragut website [www.townoffarragut.org/livestream](http://www.townoffarragut.org/livestream). The meeting will be held at the Farragut Town Hall, 11408 Municipal Center Drive

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



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FARRAGUT MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSION STAFF/DEVELOPER AGENDA

Tuesday, August 2, 2022 Board Room – Farragut Town Hall

- 9:00 a.m.** Discussion and public hearing on approval of a final plat for Grigsby Park, Phase 1, Parcel 96, Tax Map 142, 4.64 Acres, 17 Lots, Zoned R-4 (Belle Investment Company, Inc., Applicant)
- 9:30 a.m.** Discussion and public hearing on approval of a final plat for the Huntley Property Union Road, Parcels 036, 03602, 03603, 03404, Tax Map 142, 25.74 Acres, 6 Lots, Zoned R-1 and R-2 (Ryan Lynch, Applicant)
- 10:00 a.m.** Discussion and public hearing on an amendment to the site plan for Tommy’s Watersports to expand the parking and boat storage area and modify the building elevations at 11470 Outlet Drive, 10.86 Acres, Zoned OD-RE/E (Urban Engineering, Applicant)
- 10:30 a.m.** Discussion and public hearing on a site plan for the Grove at Boyd Station Amenities Package, Parcel 050, Tax Map 162, 3.94 Acres, Zoned R-1/OSMR (Homestead Land

- Holdings, LLC., Applicant)
- 11:00 a.m.** Discussion and public hearing on a site plan for the Concord Road Substation, a portion of Parcel 03701, Tax Map 153, 1053 Concord Road, Zoned A (LCUB, Applicant)
- 11:30 a.m.** Discussion and public hearing on a concept plan for the Watt Road Townhomes, Parcel 6, Tax Map 151, 421 N. Watt Road, 9.2 Acres, 30 Lots, Zoned NCC (Robert Campbell, Applicant)
- 1:30 p.m.** Discussion and public hearing on approval of a preliminary plat for the Westerly Subdivision, Parcels 8.01, 9, and 10.02, Tax Map 152, 8.74 Acres, 12 Lots, Zoned R-1 and R-2 (BHN-P, Applicant)
- 2:00 p.m.** Discussion on a concept plan for a preliminary exterior design review for a Panera Bread Restaurant, Parcel 129, Tax Map 142, west of Campbell Station Inn, Zoned C-1 (R2R Studio, LLC, Applicant)

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Michelle Hollenhead

## New Town Tourism assistant

Hallie Riddle is the recently hired assistant to Town Tourism manager Karen Tindal, having started in June. According to a Town press release, Riddle's primary responsibilities relate to social media and digital marketing. "I love the idea of being able to tell the entire story of the Town and what it has to offer, rather than just telling about one specific business," she said.

## \$5k donation to Smoky Mt. Service Dogs



In addition to hosting the annual Independence Day Freedom Run July 4 in Farragut, Fleet Feet owners Shahin and Cheryl Hadian donated \$5,000 to Smoky Mountain Service Dogs, which trains and presents service dogs to wounded military veterans. From left are Mike Kitchens, volunteer chair/spokesperson for SMSD; veteran recipient Bradley Walker with "Jump-er;" Shahin Hadian; and SMSD volunteer Laurie Birt with "Hooligan."

Michelle Hollenhead

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# Tips for grabbing the best deals on school clothes

Children and parents often look forward to the dawn of a new school year. But before the first homeroom session can take place, parents may need to take their students clothes shopping.

According to a survey by Deloitte, parents spend an average of \$510 per household on apparel, school supplies, electronic gadgets, and other items for their kids' return to school. The back-to-school season runs from July through September, during which American households alone spend \$27.6 billion, which is second only to the holiday season in regard to the most lucrative times for retailers.

Apparel is a large part of back-to-school shopping. Many parents find they need to outfit their kids with a new wardrobes each year. Jeans and leggings that fit like a glove in June may only reach mid-calf by Labor Day. To make the shopping process less harried and more productive, parents can employ these strategies.

- 1

**TAKE INVENTORY**  
Go through kids' wardrobes and see what can be salvaged and what might need to go. This is the perfect opportunity to put aside gently used, outgrown items that may be passed on to someone else who can use them.  
Be sure to make a list of any items that the school requires, particularly in regard to uni-

See CLOTHES on Page 2C

## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

Big "thank you's" go out to JCPenney in Turkey Creek and the Davis Family YMCA for their cooperation with farragutpress in this Back to School issue.  
The Davis Family YMCA 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 2022-23 school year.

