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ISSUE 24 VOLUME 32

FARRAGUT, TENNESSEE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2020 • 1A

## Booker's Black History talk Feb. 23

**MICHELLE HOLLENHEAD**  
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The Town of Farragut is helping commemorate Black History Month by hosting renowned Knoxville historian, author and speaker Robert "Bob" Booker, who will discuss a unique chapter on Civil Rights beginning at 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 23, in Town Hall.

The event is sponsored by the Farragut Museum Committee and will kick off with a reception and museum tours at 1 p.m.

"The Farragut Museum is excited to welcome back Mr. Robert Booker as our speaker this year," said Julia Barham, Town Historic Resources coordinator. "Mr. Booker spoke previously at the museum, in 2014, and everyone in attendance enjoyed the program. We are looking forward to another great lecture at this year's event."

This will be Booker's fourth time speaking in Farragut, he said.

"I always enjoy it," he said.

Booker, 84, is a Knoxville native, and was born and raised in the "Bottom" area of East Knoxville before graduating from Austin-East High School in 1953.

He served in the U.S. Army for three years — and it was the taste of freedom he experienced while stationed in Europe that encouraged Booker to work with the Civil Rights movement when he returned home.



Booker

## Lawn Chair Best Fest/Event award



Michelle Hollenhead

Town of Farragut/Visit Farragut received the Best Festival/Event award for the Lawn Chair Concert Series at the Feb. 7 East Tennessee Legislative Luncheon hosted by Greater Knoxville Hospitality Association. On hand to receive the award were, from left, Town media/tourism assistant Carisa Ownby; Tourism coordinator Karen Tindal (front); Farragut Vice Mayor Louise Povlin (back); Lawn Chair Concert Series founders Shandy Dixon and Amy Boling; Town Mayor Ron Williams; and Town Alderman Ron Pinchok.

## Briggs, Zachary, Town seek law to nix towers

**MICHELLE HOLLENHEAD**  
mhollenhead@farragutpress.com

The deployment of 4G and 5G cell towers in Farragut continues to be a hot topic, with residents, Town attorney Tom Hale and Town administrator David Smoak weighing in on the issue near the end of the regular Feb. 13 Board of Mayor and Aldermen meeting.

Smoak, who had been asked to craft a resolution last month addressing concerns, said he and Hale have been working with state Sen. Dr. Richard Briggs (R-

District 7) and state Rep. Jason Zachary (R-District 14) "helping them work up legislation regarding small cells."

The legislators respectively introduced Senate Bill 2133 and House Bill 2150 earlier this month.

"The way state legislation has been enacted, many of our provisions are being trumped by state law," Smoak said. "We will certainly be amending and putting in some provisions that hopefully will be helpful for Farragut."

"We are currently working with

them on that."

"We are trying to figure out ways where we can incorporate an amendment into the law, that will allow us to continue the regulations we have had in place," Hale added.

"What we are trying to do is put back into the statute what is important to our community. I would love to be able to amend the state statute to say if a municipality prohibited above-ground utilities in residential areas, then they are

**See LAW-TOWERS on Page 3A**

## Clean-up enforce tightens

**MICHELLE HOLLENHEAD**  
mhollenhead@farragutpress.com

With the passage of amendments to the Town of Farragut's nuisance ordinance, officials now have a bit more leeway in addressing unsightly and unkempt residential and commercial properties.

Farragut's Board of Mayor and Aldermen voted unanimously to approve the ordinance updates on second reading during its regular Feb 13 meeting.

Trevor Hobbs, assistant to the Town administrator, along with Town Codes Enforcement officer Holley Marlowe, had worked for several months on the ordinance, in response to what Hobbs saw as "inconsistencies between Town ordinances and the (also adopted) International Property Maintenance Code.

"The amendments address the challenges that have prevented effect enforcement and will allow for a greater degree of automation and consistency in our approach," Hobbs stated in supporting documentation.

Several Farragut properties had come to the attention of both Hobbs and Marlowe, where junked cars or other vehicles were parked in yards, while other instances of overgrown brush or decrepit building conditions have also been reported.

While many issues are addressed within the scope of neighborhood homeowner associations, those neighborhoods without formal homeowner associations don't have any real authority to enforce violations, Hobbs has previously noted.

## Wild Wing turns 'Blue,' ends up awarding Vol for a good cause

**MICHELLE HOLLENHEAD**  
mhollenhead@farragutpress.com

Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs' Read City USA program got a huge boost last week from communities in Farragut and all over Knox County — along with one in Kentucky — that donated more than 11,000 children's books for redistribution.

The books — more than 6,000 of which came from Christian

Appalachian Project's Project Sharing — will be donated to the Great Schools Partnership, which will, in turn, decide how best to distribute them.

Under the slogan "Reading Gives You Wings," Jacobs had challenged local media personalities and area celebrities to partner with individual Knox County schools on collecting the books from Jan. 13 to Feb. 7.

That challenge extended to

Wing Wing Cafe in Farragut.

Participants included local television anchors Allan Williams of WVLT, Madison Keavey of WATE and Russell Biven of WBIR; News Talk 98.7 personalities Landon Doane and Adam Litton; Bearden High School alum and "The Voice" winner Chris Blue; and University of Tennessee Football star offensive lineman Trey Smith.

**See WINGS-CAUSE on Page 2A**



Bearden High School graduate and "The Voice" winner Chris Blue was among the challengers in a hot wing eating contests at Wild Wing Cafe.

Michelle Hollenhead

### business

"We do everything from 'mommy time' classes to competitive lessons, but the majority of our customers will be between 6 months and 7 years old,"

- Davis Tarwater, about his new West Knox County business. (Read story beginning on page 5A)

### community

"I think just the general climate of the school is more welcoming. Students feel like they have a voice. Students are more aware they have a voice,"

- Steve Killian, about the one person, honored recently, largely behind those changes. (Read story beginning on page 5B)

### sports

"I can't say enough about Josh. He's on a different level down here than most other wrestlers. His drive and his desire are second to none of any wrestler I've ever coached,"

- Marc Giles, about a special grappler looking to hit gold this week. (Read story beginning on page 1B)



**Foundations**  
40 YEARS OF FARRAGUT

David Smoak's 10 years as Town administrator (Read 35th story, page 5A)



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Photo submitted

Trey Smith, University of Tennessee Football star offensive lineman who has overcome career-threatening blood clot issues, emerged victorious against Mayor Glenn Jacobs and several other community leaders during a hot wing-eating contest Monday, Feb. 10, in Farragut's Wild Wing Café.

### Wings-cause

From page 1A

The group met Monday, Feb. 10, at Wild Wing Café in Farragut to good-naturedly claim the most books donated — the win ultimately went to News Talk 98.7 — but the real challenge followed with a hot wing-eating contest.

The group had six minutes to eat 12 hot wings, and, while smart money might have been on Jacobs (AKA wrestling personality Kane), it was Smith who emerged victorious when the judge determined Smith's wings "were picked clean" — more so than the Mayor's leftovers.

Smith represented six schools, and each school's Read City USA ambassadors, and since he won the contest, those ambassadors, including sixth-grader Claire Cheadle of St. Joseph School in Fountain City, have earned a writing session with Coy Bowles, who is not only a musician and songwriter with the Zac Brown Band, but also a prolific children's author.

His books have included "Amy Giggles," "Laugh Out Loud," "Will Powers: Where There's A Will

There's A Way" "When You're Feeling Sick," and "Behind the Little Red Door," which has been gifted to 85,000 students by the Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning.

"The end result, we hope, will be a book authored by these six students with Coy and the Mayor as contributors," said Abbey Harris, deputy communications director for Jacobs.

The writing session will take place from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Thursday, March 5, when Bowles will be in Knoxville as his band will be performing.

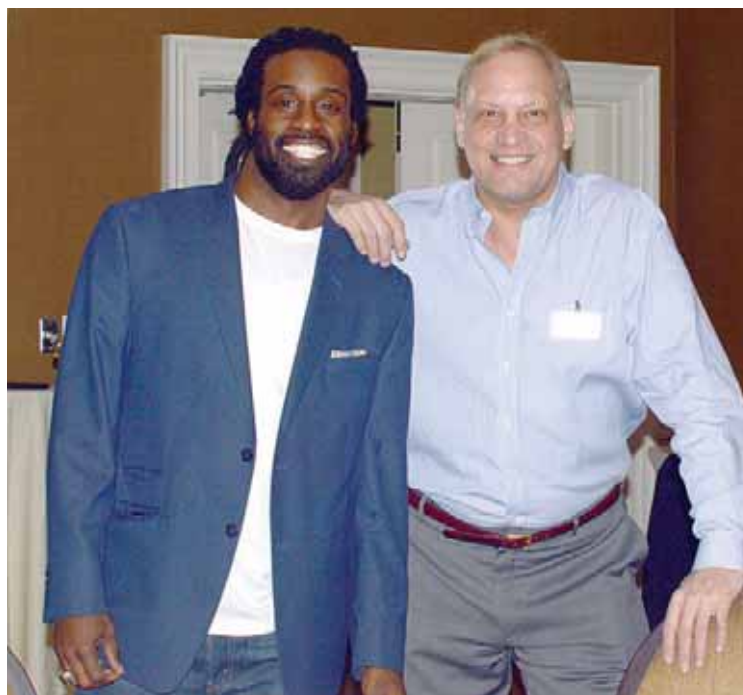
Claire, who attended the contest with her mother, Patricia, was "thrilled" Smith won the contest.

"I wanted to be here for Adam Litton," she said, although he didn't participate in the wing-eating contest. "I was excited to be here, to see how well our media person did."

An avid reader, Claire had personally donated 10 books to the drive, while her family in total donated 40, she said.

Additionally, 10 percent of the Wild Wing Café's proceeds Monday night were earmarked for Read City USA.

## 'Champion Cheat Code' big part of Vol For Life Furlow's Chamber Speaker Series address



Tammy Cheek

Derrick Furlow, former Tennessee Football player and Vol for Life, left, is greeted by Mike Baker of Mike Baker Insurance Consulting. Furlow was featured speaker at Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce Breakfast Speaker Series Tuesday, Feb. 18.

### TAMMY CHEEK

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University of Tennessee Vol for Life Derrick Furlow has three objectives in his Champion Cheat Code: 1) "Be a part of something that's bigger than you; 2) work toward something bigger than yourself, and 3) make sure you remember 1 and 2."

He shared his formula for overcoming life's transitions at a Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce Breakfast Speaker Series in Farragut's Fox Den Country Club Tuesday morning, Feb. 14.

Furlow grew up in Section 8 public housing in southwest Atlanta, where he saw drugs being sold, violence and police.

"I had a fear of sirens because I thought the police would be coming to my door," Furlow recalled.

See FURLOW on Page 10B

## KCSO policereports

Although there were no Knox County Sheriff's Office "Police Reports" this week, look for these reports in next week's farragutpress.

## correction

Concerning his recent Foundations/Podcast interview, former Town of Farragut Alderman Robert "Bob" Markli stated he wanted to correct "where I miss-spoke during our interview. I did not actually graduate from City College in Baltimore, which was one of the high schools to which I was assigned. I attended Essex Community College, Baltimore, and Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah, but my travel requirements from my business kept me from ever receiving a degree from any accredited university."

Got any news tips from the Farragut area? editor@farragutpress.com



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## 4 MISTAKES That ALWAYS Make Knee Pain WORSE

By Leading Knee Pain Expert, Dr. John-Mark Chesney

**Farragut** - When we first start helping our clients eliminate their knee pain, one of the most important things we can do is tell them what NOT to do. Remember that in the first phase of recovery our main goal is to reduce pain and inflammation, so it makes sense that if there are a few things that are really aggravating the knee, then we need to get rid of these things as soon as possible.

