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Fewer outages, stronger broadband with new LCUB grid

STAFF REPORTS
editor@farragutpress.com

Lenoir City Utilities Board announced a public status update concerning their electrical grid modernization with fiber optic technology. “This project started over two years ago with an August 2022 ground-breaking event. After some initial supply chain delays, the \$150 million multi-

year project got under way,” an LCUB press release stated. “This upgrade will provide a more robust electrical network, reduce outage delays for electric customers and provide the technological infrastructure for fiber-to-the-premise broadband Internet services to all LCUB Electric customers. “As of Nov. 19, this project is 100 percent designed and 33 percent complete,” the release further stated.

“We’re currently serving thousands of residential customers and businesses with reliable electricity and fast fiber broadband services,” LCUB general manager Shannon Littleton said. “We continue to connect and activate new neighborhoods every month and new fiber broadband customers every day. It’s available to most of Lenoir City and Karns area electric customers with some remaining pockets still being up-

dated, and we’re getting the Hardin Valley area connected as well. “We’re also looking forward to serving Farragut and North Loudon County customers very soon,” he added. Jeremy Walden, LCUB director of Engineering and Operations, said, “This has been a massive project undertaking. We’ve already run 513 miles

See LCUB on Page 2A



Town Mayor Ron Williams (inset) flips the switch as children (many with 3-D glasses), adults and Santa react to the holiday lights being turned on at Founders Park at Campbell Station Monday night, Nov. 25


Countdown to Light the Park goes with ‘Ed, Bud’ countdown

Among a few thousand enjoying the holiday lights moments after they were turned on in Founders Park at Campbell Station Monday night, Nov. 25, were Annabel Maltais, 6, left, and friend, Lily Hicks, 9.

After 34 years, St. Clair steps down at FMPC

TAMMY CHEEK
tcheek@farragutpress.com

A simple “It’s time” was Farragut Municipal’s Planning Commission vice chairman Ed St. Clair’s response to his retirement announcement. After 34 years serving the Town, Farragut officials honored St. Clair with a reception before FMPC’s meeting in Farragut Community Center Thursday, Nov. 21. “I kind of thought about one of my heroes in Farragut, John Ward (former “Voice of the UT Vols”), and the time he came to recognition (for retirement), and he said, ‘It’s time.’



St. Clair

See ST. CLAIR on Page 4A




All Light the Park/Countdown to Light the Park photos by Alan Sloan and Tammy Cheek
Jessica and Jacob Murphy and their daughter, Madelyn, 2, enjoyed the Christmas lights moments after Countdown to Light the Park in Founders Park at Campbell Station Monday night, Nov. 25. The Murphys were among a few thousand attendees enjoying holiday musical/dancing entertainment from the Mark Boling Trio, Farragut High School’s double state champion dance team and from Mike Snodgrass & Sarah Jean. Crafts for children and lots of refreshments also were plentiful. See related photos on pages 2A and 4A, and in the Dec. 4 West Side Faces.

McKelvey Public Works head 31 years; 37+ overall

TAMMY CHEEK
tcheek@farragutpress

Town of Farragut has had a changing of the guard in its Public Works department, with long-time director Bud McKelvey, 65, stepping aside in October after 37 1/2 years of service to the Town, 31 as director. In addition to leading the Town’s emergency relief efforts concerning issues such as storm damage clean-up, McKelvey has led a department most noticeable, perhaps, for its highly regarded work in putting up all “Light the Park” holiday lighting in Founders Park at Campbell Station, Ralph McGill Plaza and elsewhere.



McKelvey

See MCKELVEY on Page 8A

Faith Lutheran Cookie Walk-Craft Sale Dec. 7

• **Gingerbread men and spritz cookies will be waiting for eager hands to snatch them up the first Saturday in December.**
Faith Lutheran Church again is bringing back its annual Cookie Walk and Craft Sale Saturday, Dec. 7, at the church, 225 Jamestowne Blvd. With doors opening at 8:30 a.m., when the craft sale begins, the cookie walk will begin at 9 a.m. according to Darla

Berdal, co-chair with Joanne Sills. Cost is \$20 per box of cookies. Only cash or check — no credit or debit card — will be accepted. Berdal explained when people arrive, they can pay for the number of boxes they want and receive a number, then shop for crafts until their number is called. Frosted, decorated cookies are the top picks, but there also are German cookies and biscotti.

Berdal said people tie into their heritage by bringing in family favorites. At the same time, crafters are getting their wares ready for the craft sale. Carol Nanney, who chairs the craft sales, said there are 22 spaces available, but she already has applications for 16 crafters. Cost of a space is \$25. For information on the craft sale, contact faithcookiewalk@yahoo.com



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KCSOreports

While there were no Knox County Sheriff's Office Reports for this issue, look for these reports in our Wednesday, Dec. 4, issue.

towncalendar

• **West Knox Senior Center, 239 Jamestowne Blvd., is gearing up for the holidays with its Angel Tree.**

Offered by the Office on Aging, items collected go to seniors who are served through the Office on Aging, Senior Center coordinator Darrell Gooding said.

"We always have a drop-off box here at the Senior Center, and I've heard the Office on Aging say so many times that the people of this center go above and beyond what's required," he added. "We'll have a list of items that we can make available to individuals, and they can go out and purchase items on that list, bring them in and drop them off."

• **Frank Galbraith, a highly respected former Knox County Schools teacher, returns with his "A Day of Infamy" presentation.** His annual look at the national and international events leading up to, and including, the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941, happens this year beginning at 7 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 4, in Farragut Community Center, 239 Jamestowne Blvd No. 201.

"I've been presenting this program every year for about 20 years," Galbraith said. "It is a slide program that shows the history of our

country from the end of WWI through all the developments of the Roaring Twenties and the Great Depression.

"It shows how Hitler and the Nazis came into power, how the militant Japanese forces spread in the Far East and how Mussolini and his fascists took over Italy," he added. "Then it shows just how the Japanese came to destroy the American naval fleet at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, and our reactions to this ambush attack."

• **Town of Farragut again is gearing up for its annual Celebrate the Season event,** presented by its Arts and Beautification Committee. The free event will take place from 4:30 to 7 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 5, in Farragut Community Center, 239 Jamestowne Blvd., with the same favorite activities as last year.

Attendees can park at the Community Center, the Senior Center or in Faith Lutheran Church's parking lot next door if there is overflow parking.

• **A Farragut Christmas light music show, choreographed to music,** will run from 6 to 11 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays, and from 6 to 10 p.m., Sunday through Thursday, now through Tuesday, Dec. 31, at Farragut Golf and Games, 164 West End Ave.



Alan Sloan

'Mrs. Santa'/Finance director Myers, Hall lead Town to '32nd'

STAFF REPORTS

editor@farragutpress.com

Town of Farragut has received the Certificate of Achievement in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association for the 32nd time for its annual comprehensive financial report for Fiscal Year 2023.

The report was judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the program, which includes demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate its financial story and motivate potential users and user groups to read the report.

"Our finance department does a great job of making sure we maintain high standards of accounting and transparency. Recognition like this demonstrates that our staff takes financial responsibility seriously. Not many municipalities achieve this each year," Town administrator David Smoak said.

"I'd like to recognize Finance director Allison Myers and Accounting clerk Pam Hall for their excellent work in maintaining the Town's financial records and making sure the Town complies with state and local financial practices," he added about the Myers (pictured above) as Mrs. Santa with husband, Noah Myers, and their daughter, Kate Myers, after Countdown to Light the Park became Light the Park in Founders Park at Campbell Station Monday night, Nov. 25.

The Town's financial reports are available at townoffarragut.org/financials.

Farragut is one of 29 municipalities out of 346 in the state to receive this certificate of achievement. GFOA is the premier association for public-sector finance professionals in the United States and Canada.

LCUB

From page 1A

of fiber optic cabling both under and above ground and have about 554 miles of cable yet to install. We are so appreciative of the public's patience as we continue construction

and this service roll-out to all LCUB electric customers.

"The construction of the fiber optic network will reward customers with a much more reliable and robust electrical grid, and Gig-speed and faster fiber broadband services offerings starting at just \$69.99

a month, including Wi-Fi for homes. Business Fiber Broadband services start at \$89.95 a month," he added.

LCUB customers may visit www.lcub.com/broadband-search to obtain information about LCUB's Broadband offerings or to sign up.

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Mom-son, full family foursome prove photo-ready after Founders Park is lit up

Hundreds of families made for a few thousand attendees enjoying holiday music/dancing entertainment from the Mark Boling Trio, Farragut High School's double state champion dance team and from Mike Snodgrass & Sarah Jean during Countdown to Light the Park in Founders Park at Campbell Station Monday night, Nov. 25. **(Near right)** Enjoying a newly lit park of holiday lights are Olivia Troutman with her son, Everett, 5. **(Far right)** Elwira and Rafal Wojda, joined by their children, Lincoln, left, 4, and Scarlett, 3, also enjoyed the lights. Crafts for children and lots of refreshments were plentiful. See related photos on pages 1A and 2A and in the Dec. 4 West Side Faces.



Left photo by Tammy Cheek/
right photo by Alan Sloan

St. Clair

From page 1A

"And after this many years, I figured it's time," St. Clair said. "The Town is on a good course. There's not much left to do ... we got regulations, we've got subdivisions in and commercial development. Things are good."

He also has been a consultant for fire prevention with nuclear energy and uranium enrichment.

Reflecting on the Town, the retiring vice chair foresaw challenges, such as: "there're still some parcels. I'm sure things will come up, such as the Ford property, and continuing with the vision for the Town Center."

"But, there're not a lot of new things," he added. "We've got a lot of tremendous subdivisions, dealing with the infrastructure, see how it goes with the new traffic signalization."

"It doesn't take much to understand how good Farragut is and what it could have been if

it was just Knox County."

St. Clair started his terms on FMPC in January 1991.

"We're losing 34 years of knowledge," Farragut Mayor Ron Williams said. "But, by gaining Louise (Povlin, former FMPC member and vice mayor), we're pretty close to being back."

"We will miss Ed, but he has other things," Williams added. "He's kind of like Rita (Holladay, former FMPC chairman) who retired who has other things he wants to do, so the timing's perfect."

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"He has a huge, huge history," Holladay said of St. Clair. "And, he remembers why things were done 30 years ago."

"That knowledge is going to be really missed," she added.

"But, he said he's around (so) he can answer questions if anybody has any. Anytime we had a question about something that was done 20 or 30 years ago, he had the answer

why it was done."

"I want to thank Ed St. Clair for his more than 30 years on (FMPC)," said Povlin, re-appointed during this meeting. Thursday.

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Josh Hemphill Team

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Tammy Cheek

General Nutrition Center manager Steven Brown shows one of the products at the store, 11152 Parkside Drive. While the store has a new franchise owner, Brown said little will change.

New ownership for Turkey Creek GNC

TAMMY CHEEK
 tcheek@farragutpress.com

General Nutrition Center has a new franchise owner at its Turkey Creek store, 11152 Parkside Drive.

With Travis Hibbert purchasing the franchise toward the end of October, store manager Steven Brown said the business will continue to carry customers' favorite items, as well as maybe add new products in the future.

"We still have stocked what everybody's used to getting here," he said. "So, not a lot of changes."

However, "with GNC, in general, there's always new companies coming out that we'll probably carry, so there will definitely be some newer brands, maybe some more exciting brands."

Along with the Turkey Creek location, Hibbert, who already owned the Cedar Bluff and Alcoa stores, also recently purchased the Oak Ridge store, according to the manager.

"He's branded the Cedar Bluff and Alcoa locations for quite a few years now," Brown said. "(He was) very successful there, so he's expanded out and took on two more."

"I love it," the manager added about the recent franchise purchase. "I've been with the company 18 years, so it was an easy transition to the franchise side."

"I already know the products really well. And, out of all four locations, there's a ton of tenure."

For example, "the manager in Oak Ridge has been with us for 30 years," Brown said.

The Turkey Creek GNC store has been operating in its current location for more than 20 years.

According to its website, GNC Live Well is "the world's largest retailer specializing in vitamins, herbs, weight management and sports nutrition."

"A lot of people would think more sports nutrition when they think GNC, but we actually offer a lot of the health side of it, too; anything ranging from (products for) any kind of health complications — heart, diabetes, blood sugar (and) the side effects that come with (prescriptions for) GLP-1 (glucagon-like peptide, a hormone produced in the small intestine that helps regulate blood sugar and metabolism) when it comes to weight loss," he said. "We have a lot of stuff that can benefit (customers), whether it's fatigue, muscle loss, anything like that."

"We cover a whole array of different health supplements," Brown added. "The most common would be multi-vitamins. We carry a wide array of herbs, vitamins, minerals, amino acids and sports supplements."

"We have everything ranging from pre-work-

See GNC on Page 7A

businessbriefs

• **Trinity Health Foundation of East Tennessee board of directors recently announced after 13 years of dedicated service, President H. Lee Martin, Ph.D. will retire, leaving a legacy of impactful leadership and innovation.**

Effective Jan. 1, 2025, Lynn Metler will assume the role of president and executive director,

bringing her own passion and expertise to the foundation's mission of cultivating healthy and thriving communities.

Martin's tenure at Trinity has been transformative, a press release stated.

"His visionary leadership and unwavering commitment to empowering nonprofit organizations have elevated the foundation's regional impact.

"Through his innovative two-phase grant process, Dr. Martin prioritized projects that demonstrated merit, sustainability and collaboration, resulting in enhanced visibility and better outcomes for countless initiatives," the press release further stated. "Under his guidance, Trinity has become a cornerstone of support for East Tennessee nonprofits."

With a career spanning more than 25 years in community ministry and nonprofit leadership, Metler brings a wealth of experience, compassion and organizational acumen to her new role.