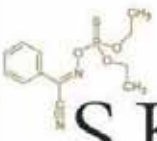
**Pictured, clockwise from left:** Tristan Carino; Conner Austin; Chance Miller and Willa Brown; Audrey Enger, Evelyn Unthank and Tegan Brown; Nylah Graham; Lydia Enger; Graham (left) and Riley Millsaps

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Photo by Cara Ford

Modeling Back to School fashions from JCPenney at the Davis Family YMCA are: Back row, from left, Tristan Carino, Evelyn Unthank, Audrey Enger and Tegan Brown; front row, from left, Lydia Enger, Nylah Graham, Conner Austin, Riley Millsaps, Chance Miller, Graham Millsaps and Willa Brown.

THANK YOU TO:

JCPenney

the Y DAVIS FAMILY YMCA

Clothes

From page 1C

forms or dress codes. By knowing what’s in stock in the closet, you’ll have a clear idea of what you need to buy.

CHECK FOR TAX-FREE DISCOUNTS

Some states or cities offer tax-free or discount shopping incentives, which can add up to considerable savings. It may be well worth the effort to stock up on necessities during these times.

Tennessee’s traditional sales tax holiday on clothing, school supplies and computers begins at 12:01 a.m. on Friday, July 29, 2022, and ends at 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, July 31, 2022.

During this time clothing, school supplies and computers may be purchased tax-free. Certain restrictions apply. Items sold online are also eligible. Items must be purchased for personal use, not for business or trade.

General apparel that costs \$100 or less per item, such as shirts, pants, socks, shoes, dresses, etc., are tax exempt during this holiday.

Visit [www.tn.gov/revenue/taxes/sales-and-use-tax/sales-tax-holiday.html](http://www.tn.gov/revenue/taxes/sales-and-use-tax/sales-tax-holiday.html) for more information.

SIGN UP FOR LOYALTY PROGRAMS

If yours is a child who prefers certain brands, sign up early in the year for such brands’ loyalty clubs. For example, the popular retailer Hollister has Club Cali that, with each purchase, grants points toward discounts. Plus, you may be privy to sale advertisements before the general public.

GET ENOUGH TO GET BY

While certain clothing sales happen between July and August, oftentimes the real savings begin in October, according to the budgeting resource Money Crashers. Wait until that time to buy the bulk of kids’ school clothes. After all, the first weeks of school are usually warm, and summer clothing will still suffice with a few new items thrown in to freshen up wardrobes.

INVEST IN QUALITY SHOES

Sneakers and other shoes can be expensive. However, investing in quality brands can help you avoid having to buy shoes frequently. Watch for shoe sales and stock up on coupons. Many stores offer “buy-one, get-one half off” during the back-to-school season.

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# School bus safety

## A refresher course

The dawn of a new school year is a time marked by change and fresh opportunities. For many children, school marks the first time they are away from their parents for an extended period of time. It also may be the first time they ride in a vehicle other than their parents' cars.

Each school day, 25 million children ride a bus to school in the United States. A school bus is among the safest modes of transport and one of the most regulated vehicles on the road, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Riding a school bus can be a novel experience no matter a student's age or grade. Kindergarteners may be introduced to the school bus on their first day of school, while older students are no doubt familiar with life inside a school bus. But all students and families can benefit from a refresher course on school bus procedures to ensure this school year begins on safe footing.

**• Be a smart pedestrian.**  
Riding the school bus is very safe, but injuries can occur walking to and from the bus stop. Watch for cars backing out of driveways and always look both ways multiple

times before crossing streets.

**• Remember school bus laws.**  
Most areas of the country have specific school bus laws that include stopping when red lights are flashing on the school bus. Cars must stop whether they're behind the school bus, next to it or on the opposite side of the street facing the bus. Stopping allows passengers to enter or exit the bus safely.

**• Stand away from the curb.**  
The National Safety Council advises keeping six feet, or three giant steps, away from the curb while waiting for the bus. Young children should be carefully supervised.

**• Be visible.**  
Always cross in front of the bus, making eye contact with the driver so that he or she knows your intentions before crossing. If you drop something, do not bend down to pick it up. Tell the driver instead.