The interesting thing about these 4 mistakes is that they usually occur after you take some well-meaning advice from a friend, or possibly even your doctor. With that in mind, let's take a close look at the 4 most common mistakes we see people with knee pain making:

### 4 MISTAKES that make knee pain WORSE

1. **Rest**- If you injure your knee, and it's swollen and inflamed- then resting is needed and necessary for a few days. If your injury is bad, then go see a doctor. But for most instances- we tend to tweak the knee or just "over-do-it". Complete bed rest and immobilization is seldom the cure- and often will make things worse. Restricting activity, using some ice, and elevating the leg for a few days can be helpful. But prolonged rest for more than a few days will eventually produce more weakness and stiffness- which will further worsen the condition. So if your knee pain doesn't improve after a short period of rest, an extended period of rest will definitely make your knee pain worse in the long run. **SOLUTION:** figure out the underlying cause of the pain as quickly as possible.

2. **Medications** - For a short period of time, taking some medication (pain medication, anti-inflammatories) can help. But if you have to continually reach into the medicine cabinet, then the medication isn't really solving anything. The pain is just being masked and ultimately delaying you from getting the right help to get to the ROOT CAUSE of your knee pain. Furthermore, you don't want to become dependent on medication just to go for a walk, not a good place to be!

3. **Wearing a Brace** - Wearing a knee brace from

time to time, especially if you just want a little extra support during a more active day, can be fine. And there are some braces that are absolutely necessary with certain diagnoses. However, if you're relying on a brace to stabilize your knee on a regular basis, you might be missing something. You can probably see the theme here- unless you figure out WHY your knee is feeling unstable, and you do something about it, the feeling of instability isn't going to improve, and in fact it will likely worsen as you grow more dependent on the brace.

4. **The Wrong Exercises** - doing some generic exercises is often one of the first pieces of well-meaning advice you'll receive. However, generic exercises rarely help you target the specific areas that are currently causing your pain. If you get lucky, they might be a good starting point, but that's about it. **What's even more concerning is this:** if you end up doing the wrong exercises, you might just make your pain worse!

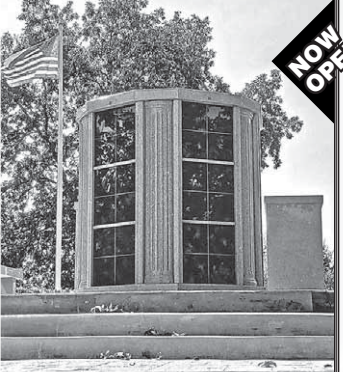
A lot can go wrong when dealing with knee pain... But rest assured, the majority of people suffering from knee pain can get better and resume their active lifestyles. It's just a matter of finding the right path to your goals. If you're looking to get started on the path to pain relief, and you're not quite sure if you're ready for any help yet, I have an excellent resource I'd like to share with you today.

It's my FREE report titled "**THE 8 NATURAL WAYS TO END KNEE PAIN WITHOUT PAIN PILLS, BRACES, OR SURGERY.**" Inside the report, I'll walk you through simple ways to start reducing your knee pain right away. And while this report won't be the ultimate solution to your knee issue, it's very likely that you'll find 1-2 tips that will really help you start to feel better quickly.

To claim your free copy, just give us a call or text at (865) 351-0615 or visit [www.simplypt.com/health-tips/knee-pain](http://www.simplypt.com/health-tips/knee-pain) to download the report straight to your computer!

I'll talk to you again next week. Until then, I hope you're well!

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



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# 6th Judicial District (Knox Co.) Public Defender GOP Primary race

**ALAN SLOAN**

editor@farragutpress.com

Incumbent Sixth Judicial District (Knox County) Public Defender Eric Lutton has been challenged in the Republican Primary by private attorney Rhonda Lee.

They were two of more than a dozen GOP candidates, and spokespeople for candidates, seeking support while briefly addressing the monthly gathering of Concord-Farragut Republican Club, at Fruition Cafe in West End Center, during a special candidates forum Thursday, Feb. 6.

Early voting continues in Farragut and throughout Knox County through Tuesday, Feb. 25. A week later, Tuesday, March 3, the GOP and Democratic Primaries will decide who joins Independent candidates on the August General Election ballot.

**Eric Lutton**

Appointed by Gov. Bill Lee as 6th Judicial District Public De-

fender in October 2019, Lutton said he has experience “in a mixture of federal, state and criminal defense.” That was “about six-and-a-half years prior to being approached to see if I would be interested” in joining Community Law Office, which he did in 2013.

In 2015 Lutton was promoted, “which put me as a direct supervisor for a third of the office. The office has a staff of 71 total employees and 28 lawyers on staff,” he said. “We are by far the largest criminal defense firm in town, and one of the largest law firms in town.”

Later named deputy Public Defender, “That put me as No. 2 in charge of the office,” Lutton said,



Lutton

with responsibilities including “budgeting, hiring — and unfortunately sometimes, firing.”

“... It takes experience to know how to run an organization like that,” he added.

Concerning the appointment vetting process before the governor, “There’s a very lengthy, intensive interview process and application process,” which also included “an interview with the governor himself,” Lutton said.

Unlike a private attorney “with a handful of cases and a couple of courts to be in,” Lutton said he is experienced handling a public defender’s task, “which is vastly different, walking into court with 25 cases on the docket sometimes.”

He cited a “survey of all the members of the Knoxville Bar Association, and I overwhelmingly was selected as the most qualified candidate” among “95 percent” who responded.

**Rhonda Lee**

Saying she is “a private attorney going on seven years,” Lee

said she represents those “who can’t afford an attorney to make sure to protect their Constitutional rights and to make sure that everybody gets treated fairly in the justice system.”

“... I have at least 15 or more people that I’m representing every day,” she added. “In six courts I’m running around. By 11 o’clock I’ve already got my 10,000 steps in.”

A businesswoman prior to becoming an attorney, Lee made it clear she “can run and manage employees.”

“But I think the most important thing about this job is we need a conservative Republican in there,” she added. “I’m a die-



Lee

hard Republican. This office has never had a real, conservative Republican.”

Lee began her address pointing out a few of her conservative Republican beliefs.

“One of the most important questions people ask me, believe it or not, ‘are you pro-life?’ I am absolutely pro-life,” she said.

“I believe (citizens) should be able to carry their guns,” Lee added. “And I also believe in having prayer in schools, and standing up when we sing ‘The Star Spangled Banner’ and giving our ‘Pledge of Allegiance.’”

Losing in a previous run at this office to former Public Defender Mark Stephens, who stepped down in fall 2019, “It takes a lot of courage to step out and say, ‘I’m going to go against that,’” Lee said.

“Why? Because I’m not part of the establishment.”

“I’m an attorney who goes to fight for people every day,” she added.

**Tower-law**

From page 1A

allowed to continue to do that.

“That may be the kind of thing, where we would be arguably effectively prohibiting small cell coverage in certain areas.”

Sweet Briar resident Carol Christofferson, who has spoken against the matter several times in previous meetings, reiterated her position.

“We have not a pole in site (in our neighborhood),” she said. “We are, as a body, totally unhappy about the fact that Farragut and our little totally middle class, low technology demographic has been selected to be a guinea pig by the bully Verizon.”

“We do not need or want 5G in our neighborhood. Right now, 4G

is fine. ... But in this country, you don’t get things rammed down your throat that you don’t need or don’t want. We don’t want it, and we are fighting it.

“I am somewhat heartened by what I have heard, and know you are doing your best, but you cannot let us down,” she added. “We rely on our Town officials to

protect us; if there is a definition for protection against 5G, I can’t think of another one that is more important.

“The health issues — we don’t know what it is — but in terms of environmental, aesthetics and the politics of allowing a bully company to come in here and put that stuff in our neighborhood —

we don’t want it.

“I don’t think I have anything new to add to the conversation, I’m just adding another voice,” Laura Fangman said. “We’re miserable. It’s a nightmare, as far as First World problems go.”

Resident Laura Squires, who has also spoken previously against the issue, asked about the “shot clock” time frame on the project.

“If you ask Verizon, they say the shot clock has already passed,” Hale said.

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- **Business** - Member of Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce
- **Neighborhood** - Tan Rara HOA Board member for 25 years
- **Community** - Resident of the 5th District for over 35 years
- **Leadership** - President of the Council of West Knox County Homeowners for 12 years

# EXPERIENCE MATTERS

Endorsed by the Knox County Political Action Committee for Education

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## letterstotheeditor

### Endorsement for County Commission told

I'm writing today not as a spokesperson for Northshore Corridor Association but as an individual who has learned much about our elected body in Knox County. District 5 Commissioner John Schoonmaker is being challenged in the upcoming Mar 3 primary.

I've watched John Schoonmaker represent West Knox County with complete integrity and sincerity. I would say John is one of the most qualified and knowledgeable commissioners serving today. He has a passion for what he does and takes time to thoroughly research everything that comes before commission whether it's in his district or not. John asks the hard questions that some aren't willing to and goes the extra mile to do his homework, not just relying on what he's been told. He endures much frustration for us.

John's opponent, although young, carries some name recognition. However, this opponent appears to have aligned himself with some key real estate developers who repeatedly challenge our county's zoning laws. While certainly not all developers are bad, and our county needs growth, but John's opponent seems to be endorsed by developers who have become known for less than appropriate uses of

our remaining land. They are often backed by large corporations with little investment in the future of Knox County. And they have put great effort into high-density development of our remaining land while showing little regard for neighboring subdivisions, traffic congestion, safety, schools or smart use of our infrastructure dollars.

This is not a personal judgment of John's opponent, who may not even fully understand why he is being supported by those developers, but instead is a necessary position we must take — to ensure that a proven and experienced leader like Schoonmaker remains in a position to defend intelligent development of what little remains of our land and to protect our existing neighborhoods, roads, and schools. Knox County is currently 88 percent built out according to MPC.

Commissioner Schoonmaker has consistently been on the right side of smart development. He's lived in District 5 for the past 35 years. He's been a member of the West Knox Homeowner's Association for the last 25 years and has served as their President for 12 of those. He was also Chairman

See ENDORSEMENT on Page 9A

As stated in last week's issue, this Feb. 20 issue was the final chance before the Tuesday, March 3, Knox County/Presidential Primary to submit a Letter to the Editor or Presstalk in favor of, or against, a candidate on the March 3 ballot.

While we appreciate our readers contributing to our editorial content by submitting Letters to the Editor, we ask you keep your content to a maximum of 600 words. Thank you.

### Pair of preferences in Commission primaries

Over the past 18 months I have worked with a large citizen team across Knox county trying to protect our neighborhoods from the impact of over development without adequate infrastructure planning. We have learned much about the operation of Knox County government.

Booming residential development is overwhelming Knox County's infrastructure and creating large long-range un-budgeted costs for taxpayers. Meanwhile, developers complain that zoning discourages development and makes it too costly, and they are pressing the planning commission and county commission to relax or remove our zoning ordinances.

This past week, schools were closed again due to dangerous road conditions after heavy rains overwhelmed our drainage systems. Streets flooded, known flood prone areas flooded again, mudslides once more went into our storm drains and water-

ways and residents whose homes flooded before have found no relief since last year's floods. Like last year, at least one citizen was killed.

Adhering to good planning and requiring developers to respect our zoning regulations could have prevented much of what we have suffered.

That is why I will be voting this week for John Schoonmaker and Scott Broyles for Knox County Commission.

I have seen Commissioner Schoonmaker working tirelessly to uphold our zoning ordinances and protect our neighborhoods, our schools and our county budget. He is a knowledgeable commissioner who does his homework and, most important, stands up for the citizens — even when it is unpopular and he is under pressure.

See PREFERENCES on Page 9A

### A call to look at the record concerning 5th District County Commission race

Per the upcoming Republican Primary for Knox County, I would encourage you to join me in supporting the re-election of our Commissioner John Schoonmaker. I first met Commissioner Schoonmaker in 2003 when he was leading as President of the Council of West Knox County Homeowners and I was President of my neighborhood's HOA. Commissioner Schoonmaker has been active through-

out our district, which includes Town of Farragut for decades and was active (as he is today) with the Concord-Farragut Republican Club when I was its multi-year president. Commissioner Schoonmaker has supported the Farragut Gun Club and 2A initiatives since its inception and been quite active in supporting Knox County Schools at all levels including when I was leading the charge to replace (success-

fully) its superintendent.

