



WOMEN *in* BUSINESS

A supplement to [farragutpress](#) • September 4, 2024



To-Do List

Install shelving
Hang window treatments
Grout tile floor
Powerwash deck
Repair kitchen drywall
Fix cabinet hinge
Clean and repair gutters
Paint living room

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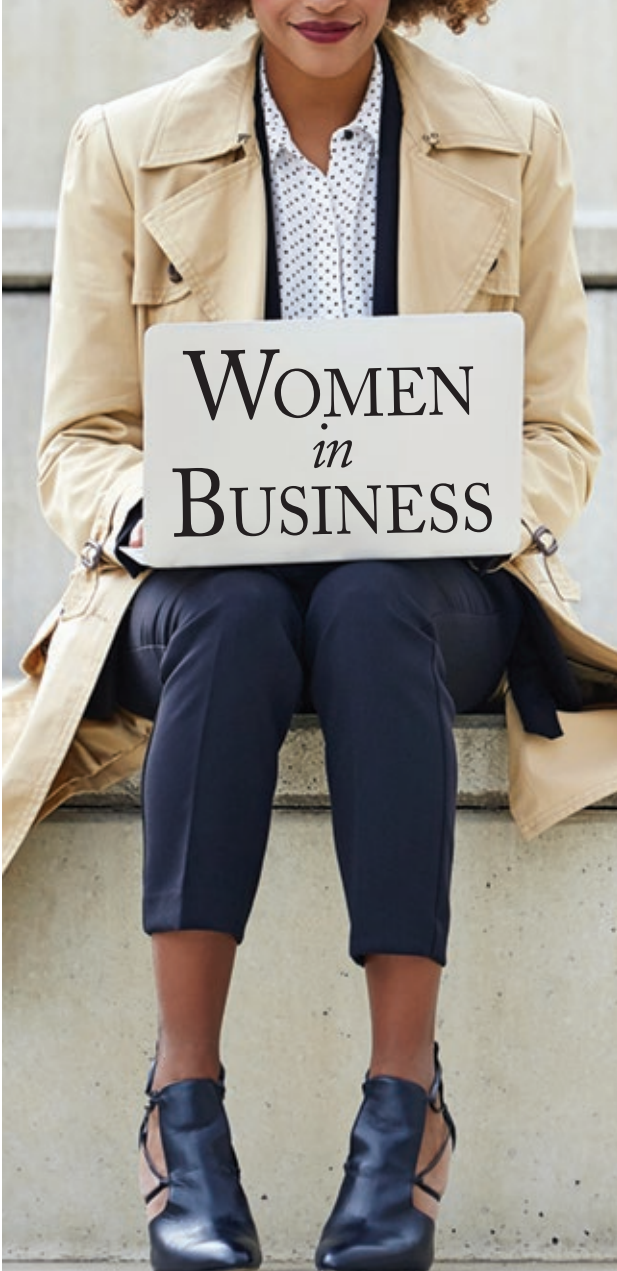
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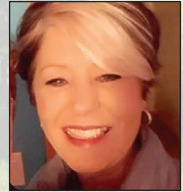
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Keiley Waldrop Scholarship Fund



In 2022 SMR formed the Keiley Waldrop Scholarship Fund in memory of Keiley Waldrop, a 2019 graduate of Lenoir City High School. Keiley loved cheering for her high school and would later attend Roane State Community College. She was a very vibrant student and shared her Christian values with many.

Keiley Waldrop, 2019 Lenoir City High

Mary Stamey McRaven Legacy Scholarship Fund

In 2024 SMR formed the Mary Stamey McRaven Legacy Scholarship Fund for Women in Education in memory of Mary Stamey McRaven. Mary was a graduate of Greenback High School and Tennessee Technological University. She was married and had two daughters. Mary then taught at North Middle School in Lenoir City where she loved her students and coworkers.

Mary Stamey McRaven, 2016 Greenback High School



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Connecting with people

Harriet Amonette has been in the Senior Care Industry her entire career, but has worked as the Director of Marketing Services at NHC Place Farragut for the past eight years. Thirteen years ago, she started at NHC as a nurse in rehabilitation before discovering her knack for marketing. Harriet's experience in direct patient care has shaped the way in which she can connect with coworkers, families of residents, and the residents themselves. As a nurse, she realized the exceptional joy that caring for others gave her every day. Today, she continues to embrace the senior care culture in marketing, utilizing her medical background to provide additional insight to families. Her favorite part of the job is assisting families with the "next steps" on NHC Place Farragut's CCRC campus. For the past four years, Harriet has been heavily involved in the CAC Office on Aging's annual "Power of the Purse" event, a fundraiser for their Mobile Meals program. Harriet enjoys giving back to the senior care community in all aspects, making it her mission to empower her community in all walks of life.

Harriet Amonette

Director of Marketing Services
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Laura Ash

Agent

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Laura Ash loves her role as a State Farm agent and has been doing it successfully for almost 18 years! She treats her team members and customers like family and you can tell when you walk in her office. Even on the most stressful days, Laura and her team welcome you in with open arms to help write a policy, talk about a claim or just to chat about what has been going on with your life.

Laura moved to Farragut 22 years ago from Kodiak, Alaska. Being a native Floridian, she was happy to get back down South for some sunshine. She lived in Alaska for 11 years and she and her husband decided they wanted to raise their children in a place they could permanently call home. She is definitely happy they made the move.

Laura's son and daughter graduated from UT and they are both furthering their education. Her son is getting ready to graduate with his doctorate in chiropractic and will be opening his own clinic. Her daughter is hoping for a career in law.

Laura is a die-hard Vol fan and you can find her at Neyland Stadium cheering on the Vols each fall. You will also see her on Thursday night Rivalry Football where she'll cheer on the teams, give out T-Shirts, and donate to the schools.

Laura is a very devoted Agent to State Farm and to her community in general. Give her a call if you need help with your home, car or life insurance. She also specializes in business insurance as well. Laura and her team are ready to help you and would love to have you in their State Farm family.



Almost 13 years after starting as the Executive Assistant for the Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce in 2011, Julie Blaylock is still amazed at how much she loves getting to serve the hundreds of businesses and people that the chamber interacts with each year. "Every time I stand up at an event and hear myself say that we get to support over 725 businesses across our region, I'm taken aback; it really is a privilege," she says. A self-described "people and resource convener," and recent Leadership Knoxville 2024 graduate, Blaylock oversees daily operations of a 4-person staff, multiple committees, and an organization that offers 100+ programs annually, she relates well to the challenges of busy local small business owners. "Owning a business or franchise is exciting, exhausting, but also a potentially very rewarding endeavor. Our job is making that endeavor easier and making the challenges less difficult to overcome by using our network to connect them with whatever help they need: funding, marketing, mentoring, potential clients or local vendors, and talent."

Julie A. Blaylock

President/CEO

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julie@farragutchamber.com
www.farragutchamber.com

For more information on the chamber and how to become a member, visit www.farragutchamber.com



Kristina Burkhalter

Owner

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www.islandfinpoke.com

Kristi Burkhalter is on a mission to "Spread Aloha & Sunshine". A seasoned, multifaceted businesswoman, Kristi is passionate about service, advocacy & 'ohana. She launched Hawaiian-inspired Island Fin Poke-Farragut where their flavor-packed, clean incrediBOWls (hand-crafted with house-made sauces & freshly prepped ingredients) have earned the restaurant top community accolades. Dole Soft Serves round out the menu and draw a fin-tastic crowd for Happy Hours at the family-friendly surf-shack. Kristi employees the youth of our community & champions for schools, NPOs & academic/arts/athletics organizations with "Poke with a Purpose" 20% give-back days. Catch the flavor-wave to Island Fin Poke (11615 Parkside Drive next to AT&T), dive into guilt-free deliciousness & check out those surf-boards!



Ginger Cannon

Dixie Lee Farmers Market

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gocannon133@gmail.com

Healthy Diet Leads To Local Market

Ginger Cannon and her husband Jeff started the Dixie Lee Farmers Market almost out of necessity.

“I have rheumatoid arthritis and I wanted to change my diet and I went to another local farmers market in Oak Ridge,” Ginger said. “This inspired us to come up with the idea for the Dixie Lee Farmers Market. I worked for attorney Steve Irving and with his help I got the permits.”

Dixie Lee Farmers Market is open from May through October on Saturdays from 9 a.m.-noon and Ginger relishes the opportunity to give local growers and local artisans the chance to showcase and sell their goods.

“Jeff and I have always had an interest in gardening and this gives local growers the chance to sell and it may also give the garage carpenter a chance to sell the things that he likes to make,” Cannon said. “We also have a bakery and we sell grass-fed meats.”

She noted that the biggest challenge that she faces is the weather both on market days and throughout the year.