**• Remain seated.**  
Find a seat promptly and remain seated for the duration of the ride. Do not stand up and proceed down the center aisle until the bus has stopped.

**• Minimize distractions.**  
Always speak softly and behave so that you do not distract the driver.

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Photo Submitted  
Izzie Griffin is ready to go Back to School!



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# Sportsmanship principles all young athletes should know

Competitive sports have a lot to offer young people. In addition to exposing children to the thrill of competition, competitive sports can set a foundation for a lifetime of healthy living.

One study published in the American Journal of Preventive Medicine in 2014 found that afterschool physical activity programs were the most effective strategy to reduce childhood obesity among children between the ages of six and 12.

Competitive sports also teaches valuable lessons about humility and respect. Sportsmanship is a vital and valuable component of competitive sports, and that's a lesson no athlete is too young to learn. Coaches and parents can work together to emphasize these principles of sportsmanship to young athletes.

• **Always respect officials.**

In the era of instant replay in professional sports, criticism of officials has become more common. Such criticism can easily move from the professional to the amateur arena if players are not taught to always respect the officials. Unfortunately, many amateur sports officials continue to be the victims of overaggressive behavior on the parts of coaches, parents and athletes, and many have simply chosen to walk away rather than subject themselves to abuse. Estimates from the National Association of Sports Officials indicates that the group's membership has dropped by more than 20 percent since March 2020. Coaches and parents can practice what they preach when teaching young athletes to respect officials at all times, regardless of how games unfold on the playing field.

• **Respect the rules.**

Respect for officials should coexist with respect for the game itself. Every game has rules, and knowing and adhering to those

rules is a vital component of good sportsmanship. Coaches and parents can set the tone for this by encouraging kids to play by the rules during the games, but also by adhering to rules governing practice times and offseason workouts when no one is watching too closely.

• **Respect opponents.**

Showing respect for opponents is another principle of good sportsmanship. Social media provides a readily available platform for athletes to disparage their opponents before and after games. Such platforms have even proven too tempting to resist for some professional athletes. But showing respect for opponents, even in defeat, illustrates to parents and coaches that young athletes are mature and cognizant of the fact that participation in sports requires good sportsmanship.

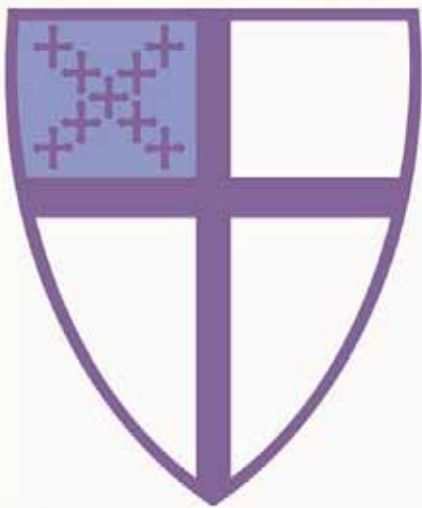
• **Respect coaches.**

Good sportsmanship also involves respecting coaches, even when they make decisions players and their parents do not necessarily agree with. That respect has been dwindling in recent years, and it's contributing to a coaching shortage in youth sports. One survey of more than 200 coaches in the Syracuse, N.Y., area found that nearly 60 percent of coaches had considered quitting over conflicts with parents. Many coaches volunteer their time to teach young people the game, and players should be taught to respect coaches at all times. That includes those times when players feel like they aren't getting enough playing time or when they disagree with coaches' in-game decisions.

*Sportsmanship is a vital component of sports participation. Teaching young athletes the principles of sportsmanship adds one more unique benefit to sports participation.*



From top: Tristan Carino, Conner Austin and Tegan Brown model clothes from JCPenney at the Davis Family YMCA



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# 5 Common Learning Disabilities

Students are often told that hard work is the path to success. Individuals who have learning disabilities may have to work even harder than their peers to be successful.

The Learning Disabilities Association of America says learning disabilities occur due to neurobiological and/or genetic factors that alter the way the brain functions. This can affect one or more cognitive processes related to learning and interfere with various skills, potentially preventing a person from acquiring the same amount of knowledge as others of the same age.

There are many learning disabilities, and the following are five of the most common, according to LD Resources Foundation, Inc., a nonprofit organization that helps find solutions to those who are affected by learning disabilities.