"As a pastor's wife, church planter and children's cur-

riculum director, she has demonstrated a deep commitment to service," the release stated. "Her thoughtful insights and servant-hearted leadership align perfectly with Trinity's mission to uplift and empower communities."

• **Weichert-affiliated offices in the Knoxville area have recently added Jennifer Partin and Melanie Davidson to the Weichert, Realtors - Advantage Plus team at 10160 Parkside Drive, Suite 100.**

• **East Tennessee REALTORS has added Maria McHale as governmental affairs and policy director, continuing the association's decades-long work to support a vibrant local and regional business environment through advocacy.**

McHale will lead the development and execution of the association's government relations strategy and serve as key policy advisor to leadership and the board of directors.

McHale has more than 10 years of experience in strategy, marketing, storytelling and community relations. In her most recent role, she served as the director of communications at MoxCar Marketing + Communications.

Her experience includes branding, communications, crisis strategy and executive training for clients in industries, such as healthcare, telecommunications, nonprofit and hospitality.

• **Celebrating 75 years, since 1949, Knoxville Orthopaedic Clinic has been a trusted partner to University of Tennessee athletes, providing expert care and helping them recover from injuries to perform at the high-**



Martin



Metler



McHale

See BRIEFS on Page 7A

Ribbon cut for Bumble Bee Blinds



Tammy Cheek

Kelsey Hayes Hartsook (with scissors) and husband, Samuel Hartsook (second from right in front), partners in Bumble Bee Blinds of Knoxville, prepared to cut the ribbon on their home-based business with a Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce event in Farragut Community Center Tuesday, Nov. 12. Joining them are their son, Billy, 9 (front), Kelsey's other family and FWKCC members.

Networking at Pinnacle



Stacy Madar, office leader of Pinnacle Financial Partners, and Randy Brock, capital marketing manager with JB&B Capital, Pinnacle's leasing partner, welcomed Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce members to a Chamber networking hosted by PFF, 241 Brooklawn St., Thursday, Nov. 21.

Tammy Cheek

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Famed Clydesdale at Total Wine-More in Saturday show

One of the famed Budweiser Clydesdales visited the Farragut area for roughly two hours late Saturday afternoon, Nov. 23, at Total Wine & More: Spirits, Beer & More, 11370 Parkside Drive, Suite 2400.

Customers and others curious to greet this special horse got an up-close look to the point of being able to gently stroke the prized Clydesdale.

Photos submitted



(Above) One of the famed Budweiser Clydesdale horses is approached by a customer at Total Wine & More: Spirits, Beer & More in Pinnacle shopping center late Saturday afternoon, Nov. 23. (Far left) Total Wine & More staff stand in front of the prized Clydesdale during a roughly 2-hour visit.

Trends of Eluna celebrates first year in business

Tierra Sanders (with scissors) celebrated the first anniversary of her shop, Trends of Eluna, 11035 Parkside Drive, with Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce members and other supporters at a Chamber-sponsored event at the shop Tuesday, Nov. 12.

Tammy Cheek



GNC
From page 6A

out to recovery supplements, things that would help with performance.

General Nutrition Center, Parkside Drive, is open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sunday.

For more information, call 865-777-0644.

Briefs
From page 6A

est levels of competition. Now marking three quarters of a century, KOC has supported countless athletes across all sports, including youth and high school in addition to UT among local colleges.

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Merry Christmas from **farragutpress**

McKelvey
From page 1A

Now serving the Town as senior facilities project manager, overseeing the interior renovations of Town Hall and work on Campbell Station Inn's interior until his retirement in April, McKelvey will be trading in his orange vest for a fishing pole.

"So I can have some fun and while I'm at an age I can still go and do things and enjoy whatever I decide to do," he said. "Really, I want to go fishing a bunch. Competitive fishing is a passion I have, and I've had it forever."

McKelvey also will be spending more time with his wife, Faye, his daughter, Lindsey Case, her husband, Dylan, and their children, Camden, 11, and Peyton, 9, as well as Faye's other children, Justin Sims, his wife, Katie, and their children, Sadler, 13, and Presley, 11.

"It's been a great opportunity for me," he said about working for the Town. "Every day that I came to work presented new challenges. It was never boring. I can't think of a day that I dreaded coming to work."

"You meet lots of people, get to interact with the citizens," McKelvey added. "I've worked for four mayors and three Town administrators."

"I'm going to miss the peo-

ple that I've worked with."

McKelvey, the seventh full-time employee hired by the Town, started work as a codes enforcement officer on June 1, 1987 when he was 28.

Starting with only two Public Works crew, "I did codes and I helped oversee contractors because we contracted out everything — mowing, weed-eating, backhoe work, pipework, snow removal — and helped give the guys their assignments," he said.

"It was new," McKelvey added about the Town. "I came from U.S. Borax Mineral Exploration Company, drawing geographic maps, and had spent my early years building and remodeling houses, so I had a lot of experience in construction."

"Then, when I came to the Town, I got certified in many phases of codes enforcement. I was there when we hired the first two employees. I was actually in the interviews."

In 1993, then Town administrator Jack Hamlett asked McKelvey if he wanted to stay in codes or go to Public Works, so McKelvey went permanently into Public Works and became its director.

"But, we lost codes officers, so I had to go back and do codes again," he said. "We wore many hats back in the day. Whatever needed to be done, we pitched in."

New ordinance questions raised by 'press reader

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen (BOMA) met Thursday, Nov. 14, and approved on first reading Ordinance 24-21, which aims to replace the existing business license with a new Ordinance Business Registration Program.

Despite an extended meeting, the necessity for this change remains unclear, as several unresolved issues were deferred to the second reading.

This trend of passing ordinance changes on the first reading while still having outstanding issues has become

lettertotheeditor

common practice in recent BOMA meetings. This perfunctory approach is concerning; ordinances should not be voted on until all issues are thoroughly addressed.

The purpose of this new ordinance is to identify, aid and support businesses operating within the Town by obtaining reliable information about who is conducting or planning to conduct business and the nature of these businesses.

However, this raises the question: shouldn't home business owners have the right to decide if they want such aid and support from the Town,

Visit Farragut or the Farragut Business Alliance?

Additionally, there was concern raised during the meeting that this could lead to the implementation of a commercial property tax or business tax.

Residents have been assured that any property tax must be voted on by them. Where is this requirement cited in the Charter or Town ordinances?

For more details, watch this part of the BOMA meeting here: <https://www.youtube.com/live/4zM1aJEQJk0?si=RA4zNPGLpsVTq1dp&t=753>

Kimberie Parks, Farragut



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Hanging first loss on Rams, Farragut MS boys roll by 8

KEN LAY
Correspondent



Photo courtesy of Luther Simmons

Baylor Lewis of Farragut drives to the basket for a jumper versus Robertsville Thursday, Nov. 21, at FMS.

but the Ads' had the lead at halftime as Mac scored the final two points of the first half, converting a pair of foul shots with 35.7 seconds remaining in the second stanza to make the score 19-17.

The game, which was tightly-contested throughout, was a back-and-forth battle before Farragut, which held a 28-27 advantage heading into the fourth quarter, finally pulled away over the final six minutes of the contest.

The Admirals opened the fourth quarter by scoring seven consecutive points. Farragut's Harrison Holmes buried a three-pointer to make the score 35-27 with 2 minutes, 11 seconds to play.

La'Miere Porter had nine points to pace the Rams.

"We were selfish and we weren't ready to play. Farragut was," Robertsville head coach John Spratling said.

When Farragut Middle School notched a victory over Robertsville late last week, it was a win the Ads really needed — especially at home.

"This was a big win for us. Robertsville came in here and they were undefeated," Farragut first-year head coach Shane Wells said after his team outlasted the Rams 38-30 Thursday, Nov. 21, in FMS's Bobby J. Henry Gymnasium. "They're a good team."

With the win, Farragut improved to 3-3 on the season despite being short-handed against the Rams (8-1).

"Our point guard, Porter Smith, started but he was sick and he really couldn't go," Wells said.

The Admirals' Henry Crecy led all scorers with 15 points — 11 in the first half.

Mac Harris, who normally plays post, moved to point guard. He had five points, all from the free throw line, as he commanded Farragut's offense.

"Mac Harris did a great job for us tonight," Wells said. "He's normally a post player for us but he handles the ball really well."

The contest was knotted in a 6-6 tie after the first quarter,

More TN dance champs FMS doubles up at state



Photo submitted

Farragut Middle School dance team won a pair of TMSAA state championships — Pom Pon and Jazz divisions — during the state event in Knoxville Convention Center Friday, Nov. 15. Team members and coaches, bottom row from left, are Ella Marie Lambert, Sarah Shoup and Emma Kate Kilpatrick. Middle row, from left, are assistant coach Laura Warrington, Brooklyn Knight, Parker Miller, Emery Campbell, Kennedy Prosan and Katie Beth Swaggerty. Top row, from left, are FMS sponsor Elizabeth Wilson, Leighton Upshaw, Sophie Pennekamp, Rylee Mack, Audrey McCaleb, Caitlyn Stickley and head coach Macy Brink.

'3' in last seconds lifts FMS girls hoops

KEN LAY
Correspondent

A big fourth quarter propelled Farragut Middle School's girls basketball team to victory.

The Lady Admirals (8-3) fell behind the Robertsville Lady Rams early and were in an uphill battle all afternoon, but they persevered and battled until they captured a 27-25 victory in Bobby J. Henry Gymnasium Thursday, Nov. 21.

Farragut was trailing 25-24 when Farragut's Elin Rotam knocked down a three-point shot with just 13.7 seconds remaining in the contest. She scored five of her seven points in the fourth quarter. Elin also had the bucket that gave the Lady Ads their first lead of the game with 2:27 left in the fourth quarter. That go-ahead basket helped Farragut erase the 20-13 deficit it faced at the end of the third stanza.

"That was an exciting one," Farragut head coach Devan McIntyre said. "That one was fun. We struggled in the first half and we turned the ball over and they outrebounded us."

"Defensively, we played a solid game throughout, but when we switched to full-court man, we were able to force them to turn the ball over," she added.

FMS scored first in the final frame when Audrey Vann converted a field goal, making the score 20-15 with 5:41 remaining.

The Lady Ads' 9-1 run gave the home team a 24-21 lead on a free throw by Bailey Ann Smith with 1:45 to play. Robertsville (2-2) went ahead, 25-24 with 27.4 seconds to go.

Audrey scored all six of her points in the fourth quarter and was the Lady Ads' second leading scorer behind Elin. Robertsville's Azariah Lee scored nine points to lead all scorers.

19th, 20th state titles for BHS



Photo submitted

The 24-member 2024-25 Bearden High School dance team brought home first-place trophies in Large Varsity Pom and Large Varsity Game Day while competing in TSSAA Dance Championships Friday, Nov. 15, in Knoxville Convention Center. This is the team's sixth consecutive win in Pom and third in a row for Game Day and marks the program's 19th and 20th state titles, "making Bearden Dance one of the most successful dance programs in Tennessee history," a BHS dance press release stated. Team members, front row from left, are Abigail Standifer, Ella McLaughlin, Lana Nelson, Cadance Eastman, Maclain Brown, Mallory Haskins, Mallory Simpson and Kelsi Wright. Middle row, from left, are Kaelyn Martinez, Ansley Brown, Whitley Sams, Brielle Pickett, Emily Carver, Addie Duggan, Cate Smithey and Avery Lemoncelli. Top row, from left, are Kaitlin Ramey, Sofie Lewis, Aubrynn Top, Addie Stimets, Stella Benevici, Taryn Jenkins, Baylor Brown and Rachel Ho.

'A lot of great things' in 2024 for Bearden football after reaching state quarterfinal

BILL HOWARD
Correspondent

MARYVILLE — When Bearden High School's football team turned a 7-0 deficit into a 10-7 first-quarter lead Friday night, Nov. 22, it looked like it might be an historic night for the Bulldogs.

A win in the TSSAA 6A State Quarterfinals over homestanding Maryville would have sent BHS to the semis, with a chance to get to the state title game.

The 10-7 lead, on quarterback DJ Hunter's 4-yard touchdown run, would

be the Dawgs' high point of the game. From that point, the Rebels (12-1) outscored Bearden 34-7 and won 41-20.

The Bulldogs finished the season 9-4. It was only the second time in school history that BHS made the state quarters in consecutive years.

"A lot of great things these kids have done," Dawgs head coach Josh Jones said about the season. "Our staff, too. So dang proud of us. I hurt for them because they hurt. We had plays we'd like to have back. Our kids battled. ..."

Two sudden momentum swings in

the game, both of which went against the Bulldogs, were pivotal.

Down 14-10, Bearden took over with 9:24 left in the first half. On the fifth play of the drive, Hunter was hit while scrambling and fumbled.

The Rebels recovered, and on the first play, quarterback Will Jones hit Casey Cobble over the middle for a 41-yard touchdown and 21-10 lead.

Torian Riggins' 2-yard scoring run cut an 18-point MHS lead down to 28-17 late in the first half. But the second big dynamic shift came during the Dawgs'

opening possession of the second half.

Bearden took the second-half kickoff and drove to near midfield before going backward. The next two plays, sacks, resulted in losses of 24 and seven yards. The resulting punt put the Rebels in business on their own 41 midway through the third. Eight plays later — helped by a pass interference call — Price Davis ran it in from the 1.

A 30-yard field goal by Daniel Kinney cut the lead to 35-20 with 6:29 left in the game. But a Red Rebels interception returned for a TD ended the game.

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‘Showcasing art forms’ in Biblical FHS musical ‘Joseph and Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat’

TAMMY CHEEK
tcheek@farragutpress.com

Farragut High School musical theater students are showing their colors for their next musical production, “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat.”

Scheduled to take place starting at 7 p.m., Thursday through Saturday, Dec. 12-14, in Vickie B. Wells Auditorium of Farragut High School, 11237 Kingston Pike, the event is open to the public.

“Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat” is a take on the Biblical story from the Book of Genesis, originally with lyrics by Andrew Lloyd Webber.

A special feature of the show is the artistic element.

“I think one of the biggest things this year is we’re trying to showcase art and how it can come in many different forms,” said senior Kaitlyn Mee, show narrator.

“We have a class called stage craft,” she added. “It’s made up of different students from the school.”

Tickets are \$15 each or purchase a run-of-the-show bundle, in which the buyer purchases a ticket to each of the nights for \$40 and saves \$5.

For advance tickets, visit the online link at <http://app.givebacks.gives/josephfhs> or purchase them at the door.

“It will likely around two- to two-and-a-half hours with an intermis-

sion, so it’s split into to acts,” said senior Hayden Toon, who manages the media and marketing and also plays the part of the pharaoh. “The whole cast, the set constructors and the pit band (made up of marching band and orchestra members) are all made up of students, so aside from our director, Dr. Tony Wooley (musical theater director); our vocal directors, Kirstine Buchanan and Mitchell Moore, the school’s choir directors, Buchanan as pit band conductor, and choreographer Bria Bannister, it’s all student-run.”

“We pretty much work all semester to build the set (for the production), so each year Dr. Wooley comes with us with a base plan for what kind of show he wants,” Mee said. “Then the class designs and builds the set.”

“A new thing they’re letting us do this year is paint (murals) on the side walls (of the auditorium),” said Barber, who plays Joseph’s brother, Levi.

There are about 35 students in the stagecraft class.

About portraying the pharaoh, “I really like it,” said Toon, who also manages the media and marketing. “It’s a super fun, unique part because he’s Elvis-inspired. He’s the king and he has to come out and basically just have fun, show off Elvis moves and take over the stage for a song.”

“It’s such a fun little play,” said junior Joey Nieman, who portrays Joseph, the main character. While act-



Photo submitted

Farragut High School musical theater students Kaitlyn Mee, portraying the narrator, and Joey Nieman, portraying Joseph, practice their songs during class time for their upcoming production of “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat,” taking place Thursday through Saturday, Dec. 12-14.

ing with Joseph’s brothers, he must act like he’s oblivious to their resentments.

“Because they don’t like me at all ... and that’s just a lot of fun to, like, mess with and figure out,” he added.

Also, “Joseph has a gift that he has dreams and they foreshadow something in the future,” Nieman said.

“That gives him so much importance in the show as a character. That’s a lot of fun to really experiment with, and I really enjoy acting with everybody.”

Mee said she is enjoying the part.

However, “it’s a lot of work because the narrator is on the stage the whole

See MUSICAL on Page 4B

Farragut High Model United Nations team led by six delegate awardees



Photo submitted

STAFF REPORTS

editor@farragutpress.com

Farragut Model United Nations team sent 26 delegates to the ALTMUN Conference in Chattanooga Thursday through Sunday, Nov. 14-17.

Six of those delegates received awards at the conference, two of which were first time delegates: Hisato Kurosaki (junior), Diplomacy & Position Award for DISEC Committee; Siri Fukami (freshman), Leadership in Debate & Caucus Award for ECOFIN Committee; Kaylee Jin (freshman), Excelsior Award for ECOFIN Committee; Ethan Guo (junior), Leadership in Debate & Caucus Award for Legal Committee; Adi Sastry (junior), Research & Preparation Award for

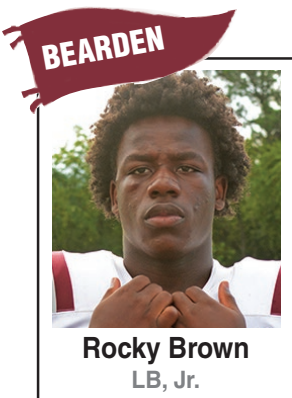
See FHS MODEL UN on Page 4B

FHS Model UN team, front row from left, are Kaylee Jin, Joanna Lee, Ella Ye, Michelle Le, Rayna Niu, Shriya Khule, Karis Kim, Siri Fukami and Rachel Mao. Middle row, from left, are Rickie Wu, Ethan Guo, Adi Sastry, Yunpeng Tan, Lucas Poudyal, Leo Rainey and Bochen Jiang. Back row, from left, are Jacob Skelton, Jared Li, Chloe Yoon, Ben Savarese, Hisato Kurosaki, Samuel Pu, Aryan Sharma, Pranav Paladugu, Nate Williamson and Jason Kim.

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Park & Alley invites you to visit their store on Saturday December 14, between 1-4pm to come take photos with the Big Man and win prizes from his holiday bag of goodies! Park & Alley is located at 102 N Campbell Station Road at Kingston Pike next to 35 North. <https://www.facebook.com/parkandalleyco>

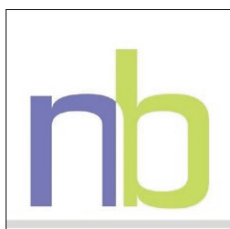
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And if you are just starting or have been inactive for a while, let's go with a 5 Class Pack for just \$65.00. This is good for two months' time; but expires after 6 months. Stop by our gym at 11672 Parkside Drive in Turkey Creek or call 865-973-2978 for more information.



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Each cheese is approximately three ounces and the calendar includes a variety of milk sources, textures, and countries of origin. You'll also receive a link to our online resource for with a list of cheese names, details and more cheesy information.

Each Advent calendar is \$79.99.

Pre-order is required so follow the link below for more details and to order!

<https://euphoriccheese.com/2024/10/23/12-days-of-christmas-cheese-advent-calendars-now-available-for-pre-order/>



Plan to stop by **BENCHMARK PHYSICAL THERAPY** at 631 N Campbell Station Road by New Year's Eve for **FREE** screenings addressing fall and functionality issues. Let's see if you are a candidate for physical therapy. Please call our office at 865-777-0367 to schedule your visit!

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is November 22nd thru 24th!!! 10% OFF the entire store with even more merchandise outside. We will be serving refreshments on Saturday! Located in the Village Green Shopping Center.



DO NOT MISS the Annual SIP-N-SHOP Event at THE SHOPPES AT HOMESPUN (located in the Village Green Shopping Center). The fun is Thursday December 12th from 5 to 7pm with refreshments and special discounts throughout the entire store. <http://theshoppesathomespun.com/>

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No reservations needed — just drop in and see the bartender to purchase your event ticket (\$45 plus tax) and get your glass of wine and gift card. Our kitchen will be closed for this event, but if you're hungry, you can purchase items next door at Euphoric Cheese Shop and enjoy them in the bar. Additional glasses or bottles of wine are available for purchase. We can't wait to celebrate the joy of the season with you at our first ever Christmas Present Wrapping Party! <https://sparrowwinebar.com/>



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• **Knox County will cut the ribbon on its 26th Annual Holiday Festival of Lights at The Cove at Concord Park (11808 S. Northshore Drive)** during a family-friendly event starting at 6 p.m., Monday, Dec. 2. Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs will be flipping the switch to kick-off this spectacular lighting display.

The festival is free and open to the public, although visitors are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items to donate to The Love Kitchen, which provides meals, clothing and emergency food packages for the homebound, homeless and unemployed. In addition, there is a purchase-for-purpose opportunity, where festivalgoers can buy a Christmas mug and receive free hot chocolate, with all proceeds going to The Love Kitchen.

Festival of Lights will run each night from 6 to 9 p.m. through Tuesday, Dec. 31, excluding Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

• **A designated drop-off location for the Toys for Tots Program is under way** at a nearby business. BTJ Insurance, 1500 Simpson Dr. W, Lenoir City, is in partnership with Loudon County Sheriff's Office as a drop-off location. "Help us spread joy this holiday season by donating new, unwrapped toys," a BTJ press release stated. "The deadline for drop-offs is Friday, Dec. 6. Let's make this holiday season special for children in our community."

• **It is the final two weeks for Salvation Army Angel Tree adoptions in Knox County.** There are still about 80 angels and 130 silver bells (senior citizens) waiting to be adopted and provided with gifts for under the tree on Christmas morning. The Salvation Army is calling upon our community to adopt an angel to help ensure the Miracle Moments of Christmas happen for all angels.

All unadopted angels are available to adopt by contacting Maj. Paula Henderson at paula.henderson@uss.salvationarmy.org. Donors also can reach out to The Salvation Army at 865-525-9401. If you are unable to commit to adopting an angel this year, but would still like to help, you can make a donation or shop our Walmart registry at southernusa.salvationarmy.org/Knoxville/.

Deadline to adopt angels and return their gifts to The Salvation Army is Monday, Dec. 2.

• **Enjoy a fun-filled evening of Christmas — all to support the U.S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots Foundation** — from 5:30 to 8 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 3, at Hampton Inn & Suites Knoxville-Turkey Creek/Farragut, 11340 Campbell Lakes Drive. Test your knowledge while supporting a great cause.

• **Knoxville Children's Theatre, in partnership with the Clayton Foundation, will present a live production of "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever."** The play runs from Friday, Dec. 6, through Sunday, Dec. 22: beginning at 7 p.m., Thursdays and Fridays; from 1 to 5 p.m., Saturdays; and from 3 to 6 p.m., Sundays.

In this hilarious Christmas classic, a couple struggling to put on a church Christmas pageant is faced with casting the Herdman kids: probably the most inventively awful kids in history.

The play is performed by 24 talented young actors ages 8 to 16. The cast includes KCT veterans Vivienne Bullard as Imogene Herdman, Mason Cox as Leroy Herdman, Julian Daniel as Ollie Herdman, Desmond Gondo as Claude Herdman and Harper Monday as Gladys Herdman. Mother and Father will be played by Leeland Robbins and Quinton Stiffler, respectively, while Luna Chavez will portray Beth Bradley and Owen Bellamy will be playing Charlie Bradley. Joining them will be Connor Watters as Elmer and Rev. Hopkins, Lydia Komeshak as Mrs. Armstrong and Chloe Beeler as Mrs. McCarthy. Also featured are KCT veterans Camila Herrera, Hogan Honeycutt, Saha Lau, Caroline Simmons, Sophia Stiffler and Auden Tatler.

Making their KCT debuts in this production are Luke Bounds, Laila Brown, Amelia Carroll, Lola Longmire, Julia Luehrs and Camden Powell. Director is guest director Ashlee Latimer. Eleven student designers are ages 10 to 16. KCT veteran Mason Johnson provides scenic design with assistance from Madalynne Mathis.

Knitting milestone while showing 'Gratitude'



Photo submitted

West Knox County Senior Center Knitting Group — which knit hats, scarves, etc. for Operation Gratitude donations (www.operationgratitude.com/) — has reached a milestone. Last week it was announced they have knitted their 1,000th scarf for Operation Gratitude since the knitting group resumed work following the COVID pandemic and re-opening of the Center. Group members, who only are identified by their first name, are Angie (kneeling) and, from left behind Angie, are Maxine, Maria, Bev, Claire, Judy, Cheryl, Pat and Eileen. They are accepting donations of yarn.

FHS Model UN

From page 2B

UNODC Committee; and Jared Li (junior), Leadership in Debate & Caucus Award for Legal Committee.

Four team members worked as part of the conference's staff: Matthew Wang (senior); director general of ALTMUN; Tiago Phielipp (senior); International Court of Justice president; Hayden Toon (senior);

Legal Committee chair; and Addison Kim (junior); World Health Organization Committee chair.

"Our club leadership is currently looking into a Spring Conference to attend — the more funds available to us, the greater opportunity we have for this Spring Conference," Kim said. "We are currently accepting donations and looking for club sponsors. We appreciate any support we can

receive from the community and are proud to represent Farragut within Tennessee."

This is a local Model UN conference comprised almost completely by volunteers, having a partnership with the Chattanooga State Honors Program.

This year was the conference's third, and along with the Farragut delegates, it saw a participation of more than 300.

Musical

From page 2B

time, singing and telling the story of Joseph, so it's a big responsibility having to memorize so much.

"But, it's been a lot of fun, and it's been an interesting character that I can mold it into whatever I want it to be," Mee added. "It's been a challenge, but it's been a really great opportunity."

Molly Barber, a senior, portrays Joseph's country brother, Levi, of his 12 brothers.

"It's been different," she said of her character. "He's just so silly a character, and I get to put on this crazy country accent and pretty much sing about how we just sold our brother to slavery.

"It's so fun, and being able to interact with all the different brothers has been such a joy," Barber added. "It's kind of like a comedic relief a little bit."

Senior Olivia Gnoth plays Judah, "the Jamaican brother."

She said Judah's solo is pretty late in the show, "when

they are defending the brother, which is a crazy different jump because they sold Joseph but he's now defending his brother.

"It's cool to experience, like, the change," Gnoth added. "I also like working with the brothers because it's a really good community to be in."

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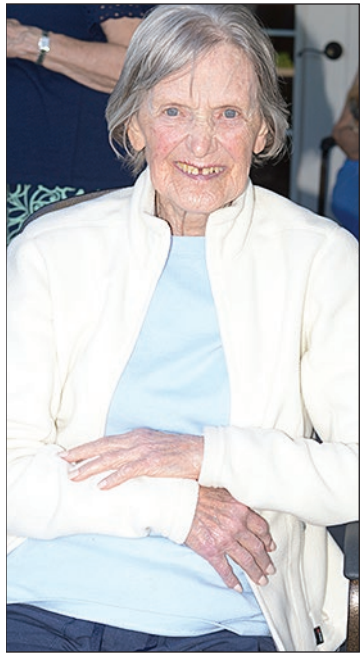
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The Villages of Farragut residents enjoyed a sunny fall day at the community's annual Fall Festival on Villages' grounds, 230 Village Commons Blvd. Events featured carnival games, information booths, crafters, snacks and live music by Pappy Fisher and His Old Time Entertainers (above). Also on hand were Laverne Vickerson (above far left); Greer Milstead with pet, Molly; Terry Oakes with jewelry (far left); Vicky Smith and her wreaths; and Matt Boyer, left, and Kim Boyer selling a cane to Ben Lewis.