Amanda Dagnan

Owner

Factory Carpet Warehouse

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factorycarpet@yahoo.com

www.factorycarpet.net

Originally from Nashville, Amanda moved to Knoxville in 1998 to pursue her master’s degree and her dream of someday running a youth sports program. However, the universe had already chosen a different path for her.

She began her career at Factory Carpet Warehouse in 2002 when her husband, Dennis, needed help answering the phones. In 2009, when Dennis retired, Amanda took over the family business and has been running it like a boss ever since! It is so rewarding to be able to say that we are still in business after 45 years!

In 2014, Amanda opened up a small vintage shop, her passion, inside Factory Carpet, bringing in a whole new clientele. And now, after running two successful businesses, she now runs consignment online auctions every week!

So, if you are looking for new flooring for your home, rental, business, or front porch, or looking to downsize your belongings but don’t want to take the time to sell them yourself, feel free to reach out to Amanda at 865-689-6740.

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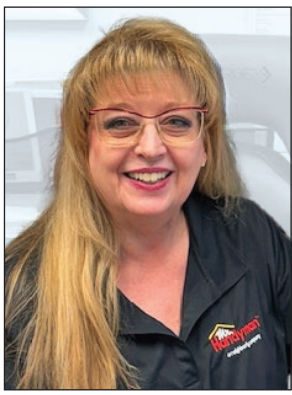
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Penny Ellison

Owner

Mr. Handyman

865-293-0080

westknoxville@mrhandyman.com

Penny Ellison, a shining example of entrepreneurial spirit and resilience. Growing up in Jefferson County, Penny began her career with a flooring paint and wall-paper store in Newport. before making a bold move to Knoxville. There, she and her husband launched a Mr. Handyman franchise, marking a significant milestone in her professional journey.

In 2019, Penny faced a profound personal challenge with the passing of her husband. Rather than stepping back, she embraced the opportunity to lead with renewed vigor and commitment. For the past 15 years, Mr. Handyman of West Knoxville has been a trusted name in the community, providing top-notch repair and maintenance services.

Penny's customer-first philosophy is at the heart of her business. As she puts it, "Today's customers often find themselves short on time, tools, or talent for home repairs. They need a trustworthy company they can rely on." Her dedication to addressing these needs has driven outstanding success. Under her leadership, Mr. Handyman of West Knoxville has earned numerous accolades throughout the Mr. Handyman franchise.

Penny attributes this remarkable success to her exceptional team, which delivers unparalleled service and customer satisfaction. Her unwavering commitment to excellence and her passion for her clients are the cornerstones of her business.

For unparalleled repair and maintenance services in Knoxville, trust Penny Ellison and her award-winning team at Mr. Handyman of West Knoxville. Discover more at www.mrhandyman.com/west-knoxville.



Carolyn Levy Gilliam

Attorney

McDonald, Levy & Taylor, PLLC

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A Top Attorney in her field

Carolyn Levy Gilliam serves as an attorney at McDonald, Levy & Taylor PLLC, primarily practicing in the areas of wills, trusts, elder law, conservatorships, probates, business matters, and litigation regarding these areas.

Gilliam, a graduate of the University of Tennessee's College of Law, was named as a Top Attorney for 2023 in the Knoxville Cityview Magazine in Social Security Disability, Elder Law and Adoption, Wills/Probate and Estate Planning/Trusts as well as a Best Lawyer: Ones to Watch in America for Elder Law, Litigation - Trusts and Estates and Trusts and Estates.

An active member of the community, Gilliam is a Board Member of the Dream Connection, Inc., an all-volunteer organization that fulfills the dreams of children that have life-threatening illnesses.

She and her husband, Eric, and two young kids live in Farragut and attend Shoreline Church.



April Finster

Specialist /
Agent / Owner

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865-622-2265

april@cyaninsurance.com

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You can be confident that you've selected the right Medicare plan by meeting with April. For over 20 years, she has assisted clients with Supplements, Advantage Plans, and Prescription Drug Plans.

"People often remark that they're highly educated, but they can't figure out Medicare", comments Finster. "I always reassure them that it's not them - it's just inherently complicated!"

April first explains how these programs work. Then she outlines alternatives so that you can make informed choices. Once Medicare is taken care of, it's good to review Long Term Care (LTC) options, as Medicare does not cover most LTC costs.

As an independent agent, April offers many high-quality plans. She does not charge for her services, as insurance carriers compensate her for time spent. April welcomes new clients and offers appointments by phone or video, or in her Farragut office at 11826 Kingston Pike, Suite 230.

"It's a family business," says April. "We love helping people, and this is a business where we can do just that."

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Dr. Kimberly Grande is a board-certified dermatologist and a fellow of the American Academy of Dermatology. She received her medical degree at University of Nebraska and completed her residency in dermatology at Baylor College of Medicine.

Dr. Grande has a passion for developing lasting relationships with her patients and helping them to combat skin cancers and other diseases of the skin with cutting-edge technologies.

“I was compelled by the field of dermatology when following physicians in more generalized specialties who would point out subtle changes on the skin during physical exam,” she said. “These changes would be clues to the potential of systemic or internal diseases such as liver or kidney disease. I felt a bit like Sherlock Holmes piecing together details to come to an important diagnosis which would otherwise have been missed. Dermatology is a little like the practice of art...it is color, patterns, and textures. Skin surgery requires an artistic eye and aesthetic medicine is best accomplished by a sculptor who understands the science behind what is perceived as beauty and attractiveness.”

As co-founders of The Skin Wellness Center, Dr. Grande and Dr. Meredith Overholt stand out as a leading partnership in the dermatology field in Knoxville.

Dr. Kimberly Grande

Co-founder
The Skin Wellness Center

10215 Kingston Pike Suite 200
Knoxville TN 37922

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theskinwellnesscenter.net



A native of East Tennessee, Stephanie Grubbs grew up in Chattanooga and Morristown, and moved to Knoxville in 1997 after graduating from East Tennessee State University.

A realtor since 2014, she currently serves as a realtor and property manager at Heritage Realty, where she specializes in residential sales and commercial listings.

The best part of the role, Grubbs says, is helping clients fulfill their real estate dreams.

“I love working hard to find my clients the perfect property,” she said. “There is nothing better than helping a family or individual find a place to call home.”

In addition to real estate, Grubbs is a mother of two, with one child attending UT and another building their career.

Stephanie is an active member of the community. She frequently works with local organizations that strive to keep the Knoxville area beautiful, charities and local golf tournaments.

“I invest back into this community with volunteer work often because this is my home,” she explained. “I believe in keeping Knoxville one of the best places to live.”

Stephanie Grubbs

Realtor

Heritage Realty

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heritagerealtyknox.com

Debby Funk is proud to continue her mother Laurae Hathaway’s legacy through Embroidery Boutique, a second-generation women-owned business specializing in unique gifts and custom embroidery. While originating in 1989 as Designs for You, INC in Boca Raton, Florida, the business moved to Tellico Village in Loudon, TN in 2005 and later to Farragut, TN in 2014, when the company was rebranded as Embroidery Boutique by Designs for You. Debby began her career with the family business in 2006 and purchased the business from her mother in 2020, before the pandemic forced businesses to close their doors.

During the covid shutdown, Debby began brainstorming options and opportunities that would help reinvigorate her business and bring more people in the door once the lockdowns were lifted. That was when Funky’s Meat & Funky’s Snacks was born. Today it is a thriving side business and addition to the gift shop, featuring a variety of jerky, jellies, honeys, and mustards. These items can also be purchased online at funkyssnacks.net.

As the owner, Debby strives to fill the gift shop with never-before-seen items while also offering a variety of services, including monogramming, embroidery, and laser etching. While Embroidery Boutique specializes in custom embroidery, including bulk pricing for corporate logos, there are no minimums for embroidery orders. Debby and her staff pride themselves on being the highest quality local embroiderer with the quickest turnaround times, whether you need one item or hundreds of items customized.

Stop in the shop Monday-Friday from 10-6pm for personalized embroidery, unique gifts, and delicious snacks.



Debby Funk



141 Brooklawn St West
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www.embroideryboutiqueknox.com





Kelsey Hartsook

General Manager/Owner

Bumble Bee Blinds

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An East Tennessee native, Kelsey Hartsook served as an accountant for over 15 years before following her dreams of opening her own business.

“I felt I needed a better work/life balance for my family, and I wanted out of the corporate world,” said Hartsook, noting her passion for leadership. “I realized that I needed to build the company and culture that I envisioned rather than waiting on other companies to get on board.”

After being introduced to HorsePower Brands, a portfolio company of franchise brands in the home services industry, Hartsook finally took the leap, purchasing Bumble Bee Blinds of Knoxville in May.