Commissioner Schoonmaker has a proven track record in support and voting/being against taxes as he will NEVER support a tax increase. Commissioner Schoonmaker is one of the most knowledgeable elected representatives we have in dealing with financial matters and being pro-business while simultaneously being a leader in practicing professional

public administration, understanding constitutional theory and upholding ethical practices. Commissioner Schoonmaker and I are currently working together on the Knox County Charter Review Committee and his extensive knowledge is invaluable on this very high profile committee. Most importantly, Commissioner Schoon-

See PROVEN on Page 8A

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## presstalk

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

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

## lettertotheeditor

### Farragut, Knox County voters should be active in Primary

I didn't always think so. Up until about 5 years ago, the concept of voting seemed like something that was outside of my bandwidth. Then my kids' elementary school exceeded capacity forcing my oldest child into a portable classroom with an unpredictable heat and air system, and my youngest to eat lunch in his room. Then guess what ... voting mattered to this Mom, and I am here to tell you why it should matter to you.

First of all, voting is your voice, and in most cases the only voice that you, as a citizen of Knox County, will ever have in regards to the issues that effect you on a day-to-day basis. Schools, roads, parks, taxes, land use, conservation, programs and services... your local government and those officials elected to represent you controls it all, and sometimes not just at your financial expense through taxes, but at the expense of your quality of life.

After deciding to dedicate a great percentage of my time to community advocacy, I have learned that with one yay or nay by an elected official, my circumstance, and yours, can change instantly. And the real kicker is that a very small percentage of eligible Knox County voters are choosing these decision makers. With over 460,000 residents, around 1 out of 10 exercise their right to vote. Here is the state of our county, in 2018, 89 precincts throughout Knox County reported a dismal 81,195 votes in the general election and an even more discouraging turnout for the primary with only 49,652 voters. So if you are not voting, I can assure you that those political action committees and industry specific groups, like the development and real estate communities, are and they should be, because they have a

See VOTE on Page 8A

**Have You Heard?**

**JACK AND JULES**  
A CHILDREN'S CONSIGNMENT EVENT

**Jack and Jules Is BACK!**  
Spring and Summer Event

best consignment sale  
2018 - EASTERN TN

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Shop Friday, March 6th, 12pm - 4pm and a portion of the proceeds will benefit:  
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**Tony Cox,**  
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# *“Freedom lies in being bold”*

~Robert Frost

I was an English major at the University of Tennessee (2000), then went to Law School at Washington & Lee University (2003). Through the work of my parents Jim and Susan Wood who started Wears Valley Ranch, I was introduced to the Sekulow family. For a decade, I worked in various capacities for the American Center for Law & Justice and was mentored by Jay Sekulow. The ACLJ has consistently protected our constitutional rights and **boldly** proclaims conservative truth in public forums. Jay is one of the most noteworthy constitutional attorneys in the last 30 years, arguing before the Supreme Court to protect and defend our freedom. Mr. Sekulow just successfully defended our President during the impeachment trial. I am proud of his work and grateful to share his endorsement for my campaign with you:

*“I have known Clayton since he was a teenager and he served with the American Center for Law and Justice for the longest portion of his professional career. I was in many ways responsible for his decision to enter the legal profession and I was eager to serve as his mentor. He is a passionate defender of the Constitution and an advocate for the rights described within it. Given the legacy of his family in serving, I was not surprised when he was called to ministry. I feel confident he will use his gifts and advocacy to stand up and fight for those he represents in elected office.”*

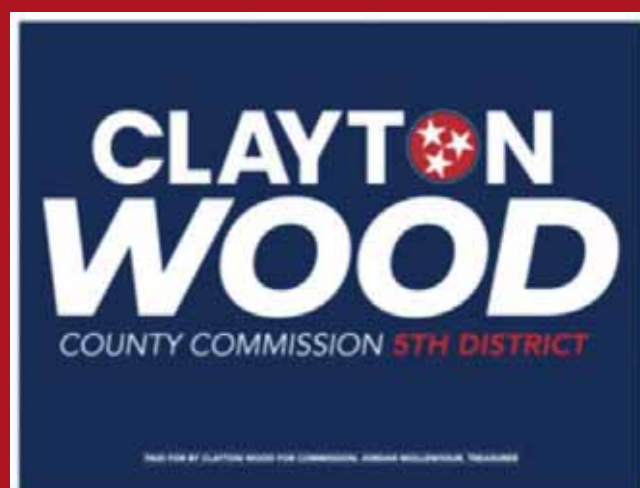
~ Jay Sekulow,  
Chief Counsel, American Center for Law and Justice

I am **boldly** speaking out against raising property taxes.

*“Candidates...were asked about...at what point they would vote for a property tax increase...Mayor Glenn Jacobs has said he will not approve one. Ten of the 11 candidates said ---in one form or another---that they would consider or even approve a property tax if the county’s finances required it...District 5 Republican candidate Clayton Wood was the lone voice who said he would refuse an increase, saying he was a “firm no”.”*

~ Tyler Whetstone,  
Knoxville News Sentinel, 2/5/2020

**As a Christian, as a Republican, as an attorney and as a public servant, I will fight for you! I ask for your support and your vote on March 3rd, 2020.**

[www.claytonforcommission.com](http://www.claytonforcommission.com)

[facebook.com/ClaytonWoodforCommissioner](https://facebook.com/ClaytonWoodforCommissioner)





# Foundations

40 YEARS OF FARRAGUT

presented by **farragutpress**

6A • FARRAGUTPRESS THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2020

## Where there is ‘Smoak’, there is the growth

**ALAN SLOAN**

editor@farragutpress.com

In defining his job as Town of Farragut administrator, David Smoak said with a smile, “It’s funny, I had a bunch of 6- to 13-year-olds ask me this the other day. It was actually at St. John Neumann School, we got to have Career Day over there.”

However, “Most people in the community don’t know what Town administrator is either, frankly,” added Smoak, who celebrated his 10th anniversary as administrator earlier this month overseeing all departments of non-elected Town government, which adds up to 54 full-time employees.

### Las Vegas

With Town leaders having drawn retailers Publix and At Home to Farragut during the past 10 years, along with roughly 600 employees and their spending power with services-based Sitel, luring Costco to Town highlights the deals either brokered, or at least initiated, through Farragut’s regular attendance at the annual International Council of Shopping Centers gathering in Las Vegas within the past decade.

With ICSC, “They put all these brokers, retailers, developers all in the same room, so you have access to them that you don’t typically have here in Farragut,” Smoak said. “... I can tell you over the years that most retailers know Farragut and they know Turkey Creek.”

### New philosophy, growth

Pointing out a Town shift in philosophy, “I think when we went early on we did focus a lot on retail because we had some retail shops to fill,” Smoak said. “... But I think over time our shift has changed more to developers, because developers are the ones that bring all the retailers with them.”

As for Town shopping centers, “Village Green has been a vibrant center. West End, we’ve completely renovated that whole center, and it’s completely filled in now,” Smoak said. “We’ve got the Perceptics building, which is completely filled in with tenants now.”

During the past 10 years, “We’ve doubled our sales taxes,” Smoak said. “Right at 1,000 new homes have been built in Farra-

gut in a decade. ... In the last 10 years we’ve added \$362 million in new residential housing.

“We’ve added \$148 million in new commercial development for that same 10-year period,” he added.

### Welcoming business, development

About reaching out to businesses and developers, Smoak cited the recent example of “the entertainment district north of the Interstate” along Outlet Drive, which will welcome national attraction TopGolf to Town with its anticipated groundbreaking sometime in late summer or early fall.

“We knew that was a great area for that to occur,” Smoak said. “... I think, over time, we’ve been able to look at some of our ordinances and amend them to help in certain situations — but still keep a high standard in place.”

About Farragut being unfriendly to businesses and developers, “I heard a lot of the comments when I first got here ... but I can’t comment about previous Boards” before he came to Town, Smoak said.

To remedy the problem, “I think a lot of it has to do with leadership,” he said. “... Anytime you have a leadership shift and change, certainly just talking to new faces can sometimes help bring conversations back up again.”

Though the Town may be considered more business and development-friendly in recent years, “We have design standards now, which we didn’t have prior to, I think, 2012,” Smoak said. “We have a Future Land Use Plan and many things in place that are going to guide what we are going to look like over the next 20 to 30 years.”

Moreover, “I think developers appreciate having something in front of them to say, ‘here’s the roadmap to develop here,’” he said. “It’s very clear now.”

Although saying there was a Land Use Plan in place when he became administrator, “It was very vague,” Smoak said. “We put a Land Use Plan, with a map, together to make it more specific.”

Moreover, with the Land Use Plan, “We’ve been going through amendments to that over the last year or so,” he added.



File photo

David Smoak, Town of Farragut administrator, during a workshop.

### Speeding

Smoak said the Town gets many complaints about speeding, saying recent traffic studies have concluded roughly 85 percent of all motorists in Town drive “well over 10 mph” beyond the speed limit.

With no Farragut Police Department, having to rely on Knox County Sheriff’s Office manpower reportedly stretched thin already, “We don’t do enforcement, and I think the enforcement arm is something that’s a very important part of handling that,” Smoak said.

Moreover, “We can only do so much by design,” he added about traffic calming measures, especially within subdivisions and other neighborhoods that might include speed humps or narrower lanes.

### Town Center

“The No. 1 thing the community has told us, through surveys that we’ve done, is that they want a town center,” Smoak said. “I think we’re getting really close to hopefully that happening soon. ... It has taken years of talking to developers about potential sites for that to happen.”

Combining residential and commercial and creating walkability between where you live and shop with the town center concept, “I think that’ll be a real game-changer for our Town, in the middle of our Town,” Smoak said.

Born in Charleston, South Carolina, David Smoak grew up in Marietta, Georgia.

Receiving his undergraduate degree in political science at Presbyterian College in Clinton, South Carolina, Smoak earned a master’s degree in public administration at the University of Georgia.

After graduate school at UGA, “My wife (Sonya) was getting into optometry school at the Southern College of Optometry in Memphis, so we moved out there,” Smoak said.

A financial advisor in Memphis while waiting for his chance to serve in municipal government, Smoak had to wait about a year before the City of Collierville “contacted me about a budget analyst job,” he said. “... I got the job and started from there.” Working his way up to assistant city manager while in Collierville for more than nine years, Smoak’s opportunity in Farragut would be the next step up the ladder.

“I was in a community very similar to Farragut,” Smoak said about Collierville, which is north of Memphis in Shelby County. “... Farragut was very much like where I was coming from, and I thought it would be a great opportunity to really help a city — it was a lot smaller city (than Collierville)

— but still be able to grow and develop and have good aesthetic standards.

“There’s a great quality of life here, great education,



David Smoak

opportunities for children,” he added about Farragut. “Low crime. ... And how financially sound the Town is.”

Visiting Farragut and “driving around to take a long look at the community and go into all the neighborhoods and subdivisions,” Smoak said when he and his wife “were making that choice 10 years ago, we thought this was a great place that we would want to live.”

The Smoak couple has twins: Evan and Olivia, 8.

*Listen to his Interview on the Foundations Podcast at [www.farragutpress.com](http://www.farragutpress.com)*

As for specific locations, “I think what you’re hopefully going to see is a redevelopment of that

old Kroger building,” he said, adding this “could be” the hub of a Town Center.

## Celebrate Mardi Gras

at the Villages of Farragut

### Fat Tuesday, February 25

- 3:00 Dance to the Music of *Larry Trotter and Friends*
- 4:15 Mardi Gras Parade
- 4:45 Presentation of our 2020 King and Queen.

### Seating is Limited.

Must RSVP no later than 2/19 by calling

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## Central Veterinary to fill Choto need



Photo submitted

A house near Weigel's next to Markets at Choto would be the third location for Central Veterinary Hospital this summer.

**TAMMY CHEEK**

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

The Choto business community is growing with a new veterinary hospital, Central Veterinary Hospital, which has a target date of this summer to open at 12330 Northshore Drive.