Photos by Tammy Cheek




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MacTavish 'doing well' after serious injury; FHS boys 3-0 while Lady Ads 2-1 starting the week

ALAN SLOAN

editor@farragutpress.com

CARTER — In the midst of a strong start to the 2024-25 basketball season, Farragut High School's boys were on their way to a 3-0 record midway into the fourth quarter against Knoxville Central during a Hall of Fame game in the Carter Middle School gym Saturday night, Nov. 23.

After Admirals guard Carson MacTavish attempted to take a charge against a Bobcats player driving to the basket, the senior suffered an injury — thought to be a head injury — bad enough to

require a Knox County emergency response unit to take MacTavish off on a backboard and to a local hospital about 50 minutes later.

However, "Carson is doing well," FHS head coach J.P. Burris said Monday afternoon, Nov. 25. "He is at home and recovering. He is a resilient kid and a leader for our team, so it will hurt to not have him for awhile, but his health is far more important to us as he takes time to get healthy."

Meanwhile, the game was called at the 4:38 mark of the final quarter with the Ads declared the winner leading comfortably 55-38.

"We are doing some things well defensively, and for the most part we are sharing the ball like we should," Burris said about the 3-0 start. "It is definitely a good feeling for our guys to start on the right side of things, but we know we have a whole lot to improve on and an entire season ahead to continue to work and progress toward our team goals."

Against Central, senior wing Dom VanAcker led his team in scoring for the third straight time, pumping in a game-high 22. Parker Lane, junior point guard, added 11.

Earlier that day in the Carter High gym, FHS doubled up Lakeway Chris-

tian 70-35 led by VanAcker's game-high 27 points.

Starting the season with a 77-56 victory at Morristown West Thursday, Nov. 21, Farragut was led by VanAcker's game-high 25 points, followed by Lane with 18 and junior post Reid Vin-ing scoring 10.

Lady Ads start season 2-1

Farragut's girls (2-1 starting the week) beat White County 57-49 Saturday afternoon behind senior guard Jaci Neubert's 23 points. The Lady Ads won at Morristown West 50-39 last Thursday led by guard KJ McNealey and wing Gabbie VanAcker with 13 points each.



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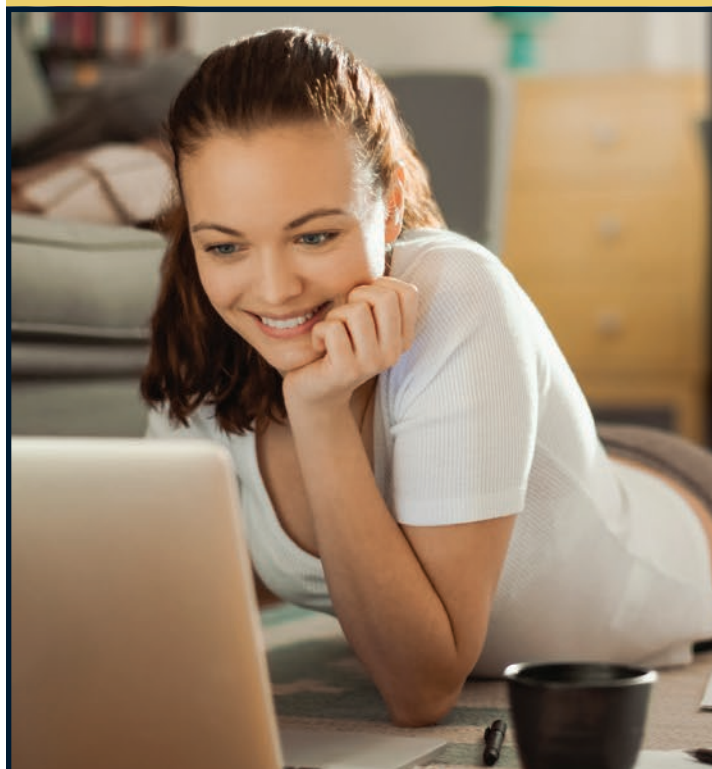
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FARRAGUT MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSION STAFF/DEVELOPER AGENDA

Tuesday, December 3, 2024
 Large Classroom • Farragut Community Center, 239 Jamestowne Boulevard

8:30 a.m. Discussion and public hearing on approval of a final plat for BiddleFarms Commercial, 2 Lots, 4.98 Acres, Zoned PCD (Biddle Farms Commercial, Applicant)

9:00 a.m. Discussion and public hearing on approval of a preliminary plat for the Serenade at Farragut, 421 N. Watt Road, 30 units, 9.2 Acres, Zoned NCC (Robert Campbell & Associates, Applicant) 9:30 a.m. Discussion and public hearing on approval of a site plan for an Express Oil Change and Tire Engineers development, 11153 and 11157 Kingston Pike, 6.6 Acres, Zoned C-1 (Civil Consultants, Inc., Applicant)

10:00 a.m. Discussion and public hearing on a preliminary plat (road improvements) associated with the Farragut Area Elementary School, 202 Village Commons Boulevard, 41 Acres, Zoned R-1 and B-1 (McCarty Holsaple McCarty, Applicant)

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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Holiday Craft Fairs

A visit with Santa and writing letters to Santa combined with shopping for handmade crafts highlighted **Hardin Valley Elementary School's Holiday Craft Market**, which took place in the school gym Saturday, Nov. 9.

Fairgoers enjoyed K-Teas loaded tea's caramel apple and Sunny Orchard apple lemonade from Katy Hammac and perused handmade wood and leather crafts from Jamie and Zeb Beason, 3-D printed toys by Tony Rothweiler and much more.

Wooden snowmen and Santas, handmade jewelry, snow globes, microwave cozies, hand-painted glass and more attracted the attention of shoppers checking out **West Knox County Senior Center's Senior Craft Sale**.

The event, which took place in the Senior Center, 239 Jamestowne Blvd. Friday, Nov. 15, showed what the center's participants could do, from art to birdhouses.



Brenda MacDonald at West Knox County Senior Center's Senior Craft Sale



Santa with Remmi Deaver, 7, at Hardin Valley Elementary School's Holiday Craft Market



Katie Self Hammac, left, and mom, Marsha Self, at HVES's Holiday Craft Market



Cara Goset with daughter, Tommi Goset, 7, writing a letter to Santa at HVES's Holiday Craft Market



Danny Crawford at West Knox County Senior Center's Senior Craft Sale



Santa with Charlie Turnbull, 8, at HVES's Holiday Craft Market



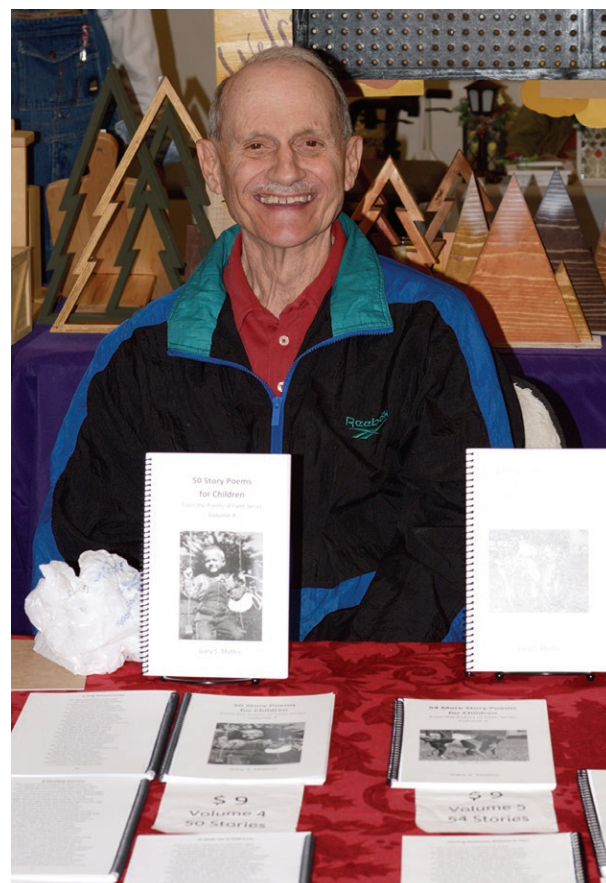
Milli Strayhon at West Knox County Senior Center's Senior Craft Sale



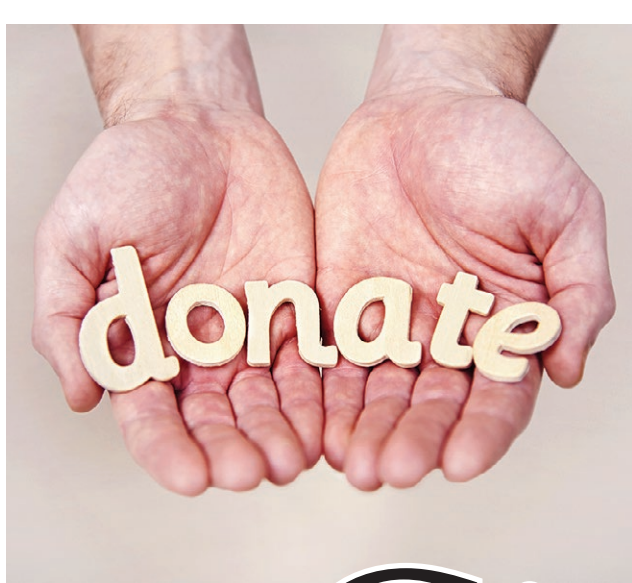
Tony Luttrell at West Knox County Senior Center's Senior Craft Sale



Anna Gibson at West Knox County Senior Center's Senior Craft Sale



Author Gary Mathis at West Knox County Senior Center's Senior Craft Sale



Giving Back

FARRAGUTPRESS WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2024 • 1C

The Reason for the Season

farragutpress is shining a Thanksgiving-week spotlight on charitable organizations.

Our prayers and hopes are that you will take the time to read the various profiles of these organizations and reflect on their needs — and respond to one or more, either with a monetary donation and/or volunteering your services in some capacity.

After all, it's the Thanksgiving season — such giving would be a demonstration of thankfulness: "I have been given so much, I feel a need to give something back." Each organization's profile includes various ways to contact: in most cases by phone, website or e-mail.

Alzheimer's Tennessee

Knoxville office, 5801 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN, 37919
East Tennessee Office number is 865-544-6288; 24/7 helpline is 1-800-259-4283; toll-free hotline is 1-888-326-9888; visit www.alztennessee.org

Mission: "To serve those facing Alzheimer's disease and related dementias; to promote brain health through education; and to champion global research, prevention and treatment efforts.



"Alzheimer's Tennessee, Inc. provides family support, offers community and professional education, advocates for the needs and rights of those with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias, as well as research for its prevention, cure and treatment."

Among its outreach efforts are Caring & Coping caregiver workshops, which are "designed by Alzheimer's Tennessee, Inc. to help the community better care for those with Alzheimer's disease. Plus, participants learn skills and strategies to cope with the challenges of caregiving for dementia. Sessions feature various keynote speakers who are nationally-renowned and/or local experts in the field.

"These day-long educational events provide valuable and practical training for family care partners, volunteers and professional care providers who deal with Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia."

To donate, on the website page, www.alztennessee.org, click the Give heading at the top, then click the Donate Now button.

To volunteer, call 865-544-6288 or visit the web page, www.alztennessee.org, and click on the Volunteer heading near the top of the page, then click the Become a Volunteer heading. "Volunteers help with community outreach, assist with support groups and serve on committees essential to our mission."

American Cancer Society

For basic cancer information, visit www.cancer.org, click on the Stay Healthy heading at the top and find the heading, "Cancer Facts: Prevention and Screening." Or click on the Cancer A-Z heading at the top of the Home page. Or call 800-227-2345.



Go to donate.cancer.org and read the various ways to donate, then click the red Donate button at the top to make an online contribution.

Go to www.cancer.org, scroll down to Volunteer and Fundraise heading, then look for the Volunteer Opportunities subhead and click. Or on the Home page, click Get Involved at the top.

Mission: "The American Cancer Society is a nationwide voluntary health organization dedicated to eliminating cancer. Established in 1913, the society is organized into six geographical regions of both medical and lay volunteers operating in more than 250 Regional offices throughout the United States."

"The year 2024 marks the 53rd anniversary of the National Cancer Act of 1971, which designated defeating cancer as a national priority.

"... The new analysis, appearing in ... JAMA Oncology, found that as of 2019 mortality rates for all cancers combined dropped by 27 percent since 1971 and by 32 percent since 1991, when mortality rates were highest. Mortality rates have dropped since 1971 for 12 of 15 investigated cancer sites, including by as much as 70 percent for cervical and stomach cancer."

American Red Cross - East Tennessee Region

6921 Middlebrook Pike, Knoxville, TN 37909

To donate, or for more information, call 865-584-2999 or 1-800-733-2767 24 hours/seven days a week or visit redcross.org/local/tennessee



Mission: the Tennessee Region of the American Red Cross serves all 95 counties in Tennessee. We are dedicated to helping victims of disaster and providing programs and services that help our community prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies.

The Tennessee Region — part of a nationwide network of locally supported chapters — is comprised of the following eight Red Cross chapters: East Tennessee, Heart of Tennessee, Mid-South, Mid-West Tennessee, Nashville Area, Southeast Tennessee, Northeast Tennessee and Tennessee River.

Programs include Be Red Cross Ready, a national ARC Emergency Preparedness Program, is a standardized preparedness education program for adults taught by a certified presenter. The curriculum is designed to help people understand, prepare for, and respond appropriately to year-round disasters like home fires and local hazards like tornadoes.