“They had the exact culture and resources that matched me for my new adventure,” she said of the franchise umbrella company. “Honestly, it was HorsePower Brands that I fell in love with, but since I have been working in this industry, I have truly fallen in love with the way I get to help others.”

In fact, for Hartsook, working with homeowners to elevate their home with custom window treatments has quickly become the most rewarding part of the job.

“You would be surprised at how much a window treatment can affect or mean to someone. It not only beautifies their home, but also gives them a sense of peace,” she said. “Whether it’s privacy or energy efficiency, there is a true need for the product. It’s meeting those individual needs and seeing the joy that matters to me.”

For more information about Bumble Bee Blinds, visit bumblebeeb blinds.com/knoxville-tn.



Marcelle Hazari

Owner/Operator

Postal Annex

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postalannex.com/14023

A Unique One-Stop Shop

Following retirement from Walmart after working in management for 31 years in three states, Marcelle Hazari’s dream was to own and operate her own business. In April 2015, she opened Postal Annex store in the Cedar Springs Shopping Center in Knoxville. With her extensive experience in retail and in customer service, it was not hard for her to select the right national and local merchandise to carry in her store.

Postal Annex is an authorized shipper for DHL, FedEx, UPS and USPS. The store offers private mailboxes, passport photos, various greeting cards, Naked Bee products, Melissa & Doug toys, Z’s soaps and candles, notary public and digital fingerprinting. The store IS a one-stop shop for a wide variety of services and gifts for anyone from newborns to 107 years old!

After more than nine years, “I personally know and appreciate all my customers as I always offer them smiles and helpful assistance,” Marcelle said. She and husband Al, who helps in the store, are blessed and are especially proud of their three adult children. Finally, the Hazaris invite you all to come by and be surprised by the extra care, excellent personal touch and genuine friendship!



Dr. Megan Jack

Plastic Surgeon

East Tennessee Plastic Surgery

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From the time she was in med school, Kansas City native and board-certified plastic surgeon Dr. Megan Jack has had one goal: to help patients feel and look their absolute best.

In surgery residency, she requested to be the resident to close incisions and “hand sew them instead of using staples because I knew the patients would be happier.”

As she continued her training, Jack came to “[love] the creativity, thought, and complexity of” plastic surgery, while also seeing it as a form of art she quickly mastered.

Her professional career began in 2012 in Boca Raton, Florida, where she also met her husband, chiropractor Dr Scott Hoar. After having two little girls, the couple looked for a “more family-friendly place, with four seasons and a sense of community,” which they found in Knoxville in 2020.

Jack quickly found “a practice that meshed with my approach to patient care” at East Tennessee Plastic Surgery.

“We aim to be a safe place for patients to share their most self-conscious concerns and turn those into their most proud, confident parts of themselves,” she said.

As a mom herself, Jack empathizes with the changes women experience with time and says, “My favorite is when my patients tell me their surgery ‘changed their life’ or ‘was the best decision I ever made.’”

“Twelve years later, I still have a passion for bringing a smile to the faces and confidence into the hearts of my patients.”

For more information, visit www.easttnplasticsurgery.com, email office@easttnplasticsurgery.com or call 865-694-9886.



Nicole Jones

Practice Manager

Village Veterinary Medical Center

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Nicole Jones, originally from Ohio, has made Farragut, Tennessee, her home after moving to Knoxville to attend the University of Tennessee. She later graduated from East Tennessee State University, which set the foundation for her extensive career in veterinary medicine. Nicole’s journey into the field began at the young age of 14 but officially started at Bluegrass Animal Hospital in 2003 and has since evolved into a fulfilling career dedicated to animal care and management.

Nicole currently serves as the Practice Manager at Village Veterinary Medical Center, where she skillfully handles a variety of responsibilities. Her role includes overseeing daily operations, managing HR and business functions, and addressing client concerns. She also plays a crucial part in recruitment and retention and maintains strong relationships with vendors. Nicole’s comprehensive expertise ensures that the practice runs smoothly and efficiently.

Outside of her professional life, Nicole is a dedicated mother to her son Aiden and manages a household full of pets. Her commitment to animals is evident not only in her career but also in her personal life. Her previous experience at Bluegrass Animal Hospital and Hardin Valley Animal Hospital highlights her longstanding passion for veterinary care and her dedication to motherhood, by taking a step back and not working while Aiden was young, showcases her ability to balance a demanding career with family responsibilities.

At Village Veterinary Medical Center, Nicole Jones plays a pivotal role in ensuring that the practice continues to provide exceptional care to the community. The Medical Center is renowned for its commitment to animal health and well-being, offering comprehensive services and compassionate care to every patient. Under Nicole’s management, the practice not only meets the high standards of veterinary medicine but also actively engages with and supports the local community. Her dedication helps foster a nurturing environment where both pets and their owners feel valued and cared for, embodying the core mission of Village Veterinary Medical Center to enhance the lives of animals and their families.

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Legislative Agenda 2025

At the heart of every thriving chamber of commerce are dynamic groups of volunteers, and these teams do their best work when headed up by servant-leaders who show up, and selflessly engage, and give back. We at the Farragut West Knoxville Chamber are thrilled to shine a light on eight remarkable women, each of whom currently serves as the chair of a vital committee, shaping the future of their communities through their unwavering commitment and innovative ideas.

Leadership in chambers of commerce goes beyond titles—it's about stepping up, volunteering, and driving meaningful change. These women embody the spirit of servant leadership, generously sharing their time, expertise, and passion to elevate their committees and subsequently the entire organization. Their roles are pivotal, guiding strategic initiatives, fostering collaboration, and ensuring that diverse voices are heard and valued all while helping the chamber hit goals and reach new heights.

Why does this matter? When women lead, everyone benefits. Their unique perspectives and empathetic approach not only enhance decision-making but also inspire and motivate those around them. These individuals are more than just committee chairs; they are helping to redefine what it means to lead with heart and purpose. Their influence extends beyond their committees, setting a powerful example for future generations of professionals and driving progress in their community.

Join us in celebrating these phenomenal women and the impact of their service. Their dedication highlights the importance of having diverse, passionate leaders at the helm, proving that when women step up to lead, everyone rises together.



**FARRAGUT
WEST KNOX**
CHAMBER of COMMERCE



Dr. Sonia Kherani

D.D.S.

Choto Family & Cosmetic Dentistry

1624 Choto Markets Way
Knoxville, TN 37922
865-409-5077

www.chotofamilydentistry.com

Dr. Kherani completed her Doctor of Dental Surgery Degree in 2008. Since 2008, Dr. Kherani has invested hundreds of hours of advanced clinical education in all disciplines of general dentistry. Topics include restorative dentistry, endodontics, periodontics, and implant dentistry.

Over the last decade, Dr. Kherani has owned and operated very successful dental practices in East Tennessee. Dr. Kherani's time has been spent in private practice with a focus on high quality, multi-disciplinary and comprehensive dentistry in a family-oriented fashion to her patients. Dr. Kherani is also a member of the Tennessee Dental Association and American Dental Association.

Dr. Kherani resides in the Farragut/Choto community with her husband and two wonderful children, and they love spending as much time outdoors as possible. Dr. Kherani also enjoys traveling and cooking.



Jamie Kidd

Designer and Owner

Blinds & More

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blindsnmoretn.com

A Knoxville native, Jamie Kidd studied interior design at Delta State University in Mississippi and went on to spend time as a custom decorator for a major retailer. She now serves as a designer and owner of Blinds & More of East Tennessee.

"I've always had an interest in interior design, but became specialized in window treatments nearly two decades ago, and that honestly has been my focus ever since," Kidd said.

In addition to window treatments, Kidd also has experience in furniture refinishing, home staging and room design. Her real passion, however, is found in forging relationships with her clients, and ensuring that each and every client is pleased with their finished project.

"I really enjoy getting to know my clients and learning their personality and style" she said. "I want the process to be easy, fun and as stress-free as possible for them. I am truly blessed to do what I love, all while getting to know my clients and help them make their houses feel more like home."



Kat Mahn

Owner

Kat's Lash Lounge & Wax Studio

865-392-1014
www.Katslashlounge.com

Making people look pretty

Kat Mahn, owner of Kat's Lash Lounge & Wax Studio, always has been drawn to the beauty business.

"I liked making people look pretty," she said.

After 10 months of operating at Saah Salon along South Campbell Station Road, she has moved to a larger brick-and-mortar location, next to The Bark Place, at 11410 Kingston Pike, Suite 300, near the intersection of Kingston Pike and South Campbell Station Road.

Mahn went to college after graduating from high school and earned an English degree, but "this is what I wanted to do," she said about being an aesthician. "So I went back to school for this after I had my daughter."

A licensed aesthician for 16 years, she started her career in 2005 in South Carolina.