This will be the hospital's third location, according to Kelly Self, CVH office manager.

"We saw the need in the Choto area for a veterinary office due to how quickly the area is growing," Self said. "We also have current clients that are in that area that would benefit from a closer location."

"We have eight doctors and extended hours at our downtown location (from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.)," she added.

Office hours at the Northshore location will be from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, and from 8 a.m. to noon Saturdays.

Central Veterinary Hospital, owned by Dr. William "Bill" Martin, Dr. Wesley Keele and Dr.

Dustin "Dusty" Patterson, has been in business since 1935, first opening at 1212 W. Clinch Ave. in Knoxville. It opened another location at 3314 Mill Road, also in Knoxville.

Currently, Self said the veterinarians planning to work out of the Northshore clinic are Drs. Tyler Davis, who has been with CVH since April 2019, and Amanda Brzozowski, who has been with the clinic since June 2019 — but the veterinarians could change, Self added.

"We will provide annual routine wellness and preventative care, sick or injury appointments, lab work, X-ray and ultrasound, surgery, animal dentistry and a pharmacy," she said.

The hospital's downtown location is available for more information or to schedule appointments "as we get closer to the opening date," Self said. "We also have a facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/cvhchoto/> and we will be posting updates on there."



Tammy Cheek

Davis Tarwater at his newly opened business, SafeSplash/Swim Labs Swim School, 120 N. Peters Road, Knoxville.

## Turning SafeSplash into gold is Tarwater's task

**TAMMY CHEEK**

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

A 2012 U.S. Olympic gold medalist in the 4 X 200-meter freestyle relay, Davis Tarwater has brought the SafeSplash/Swim Labs Swim School franchise to his hometown and is teaching area children how to swim.

An All-American swimmer at the University of Michigan after a record-setting swimming career at Webb School of Knoxville, Tarwater opened for business Jan. 4 at 120 N. Peters Road. A grand opening is slated from 2 to 4 p.m.,

Saturday, Feb. 22.

"We're going to have activities for the kids, and local partners will be setting up booths," he said.

Additionally, there will be an autograph-signing opportunity with Tarwater and 2016 U.S. Olympic Gold medalist and former Lady Vols Molly Hannis, who will be doing a demonstration in the shop's swim labs, also called endless pools.

SafeSplash is a national company based in Denver, Colorado.

"We're primarily geared toward teaching children from 6 months to adults," he said. "We do every-

thing from 'mommy time' classes to competitive lessons, but the majority of our customers will be between 6 months and 7 years old."

The store has a warm-weather teaching pool designed for "teaching young children, utilizing a best-in-class curriculum."

The model uses small class sizes — a maximum 4-to-1 student-instructor ratio, he added.

The facility also has the endless pools, or swim labs, with video capabilities for advanced

**See SAFESPLASH on Page 9A**

## With youngster making it official, new pizza biz cuts ribbon



Tammy Cheek

Farragut West Knox Chamber of Commerce members and Knox County Commissioners joined 9-year-old Emory Redmon (holding scissors in front) to help his father, The Pizza Kitchen owner Travis Redmon (behind his son), in celebrating his restaurant's opening with a ribbon cutting in front of the restaurant in Lovell Heights shopping center, 10420 Kingston Pike, Wednesday, Jan. 29. Also part of the ceremony were Travis' girlfriend, Katie Alley (beside father); Pizza Kitchen manager Joseph Kirkpatrick (beside Alley in black shirt); Commission Chairman Hugh Nystrom, 4th District (sport coat and tie); 5th District Commissioner John Schoonmaker (behind the Redmons and Alley); and Steve Krempasky, (wearing sunglasses, right, on front row), Shop Farragut/Farragut Business Alliance executive director.

You're going to  
**#LoveCAK**

### Middle School "March Madness"

Who: New and prospective students

When: Tuesday, March 3

Time: 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Where: Christian Academy of Knoxville

Students can shadow a CAK student that morning!



RSVP at: [www.cakwarriors.com](http://www.cakwarriors.com)  
 Christian Academy of Knoxville  
 529 Academy Way | Knoxville, TN  
[admissions@cakmail.org](mailto:admissions@cakmail.org) | (865) 813-4CAK





## Mardi Gras fundraising



Michelle Hollenhead

Avenir Memory Care at Knoxville hosted a Mardi Gras fundraising event Friday, Jan. 31, to support Susan Vieira, a Snowflake Queen contestant in the Knoxville-Knox County Office on Aging's 12th annual Snowflake Ball, which Vieira won Saturday, Feb. 8. Pictured during the festivities were, from left, Vieira; Mary Lynne Payne, Avenir director of marketing; and Gabrielle Blake. Both Vieira and Blake are with Franklin & Kyle Elder Law, which co-sponsored the Mardi Gras event along with Amedysis Home Health.

### Vote

From page 4A

lot to lose or gain depending on their political influence.

When I began my journey all those years ago to bring a new middle school to my community, I had no idea the power held by the people that I had to convince nor did I realize the power that my voice and vote had on them.

They needed me just as much as I needed them, and I quickly realized how this all worked, and why certain groups engaged in the political process and why I should to, and so should you.

I'm not asking you to spend dozens of hours reading over government meeting agendas and proposed land use applications like I do every week, but I am asking you to be informed, know your candidates and support an individual who shares your beliefs, understands your community's needs and has experience!

I don't mean volunteering at his or her kid's school experi-

ence, although extremely important, I mean boots on the ground, deep in their community's issues type of experience.

Anyone can talk the talk, but an invested candidate will have spent a significant number of hours involved in programs or services in their community, attending public government meetings and will have been engaged somehow in the process that they hope to become a part of.

If they haven't, then their political aspirations are just that and there are already too many of those types filling seats.

So, this election, use your voice and vote, and let's send our elected officials the clear message that individual citizens do, indeed, have influence.

Your vote can make all the difference. And spoken like a true politician, "trust me" on me that.

**Kim Frazier,**  
founder/director of Hardin  
Valley Planning Advocates

### Proven

From page 4A

-maker has the dedicated time to serve as a commissioner as it literally is a "full time job." I like and respect his opponent, Mr. Clayton Wood, through my recent conversations with him as many of my friends speak highly of him through his church and not-for-profit activities.

I believe Mr. Wood would be an excellent future Republican commissioner/representative once he becomes more engaged in our district, gains knowledge of its critical issues and past history and builds a track record working

with its local conservative groups and officials.

With that being said, please vote for the re-election of John Schoonmaker as our Republican/Conservative Commissioner.

I would also like to thank our Knox County School Board Member (and its current chair) Susan Horn for an excellent four years, as she has accomplished much during her tenure and met many unforeseen challenges that were not even on the horizon when we worked on her first election in 2016.

Although Susan does not have an opponent in the upcoming primary, please support her for

her reelection and the next four years.

Per the Knox County Charter Review Committee, we have had two meetings to date to be sworn in by a judge, elect our committee leadership, review "sunshine" provisions and do some house-keeping items.

We will be diving in to the Charter over the next month to present our initial recommendations for its first two sections at the next scheduled meeting of March 9 at 5:30 p.m. at the Main Assembly of the City-County Building.

**Bill Johns,**  
Farragut

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— BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT —

Dear fellow voter,

My name is David Buuck and I am seeking the office of Knox County Law Director.

For the past seven years it has been a privilege and honor to work with our current law director, Bud Armstrong, and our great legal staff as Knox County's Chief Deputy Law Director. Prior to my service with Knox County I was in private practice for 33 years.

Over the years, I focused on governmental law, individual property rights, business law, and election law. I also represented "Citizens for Home Rule" for 25 years, successfully fighting annexation by the City of Knoxville for many homeowners and businesses.

With your vote I stand ready and committed to serve the citizens and taxpayers of Knox County as your Knox County Law Director. I ask, most humbly, for your support and your vote in the March 3, 2020 Republican primary election.

Sincerely,

David  
Buuck





**SafeSplash school**

From page 7A

competitive students. The pool also is used with special needs students.

Splash Safe currently is open from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday; from 9 a.m. to noon, Tuesday and Saturday; and closed Sundays.

However, those hours "could be expanded over the next month. ... Someone will be here from 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., Monday through Friday," Tarwater said.

Parents may sign up for classes by visiting online at safesplash.com, by calling 865-263-1800 or by visiting the store.

**Preferences**

From page 4A

I will also be voting for Scott Broyles who brings integrity and the right experience to Knox County. Scott is a former Memphis beat cop who has built a successful career in homeland security in aviation.

Today Knox County is forced by budget to schedule major road projects out to the year 2034. The state's plans are all the way out to 2040. Likewise, schools are underfunded and many are at or near capacity.

Still, County Commission is approving the rezoning of property to permit more projects at even

greater densities, without an overall county vision and without a plan to fund the infrastructure the new developments make necessary. This shifts the long range costs of development to the taxpayers. It is a perfect storm.

Knox County is property tax dependent. Politicians seeking to tout low taxes have depended on property taxes without developing other revenue streams. Developer friendly commissioners use this to justify rezoning and the removal of ordinances.

Change is needed to Knox County processes. Neighborhoods, citizen taxpayers and those wishing to develop Knox County land must

all be treated fairly. We must have good people of integrity in leadership to do that.

John Schoonmaker stands for what is best for the long term health of Knox County, even when it hurts. We must send him back and we must give him strong smart fellow commissioners like Scott Broyles

Until now there have been some protections in place, the Knox County Growth Plan — forced upon Knox County by past abuses that brought lawsuits and forced the state to put laws in place - a mandated county Growth Plan (which has been ignored, by-passed and allowed to languish). Now, those

who control and benefit from unregulated development seek to undo even that!

We must go to the ballot box to retain our ethical and diligent county commission friends, like John Schoonmaker who represent us with great integrity.

And we must add good new people like Scott Broyles, who will be fair-minded and bring good new ideas for healthy, balanced growth. I hope you will join me in strengthening Knox County Commission with the right people.

**Diane Montgomery,  
West Knox County**

**Endorsement**

From page 4A

of the Board of Zoning Appeals for 6 years. He was appointed to his current seat when it was vacated by Dr. Richard Briggs who went on to the State Senate.

John fulfilled that term and was elected to the same seat in 2016. He currently serves as Chairman of the Finance Committee for Knox Co and is a member of the Legislative Committee.

I can't vote for John myself since I'm in District 4, but I have personally contributed money to his campaign. John has not asked for my endorsement nor is he aware of this letter. My endorsement is based upon how much I believe in the results I've personally seen John deliver. I'm proud

of what he's done for West Knox County, and I hope you are too.

My neighborhood action group has spent over \$200,000 just making our local government adhere to its own laws and regulations, with no avenue for any recovery of those expenditures. Through the process it's become obvious the place to stop these problems and abuses is at the ballot box.

And so that we don't forget that every vote counts, recall that Mayor Jacobs won his seat by just 19 votes. With that, I hope you'll take the time to educate yourself about the candidates, and along the way reflect on the positive impact that John has made throughout our county.