In the ARC 30-minute Hands-Only CPR program, participants learn how to check for consciousness, call 911 (or the local emergency number), and give continuous chest compressions. Having more citizen bystanders trained in this simple skill can help save lives by putting more cardiac arrest victims within a few steps of lifesaving assistance. CPR training certification is not provided through this course.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of East Tennessee

1100 Marion St., Knoxville, 37921

Visit www.tennesseebig.org or call 865-523-2179

To donate, go to the website, www.tennesseebig.org, or call 865-523-2179.

To volunteer, go to Home page and click the Get Involved box at the top.

Mission: "To create and professionally support one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of East Tennessee youth.

"Our vision is that all children achieve their full potential."

"Big Brothers Big Sisters of East Tennessee has been transforming the lives of children since 1970. We are a member agency of the oldest and largest youth mentoring organization in the United States, consisting of more than 350 agencies nationwide.



"... Mentoring works — and the statistics back it up. (Youth) involved in our program are more likely to: achieve the avoidance of risky behavior by 97 percent, achieve socio-emotional competencies by 94 percent and achieve educational success by 88 percent."

Mentoring is important because, according to a Big Sister, "Not only would you be helping a young adult better prepare for the future and help him/her increase their chance of future success, you get the opportunity to show them they are valued and important."

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Tennessee Valley

For more information, call 865-232-1200, visit bgctnv.org or e-mail info@bgctnv.org.

"At Boys & Girls Clubs of the Tennessee Valley, our mission is to change lives—and we can prove it. Our after-school and summer programs offer kids and teens the chance to explore their interests and discover their passions through engaging educational activities.



"Our Academic Success programs are designed to help youth reach their full potential. We focus on building strong educational foundations, teaching practical life skills and using technology to prepare members for future careers.

"By supporting those who need us most, we help boost graduation rates, ensuring our members are ready for college, trade school, the military or a rewarding career. We believe every young person deserves the chance to succeed and create a bright future.

"We're all about building young leaders. Our Character & Leadership programs empower kids and teens to take on leadership roles and understand the responsibilities of citizenship. We introduce them to different cultures, teach them about potential career paths and help them develop skills like interviewing and public speaking.

"Most importantly, we emphasize the value of building strong relationships, developing a positive self-image and being a positive influence on others."

Breast Connect, Inc.

For more information, call 865-409-0410, visit breastconnect.org or e-mail contact@breastconnect.org

The mission of Breast Connect, Inc., is to improve the quality of life for breast cancer patients by empowering them to become their own best advocates through relevant information, resources, and community.



"We are dedicated to providing those impacted by breast cancer with a wealth of resources. Our goal is to answer questions, provide information, and help patients create the best course of action as they embark on their breast cancer journey."

In 2014, a group of breast cancer patients and survivors in Knoxville met one evening for the purpose of companionship and support. That group, nicknamed the "Happy Hour for a Cure," grew as dozens of women found comfort and support in sharing their stories with those who "had been down that road." That small group blossomed into the Breast Connect of today.

"Our organization is a one-stop shop for educational materials, financial assistance information, survivor questions to ask your docs, treatment and surgery tips, and day-to-day assistance suggestions for those with limited family support or availability. Additionally, we partner with Courage to Conquer Cancer to provide post-surgical supplies for women undergoing mastectomies and Random Acts of Flowers to send flowers to those who are undergoing surgery for breast cancer. The focus of Breast Connect remains Survivor helping Survivor."

Bridge Refugee Services, Inc.

4420 Whittle Springs Road, Knoxville

For more information, visit www.bridgerefugees.org or call the Knoxville location at 865-540-1311.

Mission: to provide opportunities for refugees and international protected classes to rebuild their lives, after suffering persecutions, so that they become productive, contributing members of the community. Bridge cultivates public/private partnerships to uphold the three pillars of refugee integration: learning English, employment and community engagement.



Bridge Clients in East Tennessee have arrived from countries including Afghanistan, Ukraine, Cuba, Haiti, Democratic Republic of Congo, Vietnam, Myanmar, Ethiopia, Burundi, Iraq, Venezuela, Colombia, Sudan and many others.

Bridge has been resettling refugees in East Tennessee for over 40 years," said Noah McBrayer Jones, BRS Development and Communication director.

Bridge Refugee Services is the only refugee and international protected class resettlement agency in East Tennessee, with locations in Knoxville and Chattanooga.

Bridge Refugee Services also is instrumental in "international recognition surrounding Welcoming Week, which annually brings together neighbors of all backgrounds to build strong connections and affirm the importance of welcoming and inclusive places in achieving collective prosperity."

Since the program's institution in 1980, the United States has accepted more than 2 million refugees.



Finding Hope in Her Journey

Introducing Kamerie, East Tennessee Children's Hospital's 2025 Ambassador

Kamerie began the fight for her life when she came into the world weighing just 1 pound and 5 ounces with the help of her team at East Tennessee Children's Hospital.

Despite her unique journey after spending 384 days in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), her family has never lost hope. In partnership with the medical experts at Children's Hospital, Kamerie is paving her own way. Every season is a new opportunity for her to reach another milestone.

We invite you to join in our Season of Giving to support children like Kamerie and others who depend on the specialized care provided by East Tennessee Children's Hospital.

Your generous monetary gifts ensure that Children's Hospital can help families receive state-of-the-art, high-quality care close to home.

Thank you for helping us take care of our future, one child at a time.



To donate and learn more about Kamerie's story, scan the QR code or visit etch.com/seasonofgiving



CASA of East Tennessee

5410 Homberg Drive Suite 29A, Knoxville

For more information, including donations, call 865-329-3399, e-mail info@casaoeasttn.org or visit www.casaoeasttn.org



Court Appointed Special Advocates of East Tennessee, are trained to represent the best interests of children in juvenile abuse and neglect court cases.

“CASA of East Tennessee is a community based program that recruits, trains and supports citizen-volunteers to advocate for the best interests of abused and neglected children in Knox County.”

CASA volunteers work to discover a child’s best interest, collaborating closely with Knox County Juvenile Court, educators, medical professionals, community organizations, social workers and relevant government agencies to find the child a safe, permanent home as quickly as possible.

It’s mission is “to improve the lives of abused and neglected children through trained volunteers who advocate for safe, permanent, loving homes.”

“We empower children to express their concerns and fears, as well as share their hopes and dreams, and for them to all be heard by their families and the court.” Transparency

“We are transparent in our governance and fundraising practices; every dollar goes to put a child in the best home possible.” Accountability

“We are accountable for placing each child in a safe and loving environment. All our volunteers undergo a strict and rigorous vetting and training process.”

Catholic Charities of East Tennessee

119 Dameron Ave., Knoxville, TN 37919

To donate, or for more information, call 865-524-9896 or visit cctn.org



Catholic Charities of East Tennessee are a coalition of service-driven community centered programs empowered by the grace of Jesus Christ. We help foster human dignity of the vulnerable in our region through shelter, counseling, education, advocacy and reverence for life.

Our programs include: A Loving Option Adoption; Children’s Emergency Shelter; Columbus Home Assisting Parents; COHO Safe Place for Kids; Immigrant Services; Pregnancy Services; Horizon House/Five Rivers; Samaritan Place; The Home Place; Counseling Services; HOPE Kitchen; and Food Pantry.

Every charitable gift, big and small, goes a long way; you do not have to be wealthy to make a planned gift.

CCETN can consult with you and your attorney, CPA, financial advisor, and/or insurance professional to establish a planned giving strategy that will optimally benefit both you and CCETN. Please contact Andrew Kaleida akaleida@cctn.org for more information.

How can we pray for you? Submit your prayer requests (using the form after clicking “pray” on the main page and scrolling down) so that members of our prayer circle can be praying for your prayer intentions.

If you’re not comfortable, you do not need to enter your name or email into the prayer request form. We will still pray for your intentions.

Childhelp Children’s Center of East TN

623 Lindsay Place, Knoxville, TN 37919

To contact Childhelp for help, to donate or for more information, call 865-637-1753 or e-mail infotn@childhelp.org



Since 1995, the fully accredited Childhelp Children’s Center of East Tennessee has served victims of child abuse and neglect through advocacy, treatment and investigation services.

Our Foster Family Agency serves 17 counties in East Tennessee. Last year we expanded, fairly largely, our Mental Health Services,

where these services for abused and neglected children have expanded from helping 30 per week to helping 125 per week.

During one stretch in 2022, 11 children were adopted in a two-month span.

A service launched in January 2022, which looks to help almost 10,000 children in Knox County annually, is “Speak Up and Be Safe.” It teaches abused and neglected children from pre-kindergarten through 12th-grade how to communicate the hardships they suffer to better identify their home environment problems. “It’s the only program like it in the country.”

That 17-county service area also has a new program, as of January 2023, to financially assist grandparents and other relatives who are legal guardians of children abused or neglected by their parents.

Compassion Closet

11020 Kingston Pike Suite 270, Farragut, TN 37934

For more information, visit www.compassioncloset.com or e-mail info@compassioncloset.com or e-mail Hannah Jessee at hannah@compassioncloset.com To donate or volunteer, click on the Donate or Volunteer button on the home page at www.compassioncloset.com



Foster care is often messy — most often, placements are last-minute and the families have little time to ensure they have the specific items these children need.

This is the core reason for Compassion Closet.

A totally volunteer-run effort, The Compassion Closet exists to show the love of Christ by providing quick-turn assistance to foster, kinship, adoptive and other families in the Greater Knoxville and Oak Ridge area. ... Providing quality clothing and tangible goods.

We also desire to serve birth families, aging-out youth, kinship placements and domestic/international adoptive families as God allows and the needs arrive.

The Closet was started in 2013 by an adoptive and foster care family as a means of helping other families as they had been helped.

We have a large collecting of clothing items for boys and girls. Baby supplies include cribs, Pack-n-Plays, swings and more. We have a small collection of new and gently used toys.

During the past 10 years, the Compassion Closet has supported hundreds of families and thousands of children.

We accept high-quality clothing and other donations in good condition.

East Tennessee Kidney Foundation Mission, Inc.

P.O. Box 22072, Knoxville 37933

For more information, or to donate or volunteer, visit www.etkidney.org or call 865-288-7351 or e-mail admin@etkidney.org

To donate monetarily, click on the red Donate button on the front web page, www.etkidney.org



East Tennessee Kidney Foundation, Inc. focuses on directly improving the lives of patients suffering from kidney disease.

Programs feature Dianne Hagey Dialysis Transportation Program, which provides financial assistance to help patients reach their life-saving dialysis treatments; Dental Assistance Program, which provides low-cost dental work for dialysis patients whose last barrier to placement on the kidney transplant waiting list is dental work; and Nutritional Supplement Program, which provides free nutritional supplements to dialysis patients in 16 East Tennessee counties.

Volunteers are needed throughout the year (see contact information above) for activities including: Lucky Kidney Run every March in downtown Knoxville, Healthy Living Expo in April at Knoxville Convention Center downtown and various health fairs and events.

ETKF is run by volunteers and contributions of the community. You can help us by volunteering and becoming an advocate for the health and well-being of East Tennesseans affected by kidney disease.

Now through December 5th, your gift is doubled.

Presented by:

BUSH'S BEST

KNOXVILLE

TVA EMPLOYEES CREDIT UNION

Because it isn't just a meal. It's hope.

The Holidays are a crucial time when families and friends come together for meals and fellowship. It's also a deeper picture of how much we depend on each other for strength and hope.



Leading the community to end hunger in 18 counties

For more on our **Double Your Donation** match, scan the **QR code** now.

SecondHarvestETN.org/DYD | (865) 521-0000



Emerald Youth Foundation

1014 Heiskell Ave., Knoxville, TN 37921

For more information, visit www.emeraldyouth.org or call 865-637-3227, or e-mail info@emeraldyouth.org

To donate online, click on the green DONATE button in the upper right corner of the web page, www.emeraldyouth.org or e-mail volunteer@emeraldyouth.org for more details

Emerald Youth Foundation is a Christian, urban youth and community ministry in Knoxville serving more than 2,300 young people annually. The Foundation serves through satellite churches and recreational centers throughout Knox County.

Our mission is to raise up a large number of urban youth to love Jesus Christ and become effective leaders who help renew their communities. We've been working closely with the community since the late 1980s, when we began a summer outreach ministry designed to support urban youth.

Areas of concentration are Faith, Relationships, Learning and Health.

We are encouraged by the stories of those who have grown up to become godly mothers and fathers, neighborhood coaches, Sunday school teachers, church board members, teachers, managers, business owners and civic leaders. Yet, despite these abundant stories of inspiration and hope, our community faces ongoing challenges that require a continued commitment to change.

To volunteer coaching a team, being a mentor or helping students prepare for college, there are many ways in which you can help make a meaningful difference.

**Family Promise of Knoxville**

3545 Middlebrook Pike, Knoxville, 37921

For more information, or to learn more about how you can volunteer, call 865-584-2822 or visit familypromiseknoxville.org/Donations can be made online at familypromiseknoxville.org

Mission: to provide a community-based response that empowers and equips families experiencing homelessness and housing instability to achieve sustainable independence.

With more than 40 percent of Americans a \$400 expense away from financial distress, the threat of crisis looms closely for too many families. Preventing families from spiraling into homelessness is an essential part of the Family Promise mission.

In East Tennessee, where each and every child knows the safety and security of home, and each parent has the chance to build a better future for their family.

Following the beginning of the COVID-19 Pandemic, Family Promise of Knoxville started re-envisioning the way in which we serve families. With limitations on sheltering, our affiliate turned our attention to keeping families from becoming homeless. Through community partnerships and specialized referrals, we can support families through rental assistance, rapid re-housing, or other diversion maneuvers, including landlord mediation.