"Then, we were in Ohio for nine years and Georgia for two," Mahn added.

While in Georgia, a friend encouraged her to open her own business in 2018. Then, her husband, Joseph Mahn, a mechanical engineer, was transferred to Hardin Valley, and they moved to Knoxville.

She again took a leap and opened a studio in Saah Salon Suites, only to grow her business and move to a brick-and-mortar location.

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**Smoke Shop/Vaporizer Store/
Hemp Products Apparel, CBD &
Delta Products & Accessories Glass,
Vapes and Cool Merchandise.**

Reckless Hippy has earned several local accolades, including being named Best CBD Shop and Best Tobacco/Vape Shop in this year's farragutpress Readers Choice Awards. The store was also recognized by Google as a Top Rated Smoke and Vape Shop in 2023, as well as the area's Best CBD Store in the 2022 Knox Stars Community's Choice Awards.

Reckless Hippy

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Shelly Scoggins, owner





Melody Matney

Executive Director
Villages of Farragut

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melody@villagesfarragut.com

Passionate about her community & the people in it

Melody Matney, Executive Director of The Villages of Farragut, is genuinely cut-out for her line of work. Born in Knoxville and a life-long resident of East Tennessee, Matney is passionate about her community and the residents she serves. After losing her father unexpectedly to a terminal illness, Matney took a particular interest in Long-Term Care, and attained her license in LTC insurance. She began her career as a sole proprietor and business owner, selling the business after 14 years, and then managed businesses for a nationally known hospitality corporation, growing through the experience. Her love for people would eventually lead her to her true passion of serving seniors. Matney was recruited to work at a senior living community in Sevierville. She was promoted to Executive Director after only 15 months, and remained with that company for several years. "My heart was still in Knoxville," she explained. So, when The Villages of Farragut announced their ground-breaking, she applied and joined their team before opening in 2019 to serve as Executive Director. "I'm extremely fortunate to be working for this company and serving seniors in this community. We truly want to be part of the fabric of Farragut, and what we do is all about love for our residents." It's clear that Melody Matney has a heart for people and service to her community.



Jennifer McKinnish

Attorney

McKinnish Law
865-229-9854
www.mckinnishlaw.com

Jennifer McKinnish received her bachelor's degree in Political Science from the University of Tennessee and attended law school at the University of Memphis. After working for a year in Memphis at boutique domestic relations firm, she returned to Knoxville to pursue her love of family law.

McKinnish, who also practices disability law, says the best part of the job is helping others in their darkest times and getting to know clients on a personal level.

"My motivation is to see each client as an individual," she said.

This focus on relationships has certainly paid off as in the last five years along, the firm has expanded to cover all of East Tennessee, while still maintaining a personal touch with every case.

In addition to being a successful small business owner and attorney, Jennifer is an active member in the community including serving on the Concord Christain School Board. Her greatest accomplishment of all is at home where she is single mom to two amazing children.



Linda Meese

Realtor,
Realty Executive Associates

865-591-6004
linda@lindameese.com

Helping clients obtain their goals

For over 38 years full-time, 2024 Women Council of REALTORS TN State President Linda Meese has been bringing residential or commercial buyers, property management and sellers together. She is knowledgeable in land, residential, commercial sales or leasing transactions and marketing.

Her expertise is working with first time buyers and listings. "I help my clients obtain their goals, whether buying or selling, by providing them with local market expertise and counseling on all aspects of the real estate transaction to ensure that the process be effortless and stress free," she said.

"It's important to be knowledgeable about the industry in order to provide information to help others get what they want. I have several designations, that have taken years to get, so I can be knowledgeable in my field," said Meese.

Linda Meese, Realtor, Realty Executive Associates in Farragut, the 'Key to Your Next Move!' Call her at 865-591-6004 or 865-693-3232; linda@lindameese.com or Visit www.LindaMeese.com



Dana Moser

Realtor

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Fifteen plus years of listening to her customers

Dana has a high level of expertise in the local market from 15 plus years of experience and has a remarkable track record of delivering results. She has lived in the Knoxville area for more than 30 years and graduated Summa Cum Laude from the University of Tennessee. Having raised two children here, she believes this is a great place to live and work.

Whether you are a First time Buyer, moving up or down, or an experienced investor, Dana can help you in finding the property of your dreams or simply what fits your needs now. Dana will be your resource for any questions you may have about Real Estate or the Community.

"She listens intently, responds quickly, and follows up."

"My goal is to make your next move.... Your Best Move EVER!"



Dr. Meredith Overholt is a board-certified dermatologist and a fellow of the American Academy of Dermatology. She received her medical degree from Baylor College of Medicine and has been practicing in the field of dermatology for over 30 years.

Dr. Overholt has a passion for educating her patients about diseases of the skin and the importance of regular skin exams. She is excited to be able to offer the latest in medical advancements in the treatment of skin disorders. Most recently, offering a non-surgical treatment for skin cancers called SRT, or Superficial Radiation Therapy.

In 2005, Dr. Overholt and Dr. Kimberly Grande co-founded The Skin Wellness Center in Knoxville. Together, Drs. Overholt and Grande lead a group of female physician assistants, nurse practitioners, aestheticians, and nurses who are passionate about bringing the gold standard in medical and cosmetic dermatology to East TN.

Dr. Overholt also serves on the Board of Ambassadors for the American Cancer Society. For this year's 2022 Hope Gala on behalf of the American Cancer Society, both Dr. Meredith Overholt, and husband Dr. Mark Overholt will have the distinguished honor of hosting the Gala's open house event.

Dr. Meredith Overholt

Co-founder
The Skin Wellness Center

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Knoxville TN 37922

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theskinwellnesscenter.net



Alofa Porter

President
of Operations

Corporate Quarters
knoxcorporateapts.com

Corporate Quarters, a Knoxville-based company specializing in fully furnished short-term corporate housing options, has been a cornerstone in the industry since its founding in 1994 by Sherry Williams. The company specializes in curating personalized housing solutions for corporate relocations, individuals, insurance claims, traveling medical professionals and military relocations across the country.

Over the years, Corporate Quarters has experienced significant growth and transformation, with Kim Taylor taking ownership from Williams and later appointing Alofa Porter as Vice President of Operations in 2019. This strategic move allowed Porter to gain a comprehensive understanding of the business before increasing her leadership role. By 2022, Porter had officially taken over as President, becoming the third female owner in the company's history.

Porter, who had a successful career in multi-family property management, has brought her expertise and passion to Corporate Quarters. She is honored to continue the company's local legacy and is dedicated to maintaining its high standards of service.

"Our mission is to be the premier provider of furnished accommodations and housing solutions by our dedication to superior customer service and by standing on our promise of being 'Committed to Your Comfort,'" Porter emphasized.

Corporate Quarters continues to thrive under Porter's leadership, ensuring that every client receives the best possible experience in corporate housing. As a way to give back to the local community, Corporate Quarters is a proud annual sponsor of the Knoxville Habitat for Humanity Women Build.

For more information, visit knoxcorporateapts.com.

Put Experience & Knowledge to Work for You!

CREDIBILITY

Pam Owen is an accomplished sales and marketing professional with over 30 years experience. Before becoming a Real Estate agent, Pam was a business entrepreneur, corporate leader and national sales manager. Pam received her Real Estate License in 2009 and joined Realty Executives Associates. She quickly became one of the top real estate producers in the area.

"Every career has led me to this one," Pam states. "The best attributes of each career are rolled into Real Estate. It is the hardest and most detailed of all, but the one that I love the most."

Pam quickly became a Multi-Million Dollar producer and continues to reach that goal each year. She has earned the Accredited Buyer's Representative and Seniors Real Estate Specialist designations. When choosing your Realtor®, choose someone who loves Real Estate...choose Pam.

Pam Owen

2023 Top Producer Award Winner

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Annie Abraham

Realtor

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With 34 years of living in Knoxville, Annie Abraham is a real estate agent who combines deep local knowledge with a passion for helping others. Known for her meticulous attention to detail, Annie excels at guiding clients through the complex process of buying or selling their homes with professionalism and care.

This year alone, Annie has successfully assisted numerous clients, showcasing her dedication to providing exceptional service. Her commitment to ensuring every transaction is handled promptly and correctly has earned her a stellar reputation in the local market.

If you're looking to sell your current home or find your dream property, Annie Abraham is the ideal choice. Contact her today to experience her expertise and personalized service.



Lindsay Barlow

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Lindsay Barlow first became interested in the real estate industry as a young girl, when her family lost their home to foreclosure.

"I began to watch home sales and follow the industry and was enthralled with the value a piece of property can hold, especially over time," she said.

The native of South Carolina went on to earn a psychology degree from Belhaven University, as well as a master's in education from Nova Southeastern University, but eventually returned to her long-time interest in real estate.