**Bryan Spears,  
4th District voter**

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**NHC PLACE FARRAGUT**

**University General Dentists Announces Staff Change**

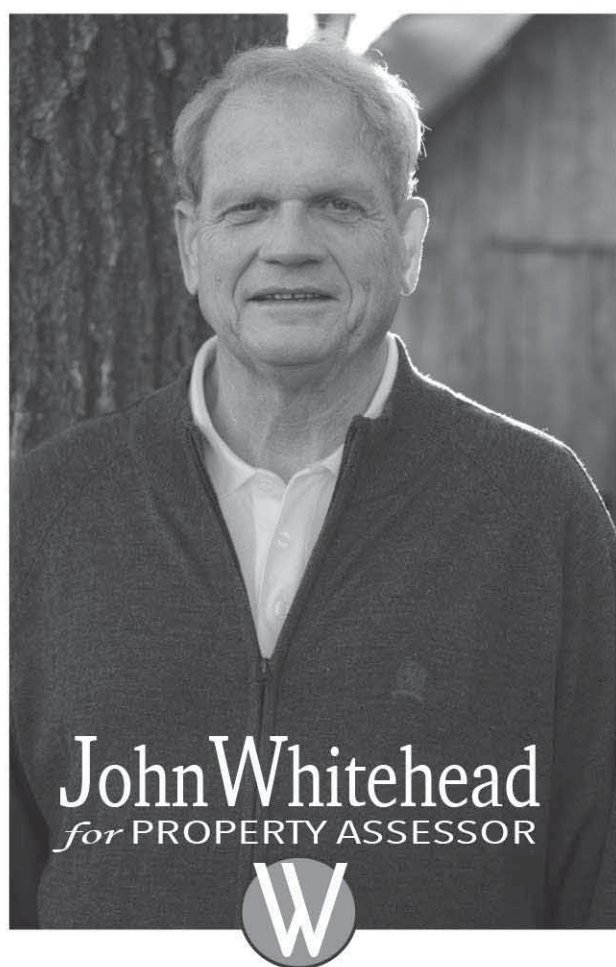
As of Tuesday, January 21, 2020, Dr. Andrew Young left the University General Dentists team. Dr. Young has been a partner in our office for the past 8 years. Drs. Tim Williams and Lee Wilson will remain active in the practice and will be available for patients of Dr. Young.

*"We're thankful to have had Dr. Young in our practice and are excited for what the future holds for him. Patients who saw Dr. Young exclusively and/or routinely will have the option of transitioning to Dr. Williams or myself,"* said Dr. Wilson, founder of University General Dentists.

Dr. Young will continue to practice and provide care at Knoxville Dental Center's Hardin Valley location at 10509 Hardin Valley Road, Knoxville, TN 37932.

**W JOHN WHITEHEAD**  
*for* PROPERTY ASSESSOR

**Accountable.  
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Experienced.**



- ▶ **United States Marine Corps Veteran**
- ▶ **30 Years of Experience**
- ▶ **Conservative Values**
- ▶ **Most Experienced Candidate**

**Accountability**

I will continue to ensure faith in the information entering and leaving the property assessor's office so that assessments are accurate and fair, without special interest influence to maintain trust and accountability in the office.

**Open Door Policy**

I will continue to have an open door policy. The Property Assessor's office should be your office. I pledge to continue to personally speak to and listen to taxpayers who reach out to the office and address problems they have.

**Experience**

As your Property Assessor the past four years I have continued to work towards improving the office every day. I have over 30 years of experience and am the only Assessor of Property in the state with the highest Certified Assessment Evaluator (CAE) designation, while also winning a Tennessee Association of State Assessing Officers Leadership Award while in office.

**Re-elect  
John Whitehead  
March 3rd**

**Early Voting: Feb. 12th- Feb. 25th**

[whiteheadforassessor.com](http://whiteheadforassessor.com)

Paid for by Committee to Elect John Whitehead for Property Assessor, Treasurer- Jackie Raley  
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Gables & Gates, REALTORS® presented their annual Gold Key Awards February 4th during a luncheon at Fox Den Country Club in Farragut. Designed to celebrate excellence in real estate transactions throughout the Greater Knoxville & surrounding areas, Gables & Gates, REALTORS® associates gathered to honor their peers for their outstanding achievements.

Company owner, Susie Lash, presented the awards. “We feel it’s important to recognize our professional, hardworking associates who have produced a most amazing year,” says Lash. “It is an honor to maintain our position as “the area’s leading, locally owned, independent real estate firm.”

**Debbie Holloway**  
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**Most Transactions 2019**



Top honors went to Debbie Holloway with the prestigious ASSOCIATE OF THE YEAR award for combined listings and sales of \$19,404,271. Debbie also received the TOP RESIDENTIAL LISTING ASSOCIATE with \$8,642,600 in closed listings, TOP RESIDENTIAL SALES ASSOCIATE with \$10,761,671 in closed sales and MOST TRANSACTIONS.

Nancy Westerling, Janet DeBusk Hensley, and Kara Dunn were also recognized for mentoring new agents as they join the Gables & Gates, REALTORS® family. Our mentoring program provides guidance and assistance to ensure new agents start their real estate career on the right foot.

In closing Lash said, “The Gold Key Award exemplifies exceptional service and professionalism, exceeding the needs and expectations of all. “The Best People in Real Estate” are at your service... that is what distinguishes Gables & Gates, REALTORS®. Communication and determination are keys to success in every negotiation as we assist homebuyers and sellers through the intricacies of our dynamic real estate market. In my opinion... no one does it better than the people in this room! Congratulations on another great year!” We are so thankful to all of our associates and staff for their hard work and dedication, and because they are the very best, we are looking forward to another great year in 2020!



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## Edwards a Mr. Hoops state finalist

**STAFF REPORTS**  
editor@farragutpress.com

B.J. Edwards, sophomore star guard for the Knoxville Catholic High School Fighting Irish boys basketball team, has been named one of three Division II-AA Mr. Basketball Finalists.

The Mr. and Miss Basketball awards will be presented to the top girls and boys in five classifications of the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association, beginning at 7 p.m., Tuesday, March 10., on the floor of Murphy Center on the campus of Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro.



Garabrandt



Pietarila



Meade



Lanman

## 3rd in state for WVMS

**KEN LAY**  
Correspondent

**SMYRNA** — The West Valley Middle School boys basketball team concluded the 2019-20 season on a winning note Saturday afternoon, Feb. 15, in the TMSAA State Tournament.

The Wolves routed Knox Doss Middle School from Hendersonville 52-28 in the third-place game at Stewarts Creek Middle School, culminating a big week.

WVMS becomes the second consecutive Knox County team to finish third in the state tournament. Powell Middle accomplished the feat last season, which was the first campaign where Knoxville teams participated in the state tournament.

West Valley had to answer an early wake-up call Saturday after playing a late tilt against Memphis-Ridgeway Friday night.

The Roadrunners edged West Valley 49-40 in Friday night's semifinal at Stewarts Creek High School.

The Wolves (34-4) got 16 points from state sectional tournament Most Valuable Player Connor Ruth Friday night. Sectional all-tournament standout Sam Tummins had 13 points against Ridgeway, which captured the state championship Saturday with a victory over Murfreesboro-Oakland.

# Four region champs, 17 wrestlers to state

Pietarila, Meade, Garabrandt, Lanman lead the way; 7 Dawgs in finals

**ALAN SLOAN**  
editor@farragutpress.com

**MARYVILLE** — Four Farragut and West Knox County Region 3-AAA wrestling champions were crowned, while seven others earned runner-up finishes among 17 locals who qualified for this week's TSSAA Class AAA state tournament in Williamson County.

Farragut's Zachariah Garabrandt stood tallest in the 138-pound class during the 3-AAA tournament at Maryville High School beginning Friday evening, Feb. 14, and ending Saturday evening, Feb. 15.

This Admiral junior joined three fellow champs: Bearden Bulldog junior Matheson

Meade at 152, third-place state finisher last season, and BHS sophomore Blake Lanman at 113 — plus Hardin Valley Academy senior Josh Pietarila at 170, a two-time state runner-up.

### Garabrandt

Garabrandt improved his season record to 38-11 after claiming a 14-5 majority decision against Thomas O'Connor of Heritage in his championship match.

"He's finally checked something off that he's been shooting for, for three years now," FHS head coach Bobby Hampshire said about Garabrandt finally winning region. "This year he wasn't letting anyone stop him. His drive, his determination, his leadership on and off

the mat is unparalleled" among the Admirals wrestlers.

With a career record of 115-39, "the biggest way I've improved is mental," Garabrandt said. "I had the skill last year and I had the skill my freshman year, but I always got nervous going into the matches.

"So this year it was just all about believing I could go out there and compete," he added. "I was pretty much in control the whole tournament."

### Pietarila

State runner-up at 170 last season and at 160 in 2018, Pietarila stayed perfect this

See TO STATE on Page 3B

## Securing No. 1 seed, BHS girls 25-2

**KEN LAY**  
Correspondent

Bearden High School's girls basketball team was able to check off one of its season goals Friday night.

The Lady Bulldogs outlasted Farragut 53-42 and that victory wasn't only a win in one of Knox County's most intense high school girls basketball rivalries, — it clinched an outright District 4-AAA regular-season championship before a packed and spirited house at FHS's Lynn E. Sexton Gymnasium Feb. 14.

"For six straight years, we've either won or shared the district championship," BHS head coach Justin Underwood said. "And you saw how our kids acted after the game. This is always a season goal of ours and this is really important to them.

"We knew that we were going to the region, no matter what happened tonight, but it's always a goal for us to win the district."

The Lady Bulldogs (25-2 overall, 13-1 in the district) will be the top seed as they host the

See BHS GIRLS-LADY ADS, Page 2B



Avery "Ace" Strickland, Farragut sophomore wing, drives baseline on a Bearden defender. The Lady Bulldogs pulled off a season sweep of the Lady Ads with a 53-42 win Friday night, Feb. 14, in FHS's Lynn E. Sexton Gymnasium.

Photo courtesy Carlos Reveiz/crfoto.com

## Strong final quarter pushes Dawgs to season sweep of FHS

**KEN LAY**  
Correspondent

Despite seeing his team struggle at times, Bearden boys basketball head coach Jeremy Parrott was pleased Friday night.

"I'm really proud of my team," Parrott said after the Bulldogs closed out the regular season with a 61-46 District 4-AAA victory over rival Farragut at a packed Lynn E. Sexton Gymnasium Feb. 14. "We've won 21 ball games and a lot of people can't say that.

"They especially can't say that after they had to replace 100 percent of their offense," he added.

"But now, the real season starts and we'll have to see what we can do there."

Bearden (21-7 overall, 12-2 in District 4-AAA) will host the district tournament and be the No. 2 seed and have an automatic bid to the Region 2-AAA Tournament in its quest to defend its Class AAA State Championship.

But the Bulldogs had to gut this one out against the Admirals (14-15, 6-8), who had a 41-40 lead heading into the fourth quarter despite getting nothing from leading scorer Robby Geron, who was saddled with early foul trouble.

Geron scored all five of his

points over the final eight minutes of the contest. Trouble for the Admirals was that no other FHS player scored during that stint, as the Bulldogs closed the game on a 21-5 run.

"We just couldn't score. For some reason, the ball just didn't go through the hoop and that's atypical for us," FHS head coach Jon Higgins said. "I don't think we had a (3-pointer in the second half) and that just doesn't happen to us."

Higgins wasn't all that unhappy after the loss and noted that his

See BHS-FARRAGUT on Page 3B



Photo courtesy of Carlos Reveiz/crfoto.com

Carter Mayfield, Farragut sophomore point guard (14), looks to set up the Admirals offense against Bulldog Izaiha Bredwood.

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Photo courtesy of Carlos Reveiz/crfofo.com

Keeleigh Rogers, Farragut sophomore guard, tries to drive past a Bearden defender. The Lady Bulldogs secured the District 4-AAA No. 1 tourney seed with a 53-42 rivalry victory Friday night, Feb. 14, in FHS's Lynn E. Sexton Gymnasium.

## BHS girls-Lady Ads

From page 1B

district tournament. They won't play again until Friday, Feb. 21.

But the Lady Admirals (20-8, 10-4) made things tough for Bearden on this night. FHS's post duo of Avery "Ace" Strickland and Claire Wyatt outscored Bearden's Jakhya Davis and Avery Treadwell 32-12.

"Anytime you do that, you feel pretty good and think you have a good chance to win," Farragut head coach Jason Mayfield said. "But unfortunately for us, they had some guards who made plays."

Wyatt, who went over 1,000 points for her high school career, scored 18 points. Strickland, a sophomore, had 14 points.

Davis and Treadwell managed just six points each but the Lady

Bulldogs got substantial contributions from their guards down the stretch. They also held Farragut to one field goal over the final eight minutes.

"Our defense was great," Underwood said. "Anytime you hold a team like that to one field goal in the fourth quarter, you have to be happy about that. Strickland can score and Claire can score and they both made plays."