- 1

**DYSLEXIA**  
This learning disability can impede a person's ability to read and comprehend text. Students may have trouble with phonemic awareness, or the way to break down words. Similar problems with phonological processing, or distinguishing between similar word sounds, can occur as well.
- 2

**ADHD**  
Attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder is marked by behaviors that make it difficult to pay attention and stay on task. The Masters in Special Education, a resource for finding work and study in special education concentrations, says there is debate over whether ADHD is a learning disability. But there is no denying that ADHD can impede success in school settings.
- 3

**AUDITORY PROCESSING DISORDER/  
LANGUAGE PROCESSING DISORDER**  
APD affects how sounds are processed and interpreted by the brain, advises WebMD. A person may not be able to recognize slight differences between the sounds in words and may not be able to distinguish the direction sounds are coming from. That's challenging in a classroom setting. LPD is a form of APD that affects how one attaches meaning to sound groups that form words, sentences and so on. An audiologist can diagnose APD.
- 4

**DYSCALCULIA**  
LDRF says dyscalculia makes it challenging to understand even basic mathematical concepts, such as time, measuring and estimating. A person with dyscalculia may have difficulty following order of operations. And since math skills build on one another, a student quickly with dyscalculia can fall behind.
- 5

**DYSGRAPHIA**  
A person with dysgraphia may not be able to write legibly. He or she may take a long time to write, hold writing implements improperly and/or struggle with putting thoughts onto a page.

Additional symptoms of learning disorders include failing to tell left from right, difficulty recognizing patterns, lack of coordination, difficulty doing tasks with the hands, and challenges associated with concepts of time. Educators and health care providers often collaborate to help those with learning disabilities get the services they need to be successful in the classroom.

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# Strategies that can improve reading comprehension

Strong reading comprehension skills are one of the foundations of a successful academic career. According to the Institute of Reading Development, students with strong reading comprehension skills get a big boost in all subjects, including math and science.

Though the benefits of reading comprehension are well documented, many students are struggling in this area of their academics. Officials with the National Center for Education Statistics note that, over the last decade, students have made no progress in reading performance. That likely comes as no surprise to seasoned educators, as data indicates students are reading less outside of school than they have in years past. Data from the National Assessment of Educational Progress indicates the percentage of public school students who said they read 30 minutes or more a day declined by 4 percent between 2017 and 2019, dipping below 50 percent overall in the latter year.



There's likely a multitude of reasons why students now read less than they used to. Parents concerned about their children's reading comprehension can try these strategies to bolster this highly valuable skill.

**• Let kids read what they like.**  
The tutoring professionals at Oxford Learning® report that 73 percent of students indicate they would read more if they found books they liked. Parents can address this issue by taking children to their local libraries and letting them choose which books to check out. The more practice kids get with reading, the more their comprehension skills develop.

**• Read aloud to children.**  
Various studies have found that reading aloud to children significantly benefits literacy development. One study from the National Association for the Education of Young Children found that listening to others read helps children develop key understanding and skills, including how stories are written. In addition, the Reading Rockets project, which aspires to bring reading research to life in the hopes of helping young children develop into strong, confident readers, notes that children can listen on a higher language level than they can read. That makes complex ideas more accessible.

**• Ask questions when reading to children.**  
When reading to children, parents can compound the benefits of this activity by asking youngsters questions about the book. Asking what, when, where, why, and how can encourage children to look for answers to these questions while they're being read to. As students advance and then read more on their own, parents can encourage them to ask these questions of themselves (if they're not already doing so on their own). Asking and answering these questions is a great way to strengthen reading comprehension skills.

Strong reading comprehension skills can help students reach their academic potential. Parents can employ various strategies to help children bolster those skills.



**Above:** Riley (left) and Graham Millsaps • **Left:** Nylah Graham

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# DID YOU KNOW?

A growing emphasis on STEM has emerged within the educational sector over the last decade or more. Schools and students have put forth extraordinary effort into fostering science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in curriculums and through personal pursuits. Although there are many proponents of STEM classes and careers, many people feel that creative endeavors, namely arts education, have been largely pushed aside in favor of STEM. But as evidence that arts-based learning has a positive effect on all aspects of education continues to mount — including improving students’ test scores on the SAT as well as in math and science — many educators are reintroducing art in schools. For example, prior to 2017, Mann Elementary School in Detroit had not offered art classes in 20 years. By 2017, some art and music classes had been restored. Students in Lebanon, Penn. also are learning the importance of the arts through the STEAM concept. First implemented by the Rhode Island School of Design, the “A” in STEAM stands for “Arts.” STEAM encourages students to think not only analytically but creatively, essentially blending the best of math and science with the arts. A recent study from PayScale.com even notes that graduates obtaining art degrees from certain schools can expect healthy returns on their educational investments. This furthers the push for a reintroduction of arts education, as it indicates that a career in the arts can be a potentially lucrative pursuit.