Currently serving as a broker at Wallace Real Estate, Barlow has earned several industry achievements, including the Military Relocation Professional (MRP), At Home With Diversity (AHWD), and Accredited Buyer's Representative (ABR) designations. Barlow earned a spot in the 2023 Top Producer circle as well.

"I followed my passion of tracking that value and helping clients do the same and helping them through the process of investing, selling or buying," she said.

For more information, visit Lindsay-Barlow.com.



Dollena Cruz

Realtor

Wallace Real Estate

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Dollena Cruz is a dedicated Realtor based in East Tennessee, bringing a wealth of global experience to her local real estate practice. Having lived all over the world due to her husband's military career, Dollena offers a unique perspective and adaptability that enriches her approach to real estate. Her deep commitment to her clients and her community shines through in every transaction. Outside of work, Dollena treasures time with her family and indulges her creative side through crafting. With a passion for helping others find their perfect home, she combines her global insights with a personal touch to make every real estate journey exceptional.



Christine Drimalla

Realtor, Broker

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christinedrimalla.com

With a wealth of local market knowledge, Christine Drimalla is dedicated to helping individuals and families reach their real estate goals throughout the greater Knoxville area.

The relocation specialist at Wallace Real Estate combines her extensive experience in construction, design and renovation with a unique ability to visualize a property's true potential to provide first-class service and deliver impressive results.

From finding your dream home to preparing your home for the market, Christine's top priority is to thoroughly attend to all your real estate needs and guide you toward the best long-term decision for your specific situation.

"I take great care to educate and advise my clients with an informed and comprehensive assessment of their specific requirements," she said.

Covering and clearly anticipating every angle found in the multitude of details in each transaction, Christine's client-focused approach ultimately ensures her clients' goals are achieved, even when met with the most difficult challenges.

For more information, visit christinedrimalla.com.



**Kerri A.
Kor**

Realtor/Broker

**The Blankinship Group
Wallace Real Estate**

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Real estate runs deep in Kerri's life story. Her mother broke barriers by investing in real estate as a young woman. "As a child, I spent hours with her looking at open houses, sketching out floorplans, and walking new-build construction lots," says Kerri. The joy of those early experiences never left her and she chose a career in real estate.

From residential sales she soon pursued land development, then opened her own commercial full service brokerage, providing detailed attention to her clients in all aspects of real estate. It has never been just a job to her. "Real estate has always been my outlet of service to others and a way to put into practice those virtues that keep us whole and joyful," says Kerri. "Private property ownership requires good stewardship and values human dignity, and I don't take either of those principles lightly."

Kerri and her family recently relocated to the Knoxville area where she is now deeply embedded in the Farragut community. She's a graduate of the Intro to Farragut program and sits on the Farragut Tourism and Visitors Advisory Committee. A parishioner at St. John Neumann, a member of Fox Den and the Fox Den Women's Club, she's also a team member of top-producing The Blankinship Group at Wallace Real Estate's Farragut office.

Says Kerri, "I feel gratitude for the leap of faith we took in driving across the country to make Farragut our new home. Diving deeply into the service of real estate in this community feels like the perfect summation to that spark my mother started in me so long ago."

You can reach Kerri at kerri.kor@wallacetn.com



**Joan
Pinkley**

Realtor

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I am a native Tennessean, born and raised in Loudon. Both my bachelor of arts and master of science degrees were earned at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. After college, I taught in public school systems for eight years; then I began investing in real estate. Fourteen years ago, while living in Nashville, I obtained my real estate license in order to help others make the most out of their real estate investments and to guide them through a complicated and rapidly growing Nashville market. I have represented buyers and sellers in both residential and commercial transactions. In 2023, after several years as an affiliate broker at Parks Realty, the largest privately owned real estate company in the south, I joined the Farragut office of Wallace Real Estate. I belong to the East Tennessee MLS and the Nashville MLS. In addition to being a REALTOR®, I am an Accredited Buyers Representative (ABR®), Seller Representative Specialist (SRS®), Accredited Staging Professional (ASP®), and a Preferred THDA agent. I am continually taking courses to further my real estate knowledge and stay on the forefront of an ever-changing industry. I feel that the East Tennessee market is changing very rapidly and I hope to assist buyers and sellers in making wise decisions here just as I did in the exploding Nashville market.



**dori
pavlovsky**

"The House Lady"

Realtor

Wallace Real Estate

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865-966-1111

With over four decades of experience in the real estate industry, dori pavlovsky, affectionately known as "The House Lady", has been a trusted name since 1978. Her deep knowledge and passion for listing and selling houses make her a go-to expert for clients looking to sell their homes or purchase a new one.

Specializing in fine properties, dori combines professional expertise with a friendly upbeat approach, ensuring a seamless and enjoyable experience for every client.

Throughout her illustrious career, she has won numerous awards for production and continually enhances her skills through extensive training and classes. She is a Broker, a Relocation Specialist and a Certified Stager. Most recently she has earned The Certified Luxury Home Marketing Specialist designation and is certified with Luxury Portfolio and Leading Real Estate of the World.

Her dedication to excellence and client satisfaction sets her apart in the competitive real estate market. She loves her job!



**Kristy
Rucker**

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**Bringing her passion for
helping others to real estate**

After 25 years of a career in medicine as a Nurse Practitioner, Kristy transferred her passion for helping others to a career in real estate. Her experience in buying and selling properties in California, along the West Coast has given her first hand knowledge of the real estate process. "I bring honesty and integrity along with dedication and attention to detail to my interactions with my clients" says Rucker. Recognized in 2023 as number 10 of the top 25 agents at Wallace Real Estate and one of the top 5 buyer agents.

Kristy is customer-service-oriented and always committed to listening to her clients' needs. Whether navigating the way for a first time home buyer or assisting the seasoned investor, she looks forward to utilizing her keen negotiating skills to ensure a successful transaction. She is always leveraging her skills and experience to exceed her client's expectations.



Holly Schultze

Realtor

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Originally from California, Holly Schultze became acquainted with the real estate industry at a young age, with both of her parents serving as agents/brokers in the Bay Area.

“I feel like I’ve been in the industry in one form or another all of my life,” said Schultze. “I’ve seen much of how the industry works in both residential and commercial real estate, and was also fortunate to start out as a transaction coordinator a few years ago so that I could understand all sides of the transaction.”

After relocating to the Farragut area, Schultze recently joined The Blankinship Group at Wallace Real Estate, a top-producing, award-winning real estate team that works with clients across East Tennessee. So far, she says the best part of the role has been connecting with others and helping them navigate the intricacies of purchasing a home.

“I love being able to advocate for someone on their journey to finding a new home or selling one,” she said, noting that she always strives to maintain a positive and gentle attitude, no matter the circumstances. “The most important thing in my life and the source of who I am is my faith, so it’s always a joy to get to connect with others on that.”

As an artist, Schultze also leverages her eye for home design to ensure clients can see a property’s full potential.

“Home staging is something I have quite an interest in, as well as helping others envision what their home could look like when searching for a new home that needs a bit of work,” she said.

For more information, holly.agent.wallacetrn.com.



Cherie Sydes

REALTOR®, ABR®

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Cherie Sydes is a native of Knoxville, TN and has lived in several parts of the area, gaining familiarity with the changes and growth in and around Knoxville. Having had strong ties to the East Tennessee area and her passion for helping people give Cherie the ability to be creative with the home buying/selling process. Cherie has worked in the Real Estate industry for more than seven years before launching her career as a licensed Real Estate Agent giving her more than a decade of experience. This invaluable insight has provided Cherie with substantial exposure to many aspects of the real estate industry.

Raised to be resilient and a hard worker with a winning attitude, Cherie believes in integrity and reliability in her everyday life and professional career. Her goal is to make your buying/selling experience as easy and stress-free as possible.

Cherie’s Pledge: “Whether you are buying or selling, I will dedicate my complete attention and honesty every buyer and seller deserves!”



Anne Williams

Onboarding Concierge,
 Broker, Certified Coach,
 GRI, HHS, SRS, Realtor

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A seven-generation East Tennessee native, Anne’s priority since 2002 is to make each transaction uncomplicated and serve all parties with excellence. She has distinguished herself with client-based referrals and repeat business throughout the Knoxville area.

“My ever-evolving roles as a civic leader, community volunteer, dedicated professional, and my degree in management have equipped me to care deeply for people and defend their best interests,” noted Williams, who takes pride in coaching other professionals and helping clients achieve their real estate goals. With over two decades of career history as a Realtor, Williams is a certified coach and educator for Wallace’s training program.

She has earned various designations, including her real estate broker license, and continually stays abreast of market shifts and client needs. She previously served as managing broker of the company’s Farragut office and is currently on staff as Onboarding Concierge for all five offices. “My resume is a testimony of my passion for continual learning and professional growth,” she said.