Emily Gonzalez scored 11 points for BHS, as did Zneyah McLaugh Jah'niya Bussell added 10 points and made four clutch free throws down the stretch. Emma Stone had nine points on the strength of three 3-pointers before halftime.

"This is a rivalry game and we knew that we were going to have to come in here and play good defense and ... share the basketball," McLaughlin said

# Sr. Night done right: Lady Hawks triumph behind Grice, Laugherty

**KEN LAY**

Correspondent

**HARDIN VALLEY** — Wins have been hard to get for Hardin Valley Academy over the last two seasons. But the Lady Hawks nabbed a pair of home victories late last week to close out the regular season on a high note.

Hardin Valley celebrated Senior Night Thursday, Feb. 13, with a 78-72 non-district win over Clinton.

The Lady Hawks found themselves down 14-11 late in the first quarter before getting a spark off the bench from Avery Laugherty. She entered the game and promptly knocked down three consecutive 3-point shots to close the opening frame, after which the Lady Hawks had a 20-14 lead.

Hardin Valley would build a 20-point lead in the second stanza and wouldn't trail again.

The fourth quarter had its share of anxious moments as the Lady Dragons make a fierce comeback attempt. Clinton closed its deficit to 76-72 with 7.4 seconds remaining in the contest.

The Lady Hawks, who took a 41-21 lead when senior forward Malaka Grice scored with 3 minutes, 42

seconds left in the second quarter, had a 61-47 advantage heading into the final eight minutes. They would have to hold off a fierce rally from the Lady Dragons (15-14), who made four 3-pointers down the stretch.

Hardin Valley head coach Jennifer Galloway said she was pleased to see her team pick up a win over Lady Dragons and said she has enjoyed watching her team improve throughout the season.

"Every time this team takes the floor, they look at it as a chance to get better and that makes them a lot of fun to coach," Galloway said. "I was really proud. Our kids came out strong and we were able to finish."

The Lady Hawks boasted a balanced scoring attack on this night, and it was Grice who led the way. She scored 32 points, including 18 before halftime. Laugherty had 21 and knocked down five shots from beyond the 3-point arc.

Tori Adams chipped in with 10 points and Kate Bass added eight points, for the Lady Hawks, who downed West High on Friday.

The Lady Hawks close the regular season 11-16 overall and 5-9 in District 4-AAA.

## Long-range lasers sting HVA boys versus Clinton despite balanced scoring

**KEN LAY**

Correspondent

**HARDIN VALLEY** — Hardin Valley Academy boys basketball head coach Shane Chambers said that he knew exactly what his team would see when Clinton came calling last week.

He and the Hawks saw a team in the Dragons who make a habit out of launching shots from beyond the 3-point arc.

The Dragons knocked down 13 three-point shots and left HVA with a 67-60 victory Thursday, Feb. 13.

"We knew their gameplan coming in. We knew that they were going to shoot 3's," Chambers said. "But we just didn't do a good job defending them."

"You can't give a team like that confidence on the road. Unfortunately, we gave them that confidence. We just need to play better," he added.

The Dragons (14-12) were without starting point guard Evan Winchester, but Clinton's other players stepped up in Winchester's absence.

But the Hawks, who followed that with a loss to

Knoxville West Friday, Feb. 14, hung tough and were only down 49-45 heading into the fourth quarter. Skyler O'Neal converted a pair of free throws to pull the Hawks (13-14) to within 49-47 with 7 minutes, 52 seconds remaining in the final frame.

However, the Hawks wouldn't come any closer in a game that got extremely physical at times.

"This was a good game for us," said Hardin Valley senior forward Avery Sonenshein, who finished with 14 points, including 10 in the second quarter to keep the Hawks within striking distance. "We knew they were tough and we knew that they were going to get physical and they did."

Hudson Stokes had 13 points and made three shots from beyond the 3-point arc for the Hawks, who trailed 35-31 at halftime. O'Neal added 12. Jack Niezgodka had seven and Justin Sharp finished with six.

But it was the Dragons who manufactured points from all over the floor on this night.

Dragons freshman Jackson Garner led all scorers with 22 points, making six 3-pointers.

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Photo courtesy of Carlos Reveiz/crfoto.com

Kaleb VanAcker, Farragut senior wing, drives past Bearden defender Elijah Bredwood. The Bulldogs overcame a 41-40 deficit entering the fourth quarter to win this District 4-AAA rivalry game 61-46 Friday night, Feb. 14, in FHS's Lynn E. Sexton Gymnasium.

## BHS-Farragut

From page 1B

team beat Fulton for the second time this season Thursday, Feb 13.

"The shots just weren't going down and that's part of the game," Higgins said. "But we're playing well right now. I think we're really playing well, but there are some things we can fix."

"But we played well tonight. We played well against Lenoir City, we played well against Maryville and we obviously played well against Fulton," he added.

Parrott also lauded Farragut's effort Friday night.

"I thought they did a really good job," Parrott said of the Ads. "I thought they had a good game plan and I think they played well in a rivalry game like this. I thought they had great intensity."

Farragut had leads at the end of the first, second and third quarters despite the fact that Geron was sidelined with foul trouble.

"We played well and were

## To state

From page 1B

season, 22-0, after beating Bearden sophomore Aiden Duarte (24-12) on technical fall 19-4 to claim region top honors.

In eight years of coaching wrestling, and in his third season as HVA head coach, Marc Giles said Pietarila's "drive and his desire are second to none of any wrestler I've ever coached."

"I can't say enough about Josh. He's on a different level down here than most other wrestlers," Giles added. "He's set the bar really high."

"The mindset is going after that goal," Pietarila said about clearing the final hurdle to be a state champ. "I'm just pushing the pace hard in practice, making sure I'm better than everybody. I'm going out there to dominate anybody who comes out on the mat against me."

Pietarila said his career record at 125-14.

### Meade

Ranked No. 1 in the state earlier in the season while improving his record to 34-1, Meade heads back to Williamson County a year after finishing third in state at 145. The junior needed just 28 seconds to pin Daniel Arp of William Blount in his title match.

"It's been a lot about mindset this year. I've been training a lot harder," he said. "The mindset changed after I broke the barrier and placed at state last year."

So this year, "I go out there against everybody (thinking) 'I'm

better than you, I know it and I'm going to prove it,'" added Meade, who said his career record is 94-16.

"We've tried to get him some tough competition this year, but it been hard sometimes," BHS head coach Donnie Floyd said about Meade, adding his only loss was "a slip-up, a 5-4 loss at Bradley (Central Invitational) in the semis. "Since then he's rolled."

### Lanman

Lanman, a transfer from a school in Washington state, pushed his season record to 29-6 after defeating Kainen Kyle of Maryville in the 113 title match 15-7 (majority decision).

"Back in September I get a text that a kid is coming over to say hi to me, interested in wrestling, he just moved in," Floyd said about Lanman. "Real quiet kid, he bought in and has done a great job."

Starting the season at 120 before dropping some weight, "Since he's been at 113 he's been rolling through people," the Bulldogs coach said. "This was the third time he's beaten that

Maryville kid."

"I've just been putting a lot of work in; and I'm thankful to my teammates and coaches for helping me get to where I am now," Lanman said.

### Other qualifiers

The Admirals and Hawks each had one runner-up. Sophomore Corey Walker of Farragut (23-23 record) took second in the heavyweight title match despite getting off to a good start against Joseph Vanada of Heritage before being pinned at 3:51 — in what Hampshire said was a controversial decision.

HVA senior Laith Burbar of Hardin Valley finished second at 160 (26-6 record).

Four other Bulldogs were region runners-up: senior Samuel Hensley at 182 (25-7 record), junior Dylan Burns at 132 (35-8), sophomore Seth Arana at 195 (26-14) and freshman Logan Petersen at 126 (16-8).

Farragut's other state qualifier was Elijah Wing, a junior, claiming third at 106 after defeating Cole Lester of Stone Memorial (fall at 2:08).



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# KYLE HIXSON



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## Outstanding work cited for Bartlett's Regional Principal of Year honor

**TAMMY CHEEK**  
[tcheek@farragutpress.com](mailto:tcheek@farragutpress.com)

Farragut High School principal Dr. John Bartlett recently was honored by Tennessee Association for Secondary School Principals as regional Principal of the Year for his outstanding work.

Bartlett joins Cedar Bluff Middle School assistant principal Jeff Castleberry in being honored, as Castleberry was named regional Assistant Principal of the Year. They will advance to the state

awards, which are scheduled to be announced later this month. Those winners then will advance for the national award, which will be announced in October.

"Obviously it's an honor and very humbling," Bartlett said about receiving the award; but he was quick to credit the work of his assistant principals, teachers and support staff.

"So while this is an honor for me, this is a school award," he added. "It's for the whole school. It's for the achievements every-

one has done.

"The assistant principals do a lot of the heavy lifting as far as the school goes. They work really hard.

"I'll readily admit I'm a hard person to keep up with ... they've kind of gotten used to me and can keep



Bartlett

up with my crazy ideas. We're still working on those crazy ideas," Bartlett said.

"And, the teaching staff has just been unbelievable," he added.

FHS ninth-grade principal Steve Killian has seen the atmosphere change since Bartlett's arrival.

"I think just the general climate of the school is more welcoming," said Killian, an educator for 36 years, an administrator for 20 and in his second year as assistant principal at FHS.

"Students feel like they have a voice," Killian added. "Students are more aware they have a voice."

"Administratively, our whole team — and teachers — want to help students succeed."

Likewise, Killian said teachers feel they are being listened to and "our (administrative) team wants to provide teachers with tools for them to be successful."

While Bartlett hadn't been

See **BARTLETT** on Page 9B

## World Cultures Night set at FHS

**TAMMY CHEEK**  
[tcheek@farragutpress.com](mailto:tcheek@farragutpress.com)

Marking World Cultures Night at Farragut High School has been a dream of FIS Spanish teacher Allison Maldonado.

"It has been my dream for 10 years to get all the students, the community and teachers together," she said.

To kick off that dream, she and her students have organized the second FHS World Language Department-sponsored World Cultures Night, free for all Knox County Schools students and their parents, starting at 6 p.m., Thursday, March 5, in the Commons of Farragut High School, 11237 Kingston Pike.

"We have a diverse population of students who are from all over the world, either first generation or they were born in another country," Maldonado said, adding in one of her classes alone she has students from China, Pakistan and Brazil.

Since a World Cultures Night, held in 2017, was such a success, "we want to make it an annual event or a semi-annual event," she said. "The last time we had

350 people attend. We expect even bigger numbers this time."

"The (event) is all about the kids feeling proud of their cultural heritage, so we have lots of different areas for people to enjoy," she said. "We have food from all over the world."

Students and their families are preparing the dishes visitors will sample.

World Cultures Night also will feature entertainment such as an African drummer; singers; and students performing African, Chinese and Bali dances; students dressed in the traditional costumes from the countries of their heritage; cultural booths set up to provide information on and artifacts from the countries represented; and a photo booth with props from Germany, Spain and France.

Maldonado said there also would be a café serving coffee, tea and desserts from around the world.

While the event was organized by the World Language Department, she said teachers encouraged students to take the lead in organizing the event.

See **WORLD CULTURES**, Page 6B



Tammy Cheek

Farragut High School Spanish teacher Allison Maldonado (seated center), with FHS senior Ana Laurenti, seated left; FHS junior Safa Ahmed, seated right; and standing, from left, are sophomores Vrinda Rana and Abigail King and junior Reva Bagi. They had a fun moment in between planning for FHS's World Language Department-sponsored World Culture Night, which will take place on Thursday, March 5, in FHS Commons. The event is free and open to all Knox County students and their families.

## 4th-graders to aid Helping Hands at FBC

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

It might still technically be winter, but Concord Christian School fourth-graders have their eyes on summer with some upcoming events to benefit First Baptist Concord's Helping Hands Ministry and its members who will be attending Joni & Friends Summer Camp.

As part of the school's "Disability Awareness Week" focus Feb. 24-28, students will be hosting a two-day bake sale Feb. 27-28 to raise money for Camp, and the program will also be a recipient of two Turkey Creek restaurant public fundraisers.