Since our soft launch in July 2020, we have served 15 families with 36 children. Presently — in Knox County — it costs \$203.75 per child to keep a family from experiencing homelessness. Currently, funding ranges from month-to-month.

Volunteering ranges from serving meals to providing financial literacy training to assisting with fundraising events.

**Humane Society of the Tennessee Valley**

6717 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN 37919

For more information, call 865-573-9675, visit humanesocietytennessee.orgor e-mail info@humanesocietytennessee.org

The Humane Society of the Tennessee Valley is dedicated to helping lost pets reunite with their owners.

Lost pets:

- If your pet is microchipped, call the microchip company to make sure your contact information is up to date and alert the company that the pet is missing

- Contact local veterinarian offices, including the emergency clinics, if an animal is found injured they may be taken there instead of a shelter.

- Post flyers, especially in your neighborhood and the area the from where animal was lost.

- Post a sign in your front yard

- Post ads for free on PawBoost and Craigslist

Found pets:

- Visit your local Open Admission Shelter to see if the pet has a microchip

- If you cannot keep the pet until the owner is located, the shelter will keep the animal for a period of 3 to 10 days in an attempt to locate the owner.

- If you decide to keep the pet until owners are found, you must make attempts to find the owners and have the animal for a period of 10 days before deciding to keep the pet or re-home the pet.

- Contact shelters in your area to make a listing for the animal.

- Post flyers around the area that you found the animal

- Post ads for free on PawBoost and Craigslist

**Girls Inc. of Knox County**For more information, call 865-482-4475 or visit <https://www.girlsinctnv.org>

To donate, click on the red Donate button at the top left of the front web page, www.girlsinctnv.org

To volunteer with reading, homework assistance, math tutoring and classroom aid, call 865-482-4475.

Girls Inc. is the preeminent girls' leadership organization



equipping girls to reach their full potential. To inspire all girls to be strong, smart and bold. ... Our vision (is) to be recognized as the premier organization that helps all girls realize their potential and exercise their rights.

Girls Inc. offers Community Based Outreach programs within Knox County: Outreach staff present intentional programs and hands-on activities within the after-school hours where girls live and go to school.

Girls Inc. National Programs offered in Knox County include Girls Inc. Operation Smart, a program designed to provide hands-on experiences with math, science and technology; Magic Within, where girls learn to set goals for themselves and their futures, make action plans in achieving those goals and build overall self esteem; and Girls Inc. Economic Literacy, which provides girls with the skills and confidence they need to contribute to the economy.

Goodwill Industries-KnoxvilleFor more information, or to donate, call 865-588-8567 or visit gwintn.org

Goodwill Industries-Knoxville is a 501c3 non-profit organization dedicated to changing lives and strengthening families by helping people reach their full potential through community-relevant job training, work experience, and career services.

Goodwill's mission has grown into an international movement, improving the quality of life for disabled and disadvantaged individuals around the world.

Goodwill Industries-Knoxville, Inc. was founded in 1971 to fill the need for a community program for the young disabled population. The organization was meager in it's beginning, but has since expanded to serve over 1,790 in 2022.

Our service area includes Anderson, Blount, Campbell, Claiborne, Cocke, Grainger, Hamblen, Jefferson, Knox, Loudon, Morgan, Roane, Scott, Sevier, and Union County. We operate 27 stores throughout our 15-county East Tennessee service area.

Proceeds from the sale of donations support Goodwill's job training programs and employment services for individuals with barriers to employment.

**Humane Society of the Tennessee Valley**

6717 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN 37919

For more information, call 865-573-9675, visit humanesocietytennessee.orgor e-mail info@humanesocietytennessee.org

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- If you decide to keep the pet until owners are found, you must make attempts to find the owners and have the animal for a period of 10 days before deciding to keep the pet or re-home the pet.

- Contact shelters in your area to make a listing for the animal.

- Post flyers around the area that you found the animal

- Post ads for free on PawBoost and Craigslist



is proud to be a part of the local community for 45 years!

Remember when you buy Monterey Mushrooms at your favorite local retailer, you are supporting local business.

Check out our website at www.montereymushrooms.com for some great recipe ideas for your family.

Interfaith Health Center

315 Gill Ave., Knoxville, TN, 37917

For more information, call 703-546-7330, e-mail info@interfaithhealthcenter.org or visit interfaithhealthcenter.org.



Interfaith Health Center was founded in 1991 to help hard-working people in our community who don't have health insurance coverage and to provide accessible, affordable and quality health care to the low-income, working uninsured and underserved, primarily through the support of the religious, health care and business communities.

These services are provided within the capacity of the Center regardless of race, sex, creed, age, religion, national origin or ability to pay.

Interfaith has served more than 24,000 individual patients by providing affordable medical, dental and mental health care and access to prescription medications.

To donate money, volunteer, become an NAFC member or find out about upcoming charitable events, click the Get Involved green box at the top of the home page and follow the choices just below the Get Involved heading.

Or donate over the phone by calling 865-243-3038.

Knox Area Rescue Ministries

To help the homeless, visit karm.org, e-mail volunteer@karm.org or call either KARM Stores at 865-521-0770 or the main KARM number at 865-673-6540



Knox Area Rescue Ministries' mission is to restore lives of our homeless neighbors through Christ-centered support. Since 1960, KARM's volunteers, donors and staff have answered the call to restore lives in Jesus' name. We pursue this mission using the same ministry formula Jesus used: Rescue + Relationships = Restoration.

The best way to care for the homeless is to connect with service providers in the Knox area. East Tennessee has a host of ministries and social service agencies that provide opportunities to volunteer and serve the homeless. You can certainly find a service opportunity that uses your gifts and fits your availability. To learn more about volunteering at KARM, e-mail volunteer@karm.org.

What is a good response when a homeless person asks me for money or help? The best approach is not to give money but, instead, to direct people to resources that can meet their needs. However, if you feel the Holy Spirit directing you to give, by all means, give to that person. Something each person you encounter could use is a single day bus pass, which would give them the ability to reach services they need (food, shelter, etc.).

Knoxville Dream Center

1444 Breda Drive, Knoxville, TN 37918

To donate, or for more information, call 865-688-9636, visit knoxvilledreamcenter.org or e-mail office@knoxvilledreamcenter.org



The mission of Knoxville Dream Center is to provide good food, authentic faith, and opportunities for a brighter future for those who need it most.

The vision of the Knoxville Dream Center is to empower volunteers and continually seek out community partnerships in order to consistently reach Knoxville's most vulnerable and impact their lives with the life changing message of the gospel, in both word and deed.

• Food: How can food be a value? Well, food is a value because it represents more than physical sustenance to us. It is a platform to engage with needy people. We have a saying around the Knoxville Dream Center: "It's amazing what happens

when you hand someone a cucumber." When we give good, free, fresh food away, people's hearts open up and we can engage in conversation about life and Jesus.

• Faith: We are unashamed about the power of the Gospel to change lives. All of our outreaches, whether they are run by us or other partners, aim to see God glorified and represent an authentic witness of Christ's power.

• Futures: We mostly serve under-resourced individuals and families. Not only do we want to see them come to Christ, but we want to give them opportunities for a bright future.

Knoxville Habitat for Humanity

1501 Washington Ave., Knoxville, TN 37917

To volunteer, or for more information, call 865-523-3539 or visit knoxvillehabitat.org



Since our inception in 1985, Knoxville Habitat for Humanity has been at the forefront of addressing affordable housing in our community.

What started as a humble mission to provide decent, affordable homes has grown into a significant force for change, directly impacting over 1,500 families in Knoxville. Our journey from renovating single homes to developing entire neighborhoods marks our evolution and our commitment to not just building houses, but fostering communities.

We offer a way for families to own or remain in their homes and focus on the things that matter — such as education, health, and family.

With nearly 650 homes built, we've not only provided shelter but also a foundation for families to thrive. Beyond construction, our homeowner education programs offer crucial knowledge in financial literacy and home maintenance, empowering our partners to build a stable future. Our ReStore outlets support this mission by recycling overstocked, seconds, used, discontinued items, and surplus building materials donated by manufacturers, stores, contractors, and individuals.

Homeownership is a powerful tool for financial independence, providing families with stability and the skills needed for a self-reliant future. Our programs have empowered more than 90 percent of families to look forward with confidence, enhancing budgeting skills for long-term success.

Make-A-Wish East Tennessee

6700 Baum Drive, Suite 7, Knoxville, TN 37919

To donate, or for more information, call 865-909-9474 or visit wish.org/etn



For children diagnosed with critical illnesses, a wish come true can be a crucial turning point in their lives. A wish can be that spark that helps these children believe that anything is possible and gives them the strength to fight harder against their illnesses.

Parents might finally feel like they can be optimistic. And still others might realize all they have to offer the world through volunteer work or philanthropy.

Such inspirations guide us in everything we do at Make-A-Wish. It inspires us to grant life-changing wishes for children going through so much. It compels us to be creative in exceeding the expectations of every wish kid. It drives us to make our donated resources go as far as possible. Most of all, it's the founding principle of our vision to grant the wish of every eligible child.

Wishes are more than just a nice thing. And they are far more than gifts, or singular events in time. Wishes impact everyone involved—wish kids, volunteers, donors, sponsors, medical professionals and communities.

Tens of thousands of volunteers, donors and supporters advance the Make-A-Wish vision. ... In the United States and its territories, a wish is granted every 33 minutes.

Because of your support of Water into Wine, we have been able to support our community needs:

- Faith Lutheran Church- Shepherd of Hope Food Pantry
- Rotary Club of Farragut,
- Farragut West Knox Chamber
- Junior League of Knoxville
- Knoxville Area Rescue Ministry
- Butterfly Fund
- Fraternity Order of Police
- Knoxville Firefighters Association
- The Point Knoxville
- Farragut High School
- Hardin Valley High School
- St John's Newman Catholic School
- Paideia School Knoxville
- University of Tennessee
- Pellissippi State Community College
- American Heart Association
- Leukemia Lymphoma foundation of East Tennessee
- Lyons Club of Knoxville and Tellico Village
- Children's Hospital
- Friends of the Smokies
- Susannah's House
- Toys for Tots
- Iva's Place
- Isaiah 117 House
- Widow Parent Relief Program
- The Love Kitchen
- Community Action Committee of Knoxville
- Knoxville Symphony Orchestra

And MANY other local charities in our community
Local Business Partners:

Berrylicious
Farragut Shrimp Dock
Sweetwater Valley Farm

Valley Produce
Funky Meat Snacks
RiverDog Bakery



607 N. Campbell Station Road, Farragut | 865-392-1586
Monday 3pm-10pm • Tuesday-Thursday 11am-11pm | Friday & Saturday 11am-12am • Closed Sunday
www.WaterintoWineKnoxville.com | w2wKnoxville@gmail.com



#LOCALSSUPPORTLOCALS



MEDIC Regional Blood Center

11000 Kingston Pike Suite 4, Farragut TN, 37934, or 1601 Ailor Ave., Knoxville
For more information, visit medicblood.org or call 865-524-3074 to get the latest updates on shortages, or e-mail contact@medicblood.org

Mission: to enhance the well-being of the community by providing a safe, adequate and economical supply of blood and blood-related products, and to be an essential and vital community resource dedicated to saving, extending, and improving lives.

MEDIC was established in 1958 by Carl Nelson M.D. under the sponsorship of the Knoxville Academy of Medicine.

Area physicians supported the not-for-profit blood center because they wanted a source of blood from volunteer donors, and they desired centralization of blood collection, testing and distribution.

MEDIC is the only U.S. blood center that has a Blood Coverage Program covering members' blood supplier processing fees at any hospital in the country. ... Today, MEDIC Regional Blood Center is the sole provider of products for 25 hospitals in Knox and 21 surrounding counties.

On a weekly basis, MEDIC will update the severity of need for certain blood types and asks the public to visit its website. All blood types, however, are needed.

The center adheres to the blood product safety regulations established by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and is licensed by the FDA and the State of Tennessee.

Mission of Hope

6030 Industrial Heights Drive NW, Knoxville, TN 37909

To contact Mission of Hope for help, to donate or to volunteer, call 865-584-7571 or visit missionofhope.org

Since 1996, Mission of Hope has been a year-round Christian ministry blessed to assist many of our less fortunate Appalachian children and neighbors with much-needed goods and resources, college scholarships and help with basic educational, health care and home repair needs.

It helps grade school-age children in the most distressed and poorest areas of rural Appalachia, which in recent years has included scholarship dollars for hard-working high school students with excellent grades who otherwise wouldn't get a scholarship.

MoH reaches children and their families in 29 schools in Northeast Tennessee, Southeast Kentucky and Southwest Virginia.

Its ministries are provided during appropriate seasons of the year, including Christmas and Easter, through a system of delivering clothes, food, toys and school supplies to impoverished families; to assist in the repair of existing homes or relocating to other homes when appropriate; to provide scholarships for qualifying children of the area; to assist in developing skills or other expertise for the creation of new or expanded jobs in the area; and to assist in locating jobs for persons who are willing to relocate outside the area.

Random Acts of Flowers Knoxville

2936 Middlebrook Pike, Knoxville, TN, 37921.

To donate, volunteer or for more information, call 865-633-9082, visit www.rafknoxville.org or e-mail info@rafknoxville.org

To donate monetarily, scroll to the bottom of the home webpage and click the Donate button. To donate flowers or vases, find the Donate button, then click either the Donate Flowers or Donate Vases selection underneath.

To volunteer, scroll to the bottom of the webpage, www.rafknoxville.org, find the Volunteer heading and click on the home web page.

Mission: to bring moments of kindness in the form of a beautiful floral bouquet. Our recipients' joy is enough to justify our work, but these deliveries also have



clinically proven to have a positive effect on health and well-being.