For more information, email anne@wallacetrn.com or visit www.AnneWilliams.net



Debbie Yankey

Realtor

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Let Me Guide You Home

With 29 years of experience and a wealth of knowledge, deep-rooted connections, and a compassionate approach, Debbie stands apart as a trustworthy and valued guide for individuals seeking to navigate today’s real estate market.

Debbie has strong ties to her community. Over the years, she has cultivated meaningful relationships with fellow real estate professionals, local businesses, and residents. This network of connections not only facilitates Debbie’s ability to access off-market opportunities but also helps her stay attuned to the pulse of the community and its evolving real estate needs.

Family holds a special place in Debbie’s approach. She understands that real estate transactions often carry significant emotional weight, and she approaches each deal with a compassionate and empathetic demeanor. She treats her clients with the same care and respect she would extend to her own family members, fostering trust and long-lasting relationships.



Rhonda Queen

Officer Manager,
processor and
Closing Agent

**Crown Title
Insurance Agency**

865-539-4910

www.crowntitleknox.com

Rhonda Queen grew up in a small midwestern farm town in Illinois and moved to Southern California in 1983. A few years later, her husband, Paul, was offered a job in East Tennessee, where they've since remained and raised their three daughters, Michelle, Felicia and Christine.

"We traveled around enough to realize this is where we wanted to raise our family," said Queen. "It has been our home for nearly four decades now."

Queen, who serves as officer manager, processor and closing agent at Crown Title Insurance Agency, said she initially worked in the banking and mortgage end of the business, until 1995, when the company's founder Emma Jo White hired her as a title specialist.

"She taught me most of what I now know," she said of White. "I now realize the reason I enjoy the title business is the people I get to meet and help through what might be the most important purchase in their life."

In fact, this emphasis on connecting with customers is precisely what's contributed to Crown Title's massive growth in recent years.

"I take pride in knowing that Robb White and I have built Crown Title from a small company to nearly three times its size over the past twenty years," Queen said. "In this business, you have to be very detail oriented. Everything -- no matter how small -- has to be right. People count on us."



Jessica Ronning

Owner & Stylist

Beauty and the Beard

865-392-1107

Beautyandthebeardknox.com

Jessica Ronning embarked on her cosmetology journey during her junior and senior years of high school, discovering her passion early on. After graduating, she began working in a salon at the age of 18, dedicating 25 years to honing her skills. Alongside her fiancée, Jessica decided it was time to branch out and create something of their own, leading to the birth of "Beauty and the Beard."

Initially, they operated in a salon suite for seven months, but in May 2022, they seized the opportunity to take over a larger lease. In just six short months, the salon expanded remarkably from two stylists and seven stations to nine stations and 13 stylists. Today, they proudly have 15 talented stylists.

In addition to her work at the salon, Jessica has been an educator for Keune Hair Cosmetics for 15 years, sharing her expertise in the hair color and product line they proudly carry at Beauty and the Beard. She has traveled extensively throughout the U.S. and Canada to spread her passion for hair care and education.

Jessica finds immense joy in providing a supportive and vibrant environment where stylists and clients thrive. She cherishes the feedback from clients who feel the positive energy in the salon, leaving not only looking beautiful but also feeling uplifted. For Jessica, creating this community is as rewarding as the artistry of hairstyling itself.

One Family's Dedication to Quality and Service

Blinds & More E. TN is a family owned and operated custom window treatment design service dedicated to serving their community by offering quality custom window treatments and exceptional service. When asked, "What is the most important part of your business?" Blinds & More quickly responded with "Treating our clients with respect and integrity, you do that first, everything else just falls into place." With over four decades of design and sales experience Robbie and Jamie Kidd combined their professional careers to create Blinds & More E. TN. In 2022 their oldest son Del Fercho, who after serving 10 years in the Air Force stepped into the family business as lead installer with natural ease. While Robbie's primary focus is service and making sure all expectations are met, Jamie applies her specialized 20 year focus on the design side of your window treatments. Her ability to discern her clients' likes and dislikes make meeting expectations a breeze. "I want my clients to be a part of the process and love their selections".

The Blinds & More family is a Concierge In Home Service. We Come to You, so let our family serve your family by giving us a call today.



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Born and raised in Miami, Tracy Rose fell in love with East Tennessee during her time studying management at the University of Tennessee. Although she briefly returned to Florida for a sales role following her graduation in 1995, Rose quickly realized that Knoxville was her home.

"I moved back and ended up getting married, having children, and building a life in this beautiful college town," she said.

After several career changes, including a three-year stint as a stay-at-home mom, Rose accepted a receptionist position at an independent insurance agency in West Knoxville and soon obtained her Property & Casualty license.

She went on to work for various local agencies as commercial lines account manager before landing a personal insurance job at Tate Insurance Group in 2017. She served as account manager until two years ago, when she was promoted to personal lines manager.

"The best part of my job is working with some of the best and brightest in the industry, transforming the role of the independent agency as it pertains to asset management," said Rose, noting the agency's emphasis on forging lasting relationships with clients. "We strive to excel in customer service by taking the customer purchasing experience to new levels by just being there for our clients – in good times and bad."

After all, she said, "no one 'needs' insurance until they need it."

"That's why I encourage everyone to read their policies and ask pertinent questions when they don't understand something," she said. "When you file a claim, it is too late to ask those questions, and many find out the hard way that they don't have the coverage they desperately need."

In addition to her role as personal lines manager, Rose prides herself on her strong work ethic and determination, which enabled her to raise four wonderful children and also beat kidney cancer.

"I believe in working until the job is done and giving 150% to everything I do," she said. "I have juggled a career and a family for 30+ years and don't plan on stopping anytime soon."



Madison Ruth

Owner/Operator

Home Cooking Simplified

865-816-9281

homecookingsimplified@gmail.com

Madison Ruth's love for the culinary world began at a young age, trying out new recipes with her grandmother.

"I just kind of fell in love with it," she said, noting that this passion eventually led her to start her own copywriting business within the food industry. "With copywriting, I was able to talk to people about cooking and recipe development, but I wanted to do something more hands-on."

This all changed in 2020, however, when Madison stumbled upon a friend's Facebook post about being stuck in a cooking rut and needing inspiration.

"I sent her a private message and ended up helping her put together some new recipes and a meal plan for her family that worked for their schedule and food preferences," she explained. "I essentially created a personalized cookbook with recipes that fit her family's lifestyle based on the equipment that she had and her skill set."

Thanks to word of mouth, Madison began helping more and more people ease the cooking and meal planning process, and officially launched her own business – Home Cooking Simplified.

"I realized this was a huge need in my community. A lot of people don't really know how to cook or don't like thinking about it because they're overwhelmed with the decision-making process," she said. "But that's my passion – changing people's perspective on cooking and helping them go from seeing it as a chore to something they're excited about doing."

For more information about Home Cooking Simplified, visit homecookingsimplified.com.

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Shelly Scoggins

OWNER

Reckless Hippy

865-777-0710

Tracy@tateinsurance.com

A longtime entrepreneur, Shelly Scoggins has owned and operated numerous small businesses, from hair and make-up salons to tattoo parlors. The Illinois native is now leveraging her experience and expertise to help her 22-year-old son Seth achieve his dream of owning a high-end CBD shop.

“He’s always wanted to own a dispensary, so after he graduated from high school, I decided to retire from hair to help him create a future for himself doing what he’s passionate about,” explained Scoggins. “We also really wanted to help people in the Farragut area learn the benefits of CBD products, and we knew we could keep it classy and top-notch – so that’s what we did.”

The mother-and-son duo officially opened Reckless Hippy in January of 2022, offering high-quality hemp products to help individuals of all ages improve their physical and mental health.

“These products provide an alternative for people who suffer from pain or anxiety and don’t want prescription pills,” said Scoggins, adding that breaking the stigma surrounding hemp has been one of the greatest aspects of starting the business. “It’s been so rewarding to help educate and inform people who come into the shop and absolutely have no idea about these products because they’re so villainized by the media and by public perception.”

Located at 139 Brooklawn St., Reckless Hippy has earned several local accolades, including being named Best CBD Shop and Best Tobacco/Vape Shop in this year’s Farragut Press Readers Choice Awards. The store was also recognized by Google as a Top Rated Smoke and Vape Shop in 2023, as well as the area’s Best CBD Store in the 2022 Knox Stars Community’s Choice Awards. For more information, visit recklesshippieknox.com.



Amy Shewmake

Owner

**Simply Magical Vacations
by Amy**

www.alwaysmagicallyyours.com

Amy Shewmake’s love of travel began when she was a young girl, adventuring across the United States with her family.