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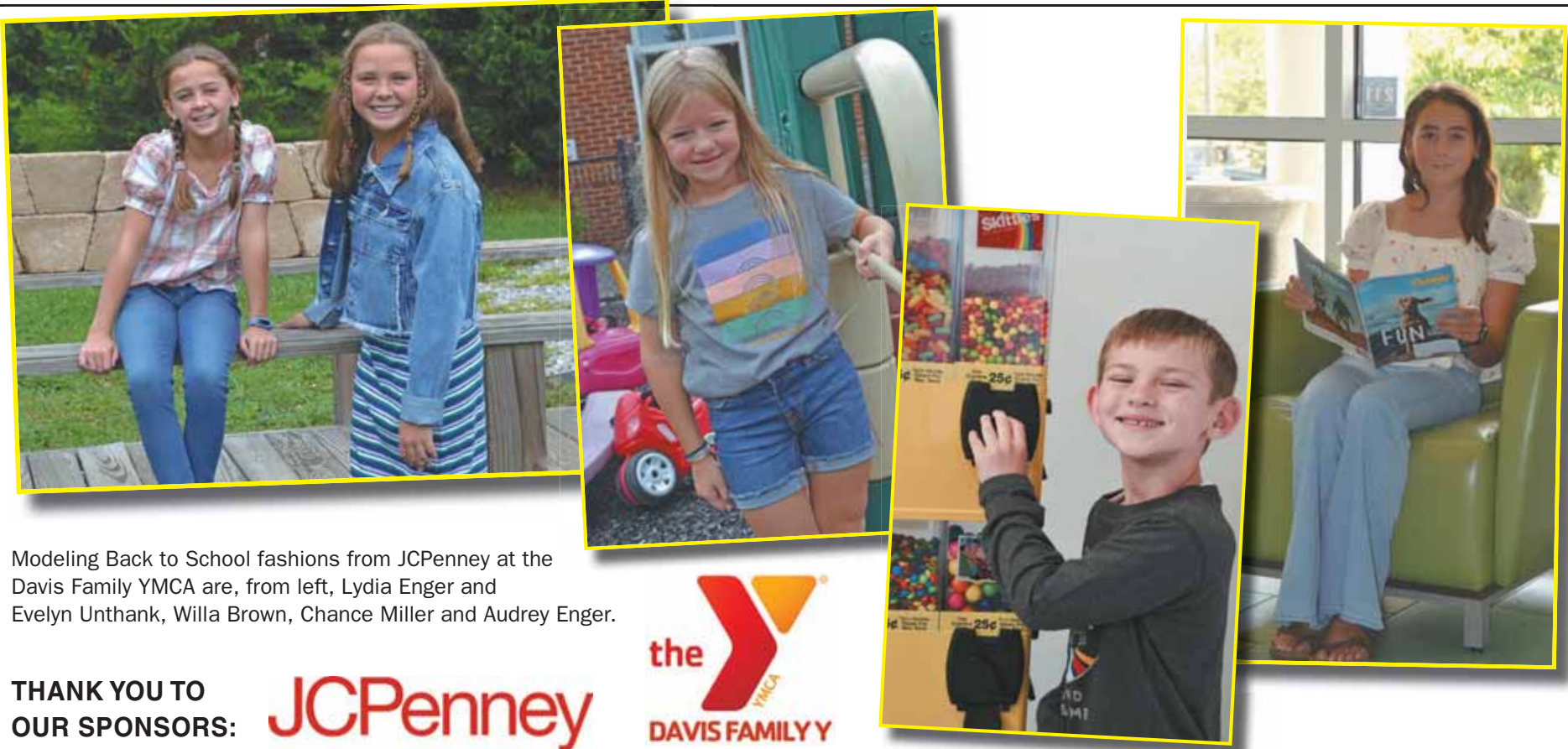
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