Random Acts of Flowers improves the emotional health and well-being of individuals in healthcare facilities by delivering recycled flowers, encouragement and personal moments of kindness.

Throughout the week, our volunteers prepare donated flowers, create beautiful bouquets and make personal deliveries of hope and encouragement to neighbors in hospitals, hospices and health care facilities.

Remote Area Medical

If you or your organization would like to volunteer your time to help provide free healthcare services to Knoxville and surrounding communities, visit the website at www.ramusa.org or call 865-579-1530.

Remote Area Medical is a major nonprofit organization that operates pop-up clinics delivering free, quality dental, vision and medical services to individuals in need who do not have access to, or cannot afford, a doctor.

Founded in 1985, RAM has treated more than 900,000 individuals with more than \$200 million worth of free healthcare and veterinary services. Since its foundation, almost 200,000 volunteers – comprised of licensed dental, vision, medical and veterinary professionals as well as general support staff – have supported RAM's mission.

All RAM services are free, and no ID is required. Free dental, vision and medical services will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis.

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Knoxville

1705 W. Clinch Ave., Knoxville

For more information, call the main number at 865-637-7475 or visit www.knoxrmhc.org. To donate money, click the Donate button on the home webpage, knoxrmhc.org

To volunteer, click the Volunteer selection on the webpage, then complete a Volunteer Application as you learn more details. In-house volunteers are used from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., seven days a week (three hour shifts are recommended).

Since 1985, Knoxville's Ronald McDonald House has been a haven for families with critically ill or injured children. Our mission is to provide temporary lodging and the comforts of home for families during their most challenging times.

The House is a not-for-profit organization that provides a temporary "home-away-from-home" for families whose children are receiving treatment for serious illnesses at area hospitals.

Preparing food for families, room inventory, cleaning, yard work and fundraising are key volunteer functions.

Salvation Army Knoxville Area Command

409 N. Broadway Ave., Knoxville, TN 37917

To contact SAKAC for help, to donate in other ways or to volunteer, call 865-525-9401 or visit salvationarmyknoxville.org

To donate Angel Tree gifts to a specific child or senior, call SAKAC at 865-971-4901 and ask for information on specific ways to gift, or visit salvationarmyknoxville.org. After purchasing the gift(s), bring it to the office. Submit from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Mission: to preach the Gospel of Jesus and to meet human needs in Jesus' name.

Knoxville Area Command offers Food and Nutrition Programs, Casework Services, Emergency Shelter, Christian Education, Food Pantry, Food & Nutrition and Transitional Housing.

SAKAC helps roughly 1,700 children or seniors with gifts for the Christmas season. ... Usually they'll get three or four gifts inside their package.

Those current donation drive funds also go to year-round SAKAC needs.

SAKAC's famous Red Kettle Campaign starts around Thanksgiving Day, which this year is Thursday, Nov. 28



Affordable
HEALTHCARE
for working uninsured or underserved
individuals in our community



Medical



Dental



Mental
Health



Prescription
Assistance

CONTACT US

865-546-7330

InterFaithHealthCenter.org

GIVE
TODAY



Second Harvest Food Bank of East Tennessee

136 Harvest Lane, Maryville, TN, 37801

For more information, call Second Harvest at 865-521-0000, visit www.secondharvestetn.org or e-mail infor@secondharvestetn.org



To donate time, money or food, go to the website, www.secondharvestetn.org, and scroll to Donate Time, Donate Food or Donate Money logo and click. Donate for specific programs by clicking Programs on the home page, and a Give option on the home page for donations.

Second Harvest Food Bank of East Tennessee, a member of Feeding America, has worked to compassionately feed people facing hunger since 1982.

202,560 East Tennesseans are at risk of hunger, uncertain where their next meal will come from. At Second Harvest Food Bank, we are working to change that statistic in 18 East Tennessee counties.

In fiscal year 2020, Second Harvest distributed 21 million pounds of food across 18 East Tennessee counties. Though feeding programs and 630-plus non-profit partners, SHFBET provides food to more than 134,000 children, adults and seniors each month.

Senior Citizens Home Assistance Service

215 Bearden Place, Knoxville, TN 37919

For more information, call the Knox County office at 865-523-2920 or visit www.schas.org and click Contact Us, then select the appropriate service box. To donate, www.schas.org and click Get Involved selection on the home page, then select Make a Donation box. Or call 865-523-2920.

To volunteer, go to www.schas.org and click Get Involved selection on the home page, then select Volunteer Your Time box. Or call 865-523-2920.



The mission of Senior Citizens Home Assistance Service, Inc. and Renaissance Terrace Assisted Living Mission is “improving the quality of life for the elderly, persons with disabilities and their caregivers by providing accessible care and supportive services through compassionate personnel.

Since 1970, SCHAS has grown to serve 20 counties in East Tennessee. Annually, SCHAS employs around 200 who are dedicated to providing services to more than 2,600 East Tennesseans.

SCHAS caregivers specialize in helping our clients remain in clean, familiar surroundings, with well-prepared food and free from fear, boredom and loneliness. ... They provide companionship and needed assistance with light chores and housekeeping. SCHAS caregivers provide no skilled medical care but are skilled in making your loved one comfortable and happy in their home.

As a non-profit, the agency can offer a sliding scale fee for hourly services that is determined using the net income of the client (gross income less necessary expenses).

Shangri-La Therapeutic Academy of Riding

11800 Highway 11E, Lenoir City, TN 37772

For more information, call 865-988-4711 or e-mail office@rideatstar.org



To volunteer, call 865-988-4711 or go to www.rideatstar.org and scroll to the bottom of the home page, click the Volunteer box. Minimum commitment of one hour per week. Same day and time for the entire session ... no horse experience necessary.

To donate, visit www.rideatstar.org and scroll to the bottom of the home page, click the Donate box

Mission: to foster personal achievement by providing therapeutic experiences using horse-related activities for

persons with disabilities or other special challenges. STAR is a 501(c)3 organization and holds premier accreditation from the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International.”

Program offered:

- Therapeutic Riding: with some riders we position them so the movement of the horse can relax tight muscles, increase range of motion and improve trunk stability and balance;
- Therapeutic Riding and Equine Assisted Learning program for Veterans with disabilities or other special challenges; and
- Changing STRIDES Life Skills provides the tools for at-risk youth (ages 13-21) and adults to better manage their lives and foster positive relationships.

Small Breed Rescue of East Tennessee, Inc.

For more information, call Louise Trudell at 865-705-3480, visit sbret.com or e-mail rescue@sbret.com



Small Breed Rescue of East Tennessee, Inc. is an all-volunteer 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to finding forever homes for displaced or abandoned small breed dogs. We are also dedicated to educating the public about pet overpopulation, the benefits of spaying/neutering and the horrors of puppy mills.

All our dogs live in foster homes in the Knoxville area — we do not have a shelter facility. If you are interested in meeting one of our available dogs, see the Events Calendar online for location information or follow us on Facebook @SmallBreedRescue for up-to-date location information. Or you can fill out an adoption application and if approved, we will arrange a meet-and-greet or home visit.

All our dogs are spayed or neutered, microchipped, vaccinated, receive heartworm/flea prevention, have dental cleaning when required and medical care. Our adoption fees help cover these expenses.

SBRET takes in abused, neglected, ill, unwanted and injured small breed dogs and places them in foster homes for rehabilitation. SBRET pays for all veterinary costs associated with caring for each dog while it is in foster care including spay/neuter, immunizations, dentals, microchipping, any necessary surgeries and heartworm/flea prevention. Our wonderful foster families provide shelter, food, toys and lots of love and nurture for each dog.

Smoky Mountain Service Dogs

Veteran Canine Training Center

8380 Fairview Road, Lenoir City, TN 37772

For more information, or to donate, visit smokymountainservicedogs.org



For volunteer opportunities, contact our volunteer coordinator at smsdvolunteer@smokymountainservicedogs.org. For Veteran and First Responder questions, contact Suzy at suzy.k@smokymountainservicedogs.org.

Mission: To enhance the physical and psychological quality of life for wounded Veterans by providing custom-trained mobility assistance service dogs (at no cost to the Veteran).

“We believe that through appropriate utilization of an approved, highly-trained service dog, individuals with physical and psychological disabilities can often become increasingly self-sufficient and independent.

“We believe that it takes community involvement to insure the success of Smoky Mountain Service Dogs and our clients. The contributions of individuals and groups within the community will be welcome, appreciated, and honored.”

Volunteer opportunities include: Puppy Raisers, Respite Providers, Canine Transporter, Community Events/PR team. See website for details.

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Special Spaces Tennessee National Office

448 N. Cedar Bluff Road Suite 350, Knoxville, TN, 37923.

To donate, click on the Donate button on the home webpage, www.specialspaces.org

To volunteer, click on the Volunteer button on the home page website, www.specialspaces.org, and compete a form.

For more information, or to help identify a qualifying child, call 865-249-6079 or visit specialspaces.org

Special Spaces Tennessee is changing children's lives one bedroom at a time in the Knox metro area.

We create dream bedroom makeovers for dependent children and teenagers ages 2-19 with cancer who are within one year of treatment.

Our goal is to provide them a safe place to recover, heal, sleep and even play. A very special space just to be a kid. Bedrooms are where children sleep, but also rest, play and spend time away from the challenge of their illness.

We maintain a high-touch, high-impact organization that measures success by the quantity and the quality of the experience.

A custom bedroom designed just for them, whether they are dreaming of a princess castle, a butterfly bedroom, a pirate ship or a sports theme, we transform the child's existing bedroom into a place that only he/she can imagine.

This effort is done with teams of dedicated volunteers, sponsors, community partners and donated goods and/or services. The Special Spaces team meets with the family, designs the bedroom and provides all of the needed supplies.

Sunshine Services

3000 N. Central St., Knoxville, 37919

To volunteer, or for more information, call 865-546-9431, visit www.sunshinecarc.org or e-mail contact@sunshinecarc.org

To donate, see Donate box at the very top of webpage www.sunshinecarc.org in upper right portion of webpage.

Sunshine Services, formerly known as The Arc, has been serving the needs of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities since 1953. This service always has been concerned about the rights of all persons with disabilities to participate in programs and receive services as needed to achieve maximum personal, social, educational and vocational development.

It is our belief that if appropriate programs are available, every individual with an intellectual disability can learn and grow, reaching increasing levels of self-fulfillment.

This is a lifetime process that begins at birth and extends throughout a person's life. Additionally, Sunshine Services has been instrumental in educating the community with respect to those it serves and has worked to change the stereotypes so often associated with these individuals.

With an emphasis on community integration and competitive employment, the Sunshine Services Community Program provides activities for individuals interested in learning about the many options available to them, including job exploration, volunteering opportunities and leisure activities during the week.

Sunshine Early Intervention services offer a home-based educational program for Knox County families with children age newborn to the third birthday who qualify as having a learning problem or delay in development under Department of Education criteria.

Susan G. Komen Tennessee

Call 1-877-465-6636 or email helpline@komen.org.

For state executive director, Joshua Daniel, e-mail: jdaniel@komen.org or call 615-928-2269

The Susan G. Komen Breast Care Helpline provides information about breast health, breast cancer, local and national resources and information about clinical trials.

Some women and men may be embarrassed about a change in their breast or chest area. Others may not know it's important to see a health care provider about a change. However, putting off seeing a provider may result in a delay in breast cancer diagnosis. Survival is highest when breast cancer is found early and treated.

If you notice any of the warning signs or other changes in your breast or chest area, see a health care provider right away.

If you don't have a health care provider, one of the best ways to find a good one is to get a referral from a trusted family member or friend. You can also call your local health department, or a nearby hospital or clinic. If you have insurance, your insurance company may have a list of health care providers in your area.

Find information about financial assistance programs, including those for prescription drugs and other medical costs, transportation, lodging, and child and elder care.

Susan G. Komen offers the Komen Financial Assistance Program to eligible individuals undergoing breast cancer treatment at any stage or living with metastatic breast cancer (stage IV), the most advanced stage of breast cancer.

To learn more about this program, visit: www.komen.org/financial-assistance-program/

The Dream Connection

Visit dreamconnection.org, then find the Donate selection on top of the home page, or the Contact Us choice for more information

A group of colleagues volunteering at East Tennessee Children's Hospital in the 1980s realized something. Kids they saw in hospital beds every day talked about what they wanted to do when they got better – go on trips with their families, meet celebrities, visit fanciful locales. But most of these children's families had poured all their resources into the medical treatments required by the devastating illnesses their little ones were dealing with – so there was precious little leftover for entertainment or fun.

The volunteers were so moved by these dreams that they thought someone should try to make them happen. What they realized was that the "someone" they were looking for was themselves.

These ambitious volunteers knew they couldn't make dreams come true on their own, so they created a charitable organization to amplify their dream-making power. They chose the title Dream Connection because their goal was to connect children battling debilitating and life-threatening illnesses with the resources needed to make a once-in-a-lifetime experience possible. They established and incorporated The Dream Connection, Inc. as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization under Tennessee state law on Oct. 10, 1985.

This entirely volunteer-based organization has made more than 1,100 dreams come true in 40 years, ensuring all donations go directly to fulfilling children's dreams without any overhead expenses.

The Florence Crittenton Agency, Inc.

1531 Dick Lonas Road, Knoxville, Tennessee 37909

For more information, or for help, call 865-602-2021 — for urgent help dial 911 — or visit fcaknox.org

The history of the Florence Crittenton Agency began in 1896, when a group of community leaders in Knoxville established a home for young women in crisis. The original founders of the Florence Crittenton Agency modeled their program on the work of the Florence Crittenton Mission in Washington, D.C.

Founded in 1895 by Charles Crittenton, a businessman and philanthropist who named the mission in memory of his daughter, and Dr. Kate Waller Barrett, the Florence



Crittenton Mission sought to support and empower unwed mothers and provide for the health of their infant children. Although the Florence Crittenton Agency is an independent nonprofit, our connections with other Crittenton programs continue to this day through our affiliation with the National Crittenton Foundation and its 27 member agencies.