“I grew up loving to travel and making memories with my own family,” said Shewmake, noting that this passion ultimately sparked a desire to assist others in planning their own vacations. “I wanted to help others have similar experiences.”

In 2014, after spending years planning travel as a hobby, Shewmake joined Simply Magical Vacations, a group of travel advisors that focus on making vacations as stress-free as possible.

“We want to make your vacation simple and magical,” said Shewmake, who specializes in planning family vacations in North America, South America, Europe and the Caribbean. “Vacations should not be stressful, but a time to make memories with your family.”

In addition to easing the planning process, Shewmake added that Simply Magical Vacations’ client-focused approach also ensures travelers get the best value for their investment.

“The biggest misconception people have about travel agents is that using one is going to cost them time and money, but the opposite is true,” she explained. “Whenever you book a cruise, all-inclusive, theme park, hotel, or car rental the cost of a travel advisor is already included. If you do not use one, the company keeps the money. If you do, then you get a travel advisor included complimentary in your package price! The best thing is that travel advisors do not work for those companies that pay them – they work for their clients.”

For more information about Simply Magical Vacations by Amy, visit www.alwaysmagicallyyours.com.



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Sandi Simpson

Community Relations
Director

The Villages of Farragut
865-671-2500

Sandi Simpson graduated from the University of Tennessee in 1980 with a degree in Child and Family Services with plans to become a Social Worker. Prior to working in senior living, Sandi worked as a stay-at-home mom for 20 years. When her mother fell ill with Alzheimer's, she dropped everything to make sure she gave her mother the care that was needed, and then, she realized her calling; helping seniors live a happier and healthier life.

After their children were grown, she became one of the first active volunteers at her church, Concord United Methodist Church's adult daycare program, Concord Adult Day Enrichment Services (CADES).

Simpson then started working part-time at a local assisted living community for three years and spent another six years at an independent living community as Lifestyle Director, and later, as the Leasing Director. During her time as leasing director, she was able to keep the community 99% leased, which led to her recruitment by The Villages of Farragut.

"I fell in love with taking care of seniors," she said, noting that she initially joined the Villages team as the Resident Event Director. Simpson took over her current position just before COVID-19 pandemic began. At the time, the community was 50% occupied. Even through the restraints that were put into place to keep the residents safe, she has been able to increase the occupancy to a current 98%.

So far, Simpson's favorite part of the job is helping families navigate through life's transitions and bringing joy to residents and their families.

"I hope to bring smiles to the residents' faces and make life for their family easier every day," she said.

Simpson's dedication to her company, her career, and most importantly, the seniors she serves is unsurpassed. In addition, she has shown that it is never too late to find your passion, and for her, it was helping senior citizens stay connected with their community and ensuring the quality of life they deserve.



Sara Sizemore

Owner

Southern Safety
Supply

865-673-0140

sara@southernsafety.com
southernsafety.com

Sara Sizemore is a native Knoxvilleian who has seen the explosion of growth first hand in the East Tennessee region. Sara is a UT graduate and started the company in 1997. Since its inception, she has seen a variety of challenging situations including a pandemic, roller-coaster inflation, and supply chain issues. She's also witnessed a big crossover of safety supplies being used by the general consumer population.

Along with the regional expansion comes lots of construction, manufacturing and industries which is where Southern Safety Supply excels in supporting their efforts to thrive. As the largest selection of in-house inventory such as PPE, fall arrest, respirators, and lockout/tag out items in Knoxville, Southern Safety operates at a brisk pace. Whether it is working with an environmental remediation company who is cleaning ground water at a construction site or finding solutions for the Wal-Mart Distribution Centers across the country, Sizemore is willing to put in the work to help find solutions to industrial-sized problems. "I love working with our customers in searching for effective, user friendly and financially feasible solutions," says Sizemore.

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Dollywood, Silver Dollar City, Pink Jeep Tours, Dollywood Resorts, and Stone Mountain Park. These represent just a handful of the major brands that Jackie Spining, a lifelong East Tennessean, has helped shape over the past 30 years.

“I love helping people tell their stories,” she says with a passion that drives her work at The Spining Group.

I have tried to build my reputation on integrity, warmth, and a relentless drive to exceed client expectations.”

Spining is the visionary behind the Spining Group, an agile comprehensive creative, marketing and creative production collective that Spining started when she stepped away from her role at Dollywood and Herschend Entertainment. Recognizing her expertise, Dollywood continues their collaboration today.

Leading her own team of expert professionals, many with significant experience from major agencies, Jackie has developed The Spining Group into an acclaimed firm celebrated for its tailored approach and exceptional visual and creative content. Her comprehensive service caters to a diverse clientele, from nationally recognized brands to local favorites such as Gatlinburg’s Greystone Lodge on the River.

For more visit www.thespinninggroup.com



Erin Stidham

Senior Program Director

Davis Family YMCA

865-661-9622

estidham@ymcaknoxville.org

For California native Erin Stidham, the YMCA has become her family in every sense of the word.

The multi-athlete — who played softball, water polo and swam from an early age — moved to Knoxville to attend the University of Tennessee a decade ago, and joined the Y to further connect with the community.

“I was looking for ways to belong, and I certainly found it in the Y,” said Stidham, who today serves as senior program director for the Davis Family YMCA location in Choto. “I constantly tell people it is one of the best ways to find their community.”

“It is just so family-oriented,” she continued. “I have found a lot of growth in my professional career, but it has also been a huge support for me personally.”

It certainly led the ardent “people person” to her dream job with the YMCA after graduating with degrees in sociology and psychology.

Naturally passionate about fitness, Stidham is equally zealous regarding mental health.

“I am really proud that this year, we have started a program with a local high school, the Athlete Success Club, which will help athletes be their best, mentally and physically, both on and off the field.”

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9 Years in Farragut full of relationships, support, and community!

Candace Viox opened the popular Farragut destination, Water into Wine Bistro & Lounge, in May 2016, and her restaurant is still going strong. The community support has been overwhelmingly appreciated. The extension of her lease has ensured she will be operating in Farragut for a few more years. Catering, community events and private parties have allowed her brand to grow in the Knoxville area. While Candace's team is already gearing up for the holiday season, she has begun booking business luncheons and holiday parties. She loves hosting members of the business community who enjoy showing their appreciation to their team members, so if you are looking for a way to tell your staff thank you for their hard work, Water into Wine is the perfect place for your private party!

Water into Wine is a different kind of restaurant and lounge. 9 years of beautiful people and relationships. Connections are made by the locals who stop in on a regular basis to the visitors just passing through who have been told about the beauty of the Farragut area and the lounge known as the "Farragut Cheers" by some locals and the "Bible Study Bar" by others. Candace says it is a "community gathering place where people talk, share, and care about one another."

Candace serves as the President of the Farragut Business Alliance and works closely with local elected officials advocating for small business support, as well as serving on the Farragut Tourism & Travel Board. She contributes to many non-profits including Isaiah's House, St. John Newman, Farragut and Hardin Valley Academy teams and local clubs in the community.

"Everything is in God's plan, purpose and timing and I will go where He leads next," said Candace. "Seems God still wants me in Farragut because I am still here."

Candace Viox

Owner

**Water Into Wine
Bistro & Lounge**

865-392-1586

W2wknoxville@gmail.com



Janice Wade-Whitehead

President & CEO

Alzheimer's Tennessee

865-544-6288

www.alzTennessee.org

Many of us are caring for aging parents. When Janice Wade-Whitehead's mother was diagnosed with Alzheimer's, she moved back home to Knoxville.

For more than a decade she learned how to be a strong care partner and fierce advocate – lessons she has shared with thousands of others for the past 33 years as the CEO & President of Alzheimer's Tennessee. The Knoxville-based 501(c)3 organization provides local support and education while investing in research for better treatments.

"I know how important it is to provide care until there is a cure. This disease steals both the memories and dignity of our loved ones," Wade-Whitehead shared. "Whether we're the care partner or the individual living with dementia, we can all live well and work to Make Alzheimer's a Memory."

Wade-Whitehead is a leader in state and federal advocacy, serving on the Governor's Task Force on Aging and as a founding member of the national network, "Women Against Alzheimer's". She oversees six regional offices across the state for Alzheimer's Tennessee plus their adult day center.

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Cathy Warmbrod

Attorney
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Knoxville, TN 37934

From physical therapist to practicing law

Cathy Warmbrod spent years as a physical therapist before graduating from Lincoln Memorial University's Duncan School of Law in December and joining the team at McDonald, Levy & Taylor.

"I needed a change from the very physical demands of therapy," said Warmbrod, noting the similarities between law and healthcare. "You meet with your client/patient and identify their problem; you determine what their goal for their legal representation/therapy is; and then you devise a plan to achieve that goal for your client/patient."