Last year, the CCS fourth-graders raised around \$3,400 — enough money to send eight individuals to camp outright, with additional funds left over to go toward expenses for a ninth.

Diane Knudsen, program director for Helping Hands, said the group typically takes 16 campers and additional staffers to camp annually.

"Each of our grade levels here

See **HELPING HANDS** on Page 9B

## Concerts Competition winners from HVA perform with KSYO

### STAFF REPORTS

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

Knoxville Symphony Youth Orchestra will present a winter concert beginning at 7 p.m., Monday, Feb. 24, in Tennessee Theatre along Gay Street in downtown Knoxville, featuring five youth orchestras and the winners of the 2019-20 Concerto Competition.

The KSYO, conducted by James Fellenbaum, will feature Concerto Competition winners Miriam Ahrens, a sophomore student at Hardin Valley Academy, and Trey Barrett, a junior at HVA.

These concerts are free to attend for students kindergarten through high school senior, and \$5 at the door for adults. Tickets may be purchased at the door. Before each performance, patrons can dine at Bistro at the Bjiou (807 S. Gay St.) and a portion of their purchase will be donated to the KSYO. For more information regarding the Knoxville Symphony Youth Orchestra, visit [www.knoxvillesymphony.com/](http://www.knoxvillesymphony.com/).

Ahrens, viola, will perform a movement from Cecil Forsyth's Concerto for Viola and Orchestra in G Minor, and Barrett, bas-

soon, will perform Carl Maria von Weber's Andante and Rondo Ungarese.

Beginning her musical studies at age 4 with Suzuki piano lessons, Ahrens, at the age of 6, started asking to play the viola and began lessons with Connie Stambaugh in Lebanon, Pennsylvania. In 2014, her family moved to Knoxville, and for the past three years this HVA sophomore has studied with Megan Kehren. As a member of KSYO, she served as a member of the viola section,

See **WINNERS** on Page 8B



Miriam Ahrens



Trey Barrett



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## FEBRUARY/MARCH

• **Knoxville Children's Theatre**, 109 E. Churchwell Ave. in Knoxville, will present "Junie B. Jones The Musical Jr.," will be performed **Friday, Feb. 21, through Sunday, March 8; at 7 p.m., Thursdays and Fridays; at 1 and 5 p.m., Saturdays; and 3 p.m., Sundays** — with one **Sunday** evening show beginning at **7 p.m., March 8**. For tickets, visit [knoxvillechildrenstheatre.com](http://knoxvillechildrenstheatre.com).

• **David Wilcox**, winner of the prestigious Kerrville Folk Festival New Folk award in 1988 who by 1989 had signed with A&M Records, will perform two sets beginning at **1 7:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 21**, in The Open Chord, 8502 Kingston Pike. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$26.50 and available on-line at <https://www.openchordmusic.com/live-music-venue#liveevents> or at The Open Chord, All Things Music Store, 8502 Kingston Pike.

• **The Family Sowell** has recorded a brand new album with Grammy-nominated producer, Ben Isaacs of the award-winning and Grammy-nominated Gospel group The Isaacs. Release date for the project, a CD release party "Same Kind of Different" is **5 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 22**, at Wild Wing Cafe in Farragut.

Organizers said they plan to give out the first 50 CDs free. For more information, visit Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube and [www.thefamilysowell.com](http://www.thefamilysowell.com).

• **"Hurt, Help and Hope: A Community Conversation About Suicide,"** a free program open to the public, will begin at **4 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 23**, at Middlebrook Pike United Methodist Church, 7234 Middlebrook Pike. Program includes a question-answer session in the sanctuary. Printed materials will be available in the fellowship hall, and an opportunity to talk with the speakers one-on-one. Childcare is available. Speakers include Ann O'Connor, psychologist, and the Rev. Jimmy Sherrod of Central United Methodist Church. For information, call 865-690-8641 or e-mail [kristi\\_nelson@yahoo.com](mailto:kristi_nelson@yahoo.com).

• **Learn when and why to be concerned about identity theft,** and what to do if you become a victim, from **6 to 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 25**, in the medium classroom at Farragut Community Center (239 Jamestowne Blvd.) Class is free. Register by **Friday, Feb. 21**, at [townoffarragut.org/register](http://townoffarragut.org/register), at the community center or by phone at 865-218-3375.

Send your events to [editor@farragutpress.com](mailto:editor@farragutpress.com)

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• **Join instructor Kristi Hulsey of Tennessee Thyme** for the ultimate "Essential Oil: Girls' Night Out" from **6 to 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 26**, in the medium classroom at Farragut Community Center (239 Jamestowne Blvd.). Registration is required. Register by **Monday, Feb. 24**, at [townoffarragut.org/register](http://townoffarragut.org/register), in person at the community center or by phone at 865-218-3375.

• **Stop the Bleed training and certification** is from **1 to 2:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 27**, in the large classroom at Farragut Community Center (239 Jamestowne Blvd.). Class and certification are free; however, registration is required. Register by **Monday, Feb. 24**, at [townoffarragut.org/register](http://townoffarragut.org/register), in person at the community center or by phone at 865-218-3375.

• **Town of Farragut will host a two-part Introduction to Colored Pencils class** from **6 to 9 p.m., Thursday, March 12, and Thursday, March 19**, in the medium classroom of Farragut Community Center (239 Jamestowne Blvd.). All materials will be provided. Cost for is \$50 plus a supply fee. Register by Thursday, Feb. 20, at [townoffarragut.org/register](http://townoffarragut.org/register), at the community center or call 865-218-3375.

## After 24 years, Dodd steps down as RCF Sgt-at-Arms



Tammy Cheek

Rotary Club of Farragut sergeant-at-arms Jim Dodd, left, greets fellow Rotarian Sam Mishu as Mishu arrives for the RCF noon meeting in Fox Den Country Club Wednesday, Feb. 12. After 24 years, Dodd has decided to turn over the sergeant-at-arms duties to another Rotarian.

### TAMMY CHEEK

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

For the past 24 years, Rotary Club of Farragut member Jim Dodd usually has been the first person fellow Rotarians see as they walked into the weekly Wednesday meeting just before

noon in Fox Den Country Club.

As sergeant-at-arms, his first job was to greet members and their guests, then he makes sure the meeting room is set up properly and each member has signed in "to pay Fox Den the proper

**See DODD on Page 7B**

## World Cultures

From page 5B

"We want the kids to get leadership experience," she said, so students from each of the world language honor societies guided other students in planning the event.

For more information about the event or to volunteer, call 865-966-9775 or scan the QR code on school posters.

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# obituary

**Dr. Wayne Steven Davis, 74**, passed away peacefully Tuesday, Feb. 11, ending a long battle with cancer, the one thing his determined (some might say stubborn) demeanor couldn't make budge.

He is survived by his wife, Janice, whom he absolutely adored, and occasionally annoyed; his son, Justin, who still wears way more black and gray than his Dad would prefer; and daughter-in-law, Mollie; his daughter, Heather; and his son-in-law, Bryan, who still gives him pause. He also is survived by his three grandchildren, Caroline Herren and Haley and Henry Davis, whom he loved dearly and



Dr. Davis

provided endless opportunities for laughs and calls for shushing at public restaurants. He also is survived by his brother, Kenneth Davis; sister-in-law, Diane; and nephew, Spencer.

Steve was a Vietnam Veteran who bravely flew a helicopter in the Vietnam War. He was the owner of Tennessee Footcare (formerly The Foot Group). He loved Florida (the state, and to the chagrin of his family, the team), boating, tropical water and warm weather. It's strangely fitting that a cold, dreary February day caused his demise.

A casual celebration of life will be held starting at 1 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 22, at Bearden Banquet Hall in Knoxville. Come wearing a hint of color.

In honor of Steve, mix up some orange juice and rum and toast one of the finest people to ever walk this earth.

Steve, as you were fond of saying ... off you go.

## Dodd

From page 6B

amount," he said.

But, as the club prepares to swear in new officers, the 74-year-old said he thinks it's just time to give it up.

"I've enjoyed (the role, but) it's just that the club has gotten so big," Dodd explained.

When he started, Dodd remembered RCF had 32 members. Now it has 103.

"I think it's just time for someone else to take it over," he added.

Vicki Sponge has been nominated to fill his shoes as sergeant-at-arms, and Dodd said he thinks she is up for the job.

"She's been helping me out," he added.

Another reason Dodd gave for turning over the duties was he would like to have more time to travel.

"My niece's husband went to graduate school at Arizona State," he said. "I started going out there and just became interested in Native American art, mostly pottery and baskets."

A Tellico Village resident, Dodd joined RCF in 1992 and has been sergeant-at-arms since 1996.

He remembered when he was still working at the insurance company and was encouraged to join Rotary.

"My employer liked his managers to join Rotary, so when I moved (to Tellico Village), I joined the Rotary Club," he said.

When Dodd first joined, the club met at the Holiday Inn in Cedar Bluff.

"When they remodeled the Holiday Inn, we had to change our meeting place," he recalled. "We moved to several different places, then it moved to Fox Den."

"Joe St. Martin, who was the sergeant-at-arms at the time, decided it was too far for him to travel, so I became sergeant-at-arms," Dodd said. "I live nearby, and it was easier for me to be here once a week."

Through the years, he has seen many changes in RCF.

"The biggest changes are there are a lot more women and younger members than there used to be," he noted, adding, "I think (those changes) are both good."

"And, we do a lot more projects than we used to," Dodd said, listing Flu Shot Saturday, the stream clean-up and helping Ball Camp and Ridgedale elementary schools.

"We've given money to Remote Area Medical, (Shangri-La Therapeutic Academy of Riding) and Polio Plus, and we sponsor a youth exchange student every year," he added.

# College honors for Farragut students told

Four Farragut college students — **Grace Sommi, Jane Foncea, Kaci Deakins and Ellie Fussell** — were named to the fall semester Dean's List at Samford University, Birmingham, Ala-

bama. To qualify for the Dean's List, a student must have earned a minimum 3.5 grade-point average out of a possible 4.0 while attempting at least 12 credit hours of coursework.

**Michael C. O'Shaughnessy**, a junior engineering major from Farragut, has been named to the Dean's List at Saint Michael's College, Colchester, Vermont, for the Fall 2019 semester.

# Songwriters Showcase at Community Center February 29



Dave Landeo

## STAFF REPORTS

editor@farragutpress.com

A trio of local musicians will take the stage in Farragut's new Community Center Assembly Hall Feb. 29 when Visit Farragut hosts its second annual Songwriter's Showcase.

Very close to being sold out, according to Town Tourism coordinator Karen Tindal, the event will begin at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 29, with a performance from School of Rock students, before headliners J Luke, Dave Landeo and Jason Ellis take the stage.

"Dave is a long-time Knoxville favorite and has been musical director for the Knoxville Marathon for years as well as playing the Lawn Chair Concert series last August," Tindal said. "When I contacted Dave he was on board immediately and invited his friends, J Luke and Jason, to round out the performers. These guys are friends, and I am sure that will come across in their music; Dave even mentioned that they may collaborate on a song together for the showcase."

Last year's Showcase unfolded over two evenings, with a women-focused event, along with the showcase, both of which were held where Admiral Pub

See SHOWCASE on Page 10B

See back issues of the farragutpress @ [www.farragutpress.com](http://www.farragutpress.com)



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# Pickleball talents displayed in gym at new Community Center/Sr. Center



Photos by Tammy Cheek

**(Left)** Diane O'Brien prepares to serve during the pickleball kick-off in Farragut Community Center/Knox County Senior Center gymnasium, 239 Jamestowne Blvd., Thursday, Feb. 13. Almost 80 attended.  
**(Above)** With several spectators looking on, Gary Pease bends down in proper position to return a shot.  
**(Right)** Looking over her intended target, Cindy Blanco gets ready to serve.