The original Florence Crittenton Home in Knoxville served as a source of hope and support for young women in East Tennessee for nearly 20 years, but ongoing financial difficulties ultimately closed the original Florence Crittenton Home in the 1910s. Although the organization remained closed throughout the interwar period, however, community leaders had not forgotten the Florence Crittenton Home's important role within the community.

In 1963, a second generation of dedicated leaders began to discuss in earnest the need for a maternity home for teen mothers in Knoxville. A year later, the modern Florence Crittenton Agency was re-chartered, and began providing residential services out of a facility on Texas Avenue, in the heart of urban Knoxville.

The last two decades have continued these trends of growth and innovation.

The Love Kitchen

2418 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Knoxville, TN 37915

Call 865-546-3248, e-mail thelovekitchen@gmail.com or visit thelovekitchen.org

Sisters Helen Ashe and Ellen Turner received nursing certifications as students at Knoxville College before starting work at the University of Tennessee Medical Center in Knoxville.

Frequently seeing indigent patients coming to the Emergency Room hungry but not having enough money to purchase food, Helen would purchase food for these individuals and families.

After retiring, Helen and Ellen decided to carry this effort into their community by opening "The Love Kitchen" as a place where anyone and everyone could receive food.

The sisters served their first meals to 22 people on Feb. 14, 1986, in a church basement along Parkview Avenue in East Knoxville. From there, they served out of various houses in the neighborhood — and even at one point from the trunk of their car. The sisters' "will do" attitude ensured the hungry of their community were fed every week.

In 1991, the owners of Coleman Printing Company offered to sell the sisters their building along Martin Luther King Avenue for \$1. The sisters agreed, and with some generous donations from patrons, the Love Kitchen received and renovated a permanent location just around the corner from the church where they began five years earlier.

The McNabb Center

200 Tech Center Drive, Knoxville, TN 37912

Main number is 1-800-255-9711. McNabb Center Foundation number is 865-541-6684 or to e-mail MCF: foundation@mcnabb.org

At The McNabb Center, services offered, which are found at the website www.mcnabbcenter.org, include mental health care, substance use treatment, social services and victim services.

Find a Health Crisis Hotline/Mobile Crisis Unit (all ages) at the far top right of the front website page or call 865-539-2409.

Adult Crisis Stabilization Unit, call 865-541-6958; Domestic Violence Hotline, call 865-637-8000; Sexual Assault Hotline, call 865-522-7273; or Runaway/Homeless Youth Hotline, 865-523-2689.

Other services found on the website include Therapeutic Foster Care & Adoption, 865-544-5000 and Military Services Program, 865-444-2333.

At the bottom pages of the website are areas to donate. To donate physical items, call 865-299-5230 or e-mail foundation@mcnabb.org

To volunteer, call 1-800-255-9711

Seventy years ago, a determined Helen Ross McNabb made an appeal to the Knoxville City Council for funds to help open a mental health agency for children. At this time, there was a great need, but little attention given to those suffering with mental illnesses.

Due to her persuasive efforts, one of the first community mental health clinics was established in the state of Tennessee. The agency was first created for children but quickly grew to also serve adults in 1955. The clinic opened in a house near the University of Tennessee, Knoxville campus in 1948.

The Restoration House of East Tennessee

2205 Village Place Way, Knoxville TN, 37923

To donate, or for more information, call 865-200-5406, visit therestorationhouse.net or e-mail: info@therestorationhouse.net

The Restoration House helps restore single mothers and their children back to God's good intent for their lives. Through supportive transitional housing, ally teams, family advocacy, and youth development, TRH walks alongside low-income single-parent families, helping them break harmful cycles and regain hope and a future.

At its core, The Restoration House believes that God intended for us to live in community. Further, God desires for all of humanity to be restored in four core relationships – with God, Self, Others and Creation. In support of this, TRH has developed "The Village," a neighborhood in which single-parent families develop supportive relationships and find healing, stability and opportunity as they build a brighter future.

In short, our Core Values are:

- God's desire for the complete restoration of all people. ... God desires for us to love our neighbors as ourselves. ... Our relationship with God is the central relationship that affects all others.
- community, as demonstrated in God's nature, life is less than what it could or should be when life is lived alone.
- reciprocity, because everyone should have the chance to work for their future.
- dignity, because being created in the image of God all are deserving of dignity.
- partnership and cooperation over duplication and competition.

United Way of Greater Knoxville

To donate, or for more information, call 865-523-9131, visit uwgk.org or e-mail info@unitedwayknox.org

When you donate to United Way of Greater Knoxville, you know that your money is going to programs in Knoxville that improve the lives of people living in our community. We are the leading charitable institution in Knoxville representing the wishes of our donors through our program review and funding process.

Volunteers work year-round to carefully weigh the needs of the community to ensure generous contributions are used in the most efficient, effective manner possible by local community partners. We are working diligently to improve our grant process each year to create a more equitable process for all local nonprofits seeking funding.

Our Community Investment grants are designed to seed, scale or support effective organizations delivering programs and initiatives that address systemic and community challenges. The two-year community investment grants award funds to organizations delivering program efficacy and results in response to prioritized community needs in our impact areas.

Since 2020, United Way has distributed more than \$54 million dollars in funding to more than 155 partner organizations, with process including, but not limited to, outcomes-based grants, capacity building grants, Community Healing Fund, emergency food and shelter grants and distribution of CARES Act Direct Pay and ARPA funding.



Volunteer Ministry Center

511 North Broadway, Knoxville 37917
Visit www.vmcinc.org or call 865-524-3926

Volunteer Ministry Center “facilitates permanent supportive housing for those who are homeless and to provide services to prevent homelessness.”

The Center offers “specialized services to individuals experiencing homelessness and those within our community who are in crisis. VMC’s programs support its two-fold mission of facilitating permanent supportive housing for those who are homeless and providing services to prevent homelessness.”



Programs:

VMC operates four main programs: the VMC Resource Center “is a case management program that assists people in their efforts to work their way out of homelessness.”

Bush Family Refuge “serves individuals who are in crisis and who may be at risk of losing their housing.”

Minvilla Manor are 57 apartments “each inhabited by a former chronically homeless and disabled individual” offering “case management services on-site and 24-hour staffing.”

VMC Dental Clinic “uses professional dental clinicians to provide dental care and treatment to the homeless and low income of Knox County.”

To donate, click the red Donate button at the top middle of the web page.

To volunteer, click the Get Involved heading on the home web page. As an initial step, schedule a

“Get acquainted with VMC” session by contacting Chloe Johnson at cjohnson@vmcinc.org or by calling 865-524-3926, extension 230.

YMCA of East Tennessee

For more information, visit ymcaknoxville.org

Founded in 1854, the YMCA of East Tennessee is a charitable organization working toward a better community for us all. Every day, the Y supports kids, adults, seniors and families with programs that connect, teach, protect, heal, nourish and encourage. We work side-by-side with our neighbors to make sure that everyone – regardless of age, income or background — has the opportunity to learn, grow and thrive.



Serving East Tennessee for more than 160 years, we know that lasting personal and social change comes about when we all work together. That’s why at the Y, strengthening community is our cause.

We are for youth development, for healthy living and for social responsibility. That’s because a strong community can only be achieved when we invest in our kids, our health and our neighbors in the following ways:

Youth development: nurturing the potential of every child and teen.

Healthy living: improving the nation’s health and well-being.

Social responsibility: giving back and providing support to our neighbors.

How we make a difference:

- We strengthen the foundation of communities through:
- Youth Development: Empowering young people to reach their full potential
- Healthy Living: Improving individual and community well-being
- Social Responsibility: Giving back and inspiring action in our communities

Young-Williams Animal Center

3201 Division Street, Knoxville, TN 37919, 865.433.YWAC
and

Young-Williams Animal Village

6400 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN 37919, 865.433.YWAC
www.young-williams.org

At Young-Williams Animal Center, our mission is to lead the community to end pet homelessness, promote animal welfare and enhance the human-animal bond.



Young-Williams Animal Center

In 2018, Young-Williams Animal Center achieved for the first time in its history no-kill status. The definition of no-kill means saving all medically and behaviorally treatable animals and maintaining a save rate of 90 percent or more.

Young-Williams Animal Center relies on our committed and caring volunteers every day! Volunteers can participate in a variety of activities at either shelter location (Division Street and Kingston Pike), as well as throughout the year at special events and even in their own home. All potential volunteers must first complete the Volunteer Application found at www.young-williams.org/volunteer/

The Foster Program is an essential component of our vision of A Home for Every Pet and is crucial for our commitment to maintaining “No-Kill” status. Our foster families save lives by providing temporary housing, opening up shelter space for the thousands of pets who enter the center’s care every year. Fosters also provide the extra care and attention often needed for very young animals and those receiving medical treatment. In 2023, our fosters cared for 2,938 pets! Visit www.young-williams.org/foster/ to sign up.

Young-Williams Animal Center welcomes donated items for use in the shelter. Visit www.young-williams.org/wishlist/ for a list of top current needs and wish lists. If you would like more information about making this type of donation or receiving tax credit for your donation, please contact via email at development@young-williams.org, text 865.265.0287, or call 865.433.9922 ext. 2007.

If you are interested in adopting, visit www.young-williams.org/adopt/ to find your new best friend!



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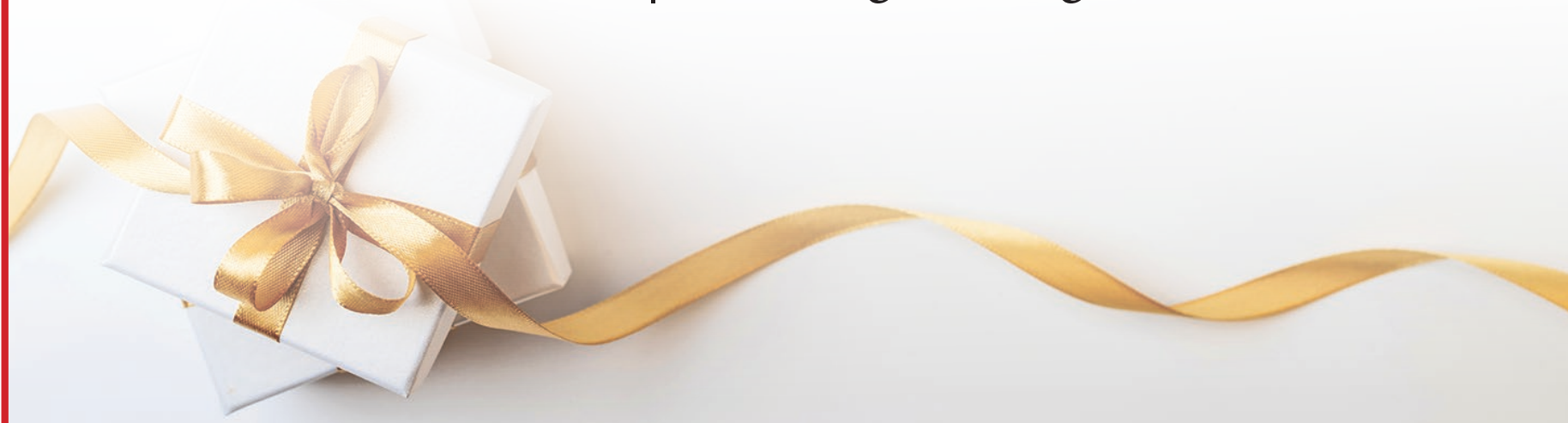
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5 fun gift exchange ideas

Gift-giving is a significant component of the holiday season. Families can embrace traditional gift-giving, but those who want to add a touch of whimsy to gatherings with loved ones can consider these five creative and fun ways to exchange gifts.

1 Play the plastic wrap game.
To exchange small stocking stuffer gifts, compile gift cards, cash, small toys, candy, and even some larger gifts (all participants can chip in and one person shops for the gifts). The designated person in charge begins rolling up the gifts in the plastic, adding one every few rolls. Turning the ball 90 degrees while wrapping helps make a more round, finished gift ball. To play, the person with the ball puts on oven mitts and tries to unwrap as much as they can to access the gifts, while the person to the left is attempting to roll doubles on dice. When doubles are made, that person passes the dice to the left and starts his or her own attempts to get at the gifts in the plastic ball. The game ends when all the gifts are revealed, whether everyone has had a chance to unwrap or not.

2 Plan a white elephant gift exchange.
A white elephant exchange is like a secret grab bag. Everyone brings a wrapped gift, and then takes turns choosing a gift based on the number they've been given. When the gift is chosen, the person opens it. The next player can select a fresh gift or steal one of the presents that's already been opened.

3 Host a make-and-take craft party.
With this type of exchange, participants will engage in some form of crafting for the duration of the event, whether it's pottery, painting, epoxy resin pouring, or even knit crafts. At the end of the night everyone can swap their creations with another or keep their own crafts as gifts.

4 Give the gift of a group outing.
Instead of exchanging material gifts, focus on sharing experiences with friends and family. A trip to watch a sports game or a theater performance can be an excellent way to spend time together, and something a person may not be inclined to do on his or her own. Certain venues will offer discounts on group tickets, so everyone can pool their resources.

5 Host a DIY cookie and cocoa exchange.
Cookies, cocoa and the holidays are a perfect combination. A gift exchange where participants supply ingredients for these sweet treats, share their favorite recipes and then put together the finished products can make for an entertaining and festive afternoon. Each person can fill a cookie tin with baked cookies to take home and mason jars filled with homemade hot cocoa mix and marshmallows can be an additional gift to enjoy later on a chilly evening.

There are plenty of fun ways to exchange gifts during the holiday season.



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