So far, Warmbrod said the transition to practicing law has been both enjoyable and interesting, as she gets to work on a variety of tasks each day.

"It is never boring," she said.

Warmbrod, who graduated first in her law school class, is a proud mother of two adult children and three rescue dogs. She and her husband currently live in Oak Ridge.



Patti Whalen

Broker, REALTOR®
EXIT TLC Realty

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www.EXITTLCRealty.com

Patti Whalen, Broker/Owner of EXIT TLC Realty and co-owner of EXIT Realty Pros. obtained her REALTOR® license in 2005, after her husband of 32 years retired from the US Navy. Moving around for many years, made real estate a natural choice.

Patti has served as Women's Council of REALTORS® Knoxville President, on the East Tennessee REALTORS® Board of Directors, and is currently President-Elect for TREEF – Tennessee Real Estate Educational Foundation.

"Education is very important to me, and I try to instill that onto our agents. I also answer my phone 24/7 for my agents and clients. If they are calling me late at night or early in the morning, I know something is wrong and they need help." States Patti.

Patti couldn't be involved in the real estate community as much as she is without the help of her two new brokers, Sarah Goins and Jaime LeBlanc and her transaction coordinator, Debbie Haugan.

TLC stands for Trust Loyalty and Commitment, something that Patti ensures her agents live by, especially when working with clients and other REALTORS®

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Once again Hardin Valley Living will feature a ...
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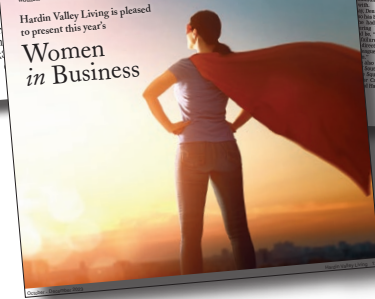


Cara Knapp
Principal Architect
oysk architects
865-523-8200
oysk3architects.com

Cara Knapp, COO of oysk3 architects, a local commercial architecture firm, is passionate about connecting with people. Most specifically she assists her clients to help them identify and solve their needs. "In the role I am in, I'm able to be a resource to the community. If a client needs a plumber for their project or has any other issues, I love being able to direct them to someone who can help."

Knapp shared, "At all projects and all business, the goal is to service their client working with an experienced construction industry and taking a my time studying in Vermont." Get about oysk3 architects.com
Cara Knapp architect.com

Women in Business



Connecting with people

Harriet Amonette
Director of Marketing Services
MC New Energy

Katy Bagon
Owner
Mud Lake

Penny Ellison
Owner
Mud Lake

After serving as a business owner for over 10 years, Harriet Amonette has found a new passion in her work. As a Director of Marketing Services at MC New Energy, she is focused on connecting with people and helping them achieve their goals. Harriet is a woman who is passionate about her work and is always looking for ways to improve and grow.

Katy Bagon is a woman who is passionate about her work and is always looking for ways to improve and grow. She is a woman who is passionate about her work and is always looking for ways to improve and grow.

Penny Ellison is a woman who is passionate about her work and is always looking for ways to improve and grow. She is a woman who is passionate about her work and is always looking for ways to improve and grow.



Heather Whittemore

FNP-BC, MEP-C/Owner

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Heather is a Board-Certified Family Nurse Practitioner and a Certified Medical Esthetics Provider, has a Master's and Bachelor's degree in Nursing, has a Bachelor's degree in Psychology with independent studies in behavior modification, a Bachelor's degree in English with a certification in Technical Writing and Communication, and has a diploma in Nutritional Counseling and Weight Loss. She has been an advanced aesthetics provider for almost twelve years. Heather is a member of the Obesity Medicine Association and the Obesity Action Coalition, because she feels it is important to advocate for her patients and the recognition of obesity as a chronic disease. She is also a member of the American Academy of Aesthetic Medicine and is certified by the American Academy of Anti-Aging Medicine and continues to educate herself and others on the safety and technique of aesthetic procedures. When she is not working, she is spending time with her family, traveling, cooking, and gardening. She is the owner and lead Nurse Practitioner at Be Well and is excited to help patients achieve their weight loss, aesthetic, and overall health goals. Heather believes in building strong provider-patient relationships through honesty, integrity, and trust. Partnering with her patients on their personal journeys to wellness is fulfilling and rewarding. Each day she and her staff get to help someone gain back their self-confidence, accomplish a goal, and give life longevity to patients. Daily she leaves work knowing she has been a positive influence in someone's life. She has been helping others become healthy for almost 20 years and looks forward to helping you.



Susan Worthington

President

Southern Market

Office: 865-588-2260

Cell: 865-455-5588

www.southernmarketshops.com

Susan Worthington and her mother, Frances Sexton, founded The Southern Market more than two decades ago with the vision of creating an upscale interiors market that showcased local vendors featuring strictly stylish merchandise.

With more than 200 current vendors, Worthington said that The Southern Market offers a variety of products that range from home decor, gifts, boutique fashions, and art. We are always looking to enhance our market with exceptional new merchants and artists.

"We pioneered a new breed of marketplace in an era of antique and craft only malls" said Worthington. "Neither Knoxville -- nor any Southern city we visited for that matter -- had anything like us at the time. We traveled more than 20,000 miles throughout the Southeast hand-selecting our first merchants over several years. We built our building entirely for this concept as well."

Having built this Knoxville staple and entrepreneurial legacy literally from the ground up and on the pages of Veranda magazine before they ever opened, these ladies were destined for success.

Decades later, The Southern Market, located at 5400 Homberg Drive, is still going strong winning Best Gift Shop and Best Interior Design by Knoxvilleans year after year, and will be celebrating its 27th year in business.

Worthington says the market's lengthy success is a result of its focus on recruiting quality, small businesses from the local community, servicing those businesses' needs, and garnering mutually successful relationships that last for many years. We aim to minimize turnover and maximize our merchants' successes.

"Southern Market has been promoting 'shop local' for 27 years," she said. "Shop Local is not new to us. We have loved and embraced shopping local and small businesses since 1996. We are small business. We are shopping. We are local. Come shop local at Southern Market."

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Gina Yates

Broadway Carpets and Flooring

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gina@broadwaycarpets.com

Bristol TN/VA native with 30 years in the flooring industry. Owned my own flooring store from 1994-2023. Held every position from janitor to president to sole owner. Sold the business and moved to Knoxville. Moved to be close to my daughter and her family Melanie and Jason Lee and my fantastic grandson Devin. Within a few days I knew I hated retirement. I called the amazing people at Broadway Carpets and Flooring that I had known and had helped me through the years with my business. They were gracious to let me start working part time and now that has led to full time work. I love being able to meet new customers and make new friends in Knoxville through flooring and tile products. I am so blessed to work with all the new customers I have met so far. We work together to turn people's houses into beautiful places for wonderful memories with family.

“If your actions create a legacy that inspires others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, then you are an excellent leader.”

— *Dolly Parton*



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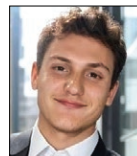
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Cindy Kraus

CEO | Broker

A self-professed introvert, Cindy Kraus knows what it is like to face your most challenging fears, including the fear of success. She grew up in a challenging home environment and credits the love and stability of her grandmother and sister with shaping who she is today.

Cindy's first professional career was in the medical field, where she worked as a Respiratory Therapist for 30 years. Having worked in this field for so long, she understands instinctively why high-level professionals need an advocate who can provide turnkey solutions for services outside their everyday work lives. As her career was nearing its 30th year, her daughter was getting ready for college, and she had an 8-year-old son at home. It was time for a career change. Real estate seemed a perfect solution because it combined her love for architecture with a schedule that would be flexible enough to give her son the time and care he needed throughout the rest of his school years.

When she earned her real estate license, Cindy decided her talents would best serve medical and high-level professionals seeking luxury real estate throughout East Tennessee. In September 2021, Cindy brought the global luxury real estate brokerage Engel & Völkers to East Tennessee as the Broker and Owner of Engel & Völkers Knoxville. As a result, she is recognized for helping fellow agents grow their businesses, providing exceptional service to platinum professionals, and developing a Culture of Truth. Today, she is one of the top 300 agents in her area.

Cindy lives in Farragut, Tennessee, with her husband, Paul. They have four children and two dogs. When she isn't settling the specifics of a real estate deal for her busy clients, she enjoys walking her Goldendoodles and volunteering with area groups and causes such as Emerald Youth Foundation, Child Help, Wesley House, Charity Chicks, and Farragut Rotary. Cindy's background and stellar service record make her a sought-after agent among medical and other high-level professionals, but that isn't the main reason her clients appreciate her. She believes in treating all people with dignity, friendship, and a smile, no matter their walk in life. This character trait proves that, regardless of your childhood challenges, you can overcome the past and become an inspiration to others.



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