## Winners

From page 5B

as well as principal viola in the 2018-2019 season.  
 Ahrens has attended the Wintergreen Music Festival in Wintergreen, Virginia, and was honored with a full scholarship to the

Masterworks Festival in Spartanburg, South Carolina.  
 Barrett has been a member of KSYO for the past two years as principal bassoon. Trey began his bassoon training at the age of 12 with Aaron Apaza, past principal bassoon with Knoxville Symphony Orches-

tra and lecturer of bassoon at UT Knoxville and current principal bassoon with the North Carolina Symphony in Raleigh, North Carolina.  
 In January, Barrett began studying with Jessica Findley Yang, acting principal bassoon with KSO and lecturer of bassoon

at UT Knoxville. As a freshman, he was invited to join the Tennessee Wind Symphony as a high school "Rising Star."  
 As a member of the HVA Wind Ensemble, Barrett was selected for All-State as a freshman and sophomore after placing first chair, blue band in the All State

East Clinic.  
 In June 2019, Barrett auditioned for and was selected out of an international candidate pool to attend the Advanced Bassoon Institute at the Interlochen Center for the Arts in Interlochen, Michigan.



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## Helping Hands

From page 5B

have a missions focus," she explained. "And for the fourth grade, it is Helping Hands."

The school has paired up the ministry, which meets on First Baptist Concord's campus, with fourth-graders for the last seven years, and the students are introduced to the program participants in a number of ways throughout the year, starting with a meet-and-greet chapel assembly in the fall.

Last Thursday, Feb. 13, Knudsen led a second joint chapel session, in which she described more in-depth details of what special needs individuals might experience.

Fellow CCS seventh-grader Ava Gleason shared her own personal experiences with her two special needs brothers, and Trent Steele brought his Human Animal Bond in Tennessee dog, Buck, and related how Buck helps individuals cope with a variety of issues.

"It is really important that we help our students learn about disabilities and how to engage with others," Knudsen said. "It has really made an impact, too, because at least one of our students went on to do her senior project about Helping Hands, and another student decided he wanted to go to the Joni & Friends camp as a counselor."

"Diane does a wonderful job helping to bring our students to a comfortable place, where they can learn about Helping Hands, and how they can interact and even help and make a difference," said Stephanie Mason, CCS director of marketing.

Fourth-grade students' parents



Michelle Hollenhead

Heather McGuire was among the Helping Hands Ministry participants who enjoyed meeting and petting Buck, a Human Animal Bond in Tennessee support dog following an assembly Thursday, Feb. 13, in Concord Christian School. The school's fourth-graders, whose mission focus is the ministry, also were present, learning how they can help send Helping Hands members to Joni & Friends Summer Camp.

have been asked to bake or buy items to send to the school for the internal bake sale, but the community can help out, too.

On Monday, Feb. 24, from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m., Blaze Pizza will donate 20 percent of the proceeds from food sales to help send Helping Hands participants to camp. Those wishing to support the effort must show the flyer — either a physical copy or on a smart phone. The image is available at <http://bit.ly/CCSHelpingHandsWeek>. Mason also has created a Facebook event with the flyer image, which can be shared.

## Bartlett

From page 5B

told why he was nominated, he is aware several different people nominated him for the award.

When he learned of the nomination, he "asked them to find somebody else to honor because, in 2016, I won the state award, and I wanted to make sure other people who did great work were honored."

In addition to winning the 2016 state Principal of the Year award from TASSP, he also won the Tennessee Association of Student Council Administrator of the Year Award in 2014.

However, he noted, "It's not my job to seek awards; it's my job to make sure people around me receive awards and to promote them."

While reflecting on his administrative role, Bartlett said, "Obviously we want student achievement, student learning for everyone to maximize their potential with learning, but at the same time it's about building the whole student — not just academics, but emotionally, mentally, physically — every aspect of the student's life and make sure (he or she is) taken care of."

"What we're doing is raising adults," he added. "It's not just our job to teach them."

Before becoming an administrator, Bartlett, who also serves as Knox County Schools' director of Leadership Development, spent 12 years in the U.S. Marine Reserves. Of those 12 years, two were on active duty. He earned the rank of staff sergeant.

He then pursued a career as an educator, first as a teacher and a coach. Before joining Knox County Schools, Bartlett taught at Unicoi County High School in Erwin, Tennessee, served as principal of Loudon County High School and as a teacher and sports coach in Bledsoe County.

He joined Knox County Schools in 2000 as a Powell Middle School teacher. Bartlett switched gears to administration in 2007, when he became administrative assistant at Fulton High School, then assistant principal at Knoxville West High School.

He also was part of the 2010 Leadership Academy, was Austin-East High School curriculum principal and Carter High School principal before he was Bearden High School principal, where he served for 10 years, and subsequently the school system's supervisor of secondary education. Wanting to get back into the schools, he accepted the principal position at FHS.

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## James, Sophia top two SJNCS spellers at Bee

TAMMY CHEEK

tcheek@farragutpress.com

After going about 20 rounds, St. John Neumann Catholic School eighth-grader James Long won SJNCS's school-wide spelling bee by correctly spelling "Giza" and "gallium," at the school Tuesday, Jan. 28.

While surprised at the win, James said he "feels just great, excited."

The son of Jason and Carol Anne Long and grandson of Kay Long, he will compete in the Scripps National Appalachian Spelling Bee in March at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

"I'm hoping I will do well," James said. "I'm prepared for it."

Fellow eighth-grader Sophia Collins was close behind, garnering the runner-up title.

"I feel good, but it was funny to be up there (on stage) because my friend was screaming," she said. Sophia is the daughter of Paul and Lisa Collins and granddaughter of Domingos and Dolo-



Tammy Cheek

res Teixeira and Paul and Carol Collins. This is not Sophia's first experience in a spelling bee. She has participated every year except sixth grade.

"You get used to it while you're up there," she said.

Should James not be able to compete in the regional event, Collins will participate in that spelling bee.

James and Sophia competed in the bee along with 17 other participants from the fourth through the eighth grades.

## Fulton

From page 2A

But his mother's relentlessness to make a better life for her family led them from place to place until they moved to Griffin, Georgia, where he was introduced to organized sports and "things got better."

When she later met and married his stepfather, they moved to Arkansas, where Furlow recalled

he was determined to leave and used sports as a vehicle in that determination.

He continued with his "get out of Arkansas plan," which ultimately brought him to the University of Tennessee, where he played football and was on the verge of getting a full-ride scholarship until a torn ACL ended his career in sports.

An entrepreneur, author and business owner, Furlow came up

## Showcase

From page 7B

currently is located along Brooklawn Street.

"It was great to partner with a local business and establish the event," Tindal said. "The turnout was good for both events despite the fact that the Saturday evening event happened on the same day we saw so much flooding last year.

"Knowing that we were going

to be moving the showcase to the Assembly Hall at the Community Center this year, I wanted to focus on just one night and really give the guests an evening of great music and story telling in an intimate setting," she added.

"I want the attendees to be able to feel like they are a part of the evening."

For more information, or to check if tickets remain available, go to [visitfarragut.org](http://visitfarragut.org).

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## Distinguished Finalist honors at state go to Chen, FHS senior

STAFF REPORTS

editor@farragutpress.com

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, a nationwide program honoring young people for outstanding acts of volunteerism, recently recognized Forest Chen, a Farragut High School senior, as one of six Tennessee students earning Distinguished Finalists honors for their impressive community service activities. Each will receive an engraved

bronze medallion.

Chen, 17, founded and runs the "East Tennessee Chess Club," through which he holds regular tournaments, gives free chess lessons to young people at a local church and has raised and donated more than \$8,000 to benefit various causes.

With his club now having more than 100 members, Chen was inspired to start this initiative because of the lack of chess-related opportunities in his community.

## 'Funtastic Field Day' at FPS featuring K-12 youth March 1

STAFF REPORTS

editor@farragutpress.com

For the second year in a row, Farragut Primary School will be the site of an all-inclusive "Funtastic Field Day" from 2 to 5 p.m., Sunday, March 1.

The event is intended for students from kindergarten through 12th grade, with and without disabilities, according to organizers.

"This event is for all children and their families regardless of ability," said Lindsay Willis, who last year served as FPS Parent Teacher Association special education liaison when FPS hosted the event for the first time, but who now fills the role of special

education chair for Knox County Council Parent Teacher Association. "Our goal is to promote inclusion and show teachers and families that it is possible.

"Knox County has been so great to help us spread the word to all of the schools countywide; flyers went in all backpacks recently."

Sponsors for the event include The Therapeutic Recreation Program in the University of Tennessee's Department of Kinesiology, Recreation, and Sport Studies.

The event is free and open to the public. Food trucks also will be on-site.

Those planning to attend are asked to register at <https://funtasticfieldday2020.eventbrite.com>.

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**AGENDA FARRAGUT BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS** Farragut Town Hall, February 26, 2020, 7:00 p.m. 1. Approval of Minutes for the March 27, 2019 meeting 2. Public hearing on a request for a variance from grass strip width standards between pedestrian facilities and street curbing provided in the Subdivision Regulations and that are cross referenced in Chapter 4, Section XXII., D. of the Farragut Zoning Ordinance as applied to a site development proposed at 11807 Kingston Pike, 1.5 Acres, Zoned C-1 (GBS Engineering, Applicant)

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**AGENDA FARRAGUT VISUAL RESOURCES REVIEW BOARD** Farragut Town Hall Board Room, Tuesday, February 25, 2020, 7:00 p.m. 1. Approval of minutes for the January 28, 2020 meeting. 2. Review of a ground sign for the Overlook Apartments located at 11613 Vista Terrace Way, off North Campbell Station Road. 3. Review of a ground sign for the McDonald's Restaurant located at 11205 Kingston Pike. 4. Review of a ground sign (replacement) for the First Horizon Bank located at 11864 Kingston Pike. 5. Review of an enter/exit directional ground sign for the First Horizon Bank located at 11864 Kingston Pike. 6. Review of a ground sign (replacement) for the Coldwell Banker Wallace & Wallace Realtors Office located at 10815 Kingston Pike. 7. Review of a landscape plan for a new office building located at 11807 Kingston Pike. 8. Staff report - proposed sign ordinance revisions.

*It is the policy of the Town of Farragut not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, or disability 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 865966-7057 in advance of the meeting.*

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# westsidefaces

12B • FARRAGUTPRESS THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2020

## St. John Neumann Catholic School hosts 7th Annual West Knox Preschool & Activities Fair

St. John Neumann Catholic School again hosted the free 7th Annual West Knox Preschool and Activities Fair, organized by Knoxville-Northshore chapter of MOMS Club International, in the school, 625 St. John Court, in Farragut, Saturday, Jan. 25.

Parents talked to vendors of more than 40 preschools, extra-curricular programs and businesses, mostly in West Knox County. Children were entertained by Kindermusik's drums, drawing pictures and shooting handkerchiefs at The Muse booth and other activities.

"I think it's a fantastic source of information and my kids are having a blast," attendee James Brower said.

"We have one big service project a year," said Kate Lee, assistant vice president of MOMS Club International's Knoxville-Northshore chapter. "We feel this is such an important event to attend, not only as an outreach but also a one-stop shop."

The group raised more than \$150 to support Columbus Home.



Imagination Library's Danielle Velez shows a book to Margaret Sutton, 4



From left, Knoxville Christian School's Cathy Riesen, pre-kindergarten co-leader; Kay Wellons, assistant elementary school principal and preschool director; and Jenna Zarchin



Kate Lee, left, with mom Alex Weaver, dad Mike Weaver and 19-month-old Quinn Weaver



MOMS Club International's Liz Bushley, left, Emily Ruoti, seated right, and Kate Lee



Cindy Sugg, owner of Knox Kindermusik, with Eric Nelson, left, and Xavier Slatton



Maxwell Wynn and Muse Knoxville's Lori Dale



Kayla Colwell, left, with visitor



Michelle Lawson, St. John Neumann Catholic School



The Little Gym instructors Mallory Head, left, and Heather Rains, with Daniela Diaz, right



Gwen Madaychik, 4



Muse Knoxville's Lori Dale shows Connor Brogan how the shooter works.

Photos by Tammy Cheek